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Printed and Published at 65 Clayton Street, Newcastle on Tyne, By the Proprietor Sarah Bradley
Henry R Bradley

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

No. 294. CONSETT, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1866. [PRICE ONE PENNY.]

Wanted.

WANTED a Steady Young Man, as Farm Servant.—Apply to Mr Thomas Milbrun, Low Bradley, near Medomsley.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, a JOINER and CARTWRIGHT.—Apply to JOHN LAMB, Joiner and Cartwright, Blackhill.

WANTED an Active useful Man as ROAD LABOURER.—Apply to MR M. COUPLAND, West Wood House, Ebchester.
West Wood House,
Ebchester, May 25, 1866.

TO MASONS.

WANTED EIGHT good WALLERS, and TWO HEWERS.—Apply to Peter Allan, Hill Top, Dipton, or on the work at East Tanfield.

Lost.

LOST, on FRIDAY, the 18th inst., at Shotley Field, a Black and Tan Fox-Eared ENGLISH TERRIER; answers to the name of "Paddy." A Reward of Ten Shillings will be given to any one returning the same to Dr. BOLTON, of Ebchester Hill.

Money.

MONEY TO LEND.
£200, £300, and £500, may be advanced upon ample security of Building Property.—Apply to Messrs SCAIFE and BRITTON, Solicitors, Front-street, Berry-edge.

£2,000 IN CASH PRIZES TO BE GIVEN AWAY.
See "THE UNIVERSAL NEWS" (the Only Organ of Irish Catholic Opinion in England.) Price 2d. Every Saturday.
Order of any Newsagent, or from the Head Office, 147, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

To Let.

A BUTCHER'S SHOP TO LET, situate at the Corner of High-street, Consett. Rent £10. Apply to RICHARD MURRAY.

TO LET, a LARGE SHOP, with Six Room attached, situate in Victoria-street, Consett, and now in the occupation of the Co-operative Society.
Mr Carey, Manager of the Grocery Department, will show the premises, and further particulars may be had on application to Mr WILLIAM RIPPON, Victoria-street, Consett.

TO WHOLESALE GROCERS, DRAPERS, PAINTERS, PRINTERS, AND OTHERS.

TO BE LET, a large and commodious HOUSE and SHOP, together with a large WAREHOUSE, situate in the Front Street.—Apply to Mr THOMAS RAWES, Turf Hotel.
Berryedge, May 18, 1866.

TO MASONS, JOINERS, &c.

TO LET BY CONTRACT, the ERECTION of a FARM HOUSE at Steely, near Satley.
Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Office of Mr J. SMITH, Architect, Medomsley, by whom Tenders will be received till MONDAY, June 4, 1866.
No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any tender.
Medomsley, *via* Gateshead, May 17, 1866.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

TO BE LET.

THE Paving, Flagging, Channelling, and the formation of the Carriage way, in Jemmison Street, and Eltringham Terrace, Blackhill, by Gateshead.
Plans, Sections, and Specifications of the above works, can be seen at the office of the Surveyor to the Local Board, Front-street, Consett.
Tenders will be received by the Surveyor up to 10 o'Clock a.m. on 6th June next.
GEORGE THOMPSON, Surveyor.
Consett, 23rd May, 1866.

TO CONTRACTORS IN ROAD MAKING.

TO LET, by Tender, several Special Works required to be done in several Townships of Lanchester Highway District, between this time and 31st day of December next.
Specifications can be seen on application to Mr Ross, of Lanchester; the *Guardian* Office, Consett; or at the SURVEYOR'S House, at Dipton.
A Schedule of Works will be ready for applicants on the 1st day of June, when they can be had of Mr Ross, on the payment of 2s each.
Tenders to be sent on or before the 14th June.
The money will be returned to all parties who give Tenders in good faith.

Public Notices.

A REGISTER OFFICE for SERVANTS has been commenced by Mrs SCOTT, Front street, Shotley Bridge.

BROOM-HILL COLLIERY.

COALS

OF excellent Quality can now be had, tipped from Tubs into Carts, or filled from the Heap, at the BROOM-HILL COLLIERY.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

WANTED TENDERS for the Erection of a COTTAGE in Consett. Plans and Specifications may be seen on before Monday, June 3rd at the House of MR. JOSEPH WHITE, next door to MR. CARPENTER, Watchmaker, Consett.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

THE ANNIVERSARY SERVICES of the above Church will be held on SABBATH, JUNE 3rd, 1866, on which occasion the Rev. J. COLLINGWOOD BRUCE, LL.D., of Newcastle, will preach. Service to commence in the Morning at Half-past Ten o'Clock, and in the Evening at Six.
A Collection after each Service in Aid of the Church Funds.

MISS BLADES,
(LATE OF CONSETT,)

BEGS respectfully to inform her Friends and the Public generally that she has commenced Business at the Grey-street Bar of Mr JOEL'S, White Hart Hotel, with a choice Stock of WINES, SPIRITS, and CHAMPAGNES, SPARKLING ALES, and STOUT, Hand-drawn.
Principal Entrance from Grey-street, opposite B. Joseph's, Newcastle.

TO THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Mr JOSEPH HOWARD, of Consett, has Ceased to act as our Agent for Consett and the District, and that we have appointed Mr WILLIAM JOHN SCOTT, Auctioneer, Front-street, Consett, to act in his stead, to whom all communications intended for us must be addressed.
SCAIFE & BRITTON,
Solicitors,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

JOHN ILDERTON,
TIN AND IRON PLATE-WORKER, &c.,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

IN returning thanks to his numerous Friends for past favours during the Twenty Years he has been in business at Shotley Bridge, begs to intimate that in addition to his establishment there, he has taken a SHOP at HIGHGATE for the better accommodation of his friends in that locality, where he will always have on hand an Assortment of Goods for Inspection, and trusts by assiduity and attention, still to merit their approbation and support.
N.B.—Shops supplied.
April 19, 1866.

JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM,
BUILDER, JOINER, AND UNDERTAKER,
BLACKHILL,

RESPECTFULLY announces to his Friends and the Public generally that he has removed to the Premises adjoining the Tin Mill School, and hopes by strict attention to business, together with moderate charges, to merit a share of public support.
AN APPRENTICE WANTED.

DURHAM AND NORHUMBERLAND POOR LAW AUDIT DISTRICT.

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE AUDIT of the ACCOUNTS of the above-named Union will be held at the Guardians' Board Room, Lanchester, on Friday, 1st of June next, at Nine in the Forenoon, when all persons interested may attend.
JAMES RADFORD, District Auditor.
Gateshead, 19th May, 1866.

Public Notices.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

RICHARD WALKER,
PAINTER, GLAZIER, GRAINER, PAPER HANGER, &c.,

IN returning his sincere thanks to his Friends and the Public for the very liberal patronage bestowed upon him, begs to state that he has Removed to more commodious Premises in Delves Lane, Consett, where he hopes by strict attention to all orders entrusted to him to merit a share of their support.

LANCHESTER UNION.

ELECTION OF MASTER AND MATRON.

THE BOARD of GUARDIANS of this Union will, at a meeting to be held at the Board Room, Lanchester, on Thursday, the 31st day of May inst., proceed to the Election of a Man and his Wife, as Master and Matron of such Workhouse; joint salary £40 per annum.
The Persons elected must be able to keep all the Books and Accounts, and conform to the orders prescribed by the Poor Law Board, and will be required to enter upon their Duties on the 25th Day of June next; and the Master must give approved security to the amount of £50 for the faithful performance of his official Duties.
Applications, in the Handwriting of the Parties, stating their respective Ages and present Occupation, with recent Testimonials enclosed, must be sent to me on or before the 30th Day of May Inst.
Candidates are requested to attend on the day of election, but no payment on account of travelling or other expenses, or as compensation for loss of time can be made.
By Order of the Guardians,
W. W. THOMPSON, Clerk.
Lanchester, 17th May, 1866.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE SERVICES in connection with the said Anniversary will be held (D.V.) as follows, in the TOWN HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

On SATURDAY EVENING, May 26, 1866, there will be a PUBLIC MEETING, to be addressed by the Rev. S. ANTLIFF; Rev. J. BROOKS, Baptist Minister; Rev. W. LAUDER, Presbyterian Minister; Rev. E. TOYNE, Wesleyan Minister; and by CAPTAIN W. OWEN, of South Shields.
Chair to be taken at Seven o'Clock by the Rev. MOSES LUPTON. Admission by Tickets, Sixpence each.

On SUNDAY, May 27th, SERMONS will be preached in the Morning at Half-past Ten by CAPTAIN W. OWEN; and in the Afternoon at Two and Evening at Six o'Clock by the Rev. S. ANTLIFF. There will be a Collection after each service.

On MONDAY EVENING, May 28th, Mr ANTLIFF will deliver A LECTURE, Subject:—"HUMAN PROVIDENCE."
Chair to be taken at Seven o'Clock by William Stewart, Esq., Newcastle.
N.B.—Admission by Tickets to the Lecture—Reserved Seats 1s; Body of the Hall 6d; Gallery 3d. Tickets for the Lecture may be had of Messrs John Brodie, jun., W. Wheatley, W. Campbell, J. Ainslie, and at the Hall Door.

NEW TOWN HALL,
CONSETT.

THE Directors of the Consett Town Hall Company, Limited, respectfully announce their intention of OPENING the CONSETT TOWN HALL, on WEDNESDAY FIRST, MAY 30, 1866, with a
GRAND SOIREE.
The TEA will commence at 4 o'Clock. Tickets One Shilling each.

THE CONCERT,
Supported by the best Talent, will commence at Half-past Seven o'Clock.
Tickets:—Front Seats 2s; Second 1s; Gallery 6d.

THE BALL
Will commence at Ten o'Clock. Gentlemen's Tickets 2s.; Ladies' 1s.
The TANFIELD LEA QUADRILLE BAND will be in attendance.
Tickets may be had at Messrs J. Murray, J. Armstrong, R. Hedley, J. Collinson, and the usual places.
H. DUFOUR,
Secretary to Company.

NORTHUMBERLAND PLATE LOTTERIES.



TO INNKEEPERS AND OTHERS.

COMPLETE and authentic LISTS for the Northumberland Plate are now ready, and may be had at the
GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
OR, 65, CLAYTON STREET, NEWCASTLE.
PRICE ONE SHILLING,
or sent to any Address for 12 Stamps.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE GAS COMPANY
(LIMITED.)

Extension Shares £6,600, in 1,320 Shares of £5 each, making the entire Capital £15,000.
Five Shillings per Share to be Paid on Application, and Fifteen Shillings per Share to be paid on Allotment.
Future Calls not to exceed £1 per Share.

Incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act of 1862, which expressly limits the liability of each Shareholder to the amount of his or her Shares.

DIRECTORS.
Robert Dickinson, Esq., Shotley House, Shotley Bridge (Chairman.)
George Peile, Jun., Esq., Greenwood, Shotley Bridge (Vice-Chairman.)
Joseph Dickinson, Esq., Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.
George Watson, Esq., Shotley Bridge.
John Seymour, Esq., Consett, Gateshead.
Matthew Hetherington, Esq., 10 and 11, Cookridge Street, Leeds.
Francis Snaith, Esq., Shotley Bridge.
AUDITORS.
Mr Martin Bell, Shotley Grove School, Shotley Bridge.
Mr R. B. Rutter, 11, Park Road, Newcastle.
BANKERS.
Messrs Woods and Co., Mosley Street, Newcastle.
BROKER.
J. S. Challoner, Esq., Dean Street, Newcastle.
OFFICE.
Green Street, Shotley Bridge.

The Directors of this Company feel that the time has arrived for an extension of the Capital, in order to meet more fully the requirements of the public in the growing and increasing demand for the Supply of Gas in the locality, at present under the Company's charge.
The Company was established in 1856, at which time a Capital of £6,000 was considered sufficient to meet the wants of the expected consumption, but such, however, has been the demand for Gas, both for private and public consumption, that the Directors found themselves called upon in 1860 to extend the Capital £2,400, making an aggregate Capital of £8,400. This, however, in consequence of the increasing prosperity of the neighbourhood has still been found inadequate to meet the demand for Gas, notwithstanding since the last increase of capital a considerable amount has been expended from the revenue account in extending the manufacturing and distributing power of the Company.
The present railway extension into the district is likely still further to increase the consumption. The establishment of the Local Government Act in two divisions in the District, and the probability of still more being formed, induce the belief that this will also cause a considerable increase. With these facts then before them, the Directors believe that they will best meet the wants of the public by extending the capital of £6,600 in 1,320 Shares, at £5 each, and to be called the "£5 Extension Shares."
Those shares it is thought desirable to offer to the public generally, yet they (the Directors) deem it expedient to retain to themselves a discretionary power in the allotment of those Shares, and they will in all cases give precedence to the application of present Shareholders, and also to applicants who may be consumers, thus securing to the consumer the advantages of Co-operation, now so largely and beneficially adopted by manufacturing and trading communities throughout the country.
The Company has since the first year of its formation been enabled to afford 7 per cent. to the proprietors, notwithstanding many disadvantages which it has experienced. It is anticipated that £1 per share will meet the expenditure immediately and imperatively required in making such additions and improvements as are required to meet an increasing consumption during the current year, and it may be confidently anticipated that by meeting the wants of the locality promptly the amount of remuneration to proprietors will not be diminished but increased.
Prospectuses and Forms for application of Shares may be had on application to the Secretary. All applications for Shares to be made, and the Deposit paid, on or before the 26th day of May, 1866.
JOHN BELL, Secretary.

Business Addresses.

FOR THE COMING FESTIVITIES
AT THE NEW TOWN HALL,
WHITE AND MAUVE KID GLOVES
ALL SIZES.
GEORGE ROBSON'S, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

MONSTROUS SALE!!
DISSOLVING PARTNERSHIP.
THE STOCK: £5,439 16s. 11d.
TO BE
CLEARED OUT IN EIGHT WEEKS,
AT MOST
EXTRAORDINARY AND ASTOUNDING REDUCTIONS!!
COMMENCING ON SATURDAY FIRST.
THOMAS POTTS AND SON,
MIDDLE STREET, BERRYEDGE.
[For Particulars See Small Bills.]

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!!
WHITSUNTIDE FESTIVITIES.
GRAND DISPLAY OF NEW GOODS FOR THE SEASON.
UPWARDS of 400 HATS and BONNETS of the Newest Designs, New Ribbons, Flowers, Velvets, Dresses, Shawls, Skirtings, Crinolines, Prints, Muslins, Men's Shirts, Ties, Handkerchiefs, Collars, Hats, Caps, &c.
☞ Come and See the New Goods,
AT M. RIDLEY'S, FRONT STREET, BLACKHILL.

CAN WE DO IT?—THAT'S THE QUESTION.—We have resolved (if spared) to increase our Tea Sales to ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS PER ANNUM. Don't think us presumptuous when we declare we mean to do it. Fifteen years of unprecedented successful experience has placed in our keeping the key to the public taste, and we mean to use it. With us it is only a question of time. We have faith in our judgment, strength enough in our will, and sufficient liberality in our spirit, to work the question. During 1865 we sold 74,707 Pounds of our justly celebrated Teas, showing an increase over last year's Sales of 6,498 Pounds. It is only for you who have not tried our Teas to consider whether it is not your interest to set aside your prejudice and share the advantages we offer to the Tea-consuming public.
WILLIAM STEWART, THE TEA DEALER,
33, GRAINGER STREET, 27, SANDHILL, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE.

CONSETT FIRE BRICK WORKS, BERRYEDGE, GATESHEAD.
ALWAYS ON HAND, A LARGE STOCK OF

GLAZED PIPES.	TRUSSES.
CHIMNEY TOP.	FERNERY STANDS.
CHIMNEY VENT LINING.	ORNAMENTAL VASES.
RIDGE TILES, PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL.	GARDEN BORDERS.
GLAZED SINK STONES.	GAS RETORTS.
DO. WATER CLOSET PANS AND TRAPS.	FIRE BRICKS, COMMON BRICKS, QUARLS, &c.

AND EVERY OTHER ARTICLE IN THE TRADE EXECUTED TO ORDER.
R. DICKINSON & CO., Proprietors.

JOHN TEMPERLEY,
PONT ROAD,
(NEAR THOMAS FLEMING, GROCER,)
LEADGATE,
BEGS to announce that his Boar "BRAN," of Ushaw College Breed, will serve Sows at 3s each, to Pay when Served.

TO FLORISTS.

BEDDING OUT PLANTS in great variety, at
JOHN RICHARDSON'S NURSERY,
SLADES HOUSE,
EBCHESTER HILL,
Including Tom Thumb, Scarlet, and other Geraniums; Ageratum Mexicanum, Lobelia Erinus, Gazania Uniflora, Saponaria Calabrica, Perilla Nankinensis, Allysum Variegata, Phlox Drummondii, Mesembryanthemum Tricolor, Cuphea Placenta, Aloysia Citriodora, Linum Rubra Grandiflora, Verbenas, Calceolarias, Salvias, Dahlias, Petunias, Hollyhocks, German Stocks, French Asters, &c., &c.
N.B.—Schools, Picnic and other Parties supplied with Bouquets on the shortest notice.
Slades House Nursery, Ebchester Hill,
May 18th, 1866

THE IMPERIAL ART UNION.
£5,000 FIRST PRIZE, AND UPWARDS OF 1,500 OTHERS IN PAINTINGS, VARYING IN VALUE FROM £1,000 DOWN TO £5 EACH.

This ART UNION allows all Prizes to be selected by Prizeholders themselves, in any part of the Kingdom.
Ticket holders or their representatives will be admitted to the Drawing.
SUBSCRIPTION:—
HALF A GUINEA PER SHARE.
Remittances to be made to the Secretary, or any of the Agents, who will also furnish every information.
RICHARD KING, Secretary.
OFFICES—10, CASTLE STREET, HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.
N.B.—Agents Wanted on liberal Terms. References required.

NEW CLOTHS,
SUITABLE
FOR SUMMER WEAR,
JUST ARRIVED
AT JOHN BRODIE'S, JUN.,
FRONT STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

PAPER HANGINGS.

JOHN LESLIE,
PAINTER, PAPERHANGER, &c., WOOD-STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
HAS now on hand a large and select assortment of PAPERHANGINGS, from 3d. per piece and upwards.
Pictures carefully mounted and framed in Composition, Gold, &c.

J. LAX,
(SUCCESSOR TO F. SNAITH & CO.),
IRONMONGER & FURNISHING HARDWAREMAN
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
BEGS respectfully to tender his sincere thanks for past favours, and hopes by strict attention to all orders entrusted to him to merit a continuance of their esteemed orders.
A well-selected Stock of Goods always on hand.

GENERAL PRINTING WORKS.

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER, ENGRAVER, LITHOGRAPHER,
BOOKSELLER, STATIONER, BOOKBINDER, &c.,
CONSETT.
Cards, Circulars, Headings, Invoices, Cheques, Posting and Hand Bills neatly and expeditiously executed at moderate charges.
☞ District Agent and Reporter for the *Consett Guardian*; Accredited Correspondent to the *Northern Daily* and *Weekly Express*, the *Newcastle Daily* and *Weekly Chronicle*, and *Newcastle Guardian*.
All Orders left at the *Guardian* Office, Consett, or at the LIBRARY, Blackhill, will be immediately attended to.

DOWNIE'S
LIFE PRESERVING PILLS.
UNIVERSAL HEALING OINTMENT.
ITALIAN COUGH BALSAM &
INFANTS' TEETHING CORDIAL.

WILL Purify the Blood Heal all Sores, and Diseases of the Skin, and remove all Complaints of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs. They never fail.—Give them a trial, and prove for yourself.
DOWNIE'S INFANTS' TEETHING CORDIAL
Is the only Medicine fit for Infants—try it!
Prepared only by HENRY DOWNIE & CO., Wholesale Chemists, 43 and 44, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Sold by Peter Brown, Druggist, Shotley Bridge; D. Imrie, Druggist; and *Guardian* Office, Consett; John Reed, Lanchester; Watson Smith, Leadgate; W. Smith, J. Robinson, and J. Hillary, Grocers, Towlaw; William Barkas, Grocer, Blackhill; and may be had of all Chemists and Dealers in Patent Medicines, in Boxes, Pots, and Bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each.
Extraordinary CURES by DOWNIE'S MEDICINES.
Mrs E. Bell, of West Cramlington, was cured of bad legs of eleven years' standing.—April 19th, 1865.
Mr. Robert Dixon, Chester-le-Street, Durham, says Downie's Pills and Balsam completely cured his wife of asthma and difficulty of breathing of *many* years' standing. -Nov. 14th, 1864.
Mrs. Jane Hartburn, and her Son, 38, Green-street, South Shields, were cured of scurvy, &c., of 8 years' standing.
Mr T. Carter, New Road, Newcastle, cured of a fearfully bad leg of 8 years' standing.

BATY AND ROBSON,
AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS,
OFFICE AND AUCTION MART,
TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

H. SMITH,
DRAPER AND OUTFITTER, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
THANKING our very numerous Customers for past favours, we will at all times do our utmost to merit a continuance of the same.

HAIRCUTTING AND SHAVING ESTABLISHMENT.

THOMAS LEWIS begs most respectfully to inform the Public generally that he has succeeded Mr Blades in that old-established Shaving and Haircutting Establishment carried on by him for the last Eighteen Years, in Front-street, Consett, and hopes by strict attention to Business to merit a continuance of the favours bestowed on that gentleman.

J. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER AND FURNITURE BROKER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
FEATHERS, FLOCKS, AND RABBIT DOWN.
COOPERY GOODS.
PAPER HANGINGS IN GREAT VARIETY.
PERAMBULATORS.
A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF HARDWARE GOODS,
IRON BEDSTEADS, &c., &c.

LEONARD GIBSON,
GENERAL DRAPER, HOSIER, HABERDASHER, HATTER, &c.
3, TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.
REGISTER OFFICE FOR SERVANTS KEPT.

JUST PUBLISHED
(*Gratis*),
THE GREAT CRINOLINE QUESTION,
Solved by Her Majesty
THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.
Ladies should at once obtain GRATIS of their Draper or Corset Maker, THOMSON'S new Illustration, showing the veritable
"MODE DE L'IMPERATRICE."

ADAM BRODIE,
AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER, ACCOUNTANT, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.
ACCOUNT BOOKS POSTED AND BALANCE SHEETS PREPARED.
ACCOUNTS COLLECTED ON REASONABLE TERMS.
OFFICES:—
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, *VIA* GATESHEAD.

GEORGE HOBSON,
Wholesale and Retail
FLOUR DEALER, GROCER, DRAPER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDSMAN,
HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,
AND SOUTH MOOR.
☞ FINEST ENGLISH OILCAKE.
FINE SPRING TARES, PEAS, BARLEY, &c.
Now on hand, a large and carefully-selected Stock of CLOVER and GRASS SEEDS of every description.
Finest TURNIP SEEDS, from transplanted bulbs.
G. H.'s MIXTURE OF GRASSES for permanent Pasture has been tested and approved for many years by the leading Agriculturists in the neighbourhood.
Inspection kindly invited.



Duty off Tea. — Reduction in Price.

IS THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.
The only Uncolored Tea.

AGENTS IN THIS DISTRICT.
CONSETT—IMRIE, CHEMIST.
CHESTER-LE-STREET—Robinson, Chemist.
GATESHEAD—Rippon, Chemist.
Urwin, do.
" Co-operative Stores.
WILLINGTON—Lisle, Chemist.
SUNDERLAND—Scarrow, Apothecaries' Hall.
Aslin & Co., 163, High-street.
DURHAM—Co-operative Stores, Claypath.
STAINDROP—Spence, Chemist.
CROOK—Dodsworth, Draper, &c.
THORNLEY—Winpenny, Grocer, &c.

VALUABLE AGENCIES
Still Vacant. For particulars
APPLY TO
THE HIMALAYA TEA COMPANY,
137A, ST. MARY AXE,
LONDON, E.C.

Sales by Private Contract.

