ADAM BRODIE, AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENT, TOWN HALL, CONSETT, CONDUCTS SALES BY AUCTION ON REASONABLE TERMS.

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The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,294. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, May 29th, 1885 | PRICE ONE PENNY.

ADAM BRODIE, SHARE AND INSURANCE BROKER, TOWN HALL, CONSETT. LOCAL GAS, WATER, AND OTHER SHARES BOUGHT AND SOLD. ☞ DEALER IN STEAM-SHIP SHARES.

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£300 TO LEND on Mortgage of Good FREEHOLD PROPERTY.—Apply, ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 926

Contracts.

SANITARY PIPES.—TENDERS given for SANITARY PIPES, BRICKS, and FIRE CLAY GOODS of all Sizes.—Apply to R. CURRY & Co., Delves Lane, Consett.

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LOST, on Saturday, May 16th, between Highgate Lane and Shotley Bridge, a SILVER BRACELET.—Any one returning it to Mr. JOHN BRODIE, Shotley Bridge, will be rewarded. 561d

LOST, on Monday Night, between the Post Office and the Broome Gate, Leadgate, a LADIES' SILVER WATCH, with the initials "P. K." on the back.—Any one returning it to THOMAS KEBBLEWHITE, Butcher Leadgate, will be rewarded. 560c

Wanted.

WANTED, a respectable girl as GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply Mrs. DAYDEN, Weldon Street, Leadgate. 574b

WANTED, a thoroughly competent STOCKING KNITTER for the "Automatic" Machine. Constant employment for Machinist.—Apply to THOMAS HODGSON, Stocking-Knitter, Blackhill. 572c

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MRS. ARMSTRONG'S REGISTRY OFFICE, No. 18, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle.—Ladies requiring Servants can be suited daily with Cooks, Housemaids, Nurses, and good General Servants; and Servants of all classes with good situations, by applying at above address.

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TO LET, with immediate possession, a BEER-HOUSE, situate at Highgate, Blackhill.—Apply to RICHARD MURRAY, Blackhill. 570a

TO LET, a BUTCHER'S SHOP; one of the best openings in the district, no Butcher in the place. Also, GROCER'S SHOP and HOUSE.—Apply to WM. WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate. 571a

TO LET, a FURNISHED SITTING-ROOM and BED-ROOM, within three minutes' walk of the Railway Station.—Apply at No. 2, Wesley Terrace, Durham Road, Blackhill. 566c

TO LET, the SHOP at corner of Trafalgar and Victoria Streets, Consett, at present occupied by Mr. Alderson, Grocer.—Apply to Mr. MCGUIRE, Victoria Street. 283c

TO LET, with immediate possession, a comfortable Five-roomed HOUSE, situate on Iveston Road, Leadgate.—Apply to WILLIAM DAY, Auctioneer and Agent, Blackhill. 310c

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, STABLES, &c., for many years in the occupation of Mr. J. W. Tarbuck, Furniture Broker, &c., Catchgate.—Apply to GEO. HODSON, Harperley Mills. 293c

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TO LET, with immediate possession, DWELLING-HOUSES of five rooms, in Iveston Lane, Consett, and DWELLING-HOUSE of five Rooms in Broom Mount, Consett.—Apply, ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

TO LET, in Ledger Terrace, Blackhill, a Superior DWELLING-HOUSE, containing Five Rooms, together with large Garden and Grass Plot as at present occupied by Mr. Henry Lamb.—Apply to Mr. H. LAMB, or Mr. JOSEPH RAYMENT, Blackhill. 563c

TO LET, with immediate possession, a BLACKSMITH'S SHOP, with DWELLING-HOUSE and GARDEN attached, situated at Satley.—Full particulars and the Premises shown, on applying to Mr. W. P. HUNTT, Satley Grange, near Tow Law, Darlington.

TO LET, or FOR SALE, with immediate possession, substantial and Well-built FREEHOLD PROPERTY, situate in Consett, comprising Two roomy Shops, with comfortable Dwelling-House of Seven Rooms and Large Yard attached thereto, and Coach House and Stable adjoining. Possession may be had at once.—Apply, ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 567c

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WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, at 1d. per lb.—Apply at the *Guardian Office*, Consett.

FOR SALE, fresh-Sir via Novo of NEW MILK.—Can be had daily by applying to W. TAYLOR, Flint Hill, Dipton.

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A NEWLY-CALVED HEIFER, and COW, FOR SALE.—Apply to Mr. W. BULMAN, Woodlands, near Rainday Station. 284c

FOR SALE, several Incalving HEIFERS, close to profit, good quality, and One Calved.—Apply to Mr. GEO. HODSON, Harperley Mills, near Catchgate.

FOR SALE or TO LET, at November Term, a HOUSE of Five Rooms with every Convenience, and GARDEN.—Apply to JOHN HUTCHINSON, at Messrs. Jackson and Co., Clothiers, Market Place, Durham. 489c

FOR SALE, excellent FREEHOLD PROPERTY, situate in the centre of Consett, comprising Grocer's Shop (with Plate Glass Front) and House with Five Dwelling Rooms, Two Lumber Rooms, and Cellars attached, and Seven COTTAGES immediately adjoining, the whole producing a net Annual Rental of £80.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

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TO BE SOLD, by Private Contract, with immediate possession, the COPYHOLD LAND, called the "Whitney Allotment," numbered 19 and 20 on the Ordnance Map, and containing 29a. 3r. 32p., or thereabouts, now forming part of the Middlesteads Farm, in the Township of Muggleswick, and in the occupation of Mr. John Bowey, as Tenant. This Allotment is conveniently situated about half-a-mile from Consett, on the south-east side of the Castleside road.—Further particulars on application to DODDS & Co., Solicitors, Stockton-on-Tees.

Stockton, May, 1885. 532n

For Sale.

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

Business Announcements.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon the Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,

M. RICHLEY, Secretary

Gas Office, Shotley Bridge 145g

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OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL.

CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH & LIVER PILLS.

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HUGHES' Cough, Rheumatic, and Neuralgic Pills. The IXL Blood Purifying Mixture and Pills. Universal and Gout Mixture, Drops, Dandelion, and Mandrake Bitters. Concentrated Essences of Senna. Compound Decoction of the finest Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla. Tonga, the new S. ocific for Neuralgia. Raspberry Beer Powder.

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INVIGORATORS for Bronchitis and Asthma.

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From Mr. Joseph Lendigan, near Consett.

Sir,—Two years ago I happened a severe accident. Whilst at my work in the pit, a fall of stone came down on me and injured my spine, a little above the waist. I was hooked fairly useless, could not use my legs, and was unable to do any work. A year ago a friend of mine advised me to see you, and on your advice I purchased a Magnetic Belt and Spine Band. I feel proud to say that the Appliances have done me a vast amount of good, and especially the Belt. I am now better than I ever thought I should be. I can walk about, and have been working for the last six months, and can exercise myself freely. I shall be glad to get your Appliances. Nothing would tempt me to put them off, for I feel I could not follow my work without them.

I have come especially to Newcastle to inform you of the good I have derived from your appliances, and may be sure further that you may use this as you please for the benefit of other sufferers.—I am, yours respectfully,

JOHN SURTEES.

Mr. D. Lamont.

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Newcastle, January 22nd, 1885.

Dear Sir,—Some months ago, when suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis, I procured one of your Lung Protectors. I had not worn it many hours before I found a considerable relief, and within a week, I was, I am pleased to say, quite well again. Since that time, although frequently exposed to draughts, I have had no return of the ailment—in fact, I have not even so much as had a cough. I am convinced, therefore, that your Appliances, besides being curative, are also Preventative, and I recommend all persons who are liable to take cold to procure one of your Lung Protectors.—I remain, yours truly,

THOMAS J. SCOTT.

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Byers Green, near Spennymoor,

Dear Sir,—I have worn one of your Magnetic Belts for some months, and from the benefit I have derived from it have purchased one for myself, and have pleasure in stating that I have found most satisfactory benefit from it. It is a great support, and comfortable to wear, and I heartily advise all Magnetic sufferers to send back to you for one of your valuable Belts.—Yours, &c.,

THOMAS HUTCHINSON.

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THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 21s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., (formerly sold at 30s.), continue to give unbounded satisfaction. Measuring for Belt, please state WAIST MEASURE OVER FIRST GARMENT. Sent Post Free on receipt of P.O.O.

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☞ DELVES LANE, CONSETT. 43

STOCK of BRICKS, PIPES, &c., at DELVES LANE DEPOT.

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STARCHES, BLUES, PATENT MEDICINES, and all PACKETED GOODS 10 to 50 per cent. Cheaper than the usual Prices.

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They submit a few of their Specialities which are well worthy of a trial, viz:—Alberts, rich Tea, Wine, Shanghiow, Water, Ginger Nuts, extra Toast, Digestive (rich and royal); also, their famed Scotch Parle (rich) and Scotch Oat Cakes (plain). These can be had from all Grocers, and from their Wholesale Agents,

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PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

Also, the THYMO CRESOL UNIVERSAL PURIFIER, most excellent as a Disinfectant and Wash for Cattle.

Price 6d. and 1s. per Bottle, or 2s. 6d. per Quart.

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MEDICINES FOR DIARRHŒA IN CALVES, &c.

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Milner's Dandelion and Podophyllin Pills. Excellent for the Stomach, and all diseases of the Liver.

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FINEST COD LIVER OIL. TASTELESS ITALIAN CASTOR OIL.

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Herb Beer Packets, Raspberry and Ginger Beer Powders.

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

NOTE ADDRESS:—MILNER, CHEMIST, 7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAY 29TH, 1885.

LEGISLATIVE PRESSURE.

Most people were rather surprised, the other day, on reading Mr GLADSTONE'S statement respecting the amount and character of the legislation which it was intended to press upon Parliament during the remaining few weeks of the Session—certainly not more than ten weeks, unless the session is to be quite abnormally prolonged. There are a Crofters Bill and a kind of Home Rule Bill for Scotland, an Intermediate Education Bill for Wales, and a Crimes Bill and Land Purchase Bill for Ireland—all important measures, and all likely to be fully discussed, if not opposed, at their various stages. At the same time that this new work is to be undertaken, there is plenty of half-completed work to finish, while both the foreign policy and the financial arrangements of the Government will probably provoke considerable further criticism. Why, then, should such herculean attempts at legislation be made? The answer may perhaps suggest itself, that having been foiled in their military expedition to the Soudan, impeded in their attempts to reorganise Egyptian administration, and checkmated by Russia on the Afghan frontier, the GLADSTONE Cabinet are anxious to make up for their shortcomings in foreign policy by heroic achievements in home legislation. It might also be insinuated that the Government are anxious so fully to occupy the time of Parliament as to leave little opportunity for discussion on foreign affairs. But no such explanations are required to account for the programme of legislation submitted for the fag-end of the session.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Royal Assent was given by commission to the Registration Bills, and several other measures. Lord Lemington moved that it was the duty of the country to withdraw from the Declaration of Paris of 1856. Earl Granville spoke against the proposal, and said no doubt the parties to the Declaration were bound by it. In reply to Lord Inchiquin, the Earl of Kimberley declared that no demand had been made by Russia to be represented at Cabul on an equal footing with England, or that English officers should not be employed on the fortifications of Herat; or that the neutrality of Afghanistan should be recognised. The House adjourned until Friday, 5th June.

In the Commons, Lord E. Fitzmaurice informed Mr Gibson that the *Boshore Egyptien* had re-appeared, but the Government had the positive assurance of the French Government that the tone of its articles would be unobjectionable. Mr J. K. Cross, in reply to Mr Stanhope, said that papers relating to the meeting of the Ameer and the Viceroy would not be presented before Whitsuntide. The Prime Minister announced that before the House was asked to read the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill a second time, the intentions of the Government with regard to the provisions affecting the duties on wine, spirits, and beer would be clearly stated. The Home Secretary, in reply to Sir E. Watkin, said that under existing circumstances the orders relating to the examination of passengers' luggage from the Continent could not be relaxed. The Attorney-General made a statement in reference to the duties of Clerks of the Peace and Town Clerks under the Redistribution Bill. The Marquis of Hartington could not give Sir Stafford Northcote the reasons which had led the Government to detain the Guards at Alexandria, but reminded the right hon. bart. of what had been said not long ago of the troops being ready for service whenever they might be required. Lord E. Fitzmaurice informed Sir H. Wolff that the only Power with whom communications had taken place as to the occupation of Suakin was Turkey. Mr John Morley gave notice of motion declaring it to be inexpedient to re-enact certain parts of the Crimes Act. Mr J. K. Cross, in moving the second reading of the East India Loan Bill, explained the position of the frontier railways intended to be made. A discussion followed, in which Mr Stanhope, Mr W. L. Jackson, Sir G. Campbell, and others took part. Ultimately the motion was agreed to.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr J. Cowen gave notice that he would call attention to the relations between the Government and the Vatican, and move a resolution. In reply to a question, the Marquis of Hartington said the native messengers had been unable to find any trace of Europeans said to have been captured at Khartoum, and now in a state of slavery. Mr Gladstone informed Mr M'Coan that Germany and Austria had not yet joined in the Egyptian loan guarantee, but there was no reason to believe that they had any objection to do so. On the motion for the second reading of the Bill to establish sixpenny telegrams, a long discussion followed, led off by Mr Ald. Lawrence, who advocated a fixed charge of 3d for addresses. Mr Shaw-Lefevre, in reply, showed how small the margin of profit would be from the new telegrams, but he avowed himself as ready to make certain concessions in respect of the address. In the end the second reading of the Bill was agreed to without a division. The Home Secretary then moved the second reading of the Bill for the Protection of Young Girls, which was talked out by Mr Hopwood. At seven o'clock the House adjourned until Thursday, the 4th June.

A beehive belonging to Mr Martin, Low Warden, Hexham, threw off a fine top swarm on the 26th inst., this being remarkably early, considering the severity of the weather this month.

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

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road London.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—Ed. C.G.

INCOME TAX.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The time being near when many will have to pay this tax, or appeal off before the Commissioners—a course which I have taken frequently without result, and at considerable increased cost to myself, in the way of time spent and expense incurred in going to Gateshead to meet this august assembly, I would like to know if you or any of your correspondents could point out an efficient course to pursue in respect to the matter.—Yours, &c., AN AGGRIEVED TRADESMAN.

Blackhill, May 27th, 1885.

[If "An Aggrieved Tradesman" will consult Mr Adam Brodie, accountant, of Consett, he will probably learn how to avoid paying the increased cost to which he refers.—Ed. C.G.]

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY EVENING.

