The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, May 26th, 1882.

THE ELECTRIC BUBBLE.

It is high time that the public were put on their guard against the gambling going on in Electric light shares. When every day brings out a new patent with promoters selling their rights in some monopoly inprovement of the arc or vacuum light, it is time to ask where all this is to end. It is, of course, easy to say that the public are quite able to take care of themselves, and that nothing goes for money which is not money's worth. There is no greater delusion than this, particularly where some great scientific discovery is suddenly flashed in on the unexperienced eyes of an unscientific and to a great extent gullible public. It was so in the infancy of the railways system, and now we are on the eve of another speculative mania corresponding to that which broke out in 1845. King Hudson, as many remember to their sorrow, was mounted on his iron throne and waved his sceptre of scrip only to be toppled over ignominiously as other Emperors have been from Soulouque of Hayti to the hero of Sedan. Part while it lasted the delusion was as all-devouring as the South Sea Bubble, and swept away quite as many distinguished persons to the common Orcus of insolvency. The Brush system, for instance, may have its merits: we are in no way concerned either to distinguish or to extinguish any of these new lights. But the reflecting kind will ask itself, if these patent rights are to be sold and then let and sublet at the enormous premium demanded and apparently paid for them, what is to happen if some competitor steps into the field in comparison with which the system is as a farthing rushlight to the sun? We are putting no imaginary case. The Brush system has as many competitors as the Westinghouse brake, and so loud is the cackle of experts on all sides as to their patent inprovement being the nearest approach to daylight (moonlight has long since been distanced) that we are compelled to ask a credulous public not to part with their savings till they are sure what they are to get for their money. Candle power seems to be a very variable measure of light when one patentee proclaims that the other is not fit to hold a candle to him. Aladdin's wonderful lamp, that inexhaustible tale of childhood, has nothing half so magical as this battle of new lights against old. But in the end, in this Darwinian struggle for existence with survival of the fittest among these rival schemes, arc and incandescent, there will leap out suddenly some heaven-born beam, the progeny of both, who will consume both as Jove, the Ida-born immortal, destroyed his parent Chronos. Time is thus mythically swallowed by Eternity, as day devours night and one improvement sweeps away all traces of what went before. In the case of Electricity, this latest-born child of Time, it is so obviously in its infancy that the public are to be warned not to trust to inventors and patentees as to any finality stage having been reached in artificial lights. Nothing can be more satisfactory than to know that trained minds are working in all directions to improve on the simple idea, old as Faraday, of an incandescent light in a vacuum. Edison's and Swan's have tracked the problem up to the point of perfectibility; but between that and perfection there is a long leap. It is this leap which we decline to take at the bidding of the bold promoter. We feel that to part with our money for patent rights which to-morrow's invention may make as worthless as last year's time-tables would be worse than a mistake. There is a time for everything; but the Electric Company's promoter's time as come to soon. If the public wake up to-morrow to find that some giant discovery has reduced Brush and Swan and Edison systems alike to the condition of little stars having to hide their diminished heads, we shall at least be clear in the matter. We have done our duty. We have warned the public to wait and by taking one step at a time not to embark too much capital in concerns which may be "going" concerns in more senses than one.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The result of the poll at the Reform Club has resulted in the defeat of the Radicals. Seven hundred and forty members, or nearly one half of the entire membership, voted, and by a majority of seventeen the proposal of Lord Hartington was rejected. Lord Hartington's resolution was supported by other great party leaders and by the whole weight of the Chamberlain influence. The result is due more to personal dislike to the President of the Board of Trade and the Caucus system than to any treason against party ties. The Radical section have two courses open to them. They must blackball every Whig who is proposed, and so keep the numbers of the Club stationary until their opponents give way, or they must secede and found a rival institution.

It is unfortunate that there should be so close a similarity in some of the titles in the peerage. Not very long ago the *Standard* got into a scrape by mistaking a Lord Lisle for a Lord De Lisle and Dudley; and a very similar mistake has made it appear that a lady was recently presented at Court who certainly would not have the *entree* of any decorous drawing-room. A change of two letters made all the difference. In this way a reputation has got a temporary whitewashing by accident. For even the decree of Sir James Hannen would to social intents and purpose be set aside by a presentation. The Lord Chamberlain is the *Censor Morum* of modern society. His black list would be a curious piece of literature; so would a history of the attempts of blemished virtue to evade his vigilance.

Thursday week being Ascension Day, various thoroughfares were closed in order to prevent the public acquiring rights of way, as, for example, in Bedfordina, where the Duke keeps private his streets and squares by fastening his gates once every year, to the great annoyance of cabbies and others who are not *au fait* in the Calendar, and some of whom are guilty of very profane language when they find themselves obliged to drive round by a circuitous route and so miss an appointment or lose a train. In the Inns of Court and some of the smaller Inns there is the same shutting of gates which is as piously observed as the City beating of bounds. The House Lords does not sit on Ascension Day, but one or two Peers nevertheless came down to the House evidently in forgetfulness of the Festival.

Baronetcies have been flying about freely of late, and the Lord Mayor, who was bitterly disappointed at not receiving the honour of knighthood the other day at Epping, is rewarded for a slight delay by having the hereditary distinction conferred upon him now. There might have been at least a knighthood for Mr Arthur who did about ten times as much real good during his Mayoralty as Sir Jno. Ellis, and who, moreover, certainly had the chief share in adding Fiji to Her Majesty's dominions.

Great Paul has arrived in town and preparations have been made at St. Paul's for its reception. There is a hoarding fixed under the Clock Tower for its reception and a slide of wood along which it is hoped to pull the monster into position. The doorway was found not to be wide enough, and nearly a yard of masonry has had to be cut away to make room for it. The clock instead of striking has been on strike for several weeks past. The two "quarter bells" have been taken down temporarily to make room for the stranger, and though the hour bell retains his former position, his arrangements are considerably interfered with. The chief use of Great Paul will be to toll during the five minutes preceding service.

Absolutely one of the most charming suburbs of London is Beckenham. I saw it for the first time under one of the "June skies" we have had this May. I mention the place because the reign of modern taste is more visible there than in any other place I know, except in the Bedford Park Estate, where it takes another direction. Beckenham was until recent years a retired Kentish village with a few large houses, an old church, a pound, and the "beck" running across the street. The railway line brought down the builder. Houses began to multiply. Luckily, they are mostly substantial and handsome, and if otherwise the abundant foliage serves to hide their deformities. But the long straggling street which formed the old village became too ruinous for continued existence. Any one who knows London and London suburbs would have predicted that it would have been replaced by rows of tall houses and pretentious shops, in the style of Islington. Nothing of the kind. The old village has not been obliterated but reproduced. It is a succession of cottages quite new, but built in half timber or with huge drooping eaves, or otherwise in the manner of antiquity.

The Christian Evidence Society has complained of failing funds and a necessarily reduced scope of operations. The old course of "proofs" and "apologies" and "harmonies" has become stale. Modern scepticism requires new treatment. The development theory has profoundly affected current religious thought. The scientifico-religious views of Max Muller and Professor Jowett and other exceeding broad Churchmen seem to tend to this; that there is so much truth and goodness in heathenism that it is almost a pity to attempt its conversion. Buddhism, to which much attention has been directed of recent years, and the interest in which has been intensified by Edwin Arnold's sublime poem, the "Light of Asia," has been especially eulogized. Missionaries who know most about it are far from being so warm in their praises. It will be curious to hear their account of the matter, and the Christian Evidence Society has engaged the Rev S. Cole, who has been twenty-two year a missionary in Ceylon, to lecture in Sion College on the subject.

The *genus* literary hack is not by any means extinct. I have myself met with some sad specimens. The heartrending death of poor Saunders last Sunday affords a fearful picture of the possibilities of authorship. He died in a garret in the East End in the act of writing a drama, not having partaken of food for two or three days, and having a sum total of seven coppers in his possession. He was fifty-five years of age. In his youth he wrote a successful novel and produced plays which were acted. His subsequent productions did not "take," and so he gradually got deeper and deeper into difficulties and died in a despairing struggle to keep off starvation.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr Trevelyan, the new Chief Secretary for Ireland, took his seat on his re-election for the Border Burghs, and was loudly cheered. Mr Cowen gave notice that, if the amendment of Mr O'Donnell to the new Coercion Bill was negatived, he would move an amendment approving of measures to prevent, detect, and punish crime, but disapproving of any attempt to interfere with the free expression of public opinion. The Speaker said that, if Mr O'Donnell's amendment was negatived, no other could be made. In reply to Mr Stanley Leighton, Mr Gladstone said a warrant dated the 21st January, 1882, for the arrest of Mr Sheridan had not been executed because the authorities had not been able to execute it. In reply to Sir S. Northcote, Mr Gladstone said the Government proposed that, if the second reading of the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill was not agreed to that night, to ask for a morning sitting on Friday. They would suggest that the Committee on the Bill, sitting, if necessary, on the Saturday. Although the estimates were not in a backward state they intended to ask for a vote of credit for a month. Upon the order for the second reading of the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill, Mr O'Donnell withdrew his amendment, but proceeded to criticise the measure, and a long debate followed.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords, Lord Carlingford said there was not the slightest shadow of foundation for the statement published in the London papers detailing a conference which had taken place between himself and Mr Parnell and other imprisoned members of Parliament while they were in Kilmainham Gaol. Lord Norton moved sundry amendments to the Education Code, arguing that at present a very large proportion of the money voted by Parliament necessarily went to the higher classes. Lord Carlingford believed the amendments of the noble lord were beyond the attainment of pratical men, and the Duke of Richmond and Gordon could not conceive what good would result from their adoption. Lord Norton ultimately withdrew the amendments.

In the House of Commons, Sir E. Walmot gave notice that in committee on the Prevention of Crime Bill he would move to limit the appeal from the Special Court to cases in which sentence of death or penal servitude for life should be passed. Mr Gladstone, replying to Mr Sexton, said the question of hastening the consideration of the Arrears Bill, in view of the evictions taking place in Ireland, had not escaped his attention. He intended to take the second reading of the Arrears Bill on Monday. Mr. Dillon read a letter from Mr Egan denying that there was the slightest foundation for the charge made against him by Mr Forster of having employed Mr Sheridan as leading outragemonger in the West of Ireland. The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill was resumed by Mr Sexton. Mr Gladstone and Mr Parnell joined in the debate which followed, and on a division the Bill was read a second time by 383 against 45 votes.

MONDAY.

In the House of Lords, Earl De la Warr moved that the House go into Committee on the Railways (Continuous Brakes) Bill. Lord Colville of Culross moved as an amendment the previous question, on the ground that such legislation ought to be initiated by the Board of Trade, and not by a private member. After a discussion, the amendment was agreed to. Lord Stratheden moved for further correspondence relating to the affairs of Egypt. Earl Granville opposed the motion, on the ground that it would not be to the public advantage to produce the correspondence asked for at the present time, and the motion was withdrawn. Several bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned until Thursday, the 1st of June.

In the House of Commons Mr Holden took his seat for the North-west Riding. Mr Gorset gave notice of his attention to ask the Home Secretary if his attention had been called to a speech made by Mr Davitt in Manchester, in which he was reported to have said he was at present out under the conditions of a ticket-of-leave, which conditions he treated with the same contempt as he did three years ago. Mr Ashmead-Bartlett asked whether the assent of the Sovereign of Egypt and of the other Great Powers had been obtained to the course of intervention which the Government stated had been agreed upon between France and England. Sir Charles Dilke said the Government were anxious to give all the information in their power, but he did not think it would be prudent in him to add anything to the statements which were made on the subject on Monday. In reply to Baron De Worms, he might now state that an agreement had been come to as to the course to be taken if the present steps were not successful. He would not, however, be able to lay the agreement on the table on Thursday. In reply to Mr Healy, Mr Trevelyan said the question of the release of Mr Brennan was now engaging the attention of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and he would be able to state the decision arrived at to-day. Mr Gladstone gave notice that to-day he will move that the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill should have precedence over all other business on every day until it was disposed of. Mr Gladstone then moved the second reading of the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Bill. Mr Sclater-Booth proposed an amendment to the effect that it was inexpedient to charge the Consolidated Fund with any payment except by way of loan in respect of arrears of rent in Ireland. Captain Aylmer seconded the amendment, and in the debate which followed Mr. Forster spoke in support of the Bill.

TUESDAY.

In the House of the Commons, at the morning sitting, Sir W. Harcourt stated, in reply to a question, that his attention had been called to the speech of Mr Davitt at Manchester in reference to the contempt with which he had treated his ticket-of-leave, but the reports of the speech did not agree. No rodomontade of this kind could affect the conditions on which the license was granted. If the conditions were broken the license would be liable to be revoked. In reply to further questions, the right hon. gentleman stated that the conditions were the ordinary conditions. There was no understanding that any of the conditions would be relaxed. Sir Charles Dilke, in answer to the hon. members, stated that the steps necessary to secure the freedom of the Suez Canal were under consideration. The British fleet had been sent to Alexandra to secure the protection of the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects, and there was every reason to believe that the objection would be secured without recourse to force. Mr Gladstone, in reply to Sir H. D. Wolf, declined to lay on the table the correspondence with Mr Parnell and Mr O'Shea in reference to the release of the suspects. Mr Gladstone then moved that the several stages of the Prevention of Crime Bill and the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Bill should have precedence of all other business from day to day until the House should otherwise order. Mr Dillon wished the Government to understand that the Irish members were prepared to sell the liberties of their countrymen in return for the Arrears Bill. On a division, 254 voted for and 15 against the motion. Mr Parnell protested against the course taken by the Government in giving precedence to coercion over remedial legislation. Mr O'Donnell said he would do everything in his power to oppose the worst piece of coercive legislation ever introduced in regard to Ireland, and would make England sorry for it. Sir H. Maxwell then resumed the debate on the second reading of the Arrears of Rent Bill. After a long debate, Mr Sclater-Booth's amendment was rejected by 296 against 181 votes, and the second reading of the Bill was carried by 269 against 157, giving the Government a majority of 112.—At the evening sitting, on the motion for going into Committee on the Prevenion of Crimes Bill, Mr Cowen moved that while the House was desirous of aiding the Government in any measures which they might show to be necessary for preventing, detecting, and punishing crime, it disapproved of restrictions being imposed on the free expression of public opinion in Ireland.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr Forster made a statement on a personal matter arising out of an incident which happened on Tuesday at the close of the debate on the Arreas Bill. He was not in the body of the House at the time or he would have set the matter right at once. The Prime Minister called the attention of the right hon. gentleman for North Lincolnshire (Mr J. Lowther) to a statement he was reported to have made in Yorkshire, to the effect that certain negotiations with the hon. member for Cork had been conducted by the Government of which he (Mr Forstnr) had been kept in entire ignorance by his colleagues. He wished to state that the right hon. gentleman was absolutely misinformed. He had been cognisant of all the negotiations to which allusion was made, although the time did arrive when he felt he could no longer share any responsibility in connection with them. It was entirely contrary to his belief that anything of a clandestine nature had occurred, but he took exception to the use of the term "negotations," which did not properly represent the actual communications. The adjourned debate on Mr Cowen's amendment to the motion for going into committee on the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill was resumed by Mr Dillon, who warned the Government that the legislation of the present year would fail to settle the land question, and that they must be prepared for further agitation hereafter. He attributes the outrages in Ireland to evictions, and said that, although he detested outrages as much as any man, he had never denounced it, and never intended to do so as long as evictions were sanctioned by the law. He defended Boycotting, and deprecated the terms in which Mr O'Connor Power denounced it last night. While refraining from denouncing murder he would endeavour to wean the people from it. Mr Gladstone described the hon. member as the apostle of oppression, of the destruction of all liberty, and of the erection of a despotism upon its ruins. In regard to the Bill itself it was wholly impossible for the Government to abandon any part of the measure, and a remedial measure still remained for discussion. He appealed to the House to allow the debate. It could do nothing but arouse heated and excited passions, and embitter feelings of animosity between England and Ireland. The debate was continued by Mr E. Clarke, Sir S. Northcote, and others, and, on the motion of Mr Parnell, was further adjourned. Mr Stevenson obtained leave to re-introduce his Sunday Closing Bill

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

Thursday, May 18th—Before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), Rev J. P. De Pledge, Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., and Geo. Hedley, Esq.

DAMAGING TIMBER.

Henry Stobbs (22), who did not appear, was fined 2s 6d, and ordered to pay 10s damage and costs, for wilfully damaging some new timber belonging to Mr George Hedley, at Craghead, on Saturday, 6th inst.—P.C. Scaling said he had frequently cautioned the defendant against committing this offence.

WILFUL DAMAGE BY LADS.

Wm. Young, Wm. Parker, and *Thos. Davenport*, aged about ten years, were summoned for deliberately damaging a cottage at South Moor, to the amount of 2d each, the property of Mr George Hedley. Davenport pleaded not guilty to the charge, but the other defendants admitted the offence.—P.C. Garbutt deposed that on the previous Saturday night, he observed the three lads climb upon the pantry top of the said cottage and pull off seven slates. The roof had only just been repaired.—Mr Hedley pleaded for mercy on behalf of the boys, and the Chairman said had it not been for that circumstance the Bench would have inflicted a severe punishment, because it was a most wanton act the defendants had been guilty of. They would have to pay the costs and damage 5s 3d each, and the parents of the lads (who were all present) were agreeable to this.—The Chairman cautioned the defendants not to appear before them again, or they would deal most severely with them.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

Thomas Nearney (19), was fined 14s 6d (including costs) for committing a breach of the peace at South Moor by being intoxicated and fighting in the streets, and otherwise creating a great disturbance.

Joseph Middlemas and *Michael Waugh*, each pleaded guilty to being stripped and fighting in the streets at Annfield Plain, on the 29th April.—Defendants were bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay 8s 6d costs.

ANOTHER PUBLICHOUSE ROW AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

John Hamilton was charged by James Gilbert, the landlord of the Queen's Head Inn, Annfield Plain, with disorderly conduct and refusing to quit, on the 29th ult.; also with assaulting him and his wife at the same time and place.—Complainant said that defendant entered his house drunk, and refused to quit when requested. On removing him defendant struck him. He came in a second time and said he would fight any "b—— in the house." Prosecutor had to send for the policeman to eject him. Defendant was one of the worst-behaved men that visited his house, and he (prosecutor) did not wish him to come near the place.—To the Bench: Defendant had had a little liquor, but he refused to serve him with drink.—Defendant frequently interrupted the prosecutor by asserting that he was "telling nowt but lees."—Mrs Gilbert said that the defendant caught hold of her by the throat and said he would "squeeze her b—— eyes out."—P.C. Minto spoke to hearing a disturbance inside the house, and the defendant saying he would knock the landlord's "head in if he did not let him stop there." The defendant was very violent when he ejected him.—The defendant, a young, powerful man, said that he had spent 9s in complainant's house, and would have been permitted to remain had not a policeman arrived upon the scene. As soon as the police appeared, however, the landlord always thrust them out for being drunk.—P.C. Minto, in answer to the Chairman, said that he had only been at Annfield Plain about seven weeks, but he knew that defendant kept his house respectably.—P.C. Rogerson corroborated the latter officer's statement, and, in answer to Mr Smith, said that complainant was a respectable man; but unfortunately a number of men entered his house for the sole purpose of breaking it up and getting his license endorsed. The previous occupier of the house conducted the place most improperly, allowing these men to carry on just as they liked.—Defendant said that complainant allowed gambling in his house.—The Chairman remarked that, although they believed the statement of the officers, yet they considered that complainant should not have allowed defendant to remain in the house so long. Should it be ascertained, however, that these men were endeavouring to incite the landlord to commit an offence against the law and so break up his house, they would punish the offenders to the greatest extent of the law.—Defendant was fined £1 13s, including costs; or fourteen days' imprisonment.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

George Brown pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly at South Moor, on May 8th, and was fined 5s and 7s 6d expenses.