FOR SALE, by Private Contract, an excellent well-bred SORREL PONY, about 14 hands high. Capital paces and sure footed. Apply to JAMES EDWARDS, West Law, near Shotley Bridge.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

THREE COTTAGES containing Two Rooms each, and a sufficient quantity of Land to Build a Cottage of Three Rooms, and Three Cottages of Two Rooms each.
The Cottages and Land are pleasantly situated at Benfieldside.
For further particulars apply to Mr ROBERT JACKSON, Guardian Office, Consett; or to Mr WILLIAM NICHOLSON, Benfieldside.

Sales by Auction.

MR. J. JENKINS will SELL BY AUCTION at his SALE ROOM, Front Street, Consett, on SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1866, a Strong useful CART, and an Aged HORSE and HARNESS Complete, to commence at Five o'Clock.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION,

IN a SHOP under the New Town Hall, a large Assortment of DRAPERY GOODS, Consisting of CALICOES, STUFFS, LINENS, and FLANNELS,
ON MONDAY NEXT,
Commencing in the Afternoon at 2 o'Clock, and in the Evening at Seven.
MR. HENRY BROWN, AUCTIONEER.

BUILDING SITES FOR ABSOLUTE SALE.

MR. J. JENKINS is instructed TO SELL BY AUCTION, at the Blackfine Brick Yard, near Blackhill, on WEDNESDAY, May 30, 1866, at Six o'Clock in the evening, about thirty BUILDING SITES, in Lots to Suit Purchasers. 10 per Cent. deposit will be required to be paid on the Day of Sale, and the remainder to be paid on or before the 1st August. 1866.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
At MICKLEY, on MONDAY, JUNE 4th, 1866,
THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., belonging to Mrs Young, who is declining Business.
MR. JOSEPH OLEY, AUCTIONEER.

Comprising 3 Bedsteads; Feather Beds; Mahogany Washstand; Chest of Drawers; 4 Tables; Brass Tea Urn; 6 Forms; 2 Longsettles; 2 Cupboards; 7 Chairs; and 1 Arm Chair; Parlour Fender and Fire-irons; 2 Metal Fenders; Brass and Iron Candlesticks; Eight-Days' Clock; 2 Meal Tubs; 1 Press; Large Chest, with Shelf and Delf Ware; Dresser and Shelf; Water Skeel; Pictures; 2 Spirit Casks; Spirit Gauge; a large number of Bottles; Glass Ware; Girdles, Frying Pans, Kettle, &c.; Pewter Ale and Spirit Measures; Grindstone; 7 Hens; Shoemaking Tools, Boot Trees, &c. Also an Excellent Single-Barrelled Gun.
Sale to Commence at 2 o'Clock p.m.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
At the Commercial Inn, in Shotley Bridge, in the County of Durham, on Wednesday, the 6th day of June, 1866, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon.
MR. HENRY BROWN, AUCTIONEER.

LOT 1.—ALL that Desirable FARM OF LAND, situate at and near to Edmondbyers, in the County of Durham, with the Farm House, Barns, Stables, and other Buildings, Garths, Gardens, and Plantations thereunto belonging, and containing in the whole, 85A. 3R. 21P., or thereabouts, of Arable and Grass Land. The Land is of superior quality.
The Estate is held by Two Leases from the Dean and Chapter of Durham, dated respectively the 21st July, 1862, and the 20th January, 1866, for the respective terms of 21 years, from the 14th June, 1862, and the 15th September, 1865, under the yearly rents of 13s 4d and 13s 2d, in lieu of Land Tax, reserved by the first of the said Leases, and under the yearly rent of 13s, payable by the second of the said Leases.
LOT 2.—All that Copyhold DWELLING-HOUSE, situate at Blackstone Burn, near Shotley Bridge aforesaid, now in the occupation of James Cant.
LOT 3.—All those Two Undivided Third-Parts of TWO DWELLING-HOUSES, situate in Wood-street, in Shotley Bridge aforesaid, and now occupied by Peter Lumley and Elizabeth Surtees.
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Foreign Intelligence.

AMERICA.

(Per the *Africa.*)

ARRIVAL OF THE FENIAN HEAD CENTRE.

NEW YORK, May 8 (Evening).—A resolution has been referred to the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, in favour of an amendment to the Constitution to authorise an export duty upon cotton. A resolution has also been passed instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill prohibiting the admission, as a state, of any territory wherein the franchise is denied on account of colour, and declaring such denial to be unconstitutional.

Mrs Davis is still at Fortress Monroe. She is permitted to remain with her husband from *reveille* to sunset every day. Secretary M'Culloch had a long interview yesterday with Mr Davis.

President Johnson has ordered the release on parole, of ex-Senator Guin, now confined in Fort Jackson.

It is generally believed that the *President* will veto the bill admitting Colorado State into the Union.

Mahony has issued circulars declaring that the Eastport expedition was proposed by Killian, who continued a useless expenditure after he (Mahony) had ordered the recall of the men, and that the launch of an Irish ironclad upon American waters to co-operate with the expedition had been prevented by red-tape formalities.

Captain Grace declares the Eastport expedition to have been planned by O'Mahony and Killian, in order to sell the bonds first rate. Roberts, Sweeney, and Mahony subsequently caused the failure of the expedition because of Killian's popularity.

Several circles have, after an investigation, acquitted Mahony of all blame in the Eastport *fiasco.*

NEW YORK, May 10 (Evening).—President Johnson, replying to a recent address presented by a deputation of Methodists, said that great misapprehension existed with reference to the present condition of the South, and that the irregularities there were grouped together in order to convey the impression that they illustrated the condition of the country. Individual conduct should correspond with what we professed. He believed that if we persevered in a proper spirit of government a good feeling would be restored. The interests of both sections demanded a strict compliance with the constitution and the enforcement of the laws.

The President has approved the West India Telegraph Bill.

It is believed that the grand jury of Norfolk will bring in a bill of indictment against Mr Davis and the other leaders of the rebellion. Judge Underwood charged the jury yesterday, urging the necessity for the punishment of treason. Secretary M'Culloch has advised a relaxation of rigour to Mr Davis in his imprisonment.

Fort Goodwin, Arizona, has been captured by savages, and the garrison, 124 in number, massacred.

The cholera is abating in the New York quarantine, and the steerage passengers on board the steamer *England* have been permitted to come into the city.

NEW YORK, May 10, 9 p.m.—To-day the House of Representatives adopted the amendment proposed by the Reconstruction Committee by 128 against 57 votes.

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Mr Smythe as collector of New York.

(Per *Hibernian* via Greencastle.)

NEW YORK, May 12th, Evening.—The Grand Jury of Norfolk indicted Davis for treason.

NEW YORK, May 11th, Evening.—Thomas James Stephens arrived last evening by steamer *Napoleon.* He was enthusiastically received by the Irish. It is reported he was elected General Head-Centre. Mahoney had resigned previously. Stephens stops at the Metropolitan Hotel, and receives great numbers of visitors. He informed the reporters of the Press he will soon return to Ireland. If the Fenians discontinued dissension, they can be fighting British troops in Ireland in solid fronts, within the present year. He was told the Senate had advocated the invasion of Canada; because Mahoney opposed it he had forfeited his election as head-centre. Roberts had an interview with Stephens. It is reported that the contending sections have become reconciled under the recognised leadership of Stephens. Killian has issued a circular declaring the failure of the East Port expedition only temporary. A few thousand dollars had been well spent, these having increased the complications, brought a British fleet, with shotted guns, within a hundred yards of an American fort, caused suspension of the Government of New Brunswick, and agitated the fishery question. He had selected a sensitive point between Great Britain and the United States. The North-Western Frontier was what Galway was to Ireland. The massing of Fenians on the frontier had strengthened the Confederate scheme. Mr Seward might soon have the same cause to oppose the establishment of royal blood on the throne in the north, as he had in Mexico.

The Grand Jury; Federal Circuit Court, Norfolk, has indicted Davis for treason. The court adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday in June, at Richmond. Judge Abell, First District Court, Louisianna, had decided that the Civil Rights Bill is unconstitutional, and not binding on that court.

The Morganzia Grand Level, on the Mississippi river, has given way. The river was flooding thirteen parishes in the southern Louisianna. Immense destruction of property.

The New York Chamber of Commerce has protested against the proposed export tax on cotton.

NEW YORK, May 12th, morning.—Generals Steedman and Fullerton, commissioners sent south to investigate the affairs of the Freedmen's Bureau, have reported from Willmington that agents of the Bureau had been exercising arbitrary power, and practising cruelties upon freedmen. The commission recommended the removal of all officers of the Bureau in Virginia and North Carolina, and the transfer of their duties to others. The Senate has confirmed the appointment of Gen. Surles as Minister at the Hague.

Mahoney assigns as the reason for resigning, his having given consent to the Eastport expedition, the failure of which had damaged the cause. Furthermore, he objected to remain an obstacle to the restoration of harmony among the brotherhood. Stephens, in a letter accepting his resignation, approves of the action as wise and patriotic, but condemn's Mahoney's weakness in sanctioning a movement calculated to divert attention from Ireland. Stephens declares that the objective point of the Fenians is not Canada or Japan, but Ireland. Stephens were serenaded last night. He made a short speech acknowledging the compliment, exhorting Irishmen to be united, to drop dissension, and look to the wants of Ireland. A Fenian mass meeting was to take place at Joneswood on Tuesday. It is rumoured a Fenian movement is organised at Buffalo. Mead has been ordered thither. The Fenians who captured the schooner *Wentworth* restored the vessel in a few hours, uninjured, to Capt. Porter, and then landed on the coast of Maine.

NEW YORK, May 12th (Evening).—It is reported that Stephens will make a tour through the States to Reorganise Fenian circles, preparatory to the development of new plans of operation. No Irish bonds are to be issued at present. No prominent Federal State or municipal officials are yet reported to have visited Stephens.

It is reported that the French Minister explains that the French troops who have been announced as passing St. Thomas's on the way to Mexico are only to replace for the present some whose terms of service have just expired.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF VALPARAISO.

NEW YORK, May 10.—The following intelligence has been received from Chili. An official decree from the Government of Chili declares that neutral vessels which shall communicate with the Spanish squadron will not be permitted to touch or land at any part of the Republic. All the Spanish fleet has sailed to bombard the northern ports, including Callao. The English Minister had been ordered to leave the premises he occupied, and no one would rent him another house.

By the bombardment of Valparaiso there were only two lives lost and eight wounded. One hundred and fifty Government stores were destroyed, valued at 500,000 dols., and containing foreign merchandise to the amount of upwards of 8,000,000 dols.

The Spanish Admiral had refused to receive a note from the Danish Consul-General, informing him that Denmark would hold Spain responsible for damage done to Danish property in Valparaiso.

THE EUROPEAN CRISIS.

A telegram from Florence, through Reuter's agency, states that Italy and Prussia, in reply to the preliminary overtures made to them by the neutral Powers, have expressed their willingness to take part in a Congress; and another version of the telegram, via Dresden, is that "all the Powers" have agreed to assemble in Congress at Paris—the first meeting to take place on Friday next. As regards Austria, she has not yet given her answer. The *Independance Belge,* however, asserts that Austria has officially refused the proposed Congress, and that, in consequence of such refusal, England and Russia have thought proper to represent to the Vienna Cabinet that the responsibility of ulterior events must now be left entirely with her. The *Independance* says also:—"The Emperor of Austria persists in demanding a territorial equivalent for Venetia, a demand which at once makes impossible a Congress for the discussion of this question, even leaving aside the conditions proposed by Austria relative to the Schleswig-Holstein and the Federal Reform questions. Prussia and Italy may safely make profession, then, of a conciliatory disposition. They risk nothing, even in consenting unreservedly to the Congress proposed by the neutral Powers, but rejected by Austria." According to some further statements and observations in the *Independance,* it would seem that France and Russia are beginning to betray signs of an intention to find a possible solution, even in the absence of Austria from the proposed discussion, of the disputed questions in a Congress or a Conference, and that England alone is still hesitating to commit herself to such a decided course of proceeding as might ultimately lead to the adoption of coercive measures against the recalcitrant party.

The Federal Diet held its appointed sitting on Saterday last at Frankfort. The Minister of the Middle States moved, in conformity with the resolutions passed at the recent Bamberg Conferences, that "the Federal Diet should request all those members of the Confederation who have entered upon armaments beyond the usual peace footing, to state at the next sitting of the Federal Diet whether and upon what conditions they will be willing to order simultaneously the reduction of their military establishments to a peace footing, the said order of reduction to take effect on a day to be agreed upon and fixed by the Federal Diet." The Diet resolved that the vote upon this motion should be taken on Thursday next. Baron von Kubeck, the Austrian Ambassador, wished to draw the attention of the Diet to certain alleged negotiations between Prussia and the North Sea States, which he contended were carried on in open violation of a Federal Pact. The representatives of Prussia and Hanover protested at once against Baron von Kulbeck's motion. The protest of Hanover seems to be generally looked upon as a proof of a better understanding between Prussia and that kingdom.

The *Memorial Diplomatique,* the Paris organ of the Austrian Government, states that the Bamberg Conference had for its object the strengthening of the accord existing between Austria and the States of the Confederation. This accord, the *Memorial* proceeds to say, rests upon the following points:—1. Simultaneous disarmament of the two great German powers; should Prussia decline, the Federal execution will take place, in conformity with the vote of the Diet on the 9th inst. 2. The decision of the question of the Elbe Duchies rests with the Diet. 3. A wise and liberal reform of the German Conferation is an opportune measure. 4. The convocation of the German Parliament can be fixed only after Prussia shall have submitted her project of reform. In reproducing this statement of the *Memorial Diplomatique,* the *Cologne Gazette* queries the parts referring to a contingent Federal execution against Prussia, and to the decision by the Diet of the question of the Elbe Duchies.

From Italy we hear little just now about the armaments and the movements of the troops, because the journals are prohibited from publishing news referring to these matters. Still this much we are told—that the enrolment of volunteers proceeds in the most satisfactory manner. Not only have the twenty battalions authorised by the King's degree got their full complement of men, but it is stated that more volunteers than enough to form another twenty battalions are offering themselves. The number enrolled by the Democratic Committee of Milan alone up to the 15th amounted to 3 415. On the 16th, 270 young men—all Genetians—crossed the Po near Borgoforte, and presented themselves for enrolment amongst the volunteers at the Italian station of Foggia. They at once raised the national standard, amidst loud vivas for the "King," "Garibaldi," "Italy," and the "Army."

The *Nazione* contains the following address from General Durando on taking the command of the military department of Naples:

"Officers, Sub-officers, and Soldiers of the Military Department of Naples—His Royal Highness Prince Umberto having been called to the post of honour and of danger, which has always been the station of the Royal family of Savoy, I am come by the King's desire to take the command of this military department. The fates of Italy point to a new epoch of great moment in her history, for perhaps the hour of the third and final war of independence is not remote. I know that you all regret being at a distance from the probable seat of war, but be assured that your mission will be an honourable one, as well as a useful one, to Italy. We must maintain tranquillity in these beautiful regions, defend them from internal snares and external aggression, and remain the rearguard and reserve of the great national army which is appointed to operate in Upper Italy. We shall joyfully fulfil this double duty, sure that we shall have deserved well of the country and strengthened by the support of the population, who, let those interested be assured of it, are no longer the same population they were in the accursed time of Caroline of Austria. In any case where our duty calls there shall we find honour and glory.

"Naples, May 13." "GIACOMO DURANDO."

There is some reason to believe that the neutral Powers mean to try to avert war by meeting the claims of the aggressive nations, and giving Austria territorial compensation in some other direction. That in truth seems to be the only course that offers the least prospect of success. Thinking men have long seen that if Venetia could be handed over to Italy, and the Danubian Principalities be given to Austria in exchange, two of the most dangerous difficulties of Europe would be happily removed. But that idea has hitherto been scouted by those who profess practical statesmanship, and we have been obliged to put it out of sight. Events now seem to be tending towards its accomplishment, but diplomacy must have changed its character entirely if such an exchange can be managed without the aid of a war. How Austria is to be compensated for what Prussia demands is a matter of even greater difficulty. It is announced from Vienna that the invitations to a congress have been sent to the three armed Powers, and it is added that Austria will accept the invitation. The army of Austria is now between 600,000 and 700,000 men, with a reserve of 300,000.

During last week no less than 26,000 men were enrolled in the Garibaldian Volunteer army. So great is the rush, indeed, that it has been found necessary to increase the number of battalions from twenty to forty. People continue to flock into Italy from Venetia. The Florence papers say that any proposal for a European guarantee of the temporal power of the Pope could not be listened to, and that no such project is on foot. Austria has intimated that she will reciprocate the provision in the Italian naval code which exempts the mercantile property of belligerents from seizure.

MURDER AT SEA.

The British ship *Commodore Perry* from Callao, arived in Queenstown harbour on Friday, bringing intelligence of a murder having been committed on board the British ship *Mary E. Campbell,* on the 1st of September, 1865, while on her voyage from Cardiff to Callao, by an Italian named Antonio Boscolo, one of the crew, the victim being Henry Miller, an Englishman and the boatswain of the ship. The *Mary E. Campbell* left Cardiff for Callao in the begining of August last year, and when the ship was off the Western Islands the accused was aloft "stowing sail" for a short time, and was observed to go no deck without speaking to anybody, and without orders. He was there a minute or so when the boatswain, the deceased, walked up to him and told him to go aloft again, which Boscolo refused to do, whereupon Miller struck him under the left eye. The accused took his knife out of his belt and made an attempt to stab Miller; but the latter ran a few paces forward, escaping injury. The mate of the ship then interfered and took the knife from Boscolo, and threw it overboard. It does not appear, however, that the accused was put in irons for this offence, for he is next said to have again gone aloft and completed his work, after which he went to his dinner. During this meal he did not converse with the other member of the crew, and when finished, was observed for a few minutes to remain in deep thought. He then rose from the table, went to his chest, took out a bowie knife, and left the forecastle. A few minutes after Miller was heard to cry out "I am stabbed." One of the crew, who was in the forecastle when Boscolo left, hearing the voice, went out to see what was the matter, and met Boscolo walking in the passage with a knife in his hand, from which blood was dropping. Miller was taken into the captain's cabin, and was found bleeding profusely from the left side, in the region of the heart. All the assistance that the ship could afford was given to him, but he died at four o'clock on that day from the wound, and in the presence of the prisoner. Boscolo was then put in irons, and remained so until January 20, 1866, when the vessel got to her destination, Callao. Captain Maurice then reported the circumstances to Mr John Barton, the British consul, who held an inquiry on board the *Mary E. Campbell,* the result of which was that he issued a warrant for the removal of the prisoner to Queenstown, it being the nearest British one to answer the charge. The *Commodore Perry* being about to leave Callao a few days after the inquiry, the consel put the prisoner and five of the crew, whom he thought could give the most material evidence, on board. He also gave the captain a warrant, to be given to the police authorities, upon which the prisoner was to be arrested. On the arrival of the ship the captain sent the warrant immediately on shore, and a body of police went to the ship, arrested Boscolo, and brought the five witnesses ashore. Francesco Cagniola's information has been taken in the magistrate's court. He was unable to speak English, and Angello Giumbino was sworn to interpret his statement. He said he was a seaman on board the *Mary E. Campbell* on September 1, when the murder was committed. He, the prisoner, and the other seamen were in the rigging on that day. The dinner bell rang at twelve o'clock, that being the time their watch was over, and finding no one to relieve them they came on deck. The deceased told Boscolo to go aloft again, at the same time pushing him, and Boscool told him not to annoy him and he would. Miller continued to shove him to make him go, and then struck him, whereupon Boscolo made a thrust with a knife, which Miller escaped by moving away. The mate threw the knife overboard, after which Miller again pushed Boscolo between some empty barrels. The mate held Boscolo while the deceased was beating him. The informant did not see the fatal stab given. The Bench committed the prisoner for trial on the charge of homicide. The prisoner, whose answers had to be interpreted, declined saying anything. The Austrian Consul, Francis Michelli, was present, but could not recognise the prisoner, as he had no document in his possession corroborating his statement that he was an Austrian subject.

WHITSUNTIDE FESTIVITIES.

The Whitsuntide holidays have come and gone; gone and left only the memory of past pleasures behind them. For once our fickle English weather was constant and charming—unclouded sunshine and balmy breezes lending their aid. May was erst described by one of our poets as coming—

> With showers and sunshine in her fickle eyes,
> With hollow smiles proclaiming treacherous peace,
> With blushes, harbouring in their thin disguise
> The blast that riots on the Spring's increase.

But she answered all such detractors most satisfactorily on Whit Monday and Tuesday. Throughout both these days the sun shone radiantly, and though the breeze had a touch of Mr Jarndyce's hated east wind in it, the atmosphere was bracing and pleasant. And with fine weather the holiday was thoroughly enjoyed. The sunshine was reflected in the faces of the little ones who, as is the custom at this time, left the town early in the morning on an annual excursion to some place of interest. The influx of visitors into the town was proportionately large, so that although all its inhabitants who could seemed to rush away to country and watering places, the town was quite as busy as it always has been on such days, and the efforts of caterers in the way of entertainments within the borough were well and widely appreciated. The Gateshead Exhibition proved no small attraction to the general public, and those fond of antiquities and archæology, or with a longing for natural science found their way into the recesses of the old Castle, or promenaded through the rooms of the various Museums, much pleased with what remained of Norman taste and design in architecture, of ancient ornaments and weapons of war, and of the little that has been gathered together exemplifying what is true and beautiful and full of wonder in creation. Two attractive bills of fare at Mr Newsome's ever attractive circus had the intended effect—afternoon and evening this establishment was crowded in every part; and the influence of a powerful and highly talented opera company at the Theatre drew together as large houses as there have been this season. The principal feature in the out-door sports was a number of matched boat races on the Tyne and the annual regatta of the Northern Rowing Club, which took place over the old course at the King's Meadows. The programme this club presented was an extraordinary one, and could scarcely have been expected to be adhered to with exactitude—it was arranged that the first race should take place at one o'clock and the last at seven, and between these hours the starts were to be every ten minutes. There was no "hopping" of any pretensions, but such as it was children and country cousins were as ready as ever to spend their money upon it.

NEWCASTLE.

On Monday afternoon the scholars of Bath-lane Church had a pic-nic to Fenham, in a field lent for the occasion by Mr W. Pears.

A shadow of olden festivities was preserved by Mr Hawthornthwaite, of the Ryker Tavern. At his expense a pitman was dressed up with cocked hat, green coat with silver buttons, and red velvet breeches, and designated the mayor. This ephemeral dignitary rode on a white horse, in company with a brass band, and called at all the principal taverns, each time delivering a short harangue, and receiving money and drink. Sports of a most varied and miscellaneous character were afterwards improvised.

NORTHERN ROWING CLUB REGATTA.

With glorious May weather, any number of entries in the various heats, spirited races, and numerous spectators, the Northern Rowing Club Regatta, held on Monday at the King's Meadows, Low Elswick, was more successful than any previous aquatic gathering held by the members of that very excellent rowing club. Commencing with the tide ebbing at one o'clock the races were not concluded till nearly ten o'clock in the evening—truly, a day's sport, and one which was enjoyed by hundreds of spectators both on the island and on the Elswick side of the river. Mr John Blenkinsop acted as starter, Mr S. T. Quickfall judge, and Messrs J. Stoddard and J. Gallon umpires. The result of the races, the majority of which were well contested, is appended:—

PRESIDENT'S PLATE.—Amateur race, open skiffs: John Moyston.

PAIR OAR'D RACE.—Open, scratch fours: Wm. Maffin and A. Fox.

PROFESSIONAL RACES.—Open to all members, broad skiffs: G. Wakefield.

FOUR OAR'D RACE.—Open to all: R. Chambers, R. Liddell, G. Scott, and John Gallon.

During the day the very excellent band of Messrs Pattinson and Sons, Gallowgate, was in attendance, and performed a varied selection of music.