The Ministerial crisis about which too much has been made is virtually over. Sir Charles Dilke has been closeted with the Lord-Lieutenant in Dublin, and a compromise has been arranged, the exact details of which have not yet transpired. In any case the Crimes Continuance Bill for a twelvemonth only and a Land Purchase Bill is the double-barrelled measure which is to pacify Ireland and keep matters quiet till the new electorate have decided what steps to take for a final settlement of the Irish question.

Among many mistakes, let us do the Cabinet justice. They have at last taken one step which was well advised and not a day too soon. I refer to the mission of Lord Rosebery, who went over to spend his Whitsuntide holidays in Berlin—ostensibly to pay a return visit to Count Herbert Bismarck, but in reality to interview the German Chancellor, and to get out of him some fresh statement as to the future relations of Germany with this country. If frankness were the only thing wanted, never ought a Government to be better satisfied. Assuredly it has the opportunity as no other British Government before of seeing itself as others see it. But what do the utterance of the great Arbiter really amount to? He tells us we cannot manage the Egyptian business single-handed, and that our persistency there is striving to maintain impossible conditions, and will end in nothing better than the complete alienation of the sympathy of the whole of Europe. The Soudan, he says, must be separated from Egypt under Italian or Turkish protection. Egypt must be neutralized under a strong and popular Khedive. The Suez Canal must be confided to his Government conjointly with those of all nations, England being allowed a marked preponderance in its surveillance and maintenance, for which, of course, we shall have to pay a *quid pro quo*.

Victor Hugo is more fortunate than Homer. Seven cities contended for the blind old rhapsodist when dead, who, as the old English rhyme has it, "living, grudged him bread." Victor Hugo on his death-bed was contended for by all parties in Paris—right, left, and centre—as belonging to them. Even the right put in their claim on the strength of his singing an ode on the birth of the Duc de Bordeaux, the *enfant de miracle* who died little more than a year ago as the Chambord of that ilk, whose exile at Froksdorf put an end to the last pretensions of the Legitimist party. Of all men Victor Hugo was farthest removed from a Legitimist; but death levels these distinctions.

It is popularly believed that there is nothing new under the sun; but surely a registered "Universal Knowledge and Information Office" is a novel idea likely to be of very practical benefit to those who require special information accurately and concisely given. A tempting prospectus promises answers to the most recondite questions for the modest sum of one shilling, assuredly the most reasonable rate at which wisdom was ever dispensed. Testimonials from the Duke of St. Albans, Lord Carrington, and even Mr Spurgeon give gratifying proof that this remarkable institution is a very genuine affair. The Universal Knowledge Office is situated in the neighbourhood of Bloomsbury Square, conveniently near the British Museum. Questions upon art, law, literature—nothing comes amiss, and the synopsis of subjects upon which information may be had for a shilling includes such unusual studies as geodesy, kinematics, and psychonomy. When for twelve-pence we can be initiated into such mysteries as these, who would say that is "folly to be wise"? It is right to add that in connection with this office is a department specially devoted to questions and enquiries (*not private*) respecting every trade, business, and profession. The motto over the door of the Universal Knowledge establishment should surely be "Enquire withing upon everything."

Mr Childers is unfortunate. His little scheme for replacing worn coins by throwing the cost on the half-sovereign, and regarding it as a token, was thrown over by the furious tirades of Lord Randolph Churchill, who broke out against it as if our coinage was going to be tampered with. The result is that the loss on worn coins still falls on the last owner, and a very useful reform has been postponed indefinitely. What is wanted is more drive to force measures of this kind on through the opposition of members for Woodstock, Bridport, Eye, and such small boroughs.

Seventy-five thousand shillings poured into the treasury of the Inventories on Whit-Monday. The rain on Bank Holiday, which played havoc with all other kind of entertainments, only brought the people in their thousands to Kensington. It was an extraordinary sight to see men, women, and children, and almost all of one class, damp, deliquescent, and their garments draggled with mud and rain-splashes, but all good-humoured and looking as if bent on enjoying themselves. The success of the day seemed to be perfect in spite of the weather.

On Monday afternoon, the Bishop of Durham opened the new building in connection with the mission society to seamen at South Shields.

At the Durham County Police Court, on Wednesday, Catherine Davison, for stealing a silver watch and watch guard from the house of Edward Cancannan, with whom she had been staying, at Waterhouses, was committed for trial at the Sessions.

IMPENDING STRIKE OF IRONWORKERS IN AMERICA.—The *Times* Philadelphia correspondent telegraphs on Tuesday:—Those concerned in the Pittsburgh iron trade cannot, to the general surprise, agree upon a settlement of the wages dispute. The workmen offered a 10 per cent. reduction, but the masters demanded one of 20 per cent. A strike next Monday is regarded as imminent.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent." While Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease."

MR W. CRAWFORD ON WAR.—Mr W. Crawford, the Liberal candidate for Mid-Durham, in his monthly circular to the Durham miners, writes:—"Until last week we had everything to fear that we were about to be launched into what would undoubtedly have been one of the most terrible wars that the world ever witnessed. Thanks to the firmness, but Christian forbearance, exercised by Mr Gladstone and his Government, we have now every prospect of avoiding that fearful calamity. The 'Jingoes' clamour for war, but I often think they do it much more vociferously than would be done had they to be sent to the seat of war with all its horrors and miseries. How often you find a man give a hasty amen to the preacher's prayer to save us from war, and next day you find him praying for war, if it only makes business better. Everything must be smashed under the Juggernaut of self-interest. Such a doctrine is very bad Christianity, and, in fact, I would call it only second-rate humanity. I don't say peace at any price. But by all means let us avoid aggressive wars, and where we can honourably prevent even a defensive one let us do so."

NORTHERN BAPTIST UNION CONFERENCE AT GATESHEAD.

On Monday, the annual session of the Northern Union of Baptist Churches was opened in the Durham Road Baptist Church, Gateshead, the Rev A. F. Riley (Moderator) presiding. There were present the Revs R. Handford, Bishop Auckland; E. P. Riley, Consett; H. Dinnington, East Hartlepool; J. Barker, West Hartlepool; T. Durant, Hamsterley; J. Stephens and F. Stubbs, Marlborough Crescent, Newcastle; W. Whale, Middlesbrough; H. J. Betts, Rye Hill, Newcastle; J. Charter, Middleton-in-Teesdale; W. G. Lumsden, Monkwearmouth; J. G. Deane, Riding Mill; E. W. Jenkins, Rowley and Highgate; W. Hanson, South Shields; T. E. Rawlings, Tabernacle, South Shields; T. L. Edwards, Stockton; H. Winsor, South Stockton; R. Speed, Sunderland; R. Herries North Shields; R. W. Dobbie, Waterhouses; G. Pring, Wolsingham; and J. McDonnell, Crosby Garrett.

The session was opened with a prayer meeting, after which a paper was read by Mr S. J. Leybourne, of Gateshead, on "Our attitude in relation to religious work outside the churches." He said the duty of the church was to cultivate the powers for usefulness in their midst. Let the special gifts of the members, whether for working in the Sunday-school, for visiting homes, or for visiting the sick, or for church work, be utilised. There were probably many members of the churches who could fill the pulpit occasionally, but they had very little opportunity for exercising, and it was pitiful to see the difficulty there was in some cases to fill the pulpit during the minister's holidays.—The Rev R. Speed, Sunderland, spoke of the attitude of the church towards Young Men's Christian Associations and other forms of Christian labour.—The Rev J. M. Stephens said the disposition to cultivate so many extraneous forms of Christian labour was unhealthy. If the church was more healthy there would be no necessity for outside efforts.—The Revs W. Whale, W. Hanson, and Hudson, and Mr W. H. Dunn (of Gateshead), Mr Edwards, and Mr Collier also took part in the discussion, and Mr Leybourne having replied, the Moderator, in closing the discussion, said with reference to outside work—let them engage in all kinds of good work, but first be be careful to attend to the work of their own church.

In the afternoon, the Moderator (the Rev A. F. Riley) welcomed the Revs T. C. Rawlings (South Shields) and T. L. Edwards (Stockton) to the district. He then gave his address, the subject of which was "The present day duty of Nonconformists in regard to the Established Church." He referred to the greater sympathy which was to-day growing amongst the various Nonconformist churches, and to the fact that they were becoming a greater power in the land. The members of the Established Church were now recognising the good work being done by the Free Churches. The victories of Nonconformity were too manifest, the good work it was doing too plain, its enterprise too spirited for it to be treated as if it or its work was of no consequence. The greater part of the nation which was religious claimed, he believed, to be Nonconformists. The established church had never done so much good in our country as it was doing to-day, and in that they all rejoiced, because it was a result of the greater sympathy between the church and nonconformity. If that were so was it not only unwise but actually wicked to introduce an element that would spoil all this. It would be much easier not to do it, for it was a much simpler task to oppose the Establishment when it was doing so much good. Still his objection to the Church was mainly religious and not political, and he lamented that religious objection to it was much less pronounced than it had been. It was not in harmony with the spirit and teaching of Christ to have a church governed by the State, by an assembly of men, many of whom repudiated His claims. It was all very well for well-intentioned men like Albert Grey to try to reform the Church, but disestablishment was inevitable.—The reports of the churches were then proceeded with. Gateshead reported a net increase of seven, a membership of 304, three Sunday-schools with 600 scholars and 90 teachers; Newcastle 2nd district, increase 13, 374 members, 2 schools, 367 scholars and 41 teachers. It was also reported that £600 had been raised during the year, mainly through the efforts of the pastor, and that the debt was now reduced to £1,000. North Shields: Increase, 20; members, 155; 2 schools, 260 scholars, and 35 teachers. In the Hamsterley district there was a net decrease of 11 members; in Stockton, a net increase of 17 members; and in Shotley, a net increase of 16.

The proceedings were commenced on Tuesday morning at seven o'clock by a prayer meeting, held in the Baptist Church, Gateshead, under the presidency of the Rev R. F. Handford, Bishop Auckland. The business of the Conference was resumed at ten o'clock, when the ministers and messengers met, and the Rev A. F. Riley presided.—The Rev E. W. Jenkins, Blackhill, read the Circular Letter, and took for his subject, "How to increase the spiritual efficiency of our churches." He dwelt on the importance of mission work, and of encouraging the work of Sunday-schools, Bands of Hope, and other agencies. — A resolution thanking the Moderator for his opening address, the Rev H. J. Betts for the association sermon, and the Rev E. W. Jenkins for his circular letter was agreed to.—The Rev W. Hanson, South Shields, read the annual report, which stated that none of the churches which received grants last year would be able to dispense with them this year, and that the unaided as well as the aided churches had felt the stress of hard times. A vacancy had occurred at the Jarrow pulpit, owing to the Rev James Barker having accepted an invitation to West Hartlepool. Consett was without a pastor, and one would have to be provided." It was regretted by the committee that this year's balance was smaller than the previous one, and the free subscriptions also showed a falling off. They also regretted the receipt of the resignation of the treasurer (Mr G. Angus).—The treasurer's report showed that the receipts amounted to £940 2s 6d, including a balance of £207 5s 3d. The expenditure had been £864 11s 10d, leaving a balance in hand of £75 10s 8d. It was agreed that the reports be printed and circulated.—A motion regretting that, owing to increasing engagements and failing health the treasurer (Mr G. Angus) was compelled to resign his position, and tendering him hearty thanks for his services, was unanimously carried.—Mr John Williamson, Darlington, was appointed vice-moderator for the ensuing year, this carrying with it the office of moderator for the year following; and Ald. Angus, Mr G. Angus, and Mr Sharp were appointed honorary members of the association.—The committee having been appointed, it was resolved to hold the next annual session at Middlesbrough, the preacher to be the Rev F. Barker or the Rev J. C. Rawlings; that the circular letter be read by the Rev R. F. Handford and Mr Leybourne; that a subscription of £3 3s be given to the funds of the Baptist Union, and that another subscription be given to the British and Irish Home Mission Fund.—Mr S. J. Leybourne moved, and the Rev E. W. Jenkins seconded, the following resolution:—"This session, recognising the greatness of the power put into the hands of the people by the recent extension of the franchise, urges upon the members of our churches and congregations to make such use of this power at the next election as shall help to promote religious equality, national temperance, and the social improvement of the people."—Several gentlemen urged that this resolution also should be abandoned, as it dealt with a political subject; but it was finally agreed to take the vote upon it without discussion. This being done, the resolution was carried.—After a vote of thanks had been accorded to Mr Leybourne for his paper on Monday, the meeting adjourned.—Subsequently a luncheon was held in the Durham Road U.M.F.C. School-room, at which about 100 persons sat down.—The Rev A. F. Riley presided, and toasts of a complimentary character were proposed.

In the evening, a home mission public meeting was held in the Baptist Church, when the Mayor (Ald. McDermott) presided.—There was a large attendance, and addresses were delivered by several pastors and friends.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants insects, ground moles, &c 7½d. and 1s. boxes.

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

Cricket.

[*** Several cricket Match Reports only reached this office on Thursday. We beg to intimate that we shall no insert full scores of Saturday's matches unless received by Wednesday morning.—*Ed.*]

LOCAL FIXTURES.

May 30—Consett v. Newcastle City at Newcastle.
" 30—Tanfield v. Burnhope at Tanfield.
" 30—Consett White Star v. Blaydon, at Consett.
" 30—Marley Hill v. Medomsley, at Marley Hill.
" 30—Whickham v. Gateshead Fell, at Whickham.
" 30—Winlaton v. S.S. Mary and James, at Newcastle.

WYLAM HALL v. NEWBURN.—Played at Wylam, and resulted in a victory for the home team by 22 runs. Score:—Wylam, 57; Newburn 35.

PRUDHOE HALL v. GREENSIDE.—Played at Prudhoe on Saturday, resulting in a win for the former by six wickets to fall. Score: Greenside, 51; Prudhoe Hall (for five wickets only), 52.

NEVILLE IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE v. DERWENT VALLEY.—Played at Swalwell, on the ground of the latter, and resulted in an easy win for the home team by 23 runs and nine wickets to fall. Score:—Neville, 54; Derwent Valley, 77 for two wickets.

MEDOMSLEY v. WEST DENTON.—Played at Medomsley on Saturday, and resulted in a draw greatly in favour of Medomsley, Mr Snowdon handling the willow for the home team in excellent style and scoring 34 runs. Score:—Medomsley, 130; West Denton (for six wickets), 14.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v. DUNSTON.—This match was played at Shotley Spa grounds on Tuesday in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. The wicket was very slow in consequence of the heavy rain, and small scoring was the order of the day. The Consett batted first, compiling a total of 29. Messrs Raw and Richards each scored 9; Richard and Dookin bowled well for Dunston, the former having seven wickets for 12 runs. The Dunston men scored a total of 60, Messrs. Dinning (13), Leadbitter (16), and Chard (13), batting in good style. The fielding on both sides was very smart, some sharp catches being taken by Messrs Raw and Richards.