John Nearney was similarly fined for being drunk and fighting (being stripped of his coat and trowsers) at South Moor on the following day, 9th inst.—P.C. Garbutt proved the charges.

Jane Callighan, a married woman, failed to answer a summons preferred by Sergeant Elliott charging her with being drunk at Ushaw Moor, on the previous Sunday morning, and she was ordered to pay 2s 6d and costs; or seven days' hard labour.

John Johnson, employed at Ushaw Moor Colliery, was charged by P.C. Shaw with being drunk and incapable at that place on Saturday afternoon, 13th inst., and was likewise fined 2s 6d and costs.

George Paley was summoned by P.C. Watson for drunk and disorderly conduct at Ushaw Moor, on Monday, May 8th.—The officer said that the defendant approached Mr Chaytor, the son of the owner of the colliery, and used some very abusive language to him, telling him that he was as "good a man as him any time."—Defendant denied that he was intoxicated, but Sergt. Elliott corroborated the last officer's statement, and he was consequently fined 2s 6d and 9s 6d costs.—Defendant said he should not pay, and that they had better lock him up for a week.

Joseph Blackburn pleaded guilty to drunkenness at Annfield Plain on the 28th April, and was ordered to pay 10s which includes costs.

James Fegan was fined 2s 6d and expenses for being found by P.C. Kendrew on the highway between Esh and Quebec in a beastly state of intoxication about two o'clock on the Sunday morning previous.

William Waugh, and *George Gray*, were each found guilty of a charge, preferred by Sergeant Collinson, of being drunk at Lanchester on the afternoon of the preceding Tuesday, and the Bench imposed a penalty of 2s 6d and costs.

Thos. Hedley, a farmer, was fined 5s and 8s 6d costs for being drunk at Langley Park, on the 10th inst.—P.C. Forster said the defendant had been drinking without intermission for the past two months, and on the present occasion he found him lying incapable upon the roadside.

Robert Henderson was summoned by P.C. Scaling for being drunk at Craghead, on the 9th inst., defendant admitted that he was "rather intoxicated" but was "quite fresh."—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

Christopher Thompson, charged by P.C. Minto with drunkenness at Annfield Plain, was fined 10s and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Hugh Young was found guilty of a charge of being violent and quarrelsome and refusing to quit the public house kept by Reuben Oxley, at Craghead, on Tuesday, 9th inst.—Mrs Oxley said that the defendant snatched 2d out of a little girl's hand, and when she remonstrated with him, he became most quarrelsome and noisy until she was compelled to send for the police.—Fined 5s and 9s 6d costs.

Thomas Smith was fined 14s 6d (including costs) for violent and quarrelsome conduct and refusing to quit the Queen's Head Inn, Annfield Plain, when requested to do so by the landlord, James Gilbert, on Saturday, 29th April.—Defendant was a confederate of the man Hamilton, who was previously fined for similar misconduct.

THEFT OF A SHAWL.

Mary Ann Hine was brought up on a charge of larceny.—Francis McNeil, servant at Mrs Cockburn's, residing at the Lizzie Colliery, said that on Monday, 8th May, she laid the shawl (produced) over the back of a chair in the house, and when she looked for it afterwards it had disappeared. About five o'clock the same night a little boy brought the shawl back saying that Mr Thompson had sent it.—Prisoner alleged that she had borrowed the shawl on previous occasions for weeks at a time.—Margaret Thompson, of Annfield Plain, deposed that on the 8th inst., prisoner came into the shop and offered her the shawl for sale. She gave prisoner 1s for it. Her husband subsequently sent the shawl back to the prosecutor's as soon as he learnt it had been stolen.—P.C. Rogerson received prisoner into custody at Consett on the same day. He accused her with the robbery, and she replied that she was wrongly charged.—Prisoner was ordered to pay a fine of 20s and costs, with the alternative of one month in gaol.

DOMESTIC QUARRELS AT HAMSTEELS.

William Smith, of Hamsteels Colliery, cinder burner, a highly respectable looking man, was charged with threatening to "finish" Eliza Henderson, on the 4th inst. Mr A. C. Smith appeared on behalf of complainant, and Mr Oliver for defendant. There was another summons arising out of the same dispute, in which Elizabeth Harrison, of Hamsteels Colliery, a married woman, was charged with threatening to "tear limb from limb" Eliza Henderson, on the 4th inst. Mr A. O. Smith also appeared for the complainant in this case, and Mr Oliver for the defence. In the first case the complainant said she was in the house when the defendant came to the front door. He was in an excited condition and made use of some very disgusting and abominable language towards her, threatening to "finish" her if she did not come outside. She was afraid that the defendant would carry out his threat and murder her.—In cross-examination complainant admitted that some illfeeling had existed betwixt the parties concerned for a considerable time past respecting the bringing up of a little boy which she had under her care. Complainent, however, alleged that the illfeeling spoken of sprang from the other side.—Mary Wailes and Mary Harrison also gave corroborative evidence.—Mr Oliver for the defence, denied that the filthy language ascribed to the defendant had ever been used by his client, and he called as witnesses to prove this statement, John Coulthard and Thomas Lee (two boys who witnessed the whole proceedings) Elizabeth Harrison and the defendant himself, the latter asserting that he merely went to his son-in-law's house in defence of his son, but denied using any indecent language to the complainant. He might have appeared a little excited, and he told Matthew Henderson if he had anything to say to him to come outside.—The defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay £1 5s 6d and costs.

Elizabeth Harrison was similarly bound over to keep the peace towards the last-named complainant, for having used threatening and violent language to her at the same time and place, and ordered also to pay 16s 6d expenses.

Matthew Henderson (husband of the complainant) in the two preceding cases was found guilty of having committed an assault upon Thomas Harrison and Robert Smith (husbands of the defendants) on the same day as the previous offences were alleged to have taken place.—In this charge Mr Oliver appeared on behalf of the complainant, whilst Mr Smith defended.—The evidence was to the effect that the defendant met the complainants about six p.m., and after a few harsh words, the defendant struck the complainant Harrison between the shoulders and knocked him down, and was very violent in his treatment of the other complainant.—The Bench fined the defendant 5s and costs for the assault upon Harrison; but taking into consideration the amount of provocation he received from the other complainant Smith a fine of 1s with costs was only imposed.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

Monday, May 22nd—Before A. Town, Esq. (chairman), and Jas. Annandale, Esq.

FIRST COURT.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

John Crask, who did not appear, was fined 10s. and costs, or 7 days' hard labour, for drunkenness at Shotley Bridge Hirings.

Joseph Bryson and *Thomas Nicholson* were both fined 5s and 8s 6d costs for being drunk and disorderley at White-le-Head, on Saturday, May 13th.

Thomas Gibson pleaded guilty to drunkenness at Hill Top, Dipton, on the 17th May, and was ordered to pay 5s and 10s 6d expenses.

Bernard Ward, for drunkenness at Consett on the 13th inst., was fined 5s and costs.

DRUNK AND REFUSING TO QUIT.

John Beeney pleaded guilty to this offence.—P.C. Longstaff deposed that on the 13th inst., he had to eject the defendant from Mr W. Whitelow's public-house at Burnopfield. He had been twice ordered out by the landlord, but refused to go.—The Bench imposed a fine of 5s and 9s 4d costs.

CHIMNEY ON FIRE.

John Flannighan was summoned for allowing the chimney of his dwelling-house to be on fire, in contravention of the bye-laws of the Benfieldside Local Board.—Sergt Cruickshank testified that on Saturday, 6th inst., about one a.m., he was in Derwent Street, Blackhill, and observed a great blaze issuing from the chimney top of the defendant's house. He went inside, and although the inmates were in bed, there was nevertheless a very large fire burning in the grate.—Defendant admitted the offence, and the Bench inflicted a fine of 1s and costs; in all 8s 6d.

ASSAULT AT BLACKHILL

Mary Ann Simpson and *Andrew Simpson* (her son) were accused of assaulting Margaret Richardson, at Blackhill, on Wednesday, May 10th.—Complainant had occasion to visit the female defendant's house to see her husband on some business, when Mrs Simpson caught her by the hair of the head, and tore some out, struck her in her eyes and breast, knocked one of her teeth out, and kicked her most shamefully like a dog, until she became unconscious. When she partially regained her senses, the other defendent went and dashed her head violently against the wall two or three times. Complainant never gave either of the defendants the slightest provocation.—Bridge Hamilton corroborated.—The female defendant, who was exceedingly noisy whilst standing in the dock, alleged that the complainant struck her in the mouth first, and afterwards picked up a couple of stones to throw at her. She simply hit the complainant in self-defence.—P.C. Hadwin saw both the parties after the assaults but did not observe any marks or bruises upon either of them. The complainant, however, was crying.—The Bench found both defendants guilty, and imposed a fine of 13s 6d each, including costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

James Hughes was summoned by Mr John Johnson, at the instance of the Benfieldside School Board, for neglecting to send his daughter Annie, over thirteen years of age, regularly to school—The Chairman, after a brief consultation, observed that having in view a recent case which had been adjudicated in the Law Courts, the Bench could not fine parents for children of that age.—The case was therefore dismissed.

Geo. Bell, for not having sent his son Joseph (12) was fined 5s; *James Clark*, for his daughter Catherine (11), and *James McClusky* for his daughter Mary Ellen (12) were also fined 5s a-piece.

The parents undermentioned, who were summoned by Mr W. Ward, of the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee, were fined for being guilty of a similar offence:—*Michael Matthews*, for his sons, Michael (12) and James (10), 5s; *Joseph Malpass*, for his son John, 5s; *Peter Skelton*, for his son John (12), 5s; *Patrick McGlyn*, for his son Thomas, 5s; *Edward Doolan*, for his son John, 5s; *Patrick Clark*, for his son Peter, 5s; *Wm McCourt*, for his son William, 5s; *Wm Doyle*, for his son William (13), 5s; and *Catherine Hughes*, for her son Walter (9), 2s 6d.

A PUBLICHOUSE FRAY NEAR BURNOPFIELD.

Matthew Henderson, blacksmith, of Pickering Nook, was summoned for committing an assault upon Ralph Clark, innkeeper at the Leazes, Burnopfield, and also on Ann Clark, his wife, on Wednesday, 10th inst.—A cross-summons was issued charging *Ralph Clark* with assaulting Matthew Henderson at the same time and place.—Mr Forster, of Newcastle, appeared on behalf of the Clarks, and Mr T. W. Welford, jun. (Consett), for Henderson.—Prosecutor said that the defendant came into his house that night accompanied by a man named Ferguson. They were supplied with drink at his (the landlord's) expense. Defendant then referred to something which occurred on the preceding night, and said he wouldn't care about striking at prosecutor over the counter. He said to defendant "Go out, you are a dirty man." Defendant then picked up the jug off the counter and aimed it at prosecutor's head. His wife (who was standing near) put up her hand to stop the blow, but the jug hit her hand and cut it, and a bit flew off and caught prosecutor near the left eye. Defendant then smashed a glass on the doorstep, and afterwards ran along the road towards his house. Prosecutor never gave him the least provocation to do the deed. Defendant was under the influence of drink at the time.—Cross-examined: He was perfectly sober, having only taken a glass or so that day. Was in Adamson's publichouse the same day, and saw a man who wished to make a disturbance with him. He had two glasses of ale in there besides two or three glasses in his own house. Denied that he struck at Henderson first when the assault took place. Admitted going to defendant's house about eight o'clock the same night with a policeman, but was never within thirty-six yards of the door, and did not "slip" at Henderson. Did not say he would "knock his b—— head off."—The Chairman: Are we to understand that you were treating these men in your own house?—Prosecutor: Defendant came in and asked me what I would have? I replied I would take a "small port," and when defendant offered to pay, I said I would stand the drink.—Mrs Clark (who had her hand bandaged up) testified to the assault committed upon her.—Thomas Taylor, pitman, said that defendant threatened to give Clark "a skelp in the gob if he didn't shut up." After quarrelling for some time Clark said "Go out, you dirty beast," or words to that effect. Witness then detailed the assault upon prosecutor, but denied that the latter ever struck at the defendant.—In cross-examination witness admitted that Clark made a motion with his arm whilst telling Henderson to go out, but he never attempted to strike at him.—Wm. Hopper, postman, and Isaac Hughes, substantiated the above statements.

The second charge was now proceeded with. Mr Welford having narrated the facts, called Matthew Henderson, who stated he went into defendant's house, and was supplied with drink by Clark himself. Offered the money to pay for, but Clark pushed it away with the remark that he would stand it. After a few words, Clark aimed a blow across the counter at his head, which struck him on the face. He then seized the jug in his hand and pitched it at Clark in self-defence, and Ferguson snatched his arm whilst he was throwing the jug. He went straight home after what occurred. Subsequently Clark and a policeman came to his house, when Clark denied that he struck at prosecutor. Immediately after, however, he admitted the offence and said to him: "I will knock your b—— face off now." Defendant would have struck him but the police officer interfered.—Cross-examined: He was neither drunk nor sober that night. He had taken a few "halfs of rum." His recollection of what took place in the publichouse was perfectly fresh. He felt the effects of Clark's blow, and he deliberately pitched the jug at his head. Did not see whether it hit him or not. Re-examined: The jug would not have been thrown if Clark had not struck him.—John Ferguson deposed that Clark struck across the bar at Henderson, but could not say if he hit him, or whether his fist was doubled. Henderson then seized the jug and threw it at Clark.—Cross-examined: The witness denied that Clark moved his hand towards Henderson and upset the jug. Did not see whether the jug hit Mr or Mrs Clark.—John Wray spoke to hearing an angry conversation between the two in front of Henderson's house that night.—Mary Ann Hedley stated that Clark was so drunk that the policeman ought to have locked him up. She also saw Clark make a "mint" at Henderson as if to strike him.—William Holmes testified to witnessing Clark leaning against the wall in an intoxicated condition, and that he accused Henderson of having "cut his bonny little wife's fingers." (Laughter).—This was all the evidence adduced.—The magistrates were of opinion that in these three charges all parties were to blame except Mrs Clark. The landlord appeared to have been under the influence of liquor and quite unable to conduct his house properly.—Henderson was fined 5s and costs for each assault, in all £2 1s 6d; and Clark was ordered to pay a fine of 20s and costs, £2 11s altogether.

SECOND COURT.—Before J. PRIESTMAN, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

John William Ferry was charged P.C. Cummins with being drunk at Medomsley on the 5th May, and was fined 5s and 9s 6d costs.

Clement Mason was similarly fined for drunkenness at Medomsley on the 6th inst.

Mary Marron was summoned on the evidence of Sergt. Nicholson with having been found drunk in the streets at Consett on the 6th May, and she was fined 2s 6d and 8s 6d expenses.

P.C. Robinson charged *Edward Tracey* with drunk and disorderly conduct at Shotley Bridge Hirings, on the 10th inst., and he was ordered to pay 14s 6d, including costs.

Donkin Forbes was fined in a like amount for having been found in the streets at Blackhill on the 11th inst., by P.C. Hadwin in an intoxicated condition.

Thomas Connolly and *Christopher Atthey* were summoned by P.C. Bain for drunkenness at Whitele-Head, on the 13th May last.—Connolly was fined 5s, but Atthey, who did not appear, was ordered to pay 10s, with costs in each case.

Samuel Brown was found guilty of a charge of drunkenness, preferred by P.C. I'Anson, at Consett, on May 10th, and the Bench inflicted the usual penalty of 5s with costs.

John Hooker and *Frank Davidson* were both found guilty upon the testimony of P.C. Longstaff of being drunk and incapable at Burnopfield, on the 13th May, and were mulcted in the same penalty.

John Greener, who was charged by Sergeant Nattrass with drunkenness at Dipton on May 13th, was also fined 13s 6d inclusive of costs.

Robert Torie and *Frederick Foreman*, for being drunk at Dipton on the same day, were similarly dealt with.

TRESPASS AND WILFUL DAMAGE.

Michael Wheeney was summoned for this offence.—P.C. Wood deposed that on Sunday night, May 14th, he observed the defendant trespassing in a grass field at Consett, belonging to Mr. Crawford, butcher.—Defendant was found guilty and ordered to pay the sum of 2s 6d and 7s 6d costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

John Henderson, Henry Milburn, and Joseph Jackson were charged by P.C. Armstrong with gambling on the public road at Ebchester about half-past six o'clock on Sunday evening, 7th inst., just as the people were proceeding to Church.—Milburn was fined 10s with costs; but as the other two defendants failed to appear, a warrant was issued against them.

George Pegg, Matthew Curtis, Jacob Curtis, and Robert Russell were also fined 10s and 8s 6d costs for playing at pitch and toss in the streets of Dipton, on Sunday, 14th inst.

SACRED SONGS AND SOLOS.

Nos. 1 and 2 combined, Words and Music.

How popular the Hymns and Tunes of the earlier editions of "Songs and Solos" became will be remembered by all. Some of the pieces, such as "Hold the Fort," and "Safe in the arms of Jesus," seemed to be known to everybody, and could be heard played or whistled in the street as frequently as they might be heard sung in places of public worship.

During the past hundred years Watts's, Wesley's, and the Olney Hymns have attained to and retained, amongst English-speaking Christians, world-wide acceptance; but in these days of earnest evangelistic activity, the "Sacred Songs and Solos" in the short space of eight years have not only become a household book throughout the British dominions, but have been translated into many of the languages of the earth. In Scotland, these "Songs and Solos" everywhere found ready entrance and wide acceptance. Douce kirk-going folk, to whom the Scottish psalms were a second nature, were greatly taken by these sacred lays; and in the "land o' cakes" these Hymns were soon more widely known than the songs of Robert Burns. And so, north and south, east and west, these little books found their way. They were used in hundreds of Sabbath-schools; in scores of mission rooms; and in a large number of chapels and churches, as an appendix to the ordinary hymn-books. These "Songs and Solos" were sung in many a drawing-room; and peers took pleasure in the simple lays which had been the attraction of peasants.

Many of these Hymns had an existence prior to the commencement of Messrs Moody and Sankey's evangelistic work in the year 1873. But it was Mr Sankey's remarkable effective rendering of these Hymns, and the striking manner in which he succeeded in emphasizing the gospel truths they embodied, that caused the selection to spring into universal notice and favour. The music and rhythm of the pieces served to impress upon mind and memory those eternal verities which Mr Moody had so powerfully presented in his homely, vigorous Saxon.

The writer was once present at a meeting where some two or three of the older hymns had been given out and sung through with little spirit. After these, the hymn "To the Work!" was announced. The whole assembly joined in at once, and the chorus, "Toiling on! Toiling on!" swelled forth from a thousand tongues.

The book has grown in magnitude in accordance with the requirements of the spiritual work in association with which it was first produced.