ST. PAUL'S CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

In connection with the above schools, sermons were preached in St. Paul's Chapel, on Sunday, in the morning and afternoon, by the pastor (the Rev. A. Reid), and in the evening, by the Rev. R. Leitch, of Blackett-street U.P. Church. Collections were taken after the services. On Tuesday evening about 130 of the friends partook of an excellent tea in the Worley-street School. After tea Mr Reid presided over a public meeting, when reports (of the three schools in Worley, Buckingham, and Diana-streets) were read by the secretaries, and addresses delivered by Messrs J. Rowell, J. F. Scott, R. Foreman, D. Wilson, and other friends. There are 500 children in connection with the three schools.

ALBION ROWING CLUB REGATTA.

Capital weather favoured the regatta which was held by the Albion Club on Tuesday afternoon. The headquarters was the Meadows House. For the first event, open sculling race for a gold medal, there were eleven heats, and in the last ties Hutchinson beat Taylor and won. The second event was also for a gold medal, a four-oared race. The boats in which Taylor and Clasper were respectively stroke rowed a dead heat for the final, on which there was a row over, Clasper's crew winning by half a length. During the afternoon a splendid four-oar boat was launched, intended to row in a forthcoming event on the Thames, and was christened the *Harry Clasper* by Mr J. H. Baird, of the Star Hotel, Northumberland-street.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND SOIREE.

A second Soiree in this year was held on Monday in West Clayton-street Hall, to celebrate the victory gained by this Church against those who lately were seeking illegally to oppress it, and afforded an opportunity to the congregation to express their sense of joy at the happy termination of an uncalled-for struggle in favour of the kirk session and minister. There was an excellent tea provided by the ladies, and presided over by the following:—Mrs and Miss Elliott, Mrs and Miss Meikle, Miss Leech and lady friends, Mrs Dr. Boyd, Mrs and Miss Hogg, Mrs Strong, &c., &c. After the tea, praise and thanks were given. Miss Elliott performed on the piano several fine pieces of music in good taste and with great skill, and, assisted by Misses Cockburn, Hogg, Willis, Robertson, &c., sung several songs, which were much applauded by the company; also, several gentlemen rendered some pieces of music, led by Mr Smith. Addresses were delivered by the minister, the Rev. Robert Thomson, Rev. John Thurkell, of Leeds, and Mr Mulloch, of the Royal Grammar School; and Mr M. Easten, another of the teachers, gave several solos on the flute. Votes of thanks were given to the various interested parties, and a most harmonious and agreeable evening was concluded by singing the National Anthem.

GATESHEAD.

WESLEYAN METHODIST TEA PARTY.

On Monday the congregation assembling in the High West Street Chapel, Gateshead, celebrated their anniversary by a tea party in the schools attached to the chapel. Previous to the party; the scholars connected with the chapel were treated with buns and coffee. At the tea meeting nearly three hundred persons sat down. Afterwards a meeting was held. The chair was occupied by Mr Stokes, and there were also present the Rev. Mr M'Kenzie, Rev. W. Calvert, Messrs Idle, Kent, J. Brown, &c. The report showed that there had been an increase of 76 in the number of scholars in the past year, and that there was an increased average attendance. The funds had grown too, a surplus of £17 being reported, as compared with about £12 of an increase in the previous twelvemonth.

THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

On Tuesday the scholars attending the various parochial schools at Gateshead assembled in large numbers at the National School, Barn Close, Gateshead, from whence they marched in procession, headed by banners and flags, to St. Mary's Church, where they sang several hymns, and listened to persuasive discourses from several clergymen of the borough. They afterwards reformed in procession and marched back to Barn Close, where they were liberally supplied with a substantial tea. Tea over, they adjourned to the Gateshead Bowling Green, where cricket, balls, sack racing, and other harmless sports were provided for their amusement; and where they disported themselves till night fell when they broke up, and went to their homes looking forward to the return of another Whit-Tuesday.

JARROW.

The first sports ever held at Jarrow came off on Monday and Tuesday, in a field near the railway station. The first heats of the foot race were run off on Monday, and J. Hudspeth, of Jarrow; E. Bruce, of North Shields; and R. Hudspeth, of Jarrow, were the winners. The wrestling for eleven stone men was excellently contested, and at the close W. Lawson, of Newbrough, and Joseph Harrington, of Newcastle, were left. Harington, having hurt himself in a previous round, declined the contest, and Lawson was the winner.

NORTH SHIELDS AND TYNEMOUTH.

The Whit week opened in earnest the summer season on the coast. The weather was bright and fine, the air having just a pinch of the south-east wind in it. The sea was comparatively smooth, and the holidays thoroughly enjoyable. The steamers of the General Ferries Company ran to Tynemouth, and were much crowded all day; and the Blyth and Tyne and North-Eastern Railways had the heaviest traffic they have had this season, their trains being very heavily laden throughout the whole of the day. The usual amusements took place upon Tynemouth sands; and there were large excursion parties to Marsden, Whitley, Cullercoats, St. Mary's Isle, and other parts of the coast. As usual, Monday and Tuesday afternoons were kept as half-holidays at North Shields, and the shops and other places of business were closed.—The ancient order of Free Gardeners held a soiree and concert in the Oddfellows' Hall, on Monday, and on the same day the cricket field was crowded to witness the annual athletic *fete* of the members of the club.

On Tuesday the annual fete of the children in connection with the Howard-street and Ball Ring Wesleyan Mission Sunday Schools, North Shields, was held in the park attached to the mansion of Mr Thomas Barker, Rosella Cottage. The children, 600 in number, proceeded in procession from the Howard-street schools shortly after one o'clock. By the kindness of Captain Jackson, R.N., of H.M.S. *Castor,* they were provided with a number of Union Jacks, pennants, &c., and the procession had a very pleasing and gay appearance. In the park, the children employed themselves in games of football and other sports, and were afterwards regaled in the school room with a bountiful meal of spice buns and tea. Mr S. Mease, at the after meeting, made the gratifying announcement that as he had purchased the ground adjacent to the Mechanics Institution, he was ready to build a Wesleyan day-school there; and he hinted that he would also endow it.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

At South Shields the new Theatre, under the management of Mr Wybert Reeves, was opened. There was an excellent house and the entertainments were very successful. The building, both as regards exterior and interior, is admirable.

SUNDERLAND.

At Sunderland the holidays were thoroughly enjoyed. The excursionists were very numerous to Seaham Harbour, where a school bazaar was held, the stalls being supplied with costly articles, and attended by the Countess Vane and other ladies. A great many persons spent the day at the sea-side; the banks and sands at Roker were chosen by several pic-nic parties; some waggon-loads of lads and lasses came from Houghton-le-Spring, and had a merry time of it in innocent recreations. On Monday afternoon, the Victoria Gardens, Ryhope Road, which were re-opened for the summer season by a gala, attracted a large number of visitors, the lawn being at the disposal of the "lovers of terpsichore." The Bishopwearmouth operatic band was in attendance, and various amusements were indulged in. Mr Matthews, Farringdon Row, made his museum of natural history conspicuous by a flag-staff sixty feet high, and a large number of holiday visitors inspected the collection of interesting objects, which is well worth a visit. The gipsies received a considerable amount of patronage at their encampment opposite Holmeside; but the greatest gathering of the day was in the park during the performances of the police band. The members of several benefit and trade societies celebrated their anniversaries.

BLYTH.

Monday and Tuesday were kept as holidays at Blyth. The whole of the shops and other places of business were closed at twelve o'clock. The weather was remarkably fine, and there being few in-door, and little or no out-door, attractions, a number of persons betook themselves to recreation on the sea shore, while others went into the country. On Monday the members of the Loyal Britannia Lodge of Oddfellows, No. 4,690, M.U., had their annual dinner at the Ridley Arms Inn. The teachers and scholars of the United Methodist Free Church Sabbath School; and the teachers and scholars belonging to the United Presbyterian Church Sabbath School, held their annual tea meetings on the same day, the latter being held this year upon the Links, at North Blyth.

BEDLINGTON.

At Bedlington there were sports of a varied kind on both days, and on Tuesday was held the second exhibition of the Bedlington Poultry Society. The show was held in a large tent erected in a field at the high end of the little town. There was an extensive entry of poultry, and the show was one which would have done credit to a place of more pretensions than Bedlington. There was throughout the day a crowded attendance of interested spectators.

WILLINGTON QUAY.

NEW FREE METHODIST CHAPEL.

On Tuesday the foundation stone of a new Free Methodist Chapel, Willington Quay, was laid by the Mayoress of Tynemouth. The present chapel had grown too small for the congregation, and they determined to erect a new chapel and Sunday school. The architect is Mr George Snaith, of Newcastle. The building will be in the early English style of architecture, and will accommodate 400 worshippers. Its total cost will be about £700. At the foundation stone ceremony there was a large assembly of people, and many ministers of the denomination. The Rev. M. T. Myers, superintendent of the Shields circuit, made an interesting statement of the position and prospects of the free churches, and Mr P. A. Berkley presented the trowel (which bore a suitable inscription) to the Mayoress of Tynemouth. Mrs Green then performed the ceremony, and the Mayor delivered a short address, stating that his wife had by her own exertions collected £75 for the church. The Rev. R. Chew having addressed the assemblage, the proceedings concluded. Later in the afternoon a soiree was held in a large building in Stephenson-street, granted for the occasion by A. Potter, Esq.

DURHAM.

ODDFELLOWS' ANNUAL PIC-NIC.

The members of the Newcastle District of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity, held their fifth annual monster pic-nic in Durham on Tuesday. The weather was most favourable to the trip, and, as was expected, some thousands proceeded by train from Newcastle, Sunderland, Tynemouth, Shields, and other places. Train after train arrived in the course of the morning, with living freights, and the ancient city presented a busy aspect. In the park which Mr Wharton lent for the occasion, the proceedings were opened at twelve o'clock with a grand ball, which was held at the arena, to the strains of Stephenson's Brass Band, and the Chester-le-street Sax-Horn Band. At two o'clock the Olympic games were commenced, all of which were entered into with much spirit. Afterwards dancing was entered into with great spirit to the enlivening strains of the two bands. The management of the sports was entrusted to Mr T. Horn and Mr T. H. Dickinson. The pic-nic was a great success, and passed off without accident.

HARTLEPOOL.

OPENING OF THE NEW MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

On Tuesday, the ancient borough of Hartlepool had a most unusual aspect, on the occasion of the inauguration of the new Mechanics' Institute. The Mayor and Corporation and a large *cortege* walked in procession to the new building, which is erected at the top of Middlegate-street, in a line with the venerable church of St. Hilda. The architects are Messrs Pritchard and Sons, Darlington, and the building is a neat and commodious structure. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone was performed in September last by Mr R. Burdon, of Castle Eden. The total cost of the building will be about £1,800, of this sum about £1,002 has been raised; £500 is about to be borrowed on the security of the edifice, leaving upwards of £250 in the form of a floating debt. The committee, to enhance the attractions of the institute, in addition to the commodious reading-room and library, lecture-room and class-rooms, purpose opening a club-room in which will be provided facilities for engaging in conversation, drafts, chess, billiards, and other in-door recreations. Arrangements are also in progress to set apart a room for the junior members of the institute. When the procession arrived at the building the lecture room was crowded. The opening ceremony was then performed. The Rev. L. Paige having offered up a short prayer invoking success on the institution, Mr Wm. Gray, president of the institute, declared the building open, and delivered a short address. Other gentlemen afterwards spoke, and the proceedings concluded with a soiree.

HEXHAM.

GRAND BAZAAR AT HEXHAM.

A grand fancy bazaar was opened on Monday and continued on the following days in the elegant and commodious new Corn Exchange, Hexham, in connection with the Independent congregation, Broad Gates, for the purpose of aiding the fund towards building a new chapel, for which a site is already purchased in Hencotes-street, and the building of which will be commenced forthwith. The handsome building was profusely decorated with festoons of ivy and artificial flowers and spruce firs, loaded with oranges, &c. A large number and variety of bannerets were also suspended from the elegant iron work on each side of the central avenue whilst the walls were covered with appropriate scriptural texts and philosophical mottoes. The stalls were loaded with the usual and ornamental work, dolls, ottomans covered with bead work, gorgeous pincushions, gold fish, bronze temple, pictures, prints, including the well known faces of Lord Palmerston and Earl Russell; luscious looking artificial fruit and elegant flowers, a full-rigged brig, manned by blue jackets; boats, a microscope, &c. Among the most noteworthy articles were two beautiful screens, one of which was mounted on an elegant gilt standard, surrounded by a frame of the same material. The panel contained a parrot perched on a tree, surrounded by flowers—digitalis, pansies, convolvulus, red and white roses, &c., protected by glass, the birds and flowers being in *mezzo-relievo;* the whole formed a georgeous *tableau* of needlework, so exquisitely worked that it required a very close scrutiny to convince the spectator that it was not apicturefrom the easel of a first-class painter. The second was on an antique stand and frame of oak, covered with grapes and vine leaves beautifully carved, the panel also filled with beautiful needlework manipulated by the fairy fingers of some industrious lady fair. But the gem of the exhibition was a splendid tableau of needlework by Mrs Wadland, the wife of the respected minister, in a massive gilt frame, representing a rural scene of land, water, wood, and herbage. In the anteroom was a piping bullfinch, and a patent antoperipatetikas or walking (Algerian) doll, exhibited by Messrs G. O. M'Kane and Henry Angus, and down the middle were tables of greenhouse plants, under the care of Mr George Hill, from Mr R. Robson's nursery. The different tables were presided over by Mrs Wadland, Mrs W. Angus, Mrs J. S. Smith, Mrs W. Whinfield, assisted by Misses Heslop, Armstrong, and Waugh. First—Mrs J. S. Moffatt, Mrs J. B. Thompson. Second—Mrs McKane, assisted by Misses McKane, Tait, Newcastle; M. Spencer and Forth, North Shields. Third—Mrs W. A. Temperley, Misses Pruddah, Miss Ridley, and Miss Coulson, assisted by Misses C. Spencer, Temperley, and Dinning. Fourth—The young ladies' toy stall, by Miss Oddy, Bradford; Miss Temperley, Newcastle; Miss Temperley, Hexham; Miss Angus, Hexham; and Miss Wilkinson, Hexham. The refreshment stall was presided over by by Mrs T. Dixon and Mrs Toppin. The company was select and respectable, and a pretty good business appeared to be done. The bazaar will remain open two days longer, at reduced prices for admission.

STOCKTON.

The eighth anniversary of Stockton Whitsuntide sports commenced on Monday at the Cricket Ground, under an efficient committee of management. The sum of £150 was given to be contested for. The number of persons present exceeded that of any previous year. The sports commenced with wrestling by eleven stone men and under, for £20. There were 48 entries. In the third round the men stood and fell as under:—

STOOD.	FELL.
J. Snowdon, Cockermoth	R. Carruthers, Cumwhitton
Jos. Allison, Weardale	Thos. Martindale, Weardale
Jos. Blair, Allendale	Wm. Telford, Brampton
J. Etherington, Weardale	C. Christer, Midgeholme
John Milburn, Weardale	Joseph Watson, Weardale
R. Elliott, Haltwhistle	H. Iveson, Carlisle

FOURTH ROUND.

Joseph Allison	Joseph Blair
John Snowdon	John Etherington
John Milburn	R. Elliott

FIFTH ROUND.

John Milburn	John Snowdon

Joseph Allison odd man

In the final round Allison won the first throw, Milburn the second. In the deciding throw Allison threw his man, and was entitled to a splendid silver cup in addition to the first prize. For pole-leaping, a prize of £5 was given, but there were only three entrics:—Robert Musgrave, of Cockermouth, the champion pole-leaper; William Telford, of Brampton; and Thomas Lawson, of Middlesborough. Musgrave leaped 9 feet 9 inches, and won the prize; and stated that if he had his own pole he could have cleared the top of the standard. In addition to the prize, the committee made Musgrave a present of £2. The next wrestling prize was for £12, for 9½ stone men. 28 entries, First, £5; second, £2 10s; two men at £1 5s each; three at 7s 6d each, and seven at 2s 6d each. The final round was won by Broach.

On Tuesday the sports were resumed at one o'clock by the running of the final heats of the handicap foot races. The 130 yards handicap for £10 was won by R. Hobson, of South Stockton; 2nd, E. Barrett, of Douglas; 3rd, E. Heseltine, Stockton. In the handicap of a quarter of a mile for £10, W. Wheatley, South Stockton, was 1st, who received £8; R. Hobson, of Thornaby, 2nd, £1 10s; S. Kitching, South Stockton, 3rd, 10s. A game at fives, for the inhabitants of Stockton, for £2; eighteen entries. 1st, J. Race and R. Allison, who beat H. Kemp and J. Parker. For throwing the cricket ball, £1 for the 1st, 10s for the 2nd.—T. Cook, of Ayton, was the 1st, and threw the ball 101 yards; E. Barrett, of Stockton, 2nd. The wrestling match for £25, for 16 stone men, twenty-eight entries, was won by J. Emmerson, who beat R. Wright, of Longtown. The next match was for £12, for thirty-two picked men. The final round was won by R. Wright, who twice threw J. Fourness easily. For high pole jumping, £5, W. Telford, at 9 feet, divided the money with Lawson, of Middlesborough, the latter having sustained an injury. Several minor sports followed.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

THE BAND OF HOPE GALA

Was one of the principal sources of attraction for the temperate portion of the community, and long before the appointed time, the children, belonging to the various Sabbath Schools in connection with the Band of Hope, were to be seen wending there way to the *rendezvous* at Blackhill. At half-past eleven o'clock the procession moved from Blackhill, on their way to Consett, with children singing, and banners flying, and about twelve o'clock they entered Consett, and took up their position in the Front-street, where they sang several hymns. The arrival of Mr Clinton's celebrated band, which had been specially engaged for the occasion, was the signal for an immense gathering of lovers of music, who luxuriated in the sweet sounds of these far-famed musicians. The procession was then placed in "marching order," and at the word of command the procession again moved on, headed by the band, and proceeded through Blackhill, and Shotley Bridge, arriving at their destination in the field at Benfieldside, kindly granted for the occasion by Henry Ritson, Esq. On their arrival, the children who were tired and hungry were at once set down to an excellent tea, after which they speedily made their way to the various parties who were playing at tarzy, kiss-in-the-ring, cricket, &c., and soon made themselves at home by joining in the games. The adults were then admitted to the tent where the tables were laden with provisions of first-class quality, supplied by Mr Thomas Rowe, baker, &c., of Leadgate, to whom great credit is due for the excellent bread supplied. The ladies who administered to the wants of this great gathering, were:—Misses Moore, Gibson, Ettringham, Coborough, Wilkinson, Ford, Robson, Winter, and others. After tea, the company joined the various games going on in the field, and judging from their appearance, enjoyed themselves heartily. The band, too, was discoursing sweet music, and secured a large share of attention from the public, who were most enthusiastic in their praise of the performers. During this time a public meeting was held in the tent, under the presidency of E. O. Tregelles, Esq., but as on these occasion, the speaking is by far the least point of attraction, but few, comparatively, of an assembly numbering about 1,500 persons attended. Excellent addresses were delivered by Messrs Littlefair, Johnson, and others, by whom the temperance question was well and ably handled. The weather, although in the former part of the afternoon so warm, now set in very cold, and the company began gradually to disperse, so that by a comparatively early hour the field was almost deserted. To the committee who conducted the gala great credit is due, and we are requested to return the sincere thanks of every visitor, but particularly of the committee of this society, to H. Ritson, Esq., for his kindness in granting the field for this purpose, and also to the whole of the ladies and gentlemen who so handsomely came forward and assisted during the day.

PIC-NIC AT THE SPA.

On Tuesday afternoon a number of ladies and gentlemen connected with the Blenheim-street Wesleyan Choir, of Newcastle, drove out to Shotley Bridge, and had a pic-nic on the Shotley Bridge Spa Grounds. The company, which numbered about forty persons, sang several excellent glees and select pieces of music. Tea was prepared in the news room on the ground, and after a hearty repast, innocent games and recreations became the order of the day, until about seven o'clock, when they took their departure homewards, evidently favourably impressed with their afternoon's enjoyment.

BLACKHILL CATHOLIC GALA.

The congregation of St. Mary's Church, Blackhill, under their pastor, the Rev. Father Smith, also had a most successful *gala* on Monday. At two o'clock, the procession, which had been forming near the church, headed by the Catholic brass band, and also their drum and fife band, marched, preceded by the Rev. Father Smith, on their way to Consett. The procession was very large, and a large number of adults and children bore banners, which, as they fluttered in the breeze, gave the procession quite a picturesque appearance. On arriving at Consett their numbers were considerably increased, and as they marched through the streets the population turned out *en masse* to look at the pleasing sight of over 2,000 adults and children marching off for an afternoon's enjoyment. The field selected for the sports is situated near the Howns Gill, and was obligingly granted by Mr Lanchester, the occupier of the farm, to whom the thanks of the company are due for his courtesy. Shortly after the arrival of the procession at the field, an attack of no ordinary description was made by the visitors on the commissariat department, so that food provided for 1,200 persons disappeared as if by magic, and had to be replaced as early as possible by fresh supplies, which also vanished in an incredibly short space of time. At last the appetites of the company were somewhat satisfied, and the ladies and gentlemen who were officiating in the large tent where the provisions were supplied had an easier time, as the visitors gradually left the tent to join in the festivities going on outside. These included running, jumping, cricket, pole-leaping, dancing, tarsy, kiss-in-the-ring, &c., which all present seemed to enjoy. After some time the ground was cleared for the sports at which Mr McGarrity acted as handicapper. The races were all well contested, and the results, generally speaking, were satisfactory. The first race was for a piece of cloth, for which twelve boys ran. The deciding heat was won by Patrick Burns, of Consett. The second race was for a silver coffee pot, for which ten men ran. The deciding heat was won by John McCartin, of Castledean, near Consett. In pole-leaping, the prize was for a silver tea-pot, which, after a gallant struggle, was won by J. Oyston, Hill Top, near Esh. At a little after nine o'clock, the bands again turned homewards, and a large number of the visitors accompanied them. Here and there, however, a group of young men and maidens were to be seen tripping on the light fantastic toe to the sounds of an old violin, and the harmony of which was at variance with any tune we remember to have heard; but, no matter, the dancing was kept up with great spirit and a large amount of fun until a late hour, when many from sheer exhaustion were compelled to give in, and went their way homewards as well as they could. The behaviour of this large concourse of people was everything that could be desired, and the guardians of the public peace who were present, had nothing else to do but enjoy themselves as well as they could

SHOCKING ATTEMPT TO MURDER A NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER.

A shocking attempt to murder a non-commissioned officer has just occurred at Fulwood Barracks, near Preston. It seems that a companion of a private Hayes, of the 2nd battalion of the 21st Regiment was locked up at the beginning of the Whitsuntide festivities for being drunk. The officer who gave the order for his arrest being Sergeant Sweeney, Hayes got very angry at this, and determined to have revenge of a most murderous kind. It is customary for the non-commissioned officers to have staff parade in the large square at the barracks, and whilst they were going through this, the morning after the arrest, Hayes came out of his quarters and marched within about twenty-five yards of the men, for the purpose, as it transpired, of seeing where Sergeant Sweeney was placed in the ranks. Having satisfied himself, he retired to a distance of forty yards from them; then raised a rifle, which he had brought out with him, took aim, and deliberately fired at the head of the person whom he thought to be Sergt. Sweeney, but who was afterwards found to be Sergt. Rogers. At the time he discharged the rifle he exclaimed, "I'll give it you now," and then made off. By a most fortunate circumstance the life of Sergt. Rogers was saved. The rifle which Hayes had brought out with him was sighted for a distance of 400 yards, and as he was only about forty yards from the sergeants when he fired the ball went higher than he aimed it, but so near was it that all the sergeants heard it whizzing just over their heads. Sergeant Sloan, of the 68th, followed Hayes immediately, and held him until assistance came. Hayes was then taken to the guard-room, and was afterwards brought before the captain, and on being asked why he had fired the rifle, he openly confessed that he wanted to shoot Sergeant Sweeney and no one else. He has been about a dozen years in the 2nd battalion of the 21st Regiment, and has been at Fulwood Barracks about twelve months. He is a middle-aged man, and before enlisting in the 21st was drummed out of the marines for desertion. He is now in the guard-room, where he will remain until the authorities have decided whether he shall be tried by court martial or by the civil functionaries. It is not yet five years since a private named M'Kaffray shot Colonel Crofton and Adjutant Hanham at the same barracks. M'Kaffray imagined that he had some grievance against one of these officers through being put into the guard-room, and whilst they were standing together in the same square he discharged a gun from the lobby of his quarters and killed them both. He was hanged at Kirkdale a few months afterwards.