WEST STANLEY v. WEST PELTON.

This match was played at West Stanley on Saturday, resulting in a victory for the home team by 45 runs. Score:—

WEST PELTON.		WEST STANLEY.	
D. Appleton c Hogarth b Nichol	0	I. Harkness b Mole	0
R. Sheavils b Nichol	0	E. Dunweedie c McKinlay b Mole	5
T. McKinlay b Harkness	2	J. Curry c Ritson b Mole	2
C. Ritson run out	0	J. Thompson b Mole	5
J. Owers c Dodds b Harkness	2	J. Hunter c McKinlay b Mole	20
F. Mole c Nichol b Harkness	11	P. Harkness b Mole	6
T. White not out	2	T. Nichol b Ritson	4
T. Battison run out	0	W. Dodds b Mole	8
R. Stockburn run out	0	J. Hogarth run out	0
W. Charlton c Nichol b Harkness	0	J. G. Mann not out	7
J. Benfold b Harkness	0	R. Knox b Ritson	1
Extras	4	Extras	8
Total	21	Total	66

CONSETT 2ND v. LEADGATE 2ND.

Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, and resulted in an easy victory for the visitors, Consett making very little out of the bowling of Messrs Turner and Munighan. Score:—

LEADGATE.		CONSETT.	
A. Prince b Kirkup	19	T. Kirkup b Turner	1
J. J. Walton run out	0	W. Foggan b Turner	4
J. Munighan c Flynn b Raw	0	N. Raw b Turner	0
S. Nattrass b Raw	8	T. Jackson b Munighan	4
R. Westhorpe c and b Raw	1	T. Gibson run out	3
J. Brown b Raw	1	W. Ramsay b Munighn	1
J. Snaith b Raw	6	M. Gibson thrown out	1
A. Turner not out	6	J. Askew b Turner	0
J. Marlow c and b Raw	1	W. Kempster c Snaith b Turner	2
H. Applegarth b Raw	1	P. Flynn c Munighan b Turner	0
T. Westhorpe b Raw	0	J. Richards not out	0
Extras	2	Extras	4
Total	45	Total	20

MEDOMSLEY v. CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

Played at Shotley Spa on Whit-Monday, and resulted in an easy victory for Medomsley by 36 runs. The batting of Messrs Jackson, Little, and T. Murphy for Medomsley was good; while Mr J. Richards did fair service for Consett. Score:—

MEDOMSLEY.		CONSETT.	
A. Little b Raw	13	I. Richards lbw b G. E. Milburn	5
T. Murphy b Templeton	11	P. Flynn b J. Murphy	1
F. Jackson not out	23	J. Richards b Jackson	12
W. Palliser b Templeton	1	P. Gibson lbw b Milbrn	0
J. Murphy b J Richrds	4	J. Costello run out	2
G. E. Milburn c Turnbull b J. Richards	0	W. Turnbull b Jackson	0
M. Milburn b Raw	1	S. Templeton b Jackson	0
F. Robinson b Raw	0	N. Raw c Little b Milburn	3
J. Snowdon b J Richrds	2	T. Jackson run out	4
E. Charlton run out	6	M. Gibson not out	0
G. Walton b J Richrds	0	J. Askew b Jackson	0
Extras	4	Extras	2
Total	65	Total	29

CONSETT WHITE STAR v. HAMSTERLEY.

Played at Consett on Saturday, the visitors winning easily. Score:—

HAMSTERLEY.		WHITE STAR.	
R. Chaytor b Cockburn	7	W. Turnbull b Richardson	2
M. Goodwin b Turley	2	J. Maxwell c Chaytor b Richardson	6
W. Mason b Turley	15	J. Walch b Mason	2
J. Holden c Willey b Adamson	22	T. Adamson b Richardson	0
F. Richardson b Cockburn	0	J. Turnbull b Mason	0
J. Anderson st	13	J. Willey c Stewart b Mason	2
J. Wood b Turnbull	11	R. Turley run out	4
T. Anderson st	5	Corpl. Malpass b Mason	0
J. Ward not out	3	J. R. Maxwell not out	0
J. Anderson b Turnbull	0	T. Cockburn b Mason	0
H. Stewart run out	0	Sergt. Turley run out	0
Extras	11	Extras	3
Total	89	Total	19

Sporting Items.

PIGEON FLYING AT BURNOPFIELD.—On Saturday, a pigeon flying handicap promoted by Mr R. Witty, Grapes Inn, Burnopfield, was concluded from Mr Peacock's, Shield Row, and after some interesting flying, resulted as follows:—Mr J. Burnip's Boney Pat 1; Mr J. Burnip's Dick Turpin 2. There were 27 entries; won by one second. Mr J. Beauly was starter, and Mr R. Patterson timekeeper and referee.

WEST STANLEY WHITSUNTIDE RACES AND SPORTS.—With good weather in the ascendant the myriads of people who dwell in the district mustered at the old trysting place adjoining West Stanley Collieries, to celebrate their Whitsuntide carnival, on Whit-Monday. The Tradesmen's Stakes; one mile heats—Mr Smith's Little Jessie, 1, Mr Gladstone's Weldon Bridge 2.—Horse leaping—Mr Furnace's Randolph 1, Mr C. Almond's Kathleen 2.—The Licensed Victuallers' Stake; one mile heats—Mr Ayre's Nellie 1, Mr Wilson's Killingworth Lad 2.

QUOITING AT WINLATON.—The third and fourth heats of Thomas Forbes's quoit handicap were played on Saturday, at Mr H. Rayne's quoit ground, Winlaton, when two exciting games were played. Score:—Kelly, Blaydon, 22 start—51; Crawley, Crawcrook, 17—50. Boyd, Winlaton, 27—41; Ellison, Winlaton Mill, 27—51.—A match was afterwards played between M. Kelly, Blaydon, and J. Dodds, Ryton, for £3 a-side. Kelly won by one point. Score:—Kelly, 21; Dodds, 20. T. Forbes was referee.

SPORTS AT PRUDHOE.—The annual pic-nic and sports of the Prudhoe Rovers Football Club was held on Saturday, in a field at High Prudhoe, granted by the Mickley Coal Company. The weather was favourable, and the attendance was good. The committee offered £10 in prizes. Results:—120 yards hurdle race, over four flights of hurdles.—Final heat—J. Gray, Blaydon, 1; R. Elliott, West Wylam, 2; F. Cane, Blaydon, 3. Won by two yards. Boys' race.—J. Liddle, Low Prudhoe, 1; W. Burrell, Prudhoe, 2; W. Taylor, Low Prudhoe, 3. Won easily. Wrestling.—Final falls—W. Dobson, West Wylam, threw J. Jewitt, Prudhoe, twice in succession, and won. 120 yards handicap footrace.—Final heat—W. Dixon, West Wylam, 1; J. White, Hexham, 2; J. Robinson, Hexham, 3; F. Cane, Blaydon, 4. Won by a yard and a half. Officials:—Pistol firer, J. Leonard; handicappers, G. Charlton, J. Robson, and W. B. Dodd; judge for racing, G. Charlton; wrestling, Douthwaite, E. Collins, and Robertson.

FOOTBALL.—The Boundary v. Mickley Football Club played at Stocksfield, and the match resulted in a victory for the Boundary by three goals to one. The goals for the Boundary were kicked by T. Wood, T. Campbell, and H. Bell.

ANGLING IN THE DERWENT.—The fishing below Ebchester this season will be a failure. The pollutions from the neighbourhood of Shotley have about depopulated the stream below this village. The fish are plentiful above Shotley, but owing to the unseasonable weather they are bad to catch. A member of the Derwent Angling Association caught a basket of 16 fish last Saturday, in good condition. Another angler living at Shotley also basketed about 30. The flies are very backward in putting in an appearance. The banks of the river on Whit-Monday and Tuesday were alive with the disciples of Isaac Walton, but as far as we have heard the baskets of fish were not large. One gentleman from the neighbourhood of Newcastle had two or three nice trout, one of them weighing about half-a-pound. For the remainder of this month and June, the following will kill their share of fish: Black spider, starling and yellow, starling and orange, and woodcock, wings dark green, body rubbed with gold wire and coloured bordered legs.

A FARMING PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE AT MARLEY HILL.

THOMPSON v. THOMPSON.—At the Durham Chancery Sittings last week—before the Hon. James Fleming, Q.C. (judge)—the guidance of the court was sought in this action as to the partnership accounts of Robert Thompson and his brothers, who carried on a farming partnership. Mr Strachan (instructed by Mr W. S. Stobo, Newcastle), was for the plaintiff, Robert Thompson, and Mr Granger (instructed by Messrs Bush and Wilson, Newcastle), was for the defendants, George Thompson, of Hedley West Farm, near Marley Hill, and Wm. Thompson, of Really Myres Farm, Greenside.

Mr Strachan said that in 1864 the plaintiff, Robt. Thompson, and his brothers were all at Ravenside farm. Robert was then 19 years of age, and he paid into the concern a sum of £60, which was about equal to what was paid into it by the other brothers, three in number. They worked the farm jointly up to 1882, and in 1873 the farm of Really Myres was taken, and farms at Coskeley and Hedley West were also taken, and the stock was party transferred to them. The question was as to the removal of the stock from one of the farms to the other, Hedley West being taken in the name of one of the brothers only. They took several farms in different parts of the county, and also one in Northumberland, and their transactions extended till 1884, when one of the parties took a farm in his own name, and there was a claim to have the partnership dissolved. It was now alleged that the plaintiff was a partner in all the transactions of the parties since 1864, and that he was entitled to have an inquiry into all of them.

Robert Thompson was called as a witness, and said when he went into the partnership in 1864 he was to have equal shares with his brothers. He paid £60 into the farm. They afterwards worked jointly the farms of Really Myres, and a farm at Coskeley was taken in 1878, and part of the stock was taken there, and part of what was so taken was brought back in 1880. The farm of Hedley West was taken by George Thompson. He had been left out of the other partnership, because he had signed a bond. About two-thirds of their stock was sent to Really Myres.

On behalf of the defendants it was contended that the plaintiff, who in 1864 was a minor, being only 19 years of age, was not a partner in their transactions before 1872.

His Honour directed an inquiry before the Registrar, in regard to the three persons mentioned in the pleadings; of the persons interested as partners in the farms; and when George ceased to be a partner with his brothers; and when the plaintiff became a partner with his brothers; and then an inquiry as to the stock which was removed to one of the farms (Coskeley), which was out of the jurisdiction of the court, and what stock was brought back within the jurisdiction.

Further consideration of the case to be adjourned until the inquiry is made.

The Oddfellows of Pelton have purchased extensive and commodious premises for an Oddfellows' hall.

CHURCH CONFERENCE AT BYWELL.—On Saturday, the annual Conference of the clergy and representative laity of the Rural Deanery of Corbridge was held at Bywell St. Peter's, the Bishop assisting. There were present fifteen clergy, namely, Rev Canon Dwarris, rural dean, chairman; Revs H. Slater, A. Johnson, J. L. Low, R. W. Wilson, G. M. Gurley, W. M. Wray, C. W. James, W. Jesson, J. C. Maughan, C. Taylor, W. B. East, W. L. J. Cooley, and — Page; nine laymen, namely, Messrs R. Wallis, W. Aldam, C. H. James, J. W. Walton-Wilson, S. Pattinson, J. Beavan, T. Reed, C. Ollier, and C. Bates. After Holy Communion in St. Peter's Church and a sermon by the Rev W. Jesson, Vicar of Mickley, the Conference met at Bywell St. Peter's Vicarage.—A resolution was unanimously passed expressing the sense of the loss sustained in the deanery and throughout the diocese by the death of the Rev J. F. Bigge, and sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement.—The following were the subjects for discussion:—1. What is expected from the laity in rural Church work; introduced in a paper by Mr C. H. James, of Rutchester. 2. Temperance; paper by Mr S. Pattinson. 3. Historical records of parishes; papers were read by (i.) Mr C. Bates, on parish registers, with special reference to Heddon-on-the-Wall; (ii.) Rev A. Johnson, on parish registers, with special reference to Bywell; (iii) Rev J. L. Low, on Whittonstall Church. 4. Parochial guilds; paper by Rev C. W. James. On each of these subjects an interesting discussion followed.—Six clergymen and six laymen were elected to represent the Deanery at the Diocesan Conference, namely:—Clergy—Revs J. L. Low, W. M. Wray, H. Slater, J. C. Maughan, W. L. J. Cooley, and A. Johnson; laity—Messrs R. Wallis, W. Aldam, R. Clayton, R. Fuller, D. O. Drewitt, and C. H. James.

THE OPERATIONS OF THE DURHAM COUNTY FRANCHISE AND POLITICAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.—The President of the Durham County Franchise Association was right when he said at the meeting of the Council, last Saturday, that the members met that day under circumstances which made the occasion almost a triumph. The Association has gone through a decade of hard political warfare in the battles of which it has constantly led the van. And now the County householders are enfranchised, and a Redistribution Bill is all but passed, under which the counties will in the future bulk very much more importantly in all political and party calculations. This is, indeed, a triumph of reform movement. But such Associations are not yet useless, and under its new name—the Durham Political Reform Association—this organization may yet guide its members successfully in the promulgation of as great reforms as the extension of the Franchise. Such an Association wisely guided (as during the secretaryship of Mr John Wilson it always has been) may be of inestimable value to the political and social education of the working classes. The man who would honourably take a part in the work of such an association must read, and must think out the questions of social reform on which he is desirous of speaking and forming the opinions of his fellows. And by thus dissipating ignorance, the Association draws the sting of democracy and enhances its real and beneficial power; for while an ignorant yet powerful democracy is a source of danger to others and to itself, an intelligent democracy will unfailingly militate for the national weal. There may be, indeed there are, many questions on which we hold less advanced views than the majority of the members of the Durham Political Reform Association. Yet we do not the less esteem them for that. Impetuosity is a sign of healthy youth, and age with its experience brings broader and milder views. The democratic elements of the Association are in the youth of their political power, and it is a sign of their lusty health that they are eager and advanced in their opinions. Let the members feel that with new power come new duties and responsibilities; let them by such feelings be led to think more deeply even than they have done over social problems, and they will find that they will thus best advance political reforms, and leave their sons a brighter social heritage than it has been their own lot to enjoy. And this is the noblest aim for which a free citizen of the world's greatest empire can strive.—*Durham Chronicle.*

Original Poetry.

TWO MAY LYRICS.

Mr John Rowell, of Twizell, was born at Causey, near Tanfield, on August 15th, 1822. Hear how he sings of

BONNIE MAY.