The new issue of the volume—as enlarged and extended—appears simultaneously with the commencement of the new evangelistic campaign of Messrs Moody and Sankey in Great Britain. It contains no less than 441 pieces, of which 170 are found in this connection for the first time. Amongst the recent additions are many which are likely to prove highly acceptable. Of these may be named—"Waiting at the Door," which has an effective chorus; "Must I go—and empty handed?" written in connection with the death of one who was summoned hence very shortly after conversion; "Ye must be born again," a good gospel hymn; "Peace! be still!"; and "Will Jesus find us watching?" The greater number of the hymns have stirring choruses, in which congregations can readily join, and which greatly add to the effectiveness of the pieces,

Cricket.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v. BURNOPFIELD.

The above match was played on Saturday last, on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the home team. Scores:—

CONSETT.		BURNOPFIELD.	
Is. Richards, b Finlay	3	J. Cuthbertson, c J. Richrds, b Stephenson	15
P. Flynn, b Lamb	0	Rev. E. Couchman, b Stephenson	1
G. T. Hyden, c Southern b Lamb	0	R. Armstrong, c J. Richards, b O'Dnell	2
B. Briscoe, b Lamb	1	W. Hogarth, b Stephenson	1
G. Freek, b Finlay	0	G. Cooper, c Ramsay, b Stephenson	13
Dr. O'Donnell, b Finlay	0	T. Southern, b Hyden	13
Jas. Richards, run out	5	J. Finlay, b Stephenson	8
R. Chaytor, b Finlay	2	J. Curry, hit wicket, b Hyden	0
J. Stephenson, b Lamb	5	W. Charlton, b O'Dnell	11
W. Ramsay, c Finlay, b Lamb	10	G. Lamb, b Stephenson	1
W. Jackson, not out	0	J. Weedy, not out	0
Extras	3	Extras	3
Total	29	Total	68

DIPTON v. LANCHESTER.

A match was played on Saturday last, by the above clubs, which resulted in an easy victory for the visitors. The batting of Messrs. Hooper and Ridley for the visitors was admirable. Scores:—

DIPTON.		LANCHESTER.	
T. Tindale, b Dixon	0	R. Thompson, c Hodgson, b Porter	4
R. Gardiner, b Dixon	3	W. Lindsay, b Porter	0
W. Porter, b Dixon	0	H. Dixon, b Thompson	1
L. Simpson, b Dixon	3	T. Dunn, b Porter	0
F. Hooper, not out	33	J. Garthwaite, b Porter	0
W. C. Murray, run out	1	J. March, not out	3
J. Thompson, b Dixon	3	R. Hall, c Hodgson, b Thompson	1
W. Ridley, run out	2	J. Thompson, b Porter	4
J. W. Hodgson, b Garthwaite	0	G. Parker, b Thompson	0
R. Scott, b Dixon	0	G. Suddes, b Porter	7
T. Ridley, b Garthwaite	17	H. Hunter, b Porter	0
Extras	6	Extras	2
Total	68	Total	22

WEST STANLEY v. NEW DELAVAL BRIGHT STAR.

This match was played at Newbiggen Moor on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the Stanley team by eleven with one wicket to fall. The following is the score:—

NEW DELAVAL.		STANLEY.	
J. Hogarth, run out	3	J. Hunter, b Graham	2
E. Graham, b Dyson	2	J. Dixon, b Mole	7
G. Hogarth, b Dyson	5	E. Hughes, c Thirlaway b Mole	3
W. Felton, c Pattinson, b Dyson	5	W. Dyson, b Mole	0
J. Graham, not out	14	P. Harkness, b Mole	0
G. Thirlaway, b Waugh	0	J. Harkness, b Graham	8
R. Mole, c Dixon, b Waugh	1	J. Waugh, b Mole	0
G. Baldwin, b Dyson	2	W. Dodds, c Hogarth, b Mole	2
O. Robson, b Harkness	1	J. Curry, b Hogarth	7
J. Dickinson, b Hrkness	2	M. Pattinson, not out	1
C. Fitches, b Dyson	0	R. Dunweedie not out	3
Extras	2	Extras	15
Total	37	Total	48

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UNDER THE TERROR.

BY

MARY C. ROWSELL.

Author of "Love Loyal," "St. Nicholas' Eve" &c., &c.

CHAPTER XXXI.—(*Continued*).

"Ah, ah! But she took it in though," Daumas chuckles softly, and rubbing his palms together as he sits down to recruit fasting nature with his favourite dinner of grilled herring, shredded over with onion, Eloise has prepared for him.

"These dear women; they're all alike. Clever or stupid, only tell them they look pretty in their fallals, and you're safe. Eh! that will do it. And let her be as sour as this," he smiled tranquilly on, emptying the contents of the vinegar-cruet over his plate, "see if we're not having her down again in ever such a little quarter of an hour."

He was right. She came down; and if Daumas did not happen to catch sight of her, that might have been because he was treating his grilled herrings as if he loved them, in a leisurely enjoyment which occupied at least a couple of little quarters of an hour. And after dinner, as if his capacities for slumber grew by practice, or, perhaps, because the air of those early July days was uncommonly thundery, he yielded to his custom of an afternoon, and slept.

The dead silence of the lonely place, broken only by the buzz of the flies up and down the sun-scorched lattice, and the low humming of the bees, as they flitted among the bramble blossoms, lulled him on till the afternoon's shadows began to fall; and it is hard to guess how much longer he would have drowsed away the precious hours had it not been for the cat, who not by well-trained nature disposed to acts of depredation, felt impelled by abnormal circumstances to take the law into his own paws, and leaping, light as zephyr, upon the table, possessed himself of his own legal portion of herring. Some lingering delicacy of conscience, however, betraying the animal into overhaste, occasioned such a disorderly retreat, that his hind legs, getting entangled with the knives and forks, created a terrific clatter of displaced mugs and salt-cellars, and the awakened sleeper started in mazed terror to his feet. "Thieves! Murder! Eloise!" he shrieked. But only the echoes of his own voice answered him—"Eloise!" And Daumas rushed from the kitchen, and tore, three steps at a time, up to her room. It was empty. Down again, plunging wildly in at the guest-parlour door. "Eloise, I say;" but only the eyes of the cat, fled under a remote bench for calmer enjoyment of his booty, glittered up at him through the obscurity like a pair of green lamps. Back, back again, along the corridor, to the State chamber, where everything lay in confusion, as my lord might have left it—the lattice swaying lazily in the warm air, a broken coffee-cup upon the floor, the rumpled coverlet of the vast bed, and the dusty plumes nodding mockingly towards him in the draught created by his frantic bursting open of the door.

"Eloise!" And Daumas' accents rose to hysterical shrieks of mingled vexation and fear as he turned and tore into the stable yard.

"Ma'amselle Eloise?" asked the ancient ostler, where he sat drowsily nodding on an old tub turned on end, jerking open his bleared eyes at the sound of Daumas' voice. "Ah! she has been gone an hour—quite a good hour."

"Gone!"

"Ay; with a little bundle in her hand, tied up in a blue handkerchief, with a red-and-white border. He had noticed it, the border there, because——"

"Sacre!" yelled Daumas, gnashing his teeth. "Which way did she go?"

"Eh, but wait a little moment." The old man had to consider. "Was it Villers Cotterets way? No, no; of course not. No; the other way. Yes, Paris way. The road the grand gentleman's carriage had gone in the morning. Certainly, yes; Paris way."

Daumas' eyes travelled mechanically after the shrivelled tremulous hand, as it pointed westward.

"Eh, mon Dieu! Do you see how black it is there?" he cried, still keeping his hand where he had raised it, and pointing at a lurid mist enveloping the horizon the whole distant city's length and breadth."

"A storm coming," absently said Daumas; "the air's full of it."

"And Ma'amselle Eloise," wistfully said the old man. "She will meet it full in the face."

"Peste! serve her right. Why couldn't she stop here like a decent woman?" growled Daumas. "What's to become of me, I should like to know. Selfish animal!"

Yes, storm was in the air—storm about to burst over the city in fire and thunder of cannon that would make Europe tremble—storm that was to leave scarce one stone of the Bastille upon another.

CHAPTER XXXII.

"OLD NEWSPAPERS."

A FEW miles from Saverne, in the heart of the Vosges mountains, on a huge cone of rock, so precipitous as to be accessible only by one rugged road, frowned the black old fortress castle of Griffenfels. Time out of mind, or at least generations before the left bank of the Rhine had come under French rule, this stronghold and its surrounding territory had called a race of Bavarian counts its lords, who took their primary title from these Alsatian possessions. The existing representative in these latter years of the eighteenth century of those stern and haughty nobles, Count von Griffenfels, notwithstanding that he could boast finer and broader lands in his own native Germany, rarely bestowed the light of his presence on them; choosing to take up his residence entirely at the Griffenfels ever since the publication of that Writ of Grievances which the common people and their friends had presumed to issue—Gott im Himmel! What would their impertinence do next? Haunted possibly by the fancy that his own troublesome creatures of tenantry might include his name in the lengthy schedule, he had ever since elected to inflict his permanent presence upon the unlucky peasantry of his village, lying about half a mile further up the valley. He was, perhaps, right from his standpoint of ruling. The times long threatening were growing practically dark, and such a thing had been known within these last months of a great lord turning his back on his château for a day or two, and coming home again to find it a blackened ruin.

Oppressed, trampled on as had been these miserable people of France, there was life in them still—a latent energy growing fearsome in its inaction. The corvée, and the salt tax, and a host of other taxes might have wrung hearts' blood from them, but enough was left for pulling down the mighty moated walls and towers of the Bastille prison. That, at least, was the intelligence which reached the noble and high-born lord of Griffenfels as one July night he sat at supper in his great gloomy banqueting hall like his mail-clad ancestors frowning from their frames on the stone walls behind him, had done in mediæval days; and though Count Griffenfels laughed to scorn the report, and his high-born lips even lent themselves to framing the epithet, "ducks'-quack," it appeared to spoil his appetite for food, if not for wine, and also his temper, as far as such a temper was spoilable.

Rapacious and desperate as this man was, conscience was not dead in his soul, and it whispered him that, with the shadow of a fair chance, the people he trampled on would rise as one man against him, and as he pondered over that Bastille report in the summer gloaming creeping along the hall, he told himself that now if ever was the time to stamp out the faintest evidences of what this canaille of a Third Estate, fed by that most ill-advised move of the conventing of the States-General—pack of illiterate bumpkins and petty shopkeepers—were beginning to call patriotism.

Neither was this noble Teuton dull enough to forget that he was no son of French earth; and that by the natural ruling of things, though his aggressions were not harder than many a French seigneur's, they were even more bitterly resented.

With reflections of this sort knitting his stern features into heavy lines, he called for his horse, and, mounting in the saddle, rode over the drawbridge, and down the steep zig-zag way, with the intention of riding to Saverne, for the purpose of investigating how that absurd rumour from Paris could possibly have originated.

A group of men in Royal Allemand uniform, slowly advancing up the rough road, pushing a covered cart, and mercilessly flogging the pair of brave horses harnessed to it, as they struggled to maintain a footing, came to a halt as Count Griffenfels reined up beside them, and the information they brought saved him his journey to Saverne.

Yes, it was true enough, the Bastille had fallen, and the prisoners, a mere handful of five or six, had been released. The mob had slaughtered the governor of the prison, and the Grenadiers had been foremost in the attack. That was all these Royal Allemands knew rightly of the affair. But so much was true as the Gospels. They had first heard of it at Epernay. They themselves had not been so far as Paris; only a little way beyond Villers Cotterets, where business—and they looked at the covered cart—had detained them rather longer than they had expected; and now they were just a little pressed for time, as furlough was drawing to an end, and the regiment was quartered at Strasbourg.

Count Griffenfels also looked at the covered cart, and in spite of the depressing intelligence, and with a jocosity that he only spared for the military, inquired whether they were bringing him a present? One of the quartette, a young fellow with straw-coloured curls, and a long nose, modestly answered that the cart's contents were undoubtedly at my lord's disposal; and, in fact, as my lord could see, they were bringing it to the castle for his inspection; and my lord, reining his horse to the cart's tail, bent over his saddle, and, looking in, saw a man—the wreck of one at least. The exhaustion of ineffectual struggling had done its work. How could it be otherwise? One human creature, already weakened by cuts and bullet wounds, against four full-blooded young giants, and of a week's semi-starvation; and now their victim lay in a sleep, or it might be a swoon, bound hand and foot with a strong rope, passive, and worn to a shadow.

"A man?" said Count Griffenfels, not without astonishment.

"A 'patriot,' my lord," grinned the mercenaries.

"Oh, ho," laughed the count, letting his wolfish eyes consider the torn and dust-begrimed garments of their prize. "How do you know that? A patriot in velvet breeches? No, no; there's some mistake. This man's an aristocrat," he went on, glancing at the hands of the victim, one of which lay in a sling tied about his neck. "You infernal brigands!" he cried, fire flashing from his eyes. "What devil's work have you been doing? I tell you this man is no patriot; he is a—a gentleman."

"Only an imitation one, your Serenity," laughed the driver, who wore a long, ragged civilian's coat over his uniform, and a deplorably dilapidated slouch hat. "But Yéri here will tell you all about it."

And to the best of his ability Yéri told the tale as it had been told to him. Touton's villainous fabrication.

"Gott im Himmel!" swore Count Griffenfels, as Yéri was about to proceed to closer detail. "What do I want to hear more? Is it necessary to tell me he's no marquis, when you say that this person, the—the——"

"Valet, your Serenity."

"The valet heard him talk about the good work this accursed States-General was doing."

"About the equalisation of taxes. Yes, your Serenity," nodded Yéri.

"Barefaced imposture! In the meantime, where is the Marquis de Ravignac?"

"At his hotel in Paris, your Serenity."

"This vagabond certainly bears some resemblance to him," said the count, scrutinising more nearly the wan, still face through the rapidly increasing shadows of the night, "but not a close one. He could only have deceived fools. I have met the Marquis De Ravignac once or twice at his Majesty's levées."

"A handsome gentleman," observed Yéri. "So his valet said. And a brave one."

Count Griffenfels shrugged his shoulders with an air of cold contempt. He entertained as little admiration for the Marquis De Ravignac as he did for some others of what he considered the moderationist military and political leaders of the day; and his zealous indignation had been aroused now, not for the individual man, but against the insult offered to his order. "If I had been Monsieur De Ravignac, this villain should be rotting in the Bastille—I mean the Châtelet—long before now. As it is," he mentally added, "I suppose the Marquis De Ravignac should be consulted before he is ultimately disposed of. In the meantime—— Stay," he added aloud to the Royal Allemands, facing back towards the grim walls, "I will return with you; such a dangerous traitor needs special attention." And preceding the cortége till they reached the courtyard of the château, Count Griffenfels dismounted, and himself superintended the transportation of the cart's human burden down tortuous flights of dank stone steps, and along passages, growing as they descended narrower and lower, until at last he called a halt at a small iron door sunken into the massive stone wall, and taking the keys from one of his own people, whom he had summoned to attend him, he turned it in the huge padlock, and, thrusting back the heavy bolts, threw open the door.

"He will be safe here," said Count Griffenfels, signing to the Royal Allemands to deposit their load, along with the armful of straw which had been his bed in the cart, upon the floor, that reeked with livid stains of ooze from the swift rushing river beneath the tiny loophole of a window. One star—was it still that same north-westward one?—showed through its close grating, now dazzled out by the glare of the torch Count Griffenfels carried, and whose fitful light showed the bare walls of a dungeon scarcely eight feet square, whose sole furniture was a chair and a broken deal table. "So," said Count Griffenfels, when he had silently watched the untying of the cords, and the substitution of manacles about the feet and wrists of the captive, whose sole resistance was a groan now and again, "that will do for to-night. Directly I find a little leisure his case shall be considered."

Then having rewarded the Royal Allemands for their trouble, Count Griffenfels dismissed them, and having also in mind that which was to be had for the mere asking in the Rue de Richelieu, they jogged merrily on to Strasbourg.

But the prisoner they were shackling that sultry summer night was not so unconscious as Count Griffenfels imagined. Physically too weak to resist, his intellectual sense was fairly alive, and some ray of that undying heaven's gift called Hope broke over his dulled brain, as in some far-off way, like the echoes from another world, his ear caught the count's parting words, "When I have leisure." Surely that could come soon—to-morrow, or next day at latest—and then this hideous dreaming would be at an end. And the brave heart, for all its loathsome surroundings, was not appalled. The constitution of the man, naturally so sound, mentally and bodily, did not succumb. It lived on the memory of those words, and on the sour, black bread, of which there was less stint than inclination on his part to eat it, and on the turgid water of the river that rushed, never ceasing, beneath his prison walls.

He came in time to know where he was. So much his gaoler, whose face and bearing were the very embodiments of taciturnity and of impervious indifference, one day told him in hoarsely-whispered words, and with many a glance round, but he told him no more. And the heats of summer died, and in time the autumn-bared pine branches—he could see through his grating—wore their gracious snow covering, and the very turmoil of the river fell for awhile into silence. Then all awoke again in the happy spring tide, and still the lord of Griffenfels had not found his leisure—and the year faded again. How long, oh God—how long?

Time must have grown unendurable. Its awful monotony must have maddened him, and he must have perished in the first frost but for the coarse coverings of thick warm-knitted work the gaoler would silently fling on the cell floor. Huddled in these, he would sit mechanically watching the reptile creatures—pariahs among beasts and fishes—who came to be in some sort his friends; his brain starving but for the bitter food of memory, and for the old newspapers—weeks, sometimes even months old—tattered, beer-stained, thumb-smeared, and reeking with stale tobacco fumes, which now and again, as months crept on, that taciturn gaoler would leave upon the table, or drop on the cell floor, as if in absence of mind, when he brought him his pitcher of water and hunk of rye bread.

Strange names these old newspapers bore—new for the most part to the prisoner of the Griffenfels, but not all new. There was, for example, *Père Duchêne*, an acquaintance of years standing; but *Père Duchêne* wore so different a face, he would not have recognised it. One so hideous and foul, that Maurice De Ravignac would let the journal slip from his hands, and fall to wondering what manner of men its contributors could be like, whose pens were at once so facile and so corrupt? Heaven protect their fellow men from such as they were! Then there was the *Revolution of Paris*, which boasted its weekly sale of 200,000; and the *Sentinel*. But all too rarely the *Sentinel* penetrated the Griffenfels walls; perhaps because it shared the fate of its promoters, and pleased neither man nor master—demagogue nor royalist. Yet to that prisoner the rare visits of the Girondist *Sentinel* came indeed like those of angels, breathing words of purity and lofty thought, which always won the captive student's veneration, and often his love. Then, with the brilliancy of the antique world of Greece and Rome, flashed the wit of the *Lantern*, dazzlingly sarcastic, cruel sometimes in its mirth, and yet honest. Then the essence of all that was worst conspicuous by its lack of any of their elements of good in its companion journals—obscene as *Père Duchêne*, vain and noisy as the *Revolution of Paris*, all the despondency, and melancholy of the *Sentinel* dyed into black cynicism, the keen radiance of the *Lantern*, changed to livid exhalations from the cellars and caves of St. Marceau, was the journal of Marat, the all-potent *Friend of the People*. And again as De Ravignac read, his head would fall buried in his folded arms, and he would pray heaven to deliver his countrymen from friends and fathers like these.