FIRE ON THE QUAYSIDE.—At noon on Sunday a fire broke out in a quantity of cotton waste which had been discharged from the *Alice,* and which was lying on the Quayside, near the Broad-chare. The fire did not assume any alarming dimensions, and was speedily extinguished by a plentiful supply of water applied by the hose and reel of the A division, which was quickly on the spot. The damage done was trifling.

SHOCKING CHILD MURDER IN LONDON.

A shocking case of child murder was investigated by Mr. Partridge at the Thames Police-court, on Saturday. A young woman named Sarah Spratt, aged twenty-four years, was taken into custody on Friday on a charge of wilfully murdering her male illegitimate child on the 17th of April last, and it appears that on the day above named the body of a boy nine days old was discovered in the drill ground of the Stepney Grammar School, Tredegar-square, Mile-end, by Mr. Thomas Vallance, the drill instructor. The skull was fractured, and there were other marks of violence. A coroner's inquest was held, and a verdict of "wilful murder against some person or persons unknown" was returned. The case was then put into the hands of Inspector Kerresey for inquiry, and he ascertained that the prisoner had given birth to a boy at No. 111, Half-paved-court, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street, on the 7th of April, when she was attended by Mr. Reed, a respectable surgeon, of Fleet-street. She was seen with the child in Bow and the neighbourhood of Tredegar-square on the 16th of April. The infant was murdered the same night and thrown over the wall of the drill ground. She afterwards told a Mrs. Goodyear, of Angel-road, Bow, who is nursing another illegitimate child of the prisoner's, that the deceased died in her arms between Old Ford, Bow, and the Globe public-house, in the Mile-end-road, and that she left the body in the street. A black shawl and a white calico nightgown in which the body was wrapped have been traced by Inspector Kerresey to the prisoner. She was in the service of a respectable family at Newington when taken into custody.

TERRIFIC GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION.

About ten o'clock on Saturday morning, a very alarming explosion of gunpowder occurred at Mr. James Bagnall's Blakeley Colliery, Gold's Hill, West Bromwich, though, happily, the consequences were much less serious than might have been expected under the circumstances. As it was, however, Charles Fox, a lad twelve years of age, lost his life, and some damage was done to property. On the side of the bank of one of the pits, at the colliery in question, stood a small brick building, roofed with iron, and used as a powder magazine and a store for oil and other articles; and on the opposite side of the bank, some fifteen yards away, is the ordinary pit house. At the time stated the deceased was sitting at breakfast in the latter structure, when the banksman, John Wainwright, left the bank and went towards a neighbouring pit for the purpose of speaking to one of his fellow-servants. He had not got many yards away when the engineer of the first-named pit saw the deceased leave the hovel, cross the pit bank, and enter the magazine on the other side, which contained, in addition to other stores, three kegs of gunpowder, each weighing 28 lbs. What took place within the building can now only be conjectured, but almost immediately after the lad had entered the place an explosion occurred, of such violence as to shake the earth, and all structures within a wide radius, and of such magnitude as to be very distinctly heard in Wednesbury, West Bromwich, and the country around for a considerable distance. The magazine was blown to atoms, and its materials scattered far and wide, some falling upon the adjacent railway, and breaking down the telegraph wires for many yards; while the body of the deceased was hurled high into the air and across the colliery, finally descending between sixty or seventy yards away, a blackened and charred mass, more resembling a lump of charcoal than a human body. The engine house and other structures about the colliery sustained but slight damage, and the engineer was not hurt at all. The occurrence created great excitement in the district, and very speedily many hundred persons flocked to the spot from the neighbouring towns. The remains of the unfortunate lad were removed to the house of his parents at New Town, Great Bridge.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF CREDULITY.

At Methyr Tydvil, on Saturday, Mary Mullons, a gipsy, was sentenced to six months hard labour, for swindling a Mrs. Thomas, wife of an assistant surgeon, out of a sum of £80. Mrs. Thomas in her evidence told the following extraordinary story:—On April the 27th the prisoner came to my house and said, "If you will give me a half crown I will read your planet and tell you many things." I gave her the half crown. She put a piece of paper in my hand, and said she should have to work in circles and open something under ground to raise the spirit. She said she could do it as easily as raising the mat. She said she would have to go away to open the circles, and would return at 4 o'clock. She went away and returned at that time, when she said she was bound to have £40, to put £10 on each circle. There were four circles. I said I could not get so much money as that unknown to my husband, and she said, "Yes, you can; if I can tell you one thing I can tell you another." I was told by her to wrap the money up in something good, and I wrapped it up in a piece of blue silk. She took it with her, and said on leaving she would call on the following morning (Saturday). She called before I was up, and so I did not see her that day. On the Monday another woman called on me—a very sallow-complexioned woman—who said her daughter (the prisoner) had been called away to Rhymney. She said her daughter would call at seven. I said she must call sooner, as I wanted the money. Prisoner called that evening at seven, and I asked her why she had not brought back the £40; when she said she was very sorry, but it must be kept till the 14th of May. I said I was bound to have it next day, and she said I could not, and asked me if I could do with £10. Her mother had a very valuable necklace, she said; would that do? She said she would bring back the £40 if I would double it. She brought back the money wrapped up in the blue silk, and made me take an oath on the Bible, swearing that so help me God I would get the £80 by the following Monday. She called that day about one o'clock, but I had not the money then, and she said she was bound to have it, and I need not make any excuse whatever, for I could get it if I liked. She asked me if I could not change a check, and I said I could not without its being known to my husband. "Put your name to it," she said, "and no one will know. I will work it so that no one knows." As I had not the money then, she made arrangements to call again at four o'clock. She came at the time appointed, and I had then only £30, and she said that would not do, and if I was afraid of my husband she would go home and open the circles so that he would not know. She went away and called again at eight the same evening, when I had the £80, which she said she wanted to put on the circles. She said that I was to have it back at one o'clock that night. She said I ought to have kept the silk the £40 was wrapped in, because it had been in the circles before: so I put the money into a white pocket handkerchief then. The £80 consisted of gold and silver notes, which I handed to her, and have not had it returned. She said I was to have a fortune through my father, and she would work to get it by the 14th of May. I was also told by her that my husband's relations would be kinder to me after I had the money. She said if I did not get the £80 I should not be worth anything, nor she would not, as it would disappoint the spirit. She asked me if I would go with her that night at ten o'clock and I refused. She said if I heard the spirits talking I should believe what she told me. The money has not been recovered.

A memorial window to Mr. and Mrs. Keble is to be placed in St. Paul's Church, Bournemouth. The subject of the illustrations on the window will be taken from the "Te Deum."

A CHILD KILLED BY A GAME COCK.—On Saturday Mr. Humphrey held an inquest at Old Ford, London, as to the death of Charles Winter, aged three years. It appeared that on Tuesday week the child was standing at its parents' door, 32, Palm-street, when a ferocious game cock, belonging to a neighbour named Monk, which had been frequently known to attack other children, flew up at him, and putting one claw on his head and the other on his shoulder, pecked at its face, which streamed down with blood. The child was taken in doors, and a doctor was sent for.—The medical evidence proved that deceased died from effusion of the serum on the brain, caused by a shock to the system, arising from the attack and pecks of the game cock, as well as from fright.—The owner of the cock treated the matter very cavalierly, and thought his furious bird of more importance than the lives of children.—The coroner hinted that the parents could take proceedings in another court for the loss they had sustained, and the jury returned a verdict "That deceased died from effusion on the brain, caused by being attacked and pecked by a certain game cock."

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—On Saturday last the fire in the East India Docks, which a few weeks ago destroyed a large new warehouse and a vast quantity of jute, broke out afresh among some of the salvage materials which had been removed from the building. The floating engine moored off Southwark bridge was moved down to the docks on the alarm reaching the head-quarters of the fire brigade, in Watling-street, and several land steamers were simultaneously despatched to the spot, properly manned. With their aid the fire was soon extinguished, but some of the men and engines have since remained to render assistance in the event of any fresh outbreak. Within the last few days there has been more than an ordinary number of fires. On Saturday and the following night the services of the brigade were repeatedly in requisition in various parts of the metropolis, but fortunately in no case was any serious amount of damage done. About nine o'clock on Friday morning a house of seven rooms in the Old Kent-road, in the occupation of Mr. Capes, an auctioneer, was burnt out and the roof destroyed. Some slight damage was done by water and hasty removal of the contents to an adjoining house occupied by Mr. House, an undertaker. Again, between three and four on Saturday morning the shop of Mr. Forsyth, an oil and colourman in Chrisp-street, Poplar, caught fire, by which it and the stock were seriously damaged, and the upper part of the house, with the furniture, was injured by heat and smoke. A still more alarming and destructive fire occurred on the afternoon of Thursday, on the premises of Messrs. Brisker and Shellard, lucifer-match makers, in High-street, Hoxton, through the explosion of a case of "Vesuvians." The result was that a shed, about 40ft. by 18ft., and a brick building of three floors, used as a storehouse, were burnt out and the roofs destroyed, while a front house with the contents were severely damaged. The fire spread to some adjoining premises, especially those of Mr. Woodnough, a bookbinder, which had the side windows destroyed and the stock injured by water. A fire broke out in the shop of Mr. Wales, a dealer in unredeemed pledges, in Haddington-terrace, Poplar, about one o'clock on Friday morning, burning it completely out and doing other damage to the rest of the premises. Some of the brigade were also called to extinguish a fire at a house in King-street, Drury-lane, on Friday afternoon, and the child of a lodger named Ford, seven years of age, had to be taken to an hospital.

Miss Isa Craig has been presented with a testimonial, on resigning her post as assistant-secretary of the Social Science Association, on the occasion of her marriage. She has received a silver tea service and salver, the latter bearing the inscription, "To Isa Craig, from her grateful and attached friends of the National Social Science Association, 17th May, 1866."

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GREAT FIRE IN GATESHEAD.
SERIOUS DAMAGE TO A CHAPEL.

About six o'clock on Tuesday evening, a fire, which at one time threatened the total destruction of a vast amount of house property, broke out in the premises of Mr R. Sanderson, builder and joiner, Nelson-street, Gateshead. The place, which was situated in the middle of the street, was about thirty yards in length, and extended as far back as the houses in Lambton-terrace. The premises, which adjoined Mr Sanderson's house, were divided into a yard and a workshop. The latter was two storeys high, and before the fire was filled with a very valuable stock of machinery, workmen's tools, and work in a forward state, not the least noticeable of the latter being the mahogany fittings for Mr W. Snowball's new drapery establishment in High-street. Along the sides of the shop were tiers of mahogany, which had been there for a length of time, the consequences being that it was very dry. The floor of the upstairs storey was strewn with shavings, and there was a stove in next the wall. There were usually twenty-five men employed in the place, but on Tuesday afternoon, being a holiday, there were only five working. These ceased work at half-past five o'clock in the evening, and left Mr Ferguson, the son-in-law of the proprietor, upon the premises. At ten minutes to six o'clock, Mr Ferguson also left, and he had not gone far, when, having forgotten something, he returned and found the shavings on the floor of the high storey in flames, having probably become ignited from the fire left in the stove. Before they could be put out the mahogany deals had caught hold, and blazed away rapidly. Mr Ferguson being the only occupant of the workshop, saw that any effort on his part to extinguish the fire would be fruitless, and ran out and gave the alarm. Intelligence was conveyed to the Borough Police Office, and the two hose and reels were got out by Mr Superintendent Elliott and his men, and were up to the spot in a very short space of time. On their arrival it was discovered that the fire had spread rapidly down to the ground storey. By this time the heat was very intense, and the people living in tenemented houses on both sides of Nelson-street and in Lambton-terrace had become very much alarmed for the safety of their property, and they at once began to convey their household goods into the street, in which considerable excitement and confusion prevailed. The love of mischief on this, as on the generality of such occasions, was very predominant. Young fellows went into rooms and broke furniture into splinters, and threw fancy ornaments into the street; and on being remonstrated with, they invariably replied that they were doing what they could to save the property. Meanwhile the conflagration had considerably extended, the roof of the workshop having fallen in, and the large quantity of timber in the yard adjoining was in flames. The wind blew strongly from the south-east, and placed the houses next to the yard on the west side and in Lambton-terrace in considerable jeopardy. Mr Superintendent Elliott seeing this, sent off at once to Newcastle for assistance, and Mr Soulsby and the men of the North British fire engine promptly attended to the command. They were followed by the apparatus and a detachment of men under Sergeant Young, from the "D" or Ouseburn divisional police station, and several men from the "A" division under the command of Sergeant Hepple, with their hose and reel. The pipes were made fast to the plugs in High-street and West-street, but at first there was only a weak pressure of water. It was turned off in other neighbourhoods, however, and in about three quarters of an hour after the breaking out of the fire the force was all that could be wished for. Before the arrival of the North British engine Mr Elliott had directed the attention of his men to the very heart of the fire, but he relinquished on the part of one of his hose that place to Mr Soulsby, and removed with the spare pipe into Mr Sanderson's private dwelling house, where from a doorway a powerful jet of water was thrown upon the destructive element. The "A" division hose was placed in Lambton-terrace, but in consequence of the unwillingness of a policeman to mount the house top the water thrown from it did not have any effect for some few minutes. At last Mr Benjamin Birtley mounted the latter with the hose in his hand and got upon the top of the house, from which he poured a powerful stream of water upon the already red hot walls and the flaming spouts of the dwellings in Lambton-terrace. The Ouseburn men played well upon the contents of the yard. The heat from the conflagration was now unbearable, and the people living in the houses opposite began to pour jugs of water down their walls. The steam from this operation in addition to the smoke from the fire had the effect of almost suffocating all those who were near it. The heat also set the frame of a window of the Primitive Methodist Chapel in flames, but the window was instantly broken out and thrown to the ground, where water was poured upon it. This place of worship was sadly disfigured, and it will cost a good deal to have the proper repairs done to it. Most of the panes were broken out, the doors were all scorched, and the brick work was considerably damaged. At seven o'clock the fire raged at its worst, and in consequence of the wall of the house on the west side having become red hot, some of the wood work ignited, but was extinguished by buckets of water. One-half of the gable end of the workshop showed unmistakeable signs of falling into the street, but through the efforts of several civilians this catastrophe was averted, and the bricks fell in upon the top of the fire, which was now showing signs of subjection. Well and manfully did the police and firemen work, and several bystanders lent valuable aid. The conflagration, which had raged so fiercely, gradually grew less, until at eight o'clock there was nothing left but a lot of smouldering ashes in the ruins. A few planks of timber only were saved, and the premises were completely gutted. The damage sustained by Mr Sanderson will amount to something over £1,500, but whether this is covered by insurance or not is not known, Mr Sanderson being at present from home. The tools of nine or ten of the workmen were totally destroyed, and will be a loss to them each of from £5 to £10. Mr Elliott, the chief constable of Gateshead, is deserving of all the praise that can be given to him for the manner in which he directed the efforts of those engaged in subduing the devouring element. Mr Sabbage, chief constable of Newcastle, was also present for a short time.

THE RECENT COMMERCIAL PANIC.

The following is the text of the circular transmitted by the Foreign Office to the British embassies and legations throughout Europe:—

"Foreign Office, May 12.

"Sir,—The monetary crisis through which this country is now passing will naturally attract great attention in other countries, and it is therefore desirable that a clear conception should be formed, both of its nature and probable extent, but more particularly of the measures which Her Majesty's Government have adopted to enable the mercantile community to meet the difficulties of the present situation. Long-continued prosperity in commercial affairs, and the general wealth consequent on it, have produced their ordinary results in encouraging speculation, especially of a monetary or financial character, and fostering hopes of acquiring wealth by more speedy means than are presented by the ordinary methods of commercial industry. Again, the events which are taking place on the continent have tended not only to produce immediate derangement in commercial transactions, but also to shake that confidence in the future without which a return to a sound state in monetary matters was not to be looked for. The immediate cause, however, of the crisis lay in the stoppage of the great discount house of Overend, Gurney, and Co., in whose hands were lodged many millions sterling, which, in other times, would in great part have formed, and which, perhaps, ought to have formed, the reserves of the various private and joint-stock banks of the country. This failure directed the action of the panic against the banks in London, and it was to be apprehended that the movement in the capital would be followed by a similar agitation in the rest of the kingdom, where, in addition to the large deposits in the hands of the bankers there are many millions of paper circulation resting only on the commercial credit of the issuers. In this state of things it could not be surprising that the reserve of the Bank of England was heavily affected yesterday, and it was the combined consideration of what had then actually happened and of what might follow on subsequent days which induced Her Majesty's Government to adopt the measure on which, in the course of the evening, they decided. For the money drawn from the banks having been withdrawn from circulation under the influence of panic, the Bank of England might, without some new resource, have been unable to continue its accustomed assistance. Thus the crisis, which had been anxiously apprehended from this combination of circumstances, has come at last, but with a severity and suddenness in regard to its immediate consequences which could not have been anticipated. The Bank of England is prepared to extend relief, to the utmost of its means, to all cases which are justly deserving of its support; while Her Majesty's Government, in full reliance on the eventual sanction of Parliament, if it should be necessary to go beyond the law as it now stands, have signified to the Bank of England their permission to hold itself free from the observance of the ordinary limitations on its issues, if the exigencies of the time require such an extraordinary measure. Her Majesty's Government trust that by this timely assistance all commercial establishment which are based on sound principles, and have been conducted with proper prudence, will be enabled to withstand the shock to which the panic occasioned by the recent great failure in the city will have exposed them. Her Majesty's Government have no reason to apprehend that there is any general want of soundness in the ordinary trade of this country which can give reasonable ground for anxiety or alarm either in this country or abroad; they are satisfied, on the contrary, that the present crisis, peculiar and unprecedented as it is, is one of a character essentially more favourable than others which have been successfully passed through; and that all that is required is that all classes should co-operate with the Government in endeavouring to allay needless alarm, and in acting with prudence and forbearance while so much agitation prevails. It appears to Her Majesty's Government to be of great importance that the commercial interests abroad should be reassured in regard to what is passing in this country, and I have therefore lost no time in authorising you to make known to the Government to which you are accredited, and generally to those who have a direct interest in such matters, the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of the present state of affairs, the active measures which have been adopted to avert any evil consequences, and the confidence which Her Majesty's Government feel that those measures will be attended with success. The abatement of the panic in the city this morning is, Her Majesty's Government trust, an earnest of the good results likely to attend the measures which they have authorised the Bank of England to adopt.—I am, with great truth, &c. CLARENDON.

ROMANTIC CAREER OF A HERMIT.

About three miles from Seaton Carew there is a large tract of level ground, called the "Snook," which, at high tide, is covered with water by the overflowing of the river Tees. Near to the coastguard station, which is situated on the sheltered side of a large sand bank, a hermit has for some time taken up his *locale*, squatter fashion. He is a man over 50 years of age, attired in a perfect network of stitches. He gives his name as John Marley, and says he is the nursed heir to the Kirkleatham estates, near Redcar. The habitation of this personage is of a somewhat amphibious nature, consisting of the body of a cab vehicle, which is secured to the bottom of a large superannuated boat. Here he resides, having the cab fitted up with a stove, shelves, seat, and table, existing chiefly on mussels, cockels, and herbs, which he gathers on the shore. He is not fastidious in his diet, and he at times makes a hearty repast on the carcasses of dead animals or fish which wash up on the beach. Since his residence on the Snook he has had many visitors from Seaton and the Hartlepools, whose curiosity led them to pay the hermit a visit, but a strange trait in his character is that he refuses to receive money, and scarcely will accept any present unless it be tobacco, for which he appears to have a strong partiality. It appears, from his own statement, that this strange character when an infant was entrusted to the care of Mrs Jane Thompson, then residing at Sunderland, but who died a few years ago, by a gentleman to her unknown, but who paid her handsomely for looking after her trust. She brought him up until he reached the age of six years, when, during an illumination in Sunderland on the occasion of the celebration of the coronation of George IV. the little hero was forcibly taken away from her custody by two men in disguise, and a day or two after the child was found with its throat cut on the Sunderland sands, but its wounds were attended to by a doctor and its life was saved, the mark of the cut being still perceptible. Our hero remained with Mrs Thompson until he was ten years of age, when he suddenly disappeared, having again been stolen by "ruffianly hirelings," and for three or four years after this he has little recollection of his whereabouts, but has a slight remembrance of being confined in some dark room, from whence he was taken and placed on board a ship, which landed him in Canada. Here he remained until the year 1838, when he shipped from London as a seaman in a collier from Middlesbro', and the vessel was lost at the mouth of the river Tees, and the crew escaped merely with their lives, all Marley's clothing and money having gone down with the vessel. This loss had such an effect upon his mind that he determined for the remainder of his life to live in seclusion, and from that time to the present he has been leading the life of a hermit on the banks of the Tees. The structure in which he now resides he has had about five years, having had a similar one previous, but which was wrecked during a heavy flood. About four years ago the late Superintendent Dixon was instructed by some gentleman of the name of Evans, of London, to endeavour to ascertain the whereabouts of this strange individual, as he was heir to some extensive estate. Mr Dixon succeeded shortly before his death in finding out the hermit, but he refused to leave the life he was leading, or go to look after his estate. A year after this his old nurse was on her deathbed, and, having had information of her young progeny, sent for him, and he complied with her desire to see him; and it was on going to Sunderland that he found out that he was the nursed heir of the Kirkleatham estates, and that he was put out of the way shortly after he was born, and was christened according to instructions by his nurse by the name of John Marley. The hermit is satisfied as to his rightful claim to this estate, and has some documentary evidence in his possession which tends to confirm the assertion of his claim prior to its last disposal. He says he will not move in the matter as long as Mrs Newcommon is alive, but that, should he survive her, he will substantiate his right.

SUSPECTED CASE OF POISONING AT EASINGTON-LANE.

The quiet little village of Easington-lane, midway betwixt Hartlepool and Sunderland, has within the last day or two been startled by the discovery of one of the inhabitants in a decomposed state, laid out in his bed by a woman who passed off as his housekeeper, but who really cohabited with him. The circumstances leave little doubt that the man has been poisoned. The deceased was John Cooper, a miner, about seventy years of age. For some time Jane Craggs, who is separated from her husband, who resides at Houghton-le-Spring, has been living with him. The deceased was a hard-working man, and earned good wages. He received his wages last Friday week, and had not been seen alive since. Some of his comrades considered it rather strange that he should absent himself so long from work, and made inquiries. His housekeeper, on being interrogated, invariably replied that he had gone to Coxhoe, but could not give a satisfactory reason for his leaving. A particular friend in the person of his "marrow" went to his house last Thursday in order to be satisfied as to the deceased's whereabouts. His housekeeper told him that Cooper had left on Monday for Coxhoe to see some friends, and had not as yet returned. He started, she said, at four o'clock in the morning, and only having 6s. she lent him 7s. more. In the room where the conservation took place there was a four-post bedstead with the curtains pinned close to. There being a peculiar and rather disagreeable smell, the man asked what the curtains were fastened up for, and rose from his seat to proceed towards the bed, when Mrs Craggs jumped up and seizing him by the coat collar said if he looked in there she would "raise the place about him." He did not wish to create any disturbance, but expressed his astonishment and left the house. At this period a cartload of coals was brought to the door, and Mrs Craggs commenced hastily to get them in. She had a large fire burning in the grate. On Cooper's friend leaving the house he went to one or two of his comrades and narrated the suspicious circumstances connected with his visit. A man named Hill proffered to go into the house and look into the bed, and in company with another person set off. On their way they called for the police-constable, and he accompanied them, after hearing the statement. On arriving at the house the officer interrogated the women as to the whereabouts of Cooper, and she said he had gone to Coxhoe, and that she was going to follow him. The policeman, after further questions, said he would not believe her statements, and would search the house. On pulling the curtains aside, and removing the bed clothes he was horrified to find the decomposed corpse of Cooper, the stench from which was almost unbearable. The officer turned to Mrs Craggs and said, "He's here dead. Why did you say he was at Coxhoe?" She replied "So he was at Coxhoe, but he came back again, and died on Monday night; he's dead enough. I got up at night and let him in." The officer then charged her with being concerned in his death, and took her into custody. Dr. Parker subsequently made a post-mortem examination of the body. At an inquest held on Saturday, before Mr Tiplady, deputy coroner, evidence to the above effect was adduced. Dr. Parker stated that the contents of the stomach had been sent to Dr. Richardson, of Newcastle, for analysis. Dr. Parker considered it almost impossible to detect laudanum, as it would by that time have evaporated. There was nothing presented to his notice on making the examination to account for death. The inquest was adjourned until Wednesday week. One other suspicious circumstance has since come to light. A favourite cat belonging to the deceased was found about a week since, and its body has since been discovered in a raintub in the yard. It is supposed the cat had been experimented upon with the poison, which it is surmised has sealed poor Cooper's fate. The cat has also been sent to Newcastle, in order that it may be examined.