Welcome, welcome, bonnie May!
In my path my life illuming,
Are thy blossoms beaming, blooming,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

Gladly to the rising day,
Hear the lark at Heaven's portals,
Gladder far than sinning mortals,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

See the spirit breezes play!
Perfumes on the twilight's calming,
Morning's pearled hills are palming,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

From the austral plains away,
South winds hover by the blossoms,
Bearing booty from their bosoms,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

Now the night-star's trembling ray
Resteth on the sooth'd lake seeming,
Aye, a slumbering spirit dreaming,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

Sprightly to Æolean lay,
Mab is coming tripping, prancing;
On the noiseless moonbeams dancing,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

Oh, prolong thy welcome stay!
Every heart is music-laden:
Every bird's a bird of Eden,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

Twizell, Durham. JOHN ROWELL.

Now hear the voice of his son, born at Craghead Colliery, April 19th, 1854:—

BONNIE MAY.

Oh! welcome buds and blooms of May,
That crowd the vales in wild confusion,
And dress the woods in sweet profusion,
Bonnie buds of May!
In the deep, untrodden tangle,
Dew-pearls all thy blades bespangle,
Bonnie, bonnie May!

'Tis bliss to dream thine hours away,
When winds that sing like waves on shingle,
Sigh softly down the sunlit-dingle,
Bonnie, bonnie May!
And softly through each hollow going,
Upon the odoured silence throwing
Bonnie blooms of May!

See! laden in the sylvan way,
The virgin-month is laughing, singing,
Her blue-delight of violets flinging;
Blooms and buds of May;
And down the woods a joy is falling,
From foliaged towers the birds are calling
Welcome, bonnie May!

Ah! how the years have died away!
Again the old green haunts I ramble,
Among the matted waste of bramble,
With the maiden May;
Hush! my heart, 'tis past and mended;
She died, and years ago 'twas ended,
That was in the May!

Wallsend, Northumberland.
JOHN ROWELL-WALLER.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, May 25th.—Before JON. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (chairman), and J. W. WALTON-WILSON, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Matthew Swainston, fishmonger, Blackhill, failed to appear in answer to a charge, preferred against him by Sergt. Cruickshank, of being drunk and incapable at Blackhill, on the 11th inst.—The sergeant attested that about half-past two o'clock on Monday afternoon, he saw the defendant drunk in Foundry Row. He was very often intoxicated, and the neighbours were continually complaining of his conduct. Defendant was interrupting some people, and was offensive to the public.—A fine of 10s and costs was imposed; in default, seven days' hard labour.

John Lindsay, of Cemetery Road, Blackhill, pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness.—Sergt. Cruickshank, who also proved this charge, spoke to seeing the defendant, shortly after three o'clock on the afternoon of the 11th inst., in a very intoxicated condition. He was searching for the door of a public-house, and, being unable to find it, witness took the man home.—Defendant stated that he had just come out of the Royal Hotel, and was walking quietly to his house, when he was intercepted by the sergeant.—Defendant was also fined 5s and expenses.

Robert Armstrong, ironworker, of Consett, was charged by Sergt. Tate with being drunk and creating a noise in Trafalgar Street, Consett, about 1·30 a.m. on Sunday last, and was mulcted in a similar penalty.

Patrick Burns (who was represented by his wife) was also found guilty, upon the testimony of Sergt. Tate, of being drunk and disorderly in the streets of Consett, about one o'clock on the previous Sunday morning, and was fined 5s and costs; with the option of seven days' imprisonment.

COMPROMISED.

Robert Yates, blacksmith, of Maud Villa, Castleside, was summoned by P.C. Laverick for wilful damage to grass, to the amount of 1d, the property of Mr John Drummond, of Hole House, Allansford, on the 12th inst.—Prosecutor desired to withdraw the charge, and paid 3s 6d, costs of summonses.—The Bench assented to this course.

A SATURDAY NIGHT'S DISTURBANCE.

Catherine Mann, an old woman, was placed in the dock to answer charges of being drunk and disorderly and wilful damage.—Sergt. Tate adduced that about eleven o'clock on the previous Saturday night, he was on duty near the British Schools, Consett, along with P.C. Simpson, when this woman came out of Carey's house. She was inebriated, and making a loud disturbance. She desired Mrs Carey to come out and fight with her. About a quarter to twelve o'clock, he again watched the defendant emerge from a neighbour's house, and, going in the direction of Carey's dwelling, she picked up a handful of gravel, which she threw at the window of the house, at the same time shouting, "Take that, you b—— Careys;" and then she ran into the house again. The damage to the window amounted to 2s 3d.—By the defendant: It was not a quarter past eleven o'clock but a quarter to twelve when the disturbance arose.—P.C. Simpson adduced corroborative testimony.—Defendant admitted that she was drunk, but denied that she had damaged the window. The pane was cracked before the occurrence; and it was not yet broken.—Carey was called, and asserted that the defendant had cracked the pane in another place, and a gust of wind would blow the square out. He had sustained a vast amount of damage to his windows within the past month.—Defendant declared that the prosecution was actuated by motives of spite, and the Careys wished to injure the people she happened to be visiting that night. Whilst in the house Mrs Carey came and called her a lot of nasty names; and on leaving at a quarter-past eleven o'clock, she merely went to Carey's house and sought an explanation.—Elizabeth Lamb swore that the defendant did not quit their house until a quarter-past eleven o'clock.—The Magistrates, whilst believing the defendant guilty of both offences, dismissed the charge of drunkenness, and ordered her to defray the amount of damage, 2s 3d; 1s fine, and costs, amounting to 8s 9d, for the second offence.

TUESDAY, May 26th.—Before JAS. ANNANDALE, Esq.

VAGRANCY AT LEADGATE.

Michael McGuire (66), a tramp, was brought up by P.C. Symon on a charge of vagrancy by begging alms from door to door at Leadgate, at nine o'clock on the previous night.—He was committed to Durham for 14 days' with hard labour.

The Rev Jacob Thompson, formerly curate at Wolsingham, has been appointed chaplain to the Mission to Seamen at Medway.

"RUPTURES"—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices. J. White and Co., (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J. White and Co. have not any Agents.

NORTH OF ENGLAND MANUFACTURED IRON TRADE.—On Friday, Messrs J. R. Winpenny and Edward Trow, the secretaries to the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Manufactured Iron Trade of the North of England, published the ascertainment of Mr Waterhouse of the net selling price of manufactured iron during the two months ending April 30th. The average net selling price per ton was £4 17s 11·20d, against £4 18s 11·18d, a decrease of exactly 1s per ton. The total quantity invoiced was 65,283 tons, against 62,460 tons in the previous two months, an increase of 2,823 tons. Of the total, 498½ tons were rails, which averaged £4 14s 10·92d per ton; 38,368 tons were plates, which averaged £4 17s 5·51d per ton; 14,575½ tons were bars, averaging £5 3s 10·11d per ton; and 11,840½ tons angles, averaging £4 12s 3·88d.

Whitsuntide Festivities.

On Whit-Monday, the weather during the greater part of the day was most unfavourable for the holidays. In the early morn there was little in the appearance of things meteorological in the Consett district to raise the spirits of pleasure-seekers. Heavy showers of rain descended at intervals until about four o'clock in the afternoon, rendering the ground wet and uncomfortable. About eleven o'clock, however, there was an interval of fair weather, almost of sunshine, but this hope-awakening interval quickly passed. The sky darkened again before noon; forbidding clouds began to gather, and towards one o'clock a severe hailstorm broke over the neighbourhood. Thunder and lightning, with a copious and continuous fall of rain, prevailed for about two hours, soaking to the skin those who dared to remain in the streets, and robbing alike the fields, the main turnpikes, and the principal thoroughfares of their holiday aspect. There were those who were daring enough even in these adverse circumstances to venture upon excursions to the seaside and rural districts; but the numbers who travelled fell far short of what might have been expected, and the railway company must have suffered accordingly. It is almost needless to say that out-side sports and gatherings were robbed *pro tem.* of much of their attractions. It would, perhaps, be difficult to find any part of the kingdom where a greater enthusiasm prevails in favour of muscular sports than is to be found in this district; but even some of the most ardent votaries of sports and pedestrianism may be excused if in the face of such a storm as that of Monday, they preferred the shelter of home to the discomfort and inconvenience of out-door recreation. The weather, in short, for a considerable part of the day was fully in keeping with that which has been experienced throughout the present month, and it continued long enough to disturb many pleasant arrangements, and to considerably curtail the enjoyment that Whit-Monday was expected to produce. The rain notwithstanding, the day was observed as a holiday in the district, and most of the places of business were closed at noon. Fortunately, after four o'clock, there was a complete change for the better. The clouds that had been hovering overhead passed away, the sun began to shine with great warmth, and some thousands of persons, glad to escape from the confinement of their homes, crowded the streets, visited the parks, and various places of resort, or patronised the outside sports. This improvement happily prevailed on Whit-Tuesday, when the weather was bright and genial, and the rays of the sun shone forth in all their brilliancy and splendour, which had the effect of rapidly drying up the muddy thoroughfares and wet pastures. The change was a welcome one, indeed, and was an opportunity which the people were not slow in availing themselves of. Subjoined is a *resumé* of the principal events held in the district:—

CONSETT BAPTIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—In consequence of the prevailing wet weather over Whitsuntide, the usual gala was not held on Whit-Monday as advertised. The children were served with tea and sweet-meats in the chapel, as also were the teachers and friends. We understand that the gala will be held to-morrow (Saturday) in a field below Templetown.

CATHOLIC EXCURSION TO NEWBIGGEN-BY-THE-SEA.—On Monday, the members of the Consett and Blackhill League of the Cross promoted an excursion to Newbiggen-by-the-Sea. Over 300 people accompanied the trip; and little rain having fallen, the excursionists on arriving at their destination heartily enjoyed themselves.

FROSTERLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST SCHOOL.—In connection with the anniversary services of the Frosterley Primitive Methodist Sunday-school a lecture was delivered on Saturday night by the Rev D. McKinley, of Westgate, on "John Knox and the Scottish Reformation."

WOLSINGHAM WESLEYAN SABBATH SCHOOL.—On Saturday and Sunday, the Wolsingham Weselyan Sunday-school anniversary services were celebrated. On Saturday night, a public meeting, under the presidency of Mr Fenwick Mayfield, was addressed by the Rev Lionel Westlake, of Bishop Auckland.—On Sunday, three services were held, at which recitations and songs were given by the scholars, assisted by the teachers and choir.

DIPTON PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.—In connection with the above school, a tea was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Whit-Monday, which, notwithstanding the disagreeable state of the weather, proved a decided success. The rain partially interfered with the execution of the teachers' intentions, as it was decided to hold the tea in a field had it been possible, and to introduce such games as would have been conducive to the pleasure of the scholars and all present. Owing to the unpropitious condition of the weather however, they had to resort to the chapel for tea. The table was gracefully attended to by Miss Hardy and Miss Watson; and as the day advanced, the clouds began to dispel and the horizon to brighten up. Hopes were incited and entertained of being able to participate in open air sports which did not prove delusive, for after the company had partaken of the delicious though plain and wholesome repast that had been judiciously and well prepared, many of them proceeded to the field, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr Rutherford, of Low Collierley. On account of its situation, the pasture formed a nice secluded retreat, and for more than two hours various games were heartily indulged in, each face betokening expressions of satisfaction and enjoyment. As the night shades began to fall the gathering dispersed, all apparently satisfied with the day's proceedings.

DURHAM.—Ever popular with pleasure-seekers, the different points of interest and beauty in and near Durham were thronged with holiday-makers, who sought to derive as much enjoyment as possible out of the short cessation from work which from time immemorial has been associated with Whitsun-Monday. Unfortunately, despite the fact that the longest day is not a month distant, the weather was most unpropitious for out-door amusements, frequent rain showers, accompanied by heavy thunder peals, compelling all to be on the strictest *qui vive* in looking for suitable places for shelter at the end of each shower, so as to be in readiness for the next. The Cathedral, Castle, Fichale Abbey, Lambton Park, Brancepeth, and other favourite localities were all visited during the day by numbers of people, and many more contented themselves with rambling about amongst the beautiful woodland scenery for which Durham is so justly famed, and which at the present time is particularly inviting; trees and shrubs being in the full glory of their newly-put-on foliage. The only public amusements in the town were the annual athletic sports of the Durham Cricket Club, which attracted their usual complement of spectators. Numbers of people left the town for the neighbouring places on Tyne and Tees-side, the pleasant race meeting at Redcar drawing many to that watering place.—A demonstration in connection with the Durham diocesan branch of the above society was held on Monday, in Lambton Park, which was kindly lent for the occasion by the Earl of Durham. Unfortunately, the wet weather detracted somewhat from the success of the *fete*, a violent thunderstorm having passed over the district in the morning, and another shortly after noon. Rain fell heavily, and the ground was wet and soft. Notwithstanding this, several Bands of Hope from various parts of the county assembled in the beautiful park, and there was, besides, a goodly gathering of adults. The rain ceased before the afternoon was far advanced, and the young people, who had looked forward to the event with pleasurable anticipation, enjoyed themselves as well as might be expected under the circumstances. Various games were provided for their amusement, and prizes were offered for competition in running, quoits, throwing, bicycling, tugs of war, jumping, sack racing, three-legged racing, cricket, football, skipping, &c. The young people entered heartily into the competitions, which were divided in such a way as to give any one of them a chance of being successful. During the afternoon, selections of music were played by a brass band and a drum and fife band. A public meeting was also held, at which the Ven. Archdeacon of Durham presided, the other speakers being Dr Morgan, the Rev Henry Martin, M.A. (St. John's, Sunderland), and Mr G. Butterfield. Tea was afterwards provided. The arrangements were under the control of the Rev W. F. Cosgrave, hon. sec., and Mr E. T. Reed, local organising secretary. The weather during the later portion of the afternoon became bright and cheerful, and the demonstration was in the end successful beyond the anticipation of its promoters.

CHURCH SCHOLARS' TREATS AT CONSETT AND BLACKHILL.—On Whit-Monday, the children connected with Christ Church, Consett, Day and Sunday Schools were provided with their annual treat, tea, &c., being served in the National Schools. Prior to the repast, the children marched through the streets of the town, accompanied by the Salvation Army band; and the remainder of the evening was spent in games and amusement.—On the same day, the scholars of St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, held their first annual festival, the children being regaled with tea and cake, and instead of proceeding to the field, participated in amusements in doors.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.—The scholars in connection with this school being prevented by the wet weather on Whit-Monday from holding their annual picnic, were entertained in the school-room. An abundant tea was provided, after which a very pleasant afternoon was spent in competing for a large number of valuable prizes, presented by Mr John A. Jack, Blackhill, and Mr Donald Bain, Consett. A singing contest, a spelling bee, skipping, and a variety of other games, caused great amusement and made the day a complete success, despite of the rain and storm.