In a strange, desultory, piecemeal, and distractingly bewildering way, he gathered from these old newspapers the march of events. How rapidly they went! Now it was the death of the mighty Mirabeau. Now of the flight of aristocrat men and women in mad haste across the frontiers. Now of combined preparation for attacking Paris. Then with what mingled emotions of indignation, and pity, of that suicidal bungling attempt at flight of the King and Queen, and their ignominious bringing back; and now of the cutting to pieces of the brave Swiss Guards!

One early autumn day, when the sun spread one chequered golden carpet through the grating on his dungeon floor, and the birds chirrupped and flew in and out of the pine branches, and up and up aloft into the cloudless blue, he chanced upon a tale of blood more fearsome than all; of how poor prisoners, on pretext of transportation from the Abbaye to other prisons, and even many pronounced free to return to their homes, were hewn in pieces as they issued from the gates. Patriots, royalists, "suspects," or "suspected of being suspects," men, women, priests, cut down with sabres, knives, hatchets, bayonets, any weapon whatsoever, provided it was sharp enough to hack and mangle. With blood now seething, now freezing in his veins, he read how these victims were torn limb from limb. Like one long pæan of triumph, the *Friend of the People* recorded the work of those five days—for so long the orgy lasted—and then held the like fate over all false patriots who should dare to protest against its horror.

The massacre had, as far as De Ravignac was able to gather from the torn and stained pages, been initiated by an attack on three or four coaches, which were carrying some priests to prison. Among these was one who would have perished under the sabre-thrust of the patriot hacking his random thrusts inside the vehicle, had it not been for a woman of the crowd who, catching sight of this old man's face, recognised him, and snatching the weapon from the patriot's hand, opened the coach door, and dragged the half-stunned priest to the ground, crying out that all the patriots in Paris were not worth this man's little finger. "Down with the aristocrat," yelled the disappointed citizen, recovering his sabre, and making a rush at the prostrate priest. "We'll have none of your priest vermin. He is ——"

"Uncle of the man," cried the citizeness, "who once called himself the Marquis De Ravignac! Now, citizens, touch him if you choose." They fell back, and as more than one of the nearest patriots lent their blood-dyed hands to raise the prostrate man, all the rest pushed on, shouting, "Long live Citizen Crassus!" and the liberated victim was lost in the surging mob.

De Ravignac clasped his hand across his half-blinded eyes, as though he were struggling to retain reason in his brain, so often now it seemed to him she was tottering. He read the words—the incident stood out in startling clearness before him, but cause and effect were not there. This woman, who was she? Ah, well, even that. The good bread Père Mathieu had cast upon the waters had returned to him in his hour of extremest peril; but Citizen Crassus, who was he? and what? No, the link failed him. Only thank God for the ray of happiness the sparing of that life shed into his desolate soul.

Yet had it been spared? Had this true shepherd of a Christian Church in the end escaped these butchers, or been re-captured? The prisoner turned the begrimed pages eagerly, but some parts were torn away, and much utterly illegible from the many hands it had passed through. There remained nothing more than a list, necessarily incomplete of the names of the slaughtered. More than one among them had belonged to the women who had made up that little Watteau bevy of shepherdesses on the day which shone like a star at midnight in his memory. But her name, the name of the woman he loved, of the wife of a day, was not there. His hope remained to him, and gathered strength, that she might have escaped to England, or across the Eastern frontiers; and the thought of her, which at first had driven him to frenzy, grew to be like a vision of heaven. Where was she? The rush of the river, the song of the birds, the echoes of his manacled feet upon the dungeon floor, all gave him their eternal, unchanging answer. True. True. Waiting for him—in this world? In one it might be brighter and lovelier, if that were possible, where the strife of tongues was silenced into perfect love and brotherhood. It might be there she was waiting, but waiting always; and with the strange—apathy call it, if so it seems to you, or resignation if you will, or the calmness of despair, which perhaps in truth it is, that gathers as mildew collects upon all neglected things around lonely hearts waiting other folks' leisure—he grew to be content, struggling to keep sense and life nerved and braced against that moment when he should be summoned before the tribunal of my lord of Griffenfels.

As well as he was able, he calculated time by the dates of those old newspapers; but that was no easy task. The journals fell into his hands in no order of sequence, and if he addressed a word to his silent gaoler, a frown was all his answer; while a significant glance or a gesture intimated that his comings and goings were closely watched; and that hanging on the nearest tree would be his portion if he were detected in the lending of his literature. Why did he do it? Was it all of sheer compassion? Well, the world is not destitute of that.

(*To be continued.*)

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FARMERS!!!
BUY YOUR SEEDS AT
GEORGE HOBSON'S
OLD-ESTABLISHED SEED WAREHOUSE,
HARPERLEY MILLS,
Near Annfield Plain, and
NEW STEAM MILLS, CATCHGATE.

THE quality of those Seeds has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturists in this District for upwards of 34 years, and, as proof of the manner in which the business has been conducted, the trade has steadily increased year by year, which speaks volumes in favour of G. H.'S Seeds, in the face of the very keen, and at the same time unfair competition which has been practiced during late years.

G. H. does not go from farm to farm to tell his Friends that he can do better than anyone in the trade; neither does he give Silver Cups as a bribe—which he need not say are to be paid for by parties purchasing the Seeds—but relies entirely on the past for the benefit of the future.

G. H. desires his friends before making their purchases or giving orders elsewhere, to come to his Seed Warehouse, and inspect his carefully-selected Stock Agricultural and Garden Seeds.

All the above Seeds are from the best growing districts in the world.

Purchasers can have the kinds and quantities properly mixed and packed up for each field, which is a great boon to farmers.

G. H. gives the same personal attention to the Mixtures for Permanent Pastures which have always given universal satisfaction.

Fine Spring Tares, Seed Peas, Oats, Barley, Potatoes, and also Artificial Manure always in Stock. 95p

---

MITCHELL'S KING OF WASHERS
AT
SWEEPING REDUCTIONS ON LAST YEAR'S PRICES.

Delight and astonish your friends at home by taking them one of MITCHELL'S PATENT STEAM WASHERS, for by it—

Ladies' dressed may wash with ease,
On Parlour Tables if they please;
A fortnight's washing in an hour,
By steam's efficient, matchless power.

J. MITCHELL,
126, WESTGATE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

☞ Laundries Built, and Bleaching Greens fitted up on the most efficient and labour-saving system known.

DENTISTRY.
SUPERIOR DENTISTRY AND REASONABLE CHARGES.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH from 3s. to 5s.; complete Upper or Lower Sets, containing 14 teeth, 30s. to 50s.; a perfect fit; and all work guaranteed and warranted for five years.

MONS. VAN GELDEREN,
SURGEON DENTIST,
17, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE.

LOOK HERE!
LOOK HERE!!
LOOK HERE!!!

☞ COME TO CONSETT AT LAST ☜

THE CELEBRATED
NABOB INDIAN TEA!

THE Rare Quality and the Delicious Flavour which has obtained for it an immense Sale in every large Town in this Kingdom.

THE FAR-FAMED
CHALENGE CUP
INDIAN PEKOE!
3s. PER POUND.

ONE of the greatest boons ever introduced to the Hard-working Classes of this Country, because for its Strength and the Invigorating Properties it contains it has no equal.

ALSO, THE
NATIONAL INDIAN TEA!
2s. PER POUND.

TRULY a marvel at the Price. These Teas are in ¼lb. and ½lb. Packets. Ask for one on trial and you will never change.

SOLD WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BY
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
GROCER, TEA DEALER, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANT,
CONSETT AND LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

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

NEWCASTLE to AMERICA for £4 10s. EVERY TUESDAY.—Apply for Berths to JAMES DALY, 2, Shakespeare Street, Consett; THOMAS ERRINGTON, Post Office, Carrville; J. MACKAY, Burns, Chester-le-Street; JOHN HILLARY, Auctioneer, Tow Law; and GEO. ALDERSON, 7, Middle Row, Sunniside. 398q

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EMIGRANTS BOOKED to all Parts of AMERICA, also to AUSTRALIA. Best Accommodation, at Lowest Rates. Great reduction in Assisted Passages to Canada for Mechanics, Navvies, General Labourers and their Families. Government Forms suitable for the Assisted Passages, to be had Gratis, with all other necessary information, from JOSEPH WETHERALL, Emigration Agent, Oxhill, Chester-le-Street. 524q

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JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly and on reasonable terms. 822p

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

GEORGE PATTON,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, BRASS FOUNDER, &c.
Has Removed from opposite entrance to Central Station to Premises adjoining entrance to Gas Office,
NEVILLE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

ROBERT BROWN, METHEL, & CO,
NURSERY AND SEEDSMEN,
214, NEW MARKET, NEWCASTLE.

☞ Trees, Potatoes, and Plants, Garden, Grass, Clover, Turnip, Mangold, and all other Seeds on hand.

MARCH BREWINGS.

JOHN AITCHISON AND CO.,
BREWERS,
EDINBURGH.

Offices and Stores—
Lisle Street, Newcastle,
396q JOHN BORTHWICK, Agent.

REVELY AND KELL,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

BEG to announce that they have removed their Business from Mosley Street to more Commodious Premises.

No. 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET. 764o
NEWCASTLE.

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN 920p

STATIONERY! STATIONERY!
Of every description, may be had of
JASPER COCKBURN,
BOOKSELLER, BOOKBINDER, NEWSAGENT, AND CONFECTIONER,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
Printing executed on the Shortest Notice.

☞ Agent for the Eureka Spectacles, unsurpassed for ease and comfort.

P.S.—Books not in Stock can be had at Two Days' Notice

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET
STREET, CONSETT.

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

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

CARRIAGES.

MESSRS. ATKINSON and PHILIPSON announce with pleasure that the Carriages exhibited by them at the recent Sportsman's Show, as also at the Crystal Palace, have received the highest approval of the Press. Amongst many influential journals may be mentioned "The Court Circular," "Bell's Life," "The Civil Service Gazette," "The Country Gentleman," "Land and Water," "European Mail," &c., &c., &c., which comment on their exhibit.

"Court Circular," Feb. 11, 1882.—"It is impossible to conceive a more suitable vehicle."

"Anglo-American Times," Feb. 17, 1882.—"The most exquisite and facile carriage of its kind that we have seen."

"Country Gentleman," Feb. 11, 1882.—"Finished in a most elaborate manner. Quite the neatest equipage of its sort we have seen."

NORTHUMBERLAND CARRIAGE AND HARNESS MANUFACTORY,
7, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Illustrated Catalogues free on application.

A. and P. invite an inspection of several Novelties in Light Summer Carriages, just brought out. 216q

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NON-ALCOHOLIC.

SPARKLING PHOSPHATED IRON
BEVERAGE
FERROPHOSPHADE.
A TRUE BRAIN AND NERVE TONIC.

MANUFACTURED BY
CURRY, CHEMIST, CONSETT.

☞ Sold in Half-Pint Champagne Bottles (Silver Foil) 3s. 6d per dozen; Pint Champagne Bottles, 5s. per dozen. Delivered Free. 519q

Business Announcements.

A. B. DAVIDSON,
MARINE SURVEYOR,
COMMISSION AND INSURANCE AGENT,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
Agent for Avon Mills Rubber Factory,
Lloyds' Agent, 572q
19, DEAN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON

TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and SPLITTING MILLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.

Try the EXCELLO HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.

Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.

HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, and
NEW STEAM MILLS, CATCHGATE.
ESTABLISHED 1817.

Agent for the Live-Stock Condiment Company's CHAMPION SPICE, for Horses, Cattle Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Poultry, Game, Stacking Hay &c. 390e

Contracts.

TANFIELD DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS WANTED, for PAINTING Business Premises and Cottages, belonging to the above Society, at Tantobie.

Specifications to be seen on the Premises, on application to the Manager, until June 6th, 1882.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

562q W. ARMSTRONG, Secretary.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are requested for the various Works required in the ERECTION of a NEW AISLE and ORGAN CHAMBER, and Alterations to the Chancel at Benfieldside Church.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at Mr. COLLINSON'S, Shotley Bridge, on and after the 23rd inst., from whom Bills of Quantities will be obtainable.

Tenders will be received by Messrs. QUILTER and HARDCASTLE, 10, Brunswick Square, London, W.C., for the whole or any portion of the work, up to the 31st inst. One guinea will be charged for a copy of the bills of quantities, returnable on the receipt of a *bona-fide* Tender. 551q

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

Public Notices.

116 IS the Winning Number of the WATCH drawn for on May 3rd, 1882, at JAMES LEES, 38, Annfield Place. 569q

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STANLEY HORSE RACING and other SPORTS, held July 15th, 1882. Racing as follows:—Steeplechase, Flat Race, and Consolation Race. 565q

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NOTICE.—The GAME on Newbiggin Farm is strictly preserved. Trespassers will be prosecuted. —J. W. ARMSTRONG. 454q

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LOOK out for the LEAZES DISTRICT BAND OF HOPE UNION TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION, on May 27th, 1882, in the neighbourhood of Burnopfield. 268q

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TO COWKEEPERS, FARMERS, and OTHERS. —That superior Short-horn BULL, "Surly," the property of J. W. ARMSTRONG, Newbiggen Farm, will serve Cows at 5s. each. 527q

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THE SYCAMORES, ROWLEY.

NOTICE!—The GAME upon this Estate is now strictly preserved.
January 2nd, 1882.

NOTICE

THE GAME upon the South Medomsley Colliery and High Stables Farm is now strictly preserved. All Persons found Trespassing will be summarily dealt with. 540q

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LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT!!

GRAND GALA, at the Spa Grounds, Shotley Bridge, Saturday, July 15th, under the auspices of the Blackhill Teetotal Brass Band. 575q

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STAGSHAWBANK FAIR.

MR. MOIR'S BRAKE will leave Front Street, Consett, on Saturday, May 27th, 1882, at Six o'clock in the Morning, for Stagshawbank Fair. 493q

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STAGSHAWBANK FAIR.

A BRAKE will leave Mr. CHRISTOPHER'S Livery Stables, Consett, on Saturday, May 27th, 1882, at Six o'clock in the Morning, for Stagshawbank Fair.

SHOTLEY HALL GARDENS.

THESE Gardens and Pleasure Grounds, replete with every sylvan beauty, will be OPENED for the Season, on Whit-Monday. Hothouses open as usual.
☞ Admission, Threepence. 539q

NOTICE.

THE Game upon Medomsley East House and Allendale Farms is strictly preserved.—Dogs found on these Farms will be destroyed, and all Persons found Trespassing will be prosecuted. 363p

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CENTRAL HALL, BENFIELDSIDE.

A PARKER respectfully announces that he will hold A PUBLIC BALL, in the above Hall, on the Evening of Whit-Monday, May 29th, 1882. Dancing to commence at Nine o'clock. Admission:—Ladies, 6d. each; Gentlemen, 1s. 574q

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CASTLESIDE CHURCH.
SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

TWO SERMONS will be Preached on Whit-Sunday, by the Rev. D. BRYSON. Collections in aid of the Sunday School. On Whit-Monday a Public TEA will be held in a Field at Mosswood. Tickets 9d. each. All are invited. 561q

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS or DEMANDS against the Late DEBORAH HUNTER, of Medomsley, in the County of Durham, Widow, who died on or about the Sixth day of January, 1882, are requested to send particulars of their Claims to me, the undersigned, on or before the 20th day of July next, in order that the same may be examined, and, if found correct, discharged,
JOHN ALLISON, Hamsterly Mill, Lintz Green.
Executor to the above Estate.
May 25th, 1882. 567q

TEMPERANCE HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

AN ALLIANCE MEETING, under the auspices of the Shotley Bridge Temperance Society, will be held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Friday, June 2nd, 1882, in which the following Gentlemen have promised to take part:—Councillor ROBERT SWAN, Sunderland; Rev. N. FYSH, Sunderland; Rev. WILLIAM BAITEY, Blackhill; Rev. HENRY SMITH, Shotley Bridge; Rev. E. W. JENKINS, Highgate, and others. Chair to be taken at 7·30, by CHARLES WILSON, Esq., Shotley Park. Admission Free. 562q

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NOTICE.—The FIRST ANNUAL BALANCE SHEET of the First Shotley Bridge and District 370th STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY will be ready for Members at the Office on Tuesday, 30th inst, or of the Secretary. Members requesting one sent by post charged 2d. as per Rule 33.

Also, SECOND APPROPRIATION of £100, FOR SALE, by Tender. Tenders to be sent in not later than the 14th June. Minimum price, £12 10s. for immediate payment; deferred payment, £25 10s. Addressed Tender for Appropriation.

Yearly Meeting 7th June, at 7·30 p.m. at the Office.
JOHN GIBBINSON, Secretary, Shotley Bridge.
May 24th, 1882. 553q

Public Notices.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

ON SUNDAY, May 28th, an Excursion Train will leave Benfieldside for LONDON, returning on Tuesday, May 30th.

For particulars see Company's Bills.—By order.
Newcastle, May, 1882. 548q

THOROUGHBRED STUD HORSES
At Woodlands Stud, Knitsley Station.

MACGREGOR, 16 h.h., winner of 2,000 Gs., and sire of many winners, at 10 gs.

CLAREMONT, 16·1 h.h., second in Derby, and sire of Candahar and many winners at Royal and other shows, at 5 gs.

ARGYLE, 16·1 h.h., sire of many winners both on turf and in hunting classes at shows, 5 gs.

Both Claremont and Argyle have immense bone and substance.—Apply to Mr. HAANSBERGEN. 205q

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LANCHESTER COMMON SURFACE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING
In support of the Association, will be held
IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CONSETT,
ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 31st,
At Half-past Seven o'clock.

C. D. W. BALLENY, } Secretaries.
R. G. BARCLAY,

Consett, 18th May, 1882. 537q

WESLEYAN
SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, CONSETT.

SERMONS on Whit-Sunday. Morning—Rev. H. SMITH, Evening—Mr. THOMPSON, of Newcastle. In the Afternoon Mr. THOMPSON will Address the Parents and Friends. Portions of Scripture and Catechism will be repeated, and Selected Hymns sung by the Children and Choir. A Collection at each Service.

On Whit-Monday, TEA will be provided in Gibson Street School-room, from Three to Half-past Four o'clock. The Scholars and Teachers will walk in procession from the Schools to a Field near Derwent Cottages (kindly lent by Mr. A. Shaw) at Three o'clock. Tickets for Tea and Field, 1s.; Field only, 6d.; Children, Half-price. 555q

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HASWELL MEMORIAL WESLEYAN CHAPEL, BURNOPFIELD.

A GRAND BAZAAR will be opened by WILLIAM COATES, Esq., of Newcastle, on Whit-Monday, May 29th, 1882, in the Co-Operative Hall, Burnopfield, at Two o'clock.

Tea and Refreshments will be provided at moderate charges.

Revs. G. H. BELLAMY, J. DUFF, and Mr. ELLIOTT, of Swalwell, and other Gentlemen will take part in the Opening Service. A String Band will be in attendance. Pianist, Mr. SURTEES, of Consett.

The Bazaar will be continued on Tuesday Afternoon and Evening. Proceeds towards reduction of the Chapel Debt. 554q

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SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

WHIT-MONDAY AND TUESDAY, MAY 29th and 30th, 1882.

THESE Grounds will be open as usual to the Public when the following additions will be made to the general programme of Games, Music, &c., &c.