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

The week opened with a cold harsh day; cloudy at times but with no rain; wind NW. On Monday it was thick, with a dense fog for about an hour—having something the appearance of a blight; wind from the NNW to NNE; thermometer 48 degrees, barometer 30 inches. A higher temperature is much needed for all the crops, and without this there is some probability of a late harvest. The grasses have been much checked in their growth by the cold nights. Tuesday was a cold sunless day, and during the previous night a frost was experienced, some ice appearing; wind NNE; thermometer at noon 44 degrees, barometer 30·20 inches. From Northumberland the report stated:—"The weather since our last report was mild and showery up to Friday, with westerly winds; since then it has been dull and cold. Wind N to NE." Wednesday was a cold sunless day, with no rain; wind NNE. Thursday was a fine sunny day, the wind having got to the ESE; thermometer 48 deg.; barometer very high—up to 30·20 inches. On Friday and Saturday the weather was fine and sunny, making three days in succession of such weather during this week, and the whole of the week has been quite dry, and the temperature during the last two days was higher, up to 56 degrees at mid-day on Saturday. This favourable change, it is to be hoped, will continue; the nights only require to be warmer to cause some improvement in the crops generally. The grass is backward, much more so than last year, for on May 19 hay making commenced in the neighbourhood of Exeter, and this year we fancy it will not be ready for cutting for a month to come.—*Mark Lane Express.*

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A SON OF THE EARL OF HARRINGTON.

A sad affair occurred on Friday evening, which resulted in the death of the Hon. Gerald Stanhope, fifth son of the Earl of Harrington, of Elvaston Castle, Derbyshire. In the afternoon the Earl of Harrington left Elvaston Castle on horseback, for Derby, and was accompanied by one of his daughters, Lady Caroline Stanhope, and his son, the Hon. Gerald Stanhope, also on horseback. After spending some time in Derby, they turned towards Elvaston, and, on passing Osmaston Park, about a mile out of Derby, deceased's horse began to kick, and threw him to the ground. The earl at once dismounted, and picked his son up, putting him in a cart that was passing at the time. He was conveyed to the residence of Mr. Hollis, surgeon, a mile farther on the way towards Elvaston. On reaching Mr. Hollis's, the deceased was able to get out of the cart, and was afterwards taken to the castle. At midnight a change for the worse took place, and the poor fellow never rallied, and died on Saturday afternoon. The cause of death was concussion of the brain. An inquest was held on Saturday evening, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

SHOCKING AFFAIR NEAR BARROW.

The people of Furness were thrown into great excitement, on Saturday afternoon, by the report that a young woman had been shot at Hindpool, near Barrow. From what has transpired, it seems that the party who has been shot is a young woman, 17 years of age, named Esther Pittaway, and that she lived with her parents at No. 7, Lyon-street, Hindpool. The person who perpetrated the deed is a married man named John Trow, who is a native of Staffordshire. The parties are cousins, and Trow, who has been in the habit of visiting at the house of the deceased's parents, called there on Saturday morning, to inform his aunt that his wife had arrived from Stafford. The young woman was washing her hands in the back kitchen, being about to go an errand for her mother, who was serving a customer in a small shop, which they keep. Trow went through the shop, and as he was going picked up a gun belonging to a lodger named Farrington. In a moment afterwards the gun exploded, the contents of it blowing out one of the young woman's eyes and striking the side of her face as well. She died immediately. Dr. Sinclair, was sent for, but his services were of no avail. It is said that Farrington had been out with his gun on Saturday morning, and the supposition is that he had returned with it loaded, and left it so in the shop. Whether Trow knew that the gun was loaded or not cannot be said. After the sad affair Trow was apprehended by the police and taken to the lock-up.

PRINCE ALFRED AT EDINBURGH.

On Saturday the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art was opened to the public by His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, in presence of a great assemblage of spectators. The visit of the Prince was received with cordial welcome by the inhabitants, and preparations had been made for giving him the freedom of the city, and for conferring upon him the degree of LL.D. of the University of Edinburgh, of which a few years ago he was a student. The foundation of the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art was laid by the late Prince Consort on 23rd October, 1861, the same day as the new General Post-office just opened there was founded. It was the Prince's last visit to Scotland, his death occurring only nine weeks after. The designs were furnished by the late Captain Fowke, R.E., architect of the Great Exhibition of 1862, and of the entire scheme a portion of about two fifths has been built and opened. The site is immediately in rear of the College or University, and an Archway over West College street communicates between the two structures.

Prince Alfred arrived at Edinburgh by the limited mail from London at 7 10 a.m., and was met at Lothian Road Station by the Lord Provost and Professor Lyon Playfair. His royal highness proceeded to Douglas Hotel, where he was waited on in the forenoon by the Lord Provost and other gentlemen. At one o'clock the prince visited the Lord Provost (Mr. William Chambers) at his residence, in Chester-street, where he partook of luncheon with a select company. An escort of the 4th Hussars waited to escort the prince to the University, and the way was lined, Prince's-street by the 4th Hussars, and the North and South Bridges by the 72nd Highlanders. An immense assemblage turned out to welcome the Prince. The Prince reached the university at half-past two, and was again greeted by a multitude of ladies and gentlemen assembled in the great quadrangle. In front of the college the 72nd Highlanders' band was stationed, and the band of the Queen's Edinburgh Rifle Volunteer Brigade were placed in the quadrangle. The University Company of Volunteers saluted the Prince as he entered the College library. In the library, the Vice-Chancellor, members of University Court, and professors received the Prince, and in the fine hall of the library there was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, and many of the graduates present wore gowns and hoods. An address was presented from the senate, and the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on him by the principal, Sir David Brewster.

Prince Alfred, in acknowledging the compliment, said: Sir David Brewster and Professors,—It is with pride and pleasure that I accept the honorary degree which has been so graciously conferred on me by this University—an institution with which I am already connected by many intimate and cherished associations. Of these associations some are derived from recollections of the circumstance to which you have adverted in your address—namely, that my lamented father held and highly valued the degree with which you have to-day been pleased to honour me. Others are the results of my own experience of this university and of the many happy—may I venture to say, I trust profitable—days which I passed studying within those walls. To the expressions of these personal feelings I must add the gratification which I experience in finding the university so intimately connected with the industrial museum we are about to open by the contributions of your collections of natural history to that institution. I will only observe, in conclusion, that I trust I may have frequent opportunities of evincing my interest in this seat of learning, and by cultivating the acquaintance of the eminent men who preside over it." At the conclusion of the Prince's reply, which was remarkably well delivered, there was considerable applause.

The Prince immediately proceeded to the Industrial Museum. The Town Council presented him with an address, and, the usual formalities having been gone through, the Town Council conferred on him the freedom of the city. In recognition of this compliment, his Royal Highness said:—My Lord Provost, magistrates, and gentlemen,—Accept my sincere thanks for the hearty welcome which I have this day received in Edinburgh—an expression of which you have so warmly given in your address. The loyalty of this city and its inhabitants is well known and highly valued by the Queen, and I shall not fail to bring under the notice of Her Majesty the feelings of attachment to her person, crown, and family, expressed by you in behalf of the community of which, I am now proud to say, I form a part, by having just received at your hands the freedom of this ancient city. The occasion which has now called me amongst you, and the work of which I have now been deputed to announce the completion, naturally caused a feeling of mournful regret that my father could not have been spared to finish the work which he began, and in which he took so warm an interest. The opportunity which has been afforded me of taking a part in this important ceremony emboldens me to express my strong desire to follow the footsteps of the Prince Consort, however feebly, in promoting those peaceful arts and sciences so necessary to the welfare of the nation, and so intimately associated with his name. This museum, including as it does collections of natural history and geology, and passing onwards to other applications of of industry, and having illustrations also of the means of adorning them by art, gives to this institution a comprehensiveness I am not aware of any other museum possessing.

Professor Archer, director of the museum, now requested his royal highness to inspect the museum, and the Prince, accompanied by the Lord Provost and other gentlemen, visited the different saloons and galleries. On his return to the dais, Captain Donelly requested the Prince to declare the museum open, which he accordingly did. The announcement was repeated to the audience by the Albany herald, the state trumpeters gave a loud flourish, the Highlander's band played the national anthem, and, on a signal to the castle, a royal salute was fired by the batteries, which was again responded to by loud cheers of the assemblage as the Prince left the building. His royal highness next visited the new General Post-office which was founded simultaneously with the museum, and was only opened ten days ago. The prince was conducted through the whole building, and was loudly cheered on entering and leaving.

In the course of the afternoon, Prince Alfred visited the studio of Mr. Steell, Her Majesty's sculptor for Scotland who is now engaged with the Scottish national memorial to the late Prince Consort; and his royal highness expressed great satisfaction with the work, and particularly with the likeness of his deceased father.

The prince left Edinburgh, on his return to London, at 9 40 p.m., being attended to the train by the Lord Provost and other gentlemen.

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS HELENA.—The near approach of the day fixed for the marriage of Her Royal Highness Princess Helena with Prince Christian is much evidenced by the preparations made by the Court authorities for the due celebration of the Royal nuptials. The wedding is expected to take place on the 5th of July, in the private chapel of Windsor Castle, and the sacred building, or, more properly speaking, apartment, is about to be prepared for the ceremony. During this operation, which will take some little time, as a gallery will not improbably be erected within its interior, a temporary chapel will be fitted up in St. George's Hall for the use of Her Majesty, the Royal Family, and the Queen's Household. From the fact of the State apartments on the north side of the Castle having been ordered to be got in readiness at once, it may be inferred that this magnificent group of rooms will be used for the Princess's marriage and the courtly festivities consequent upon the event. The suite includes the Rubens Room, the Council Chamber, the King and Queen's Closet, the Zuccarelli Room (with its beautiful landscapes), and the Vandyke Gallery. These extensive preparations were to have been carried out while Her Majesty was at Balmoral, but they will be carried out during the absence of the Queen at Cliefden. Liberal and extensive orders for the bridal *trousseau* of the Princess Helena have been distributed among the various Royal tradespeople and others.—*Post.*

The Royal Medals for the encouragement of Geographical Science and Discovery, entrusted annually for award to the Geographical Society, will this year be given to Dr. T. Thomson, Himalayan traveller and botanist, and to Mr Chandless, who, as a private gentleman, performed the exploration of the Parus river, in South America, mapping it in detail for a length of 1,900 miles. The anniversary meeting takes place on the 28th inst.

Miscellaneous News.

Lord Otho Fitzgerald was on Monday re-elected for the county of Kildare without opposition.

The Fenians have a newspaper in San Francisco which is printed entirely in green ink.

The champions of the Maine Liquor Law in Boston have succeeded in closing ninety-two drinking shops in that city.

A child of three years old at Old Ford has died in consequence of being attacked by a ferocious game cock belonging to a neighbour.

A volume of poems by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, to be published by Macmillan and Co., is announced. The title is "Shadows of the Past."

The registrars-general of the three kingdoms estimate the population at the middle of the year 1866 as follows:—England and Wales 21,210,020, Scotland 3,153,413, Ireland 5,571,971, total 29,935,404.

The London and North Western Railway directors resolved on Saturday to allot to their proprietors, rateably at par, additional ordinary stock equal in amount to about five per cent on the ordinary capital.

On the 5th June there will be a grand dinner at Willis's Rooms, to present Captain Maury with a testimonial, which will take the monetary form of 3,000 guineas, Sir John Pakington will preside.

A caricature has been published at Florence, representing General La Marmora saying to the representatives of England and Russia, "I swear to you, gentlemen, that we shall not attack," while Italy, sword in hand, remarks, "What do you know about it. General?"

The excursionists to Greenwich on Sunday were interrupted for some hours by the railway bridge which crosses the Deptford canal having taken fire. A large heap of straw lying close to the bridge was ignited by a spark from one of the boats, and the fire was communicated to the bridge, a great portion of which is constructed of wood. No accident was occasioned either by the fire or the delay of the trains.

SHOCKING SUICIDE OF A FRENCH OFFICER.—On Friday, M. Arthur St. Martin, a French officer, of 17, Draycott-street, Chelsea, committed suicide by blowing his brains out in Halsey-street, by a pistol. It appeared that the deceased was paying his addresses to a lady residing in Halsey-street, and not being successful in his suit shot himself as described.

The case noticed by us some time ago of a suit brought in New York by a Mr Daly against Miss Bateman, for services rendered in the translation of "Leah," and the preparation of her biography, against which she pleaded "infancy," *i.e.* that she was under twenty-one when the services were rendered, has under a final hearing been decided against her. The amount she has to pay is 410 dollars.

A shocking case of suicide has occurred near Cambridge. A respectable tradesman of that town placed himself on the metals of the railway before an approaching train. He was seen by the driver to come from behind the buttress of a bridge, deliberately kneel beside the off rail, and then stretch himself across it. The train came up at the rate of fifteen miles an hour, it was impossible to stop it, and the body of the wretched man was in an instant literally cut in two.

The *Booneville* (Missouri) *Eagle* gives an account of a double murder, recently committed by some desperadoes near that place. The murderers rode up, and after engaging in conversation for a moment or two shot them—first the father, then the eldest son—killing both almost instantly. A younger brother, who was near by, seized a gun, and killed one of the villains. The others, frightened at this, rode off, but not until one more had been seriously wounded by the boy.

Mr Hughes, M.P., on Saturday attended a meeting at Manchester to celebrate the success of a somewhat novel partnership. This is a wirework manufactory conducted under the style of Greening and Co., Limited, and the feature of public interest consists in the fact that the work-people are not only admitted as shareholders, but are also entitled, even if they are not shareholders, to a stated proportion of the profits when they exceed a certain fixed percentage.

FRIGHTFUL AFFAIR ON A CRICKET FIELD.—At Sabden, a few miles from Clithero, a number of boys were playing at cricket on Friday evening, and some wrangling occurred between two of them, Charles Moore, aged nine, son of a clergyman, and James Haworth, a cotton weaver, aged twelve years. The two boys began to fight, and Moore was understood to be beaten. The fight was afterwards resumed, and while Moore was down, Haworth kicked him in the abdomen, and he was carried off the field dead. Haworth was apprehended, and on Saturday he was taken to Burnley.

Another curious story (which may be believed or not) as to the permanence of impressions on the retina has just come from America. The Memphis *Bulletin* says the body of a man was lately found in Memphis in such a condition as to leave no doubt that he had been murdered. The police, finding no clue, decided on trying photography, and accordingly, on the day of the murder, with the aid of a microscope, images left on the retina of the dead were transferred to paper, and curious facts developed. A pistol, the hand, and part of the face of the man who committed the crime are perfectly delineated.

The annual banquet known as the China Dinner came off on Friday evening at Willis's Rooms; Sir John Davis, K.C.B., in the chair. Covers were laid for eighty. Mr E. de Champs, with three members (Kwang-ying, Feugh-yid, and Teh-ming) of the China Mission, were present, and occupied seats at the table opposite the chairman. After the usual loyal toasts the health of the Emperor of China was drunk, and replied to by Teh-Ming. Then followed The Church (Rev. Dr Irwin), the Army, Navy, and Volunteers (Sir Michael Seymour), the Civil Service (Sir John Bowring), British Commerce in China (Mr Robertson, M.P.), the Visitors (Lord Richard Grosvenor), and the Chairman, proposed by Major the Hon. A. Anson, M.P.

THE CANNON STREET MURDER.—Since Smith's imprisonment in the gaol at Newgate he has written several letters to his relations at Eton. In these he strongly asserts his innocence, and in a confident tone looks forward to an acquittal on the capital charge. There are, it is understood, some half-dozen reliable witnesses to prove that on the night of the murder Smith was in their company from half-past eight o'clock till a quarter-past eleven, and thence in the company of another witness till twelve o'clock. Their recollection of the date is said to be fixed by an entertainment taking place at the Mathematical School at Eton College. These witnesses were in attendance at the magisterial investigation, but it was thought advisable by the prisoner's counsel that their evidence should be reserved for the trial.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS IN SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND.—The farmers everywhere were during the past week very busy in preparing their turnip and potato land, and, generally speaking, it appeared to be in capital "tilth" and well pulverised, each endeavouring to outstrip his neighbour in the race of competion and in the ardour of business pursuits. The wheat crop generally looks uncommonly promising; the plants are squat, strong, and of excellent colour, the prevailing cold days of the spring months having retarded its growth, and prevented it from running into rankness and unevenness of size, and the late dry weather having preserved its healthy green, for a dry spring always suits the wheat plant. Oats and barley, as well as spring-sown wheat, present a healthy and level "braird," quite free from patchiness, or the yellow, unhealthy tinge produced by wet weather. Peas, also, so far as we have seen, have a very promising appearance. The pastures are very short in the "nap," though very thick on the ground, and, like the cereals, only require a few genial showers and a continuation of the dry weather to make them all that the most impatient and exacting farmer could desire. Hay is both scarce and dear, and straw is almost equally valuable. The stock in general looks thin, owing, no doubt, to the prevailing scarcity of fodder and the lateness of the season.

A WITCH IN JAIL.—DEPLORABLE CREDULITY AND SUPERSTITION.—An extraordinary instance of the extent to which designing impostors can practice on the credulity and superstition of the ignorant, even in these days of education and penny newspapers, occurred at Wick last week. A gipsy woman, or vagrant, from the Borders, named Esther Mullins or Townsley, came last week across the Ord. A fisherman and his wife fell into the meshes of the witch, who, on some spacing of luck for the fishing, first got a half-crown. Then seeing that where there were half-crowns to be had there was more, she pretended that she had a spell to break; there was witchery in the poor man's nets, caused by a woman's hair artfully entwined in them, and that could not be made right without four silver pieces. The wife thereupon gave her a florin and three shillings to break the spell; but having wormed out of the poor woman that there was a five pound note in the house, she resolved to have that also. So she tried the terrors of her craft, and denounced immediate and irretrievable ruin on the man and his wife, his fishing, and all his concerns, if that five pound note remained where it was. The only way of avoiding ruin and misery was to hand it over to her, and all would be right. She got the five pound note as she got the florin and three shillings, and as she got the half-crown. The would-be witch, however, is safely lodged in Wick Jail, on a charge of falsehood, fraud, and wilful imposition; and the fools who tried to buy "the devil's luck" will have the pleasure of knowing that they have been taken in by a tinker.—*John o'Groat's Journal.*

DISGRACEFUL SCENES ON THE SABBATH AT A CHAPEL IN ROCHDALE.—On Sunday morning last a disgraceful scene took place at the Independent chapel, in High-street, Rochdale. The Rev. George Snashall is the minister, and about Christmas last some ill feeling sprang up between some of the teachers and other persons connected with the chapel and their minister, because the Rev. G. Snashall had objected to an old superintendent, who had been out of the town for many years, presiding at the Christmas tea-party. The breach has since widened, one portion of the congregation, teachers, and scholars sympathising with the minister, and the other against him. A few weeks ago a meeting was called to hear charges made against the present superintendent for the party he had taken in the matter. After speeches were delivered on both sides, a vote of confidence in the superintendent was moved, but the Rev. Gentleman's friends moved an amendment to the effect that he be requested to resign the office of superintendent. The result was that both parties claimed the victory, and a fortnight last Sunday the Rev. G. Snashall, accompanied by his party, and the superintendent by his, made their way into the school-room. The superintendent gave out the hymn beginning—

"There is a land of pure delight."

The Rev. Gentleman gave out a different hymn, and both were sung at the same time; but, the superintendent and his party had the harmonium on their side, and this, to a great extent, drowned the air of their opponents. Prayer having been offered by the superintendent, the remainder of the morning up to chapel time was spent in trying to come to some arrangement, but it was fruitless. Nothing particular occurred until Sunday morning last. The superintendent and his party had posted up a bill in the neighbourhood of the chapel informing the scholars that they were to meet at Bellfield to receive their annual treat. The other party pulled down the bills, and the disturbance created great excitement in the town, causing 300 or 400 people to assemble to witness it. The police had to be called in to prevent further misconduct, but a large crowd lingered about the chapel most of the day, hoping to witness further scenes, but happily they were disappointed.

The Ordnance Select Committee have recommended the adoption for the British army of the Sneider system of converted breech-loading Enfield rifles.

The *Mobile Register* has placed at the head of its columns the name of General R. E. Lee as the State Right Democratic candidate for President in 1868.

The Prince and Princess of Wales rode out on horseback on Saturday afternoon. The Prince of Wales presided at the annual dinner of the 10th Hussars at Willis's Rooms in the evening.

ARRIVAL OF THE CHINESE AMBASSADORS AND SUITE.—His Excellency Pin Ch'un, the Chinese ambassador, accompanied by Yuang Ying, as second envoy, and Feng Yih Teh Ming, and Yee Hwei, attaches, with a numerous suite, have arrived at the United Hotel (late Thomas's), Charles-street, St. James's, from the continent. The mission is attended by Mr. E. C. Bowra, secretary, and Mr. E. de Champs, as interpreter. Their stay in England will extend over ten days or a fortnight.

NARROW ESCAPE.—A Mrs. Stratton, of Little Barford, was travelling from London on the Great Northern Railway, with her little daughter, on a visit to friends in the country, and as the train passed Little Barford she was anxious that the child should see where its grandfather lived. She took it upon her lap, and as they passed the place it leant on the carriage door, which opened, and the child fell out. There were two engines attached to the train, and on arriving at St. Neot's one was sent back in search of the child. Some platelayers had discovered it lying down the embankment, and were completely at a loss to account for its being there until the engine in search came up. The child was examined by a medical man, and it was found the only injury it had sustained was a slight cut over the eye.

A MAN KILLED IN A STREET ROW AT LEEDS.—About twelve o'clock on Sunday morning, Police-constable Ellis, of the Leeds force, had his attention drawn to a crowd in Briggate, and observed one man run out from it hotly pursued by another. The first man, who was David Saville, a handle setter, was struck by his pursuer, who is Benjamin Smith, a turner, and felled to the ground. Constable Ellis apprehended him. Saville was taken to the Leeds Infirmary, where he remained insensible until his death which occurred in about an hour. Smith, as soon as he heard that Saville was dead, drew a long-bladed knife from his pocket, and gashed his throat with the weapon in several places, the blood spurting out copiously from the wounds upon the walls of the police office, and also accumulating in pools upon the seat and the floor. Smith was in his turn conveyed to the Infirmary, where his several jagged wounds were dressed, but two of them are of such a serious nature that his recovery is doubtful.

THE REPRESENTATION OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.—A return moved for by Mr. M'Laren has just been made by the Registrar-General to the House of Commons, comparing the population and revenue of the three kingdoms, and the number of members they would be entitled to in parliament if the seats were proportionately distributed. The result of the return is that, judged by population alone, England at present has 34 members too many; judged by revenue alone she has eight too few; judged by the mean she has 13 too many. Ireland, judged by population alone, has 17 members too few, but judged by revenue she has 41 too many; while the mean shows she has an excess of 12. Scotland is the only one of the three countries which, both in respect of population and revenue has too few representatives. According to population she has 16 too few; according to revenue, 33; and the mean is 25. In other words, if we take the mean, England should have 13 fewer members, and Ireland 12, which, given to Scotland, would make 25, the number required to give her a proportional representation.