BLACKHILL PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—The anniversary of this school, which has been considerably argumented of late by a great influx of scholars (as the result of the mission lately conducted by the lady evangelists at Blackhill) was celebrated, as usual, on Whit-Sunday. The services were held in the Agricultural Hall (kindly lent by Mr R. Murray), their own place of worship being much to small to accomodate the large congregations assembled on the different occasions—more especially in the afternoon and evening. Mr Irving Murray, of Hexham, conducted the services, and the children recited an endless variety of dialogues, scriptural and poetical pieces, in a most accomplished manner. A few adults also contributed several pieces; but it is a remarkable fact that the little boys and girls far eclipsed the older ones in their efforts. Mr Murray interspersed the recitations with a few appropriate remarks. Anniversary hymns and melodies were sung, with much effect and precision, by the children and choir, accompanied on the harmonium by Mr Chas. Bell (Consett), and Messrs J. Palliser, J. Robson, and other gentleman upon the brass instruments. A special feature was the introduction of lady collectors, the result being that the sums taken at the several services exceeded the previous year's collections.

THE PROJECTED SUNDAY SCHOOLS DEMONSTRATION AT CONSETT.

Last Whitsuntide, it will be in the recollection of our readers, the idea of reviving the annual demonstration of Sunday scholars connected with the various dissenting places of worship in Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, and district, was practically revived, and the event was most successfully brought off in the Consett Iron Company's field adjoining the Vicarage grounds. The result was so gratifying as to exceed the expectations of the most sanguine of its promoters; accordingly the Committee determined upon holding a similar gala on Whit-Monday in the same field. All the necessary arrangements were completed, and early in the morning the spacious marquee was erected in the field, and most of the edibles were conveyed thither. Unluckily, the incessant downpour of rain, and the threatening aspect of the sky, induced the Committee to cancel all their previous arrangements so far as they related to the open-air festivities. It was fully anticipated, had the weather proved favourable, that something like 2,000 Sunday scholars would have participated in the *fete*, the children having to meet at their respective schools, and march in procession to the *rendezous*, accompanied by the Leadgate Saxhorn Band and the Consett Salvation Army brass band. The list of schools embraced in the movement were the Consett Church of England, Wesleyan, and Primitive Methodist; Blackhill Wesleyan, Primitive Methodist, Highgate Baptist, and United Methodist Free Church; Shotley Bridge Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist; Derwent Cottages Wesleyan; Leadgate Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist; part of Iveston Wesleyan, and Bradley Cottages Primitive Methodist; together with 40 of the boys and girls from Lanchester Union Workhouse, who were conveyed per rail to Consett in charge of Mr and Mrs W. Brotherhood (the master and matron), and two assistants. It was deemed imprudent to expose the children to the wet atmosphere, therefore it was decided, at the eleventh hour, to provide the scholars and the general public with tea, &c., in the different schools and mission rooms. Tea was provided in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge; Wesleyan and Baptist Schools, Blackhill; Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist Schools Consett, &c.; and on the whole the children enjoyed themselves under these adverse and disappointing circumstances as well as they possibly could. In the evening, a few children were taken to the field, but the state of the ground was really uncomfortable.

GRAND CHINESE FAIR AT CONSETT.

OPENING BY MR BAINBRIDGE, J.P.

The chief event this Whitsuntide has undoubtedly been the brilliant and elaborate bazaar opened in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Whit-Tuesday afternoon, by Mr E. M. Bainbridge, J.P., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (who is a director of the Consett Iron Company). The idea of having a Wesleyan Circuit bazaar originated some years ago, and it was first contemplated holding the event soon after the opening of the Town Hall; but owing to the depressed state of the iron and coal trades, the scheme was postponed until a more favourable season. The ladies connected with the congregations of the various chapels embraced in the extensive Shotley Bridge and Consett Circuit have laboured with much earnestness and perseverance in working and manufacturing, with much skill and ability, all sorts and descriptions of both useful and fancy goods; and the results achieved by their efforts may be viewed with feelings of pride and admiration, as seldom, if ever, has such a vast assortment, a greater display, and more infinite variety of articles being collected together and offered to the general public at a reasonable sum. Apart from this fact, however, the scene to be witnessed inside the spacious Hall is worth more than double the price charged for admission; the magnificent and picturesque decorations will worthily repay a visit, the like of which has not been seen in the immediate district before, and perhaps a decade will elapse before such an attractive and brilliant display can be viewed in our midst again. The Town Hall presents a fine opportunity for the exhibition of the decorative artists' skill. The decoration of the Hall has been entrusted to Messrs Carnegie and Company, of Newcastle, whose reputation is already established, and it is said the artists have surpassed all their previous efforts in the production of this, their latest design. The idea represented is that of a "Chinese Fair in Shanghai" and "Feast of Lanterns," introducing a view of the "Chin-Chin Chew-Chew T.drin-kin Gardens." On entering the Hall, the eye is struck with the rich Oriental effect produced, not only in the arrangement of the buildings or shops, but by the magnificent display of goods offered for sale at the Fair. Three Chinese buildings, oblong in construction, used as stalls or shops, are erected on each side of the Hall. Several of them are partly composed of bamboo, supporting tiled roofs, with curious turned-up eaves and corners, giving such an air of reality in the eyes of all who are acquainted with the character of the Pagodas and other buildings in the Flowery Land. At the extreme end of the Hall, the Consett Gentlemen's Stall takes the form of a "Mandarin's Palace," consisting of a central building, with wings extending to the right and left of the same. This is adorned on the apex and at the corners of the roofs with representations of the Chinese dragon and other curious emblems connected with this strange country. Forming a background is a Pagoda, having bells suspended at the corners; and at other parts of the work-stalls are hung artistically-designed lanterns, tassels, bells, &c. From this stall was issued, during the three days the bazaar was opened, a newspaper, styled *The Chinese Fair Gazette*. On the platform, a representation of a Chinese tea garden is produced, having a framework of bamboo; while in the background is shown a well-known view in China, none other than what most people are acquainted with—namely, the story of the "Willow Pattern Plate." The platform, designated the "Chin-Chin Chew-Chew T.-Drin-Kin Gardens," is approached by a flight of steps, and here refreshments were served. This is the most favourable position from which to view the decorations of the Hall, and witness the scene of business and pleasure. In the centre of the Hall stands the "Pagoda" where refreshments and confectioners were also freely dispensed. Gay festoons of Chinese lamps and lanterns, give an additional beauty to the fair; whilst the orchestra is illuminated by a "Bower" patent carbonic gas light, affixed by Mr P. Surtees, of Consett. The stalls which were heavily laden were presided over by the leading lady members of the different places of worship comprised in the circuit. The shops were known by the names of the principal Chinese citadels, and were arranged in the following order: "Hong Kong," representing Leadgate, Dipton, Medomsley, Iveston, Derwent Cottages, and Allendale Cottages; "Pekin," Shotley Bridge and district; "Hanhow," Castleside, Blackhill, &c.; "Nankin," Annfield Plain, East Castle, Tantobie, and Tanfield Lea; "Ningpo," Consett; "Canton," Lanchester, Stanley, Kip Hill, and Burnhope. The effect of the scene, which was enhanced by the magnificent costumes of the stall-holders, &c., was all that could have been imagined or desired; and the decorators deserve to be congratulated upon the signal success attending their efforts on the present occasion. The object of the fair is to raise the sum of about £700 towards liquidating the debt resting on the superintendent minister's house at Consett.

At the time for opening, the promoters being favoured with auspicious weather, the fair was literally thronged by the *elite* of the town and district, amongst the numerous and fashionable company present being the most prominent representatives of every chapel in the circuit. Unfortunately, Mr Bainbridge was more than half-an-hour late in putting in his appearance; but the audience, which was being gradually augmented, patiently awaited his arrival, the time being pleasantly beguiled with listening to selections by the band and choirs, or viewing the stalls and decorations. Mr Bainbridge was accompanied on the platform by the Revs W. Hare, superintendent minister (Consett), F. Steggall (vicar of Consett), W. Taylor (Annfield Plain), W. Douglas (Shotley Bridge), M. J. Elliott (West Africa); Messrs T. J. Muse, senior circuit steward (Castleside), J. Oliver, junior circuit steward (West Stanley), J. W. Davison (Consett), J. Robinson (Lanchester), G. Richardson (Shotley Bridge), &c.

The Hymn, No. 235, having been heartily sung to the tune of "Pelham," with instrumental accompanments, by the united choirs and the audience, the Rev F. STEGGALL offered an appropriate prayer.

The Rev W. HARE then expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large company present, and his resolve not to tax their patience by a long address. During his sojourn in this district, and since he had become acquainted with the large Iron Works at Consett, he had often wished to see a director, and thought what he would say to him. The other day he started to interview one. His circuit-stewards accompanied him, or he would not have ventured, not having as much pluck as some of his friends gave him credit for. They were fortunate in finding the director at home, and he thought it a favourable sign, and accepted that circumstance as a smile of Providence upon his business. (Applause.) In the director they found a genial, kind, Christian gentleman (applause); and the spirit in which he met them and complied with their request to open the bazaar greatly enhanced the value of his consent. He had great pleasure in calling upon Mr E. M. Bainbridge to perform his task. (Loud applause.)

Mr BAINBRIDGE, who was accorded an enthusiastic welcome, said he was very happy to be with them on that delightful occasion, but their esteemed superintendent had introduced him somewhat under false pretences, as he said that he (Mr Bainbridge) was to make the speech of the day, whereas he had never made a speech in his life, because he had never attempted to do so, and he thought he would not succeed if he began now. (Laughter and cheers.) He was very glad to recognise so many old faces around him, and he noticed some friends he had known for the last 50 years or even longer. He was pleased to see their Vicar present; and Mr Steggall reminded him very much of an inestimable clergymann in Newcastle, the Rev Mr Lintott, and he was apt to confuse the names of the two gentlemen. Only the other night, he (the speaker) had the pleasure of entertaining his own clergyman, and he gave him an invitation to preach in their chapel, which he accepted. That was a spirit which Christians of all denominations ought to manifest. (Applause.) After adverting to the object of the bazaar—viz., to raise a sufficient sum to wipe off the debt resting on their superintendent minister's house—Mr Bainbridge spoke of the perseverance and industry exhibited by the fair sex in this particular enterprise; and asserted that whatever scheme the ladies took in hand was sure to be a grand success. (Applause.) He observed before him a magnificent collection of useful and fancy articles, and he feverently hoped the gentlemen would manifest their liberality and loving gratitude to the ladies by clearing everything off the stalls. (Cheers.) A matter of £700 or £800 was not a large sum to raise in a prosperous district like theirs, and he suggested that the bazaar should be thrown open for an hour or so, and then suspend business; for he felt assured the sum needed would be forthcoming in that short time. (Laughter and applause.) However, he expected to see in the newspapers on the following morning that the whole of the money required had been realised that day. (Renewed laughter.) Mr Bainbridge next referred to the influence of Methodism on the age, not Wesleyan Methodism only, but all sects of Methodism, remarking that the new departure instituted by John Wesley and his colleagues had been instrumental in awakening the church to greater activity. He had heard the late Dean Stanley, when preaching in Westminster Abbey on All Saints' Day, say that John Wesley was *the* saint of the 18th century. (Applause.) He had left a glorious legacy behind him, and it was their duty to further the great work which had resulted so beneficially in saving mankind from destruction. Wesley was a man of a persevering disposition, and nothing less than the world would serve for his parish. (Applause.) He (the speaker) believed there was not a single spot on the face of the globe where the emissaries of the founder of their religion were not to be found. (Continued applause.) Methodism had also exercised a great influence upon the different denominations, and he was happy to learn that Wesleyans were no longer regarded as aliens, or schismatics, by the Established Church—a fact which was proved by the presence of Mr Steggall in their midst. (Loud cheers.) In declaring the bazaar open, Mr Bainbridge said that the successful inaugural ceremony foreshadowed a glorious sale, and he trusted the company present would do their part by putting their hands into their pockets and buy all the goods, and thus clear off the debt on the Circuit house. (Prolonged cheering).

Mr MUSE, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr Bainbridge for his services, remarked that he was commissioned by Mr W. Jenkins, J.P., Consett Hall, to express his regret that he could not be present on the platform along with Mr Bainbridge. Mr Jenkins had helped the various religious bodies in building churches and chapels, and the only drawback to their satisfaction that day was that gentleman's absence, owing to pressing engagements abroad. Mr Bainbridge was one of the best-known gentlemen in the North of England, and one of the most wealthy and generous of Methodist laymen. When the question arose who to invite to open the bazaar, from the first it was thought no one was so suitable as Mr Bainbridge. If any place had a prior claim upon him it must be Consett, as he is not only one of the largest shareholders but also a director of the most prosperous ironworks in the world, viz., Consett Ironworks, as well as a shareholder in the Consett New Town Hall Company. (Cheers). He therefore begged most heartily to move that the best thanks of the meeting be accorded to Mr Bainbridge. (Prolonged applause).

Mr OLIVER, in a brief speech, seconded the motion, which on being put to the meeting, was carried by acclamation.

Mr BAINBRIDGE acknowledged the compliment in a few appropriate words, and, inviting all to follow his example, stepped down from the platform in a very prompt and business-like way to help in clearing the stalls.

The sale then commenced in real earnest, the ladies presiding over the stalls disposed of their stock of plain and ornamental goods with exceeding rapidity. The fair was largely patronised during the afternoon and evening; and when the Hall was lighted at dusk, the scene was a gay and brilliant one. The total receipts taken the first day was over £400; on the second day rather more than £119 was realised. Subjoined is a complete list of the ladies and gentlemen presiding over the several "shops":—

Consett ("Ningpo").—Mesdames Jones, Scott, Lewis, English, and Misses Little and A. Routledge. Gentlemen's stall: Messrs A. Jackson, J. Lowes, T. Foster, W. Elliott, E. Lamb, J. T. Curry, C. Lumley, H and J. Davison. Refreshments: Misses Calvert and Carr; Mesdames Lumley, C. Davison, H. Cornforth, T. Carr, R. Lowdon, R. Thompson and Messrs J. W. Davison, H. Cornforth, V. Dunn, C. Davison, and M. J. Elliott.

Lanchester and District ("Canton").—Mesdames Buckham, Green, Oliver, Curry, and Swainston.

Annfield Plain and District ("Nankin").—Mesdames Taylor, Rankin, and Davison; and Misses Reed, Lumley, and Martain.