A CRICKET MATCH
Between the Newcastle United Challenge Club and a Scratch Team.

GRAND BICYCLE CONTESTS.

On the Monday there will be a Five Miles Bicycle Race. Open to Amateurs. Prizes:—1st, £1 5s.; 2nd, 17s. 6d.; 3rd, 10s. Entrance 2s.

Also, a Three Miles Bicycle Race. Open to Amateurs. Prizes:—1st, £1; 2nd, 12s. 6d.; 3rd, 7s. 6d. Entrance 2s.

On the Tuesday, there will be a Three Miles Bicycle Race. Open to the Members of the Shotley Bridge Amateur Bicycle Club. Prizes:—1st, £1; 2nd, 12s. 6d.; 3rd, 10s. Entrance, 2s.

Also, a Slow Bicycle Race of One Mile. Open to all. 1st Prize, 5s. Entrance 6d.

☞ All the above (except the last) to be run in heats, to commence each day at Two p.m.

Entries to be made to Mr. T. LING, Shotley Bridge, Handicapper, by Monday Morning's Post at latest.

There will also be exhibited during the day Three Specimens of the BRITISH BADGER, caught near Broad Oak, Ebchester, for which a small charge will be made.

The BENFIELDSIDE BRASS BAND, Leader, Mr. CAYGILL, will Play Selections of Music each day.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.
ADMISSION, TWOPENCE EACH.
564q WILSON BROS., Lessees.

THE CONSETT
NEW TOWN HALL COMPANY,
LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies' Acts, 1862 and 1880, whereby a Shareholder's Liability is strictly limited to the Amount of his Shares.

CAPITAL, £5,000, IN 5,000 SHARES OF £1 EACH.

PAYABLE:—On Application, 1s.; on Allotment, 4s.

The Balance will be payable in Instalments of not more than 5s. each, at intervals of not less than three months; but it is estimated that the whole of the Capital will not be required.

If no Allotment be made the deposit will be returned in full; and should the Shares applied for exceed the number to be allotted, the proportionate amount will be returned.

DIRECTORS.
W. JENKINS, Esq., J.P., General Manager of Consett Iron Co., Limited, Chairman.
Rev. F. STEGGALL, Vicar of Consett.
W. R. TAYLOR, Esq., Land Owner, Staniforđam, Consett.
W. AYNSLEY, Esq., Provision Merchant, Consett.
J. T. POTTS, Esq., Draper, Consett.
C. P. DOUGLAS, Esq., Engineer, Consett.
G. AINSWORTH, Esq., Analyst, Consett.
W. SHELL, Esq., Builder, Consett.
J. W. DAVISON, Esq., Ironmonger, Consett.

BANKERS.
NORTH-EASTERN BANKING COMPANY LIMITED, (Consett Branch), Consett.

SECRETARY.
THOMAS WILLIAM WELFORD, Jun., Esq., Consett.

AUDITOR.
ADAM BRODIE, Esq., Consett.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.
PARLIAMENT STREET, CONSETT.

THE object for which the Company is established is the Building of a Town Hall and Premises for business and other purposes.

The want of a Public Hall in Consett has long been felt, and the Directors are prepared to take a large number of Shares.

The Hall will be capable of seating about 800 persons. There will also be a large Ante-room so as to render the Hall suitable for Concerts, &c. This Ante-room can also be used as a Committee-room; for Science or other Classes; Choral Societies, &c.

It is proposed to arrange premises under the Town Hall to be Let if thought desirable for the purposes of a Reading-room; and other rooms for the use of Benefit Societies, Library, &c. In connection with these there will be accommodation for providing Refreshments, &c., of a non-intoxicating character. This will also be available for the General Public frequenting the Town Hall.

The Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association, together with the Agreement entered into with the Consett Iron Company, Limited, may be seen at the Registered Offices of the Company, Parliament Street, Consett.

☞ Forms of Application for Shares may be had at the Company's Offices; or at the North-Eastern Bank, Consett. 457q

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Resumption of Business.

ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Valuer, and Commission Agent, respectfully informs his numerous Friends and Clients that he is now SUFFICIENTLY RECOVERED from his Accident to undertake any Commissions with which they may favour him, and hopes for a continuance of the liberal patronage bestowed upon him for so many years.

SALES BY AUCTION CONDUCTED AS USUAL, in the best style, and on reasonable terms.

HOUSE and ESTATE AGENCY undertaken, and A. B. may also be consulted daily in respect to Commercial Business of every description.

Offices—Town Hall, Consett. 359p

East Parade, Consett.—Valuable Well-built and Commodious Freehold Dwelling-house for Sale.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to Offer for SALE BY AUCTION, at the house of Mr. GEORGE BROWN, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Thursday, June 1st, 1882, at Half-past Seven o'clock in the Evening, and subject to conditions to be then and there produced and read, all that Valuable Well-built and Commodious Modern

FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE,

At present occupied by Mrs. Atkinson, and containing on the Ground Floor, Drawing-room, Breakfast-room, Kitchen, Scullery, and Washhouse; on the First Floor, 3 good Bed-rooms; Bath-room, and Large Attic, with Dormer Window above; together with W.C., and all the usual Out-offices and Convenience, and neat Flower Garden in front, the whole having been built and finished in the best style as a private residence by the late Owner.

The attention of Property buyers is directed to this valuable lot, as this is an opportunity which seldom occurs of securing a really substantial Dwelling-house, well-finished and fitted up, and situate in a respectable and quiet locality. Possession may be had at an early date.

Further particulars may be had on application to the AUCTIONEER, at his Office, in the Town Hall, Consett; from J. M. L. CRIDDLE, Esq., Solicitor, 54, Westgate Road, Newcastle; or from T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Esq., Solicitor, Consett. 625q

Sherburn Terrace, Consett.—Well and Substantially-built and Pleasantly-situate Freehold-house for Sale.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to offer for SALE BY AUCTION, at the house of Mr. GEORGE BROWN, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Thursday, June 1st, 1882, at Half-past Seven o'clock in the Evening (immediately after the Sale of the Property in East Parade, as advertised above) and subject to conditions to be then and there produced and read, all that well and Substantially-built

FREEHOLD HOUSE,

Situate in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, and containing Kitchen, Parlour, and 3 good Bed-rooms, with Yard and all Out-offices and Convenience, as at present occupied by Mr. Arthur Jackson, Schoolmaster.

This Valuable Freehold Dwelling-house is pleasantly situate in a respectable neighbourhood and is well worthy attention.

For particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, at his Office, Town Hall, Consett. 563q

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

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

By Mr. J. Oley.

Shotley Hall Gardens.

MR. J. OLEY, commissioned by J. CROZIER, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Saturday, May 27th, 1882, at Three p.m., a quantity of BEDDING PLANTS, consisting of Geraniums; Calceolaria; Pansies; Lobelia; Echeveria; Stocks; Asters; Marigolds, &c. &c.

Also, a few Specimen Zonal Geraniums, Ferns, and Orchids. 532q

Castleside.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, instructed by the Representatives of the late R. B. RITSON, Esq., deceased, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Castleside, on Saturday, 3rd day of June, 1882, the whole of his Valuable Household FURNITURE, BOOKS, &c.

SITTING-ROOM.—Mahogany Secretaire and Bookcase; Centre Table and Damask Table Cover; Walnut Couch, in Green Damask; 6 Walnut Chairs, in Damask; Lady and Gentleman's Easy Chairs, in Damask, to match; Oak Folding Tea Table, with Cover American Clock; Pier Glass, 3ft. by 3½ft., in Gilt Frame; Mahogany Cornice Pole and Rings; Double-wick Table Lamp; 5 beautiful Pictures, in Gilt Frames; Kidderminster Carpet and Hearth Rug; Passage Oilcloth; 3 Door Mats; Steel Fender and Fireirons; Ash Pan and Fire Guard.

No. 1 BED-ROOM.—Set of Mahogany Drawers; Set of Painted Drawers; Iron Tester Bedstead, with Hangings and Spring Pillows; Hair Mattress; Set of Feather Pillows; Dressing Table and Washstand; Towel Rail; Toilet Glass and Ware; Slop Pail; Mahogany Night Commode; Mahogany Cornice Pole and Rings; 2 Steel Engravings, in Gilt Frames; Carpet and Hearth Rug; Fender and Fireirons and Fire Guard.

No. 2 BED-ROOM.—Painted Chest of Drawers; Iron Bedstead and Mattress; Dressing Table and Washstand; Toilet Glass and Ware; Clothes Basket; Stair Carpet and Brass Rods.

THE KITCHEN FURNITURE comprises—Press Cupboard; Kitchen and other Tables; 4 Kitchen Chairs; Arm Chair; Iron Bed; Chair, with Cushions; 24 Hours' Clock, in Oak Case; Glass, China, and other Ware, including Dinner Set complete; China Breakfast Set; Bread Rack; Kitchen Oilcloth, new, containing 9 square yards, Britannia Metal Bed-room and other Candlesticks; Double-wick Kitchen Lamp; Kitchen Fender, Fireirons, and Tidy, with all the Cooking Utensils including Tea Kettles, Frying and other Pans; also, a Patent WRINGER and MANGLING MACHINE, Poss-tub and Staff; Coal Box, &c.

Also, a splendid BLACK RETRIEVER DOG and Dog Kennel.

Sale to commence at One o'clock p.m. 531q

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

By Messrs. NICHOLSON & MURRAY,

Fortnightly Sale of Horses, Cows, Grazing Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Carts, Harness, Implements, Sundries, &c., &c.

MESSRS. WILLIAM NICHOLSON and J. S. MURRAY intend to OPEN and carry on an AUCTION MART for the SALE of the aforementioned articles, at the Royal Hotel, Benfieldside, the First Sale to be held on Monday, June 5th, 1882, at One o'clock p.m.

PRESENT ENTRIES.

10 Calving Cows and Heifers.
20 Bullocks and Heifers, one to two-years-old.
4 Fat Cattle.
20 Pigs.
Several Fat Sheep and Lambs.
4 Horses.
1 Dog Cart.
1 Sociable Phaeton.
1 Waggonette, with Shafts, Pole, and Bar, and Cover to take off.
1 Four-wheeled Dog Cart.
1 Phaeton, nearly new.
1 Whitechapel, to carry four.
2 Sets of Silver-mounted Harness.
1 Set of Pony Silver-mounted Harness.
2 Sets of Cart Harness, full size.
1 Saddle and Bridle, nearly new.
Stable Sundries.
6 Whips.
Several lots of Timber, Iron, &c., suitable for Farmers, Builders, &c.

Entries received by Mr. WM. NICHOLSON, Auctioneer; Mr. JOHN NICHOLSON, Cattle Dealer; Mr. JOHN S. MURRAY, Consett; and Mr. RICHARD MURRAY, Benfieldside.

Entries solicited to be in time for insertion in next week's "Guardian." 555q

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Raw.

54, Durham Road, Blackhill.

A Valuable Stock of Millinery and Drapery Goods for Sale by Public Auction.

MR. W. RAW will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, a Valuable Stock of MILLINERY and DRAPERY GOODS, in his Sale Rooms, lately occupied by Mr HOLMES, and removed there for the convenience of Sale, on Saturday, June 3rd, 1882, comprising over 100 Trimmed Hats and Bonnets; about 200 Untrimmed Hats and Bonnets; Silk and Satin Trimmings; Ribbons; Feathers, &c.; Ladies' Stockings, and Children's Socks; Shawls and Shawletts; Scarfs and Ties; Knitting Wools and Cottons; Reels, &c.; Dress Pieces comprise Lustres, Black and Coloured; Prints, Calicoes, Crapes, &c.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock p.m.

N.B.—The Stock is good, and must be cleared out without reserve. 571q

Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill, Co. Durham.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

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

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

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Mr. Thomas M. Dawson.

"The" Auction Rooms, 9, Market Street (few doors from Theatre Royal), Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THOMAS M. DAWSON (late Manager for Mr. W. Easten, Auctioneer, deceased), has pleasure in intimating that he will hold his usual Weekly SALE BY AUCTION, at above address, on Friday, 2nd June, 1882, of New and Second-hand FURNITURE and other Miscellaneous EFFECTS, including Pictures, Draperies, Furnishing Ironmongery, Boots and Shoes; Gold and Silver Watches, Books, Groceries, &c., together with other Specialities, which will be duly advertised in order of arrival.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

N.B.—The Rooms are now open for the reception of Consignments of every description of Goods. The position of "The" Auction Room ensures a large attendance of buyers, and also a fair auction price, and, if preferred, the Auctioneer will purchase and take the risk upon himself. Cash advanced. Prompt settlements.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A RATEPAYER.—You will observe in another column two letters on "the election of Guardians for Collierley and Pontop." These letters are sufficient to "ventilate" the subject as you state.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAY 26th, 1882.

PASSING NOTES:

By "RAMBLER."

The responsibilities of Local Boards are much heavier than I imagined. Mr Fegan, of Derwent Street, Blackhill, has it appears, had his health seriously impared by an inundation of his cellar, and in a letter addressed to the Benfieldside Local Board, he claims compensation. His letter was referred to the Sanitary Committee.

I saw in your last week's issue that the Fever Hospital is not to be quite so near Consett as it was rumoured, and I am glad that the rumour was incorrect.

The Directors of the Consett Town Hall Company, Limited, are to be congratulated on having received so many excellent plans for their intended building. I hear that many of the shares are being taken up by gentlemen residing out of the district. The Consettonians should make sure of a few shares before they are at a premium.

The members of the Lanchester Common Surface Owners' Association have good grounds, it seems, for prosecuting the object of the Association. That was an excellent case in point, of which you had a report in last week's *Guardian*, and the verdict in favour of the property owner is in harmony with the views of the members. Their Lordships decided "that the defendants were not entitled to work the mine without leaving any support for the surface."

I wonder who is responsible for the carting of the ashes and other filth from the ashpits at Blackhill to the Tinmill pit heap. The depot which is being formed there is most detrimental to the health of the inhabitants of Blackhill and Consett. The effluvia arising from it in dry weather is almost unbearable, and if rain falls the filth will flow away and carry in its course the seeds of disease all over Blackhill. It is high time such disregard for the health of the inhabitants was put a stop to. Where is the Inspector of Nuisances?

Some members of Friendly Societies—I won't say all—are of opinion that no man should enter more than one Registered Society; "as it is believed to be opposed to the interests of Benefit Societies generally for some men to be entitled to such large benefits when sick or lame. From practical experience many officers can testify that the inducement to impose, brought about by men being better off when on the clubs than when working, causes them in many instances to remain on the books much longer than they otherwise would, and as certificates are frequently given without the would-be patient having been seen by the doctor, these documents do not afford sufficient protection against imposition." This is rather a strong indictment to bring against respectable working men; but the parties who make such a charge are evidently in earnest as they intend to hold a meeting at Backworth to bring the matter before members of Friendly Societies. I may be wrong but my impression is that a large majority of the members of Friendly Societies are members of more than one society, so that it will prove impossible for the promoters of this movement to carry their point. The rules of all societies limit the number of societies any member may join; but I have yet to learn that the amount received from one society is sufficient for a man and his family, or that the amount received as sick money from two societies would prove a sufficient inducement to any man to continue "sick" or "on the books" any longer than absolutely necessary.

The compliment to a late member of the Benfieldside Local Board—Mr Charles Wilson, of Shotley Park—so heartily accorded by the Board was a redeeming feature in your reports of Local Board proceedings. This is much more pleasant reading than the "scenes" which sometimes occur to mar the deliberations of our local parliaments. I cordially endorse the action of the Benfieldside Local Board, and while I regret to learn that Mr Wilson has retired from the deliberations of the Board, I was glad to note the kindly manner in which his late colleagues spoke of his services.

"Incedo" states that complaints are common of the wanton manner in which flower plots are robbed and destroyed; and that the guilty parties were ironworkers. I am sorry to say that it is but "the old, old story." For years this wanton and destructive habit has been common in Consett, and the general opinion is that those guilty of such dastardly tricks are ironworkers returning from the "night shift." This was once proved to me conclusively by a gentleman who at that time was the proprietor of a garden, and who traced the footprints of the vagabonds for a considerable distance. It is very annoying to those who spend so much time in gardening to have their labours so ruthlessly destroyed, and I trust that the scoundrels will be caught and made an example of.

I don't know whether the committee of the Consett Choral Society are responsible for the arrangements for the Promenade Concert held in the Wesleyan Schools, Gibson Street, on Monday evening last; but the din from first to last of the "Promenade" was something fearful. The noise and "clatter" of some person or persons in the adjoining room who, I suppose, was preparing the supper was most distressing to all who patronised the concert. Neither lecturer nor singers could be heard to advantage; in fact several times the only indications that the lecture was being delivered were the movements of the lips of the speaker. I hope that the committee of the Choral Society will make better arrangements in future, and that they will pay more respect to the comfort of the lecturer and his hearers.

I have heard several complaints from persons passing down Delves Lane of the great waste of time occasioned by the enginemen stopping their engines at the "crossing," and although several pedestrians may be anxiously waiting to cross the line but small attention is paid to them. I trust this hint will prove sufficient.

I regret to learn that the Miners' Permanent Relief Fund is not so well supported as it ought to be. The late explosions in this neighbourhood have, no doubt, severely strained its funds; but thanks to the noble efforts of the Bishop of Durham and other gentlemen, an attempt is to be made to replenish the coffers of the Fund, so that the great advantages hitherto conferred on the families of those members who have unfortunately lost their lives are to be continued. The Miners' Permanent Relief Fund is worthy of the liberal support of all, and I trust that the endeavours of these gentlemen will be crowned with success.

The holidays question has at length come more into prominence, and I notice that several large employers of labour are opposing the general holiday which was this year given in Newcastle, on account of the May-day procession of horses, &c. I do not wonder at this. It is a singular thing that all holidays to apprentices occur in the beginning of the year; frequently at a time when but very indifferent weather may be expected. What is required is that the holidays should prove beneficial to the employed at the least possible sacrifice to employers. Some time ago many of the leading tradesmen in Newcastle presented a memorial to the Mayor, requesting him to recommend that the following holidays be generally kept in that town:—New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, (Bank Holiday), Whit-Monday (Bank Holiday), Race Wednesday (from one o'clock), Race Thursday (from one o'clock), and Christmas Day and day following. The Mayor approved of the holidays selected, and recommended that they might be adopted in the town. The May-day holiday is an additional one, and it falls at a very bad time for Newcastle tradesmen. The Newcastle Hirings and term days both occur on that day, and to devote that day to a holiday is ruinous to tradesmen. Besides the weather at May-day is not always so mild and genial as it was this year, and my impression is that the August Bank Holiday (first Monday in August) is a more suitable time both for a holiday and holding the Procession. The holiday question needs some consideration here as well as in Newcastle, and the tradesmen should come to some decision as to the days on which holidays should be given.

In passing along Middle Street, Consett, on Wednesday afternoon, I was struck with the improvements which are being carried on by, I suppose, the Local Board. The footpath on the principal side of the street is being widened and cemented, while the other side adjacent to the Iron Company's cottages seems almost to have been finished. I say *almost*; for I noticed that while the footpaths had apparently been cemented for a few days one portion of it in front of a boot and shoe shop and a public-house was left in a most disgraceful state. What the object of the contractors or Local Board Surveyor can be to leave one side of the street in such a state, and commence with the other puzzles me. However, there is no mistake but that the widening of the footpath was a necessity, and I trust that the ratepayers will have no cause to regret the outlay. I know of no town where greater improvements have taken place within the last twenty years, and much credit is due to the members of your local parliament for the manner in which they carry out all that pertains to the welfare of your rising town. If the other side of the street could be studded with places of business as well, it would be a capital thing, and I am not without hope that such will be the case in a few years.