REVIEW OF THE LIVERPOOL VOLUNTEERS.—On Saturday, the Liverpool volunteers, to the number of about 4,000 rank and file, were reviewed on the Kensington parade ground by Colonel Erskine, the inspector general of volunteers. The regiments—which represented all branches of the service—were under the immediate command of Colonel Bruce, assistant inspector for the district. The first brigade was composed of the 1st, 4th, and 7th Artillery, and the 2d Administrative Artillery Brigade; the second brigade comprised the 1st Engineers, 8th Artillery, and 15th Rifles, brigaded together, and the 1st Lancashire Rifles; and the third brigade comprised the 54th, 64th, and 80th Rifles (Press Guard). The field guns of the 4th, 8th and 12th Artillery, under command of Col. Clay, were also on the ground. One feature of this review was the entire absence of any programme of evolutions, and the volunteers went on the ground entirely ignorant of what movements Colonel Erskine intended putting them through. Notwithstanding this apparent difficulty, the officers and men acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of the reviewing officer.

AN INCIDENT OF THE PANIC.—One incident of the panic deserves record, to the honour of all concerned. It is said that when the record of these great employers of labour, the suspension of whose large operations is one of the most universally regretted events of the crisis, was first known to be in jeopardy, a brother contractor—whose name may be readily surmised, for it has become throughout Europe a household word for probity and straightforward conduct, as well as for enterprise and energy—called on him, accompanied by three other members of the same calling. The first had in his pocket two hundred thousand pounds, the other three one hundred thousand pounds each. The half million was at once freely placed at the disposal of the tottering firm, but, on the condition that its use would be quite sufficient to ensure its stability, and with a frankness and courage as honourable as was the generosity of the offer, it was at once declined. If this account be true, and it is hard to say to which party it does most credit—to those who, on so noble a scale, did as they would be done by, or to those who would decline assistance to such a gigantic amount, lest it should not be fully adequate to supply the wants of arrangements suddenly and violently overthrown.—*Builder.*

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF ANOTHER BRADFORD GENTLEMAN.—On Thursday afternoon, information was brought to the police office at Scarborough, which leads to the conclusion that another gentleman belonging to Bradford has come to an untimely end, but whether by accident or by his own act is yet somewhat uncertain. The gentleman now referred to is a Mr. Greenwood, brush manufacturer, of Bradford. Mr. Greenwood travelled on his own account, and in the early part of last week he was at Scarborough, where he received letters from his friends. On Wednesday, he went from his lodgings, as usual, and in the afternoon he was seen on the beach near Clayton, a few miles south of Scarborough. The place is very lonely; but it so happened that Mr. Greenwood was seen by a farming man, who was walking along the cliff top. The man was struck by certain gesticulations the stranger was making—hurrying to and fro, throwing his arms about wildly, and conducting himself in a rather extraordinary manner. Eventually he became still, and the observer passed on, thinking that exercise had been the only object of the stranger's actions. Some time later he returned in the same direction, and then saw lying on the sands below a bundle of clothes. As he saw no one near, he became alarmed, and went at once to the spot. There was a silver watch and gold chain, some money, and several letters and address cards in the pockets, shewing the owner to be a Mr. Greenwood, of Bradford. It appears his conduct has been somewhat singular, as he seems not to have duly accounted for himself to his wife, whose letters he had not answered. Being alarmed, she proceeded to Scarborough on Thursday, where she found her husband was missing from his lodgings. She arrived at the police office almost immediately after Superintendent Pattison had received the information given by the rural police. Mr. Pattison very prudently concealed the full circumstances, and induced Mrs. Greenwood to return to Bradford, where her friends were made aware of the state of the case. There appears no doubt whatever that the unfortunate gentleman has been drowned and swept away by the tide.

BISHOP COLENSO AND HIS CLERGY.—The ordinary monthly meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was held on Friday; the Archbishop of York presiding. It appears that at the meeting in February a question was raised as to the part the Society should take as to the episcopal licences of its missionaries in the diocese of Natal. The Standing Committee submitted the following resolution:—"In the present condition of the diocese of Natal the Society does not take on itself to require that its missionaries hold a licence from a bishop. The Society will continue, so far as it may be enabled, to support missionaries for the heathen, and to contribute a decreasing sum towards the salaries of clergymen who minister to Europeans. Every clergyman will be paid by the Society on the understanding that as soon as the Society is certified that the present ecclesiastical questions are sufficiently settled, he will be bound, like all other missionaries of the Society, to subject himself to the authority of the Bishop or other ecclesiastical authority in the country in which he is employed." The Rev. William Denton, incumbent of St. Bartholomew's, Cripplegate, moved the following amendment:—"That during the present avoidance of the see of Natal, the clergy of the diocese receive their licences from the Metropolitan of the Church of South Africa." After a long debate, in which several bishops and other distinguished persons took part, both the resolution and the amendment were withdrawn, on the understanding that at the May meeting other resolutions should be submitted. Accordingly on Friday the Standing Committee proposed the following series:—"Referring to bye-law 18, which requires the Society's missionaries in every country to be subject when there to the Bishop, or other ecclesiastical authority, and referring to the minute of February 20, 1863, in which, after reciting a letter from his Grace the President, dated February 9, 1863, it was resolved:—'That the Society do postpone the re-election of the Bishop of Natal to the office of vice president until such time as they shall be certified by the Archbishop that the Bishop of Natal has been cleared of the charges referred to in His Grace's letter, and that during such interval all matters relating to the administration of the Society's grants to the diocese of Natal, which have heretofore been placed by the Society under the control of the Bishop, be entrusted to a committee, consisting of the Dean of Maritzburg, the Archdeacons of Maritzburg and Durham, with two laymen, who shall be recommended by the Dean and the two Archdeacons, and approved by the Society.' Resolved,—1. That, the 18th bye-law notwithstanding, none of the missionaries of the Society in Natal shall, until the resolution of the 20th of February, 1863, be withdrawn, be subject to Bishop Colenso. 2. That under existing circumstances its missionaries in Natal be instructed to regard the Natal Committee (which includes the Dean and Chapter) as their organ of communication with the Society. 3. That the bishop of Capetown be requested to provide, under existing circumstances, for episcopal ministrations and the superintendence of the Society's missionaries in Natal." The Dean of Westminster strongly objected to the course suggested by the Committee, which he considered the Bishop of Capetown's excommunication did not justify, and "the previous question" was moved.—The Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Ely, Canon Trevor, the Rev. W. Denton, the Rev. M. W. Mayou, and other gentlemen spoke; and eventually the resolutions of the Standing Committee were adopted.

READING IN BED.—A young servant girl has been burned to death in her master's house at Dover, through, as it is supposed, the reprehensible practice of reading in bed.

The *Times* states that Dr. Gray, as Bishop of Capetown and Metropolitan of the Church in South Africa, having deposed Dr. Colenso from the bishopric of Natal, has, on his own authority, nominated a successor, to whom he will require the clergy of the diocese to pay canonical obedience. The gentleman selected by bishop Gray to fill "vacant" see is the Rev. F. H. Cox, B.A., minister of the church of St. John the Baptist, Hobart Town. Mr. Cox was ordained in England, and held for some time the curacy of Iping, near Midhurst. About twenty years since he went to Van Dieman's Land, and has officiated at Hobart Town since that time. He is to bear the title of "Bishop Pieter-Maritzburg," the chief town of the colony of Natal. The colony will thus have the advantage of possessing two bishops—one nominated by the canon and the other by the metropolitan, and each claiming episcopal authority over the clergy. The new bishop-designate is a High Churchman.

ATTEMPTED MURDER IN IRELAND.—An attempt was made on Sunday night, at Houth, near Dublin, to assassinate Warner, one of the Government informers on the late Fenian trials. The assassin is named O'Connor, and has recently returned from America, where he was in the Confederate army. It appears that O'Connor arrived in Howth on Sunday evening, and put up in the house in which Warner is stopping. In the evening they went into the yard together, when O'Connor with a dagger struck him in the side of the neck, inflicting a deep and dangerous wound. A scuffle ensued, in which O'Connor was stripped of his coat, in the pocket of which was found a loaded six-barrelled revolver, with two balls in each chamber. O'Connor was arrested without his coat, and gave his name as Tierey. He in every way answers the description of Kearney, who is charged with the murder of O'Neil. Warner is recovering.

The *Employe*, a new paper, tells the following story, which will be read with interest by members of the Civil Service and others sometimes in want of "leave." One Monday morning a clerk applied to his superior for permission to be absent forty-eight hours on some family affairs, and received an affirmative answer. However, he did not appear the whole of the week, and no one knew to what cause to attribute his absence. On the following Monday he reappeared at the regular hour. "Well, Monsieur," demanded the chief, "why have you stayed away all the week?" "You, sir," replied the clerk, "gave me permission." "I!" cried the chief. "I gave you leave for forty-eight hours and not six days." "I beg your pardon, sir," answered the young man, "I have only taken the exact time which you granted me. We work here eight hours a day, but six times eight are forty-eight! I certainly had no occasion to ask your permission for the night any more than for the hours which I did not come to business." This was logical, but since that day the chief specifies by administrive hours the duration of the leave he grants.

STATE OF PAUPERISM.—The persons in receipt of relief from the poor rates in England and Wales at the end of the month of March were 5·5 per cent. fewer than at the corresponding period of 1865, and 7·6 per cent. fewer than at the corresponding period of 1864. The absolute number is given as 907,201 at the end of March, 1866, but above 3 per cent. may be added for vagrants and lunatic paupers not in the workhouse, and for parishes not under the Poor Law Board, and making no return. The main decrease was in the manufacturing districts, returning gradually to their normal amount of pauperism. The decrease in the North-Midland, North-Western, and Yorkshire divisions, taken together, was 17·6 per cent. as compared with March, 1865, and 26·1 per cent. as compared with March, 1864. In the metropolis there was an increase of 1·8 per cent. and 7·0 per cent. over the two former periods respectively. The number of paupers at the end of the parochial year in March last was 25,000 greater than at the end of the Christmas quarter, but an increase in the early part of the year is to be expected.

The death of the Rev. Francis Mahony, better known as "Father Prout," will be deeply regretted in the world of letters, and more particularly in that section of it with which Father Prout was personally familiar. Mr Mahony was nominally a Roman Catholic priest, born in Ireland in 1805 or thereabouts, and educated at Jesuite colleges in France and the University of Rome. Not long after he entered on his duties as a Roman Catholic priest in Ireland, he determined to quit his profession, and became a contributor to *Fraser's Magazine*, under Dr. Maginn, under the name of Father Prout. His letters were republished in 1836, and in 1849 a new edition appeared with etchings from the pen of Maclise. In 1837 Mr Mahony contributed to *Bentley's Miscellany*, and spent some years in Hungary, Asia Minor, Greece, and Egypt. In 1847 Mr Dickens gave him the appointment of correspondent at Rome to the *Daily News*, and in 1849 he published his letters with the title of "Facts and Figures from Italy." He had been for many years the Paris correspondent of the *Globe*, and his letters were always the principal attraction in that paper. In 1851 he was examined by the parliamentary committee on the mortmain laws, and gave some curious evidence as to their effect and their general management in the Roman States.

CHARGES OF THEFT AGAINST A GENTLEMAN.—At Bow-street Police Court, on Monday, Edward Hamilton Finney, the son of Major Finney, who stood remanded on the charge of having stolen a silver spoon from the Albion Hotel, Russell-street, Covent-garden, and a walking cane from the shop of Mr Wallis, of the Strand, was placed at the bar.—The Police-officer, Dowdell, now stated that he had ascertained the names of the shopkeepers from whose places all the articles had been taken, but they were not prepared to say that the articles had been stolen, although satisfied that they had not been bought. They refused to take proceedings against the prisoner. Mr Sleigh said he was in a condition to account for every article found upon the prisoner who had bought them at different shops. He inferred, however, from what his worship said last week, that he did not intend to deal with the case summarily, and therefore it would be idle to make any further observations upon this point now; but he could confidently state that the prisoner would be able clearly to establish his innocence. Mr Vaughan committed the prisoner for trial at the sessions. The prisoner's father and family solicitor (Mr Summers) were accepted as bail.

STRANGE IF TRUE.—The *Westmoreland Gazette* is a little too hard upon its readers. Fancy giving these two items of news in one week:—"A short time ago a cat belonging to the Salutation Hotel, Ambleside, gave birth to four kittens. At the time a hen was discovered in the same room sitting on thirteen eggs, which were taken from under her. The hen immediately drove off the cat and took possession of the kittens, which she sat on regularly. The kittens suckled their mother daily, and during the time they were fed the hen was placed in a hamper close at hand. It was amusing to see the hen when she was released again make puss skedaddle." "Mr John Moss, of Maulds Meaburn, has a cat at present suckling three young rats. Its own kittens had been thrown into the river. Next morning the rats were found in their place; where they came from is a mystery. The cat watches over and suckles the rats as affectionately as her own offspring." Now, says a contemporary, seeing how extremely difficult it would be to digest either of these stories singly, even in the dreariest part of the recess, what is to be thought of an editor who expects his readers to bolt both at once in the very middle of the busiest session we have had for some years past? The thing is preposterous. Both paragraphs should be welded together and headed "strange freak of an editor," especially when one sees how the extra strain upon the invention has marred the completeness of the work. If the writer only had the necessary time for elaboration how easy it would have been to make the cat in the first story hatch the eggs, and the hen suckle the kittens; to say nothing of the opportunity there was for turning the drowned progeny of Grimalkin No. 2 into water-rats!

CHURCH RATES AT HULL.—There has just been a church rate battle of extraordinary fierceness fought in Hull. A proposal was made for a general rate for the restoration of the parish church, which has been going on for some time, and in which £7,000 have already been expended, but the estimated cost of the improvements is £20,000 more. A noisy meeting was held in the church on Thursday, when the proposition was rejected by a majority of only two votes. A poll was then demanded, which commenced on Friday, the object being to determine whether the churchwardens should apply to the Commissioners of Public Works for a loan on the security of the rate (£20,000) sufficient to enable them to contract for the immediate completion of the entire restoration of the church; the repayment of the loan to be spread equally over a term of fifteen or twenty years. In the early part of the day the polling was pretty even, and at noon stood thus:—For the rate, 196; against, 181; majority, 15. The figures during the first two hours had been even closer. After that hour the majority kept increasing until at the close, at four o'clock, the numbers were—for, 579; against, 439; majority, 140. On Saturday the party against the rate had organised a most energetic opposition, and as the day advanced the Anti-Church party gradually gained ground, and the scene in the churchyard was most exciting. At three o'clock the Church party was between thirty and forty ahead, and as each one recorded his vote for or against he was lustily cheered by his party. The Dissenters, however, at half-past three had reduced the Church majority to little more than ten, and at four o'clock the numbers were announced as follows:—For the rate, 1,065; against, 1,044.

OUR BEVERAGES, NARCOTICS, AND STIMULANTS.—By a Parliamentary paper issued on Saturday it appears that in the year 1865 the quantity of tea retained for home consumption in the United Kingdom was 97,834,600lb; the net amount of duty received thereon being £3,187,130; the rate of consumption per head 3·29lb; and the rate of contribution per head to the revenue 2s 1½d. From June 1, 1865, the duty on tea was reduced to 6d per lb. With respect to coffee, the home consumption was 30,505,872lb; the duty £381,556; consumption per head, 1·02lb; and revenue per head, 3d. The duty per lb is 3d for raw, and 4d for prepared coffee. The consumption of sugar was 10,603,526cwt; duty £5,193,816; consumption per head, 39·89lb; and revenue per head, 3s 5½d. The consumption of molasses was 567,967lb; duty £93,677; consumption per head, 2·14lb; and duty per head ¾d. The duty per cwt on sugar and molasses varies from 16s to 3s 6d. The consumption of foreign and colonial spirits was 6,732,217 gallons; the duty £3,465,636; consumption per head, 0·33 gallons; and duty per head, 2s 4d. The duty per gallon on spirits is from 14s to 10s 2d. Of wine the consumption in the year was 11,993,760 gallons; the duty £1,372,885; consumption per head, 0·40 gallons; and duty per head, 11d. The amount of duty per gallon is from 2s 6d to 1s. The tobacco consumed was 38,902,151lb; the amount of duty £6,199,677; the consumption per head, 1·31lb, and the duty per head, 4s 2d. The duty is from 3s 1 8-10d to 5s. With respect to the foregoing returns it is observable that while the consumption of tea has been rapidly increasing within the last few years that of coffee is decreasing. The total amount of duty received on the former article has been decreasing, owing to the lowering of the scale of duty year after year—and also on the latter article, although the duty has only been lowered ½d per lb since 1862. The consumption of sugar and molasses is increasing largely and steadily, but the total receipts of duty fall with the lowering of the rate per pound. The net receipts, however, for 1865 are greater than those for 1864. The consumption of spirits and wine, as well as the amount of duty received from them, is also increasing rapidly. The same is the case with tobacco, where the increase in both respects is even more remarkable.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

The *Consett Guardian* contains all the News of the Week, Reports of Local and Police Intelligence, &c., and all the Latest Foreign and Home News.

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APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

OUR AGENT (MR. R. JACKSON) intends Visiting the following Places during the Next Week, and will be happy to receive Orders for Advertisements, &c., for the *Consett Guardian*:—

Tuesday,	May	29	Leadgate.
„	„		Consett.
Wednesday	„	30	Shotley Bridge.
„	„		Blackhill.
„	„		Consett.
Thursday	„	31	Dipton.
„	„		Catchgate.
„	„		Annfield Plain.
„	„		Lanchester.
„	„		Leadgate.
„	„		Consett.

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1866.

EDITORIAL NOTICE.

Our report of Shotley Bridge County Court is unavoidably postponed till next week.

Local and District News.

THE CATHOLIC FETE.—The bread for this fete, which was of excellent quality, was supplied as usual by Messrs Wilson Brothers, of Shotley Bridge.

THE BAND OF HOPE PIC-NIC.—The schools in the procession at the fete, were Highgate Baptist, which numbered 150 scholars and 18 teachers; Primitive Methodist, Shotley Bridge, 128 scholars and 26 teachers; Wesleyan Methodist, Shotley Bridge, 70 scholars and 15 teachers; Primitive Methodist, Blackhill, 130 scholars and 24 teachers; and Wesleyan Methodist, Blackhill, 120 scholars and 26 teachers; total, 598 scholars and 109 teachers. At the close of the day's festivities the committee assembled, and passed a vote of thanks to H. Ritson, Esq., for the loan of the field.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.—A special meeting of this Board was held in the Reading Room, Leadgate, on Thursday afternoon. Present:—Messrs E. Charlton (chairman), J. Fletcher, W. Todd, J. Davison, J. Parker, J. Thompson, and W. Cheeseman. The meeting was convened for the express purpose of reading and signing the bye-laws prior to their being sent to the Home Office for confirmation, which was accordingly done, and the meeting adjourned till Wednesday, the 13th June.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND BLACKHILL TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—Several members of this society held a temperance meeting in the village of Iveston on Saturday evening, which was presided over by Mr J. Ainslie, of Benfieldside. The meeting was addressed by Messrs R. Gardener, Blackhill; G. Farrage, Highgate; G. Lowes, Benfieldside; and Mark Littlefair, Sunderland, in an interesting manner. Several melodies were also sung, and the meeting throughout was of the most enthusiastic character. At the close 14 signed the pledge.

CO-OPERATION.—The 14th quarterly meeting of the Chester-le-Street Co-operative Society was held in the National School Room on Saturday evening last, Mr A. Kell in the chair. The secretary (Mr James Wilkinson) read the report, which showed the receipts to be £2,628 0s 8½d, being an increase over last quarter of £499 19s 10d, which enabled the committee, after allowing 5 per cent. on all paid up shares, to reduce the fixed stock £20 8s 4½d, and to declare a dividend of 2s to the pound on members' purchases. 58 new members have been enrolled during the quarter, and 16 have withdrawn, showing an increase of 42, which makes a total on the books of 312.

CONSETT CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—The above schools had their annual treat on Whit-Monday. The children met at the Temperance Church, and from thence proceeded in a procession—with the usual accompaniments of flags, banners, &c.—to Knitsley, where a field had been kindly placed at their disposal by Mr Hardy. The children numbered about 130, and there were about 200 visitors besides. The whole party partook of tea in the deep valley beneath, and seldom have the sylvan slopes of Hown's Gill witnessed a more thorough pic-nic, and joyous gathering. These schools have considerably increased in numbers since their last festival in 1865.

COACH RACING.—We have had, on previous occasions, to refer to the dangerous system of racing practised by certain coach drivers between Consett and Newcastle. Lately we were glad to observe a marked improvement in this respect; but we regret to state that, from facts which have lately come before our notice, a change has come over the drivers, and that some of them are now distinguished for a recklessness of the lives of the passengers and an amount of cruelty to their horses which cannot long be tolerated. During the past three weeks one of these coaches has been twice upset, and injuries more or less sustained by the passengers. We feel it our duty to state, in protection to the public, that this state of things should not be allowed to exist, and that should any damage be sustained, the proprietors of such coaches will be called upon to pay for their recklessness. Persons are also stationed on the roads to see that no racing takes place; and if, after being cautioned, they persist in this matter, legal proceedings will be taken against them.

OPENING OF THE TOWN HALL CONSETT.—This place, after a very protracted time, is about to be opened on Wednesday, as will be seen by advertisement in another column. The directors have determined upon holding a soiree, commencing with a tea, which will be served by some of our fairest dames. The tea will be immediately followed by a concert, at which Mr D. Lambert and Mr Price, of Durham, will officiate. Mr Lambert as a bass and Mr Price as tenor, they need no recommendation of ours, as their names are familiar in this neighbourhood. Miss Jenny Thomson, of Newcastle, will also send forth her sweet notes, which have on various occasions so enamoured her hearers. Mr Wm. Siddle, the inimitable comique, will render some of his side-cracking sensational songs, which have gained for him the highest opinions of the press. These celebrities will also join in some first-class part songs. To wind up the good things of the evening, a ball will be held, at which all who are so inclined may trip it gaily on the "light fantastic toe." The hall has been greatly enlarged, being capable now of seating nearly 800 people.

DISCOVERY OF AN ILLICIT STILL AT SOUTH MOOR.—On Monday morning, while P.C. Marshall and P.C. Newbolt were searching the houses of two well known characters, named Robins and Walton, at South Moor, for a game cock and three hens, which had been stolen during the previous night from Mrs Mossam, of Pea Pit, near Shield Row, they came upon part of an illicit still. Two of the fowls were found in Robbins' house, and the other two in Walton's, all stripped of their feathers, and ready for the pot. The men were apprehended, and conveyed to Lanchester lock-up. On Tuesday they were brought before M. Kearney, Esq., and remanded. On Tuesday, the two officers, in company with Mr Wilson, of Lanchester, Sergeant Dunn, and P.C. Foster, proceeded to South Moor, and found in Robbins' house two large tubs (mash and worm tub), two large bottles (one containing wash or wort), three small bottles, and three bladders, all of which had recently contained whisky. In an empty house, two doors from where the prisoner Robbins resides, the boiler, condenser, or worm, &c., were found. These completed the still, which appeared to have been very recently used. Robbins has sold whisky to several persons in the neighbourhood. He has only been at South Moor a fortnight. Both men are notorious poachers. In Walton's house the police found two hares, one rabbit, thirteen nets, and eleven hangs. Great praise is due to the excise officer and police in Lanchester district, this being the second illicit still found in that district within the last three months.

Mr H. S. Thompson, Kirby Hall, Yorkshire, and Chairman of the North-Eastern Railway Company, has been appointed President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

EDMONDBYERS WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The annual tea meeting in connection with the above school, was held on Saturday last, when above one hundred persons partook of tea. The tables were presided over by Misses E. Davison, A. Marten, S. Urwin, and A. Robson. At seven o'clock the public meeting was held, when Mr Wilson, of Watergate, took the chair. The interest was sustained by recitations from the scholars, music from the Watergate Choir, and addresses from Messrs J. Proud, W. Heppell and R. Johnson. Sermons were preached on Sunday at 2 p.m. by Mr Robinson of Lanchester, and at 6 o'clock by Mr Proud, Kiln-pit-Hill to crowded congregations. The collections being good, leave the financial condition of the school in advance of former years.