Castleside and Blackhill ("Hanhow").—Mesdames Muse, Rule, Mills, J. Robinson, and Reed; Misses Hall, M. Hall, and Symm.

Shotley Bridge and District ("Pekin").—Mesdames G. Richardson, and W. Wilson; Misses Wilson (3), Hunter, Richardson, P. Laybourne, Stephenson, Montgomery, and Oliver.

Leadgate and District ("Hong Kong").—Mesdames T. Harrison, Gustard, Teasdale, Jopling, Harper, and Robinson; and Misses Turbett and Beck.

The fair was continued on Wednesday and yesterday (Thursday), and on each occasion the affair was largely patronised, the bright genial weather inducing great numbers from the outlying places to visit the Hall, so that each night the place was densely packed. The sales were pretty large each day.

At intervals during each day, the united Wesleyan choirs of Consett, Leadgate, Blackhill, and Shotley Bridge chapels, under the able leadership of Mr C. Stelling, and accompanied by Mr John Hedley on the piano, and the Benfieldside Amateur String Band, conducted by Mr W. A. Hoe, executed popular musical compositions; and Romberg's and Haydn's toy symphonies were occasionally rendered by a select company of 20 performers, also under the superintendence of Mr Hoe. The Fair is closed to-day (Friday), but will be re-opened at two o'clock to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon.

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

The unpropitious weather experienced on Whit-Monday entirely marred all out-of-door festivities in this district; but notwithstanding this circumstance, a large number of holiday-seekers, as usual, flocked to the Spa Grounds at Shotley Bridge. During the forenoon and afternoon, rain came down in torrents, but towards evening the weather improved to a considerable extent, and it is computed that not less than 3,000 persons visited the famous grounds at night. The chief attraction was a choral contest, for which three choirs entered, but only two competed. The contest, unhappily, was arranged to come off whilst the state of the meterological elements were most miserable and wretched, consequently the singers had to take their stand under the shed utilised for the purpose of supplying tea and refreshments. The roof of the structure is exceedingly low, and the space being limited, the combined voices of the choirs were not heard to the best advantage. The judge was Mr Walker, of St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Newcastle, and after two pieces had been sung by each company, he adjudged as follows:—The first prize of £5 was awarded to the Gloucester Street (Newcastle) part-song choir - conductor, Mr Yeates; the second of £3 being gained by Mr Ward Davison's mixed choir from Blackhill, conducted by himself. The weather having by this time cleared up, the successful choir ascended the band-stand, and favoured the visitors with another choral selection. Much interest was evinced in the cricket match between the Consett and Medomsley teams; but the ground being wet and slippery, the display of the art was naturally of an inferior description, and the contest resulted in an easy victory for the visitors. The Consett Iron Company's brass band was in attendance, and discoursed musical selections at intervals, whilst dancing and other amusements were freely indulged in.

On Whit-Tuesday, the aspect of the weather being more favourable, about 2,500 people wended their way to the grounds. In the cricket match between Consett *v.* Dunston, the home club again sustained a severe defeat, the score being:—Consett, 29; Dunston, 60. The band was again present; and the evening was spent much in the same fashion as on the previous day. Substantial refreshments were supplied each day by Messrs Wilson Bros., the lessees of the grounds.

TANFIELD, BURNOPFIELD, AND BEAMISH CHORAL UNION.

A country society such as the above, which can hold its eighth anniversary with unusual numbers, and attracting a more general interest in the surrounding neighbourhood, must be filling some gap in the Church's system. Increased numbers, however, and popular interest are not the prime motive for the existence of this society; but the improvement of that part of the Church service which falls to the lot of the congregation, and on this ground also we can without hesitation say this society is giving a good account of itself, and gradually accomplishing its aim, and we heartily congratulate the clergy, choirmasters, and choirs of the above parishes on the success of their eighth annual festival, which was held as usual on Whit-Monday, in the beautiful little church of St. James's, Burnopfield. The following clergy were present:—Revs T. Stirrup and A. Watts, Burnopfield; T. Hewan Archdall and C. H. Newman, Tanfield; J. Crennell and L. M. Chesters, Beamish; J. W. Mitchell, Leadgate; R. Tuson, Dipton; P. Hughes, Collierley; and the preacher, Canon Body, of Durham. The united choirs formed a chorus of about 120 performers. At the time for commencing service the church was quite full, while the chancel, which is too small for purposes of this kind, was crowded with singers. "O God of Hosts," to *Martyrdom*, was the opening hymn, and as might be expected with such familiar words and favourite tune, the whole congregation joined in the singing; as a consequence the full effect of the "*p*" and "*f*" passages were somewhat lost, but this defect was counterbalanced by the heartiness with which the large congregation joined. We enjoyed it, and imagine that if there was more of such singing in our churches it would be better for everybody. Before the sermon "When God of old," to *Sudley*, and after the sermon "O Lord of Heaven," to *Almsgiving*, were fairly well rendered; but as these hymns were not so familiar to the congregation, we should like to have heard more expression—no part quite so loud and some parts much softer. "Blessed be the God and Father," by *S. S. Wesley*, was the anthem, and its execution indicated much careful training. The solo, "Love one another," and its reply, "See that ye love one another," by the treble of the Decani and Cantoris alternately were sweetly sung and were very effective. The Psalms and Canticles were arranged to suitable chants, well within the range of the voices, and it is in the rendering of these that we noticed the greatest improvement. There was a boldness and unanimity of attack in most of them which was formerly lacking, and we are the more pleased to note this improvement since in our reports of former festivals we have drawn attention to a defect on these points. Psalm 137, to *Goss* minor—and perhaps because it was a minor chant—was weak and unsteady; this would seem to point out the direction in which further improvement should be aimed at. We should like also to make a suggestion as to the responses, viz., that they should be much softer generally; they need not lose distinctness on this account, and the strain on the voice would not be so great. In reciting the "Confession" on Monday, there seemed to be more exertion used than necessary, while a little more care would have been more effective. The little "Vesper Hymn" at the close of the service is an apt illustration of the great idea we have been trying to bring to the front. It was beauty without being loud, the words were spoken clearly, and altogether the music was sweetly sung and all parts while distinct in themselves, blended well together. Mr Ridley, organist of the church, presided most efficiently at the organ; the Rev C. H. Newman took the first portion of the service; the Rev T. H. Archdall read the first Lesson, and the Rev Jno Crennell, the second Lesson. Canon Body preached an eloquent sermon on "Worship," what it was and what it was not; and wherein Christian worship differed from and excelled all other. Here again we cannot help but think the Union is perhaps indirectly doing a useful work, in that at these annual gatherings the people of the locality have an opportunity of seeing and hearing some of the greatest preachers and workers in the diocese. This is as it should be: we believe the Church is doing good and useful work in our wild, hilly district, and it is only just that clergy and people should be encouraged by the presence and help of their leaders.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM AT CASTLESIDE.

OPENING OF THE NEW CHAPEL.

On the afternoon of Whit-Saturday, the Primitive Methodists of Castleside celebrated an event which they have long and anxiously looked forward to, viz., the opening of their new place of worship. The chapel is a commodious and handsome structure, and is erected on a commanding and suitable site, near the cross-lane ends, on the right-hand side of the road leading from Consett to the village; and will therefore be most convenient and easily accessible from all quarters. Hitherto, the Primitive Methodist body have been content to worship in an unpretentious and incommodious building at the lower end of the village; but sometime about the year 1882, the necessity for increased accommodation was prominently brought under the notice of the members of this flourishing society; and they determined, with a vigour and energy it would be well if other societies lying dormant were to follow, to make a strenuous effort towards attaining a new and beautiful chapel, worthy of being dedicated to the worship of the Almighty. The result is that an elegant-looking edifice has been built from designs prepared by Mr Geo. Race, architect, of Westgate, Weardale. The chapel, when completed, will cost about £900; and of this sum something like £400 has been raised. The outlay involved in building the chapel would have been considerably more than this sum, but it is worthy of note that a few of the most energetic members attached to the society were engaged for many days in getting and winning the stone from the quarry, whilst the whole of the neighbouring farmers generously set apart their teams to cart the material to the site of the chapel. The contractor for the masonry was Mr Thos. Lee, also of Westgate; whilst the joinery work has been executed by Mr George Watson, of Mickley. The slating was done by Mr Hewitson, Newcastle; the plastering by Mr S. Kirby, Bishop Auckland; the plumbing by Mr L. Urwin, Shotley Bridge; and the painting and glazing by Mr Thirlwell, also of Shotley Bridge. The whole of the work has been carried out in a highly efficient and satisfactory manner; and the chapel, viewed either from the exterior or the interior, will be one of the finest, neatest, pleasantest, and most comfortable places of worship in the district, and the architecture of the substantial structure itself will be a valuable acquisition to the place. The seating arrangements are excellent, and the ventilation, heating, and accoustic properties of the edifice are all that could be desired. The chapel, which also contains a gallery, will accommodate between 500 and 600 worshippers. In addition, a spacious school-room, two class-rooms, and preachers' vestry have been built at the rear of the chapel; all being fitted up and furnished with the most modern requirements and appliances. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone was successfully performed on Whit-Tuesday of last year (June 3rd) by Mrs R. Walton, of Stanhope House; and on Whit-Saturday of the present year the crowning result was achieved by the formal opening of the chapel. At 2·30 in the afternoon, a special service was held, at which an eloquent and instructive discourse was preached by the Rev Robert Pattinson, of Bollington, Tunstall Circuit (who is a native of the village), the rev. gentleman basing his discourse upon Rev. i, part of 5 and 6 verses:—"Unto Him that loved us," &c. A public tea, provided at the expense of the trustees, was subsequently held, and the repast was well patronised. There were four tables arranged in the schoolroom, presided over by the following ladies respectively:—Mrs Raine and Mrs Robson; Mrs Jewitt and Miss Forster; Miss Mary Davison and Miss M. A. Metcalf; Miss Pattinson and Miss Brown (Monkseaton). The tea arrangements were superintended by Mrs Carruthers, Mrs Ripley, and Mrs Pattinson.

The public meeting in the evening was well attended, the structure being comfortably filled. The chair was occupied by Mr William Raw (Wesleyan Methodist), Blackhill. After singing a hymn, and a suitable prayer, which was offered by the Rev Hy. Youll, of Consett,

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, remarked that the Rev W. Bee (who is now in America), the Rev T. Pattinson (who preached the inaugural sermon that afternoon), and himself were born in the same year; and strange to say, all three had been staunch tetotalers all their lifetime. (Applause.) Having recounted some amusing experiences touching their boyhood life, the speaker referred to the opening of that beautiful place of worship, and counselled all young people to become connected with some religious body—either the Primitive Methodists, the Wesleyans, the Free Methodists, the Baptists, or the Church. They could become a partnership in a place of worship for a very small sum per week; and the speaker attributed his success in life to the early training he received, and in his youth becoming an adherent to the Methodist body. If they only became a member of some religious denomination, they would not be found standing propping up the street corners, attired in an old coudoroy suit, and smoking a dirty clay pipe, whilst respectable people were wending their way to and from church and chapel; they would not be betting on race-horses, or attending dog coursings, &c. When connected with the church or chapel, both the head of the household and his wife and family possessed two suits of clothes or dresses; they had plenty of money in their pockets, and they generally secured the blessings of this life that God intended for them. There was a great deal of talk now-a-days about Infidelity and Bradlaughism, but what did it all lead to? Even Bradlaugh could not get over certain passages of scripture, however he might try to explain them away. What would the end of it all be? There is no such thing as free-thought. What was to become of people who had not the Bible to guide them to their destiny—the good Old Book that had maintained the ascendency and supremacy of England, that she was now the boast of the whole world? If Bradlaugh was triumphant, that chapel need never have been built, and they would have to send all their ministers to the right-about. (Laughter.)

Mr WM. PATTINSON (secretary) then submitted an interesting financial statement, from which it appears that the new chapel scheme originated in 1882, their first effort being a fruit banquet in the month of October, with sermons preached by the Rev J. Richardson, a young man who left Castleside some 13 years ago. On this occasion, the sum of £5 6s 2½d was realised. In January, 1883, they held their first bazaar, the net proceeds being £60 14s 6½d. Since then there had been raised by lectures by the following gentlemen:—Rev Wm. Baitey (Durham), £2 12s 9d; Mr J. Lax (Shotley Bridge), £3 14s 6d; Rev W. Bee, £5 15s 3d; Rev T. Whittaker (Leeds), £1 6s 0d—total, £13 8s 6d. The second bazaar, January 1st, 1884, realised the sum (inclusive of Mrs Walton's gift of £5) of £52 12s 2d. The Sunday scholars have handed over to the trustees, £7 1s; from school funds (instead of rewards to the children), £9; spring choral service, £4 16s 1½d—total, £20 17s 4½d. The choir and friends rendered in the beginning of last year, a cantata, entitled, "The Nativity," at Castleside, Shotley Bridge, and Waskerley, resulting in the sum of £10 7s 3d being forthcoming. The trustees of the Home Chapel Fund gave a grant for the year 1883 of £30; and last year, £6 9s 3d—total, £36 9s 3d. The sum raised at the foundation-stone ceremony (a detailed statement of which appeared in our columns at the time) was £194 19s. The last bazaar resulted in the handsome sum of £66 3s 7d being realised; and these amounts (together with £5 contributed by the chairman of that meeting) made a grand total of £474 19s 6d. The first contracts (which did not include anything for "extras") had been let at the following prices:—Mason, £325; plasterer, £65; joiner, £275 10s; slater, £4 7s 7d; plumber, £26 10s; heating apparatus, £18; total, £757 17s. The whole of the stone had been kindly carted free by the whole of the farmers in the district, who never refused either Mr Carruthers or himself the loan of their horses and carts. (Applause.)

The Rev H. YOULL, after complimenting the Primitive body in having attained such a beautiful and glorious structure, commented upon the fact that recent scientific discoveries were in harmony with the Old Testament, and that Christians had nothing to fear from a searching investigation of the creation of the world, which would be in perfect accord with the book of Genesis. The speaker claimed for all people, who accepted the Bible and its teachings, as being free-thinkers in the truest sense of the word. There was not such a great desire for war at the present time as there was half-a-century ago; their legislators at St. Stephen's were becoming thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Christianity, and they now held life to be too sacred a thing to be sacrificed or slaughtered by the bloody arm of the sword. So long as Mr Gladstone remained at the helm of affairs in Great Britain, there would not be a war between England and Russia, unless there was a sufficient cause for shedding bloodshed; and then if Mr Gladstone was justified in declaring war, the people would not protest against his action or policy. (Applause.)