CONSETT WATER SHARES.—On Tuesday night Mr T. Wetherall offered for sale in the Three Tuns Inn, Durham, 46 £5 shares in the Consett Water Company, and they were bought by Mr Calvert, of Consett, for £5 each.

ECHOES FROM BLACKHILL.

[BY INCEDO.]

There is an impression current in this district that if the Consett Corps of the Salvation Army could be induced to forego the pleasures of drum, trombone, and bugle, for at least one day in seven they would thereby confer an inestimable boon on the public. Complaints have been made from time to time through the medium of this journal relative to the annoyance to which worshippers were subjected during divine service by the strains of martial music. Strange to tell the evil has not been removed, the Salvationists not having deigned to give the matter a passing thought. This is remarkable to say the least of it. I had no idea that within the radius of society was a body of people with even the outward semblance of respectability—to say nothing of those who profess to be followers of Christ—so utterly wanting in those characteristics which are the fruit of civilization. No sane person, nor number of persons, would persist in doing that which they knew to be obnoxious to their fellow-citizens. Last Sunday in at least one Church at Blackhill the voice of the preacher was well nigh drowned by the familar strains of "Love at home," and "Lift up the banner on high." To the juvenile portion of a congregation such a variation may indeed seem novel, but people of maturer years will hardly relish the change. 'Tis said there is a time for every thing under the sun. Surely then the Salvation Army might find ample scope for band practice within the limit of six days. They ought to be the last to break the quietude of the Sabbath. I have no desire to say anything disparaging of the Hallelujah warriors. They have done a deal of good in this as well as other districts, but numerically powerful although they are, they cannot afford to disregard the voice of the public. This is how I narrow down the question. If a fellow were to persist in blowing a trumpet at my ear to the danger of bursting the drum thereof, simply because it afforded him gratification, I should set him down as a selfish knave. Will the Salvationists persist then, in annoying the Christian public, or will they hang their trumpets in the Hall on Sunday, and worship God modestly one day in seven. I see by the *War Cry* that the Army is a paying concern. At the opening of a training barracks at Lower Clapton last week it is asserted that the great general was literally pelted with gold. £4,000 is pretty good remuneration for an evening's work.

Local and District News.

LOCAL PETITION.—In the House of Commons on Monday night, a petition against the opening of Museums on Sundays was presented by Mr C. M. Palmer from Consett.

BANK HOLIDAY.—Whit-Monday, 20th inst., being a Bank Holiday, the County Court Office, Consett, will be closed. The Banks at Consett and Shotley Bridge will also be closed on that day.

LANCHESTER COMMON SURFACE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION.—Another highly-successful gathering in connection with this Association was held at Mr. Longstaff's Masons' Arms, Leadgate, last night (Thursday), particulars of which we reserve till next week.

ERRATUM.—Mr J. Fegan asks us to state that the amount claimed from the Benfieldside Local Board, for the flooding of his cellar was £11 4s. (at the rate of 14s per week for 16 weeks) and not £3 16s. as reported last week.

THE DERBY, 1882.—This great race took place on Wednesday last and and resulted as follows:—Shotover, 1st; Quicklime, 2nd; Sacham, 3rd. The time of the race as taken by BENSON'S CHRONOGRAPH was 2 minutes 45 3·5 seconds. Time last year 2 minutes 50 seconds.

DURHAM SCHOOLMASTERS' CERTIFICATE LIST.—In the result of the examination for male students' certificates, in December last, at Durham Training College, we observe that local students have come well to the front. Mr T. W. Powell, the second on the list, was a pupil teacher with Mr Collinson, Shotley Grove School, Shotley Bridge; and Mr J. Short, the third in order of merit, served his apprenticeship in Burnopfield School.

THE WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—Messrs. Wilson Bros., lessees of Shotley Spa Grounds, announce in another column, great attractions to pleasure-seekers, Cricket matches, bicycle contests, and sports of other descriptions are to be witnessed. The three specimens of British Badgers caught near Ebchester are also to be exhibited, and the charms of music are also to be brought into requisition. We trust the weather may prove favourable for the occasion.

The traffic return of the North-Eastern Railway for the week ending the 20th inst., is more favourable than its predecessor. In the passenger department there is an increase of £2,573, and in dock dues an improvement to the extent of £341. In merchandise and cattle, however, there is a falling-off of £4,636; and in minerals a decrease of £6; so that the net increase in the week has been £1,272, whereas in the previous report the improvement registered was only £27. The total increase up to date is now £9[illegible],523.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, BURNOPFIELD.—The Wesleyan Methodists of Burnopfield announce a bazaar on Whit-Monday and Whit-Tuesday in another column. We learn that a debt of £80 still rests upon the chapel, and the proceeds of the bazaar are to go towards paying off the debt. There should not be much difficulty in raising this sum, and we trust that our Wesleyan friends, many of whom are liberal as well as wealthy, will assist the trustees in clearing off the debt, and thus enable them to have a fair start in their christian mission.

LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The Sabbath-school anniversary in connection with this place of worship took place on Sunday last, when two appropriate sermons were preached, morning and evening, by Mr Thos. Huddlestone, of Shotley Bridge, and the same gentleman also delivered an earnest address in the afternoon to the parents and scholars. Large congregations were present on each occasion, and the children rendered several suitable hymns, recitations, dialogues, &c. The collections were for the school funds.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.—On Monday evening last the winter session of the above society was brought to a close by an entertainment of a varied character.—The Rev D. Bryson presided over the proceedings in a very cheerful manner, and in the course of his address made some practical remarks. He then briefly introduced the Rev. W. Baitey to deliver his lecture on "Music."—The rev. gentlemen then proceeded with his lecture, the substance of which has been published already in our columns, in his well-known style, and would undoubtedly have been interesting, but during its delivery his voice was scarcely audible owing to the commotion caused by persons continually passing in and out.—The members of the society were present and enlivened the proceedings with selections of music at intervals, under the leadership of Mr C. Stelling, and were rendered in very good style. Songs were also sung by Miss Harwood and Mr. C. Davison with their usual ability. Messrs Davison and Surtees sang the duet "Love and war," with marked effect.—A ham and coffee supper was provided at the close of the lecture, when a large number of persons sat down.

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WHICKHAM V. MARLEY HILL.—Played at Whickham, on Saturday, and resulted in favour of the home team. Score:—Whickham, 52; Marley Hill, 41.

WOODLAND V. TOW LAW.—Played at Tow Law, on Saturday. Scores:—Woodland, 71 (R. Fielding, 12 W. Marley, 10; and J. Bainbridge, 21), Tow Law, 41 (W. Drummond, 14).

DURHAM DEPUTIES' WAGES.—A deputation from the Durham Deputies' Association met the owners on Saturday to ask for an advance of wages. The masters offered an advance of 3d per shift, and the deputation, which was headed by Mr Hedley, secretary to the association, promised to place the offer before their members.

SINGULAR FATALITY TO A HORSE.—On Wednesday, a horse belonging to a man named Gibbon, while grazing in a field on Gibbet Hill, near Crook, almost completely disappeared beneath the surface of the ground through a severe fall in the workings of the Hargill Hill Coal Company. The animal was at once suffocated, and was not got out until Friday evening.

SUICIDE OF A MINER.—On Wednesday night, about six o'clock, a miner employed at the Browney Colliery, named John Coatsworth, committed suicide by hanging himself with a clothes line. The deceased was a married man, with a family. He adjusted the rope to a beam in his own house, jumped from a chair, and gave himself a six inches drop.

Mr Isaac Holden (L) was on Friday returned for the North-west Riding by a majority of [illegible],027 votes over the number given for the Hon. Gathorne Hardy (C). On learning the result Lady Frederick Cavendish telegraphed her warm congratulations to the successful candidate, adding these words: "The great majority has cheered me and made thankful." Mr Holden replied by telegraph saying that nothing was wanting to complete their satisfaction with the issue but her Ladyship's very kind message.

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

FORESTRY AT HAMSTEELS.—The annual demonstration of the Hamsteels Lodge of the Order of Foresters took place last Saturday, when, headed by a band of music, the members marched through the neighbouring villages. Starting from Quebec, they proceeded to Cornsay Colliery, thence to Hamsteels, Newhouses, Waterhouses, and Esh Winning Collieries At one o'clock the members of the lodge dined together in their meeting room. The Vicar, the Rev. F. G. Wesley, and Dr. Kirkland, were also present as guests. The dinner was supplied by Mr. Cockerill, of Hamsteels Inn. On Sunday morning the lodge proceeded to the parish church, where the Rev. F. G. Wesley preached a sermon adapted to the occasion. The audit of accounts shows a balance in hand of £40 for the years.

THE MINERS' PERMANENT RELIEF FUND.—At a large and influential meeting of the workmen of Stanley and Worley Pits, Stanley Drift and Hedleyhope Collieries, held on Thursday se'nnight, at the Robin Hood Inn, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"We, the workmen of the above collieries, think the time has fully arrived when the royalty owners ought to contribute a substantial donation towards the Miners' Permanent Relief Fund. We are furthermore of opinion that now is a very opportune time for the workmen and public at large to speak out, seeing that there have been so many colliery explosions and disasters of late."

WESLEYAN METHODISM.—NEWCASTLE DISTRICT MEETING.—In connection with the assembling of the above District Committee, a Sunday School Convention was held on Monday evening se'nnight in Chapter Row Chapel, South Shields, under the presidency of the Rev Dr Lyth. The report of the condition of the Sunday Schools throughout the district was read by the secretary, the Rev. W. Waters, from which it appeared that there was an increase of 1,655 in the number of scholars attending the Sabbath Schools. The numerical returns from the local circuits are as follows:—Durham, 862 members; on trial, 86; increase, 33. Chester-le-Street, 684 members; on trial, 21; increase 29. Wolsingham, 331 members; on trial, 6; increase, 7. Weardale, 590 members; on trial, 14; decrease 36. Hexham, 860 members; on trial, 99; increase, 21. Shotley Bridge, 1,305 members; on trial, 240; increase, 7. The net increase on the year in the district is 298. There are also 1,744 members in junior society classes, an increase of 197. The total increase throughout the Connexion, so far as the returns at present furnish information, is 11,628.

A HAMSTEELS PUBLICAN AND HIS LODGERS.—At the Durham County Court, before E.J. Meynell, Esq., John Cockerill, innkeeper, of Hamsteels Colliery, claimed from defendant, Smart Walker, underviewer, Cockfield, near Darlington, £3 2s for board and lodgings, from June 16th to August 8th, 1872. Mr Granger appeared for plaintiff, and Mr Salkeld for defendant.—Plaintiff said he was an innkeeper at Hamsteels Colliery. Defendant and a Mr Atkinson had lodged with him. Mr Atkinson had paid his account, but there was £3 2s due from Mr Walker, who had promised to pay him by-and-by. Mr Walker did not refer him to Mr Hall for payment.—Mr Salkeld said they did not dispute the reasonableness of the charges, but they questioned their right to pay. It appeared that Mr Atkinson and Mr Walker had been underviewers under Mr Hall, manager of Haswell Colliery. Mr Atkinson paid Mr Walker's account on previous occasion. The Colliery Company found the money.—Mr Walker said Mr Hall sent him to plaintiff's house to lodge, and he had been there three years before this account was contracted, and had never paid any account.—His Honour remarked that defendant ought to have applied to the company, if they had a right to pay. He found for the amount claimed, in fourteen days.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Chest and Stomach Complaints.—The source and centre of almost every ailment is impurity of the blood; dislodge this poison, and disease departs. Holloway's Pills exercise the inestimable power of thoroughly cleansing each component part of the blood, and rendering this fluid fit to perform its important functions. They cope most successfully with chest diseases, stomach complaints, liver disorders, and many other maladies, which were once the besetting dangers of mankind at certain seasons in town and country. The directions for use enable every one to regulate the operations of these Pills with the greatest nicety. Chronic invalids, valetudinarians, and all whom other treatment has to relieve, are respectively invited to try Holloway's celebrated medicine, which will strengthen and cure them.

THE QUEEN.—Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the 24th inst. attained her 63rd birthday, an age which has been exceeded by 11 only of the Sovereigns of England, dating from the Norman Conquest—viz., Henry I., who lived to the age of 69 years; Henry III., who attained 65 years; Edward I., who lived 67 years; Edward III., 65 years; Queen Elizabeth, who reached the age of 69; James II., who was 68 at the time of his death; George I., who lived 67 years; George II., 77 years; George III., 82 years; George IV., 68 years; and William IV., 72 years. On the 20th of June next her Majesty will have reigned over the United Kingdom for a period of 45 years a length of reign which has been exceeded by three only of the Kings of England—viz., Henry III., who reigned for 56 years; Edward III., whose reign lasted 50 years; and George III., whose reign extended nearly to the lengthened period of 60 years.

ENGLISH RULE AND SELF-RULE IN IRELAND.

[From the *Manchester Weekly Times* of Saturday.]

It is no wonder if the events of the last few weeks have produced in most of us a sense of almost invincible discouragement with respect to Irish affairs. The changes have been so sudden, the reaction in public sentiment so profound, and the latest situation appears to be so encompassed with difficulties. This feeling will disappear by-and-by. We shall become better acquainted with our task, which in some respects is new, though in others it has been the burden of centuries. Perhaps some gleam of sunlight will break upon our path and help to cheer us on. At any rate, we shall remember that the circumstances in which we are placed are not of our choosing, and that unceasing effort is the pastime of valiant hearts. The object for which we have to struggle is second to none in importance. We have to make the realm which comprises these British Isles united in reality as well as in its legislative designation, to overcome what ought to have become long ere this the obsolete prejudices of religion and race, to conciliate by satisfying the sentiments of an ancient nationality, and to prevail upon our western neighbours to rally with us around a common and representative centre of authority. In some respects, notwithstanding the clouds that are lowering at the moment, our prospects are brighter than they have ever been. All that was artificial in the social arrangements of Ireland has been displaced, and we stand face to face with nature. We wrestle now on firm ground, and if we prevail our victory will be enduring. But we must not suppose that we shall be able to dismiss Ireland from our thoughts when we have passed the Arrears of Rent Bill and extended the Bright Clauses. The work which will be large in the aggregate, it will be distributed into innumerable details, and if we wish to gather in the fruits of wise legislation with respect to a part, our aim must be to grasp and complete the whole. But we have still a preparatory process to go through with ourselves. We no doubt fancy that we have become very liberal questions. Alas, it is hard to disengage ourselves from inherited illusions. They become a part of our being, and falsify the standard of comparison. We shall have to become much more liberal, our thoughts will have to be still further widened, if we are to succeed in winning Ireland. In order to measure accurately the extent of our liberalism, instead of comparing our present views with any we held formerly, it will be better to go out of ourselves altogether and try to stand in the place of an Irishman, to see through his eyes and feel with his feelings. And, for many reasons upon which it is not necessary now to enter, the Irishman in whose shoes we try to stand must be a Catholic Irishman. To make the test a fair one we must not only change places with him, but we must try to enter into his thoughts and sentiments and prejudices, and to make them the rule for determining our judgments. Supposing that we have succeeded in effecting this transition and transformation, there is much in the ordinary English ways of speaking about Ireland which will grate upon our ears. Mr Forster, for example, hailed the new bill for repressing crime in Ireland because it showed, as he said, that the assassinations in Phœnix Park had "roused the conscience of England." This was a comparatively innocent remark, but an Irishman might think it hard that he should be subjected to the hardships of a most stringent law, not on account of any conviction of its necessity in the minds of his countrymen, but because of a change which had passed over the conscience of another nation. How would Englishmen feel if they were the weaker nation, and it was announced in Parliament at Dublin, as the reason for a bill of pains and penalties applicable to England only, that "the conscience of Ireland had been roused?" But Mr Forster on this occasion was a mild sinner. We have a much more promising example in Mr Newdegate. I must do him the justice of saying that in his speech on Tuesday last he denounced the power of arbitrary arrest conferred by the old Coercion Act on the Lord Lieutenant, and expressed his disapproval of the proposal of the new Bill to substitute a Commission of judges for a jury. He would prefer martial law to a Commission of judges, and he would do so "because this was the course which the English people had for ages approved with regard to Ireland." The long-established rule had been that "if Ireland would not submit to common law, she would not submit to military law. The people of England and Scotland understood that." Irish members below the gangway might laugh, but "the English people would make them understand their mistake." He trusted they had done with the policy which led to that "wretched measure nominally for the preservation of life and property in Ireland, and that they would deal with that country as England had dealt with it in the past—tender to Ireland the same liberties as England enjoyed, and if Ireland would not have them, military law." Mr Newdegate's speech was unfriendly to the Government, and it was not meant to be hostile to Ireland, but that only makes it a more appropriate illustration of the sort of talk in which it is our habit to indulge. In such speeches as Mr Newdegate's Ireland is projected far away from us, and dealt with as an alien and subject nation which it is our right to govern in our own way. We tender to Ireland the same liberties as we enjoy ourselves. If she accepts them and is thankful, well and good. If not—martial law. There is not the faintest recognition of the fact that the people of Ireland have wishes and wills of their own which it is our duty to consult. Still less does it seem to occur to such a speaker that if the Irish are to be governed constitutionally it must be with their own consent, and their own voluntary co-operation. Such expressions as I have quoted might be multiplied indefinitely. Our political literature abounds with them. They easily pass muster here. They sound quite natural. But how do they sound in Dublin and Tipperary? How will they strike an Irish priest who is a Nationalist to the core, and whose father and brothers are peasants on the soil? What thoughts will they suggest to the quick-witted youth of Ireland, whose minds are stored with the rude historic lore that is poured forth by the Dublin press? The Irish peasant boy can read. Nature has endowed him with a warm imagination and vivid sympathies. He devours the intellectual food which has been provided for him. The history he knows is all on one side, but its patriotism makes up for defects on the score of impartiality. He has been taught to believe that England is the heartless oppressor of his country, and everything he reads confirms the impression. Mr Newdegate's speech will be served up for his weekly repast in some Nationalist newspaper, and if it does not make his blood boil and help to turn him into a rebel, human nature will be largely in default. This is the way in which we do our best to propogate disaffection, and raise up successive generations of "irreconcilables." But the evil lies deeper than an ungenerous or inconsiderate style of speaking. Mr Newdegate's expressions are strictly accurate. It is simply true that Ireland is governed by England. The English conscience is allowed to supplant the Irish conscience as a test of what is just and meet for Ireland. It is considered to be a sufficient defence in all cases in which Ireland is concerned to say that the "conscience of England is aroused," or that the "conscience of England will sanction no other course." We can hardly be surprised that the conscience of Ireland shows some sluggishness in its political verdicts when its sanctions are deliberately superseded by the conscience of another nation. It would perhaps work better if we threw upon it more responsibility, only in that case the will which it influences must be allowed freer scope. The rude fact that England rules Ireland is concealed from hasty observation by the forms of representative government. Ireland sends its full proportion of members to Parliament, and these members are elected by popular suffrage under the protection of the ballot. What more, it may be said, can Ireland want? Well, to begin with, we have to lay our account with two Irelands, the Ireland of Ulster and the Ireland of the other three provinces. The Ulster member as a rule takes his seat on the Conservative benches, and does not hesitate to ally himself with the forces of English Conservatism in opposition to the measures which are desired by the great majority of his countrymen. The distinctive wants of Ireland are represented by the members for the Catholic provinces, and to them we ought to lend a willing ear if we really want to place ourselves in friendly relations with the National party in Ireland. But, as a rule, they are utterly neglected, except when they make themselves formidable by political agitation. Once in ten or twenty years our neglect brings on a crisis, and we are forced to perform some great feat; but when this great feat is performed we expect the Irish members to retire into the background and give us no further trouble. In quiet times an ordinary Irish bill does not stand the ghost of a chance of becoming law. It can hardly be sure of a hearing. It will be voted a bore and a nuisance, and be talked out or counted out with much silent applause. Nothing can be done for Ireland except under the threat of a revolution, and then some great thing will be done. But political progress and popular content depend not so much upon one or two great things as upon a considerable number of smaller things, and as a rule these are quietly edged aside. It is difficult for us to realise the mortification and disappointment which cannot fail to accrue from this normal powerlessness of the Irish representatives. They soon feel that their attendance at Westminster is a mockery. For any good they are able to do for Ireland they might as well resign their seats and betake themselves to the Lakes of Killarney. The cry for Home Rule is an inevitable result of such a state of things, and Home Rule must be granted unless the system can be changed? Can it be changed? That is the question upon which a great deal depends. We are about to re-organise the House of Commons with a view to the swifter despatch of business. One proposal which has been made is to divide the House into a number of Grand Committees, and to entrust each Committee with the duty of sifting the merits of a particular class of Bills. Suppose the Irish members were constituted a Grand Committee for the discussion of Irish Bills. We should then have an Irish Parliament within and subordinated to the Imperial Parliament. Irish measures would be sure to receive attention from such a body, and its recommendations could not but have great weight with the whole House. But in order to get the largest and best results from such an arrangement there must come to be an informal understanding that on all matters which do not touch imperial interests the decision of the Grand Committee of Irish members shall be accepted by the House. I am for the maintenance of the Union, and I am devoted to it with as much enthusiasm as is consistent with a flattering assumption of sobriety; but I cannot pretend to be blind to the conclusion that the Union must go unless we can contrive to make it square with the practical concession to Ireland of the rights and advantages of self-government. We must rule Ireland with the consent and with the voluntary co-operation of the people of Ireland, or we must abandon the attempt to rule it from Westminster. The Irish members must be recognised as a smaller Parliament for Irish purposes, the function of revision and validation resting with the whole House. As things are now, if I were an Irishman I should probably be a follower of Mr Parnell. I should hope that grace would be given in sufficient abundance to keep me out of the Chief Secretary's clutches, though as human nature is weak, especially under provocation, it is not too certain that grace would prevail. We must wish every Irishman to be an Irish patriot, to stand up for his country, and swim or sink with it. Our business is to reconcile Irish patriotism with the common interests of the three kingdoms, or of the one United Kingdom. Is this practicable? It is sufficient to say that the experiment has never been fairly tried, and that it is worth trying.