ANOTHER MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—We regret to have to record this week the particulars as far as can at present be ascertained of a most brutal and murderous attack, which was committed by a party of ruffians on Sunday evening on John Lowe, a miner, residing at Annfield Plain. So far as we have been able to learn, Lowes was on his road from Kip Hill, a small village to the east of Shield Row, and had proceeded but a short distance from Shield Row homewards when he was set upon by a gang of fellows, who knocked him down, jumping upon him, and afterwards kicking him. He was also cut about the face severely by some instrument, supposed to be a large hoop off a barrel doubled up or part of an iron screw, by which he received such injuries as to cause his jaw to be broken in three places, his nose almost severed from his face, and such injuries as to render his recovery a matter of uncertainty. The police have, we hear, been making inquiries, but up to the present time no clue has been obtained to lead to the apprehension of the perpetrators of this dastardly and cruel outrage. This is the second case of this nature which has occurred within the last four weeks, and we hope, if apprehended, such an example will be made of the ruffians as will prevent the recurrence of such assaults.

WASHINGTON CHEMICAL WORKS SCHOOLS.—The children of this school, numbering about 140, under the mastership of Mr Smith, had their annual feast, kindly given by Mrs Bell, at their residence, Washington Hall, on Thursday last. The children marched in procession from the schools and formed in front of the hall, where they announced their arrival by singing a number of school songs. Mrs Bell, accompanied by the Misses Bell, Master C. Bell, and other ladies, then came forward to welcome the children, and led them along to the beautiful grounds. The children marched as the hall clock struck four to the place where they partook of an ample tea. This over, they went into the adjoining field, where all was in readiness for the foot, sack, bell, and other races, for prizes awarded by Mrs Bell. Other sports were spiritedly kept up by the children, ladies, and gentlemen in attendance. About eight o'clock the children reassembled in front of the hall, and after singing a number of beautiful songs and other pieces, they left the grounds highly satisfied with the day's enjoyment.

GRAND CATHOLIC CEREMONY AT SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, the services at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Bridge Street, Sunderland, embraced the most imposing ceremonies, the occasion being the inauguration of a very beautiful stained glass window, which has just been placed on the left side of the altar, finely harmonising with the one on the right inserted some time ago at the expense of Mr Davidson, a member of the congregation, and representing the resurrection of Christ. The new window, which is the gift of the congregation, has for its subject Christ handing the keys to St. Peter, and being designed also as a memorial window contains amongst other figures life-sized likenesses of the late venerated rector, Canon Kearney, and the present incumbent the very Rev. Canon Bamber, the panels at its base commemorating the successive pastors from the commencement of the Sunderland Catholic mission. A church stands in the back ground, and at the feet of the group of figures lie some sheep and lambs, illustrative of Christ's injunctions to the apostle Peter. Both windows are splendid specimens of artistic skill, and reflect the highest credit on Mr Barnett, of Newcastle, by whom they were executed. In the morning high mass was sung by the Canon Bamber, with full orchestral accompaniments (including Mr Sothern, and several other members of the Monkwearmouth Engine Works band), the performance of which was grand and impressive. The Rev. Father Antoninus, of the Dominican Order, from Newcastle, preached an appropriate and excellent sermon. In the evening the Abbe Chambours Des Hautes Pyrenees, from Washington, preached, and the service included the procession of the most holy sacrament and solemn benediction. At the Church of St. Patrick, Church-street, similar services were held, the orchestral accompaniments for the celebration of high mass in the morning comprising the band under the able leadership of Mr Lax; the lady vocalists being Mrs Cooper, Miss Taroni, and the Misses Beers. The sublime music was exquisitely rendered. At both places the congregations were very large.

ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NORTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES AT HARTLEPOOL.—The annual session of the Northumberland and Durham Union of Baptist Churches was held at Hartlepool for the first time on Monday and Tuesday. In the established community, there are twenty-five churches, and these churches were represented by about 80 delegates lay and clerical. The session was opened on Monday by united prayer. In the afternoon, the Rev. E. Edwards, the pastor at Hartlepool, was elected Moderator (or president), and the letters from the different churches were produced and read. These communications consisted of certain statistical accounts as to the progress during the year of the various religious societies from which they emanated. They were of a very satisfactory character. In the latter part of the afternoon, the delegates and others of the congregation partook of tea in the Lecture Room of the New Connection Chapel, kindly granted for the occasion. In the evening of the same day the association sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Hanson, of South Shields. On Tuesday morning, the services were opened by the Rev. W. Walters, of Newcastle. The letter to the churches was read by the Rev. W. Leng, of Stockton, and was received and accepted, and will be afterwards printed for private circulation amongst the body. The proceedings terminated on Tuesday evening.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—*Holloway's Ointment and Pills.*—Sound Lungs.—Unless the blood be purified from the foul matter which enter it in its passage through the chest the strongest lungs will often be inconvenienced and the delicate chest will assume positive disease. Holloway's remedies exert the most wholesome power in cleansing the air-tubes, dislodging accumulated mucus and clearing the blood. When there is any congestion of the chest, stitch, or heavy pectoral pain, some of this Ointment well rubbed over the seat of suffering will speedily remove the evil, and certainly prevent worse consequences. In ordinary colds, shortness of breath, wheezing and ceronic or spasmodic coughs, Holloway's Ointment and Pills will give present comfort and avert future danger.

EARL RUSSELL AND MR BANCROFT.

Correspondence has been laid before the American Congress in reference to Mr Bancroft's oration on President Lincoln delivered some few months since. The following is from Lord Russell to Mr Adams:—Chesham-place, Feb. 28. Dear Mr Adams,—I observe in the *Daily News* of yesterday extracts from a speech of Mr Bancroft, delivered in the House of Representatives on the 12th inst. In this speech Mr Bancroft is represented to have said, referring to the breaking out of the civil war—"The British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs made haste to send word through the palaces of Europe that the great republic was in its agony; that the Republic was no more; that a headstone was all that remained due by the law of nations to 'the late Union.'" As words pronounced on such an occasion and by so eminent a man as Mr Bancroft may have an effect far beyond the injury which my personal character might suffer, I must request you to convey to Mr Bancroft my denial of the truth of his allegations, and to refer him to facts of a totally opposite character. Soon after the news of the resistance in arms of the Southern States to the Government of the Union arrived in this country, a member of the House of Commons stated in his place that the bubble of Republicanism had burst. I replied in the same debate that the bubble of Republicanism had not burst, and that if the curse of slavery still hung about the United States it was England who had made them the gift of the poisoned garment which was now their torment. In fact, I have never had any doubt that, whether the United States consented to separation or pursued the war to extremity, the great Western Republic would remain, happily for the world, a powerful and independent republic. As Mr Bancroft's speech is likely to have very extensive publicity, I reserve to myself the power of making public this letter at such time as I shall judge fit.—I remain, my dear Mr Adams, your faithful servant, RUSSELL. In his reply Mr Bancroft maintains the view expressed in his oration, and cites in support of it the despatches of Earl Russell to Earl Cowley and Lord Lyons, both dated May 6, 1861. He adds:—"In speaking to the American Congress of the life and character of Abraham Lincoln it was my unavoidable duty to refer to the conduct of the British Government toward our country during his administration, for nothing so wounded his feelings, or exercised his judgment, or tried his fortitude. I was asked to address the two Houses of our Congress, and those only. When I learned that the British Minister at Washington was likely to be one of my hearers, I requested Mr Seward to advise him not to be present; and, through another friend, I sent him a similar message, which he received, and perfectly understood."

ALARMING ACCIDENT TO AN EXCURSION TRAIN.

An accident of an alarming character occurred on Monday morning to an excursion train which started from Northampton at eight a.m., and which was joined at Bletchley by two others from Oxford and Banbury, respectively, forming a monster train of forty carriages, containing nearly 2,000 excursionists, and drawn by two powerful engines. The train proceeded in this order to Tring, where it was shunted on to the side line, and then proceeded at a slow pace through King's Langley for a mile and a half farther, till reaching the bridge before the Watford tunnel. Here the side line ends, running close up to the abutments of the bridge, and from some extraordinary and unexplained cause the engines were allowed to run up against the abutment. The engine-drivers and stokers had previously jumped off. The two engines were reduced to a complete wreck, lying upon each other. Fortunately, owing to the slow rate at which the train was proceeding, we are able to report that no deaths have occurred. Hundreds, however, have been more or less seriously injured. One man was removed insensible to Watford on a platelayer's rolly—suffering, it is feared, from concussion of the brain. The 7·30 a.m. express train from Birmingham, due at Euston at 10·30 a.m., did not arrive till 12·15 p.m.

BODY OF A CHILD FOUND AT BULMAN'S VILLAGE.

On Monday a woman was seen to deposit the body of a child in a field near the Newcastle Grand Stand. The police at once instituted inquiries, and the result was that Mr Supt. Wookey and Mr Sergeant Amos, of the county constabulary, proceeded on Tuesday morning to the house of a Mr Wilson, in Bulman's Village, and questioned a servant girl named Mary Garrett, as to her having given birth to a child. She stoutly denied the accusation, but Mr Wookey, not content with this, searched the house and found indications which justified the suspicions which had been formed. Garrett was then apprehended on the charge of having concealed the body of the child, and she was removed to the Bulman's Village police station. The prisoner had been in the service of Mr Wilson for the past three months, and it was her intention to have left her place the day she was apprehended. She is a very intelligent, respectable-looking girl of about 20 years of age, and appears to feel her position most acutely. The suspicions of the neighbours seemed to have been aroused as to the condition of the young woman, and on Saturday, on complaining of being unwell, she was taxed with being near her confinement. She denied the truth of the insinuation. On Tuesday morning the inquest on the body of the child was held at Mrs Steward's, Branding Arms, Bulman's Village, before Mr L. M. Cockcroft, coroner. Sergeant James Amos, stationed at Bulman's Village, deposed that from information he received at about five o'clock on the evening of Monday, he proceeded to a field, near to the coach road leading to the Newcastle Grand Stand, where he found a brown paper parcel. On opening it he found a second covering consisting of a portion of a newspaper, and wrapped in it was the dead body of the female child shown to the jury. He placed it in the coach-house of Mr Wookey, in the same condition that he found it. Mr Mayne, surgeon, Newcastle, said he had examined the body in Mr Wookey's coach-house that morning. He found it to be that of a full grown female child. There were no marks of violence upon the body, and the child had lived for a short time, but bled to death in his (Mr Rayne's) opinion for want of proper medical or other skilled attention at the birth. The prisoner, Mary Garrett, was brought before him that morning at Mr Wookey's house. He told her that she was suspected of having given birth to a child, and it was his duty to examine her. She replied, "You don't need, I gave birth to the child on Saturday last, and it is my child." This was the whole of the evidence, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical gentleman's opinion. In answer to the charge of having concealed the birth of the child, she replied, "I am guilty; it is my child."

THE PONTELAND POISONING CASE. ADJOURNED INQUEST.

On Thursday the adjourned inquest in this curious case of poisoning was held at Ponteland, before L. M. Cockcroft, Esq., coroner. Several witnesses were called, amongst them Thomas Boistoff, a farm labourer, now residing at Low Angerton (who was so ill that he had to be carried into the room). He spoke to having suffered from the poison, and to having experienced its effects after meals. Robert Turnbull, living at Fenn's Hill, and John Wilson were also examined, and gave corroborative evidence.

George Yeoman Heath, M.D., of Newcastle, said he had attended the deceased persons at Donkin's House on February 4th, and treated them for diphtheria. He said that the swelling of the tonsils in the throat, a low and rapid pulse, loss of power in the lower extremities, weakness of the system, and the appearance of a faint rash on the chest confirmed him in the belief that it was diphtheria, although having since ascertained that arsenic had been found in the rhubarb. He was of opinion that they had died from arsenic; but those symptoms were visible both in persons suffering from diphtheria and from arsenic. He also stated that he had taken a bottle containing some vomited matter to Newcastle for analysation, but unfortunately a young man who kept his consulting room had thrown it out, and therefore it had been lost.

Elizabeth Robley, the housekeeper to the deceased, gave evidence. After having been duly cautioned, she stated that she was living with her sister at Springwell, near Jarrow, and had almost lost completely the power of her legs and arms from the effects of the poison. She had cooked all the meat for the family.

Nothing further was elicited to give a clue to the matter, and the coroner read a letter which he had received from Superintendent Stevenson, of Hexham, stating that Mrs Bushby was staying at Allendale, and suffering very much from the effects of the poison, and that it would be a few weeks before she would be in such a state as to warrant her being examined. The coroner left it to the jury to decide whether or not they would have a further adjournment to get additional evidence. After a consultation, the jury stated it was their opinion that Mrs Bushby should be examined, and the inquest was adjourned for a month.

LANCHESTER SESSIONS.

THURSDAY.—Before M. KEARNEY and J. L. SMITH, Esqs., and Major JOICEY.

ASSAULTS.—Christopher Holmes, of Burnopfield Colliery, backoverman, was charged by James Sullivan, of Burnopfield Colliery, with assaulting him on the 11th inst. The pit had been to work until after two o'clock, and defendant asking how that was, all the men laid the blame on complainant, who refused to do any work, and the defendant took a yard measure and struck him with it, to compel him to get on with his work. The Bench considered that defendant had considerably exceeded his duty by striking at complainant. Fined 5s and costs.——Christopher Attley and Thomas Armstrong, of White-le-Head, pitmen, were charged by Robert Thompson, of White-le-Head, innkeeper, with committing an assault upon him on the 29th ult. Complainant stated that he did not wish to prosecute the charge, and the case was dismissed on payment of costs.——James Moody, of Towlaw, overman, was charged by William James, Cornsay, driver, with assaulting him on the 23rd inst. Dismissed on payment of costs.——William Robinson, James Rowell, and Robert Tindell, of Trimall, were charged by John Ward, Berryedge, with assaulting him at Lanchester on the 29th ult., and also with damaging his coat. Mr Brignal, jun., solicitor, of Durham, defended. The prisoners, with others, had been at Fenwick's public house until eleven o'clock on the evening in question, and had met with complainant, who was very drunk. According to the evidence of complainant, they had used him most brutally, besides destroying his clothes, worth 30s. Two witnesses, who were of the same party as prisoners, deposed that no assault had been committed. The magistrates fined each of the prisoners 10s, and ordered them to cost 3s.——Owen Hoy, of Crookhall, labourer, was charged by Matthew Blakey of the same place, timekeeper, with assaulting him on the 10th inst. This case arose from a dispute about the removal of some waggons. Fined 5s and costs.——Charles Cooke, of Annfield Plain, grocer, was charged by James White, of the same place, his apprentice, with assaulting him on the 14th inst., by striking him on the leg with a poker. Mr Patrick defended. Dismissed on payment of costs.——John James Henderson, of White-le-Head, was charged by Alexander Carrell, driver, employed at Tanfield Moor Colliery, with assaulting him on the 14th inst., down the pit. Fined 5s and costs.——Jane Atkinson, of Dipton, was charged by Jane Willis, of the same place, with striking her with a poker on the head on the 19th inst. A good deal of conflicting evidence came out during the hearing of this case, from which it appeared that a good deal of ill-feeling was prevalent in that village. Fined 6d and costs. As the expenses were very heavy, prisoner declined to pay the amount, and was sentenced to be imprisoned for fourteen days. The money was afterwards paid.

REFUSING TO PAY POOR RATES.—Henry Watson and Charles Barnett were charged by John Elliott, assistant-overseer for Conside and Knitsley, with refusing to pay poor-rates. The magistrates made an order in each case for the full amount and costs.

LEAVING SERVICE.—Thomas Innes, of Lanchester, farm servant, was charged by John H. Hudson, of Castledean, with leaving his service on the 16th instant. The prisoner having returned to his employment, the case was dismissed on payment of costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE TO TURNPIKE.—John Parker, of Leadgate, butcher, was charged by H. Ramshaw, of Lanchester, surveyor of the Durham and Shotley Bridge Turnpike Roads, with allowing two pigs to stray on the roads at Leadgate on the 3rd instant. To pay damages 1s and costs.

DISOBEYING ORDER FOR REMOVAL OF NUISANCES.—Henry Armstrong, of Consett, builder, was charged by Charles Mosley, inspector of nuisances for the township of Benfieldside, with disobeying an order for the removal of nuisances served on the 12th of March. Defendant stated that the reason he had not complied with the order owing to the person to whom he had let the work being prevented from carrying on the work from seven injuries sustained by being assaulted a few weeks ago.—The magistrates ordered defendant to pay costs, and to comply with the order in fourteen days.

RESCUING HORSES FROM A POLICEMAN.—G. Watson, a person encamped on Mountsett Fell, was charged by Sergt. Brown, with rescuing two horses from him on his way to the pinfold, on the 12th instant. Mr Briggs appeared for defendant. The prisoner was liable to a penalty of £10, but the magistrates took a lenient view of the case, and inflicted a fine of 5s and costs.

REFUSING TO OBEY CATTLE PLAGUE ORDERS.—George Hudson, of Shield-row, pitman, was charged by P.C. Marshall with allowing two cows to pass along the road without a license. The penalty was £20, but as this was not an intentional evasion, the case was dismissed on payment of the costs.

REFUSING TO PAY WATER RATES.—James Mullan, of Berryedge, labourer, was charged by John Gledstone, secretary to the Consett Water Company, with refusing to pay the sum of £1 6s 6d for water used by him in the erection of a house at Berryedge, according to agreement. The magistrates ordered the defendant to pay the amount and costs.——Richard Murray, of Consett, grocer, was also charged with the same offence for the sum of £1 10s for water used by him in the manufacture of bricks, and the working of a small engine at Blackhill; the cost for manufacturing bricks being at the rate of 1s per 1,000, on the 25th December. The defendant contended that the only water used by him was for the manufacture of about 200 bricks, when a large quantity of rain fell, some portion of which was still on the ground. The Bench thought there was not sufficient evidence to prove the consumption of the 30s worth of water, although they believed that some had been used, and dismissed the case.——John Martin was also summoned for payment of 6s 9d, the amount due by him for water. Order for amount and costs.

STEALING WATER.—James Mullan, of Berryedge, was charged by John Gledstone with stealing water, the property of the Consett Water Company, on the 28th of March. Defendant said that he had applied to the man employed to put taps into the houses, and that he was willing to pay for the water until the tap was put in. The magistrates thought that the offence had been committed, and fined the defendant 10s and costs.

WILFULLY WASTING WATER.—James Mountain and John Rafferty, of Berryedge, were charged by John Gledstone with wasting water, the property of the Consett Water Company, on the 16th inst., by allowing the water to run to waste. Fined 2s 6d each and costs.——John Rafferty, of Berryedge, was also charged for using water in the making up of lime, without leave. Defendant said that he was working for a person named Burns, who had promised to pay all the charge. Fined 2s 6d and costs.——Lawrence Clark and John Jenkins, were also charged with the same offence. Fined 2s 6d each and costs.——About fifteen other persons were also summoned, but the cases were compromised.

BREACH OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT.—Patrick Nugent, of Berryedge, labourer, was charged by John Gledstone with a breach of the Local Government Act at Consett, on the 15th inst., by committing a nuisance on his premises. Fined 10s and costs, or to be committed to gaol for seven days.

WILFUL DAMAGE TO A GRASS FIELD.—Isabella Branston and Sarah Fenwick, of Burnhope Colliery, were charged by William Mordue, of the same place, beerhouse keeper, with trespassing in a field belonging to him, on the 19th inst. The Bench sentenced the prisoners to pay the amount of damage, 1s each, and expenses.

REFUSING TO PAY WAGES.—George Oxley, of Holmsidelane, joiner, was charged by Thomas Carter, of the same place, with refusing to pay him 6s, the amount of wages due to him. Defendant stated that plaintiff promised to leave if he gave him 20s. Complainant denied this statement, and the Bench decided that plaintiff was entitled to 5s, which defendant was ordered to pay, with costs.

SELLING SMUGGLED WHISKEY.—Isaac Robins, of South Moor, pitman, was charged by George W. Wilson, excise officer, of Lanchester, with selling smuggled whiskey at Pea Farm, near Shield Row. Prisoner was liable to a penalty of £100 and in default to imprisonment for three months. The latter punishment was inflicted as there seemed but small probability of any fine being paid.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.—James Evans, alias Jimmy the cobbler, of Berryedge, was charged by Sergeant Simpson with a breach of the peace at Berryedge, on the 19th inst. Dismissed.

NEGLECTING TO MAINTAIN HIS WIFE.—Silvester Forster, of Berryedge, joiner, was charged by W. W. Thompson, clerk to the Lanchester union, for allowing his wife to become chargeable to the union. Prisoner on promising to pay 20s in the evening, was dismissed, and he was cautioned as to his future conduct.

LEAVING SERVICE.—William Hall, of the Louisa pit, Stanley, was charged by George Hedley, of Newcastle, colliery owner, with leaving his service on the 11th inst. Sent to the house of correction for one month.

STEALING POULTRY.—Isaac Robins and John Walton, of South Moor, pitmen, were charged by Thomasine Mossam, of Pea Pit Farm, with stealing three hens and one cock, her property, on the 21st inst. The magistrates considered that the evidence was not sufficient to justify them in sending the case for trial. At the close of this case Sergeant Dunn applied for a remand in the case of John Walton, in whose house two rabbits were found at the time Walton was apprehended. He thought that by next court day evidence would be produced showing that Walton was in the habit of selling rabbits without a license. The prisoner was then remanded for seven days.

STEALING RABBITS.—James Smith, of Blackhill, was charged by Forster Raine with stealing five rabbits on the 15th inst. Plaintiff deposed that on the night of the 14th he placed the five rabbits in the house in which his rabbits were placed quite safe and locked, and on the morning of the 15th the staple was drawn and the rabbits were gone. The skin of one of the rabbits was produced in court which the complainant identified. Mrs Wardhaugh stated that she purchased a rabbit from the prisoner. He was sentenced to two months imprisonment.

STEALING A POT.—Isaac Robins, of South Moor, pitman, was charged by George Hedley, of Newcastle, coal owner, with stealing a metal pot, his property. Case dismissed.

WHITSUNTIDE FESTIVITIES.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

The Whitsuntide Holidays are looked forward to by the sons of toil and others of gentler vocation, by grave and gay, aye, and by young and old, in this populous neighbourhood with anticipations of the most pleasing character. Winter stayed long with us this year so long that even the usual tears of April were frozen by his bitter blasts, and the introduction of rosy May was heralded by storm and snow. But he has now made his exit, and the month in its march has changed the scene, so that the expectations of the youths and maidens during the past week regarding Whitsuntide have considerably brightened. So far as weather is concerned, their most sanguine hopes were realised, for, from rise to set, Sol poured his rays upon the lovely scenery around us from a cloudless sky, and Nature, decked in her green mantle, looked blythe and beautiful. The heat, however, was not oppressive, as it was agreeably tempered by a south east breeze. A great change in respect to holidays has recently taken place in Consett and the adjacent villages. A short while ago there were scarcely any, but now nearly every holiday that the inhabitants of "the town" are favoured with, the people here claim as their privilege, consequently the vast number of workmen at the Consett and Shotley Bridge Ironworks were let loose from labour, and business in the villages was almost entirely suspended. This being the case, the people were all "on pleasure bent," and to accomplish this there was no lack of means, as the reports of festivals, sports, pic-nics, &c., here under given will show.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.—The annual pic-nic of this school was held as usual on Whit-Monday. The children assembled in the church at 12 o'clock and walked in procession with banners flying and occasionally singing hymns to Blackhill, Cutlers' Hall, and past the Shotley Grove Paper Mills to a field belonging to Mr Thomson, Holmrow, kindly granted for the occasion. Tea being here prepared, the children and their parents and friends, numbering 160, partook of the cheering cup. Quoits, cricket, ball, and several other games then occupied the attention of both juveniles and adults till darkness compelled them to go home. Mrs Adam Burrows, as in former years, made an excellent tea, for which she deserves great praise. The bread was prepared by the daughter of Mr Young, the superintendent, and was of first-rate quality. The day was all that could be desired, and this was one of the most successful pic-nics yet held by the U.P. school.