The Rev T. ELLIOTT (Consett) expressed the pleasure it afforded him at seeing such a magnificent and ornate structure; and if he had only had a little more money to spend, he assured them that the chapel would, when completed, be more beautiful still, and be second to none in the district. (Applause.) The cost would not fall far short of £900, and about £400 had already been subscribed. There was also the old chapel to dispose of, which he should be glad to sell to any one forthwith (laughter); and the CHAIRMAN advised the rev gentleman to get rid of the building at the market value.

The Rev E. P. RILEY (Baptist), Consett, and the Rev R. PATTINSON followed with eloquent and impressive addresses; after which a collection was made in aid of the Building Fund.

On the motion of Mr ELLIOTT, seconded by Mr YOULL, votes of thanks were accorded to the Chairman, the speakers, the ladies who provided the tea, the collectors, and all who had assisted in any way in promoting that day's celebration; coupled with a hearty expression of gratitude to the farmers of the district for so generously leading the stone.

The choir, led by Mr Raine, sang sweet selections at intervals; and the proceedings concluded with a prayer and benediction. A coffee supper, served in the school-room, brought to a termination a successful series of gatherings.

On Sunday, sermons were preached in the morning and evening by the Rev R. Pattinson; whilst the Rev H. Youll occupied the pulpit in the afternoon. There were good congregations present, collections being taken in aid of the trust funds. The inaugural services extend over the next fortnight.

CHURCH FESTIVAL AT EDMONDBYERS.

Saturday was a festival day at Edmondbyers, on the occasion of the formal opening of a new organ for the parish church, subscribed for by the parishoners and friends of the rector, the Rev W. Featherstonhaugh. The instrument, which is of considerable power, suitable to the size of the church, and of remarkable sweetness of tone, was built to order by Messrs Nelson and Co., of Durham, organ builders, and comprises—Great, swell, and pedal organs; compass CC to F, with couplets, great to pedals, and swell to great. The great organ contains four stops, viz., open diapason, stop diapason, principal, and dulciana; in the swell are six stops: open diapason, stop diapason, principal, flute, fifteenth, and hautboy; whilst the pedal organ contains one stop, flute of 8ft. In both tone and construction it is most satisfactory.

The proceedings on Saturday afternoon opened with a festal service in the church, which was beautifully decorated with a profusion of hothouse flowers and ferns, kindly given by Mrs Walton-Wilson, of Shotley Hall; the effect being enhanced by abundance of lights and banners. The musical portion of the service was under the direction of Mr Liddell, pupil to Dr Armes, of the Cathedral staff, who brought out the power and sweetness of the organ with great ability. After a short recital on the organ, a procession of the surpliced choir advanced up the church, headed by a banner and singing the hymn, "Onward, Christian soldiers!" Evensong was intoned by the rector, who also read the first lesson (I Kings viii, 22—30) the second (Rev. iv) being read by the Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, vicar of Benfieldside. The psalm and canticles were chanted to Gregorian tones; and the versicles and responses were from Barnby's Ferial Service.

The sermon was preached by the Rev Canon Chester, rector of Ryton, who dwelt most impressively on the duty of doing all for the glory and honour of God, and placing at His service, both in and out of church, all the powers of both body and mind.—The offerings after the sermon, amounting to upwards of £3, were for the organ fund, on which a small debt still remains.

After the service, adjournment was made to the neighbouring field, belonging to the rector, where a pleasing ceremony was performed by Canon Chester, who in the name of the parishoners and subscribers handed over the organ to the rector for the use of the parish church. At the same time, the rector was presented with a beautifully-illuminated and framed address; and to Mrs Featherstonehaugh was presented a handsome case containing prayer-book and hymns (Ancient and Modern) as a slight acknowledgment of her services in playing the harmonium for nearly thirty years.

The rest of the day was spent in the rector's field, where cricket and other sports were carried on, tea being served in a marquee on the ground; whilst the young people indulged in dancing to the strains of the Dipton Brass Band, who by their ability and good conduct added much to the pleasure of the day.

The festival services were continued through the next day, Whit-Sunday, when the church was crowded at each of the three services, the organ being played with great ability by Mr Alfred Bell, of Kilnpit Hill, who kindly gave his gratuitous services on the occasion. During the Holy Communion service, a solemn offering of the organ to Almighty God for the service of His church was made by the rector in the Church Militant prayer, and at the conclusion of each of the services of Litany in the afternoon and evensong, an organ recital was given by Mr Bell in true masterly style, who delighted the congregation with his performance, which included a beautiful composition of his own. The organ is open to inspection and trial by any friends of the rector, or by introduction from the builders, Messrs Nelson and Co., of Durham.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s 1½d. and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 Stamps by the maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist Nottingham.

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.

DR. BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For radicating 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.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional). Gravel, and Pains in the back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in boxes, 4s 6d each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, BARCLAY & SONS, London, and all the Wholesale Houses.

Business Announcements.

THIRTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1830. 982p

JUST ARRIVED, AT

J. W. DAVISON'S,

FRONT STREET,

5,000 PIECES WALL PAPER!

FROM 2D. A PIECE.

A SPLENDID STOCK OF

LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S BAGS,

FROM 3s. EACH. 292u

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS

AT THE

"BON MARCHE,"

4, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

D. BAIN AND COMPANY

Have great pleasure in calling the attention of the Public of Consett and surrounding neighbourhood to their STOCK OF NOVELTIES, SUITABLE FOR THE HOLIDAY AND TRIP SEASON,

AT

PRICES TO SUIT ALL POCKETS.

New Stock of Boys' Hats, Caps, and Bonnets, for the Holidays.
New Stock of Men's Hats, Caps, &c., for the Holidays.
Boys' Jerseys, 1s. 11½d., 2s. 6d., 2s. 11d., 3s. 3d., 3s. 11d., and 4s. 6d., for the Holidays.
Boys' Jersey Suits—in three qualities—for the Holidays, at 3s. 11d., 4s. 9d., 5s. 9d., 6s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 14s. 6d.
New Stock of Boys' Velvet Tunics and Holland Pinafores.
Immense Stock of Diaper Pinafores, for the Holidays.
New Frillings, Corsets, Umbrellas, and Hosiery.
New Silk Handkerchiefs, Ties, Collars, Fronts, &c., for the Holidays.

THE "BON MARCHE"

For Cheap DRESSES, CALICOES, FLANNELS.
HOLLANDS, TOWELS, SHIRTS, DRAWERS.
HOSIERY, GLOVES, CHILDREN'S COATS, and CAPES.
WINDOW HOLLANDS, TEA COSIES, SHEETS.
BED RUGS, LACE SHADES, SHORT CURTAINS, &c., &c.

D. BAIN & COMPANY,

4, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

SHOPS, DRESSMAKERS, AND CLOTHING CLUBS SUPPLIED ON THE VERY BEST TERMS.

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, VIA LINTZ GREEN,

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE

MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, FIELD SEEDSMAN, &c.,

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF

PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.

OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED

Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

HOBSON'S AROMATIC CALF FOOD. REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save calves from that inflammatory fever commonly called quarter-ill or Black Leg.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF

PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-eight years

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION 427r

MORISON JOHNSTON, 8, BIGG MARKET, NEWCASTLE, Begs to announce that he has commenced the Business of AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, in conjunction with his present business, which will be carried on as usual. He trusts to receive the support of his friends and the public generally.

All Accounts of Sales settled promptly 396t

TO FARMERS.

FARMERS will do well to inspect G. HOBSON'S Large and Carefully-selected STOCK OF CLOVER, GRASS, TURNIP SEEDS, &c., before giving their Orders elsewhere.

My Seeds have all been carefully selected from Samples sent by the most respectable Growers and Importers, and will bear comparison with the best houses in England as to price and quality. 239u

YOU ARE INVITED

TO

BUY YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES

AT

JOHN GIBSON'S NEW SHOP,

CORNER OF

FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET, BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station).

As they are unsurpassed for FITTING and DURABILITY.

A Well-selected Stock always on hand.

All Goods marked in plain figures, at the LOWEST READY-MONEY PRICES.

BOOTS MADE TO MEASURE, AND REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS DONE AS USUAL. 539u

Public Notices.

NOTICE.

THE GAME, &c., upon Bunker Hill Estate is Strictly Preserved. Trespassers will be prosecuted, and all dogs shot.—By order. 518u

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

CONSETT POLLING DISTRICT LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association having been formed, Members can be Enrolled on application to the following:—
Mr. THOMAS WILLIAMS, 3, West Victoria St., Consett.
" JAMES HARDY, Templetown, "
" THOMAS CARR, Edith Street, "
" WILLIAM BELL, Middle Street, "
" BERNARD CUSH, Thomas Street, "
" EDWARD HART, Shakespeare Street, "
Or to the Secretary,
440u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Town Hall, Consett.

Public Notices.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

WARDEN.
Very Rev. W. C. LAKE, D.D., Dean of Durham.

PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY.
Rev. A. S. FARRAR, D.D., Canon of Durham.

PROFESSOR OF GREEK AND CLASSICAL LITERATURE.
Rev. T. S. EVANS, M.A., Canon of Durham.

PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS.
Rev. R. J. PEARCE, D.C.L.

PROFESSOR OF HEBREW.
Ven. H. W. WATKINS, D.D., Canon of Durham.

MASTER OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.
Rev. A. PLUMMER, D.D.

PRINCIPAL OF HATFIELD HALL.
Rev. A. ROBERTSON, M.A.

TUTORS.
Rev. A. PLUMMER, D.D.
Rev. A. ROBERTSON, M.A.
F. B. JEVONS, Esq., M.A.
Rev. H. RASHDALL, M.A.

LECTURERS.
Rev. J. T. FOWLER, M.A., Hebrew.
Rev. W. HOOPER, M.A., Classics.
Rev. J. MORRIS, M.A., Mathematical.

REGISTRAR.
W. K. HILTON, Esq., M.A.

MICHAELMAS TERM will COMMENCE on OCTOBER 13th, 1885. The following Scholarships and Exhibitions will be awarded by Examination, commencing at 9 a.m. on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14th:

(1). To Candidates for admission as Students in Arts, Two Foundation Scholarships of £70, and One of £40 per annum, tenable for two years. Also an Exhibition of £20 per annum, tenable for two years, restricted to Students of limited means.

To Students in Arts who have resided during three, and not more than four terms, One Foundation Scholarship of £30, tenable for one year, and the Newby Scholarship, of £25 per annum.

Also a Scholarship of £30, tenable for one year, open to Candidates for the First Year Examination in Arts, holding no other Scholarship or Exhibition, and to Students admitted from the Theological Colleges in connection with the University.

(2). To Students in Theology—

On admission, Two Scholarships of £60 and One of £30 per annum, tenable for two years. Also, Two Exhibitions of £20 per annum, tenable for two years, restricted to Students of limited means.

After One Year's Residence, Exhibitions of the aggregate value of £60, awarded at the discretion of the Examiners, tenable for one year.

Open to Graduates, One Exhibition of £40.

The successful candidate will not be required to commence their residence immediately.

The value of the Scholarships and Exhibitions open to Students in Arts is nearly £1,000 per annum, an equal amount being available for Theological Students.

Applications for further information must be addressed to the REGISTRAR, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, DURHAM.

Public Notices.

BAPTIST FIELD-DAY, below Templetown, TO-MORROW (Saturday). Tea and Field, 6d.; Field only, 3d.

TO THE IRISHMEN OF THE NORTH-WEST DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

AN ADJOURNED MEETING of the Irish Registration Association for the above Division, will be held on Saturday, June 6th, at Four p.m., at Mr. P. COYLE's, Mount Pleasant Hotel, Consett, when it is expected that at least one Representative from each Village in the Division will attend. 562u

NOTICE.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION OF DURHAM.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Liberal Electors of the Leadgate Polling District will be held in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley, on June 1st, 1885.

Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock by Mr. WILLIAM WALTON, Medomsley, President of the Local Liberal Association. 566u

Re ROBERT HEDLEY, of Consett, Butcher, Deceased.

THE BOOKS of the above-named deceased are now in my hands, and all persons owing accounts to the estate, are requested to pay the same to me—the person duly authorised—at my Office, Town Hall, Consett.

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A.

Dated May 28th, 1885. 585u

EDWARD LOCKEY, BUTCHER,

BEGS to inform the Public of Consett and District that he has COMMENCED BUSINESS AS BUTCHER ON HIS OWN ACCOUNT.

Having assisted in the business of the late Mr. ROBERT HEDLEY for over four years, he hopes to receive a share of the support hitherto accorded to his late employer, and trusts by supplying the Choicest Cuts, and Prime Quality, at prices not to be surpassed, to receive the patronage of the general public.

NOTICE.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY beg to intimate to their Patrons in Consett and District that they have REMOVED from 14, Newmarket Street, to TEMPORARY PREMISES AT THE BRICK WORKS OFFICES, CONSETT, until suitable Premises are vacant.

In the meantime, every attention will be given to Customers at this address as usual, and an assortment of their well-known Machines will be kept in Stock, together with Cotton, Linen Thread, Oil, etc.

All kinds of Sewing Machines Repaired or Exchanged. Latest and Highest Award GOLD MEDAL Health Exhibition, London. 493u

ST. CUTHBERT'S BUILDING COMMITTEE.

THE

GALA AND SPORTS

in aid of the Fund for the

NEW PEAL OF BELLS FOR ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, BENFIELDSIDE,

Will be held in the

SPA GROUNDS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 13th, 1885.

LIST OF EVENTS.

1—100 Yards Handicap.
2—Throwing the Cricket Ball.
3—150 Yards for Boys under 16.
4—Running High Jump.
5—Quarter Mile Handicap.
6—Sack Race.
7—Place Kick.
8—Half Mile Handicap.
9—St. Cuthbert's Choir Boys' Race.
10—Tug-of-War. Teams of Five.
11—Obstacle Race.
12—Putting the Weight.

Entrance Fee for Nos. 1, 4, 5, and 8, 1s.; Nos. 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12, 6d.; No. 3, 3d.; No. 10, 2s. 6d. each Team; No. 9, free.

Entries for Nos. 1, 5, and 8, close on 6th June, and for the remainder of events on 10th June.

All Entries, with Fee enclosed, to be made to Mr. J. G. MURRAY, Benfieldside House, Blackhill, from whom any further information can be obtained.

The BLACKHILL TEETOTAL BRASS BAND have kindly volunteered their services, and will Play Selections of Music during the Afternoon and Evening.

Entries will be received from bona-fide Amateurs only.

VALUABLE PRIZES WILL BE OFFERED.

THE GRAND

CHINESE FAIR,

IN THE

NEW TOWN HALL,

CONSETT,

WILL BE

CONTINUED ON SATURDAY,

MAY 30th,

FROM 3 TO 10 O'CLOCK.