VERAX.

AFTER MANY YEARS.—A somewhat romantic wedding has occurred at Amagansett, on Long Island. The bride was a Miss Ferguson, the teacher of the village school, and twenty of her little scholars acted as bridesmaids. The bride and groom when children played together. Subsequently, for forty-four years, they did not see each other, but corresponded regularly. Soon after their meeting again they were married.

SLAUGHTERING ELEPHANTS.—Here is a true elephant story from an American missionary, who once lived among the Dutch Boers of Natal for seven years. He saw the ivory, and believes the story: One afternoon, about four o'clock, three Dutchmen were out hunting, and came upon a large herd of elephants. They fired at the leader, and instantly the entire herd fled. The leader rushed on and on, thinking he was on the right track to escape; but the elephants were in a valley, and only ran round and round it, in a circle perhaps three hundred yards in diameter, and were shot down from four o'clock in the afternoon until eight in the evening, when darkness prevented the Dutchmen from taking aim any longer. But the three men rose at break of day, and found the poor elephants still going round and round. It was several hours before a new leader, breaking out of the beaten track, led off the remainder of the herd in safety. The Dutchmen, whose names were Botha and Potgeiter, two brothers, counted the slain. Ninety elephants lay dead in the valley, and as their valuable tusks of ivory were divided equally among the three Dutchmen, you can believe that each man's share was considerable.

A TRIFLE MIXED.—A fashionable young lady visited a cooking school, the other afternoon, where her attention was equally divided between a new dress worn by an acquaintance and directions for making a cake. Upon returning home she undertook to write down the recipe for making the cake for her mother, and the old lady was paralyzed when she read: "Take two pounds of flour, three rows of pleating down the front, the whites of two eggs cut bias, a pint of milk ruffled around the neck, half a pound of currants with seven yards of bead trimming, grated lemon peel with Spanish lace fichu; stir well, and add a semi-fitting paletot with visite sleeves; butter the pan with Brazilian topaz necklace, and garnish with icing and jetted passementerie; bake in a moderately hot oven until the overskirt is tucked from the waist down on either side, and finish with large satin bows." Her mother said she wouldn't eat such a cake, and she thought these new fangled ideas in cooking ought to be frowned down.

"MAKE IT ENGLISH."—Mr. Fox, the father of the orator Charles James Fox, trained his son from childhood to share in the government of England. This anecdote shows the child's precocity: While the elder Fox was Secretary of State he used to allow Charles to read all his despatches. One day, when the boy was only ten years of age, the secretary brought home a paper which he had very carefully written—an answer to be sent to a foreign government, with whom England had good cause to find fault. He gave the paper to Charles and asked him to read it. The lad did so. "What do you think of it?" asked the parent, earnestly, for he thought it extremely good. The boy shook his head. Then he looked into his father's face; then he straightened himself to his full height; and smiting his little fist upon his swelling breast, he exclaimed,—"Oh, make it stronger! make it—big! make it English!" Fox caught the inspiration from the look, the tone, the words of his boy. He threw the paper into the fire, and then sat down and wrote again, and produced a paper which electrified the country.

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SIR,—A short time since I was induced by the novelty of the title to send for a bottle of your Liebig's Extract of Meat and Malt Wine. I was perfectly acquainted with the value of the *Extractum Carnis*, and not quite a stranger to the invigorating and fortifying properties of malt wine, and, therefore, el a natural curiosity to test hem when combined.

Men who work hard as I do, not muscular hard work, but that which is quite as exhausting, viz., brain work, very often experience the need of, and have sometimes, an almost irresistible craving for a "pick me up," and very often the panacea for a time for lassitude, and that state of mind which renders work irksome, and alcholic stimulants, the use of which must sooner or later end disastrously.

The man who can furnish a remedy sure, certain, and harmless, for the lassitude which follows constant brain work is a benefactor of his species, and may be said to have added many years of usefulness to the lives of useful men.

Your extract, if a success, and when more generally known, will be used by all toilers of the mind.—Yours faithfully,
O. D. RAY.
Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich, February 23rd, 1881.

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Queen's Crescent, Haverstock Hill,
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DEAR SIR,—Some time since, being greatly fatigued with over-work and long hours at business, my health (being naturally delicate) became very indifferent. I lost all energy, strength, and appetite, and was so weak as to be scarcely able to walk.

As you are aware I sent for a dozen of your Extract of Meat and Malt Wine, which, in a few days, pulled me up marvellously. Three or four glasses of it daily have quite altered and restored me to better health than ever "without the assistance of a doctor."

I am now giving it to my son twelve years of age, whom we have always thought consumptive, and from a puny ailing boy he seems to be fast growing into a strong healthy lad.

Enclosed you have cheque. Please send me two dozen of the "Extract." With thanks for your prompt attention to my last.—Yours truly, I am, Sir,
GEORGE A. TYLER.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT AND MALT WINE (COLEMAN'S)

Granspound, February 25th, 1881.
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"SPARKLING RUBINE" a most delicious non-alcoholic beverage, contains *no Iron nor Phosphorus,* but a far more valuable tonic in Cinchona, or Peruvian Bark, is extremely palatable, and is highly recommended by the Medical Profession. Manufactured only by the Chemists' Aerated & Mineral Waters Association (Limited), London & Harrogate.

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STOCK & SHARE AUCTION COMPANY (Limited), Crown Court Buildings, Old Broad Street.—Best medium for disposal of all Stocks and Shares not readily marketable. Auction Sales every Tuesday and Friday, Two o'clock. *Accounts opened* for the fortnightly settlement. [242

FERGUSON'S COMPOUND GLYCERINE BALM. The best preparation for beautifying the Complexion and keeping the Hands soft and white. An infallible cure for Chaps and Roughness of the Skin. Removes Eruptions, Blotches, Freckles, and Tan, restores the healthy action of the Pores of the Skin, and gives to the most sallow complexion a natural and healthy appearance. Price 1s., or three in one, 2s. 6d. Sold by all Chemists & Medicine Vendors. See the name Ferguson, Chemist, Leeds, on each bottle, without which it is not genuine. [249

LECTURE AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

A lecture of a very interesting and instructive character was delivered in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Friday evening the 19th inst., by Mr William Jones of Middlesbro', the subject being "Turks, Russians, and Bulgarians." Mr Charles Wilson occupied the chair and there was a very select audience.

The CHAIRMAN, in his prefatory remarks, said he had much pleasure in introducing Mr Jones, who he was sure would give them some very interesting information respecting Bulgaria which he had visited soon after the close of the late war by which that country was devastated. Mr Jones had also visited France at the close of the Franco-German war and would therefore be able to tell them something of the sad effects of war upon that country. Many people discussed the question of peace and war without knowing one thousandth part of the misery which the latter brought upon mankind, and there were a great many people who believed war to be necessary, but if Englishmen would look back for the last fifty years he thought they would form a somewhat different opinion. He believed that in all the wars in which we have been engaged during that time we had in every case been the aggressor. Our last war with the Afghans was certainly one of the most disgraceful of our many wars. (Hear, hear). Again some people might think that the Crimean war was necessary, but subsequent events had proved that it was a great mistake, and the same might be said of the wars which had swept over Europe during the last few years. If then we enter upon aggressive wars what could we say if foreign nations followed our example? The effect of the system was absolutely ruinous. To keep up huge armies recourse was had to conscription, by which means the people were ground down by military despotism to an alarming extent. It was sad to think that a young man who might have been the support and stay of his mother should be taken from her side, to serve his term of years in the army, and instead of the son helping her, she was not only made to provide him with the necessaries of life, but also with tobacco, &c. Mr Wilson then briefly introduced

Mr JONES who, on rising, met with a very kindly reception. He said as they had been hearing something about the condition of the French people it might be interesting to know what the sentiments of the inhabitants of that country were towards the people of England. He had visited France along with the late Mr Whitwell the particulars of whose lamented death many of them were no doubt familiar. They were sent out by a committee formed for the purpose of distributing seed-corn to the French farmers, many of whom had lost their horses as well as almost everything required for the successful prosecution of agricultural pursuits. The state of the country was deplorable, but the committee worked vigorously, and shipload after shipload of grain was sent from England and distributed in large quantities amongst the French farmers. The effect which the action of the English people had upon their French neighbours could not well be described. New life was infused into the people and their joy was full when beautiful fields of English corn waved on the plains of "sunny France." That act of generosity was not lost upon the French nation, for notwithstanding their weakness for war they were a grateful people, and nothing had done so much to remove the lingering animosity engendered by Waterloo than the timely aid rendered by England in the hour of their great sorrow. But for the corn sent from England there had been literally no harvest in France, and yet that year, strange as it might seem, those people were blessed with a most abundant harvest. In England that year (1871) our harvest was exceedingly late, but help happily came in the nick of time, swift steamers brought cargo after cargo of grain from the shores of France and so kept up the food supply in England, and thus prevented what to the working class at least would have been most calamitous—a rise in the price of bread. (Applause). That was England's reward, and a noble illustration it was of the Great Master's injunction:—"Give, and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, and shaken together and running over, shall men give into your bosom." Well now, he was there that night in an iron-producing district. They knew a little about iron-making at Middlesbro'; they didn't object to smoke there, for things were never so well as when puddling mills, platemills, and railmills, were clattering away, hence they often found the smoke inspector the greatest nuisance himself. (Laughter). The lecturer then entering upon his subject proper, referred to the destitution prevalent in Continental nations owing to the war spirit which necessitated the maintenance of huge armies by conscription, which, together with the excessive taxation, produced many evils. Socialism was rampant in the principal cities in Germany, and emigration was fast draining that country of the cream of the population. He (the lecturer) had seen three thousand men, women, and children, chiefly Germans, leave Liverpool in a single day, *en route* for America. In France and Italy the same evils were at work with similar results. The hardships to which the people were subjected were intolerable, and were there, as elsewhere, brooding discontent which led to the formation of secret societies. It was dreadful to think that millions of men of this stamp were being trained to the use of arms, and that some day they might be turned against their oppressors. Such a state of things was certainly a menace to the civilized world. (Hear, hear)

Well now, about the Turk; it was now 800 years since he left his home in Asia and began the journey westward, and he might ask what had he done since he obtained a settlement in Europe? Absolutely nothing towards the progress of civilization. Other nations had made remarkable progress in the arts. They might look at the condition of England for example, in 1066, when William of Normandy landed on our shores. There was a striking contrast between the London of that day and now. Of the ancient Romans there remained many noble momentoes in many lands, but the Turk had done nothing, literally nothing, for the human race. It was true he was possessed of certain soldierly qualities, and that seemingly was all that could be said in his favour, for if a pitman in these northern parts had a dog who was fiercer than his neighbours he was sure to be called by the name of "Turk." (Laughter).

The Bulgarian was a different sort of a character; a simply sturdy broad-shouldered fellow, and he (the lecturer) never believed half the stories circulated by the Turks concerning them. They had qualities which their oppressors did not possess, but long centuries of misrule had ground the old valour out of them. He had on the platform that night a number of photographs taken from life, which would be handed round at the close of the lecture, meanwhile to show what manner of man the Bulgarian was he could not do better than exhibit a pair of cloth trousers purchased in one of the shops there. [The lecturer then displayed a pair of unmentionables the legs of which were wide enough to have held the body of a Falstaff]. These said the lecturer amid roars of laughter, would hold a very Jumbo! If there were two gentlemen in the audience who thought they could fill them they were welcome to come forward. He was sure they would hold two such men as him, and then there would be lodgings to let. (Laughter). They would bear in mind, however, that the Bulgarian never parted company with his trousers; he donned them when new and there they remained—trousers by day, and blankets by night—for the next seven years! Evidently the Bulgarian believed with the poet:

> "Man wants but little here below,
> But wants that little *strong*."

Well now, they might like to hear something respecting the Bulgarian ladies. He could tell them they were no chickens. In that country it was customary for the bride on the eve of her nuptials to visit the houses of her friends, and during his sojourn there he was honoured with a visit from a fair one. She was none of your wasp-waisted creatures; far from it, she had an arm like a blacksmith and with such a show of muscle as would have induced him, had she been his bride, to keep a civil tongue in his head. (Laughter.) He could also speak as to the hospitality of the Bulgarians which, however unpalatable it might be to European ideas, was genuine enough. On one occasion he was overtaken by one of those storms which sweep across the mountains with great violence. It was impossible to keep the horses' heads to the wind—they would whisk round and turn tail to the blast despite the efforts of either guide or rider. Eventually he was fain to seek shelter in a Bulgarian dwelling, or hut, for they were nothing else. Descending the stairs he found himself in the bosom of a Bulgarian family. Furniture there was none, but at one end of the place were the cows, while overhead were any number of hens. As the evening wore on he began to wonder where his bed was to be, and upon inquiry found that each stretched himself with his feet to the fire on the earthen floor where he sat, in close array like so many sardines in a box. Well now it so happened that had he lain down on the floor with his feet to the fire his head would have been under the cows' tails—loud laughter—and no one could tell how many blessings might have poured down upon his head before morning. (Renewed laughter.) No, he could not lodge there, he preferred to face the storm on the Balcan Mountains rather than pass the night in such a spot. This state of things was due almost exclusively to the ruinous taxation to which the Bulgarians were subject, which was rendered more intolerable still by letting and subletting. The lecturer then proceeded to sketch the rise and decline of the Turkish nation, under its various leaders, until it finally became so effete as to merit the appellation the "sick man." In conclusion the talented lecturer gave a graphic description of the horror of the massacre at Batak which place he visited shortly after the terrible scenes were enacted. He contended that the dread game of war should be for ever discontinued, and disputes between nations settled as the long-pending Alabama claims. It was true that in that case England had to pay something like three millions sterling, but had she gone to war with the United States it might have cost her thirty millions. (Hear, hear.) He was sure that the action of the present Government augured well for a turn of better things. He referred to the Boer war. (Cheers.) Mr Jones then resumed his seat, having spoken upwards of an hour-and-a-half, during which time he was frequently and deservedly applauded.

Mr CARSS moved that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the lecturer.

The Rev T. SMITH seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr JONES responded in a very racy manner.

Specimens of Bulgarian native costume, together with photographs, views, &c., were then handed round, and were the source of much amusement to many.

Before the audience disperred it was determined to ask Mr Jones to give his lecture at Consett. This that gentleman kindly agreed to do, but no date was fixed.

Mr Charles Wilson well deserves the thanks of the public, for having served up to the community a rich intellectual repast, without money and without price.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The usual fortnightly meeting of this Board was held in the Board-room, yesterday (Thursday), under the presidency of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. The other members present were Messrs W. Logan, J. Wilkinson, G. Hobson, T. Siddell, J. W. Hodgson, J. Bowey, and Revs J. P. De Pledge, J.P., and C. Gillow.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

INMATES OF THE WORKHOUSE.

Week ending May 17th	160
Corresponding week of last year	145
Week ending May 24th	152
Corresponding week last year	147
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	147
" " corresponding fortnight last year	86

After several items and the various relief cases had been transacted the Board adjourned.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

The ordinary fortnightly meeting of the above Board was held in the Board-room of the Guardians yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, Mr G. Alder in the chair. There were also present Rev C. Gillow, and Messrs Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., G. Ridley, J. Towns, R. Mitchinson, W. Brown, G. Hobson, T. Longstaff, M. Coupland, R. Robson, W. Fawcett, G. Errington, G. Wall, and J. Sherlock.

The Clerk (Mr C. Maynard) read the minutes of last meeting, which were signed by the CHAIRMAN.

KITSWELL LANE.

The Clerk stated that he had written to Mr Thompson Allen in reference to the removal of the well in Kitswell Lane, and that gentleman had forwarded an agreement, hoping the Board would accept the same.

Mr GEO. G. TAYLOR SMITH said the place was very dangerous, and wondered that no accidents occurred at the place. He thought they ought to take some speedy means to remove the well, as the lives of the public were in imminent danger by the same.

Several of the members concurred with Mr SMITH.