CONSETT CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONSETT IRON COMPANY'S DAY SCHOOLS.

With bright spring weather the children connected with the above schools had their annual treat on Tuesday. The scene of their enjoyment was a field which D. Baileny, Esq., had placed at their disposal in front of the farm-house at Little Greencroft. The children, to the number of 500, assembled at the Iron Company's School-room, and a little after one o'clock, with flags and banners, which bore appropriate mottoes, flying gaily in the breeze, they walked in procession to the field, headed by the Rev. F. Steggall and Mr Cross, the respected teacher, and accompanied by the Ironworks Band. The band gave expression to their joyful feelings in singing hymns and school songs. The walk extremely pleasant. On arriving at Little Greencroft the children no sooner found the green sward beneath their feet than they began to trip about, so that the playfulness and hilarity were resolved to make the best of their holiday. Games, such as cricket, ball, kiss-in-the-ring, tarry, bachelor, &c., were keenly entered into by nearly all present; the "gentlemen in blue" not excepted. Mr Cross's whistle called the juveniles to tea, to which, we need scarcely add, they did ample justice. The public were afterwards supplied with tea and cake, served out by the teachers. The provisions, we highly, were supplied by Mr D. Imrie. Ten being over, Mr J. G. Pothecary and his excellent choir favoured those who were musically inclined with several pieces of music, and in the course of the evening, Mr Pothecary played several polkas and waltzes in excellent style upon the harmonium, to the strains of which the young and old joined with "trip it on the light fantastic toe." In another part of the field racing was carried on, in which young and old took part. Scattered over the field were groups indulging in the games of the day. The merriment and sports were carried on uninterruptedly until the shades of evening began to fall upon the scene. The procession was then formed, and the company marched homewards, singing, and thereby showing that their enjoyment had been appreciated.

CONSETT WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

The above anniversary was held in the Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday last. Two earnest sermons were preached, in the morning and evening by Mr W. Lawson, of Darlington, and in the afternoon Mr R. H. Lawson, of Newcastle, delivered a suitable address to the parents and friends. During each of the services the children recited portions of scripture and catechism and pieces of poetry. Hymns were sung by the children, assisted by the choir. There was a crowded congregation during each of the services, whilst in the afternoon and evening many were unable to gain admission. On Monday a public tea was held, after which the tables were presided over by the following ladies:—Misses Lowrey, Mrs Whitehead, Misses Calvert, Allison, and Elliott. About 200 persons partook of tea, after which a public meeting was held, Mr J. W. Davison in the chair. The annual report of the Sunday School was read by the secretary of the school, Mr R. English, after which excellent addresses were delivered by Messrs W. Lowrey, W. and R. H. Lawson, and J. Forster.

CONSETT TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

On Saturday evening Mr W. M. Patterson gave a reading in Mr Scott's schoolroom, in connection with the above society —Mr W. Bell presiding. The reading was a lecture from the prolific pen of that distinguished minister of the Baptist community, the Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown, entitled "Five Shillings and Costs." It was extremely appropriate, showing, as it did, the alarming amount of the *costs*. The lecture was read very effectively, and was much appreciated by the audience. At the close of the meeting several signed the pledge. A general meeting of the society was afterwards held—Mr Peterson in the chair. The chairman stated that on the previous Saturday evening he presided over a meeting held in Blackhill Primitive Methodist Chapel, composed of deputations from the Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, and Consett Temperance Societies, who had met for the purpose of conferring upon the desirability of having a union of effort. He was happy to tell them that the meeting was characterised by unanimity and concord, and that a plan for the guidance of their exertions was about to be issued, which, if carried out, would be eminently instrumental in the diffusion of temperance principles. Mr T. Harrison read the instructions of the delegates, which were adopted, and a report of the proceedings of the delegates at that meeting were adopted. The secretary (Mr Hodgson) then placed before the meeting a well-arranged report of the doings of the society during the six months it had been in existence, which showed it to be in a satisfactory condition. The report was also adopted. Several names were afterwards added to the executive, and a code of rules drawn up by the secretary was approved of, after which the meeting broke up.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

GOLD FROM AMERICA.

New York advices mention that a considerable amount in gold was about to be shipped by the next steamers to England, and it is stated that between this and the end of next week about £400,000 will have arrived.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE IN IRELAND.

DUBLIN, Wednesday evening.—Mr King, veterinary surgeon, Belfast, has this morning reported a decided case of rinderpest, at Ballyloughlin, County Down.

A new Order in Council has been issued, rendering applicable to all parts of Ireland the measures of prevention already adopted in Down and Antrim, and adding other precautions.

THE BANK OF LONDON.

To meet the deposit accounts of the Bank of London, an ample amount of cash and approved bills have been placed in the hands of the Consolidated Bank, and all claims of this kind were therefore duly met on Wednesday; but with regard to the acceptances, the Consolidated Bank would undertake the commitment, and these were consequently returned with the answer "Cannot pay at present." Nothing but an extraordinary series of mismanagement could have caused so well-established and highly-profitable a bank as the Bank of London to drift into so complete a state of collapse. The directors appear to have fallen into the too common error of quitting the banking field, and embarking largely in the operations of the financial companies. They accepted money repayable at short notice, and employed it in or made themselves liable for engagements of indefinite duration.

THE WAR QUESTION.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says that any answer in regard to the question of peace or war cannot at this moment be given with a chance of approximate accuracy.

The Florence correspondent of the *Times* says—The Italians are bent on fighting, and no other solution, scarcely even the pacific cession of Venetia, would please them so well as a war.

A telegram in the *Post*, dated Toulon, Wednesday, says that a squadron of the ironclad fleet will sail on Saturday next to cruise in the Adriatic. The whole fleet is taking on board a full provision of coal.

THE PROPOSED CONGRESS.

The *Times* has received the following despatch from its own correspondent:—

VIENNA, Wednesday evening.—Though the English Russian, and French propositions relating to a Congress have not yet been officially communicated to Count Mensdorff, the nature of them has been made known to him. It is probable that the Austrian Government will prove its earnest wish to avoid war by accepting the invitation to attend a Congress.

ENTRY OF RUSSIAN AND TURKISH TROOPS INTO MOLDAVIA.

VIENNA, May 23.—A telegram received here from Jassy announces the entry of a combined Russian and Turkish corps d'armee into Moldavia yesterday. Omar Pasha commands the Turkish, and General Kotzebue the Russian troops.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

BUCHAREST, May 22 (Evening).—Prince Charles of Hohenzollern arrived here at 4 p.m. to-day. All the church bells were rung on his arrival, and the authorities presented him with bread and salt. The Prince went in a carriage to the Chamber of Deputies, and was most enthusiastically received by the National Assembly. In order to comply with Article 13 of the Convention, they unanimously adopted a resolution declaring the father of Prince Charles of Hohenzollern to be a naturalized Roumanian.

THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.

The subjoined information was on Wednesday received at the Foreign Office:—

"Colonel Stanton reports from Alexandria, by a telegram dated Wednesday, that letters had arrived from Mr Rassam, dated Korata, April 9, all well; and that later intelligence had been received at Massowah, according to which Mr Rassam had crossed the lake to take leave of the King, while the late prisoners had gone on to Gorgora, at the north end of the lake, where Mr Rassam would join them, and the whole party would then proceed to Metemma."

Sporting Intelligence.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE MEETING. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27TH.

The NORTHUMBERLAND PLATE of 300 sovs in specie, given by the Race Committee, added to a handicap sweepstakes of 25 sovs each, 10 forfeit, and 5 only if declared, &c., for three-yr-olds and upwards. The winner of any handicap value 100 sovs after the declaration of the weights to carry 5lb, of two of that value, or of any race of 200 sovs value, 10lb, or of any race of 500 sovs value, 14lb extra (extreme penalty); the second in the Derby or Oaks of this year to carry 6lb extra, if not penalised for winning. The owner of the second horse to receive 40 sovs out of the stake, the owner of the third horse 20 sovs out of the stake, and the winner to pay 40 sovs towards expenses. Two miles. (51 subs.)

	Yrs.	st.	lb.
Capt. Gray's br h Windham	5	9	0
Mr Mackenzie's br c Brown Bread	4	8	12
Mr Launde's ch c Miner	4	8	6
Mr Jackson's b c Harry Brailsford	4	7	8
Major Stapylton's ch c Red Earl	4	7	6
Mr Johnstone's b c Holstein	4	6	10
Mr W. Masterman's b g Our Jim (late Castle Espie)	5	6	8
Mr Joseph Cowen, M.P., s h f Lady Durham	3	6	8
Mr T. Ballard's b Quarantine	5	6	6
Capt. Lamb na b f Zenobia	4	6	6
Mr Merry's b c Primate	3	6	5
Mr R. Osborne's b f Miss Haworth	3	6	5
Mr T. Masterman's b c Honesty	3	6	4
Mr J. Palmer's ch g Caithness	3	4	3
Mr Johnstone's b c Rococo	3	4	2
Mr Slater's b f Dart	3	5	13
Mr Johnstone's ch f Lady Vane	3	5	13
Mr W. Nichol's b c Missile	3	5	10
Mr W. E. Hobson's br c Dolan	3	5	10
Mr Calder's br f Dark Agnes	3	5	8
Mr Jackson's b f Miss Williams	3	5	7
Major Elwon's br c Douro	3	5	7

Weights published May 16, at 11 am. Forfeits declared on Tuesday, the 22nd day of May, at noon.

MANCHESTER SUMMER MEETING.

WEDNESDAY.—The TRIAL STAKES of 5 sovs each, 3 ft. with 50 added, for all ages. One mile and a quarter.

Mr Buckley's Winnstay, aged, 8st 12lb ....J. Snowden 1
Mr Handley's Cantaloga, 3 yrs, 6st 13lb ....Kenyon 2

Betting: 2 to 1 on Cantaloga. Won by a length.

The PHILLIPS' HANDICAP of 60 sovs. About five furlongs.

Mr Eskrett's Edinburgh, 4 yrs, 7st 13lb ....Whiteley 1
Mr Palmer's Caithness, 3 yrs, 7st 10lb ....Carroll 2
Mr Phillips's Persuasion, 5 yrs, 7st 2lb ....Hoystead 3

Lucy Long, Wallett, and Sylph also ran. Betting: 7 to 4 agst Caithness, 5 to 1 agst Persuasion, 6 to 1 agst Edinburgh. Won by a length and a half; a head between the second and third.

The UNION PLATE of 200 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs each. The owner of the second to receive 20 sovs out of the stakes. One mile and a quarter. (32 subs.)

Mr Wilkinson's East Lynn, 4 yrs, 6st 13lb ....Cameron 1
Mr Goodlass's Empress of India, 5 yrs, 7st 6lb......W. Martin 2
Mr Jeffrey's Wild Poppy, 5 yrs, 7st 10lb ....Carroll 3

The Clown, Lozenge, Stockinges, Cutaway, Gundrede, Mr Platt's colt, Saucy Boy, and the Dannebrog also ran. Betting: 7 to 2 agst Wild Poppy, 5 to 1 agst Lozenge, 100 to 15 agst East Lynn, 7 to 1 each agst Clown and Stockinger, 8 to 1 agst Empress of India, 100 to 8 agst Cutaway. Won by a length; three lengths between second and third.

The SAPLING STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 100 added. Five furlongs.

Mr Fobert's Maggie ....Morris 1
Mr Steven's Premier ....Payne 2
Mr Copeland's The Dybbol ....Snowden 3

Betting: 7 to 4 on Premier. Won by a length; bad third.

The CHESTERFIELD HANDICAP of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; winners extra. One mile.

Mr Phillips's Persuasion, 5 yrs, 6st 7lb ....Cameron 1
Mr Phillips's Arkansas, 4 yrs, 7st ....Carroll 2
Mr Handley's Retrousse, 3 yrs, 5st 1lb ....Kenyon 3

Betting: 6 to 4 agst Retrousse, 4 to 1 agst Arkansas, 5 to 1 agst Persuasion. Won by a neck; four lengths between second and third.

The MAIDEN PLATE of 50 sovs. One mile and a quarter.

Mr J. Ridley's Carperby, 3 yrs ....Carroll 1
Mr C. Peck, jun.'s Bachelor, 3 yrs ....Hudson 2
Mr Henderson's Stafford, 4 yrs ....Cameron 3

Betting: 2 to 1 on Carperby, 4 to 1 agst Bachelor. Won by a length and a half; a bad third.

THURSDAY.—The TWO-YEAR-OLD STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 50 added. Five furlongs.

Mr Mackenzie's Thermometer, 8st 12lb ....Morris 1
Mr Fobert's Timbrel, 8st 7lb ....Snowden 2
Mr Steven's Premier, 8st 10lb ....Payne 3

Betting: 5 to 4 on Thermometer, 7 to 1 agst Premier, 6 to 1 agst Timbrel. Won by a length, three lengths between second and third.

CITY HANDICAP of 60 sovs. Six furlongs.

Mr Palmer's Caithness, 3 yrs, 6st 9lb ....Cameron 1
Mr Eskrett's Edinburgh, 4 yrs, 8st 4lb ....Whiteley 2
Mr George's Willett, 3 yrs, 6st 9lb ....Kenyon 3

Betting: Even on Caithness, 2 to 1 agst Edinburgh. Won by a length.

The MANCHESTER TRADESMEN'S CUP of 100 sovs. Two miles.

Mr Handley's Retrousse, 3 yrs, 5st 10lb ....Kenyon 1
Mr Tophams's The Clown, 5 yrs, 7st 8lb ....Grimshaw 2
Mr Masterman's Honesty, 3 yrs, 5st 8lb ....Dunbar 3

Betting: 6 to 4 agst Honesty, 9 to 2 agst The Clown, 6 to 2 agst Retrousse. Won by three quarters of a length, a neck between the second and third. Arkansas threw his jockey.

SELLING HANDICAP of 3 sovs each, with 40 added, for all ages. One mile. (5 subs.)

Mr D. George's Wallet, 3 yrs, 6st 12lb ....Kenyon 1
Mr Fobert's Vagrant, 3 yrs, 7st 6lb ....Bates 2
Mr H. Rich's King of France, 3 yrs, 7st 5lb ....Carroll 3

Betting: 5 to 4 agst Vagrant, 3 to 1 agst King of France, 4 to 1 agst Wallet. Won by three lengths; two lengths between second and third. The winner was sold for 110 guineas to Mr W. Phillips.

TRAFFORD PARK STAKES of 30 sovs, added to a handicap sweepstakes of 7 sovs each, 3 ft. One mile. (15 subs.)

Lord Bateman's Queen of Trumps, aged, 8st 9lb ....Morris 1
Captain Gray's Castanet, 3 yrs, 6st 5lb ....Kenyon 2
Mr C. Buckley, jun. na Wynnstay, 7st 6lb ....J. Grimshaw 3

Betting: 5 to 4 on Wynnstay, 6 to 4 agst Castanet, 7 to 1 agst Queen of Trumps. Won by a length; a length between second and third.

HER MAJESTY'S PLATE of 100 gs.; three-year-olds 7st 8lb, four 9st 7lb, five 10st 2lb, six and aged 10st 4lb. Three miles 240 yards.

Mr Lincoln's Selim, 3 yrs ....Maidment 1
Mr Slater's Dart, 3 yrs ....Whiteley 2

Betting: 5 to 1 on Selim, who won in a canter by two lengths.

KING'S LYNN REGATTA.

This regatta was held on Wednesday, and notwithstanding the unfortunate failure in the chief race, passed off very successfully. There were the usual amateur and professional races, but the only one of interest in the north was the following:—

The CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE OUSE. Sculls. Open. The first man to receive the title, 25 sovs, and the medal; the second to receive 5 sovs. About two miles.

Robert Cooper, Newcastle	1
Edward Barratt, Manchester	2
Joseph Sadler, Putney	0
Frederick McMahon, Cambridge	0
Thomas Hoare, Hammersmith	0

The five having taken their stations, the starter gave first the preliminary "Are you ready?" and immediately afterwards the word "Go;" but it appears that either one or both these calls were unheard or mistaken by three of the competitors. Certain it is that at the moment Cooper only got off, and that almost simultaneously with him Barrett, too, went away. Hoare, Sadler, and McMahon remained stationary, and it was a general impression that the other would be called back, and a fresh start made. This, however, was not the case. Cooper, on the east side of the river, rowed briskly away; Barratt, on the west side, followed at his best pace, and the two went quite away by themselves. As it was perfectly clear that whatever Sadler might have been, Barratt was no match for the Tyneside clipper, all interest in the contest was at an end. After going about a mile Cooper went over to the west side, and there placing himself in front of the Manchester man, he rowed within himself to the finish, passing the chair two lengths before his only opponent, who, however, had made a wild effort to catch him near. The three left at the start, came away a few minutes after the two starters had gone, and they paddled down to the committee's tent. Here a judicial council was held, at which the starter (Lieut. Parde) stated that he gave the word to go, and Cooper stated that he heard this and went. The other three said they did not hear it. The matter was then referred to Mr Ireland, who decided that the start was ordered by the starter, and not recalled, and that the stakes must be given to the man who came in first. Cooper was accordingly declared to be the winner, Barratt second. It is not improbable that a match between Sadler and Cooper will be the result of these circumstances.

Market Intelligence.

CORN MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Saturday.—The trade during the week has assumed a firmer aspect with an improved demand, at the full prices of last week. At to-day's market the delivery of wheat from the growers was small, and sold quickly at the prices of last week. A steady demand for English and foreign, with a free sale, at the rates of this day week. Barley, a good sale. Beans and peas firm. Malt steady sale. Flour, slow sale at last week's prices. Prices: Wheat, 47s to 52s; barley, 32s to 34s; beans, 29s to 40s; peas, 39s to 40s; rye, 27s to 28s; malt, 60s to 62s; flour—households, 32s to 33s; whites, 34s to 35s.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—There was a small supply of wheat from the growers at this day's market, trade was dull, and where business was done rather less had to be taken. Barley for grinding moved off at fully previous terms. Malt in rather more demand. Beans and grinding peas were each rather dearer. Scotch oats brought late prices; but foreign, owing to large arrivals, were 6d to 1s lower.

HEXHAM CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—At to-day's market there was a small supply of wheat, which experienced a good demand, at fully last week's rates. Barley, a very small supply and fair demand, at previous rates. Oats a fair supply and good demand, at 1s per qr advance for best sorts.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE CATTLE MARKET, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 119 head of cattle and 120 sheep from Aberdeen and the counties of the north-east coast of Scotland, and 56 beasts and 1,100 sheep were from foreign. The supplies brought forward were rather less than last week, and although there was a prime lot of finished heifers from the north of Edinburgh, yet there was a falling off in the quality of cattle from that of last week. Sheep were about an average, while lambs are coming to hand in excellent condition. The numbers on offer in the market comprised 381 beasts, 2,000 sheep and lambs, and 1 pig. An extraordinary brisk demand was experienced for all breeds, and prices advanced fully 6d per stone on the rates of Tuesday last, the general top figure for beef was 10s, or in a few instances 10s 9d could be obtained, and as the day advanced prices improved, and a good clearance was effected. The mutton trade was quiet, yet prices ruled firm, without any material alteration from that of this day se'nnight. Lambs were in demand, and prices would range from 30s to 50s each.

In the Dead Meat Market there was small supply, which was in fair demand, at a good clearance with a slow demand. Mutton was selling from 8d to 8½d per lb.

Numbers shown:—Beasts, 381; sheep and lambs, 2,200; pigs, 1; store cattle, 0.

Prices to-day:—Beasts: Prime heifers, 9s. 9d. to 10s. 0d.; secondary sorts, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d.; inferior sorts, 7s. 0d. to 8s. 0d.; good steers, 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.; middling, 8s. 3d. to 8s. 9d.; cows, 7s. 0d. to 8s. 9d.; bulls, 7s. 6d.; calves, 0s. 0d. to 0s. 0d.; ditto, small, 0s. 0d. to 0s. 0d. per st. of 14lb. Sheep—good vendable wedders, 9½d to 9½d; large fat, 00d to 00d; middling, 8d to 8½d; tups, ewes, and inferior, 7d to 7½d per lb sinking offal.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

Notices of births, marriages, and deaths are inserted free of charge. Such notices must be left at the *Guardian* Office, Front-street, Consett.

BIRTHS.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—On the 21st inst., the wife of Mr John Leslie, painter, of a daughter.

BLACKHILL.—On the 23rd inst., the wife of Mr George Burkitt, of a daughter.

CONSETT.—At the Brick Works, on the 21st inst., the wife of Mr John Pescod, of a son.

NEWCASTLE.—At Gloucester-road, on the 19th inst., the wife of Mr C. W. Hutchinson, of a son.

At Lovaine-terrace, on the 22nd inst., the wife of Mr G. Errington, of a son.

LONDON.—At 63, Finchley New Road, on the 19th inst., the wife of Thomas Stonehouse, Esq., of twin daughters.

At 28, Prince's Gardens, on the 22nd inst., the wife of T. E. Smith, Esq., of a daughter.

SYDNEY.—On the 1st of March, the wife of R. H. Downing, Esq., C.E., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GOSFORTH.—On the 15th inst., by the Rev. W. Bowlan, Mr E. Stokoe to Miss Jane Moor, both of Gosforth.

BENFIELDSIDE.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, on the 21st inst., by the Rev. F. B. Thompson, William, third son of Mr William James, mill-manager, Stockton, to Isabella, third daughter of Mr Peter Medici, silversmith and jeweller, Consett.

MEDOMSLEY.—On the 22nd inst., Mr William Harrison, Derwent Cottages, to Miss Susannah Tweddle, of the same place.

COLLIERLY CHURCH.—On the 21st inst., by the Rev. W. Farrar, M.A., assisted by the Rev. Dr. Blythe Hurst, father of the bride, Rev. John Hughes, to Christiana, second daughter of the Rev. Dr. Blythe Hurst.

BLACKHILL.—At the United Presbyterian Church, on the 21st inst., by the Rev. W. Lawler, Mr David Tweedy, Consett, to Miss Agnes Smith, of Benfieldside.

HIGHGATE, near Shotley Bridge.—On the 19th inst., by the Rev. J. Brooks, Mr T. White, jun., Consett, to Miss Margaret Davison, Castleside.

DEATHS.

BLACKHILL.—On the 21st inst., Catherine, wife of Mr Geo. Plant, roller.

On the 24th inst., Mr Thomas Beldon, for some years employed at the office of the Consett Iron Works.

CONSETT.—On the 20th inst., aged 18, Thomas, son of Mr Stephen Burnip, shipper.

TEMPLETOWN.—On the 22nd inst., aged 5 months, Martha Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Joseph Turpin.

NEWCASTLE.—At Trafalgar-street, on the 19th inst., aged 43, Mr John S. Dixon.

At Tempest-street, on the 15th inst., aged 9, Mary, daughter of Mr John Parker.

At the North Shore, on the 11th inst., aged 43, Mr Peter Doran.

At Blagdon-street, on the 16th inst., aged 18, Sarah, daughter of Mr Robert Marr.

At Maple-street, on the 20th inst., William Payne, infant son of Mr John Surtees.

At the Close, on the 20th inst., aged 62, Mr John Watts.

At Lovaine-terrace, on the 21st inst., aged 80, Jane, daughter of Mr Peter Dunn.

BLYTH.—On the 21st inst., aged 54, Mary, wife of Mr Thomas Fenwick.

TYNE DOCKS.—On the 15th inst., aged 5, Florence Emma, daughter of Mr J. H. Todd.

NEUFCHATEL, Switzerland.—On the 13th inst., Paulina, Lady Trevelyan, wife of Sir W. Calverley Trevelyan, Bart., of Nettlecombe, Somerset, and Wallington, Northumberland.

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SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1866.