It was subsequently resolved to instruct the Clerk to communicate further on the matter with Mr Allen.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Mr Dixon submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Highway Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the recent dry weather we we have gathered off quantities of loose stones. If rain does not come soon we will have more to gather. We have also dressed up the sides of many roads and opened out water courses. I have received several tenders for work which I lay before you for your consideration. I have also scheduled the quantities of stone, &c., required to complete the contracts should they be let. Contracts for carting on Auckland Main Road are all completed; the others are making considerable progress. This place is still in an unsatisfactory state. The occupiers in the west part of the village do not make use of the ashpits and sewerage drain, but frequently throw their ashes and slops upon the highway. In the time of flood the water flows over the road at the east end of Mr T. Lakies' property. The pipes adjacent to a building site, the property of Mr J. Wardle, appear to be blocked up; the water is flowing into the road channel.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WM. DIXON.

Lanchester, May 25th, 1882.

CONTRACTS.

Tenders for carting and breaking limestone, &c., in the various parishes were considered by the Board, the lowest of which were accepted by them in each case.

FINANCE.

Several accounts were submitted for payment, and cheques for the same were signed by the Chairman.

The Board then adjourned.

Osman Otto Brand, the owner and skipper of a smack sailing from Hull, was executed at Leeds, on Tuesday, for having murdered William Pepper, an apprentice.

THE WEST STANLEY COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

ADJOURNED INQUEST.

The adjourned inquiry into the cause of the explosion which occurred at West Stanley Colliery on the 19th April, and resulted in the death of 13 men, was resumed yesterday by Mr Coroner Graham, at the Commercial Hotel, Stanley. Mr A. Morley, M.P., barrister, assisted by Mr Thomas Bell (Government Inspector, Durham), Mr Willis (Government Inspector, Newcastle), and Mr W. Atkinson (Government Inspector, Shincliffe), appeared on behalf of the Home Office. Mr Edge, barrister, instructed by Mr Cooper, Newcastle, appeared for the owners of the colliery. Mr J. H. Burn, of Tynemouth, and Mr Bowey, of Sunderland were present on behalf of the Miners' National Union, who were also represented by Mr Pickard, Barnsley; Mr John Nixon, Newcastle; Mr Edward Cowey, Barnsley; Mr Michael Heavisido, Durham, accompanied by Mr W. Crawford, and J. Wilson of Durham, appeared for the Miners' Union. Amongst others present were Mr G. Baker Forster, Newcastle; Mr Pringle, Tanfield Lea; Mr Hedley, Craghead; Mr W. Johnson, certificated manager of West Stanley Colliery; Mr W. H. Hedley, Leadgate; Mr Simpson, West Stanley; Mr James Fairley, Craghead and Holmside Collieries; Mr W. Hedley, Beech Grove; Mr Rutherford, Shield Row Collieries; Mr N. Wilkinson, East Tanfield; Mr Geo. Humble, South Tanfield; Mr Colquhoun, West Stanley. There were present besides a large number of colliers, who seemed to take considerable interest in the proceedings.

William Johnson, certificated manager at West Stanley Colliery, in addition to the evidence he gave on the day the inquiry was opened, described the interior of the mine, and the means taken to secure proper ventilation. The air passed down the downcast shaft past the working places, went back along the returns, and up the upcast shaft, which is about 40 feet from the downcast shaft. Into the Busty seam, to which the explosion was confined, 27,600 cubic feet of air per minute passed. He considered the ventilation good. He was last down the pit before the explosion on the 18th April, when he went through various of the districts, and he saw no trace of gas, and no one suggested there was any gas. He described his descent of the pit after the explosion, and the finding of most of the men. In the south cross cut he found a straw and a piece of touch paper. The straw contained the powder and had not been fired. At the east side of the cross cut he found there had been a shot fired. The workmen's tools were on the top of the stones that had fallen, showing that the men had worked after the firing of the shot. In the north cross cut he found a stone lying near the entrance. The air was foul, and before he had gone far he had to retreat. He had no reason before the explosion to suspect that there was any danger. The Busty pit was examined on behalf of the men on the 23rd November by Alexander Johnson and George Henderson, who reported that they found it all right. The only reports of gas in the pit since the 1st January referred to high headways, South Flat, on the 23rd February and 17th March, and the first headways, Second Flat, on 18th March.

John Nicholson, shifter at West Stanley Colliery, said that he was one of the five men who escaped with life after the explosion. He descended into the Busty Seam with others on the 18th April. About one o'clock in the morning he heard a shot, by which he concluded that the pit had fired, and he and others at once came out-bye. He first found the after-damp in-bye of the over-cast. He was brought out by the rescuing party.

Richard Pickersgill, hewer, said that on the 18th April he was in the south district, Busty Seam, West Stanley Colliery. He rode to bank about five o'clock at night, and at that time the pit seemed to be all right. He had worked in the north cross cut and in the west district, and had never found gas in any place where he had worked. He did not make a pratice of looking for gas, but if he saw it upon his lamp he would know it directly.

John Osson, deputy-overman, said that he was on the back shift on the 18th April. He travelled the Back Flat and South Cross Cut in the Busty Seam. He examined for gas, but found no traces of such. He fired no shot that day. When he left the pit that night the ventilation was good as ever, and he saw nothing to cause him any anxiety. He saw gas in the north cross cut, east side, about a month before the explosion. He at once put up some canvas, but he did not report it, as when the men came the gas was cleared away. He never saw gas in any other place or in that place before that occasion. About four months ago he fired a shot there for Purdy, whereupon the coal dust behind the brattice took fire, and communicated the fire to the brattice. It was a side-on shot, and went right in to the back side of the brattice. He did not report the brattice taking fire; he reported "all right"; he mentioned it to the overman and the overman and he told him that he need not report it. The shot which fired the brattice was damp and flared out in consequence.

Joseph Naisbit, hewer, said he was working in the East-going Board, in the North Cross Cut, Busty Seam, on the 18th ult., and left about four o'clock. The pit was in a good state. He heard a hissing noise in the Going Board, but gas was not shown against his lamp. He had heard a hissing noise there before, but had not seen gas. In the South Cross Cut, west district, he had heard the same sound without his lamp giving indications of gas.

William Heslop, hewer, said that up to twenty minutes to five o'clock on the evening of the 18th April, he was working in the South Cross Cut, Busty Seam, and found the air good. The place was well timbered up. He had also worked in other districts of the pit and never seen gas. He had not heark singing and bubbling in the South Cross Cut. He had heard bubbling worse in other districts where it was watery.

James Shaw, hewer in the Busty seam, said that on the 18th April he was working in the Back Cross Cut. He ascended about four o'clock. The air was good, and there were no signs of gas. He had never seen gas at this colliery; he had never looked for it, and there may have been gas which he did not see.

James Knox, deputy, said that he was in the fore shift, Busty Seam, on the 18th April. He was in the North Headways and South Flat between half-past two o'clock and ten o'clock on the morning of the 18th April. He heard no singing, and found no gas. No shots had been fired in the South Flat for a long time. He heard no complaints of gas.

Wm. Middlemas, deputy, in addition to evidence given on the previous occasion, said that he was in the North and East districts on the 18th ult., and had examined for, but had failed to find gas. He had heard hissing noises frequently, but only on one occasion, about a month before the explosion, had he found gas. That was before the men went in at the East Going Board, and he cleared it off before the men went in. No one had ever complained to him of gas or deficient ventilation. He did not think it his duty to report gas when he had succeeded in clearing it. If a man wanted a shot fired into the coal in the daytime he would do it; there were no rules to the contrary. Two years ago he failed to clear gas away in the North district. He told Mr Johnson, who went down and saw how the place was and took steps to disperse it.

William Anderson, overman, said that he was in the Cross Cut on the 18th ult. The air was good, and there were no signs of gas. He had found gas in the Back Cross Cut about seven or eight weeks before the explosion, but it was so small that he did not think it necessary to report it. Shots had since been fired there, but examinations were first made. Examinations were always made before shots were fired.

The inquest was then adjourned until ten o'clock this (Friday) morning.

Correspondence.

(☞ *We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.—Ed. C.G.*)

COLLIERLEY AND PONTOP ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Someone speaking through Thos. Gatiss's trumpet says "were the people permitted to vote by ballot, his favourite would have been returned notwithstanding the influence of the army of canvassers by which he was opposed." Easier said than done, a loose statement can easily be made, but not always so easily proved, whereas the contrary can be proved. At our last School Board election, under the *ballot* mark you, why was Gatiss's favourite so far behind, and Mr Hodgson at the head of the poll by an overwhelming majority? Did that, or did it not, I ask prove him to be "*the people's choice?*" Sir, some people's capers, schemes, and dodges will not, I am afraid, ever be able to gull a discerning public.—Yours, &c.,

ANTI-HUMBUG.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—With your kind permission I should like to make a few remarks on "A Ratepayer's" last effusion in your issue of the 12th inst. Apparently that gentleman does not relish the idea of anyone interrupting him whilst blowing his trumpet over their bolstered-up victory, therefore he turns quite sarcastic, and treats your readers to a heterogeneous mass of information about Atheism, Liberalism, Land Leaguism, Unionism, with a large percentage of Toryism thrown in to give it that glorious colour so dear to the hearts of all consistent aristocrats. He doesn't hesitate to ask questions and answer them himself, his resources of information are illimitable, he knows no end of things; but the trouble is that most of the things are not so. But stop. I see he has cried Peccavi, and admits to an error. Well, that is some satisfaction at all events, as it proves I have not laboured in vain. But, sir, I hold it is only an error after being detected, because had it gone uncorrected it would have answered the purpose admirably for a future contest, deceiving the public as to the real state of affairs, as the candidates were about equally supported by voters but not by votes, and we know not what another year may bring forth. It is all very well for your correspondent to flash his *ignatus fatuus* before the eyes of those troubled with shortsightedness. Then he objects to class legislation. Where was there a more abominable piece of class legislation than that which constituted the late School Board, when the people got to know as little about the business as if it were transacted in the nether regions, and I venture to say his party were responsible for it. But thanks to the "clique," as he is pleased to term the union of miners, they broke up the unholy alliance, and dispersed the secret assembly, placing men on who are an honour to them. This is where the shoe pinches "A Ratepayer" and his friends the most, because they most strongly object to miners having anything whatever to do with parochial affairs. The reason they say is that we pay no rates. We hear a great deal about the inconsistency of Liberals, let us see how it cuts on the other side. A certain gentleman in this locality noted by his own class as a consistent Tory thus gave expression to his opinions that the miners were not fit to have a vote, being too thick in the skull, but his purposes being changeable when election time came round we find him soliciting their votes and calling them jolly good fellows to get their votes. Perhaps he had their skulls reduced with sand paper to the required thickness. Anyhow he thought they were fit enough then to vote. So much then for Tory consistency. He next shouts through his trumpet, "give me stability, character, and manliness." I ask him to show an example of his manliness by subscribing his name to his letters, and not be classed along with wolves dressed in sheep's clothing, who delight to shew their fangs, and then to slink into the darkness unknown. The rest of his abuse I pass by with silent contempt. He often makes use of the word "chaff," I am inclined to think that part of his revenue is derived from that source. In conclusion, I advise my fellow-workmen not to be bought by flattery, nor frightened by intimidation.—Yours, &c.,

THOMAS GATISS.

Dipton, May 16th, 1882.

[As both parties have had sufficient latitude, correspondence on this subject must now cease.—*Ed. C.G.*]

THE SALVATION ARMY BAND ON SUNDAY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—It would be a sheer waste of time attempting to ignore the good that is being done by the Salvation Army amongst the lowest strata of society. The "Force" seem to be rescuing shoals from perdition and shewing them the error of their ways. Whether the impression thus made on the flabby minds of these hapless creatures is ephemeral or otherwise, it would be hard to determine, and opinions vary considerably on this point. But even granting that the poor degenerate victims of drink and castaways of society are converted *only* for a day, I maintain that this is a step in the right direction, and so long as the seed is sown there is every hope of its fructifying, and for this all praise is due to the Salvationists. Their unabated enthusiasm and fiery zeal are very commendable while they are kept within proper and reasonable bounds and do not act to the prejudice of the church-going people. And in making this statement I allude more particularly to the untimely performance of the Salvation Band last Sunday during the hours of public worship. This was highly objectionable, and should not have been permitted, and I heard that one or two preachers at the Blackhill chapels actually had to stop in their discourses, as it was impossible for them to raise their voices above the vehement, powerful, and discordant music of the Salvation Band. With all due respect to my friends in the Army—and I am proud to reckon a few—might I be so bold as to suggest that if it is absolutely necessary for them to parade the streets with music they might do so when the churches are empty, and when they would run no risk of disturbing any of the congregations. Certainly a repetition of last Sunday's performance would be anything but welcome to regular church and chapel goers and their several pastors. The noise of the omnipotent band on Sunday last was very annoying and distracting to all engaged in worship, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the "Army" will in future altogether refrain from "straining harsh discords and unpleasant sharps" on a Sunday, or else choose a more seasonable time and appropriate spot to "make Heaven drowsy with their harmony."—I remain, dear sir, yours truly,

DECORUM.

THE GOSPELS AND THE LATE DEBATE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

"The three accounts (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) are so identical in matter, and so unaccountably varied in dictum, as to compel us to the conclusion that the writers had a common source of information from which each deflected more or less."—*Dean Alford—Greek Testament*—Mark ii. 13-22, note in loco.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—In the late debate between the Revs. Messrs. Baitey and Wood, both of whom I may say are very good friends of mine, the fourth Gospel was ignored by Mr Wood as its authorship had been, and is yet, questioned by a few German and English critics. Hence Mr Wood based his mere humanhood of Christ upon the synoptical Gospels only—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Now, many of your theological readers may not know where to look for an extensive, if not exhaustive, summary of the evidence of John having been the author of the fourth Gospel. To such, I may state that perhaps the most complete and orderly resume of this evidence is that given by Dr. Lightfoot, our present Bishop of Durham, in his luminous reply to "Supernatural Religion" a most learned, sceptical, and anonymous work issued a years ago in two volumes. I may add here that Dr. Lightfoot's reply thereto, appeared in successive articles in the *Contemporary Review* some years since, where and when I read it, and where, no doubt, any of your critically-minded readers may yet find it. Again, in the *Edinburgh Review* for January, 1877, there is a learned, brilliant, but may-be too biting, article upon the same sceptical work, and devoted specifically to John and the fourth Gospel. This article also (if my memory serves me) was from the pen of a dignitary of the Church of England. Of the two replies, I certainly prefer the calm, logical, and comprehensive affirmative of Dr. Lightfoot; but both are excellent and will well repay reading. As I have much to say upon the authorship of the Gospels which may be, to some of your readers, new and interesting; and yet not wishing to be tedious, allow me to pause here for the present. Au revoir.—Yours truly,

JON. C. WYLIE.

Grammar School, Blackhill,
24th May, 1882.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION NEAR PELTON FELL.

THREE MEN INJURED.

A slight explosion of gas took place on Wednesday at Pelton New Winning Colliery, but although there was a large number of men and boys—nearly 200—in the pit at the time, there was no personal injury except to three men. The colliery is situated about a mile to the westward of Chester-le-Street, and belongs to Lord Dunsaney and partners; and the explosion occurred at about half-past six o'clock on Wednesday morning. It appears that the Colliery is working the Busty seam which is here at a depth of 110 fathoms from the surface, and also a thin seam which lies at a few fathoms above the Busty. In the Busty Seam, an engine is being put in; and for the purpose of assisting in the work a drift has been driven along the upper seam, in order to facilitate the conveyance of the material used by the mason employed in the construction of the masonary necessary for the new engine. On Wednesday morning the mason and his two labourers employed at the work got their lamps examined and locked at bank in the usual manner, and then decended the shaft as far as the Busty Seam; they there got the loan of the onsetter's lamp, and when they had got to the entrance of the thin seam, after being raised from the Busty, and took in their night lamp to where they were to work, an explosion took place at some gas which had accumulated there. The consequence was that the whole of the three men—John Taylor, the mason, and Anthony Bell and James Porter, the two labourers—were slightly burnt; but they were fortunately able to ascend the shaft without assistance, and from thence two walked home and the other was taken home in a cart. Dr Morris and assistant, the resident medical men, were speedily in attendance, and ministered to the wants of the sufferers. The explosion was so slight that the fore-shift men, who were then in the pit, never felt it, and went on working their regular shift. We believe we may say that the men upon the colliery are satisfied that everything possible is done to prevent accidents. The colliery was the first in the neighbourhood to adopt the "Pelton" lamp, the light of which is extinguished immediately on coming into contact with inflammable gas; and now no lamps are in use there except the "Pelton" and the "Tinpot," which has a similar property to the "Pelton," and these were the lamps which the men in the pit were using at the time of the explosion. To show the praiseworthy manner in which the men at the colliery co-operate with the managers in adopting precautions against accidents, it may be stated that on Wednesday night, a deputation from the men waited upon Mr Henderson, the resident manager, and requested him to put upon the pit heap a notice that in future no tobacco-pipes are to be taken by any person into the pit. Mr Henderson informed the deputation that he, on behalf of the owners, cordially acquiesced in the recommendation, and would offer a reward of £1 to any person who would prove that any person had a pipe in his possession below the settle-boards of the pits. Up to a late hour the three injured men were going on well.

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

THROAT IRRITATION.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections, becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. and 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice. — Yours faithfully, GORDON HOLMES, L. R. C. P. E., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary." 185q

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

There was a young servant of Fife,
Whose Corns were the plague of her life,
For boots she wore "master's," but with Alcock's Corn Plaster
She now gets on those of his wife.

ALLCOCK'S CORN PLASTERS are admitted by tens of thousands to be the best cure for corns ever made. They allay the pain of the worst corn as if by magic, and the tightest boots can be worn with ease.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CONSETT.—Gibson Street, on the 20th inst., the wife of Mr. Thomas Robinson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

REGISTER OFFICE, LANCHESTER.—14th inst., Mr. M. Armstrong, to Mrs M. Scott, both of Castleside.—Same day, Mr T. Scott, Annfield Plain, to Miss M. Fawcett, Kyo.—18th inst., Mr Frederick Charles Greenwell, Fen Hall, Lanchester, to Miss Mary Ann Jackson, of same place.—20th inst., Mr M. Brown Edmondbyers, to Miss J. E. Armstrong, Blackhill.—20th inst., Mr W. Dee, Iveston, to Miss R. Temperley, Delves Lane.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—At 16, Puddlers' Row, on the 26th inst., aged 32, Isabel, beloved wife of Edward Lennox. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon at Two o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation. 577q

EDMONDBYERS.—On the 17th inst., aged 2 years 11 months, Martha, daughter of Alfred and Elizabeth Rowland.

STANLEY.—Shield Row Hall, on the 23rd inst., aged 4 years, Oswald Benson, son of T. Benson, M.R.C.S.

BYER MOOR COLLIERY.—20th inst, aged 43, John Coulthard.

STANHOPE.—21st inst., aged 70, Esther, the beloved wife of Thomas Crawhall.

BLACKHALL MILL.—24th inst., aged 31, John, the beloved husband of Kate Armstrong.

LEADGATE.—Green Street, on the 22nd inst. at the house of his son, aged 72 years, Alexander Fraser, late of Glasgow. 549q

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Shotley Grove, 21st inst., aged 17 years and 10 months, Robert, son of G. and M. A. Glenny.

ROBERT BEALL,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE, GRANITE AND STONE,
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Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at the Atmospheric Printing Works, Front Street, Consett.—Friday, May 26th, 1882.