ADMISSION, 6d. 576u

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

Monday, June 1st, 1885.

MESSRS. NICHOLSON & MURRAY will SELL BY AUCTION—
9 Prime Fat Cattle.
46 Prime Fat Sheep, including some very grand Hoggs (clipped).
6 Fat Lambs.
A quantity of Ewes and Lambs.
Several Prime S.H. Calving Cows.
2 Goats.
Wood Stable, standing behind Sherburn Terrace, Consett.
Prime Prize Sow, 8 weeks gone in pig.
3 Sets of Spring Cart Harness, nearly new.
20 Hams.
Calves, Pigs, Poultry, &c., as usual.
Sale at One o'clock. 589u

By Mr. John S. Murray.

Flowers, Green House, and other Plants, Garden Frames, Garden Tools, &c.

JOHN S. MURRAY, honoured with instructions from Mr. HENRY LAMB, Blackhill, who is leaving the neighbourhood, will SELL BY AUCTION, at the Royal Auction Mart (removed there for convenience of Sale), on Saturday, June 6th, 1885, the whole of his GREEN HOUSE & OTHER PLANTS, GARDEN FRAMES, and part Household FURNITURE, comprising — Mahogany Sideboard; Bookcase; Tea Table; 3 Kitchen Chairs; Duplex Lamp; Reading Lamps; Preserving and other Pans; Mangle; Dog Kennel; Garden Frame, 3ft. by 4ft.; Garden Frame, 8ft. 6in. by 5ft.; Garden Frame, 5ft. by 4ft.; and Do. 5ft. by 3ft. 6in.; 3 Watering Cans; Grindstone and Frame; 2 Riddles; Garden Shears; Flower Stands; Garden Tools; a lot of Old Iron and Metal, &c.

THE FLOWERS include Geraniums; Single and Double Fuchsias; Genestas; Amaranthus; Nelotas; Azalias; French Marigolds; Asters; Everlastings; Lobelias; Ice Plants; Petunias; Single and Double Dahlias; Musk; Tegetas; Pansies, Show and Fancy; Herbaceous Plants; Phloxter Amondie; Maiden Hair, and other Ferns; Tree Pots; Foliage Plants; and Bedding-out Plants, in great variety, &c., &c.

Sale to commence at Four o'clock.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 590u

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

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Raw.

65, Derwent Street, Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, instructed by Mr. WILLIAM SMITH, who is declining business, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, his Household FURNITURE, at the above Address, on Saturday, May 30th, 1885, comprising—Polished Press; Painted Press; Chiffonier Bed; Desk Bed; Kitchen Table, 6 Kitchen Chairs; Arm Chairs; and numerous other articles.

Sale to commence at One o'clock precisely.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 575u

NOTICE.

THE DWELLING-HOUSE, situated in St. Ives Road, Leadgate, belonging to Mrs. ANN TRANEY, which was Advertised to be Sold by Auction, on Wednesday, June 3rd, 1885, at the Black Bull Inn, Leadgate, is WITHDRAWN.

578u WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer, Blackhill.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Ebchester.—Saturday, May 30th, 1885.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at Ebchester, on Saturday, May 30th, 1885, part of the Household FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, belonging to Mr. W. T. BULLERWELL. For particulars see Bills.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

537u Mr. JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer.

Choice Well-wooded Villa Site at Ebchester.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at the House of Mr. R. RAMSAY, Temperance Hotel, Ebchester, by

Mr. JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer,

On Monday, the 1st day of June, 1885, at Three o'clock p.m., subject to such conditions as will be stated at the time of Sale, a

CHOICE VILLA SITE,

On 990 Years' Lease, containing in admeasurement 3r. 32p., situated at Ebchester, in the Derwent Valley, and only between five and ten minutes' walk from the railway station.

For full particulars apply to Messrs. BOOTH, Solicitor, Shotley Bridge; JOHN G. EAST, 7, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne; or to the Auctioneer, Shotley Bridge.

N.B.—Mr. R. Ramsay, Temperance Hotel, Ebchester, will, on application, show the site. 516u

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

By Mr. A. Brodie.

FOR SALE, the Excellent DWELLING-HOUSE, in Harvey Street, Consett, containing 6 Rooms, Large Attic Bed-room, 2 Sculleries, and Pantry, with every Convenience.—Apply ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 394u

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—TO BE SOLD, or LET ON LEASE, a desirable Country RESIDENCE, standing in its own grounds of half-an-acre, Freehold, situate within five minutes' walk of Shotley Bridge Railway Station, and containing 3 Sitting-rooms, 7 Bed-rooms, Dressing-room, Bath-room, W.C., 2 Attics, Kitchens, Scullery, Yard, and other Conveniences. The House is well built, and commands beautiful views of the Derwent Valley.—Apply ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 395u

ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Consett, undertakes the Sale by Public Auction or otherwise, of Houses and Land, Farming Stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, or other Effects, on reasonable terms. Valuations for Probate, Dissolution of Partnership, and Settlement of Claims under Fire Insurance, or in Disputes. Fire, Life, and Accident Assurance arranged without delay. Shares of every description Bought and Sold on Commission. The Victoria Sale-Rooms are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale.

Postal Address—ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

Tow Law Auction Mart.

NEXT FORTNIGHTLY SALE, Monday, June 8th, 1885.

Please enter early for Advertisement next week.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

Partridge Close, Tow Law. 570u

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

Business done promptly and on reasonable terms.

Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket. The Oldest Established in the City. SALE BY AUCTION of HORSES, CARRIAGES and SADDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, at Two o'clock.

Entries respectfully solicited.

A. T. CROW, Auctioneer.
JOHN PERL, Proprietor

CHEAP EMIGRATION.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FARES TO AMERICA, QUEENSLAND, &c.

Liverpool to America, £2 16s. and £3, by the best Lines.

To Australian Colonies at the Lowest Rates.

For reliable information, apply to

269u A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton.

Business Announcements.

BICYCLES and TRICYCLES FOR SALE. NEW AND SECOND-HAND. Liberal Discount for Cash. Illustrated Lists Post Free.

D. RUDGE & Co.,

The Oldest and Largest Cycle Manufacturers in the World.

WORKS: COVENTRY.

DEPOT: 15, BIGG MARKET, NEWCASTLE.

T. D. OLIVER, Manager.

Splendid New Stock of Rudge Safety Bicycles, and Coventry Rotary and Double Drive Tricycles.

Repairs by experienced Coventry Workmen. 428u

THE NEW

COAL AND STONE BORING MACHINE

From 20s. and 25s. each, complete with Drills; also BURY's and HARDY's PATENT STEEL PICKS and SHAFTS, DRILLS, JUMPERS, and STEMMING GEAR, Wholesale and Retail at

THOMAS BOSTON'S,

NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SAFETY BICYCLES! SAFETY BICYCLES!

THE latest Novelty in Safety Bicycles is the "NORTHERN,"

Manufactured by the NORTH OF ENGLAND BICYCLE Co., 44, High Bridge, Newcastle. Send for Price List Free. Second-hand Bicycles from £2 0s. 0d. 228u

BROOK'S HATS,

NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

MOST MONEY LENT

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

J. & E. WILSON'S,

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

12, PILGRIM STREET

FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET.

PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

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

248u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

FRIGERIO & POWER,

45, GRAINGER STREET,

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE,

Beg to state that through the opening of the great tunnel of Mount St. Gothard, they have been able to import a large Stock of

GENUINE PURE WINES

From the Vineyards of Italy, which for purity and strength cannot be equalled, as they are good and nourishing, and which they now offer at the following low prices, viz:—

14s., 16s., 18s., 20s., and 24s. per Dozen Bottles.

Also, a special nourishing Port at 30s. Carriage paid on 12 Bottles and upwards. 579u

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT

Is now recommended by the leading Medical Men in the North, as being

THE MOST SUITABLE WINE

FOR

SICK PERSONS AND INVALIDS.

36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Pottle. Carriage paid on 6 bottles and upwards.

W. GLENDENNING,

WINE MERCHANT,

9, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE. 183c

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

T. TINKLER (LEADGATE).—Your communication will be inserted when space permits.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAY 29TH, 1885.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

"The best-laid schemes o' mice and men
Gang aft a-gley."

BURNS.

It would be a good thing for society if a number of real *bona-fide* weather prophets were to arise—men forsooth who could foretell local atmospheric changes with the same exactitude as our American cousins can prognosticate the march of the devastating storm. We should then be able to mature our holiday plans with some hope of seeing them carried to a successful issue. "Flowery May" seems to have quite forgotten us this year. Indeed, she has rarely shown her face, except through sable curtains of drifting clouds. The rainfall of Monday last cast gruesome shadows on many a young heart. Whit-Monday has long been regarded as "a half-holiday" in this quarter of the world; and young people dream dreams of gay hats and pretty dresses for weeks before the celebration of the annual holiday. Under these circumstances, it is not to be supposed that the little folks met the disappointment with a very good grace. It need not be a matter for surprise if other tears than those of the elements fell in copious showers. Those in authority seem to have made the most of the situation, and warm tea, with its tempting accompaniments, tended, no doubt, to leave the impression with the young people that their lot was not so very hard after all.

Consett and district would seem to have been favoured with more than an ordinary share of the watery element. I was elsewhere that day, and in the spot which I had chosen for a day's outing only two showers fell; and in both instances the sun broke forth immediately afterwards with great splendour. Many of the most respectable families in the Consett district are deterred from going further afield for enjoyment at Whitsuntide, owing to their connection with the district Sunday schools. It would be a great relief to such, and to scores of the teachers as well, if arrangements could be made whereby the annual demonstration could be held on a Saturday afternoon in the end of May or the beginning of June. That could be done easily enough in these long summer evenings and half-holiday movement. The parents of the children would then have an opportunity of patronising the annual fete without interfering in any way with other holiday arrangements. Their presence would be a source of great encouragement to the men and women who work from Sabbath to Sabbath without perceptible reward.

Lawyers are a remarkable class of individuals. There is no limitation to their imagination. I thought that the district was pretty well-known to me; but a certain "limb of the law," whose practice extends all the way to Consett, has widened the circuit of my information. The "Pawnshop" is not a very happy name for an iron-works. The Tinmill is inappropriate and meaningless enough, seeing that there has not been a tin mill at the place for the past quarter of a century. Lawyers, however, are not too exquisite in the choice of terms—especially when it happens to suit their purpose. They can wax eloquent upon nothing, and move to compassion the most obdurate. Instead of asserting it was a fact that the Tinmill Works passed by the name of the "Pawnshop," it would not have been surprising had the same gentleman declared that it was best known by the name of "Paradise." The one is quite as appropriate as the other. Call it by the latter, then, so that one may dwell in close proximity to the beautiful.

Should any of my readers intend to visit Newcastle city at an early date, I would advise them to extend their walk to as far as Heaton Park. The bear seems to be of a very even temperament, and should nothing intervene to break the monotony of his prosaic existence, he must at no distant date give up the ghost. Fancy led my footsteps thither not very long ago and, seeing an interesting bevy of ladies surrounding the railings at the bear's quarters, I naturally pressed forward and peered downwards into the den. "Poor thing, how it sighs!" murmured a sympathetic fair one near me, and the fair company bowed their heads in mute acquiescence. It was too true: Bruin's shaggy sides heaved like a country blacksmith's bellows. The muffled sounds that rose from the den did not impress me as having any relation whatever to sighs; but the ladies thought different, and I yield to their superior wisdom. The bewitching nymphs know far more about sighs and sighing than I am supposed to do. They seem to regard the symptoms with apprehension, and they are best judges in these matters. The sedate creature was, perhaps, sighing for the company of a conjugal mate; and the ladies' sympathies may have arisen from what is usually termed—a fellow-feeling. That is possible; but then there is another side to the picture. There is many another creature in the animal kingdom who would sigh long enough, loud enough, could they only evoke the same show of feeling—the sympathy of what the poet calls "dear deluding woman." In the event, then, of Bruin's love-sickness being unto death, the curious might do worse than pay him a visit while he is still in the flesh.

It will be seen in another column that the Northern Baptist Union has been sitting in conference at Gateshead. Attention was drawn to the Baptist Church at Consett, which has been six months without a pastor. It would take somebody with a very retentive memory indeed to enumerate the number of ministers who have come and gone since the Baptist Church was established at Consett. They don't seem to thrive somehow; but the why and the wherefore is beyond my comprehension. The Rev E. W. Jenkins, of Highgate, earned the applause of the assembly at the Conference referred to on Tuesday last. That gentleman read what is termed the "circular letter," or in other words, a paper on "How to increase the efficiency of our churches." Mr Jenkins treated the subject so ably that the Conference have determined to publish the paper for circulation. To those interested in these matters the pamphlet will repay perusal. Mr Jenkins is not one of those individuals who preach one thing and practise another. He is a most assiduous worker, not in one particular walk only, but in every department of Christian work. The congregations at Highgate, Rowley, and Shotley Field have prospered exceedingly under his ministry, and it must be a source of much satisfaction to them that their pastor's compeers have done him honour.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

We are glad to learn that the Rev James Roach, formerly pastor of the Consett Baptist Church, is now pastor of the important Baptist church at Blakeney, Gloucestershire, where his ministrations are attended by large congregations.

THE GRAND CHINESE FAIR.—From an advertisement which appears in our fourth page, we note that this bazaar will be again open to-morrow (Saturday), in the New Town Hall, Consett, from three to ten o'clock. The Chinese fair is well worthy of support, and we trust those of our readers who have not been able hitherto to pay a visit will not lose this opportunity.

A LOCAL MARKSMAN.—The annual shooting in connection with the Northumberland Hussars, "B" Troop, came off on Wednesday afternoon, at the Hexham High Woods Range. The shooting was under the supervision of Captain J. Straker (Stagshaw House), and the weather being favourable, some capital skill was displayed. There was a large company in attendance. Amongst the successful competitors, our readers will be glad to learn that Corporal J. Crawford, of Consett, succeeded in winning a valuable silver cup, presented by Captain Straker.

FREEMASONRY.—At a well-attended meeting of Freemasons, held at the house of Mr Geo. Brown, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Wednesday evening, the preliminary arrangements for establishing a Freemasons' Lodge for Consett and district were made. We understand it is the intention of the members to have some short time a Freemasons' Hall erected; meanwhile the Rev F. Steggall (vicar) has, in his usual obliging manner, placed suitable rooms at their disposal, for holding their lodge meetings. Messrs W. Logan, Langley Park, and J. Noble, Armstrong Villa, Consett, are taking an active part in the formation of the Lodge. We wish the project every success, seeing that it will add another stately edifice and time-honoured institution to our rising town.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—The anniversary was held on Whit-Sunday. As usual considerable interest was manifested, and everything proved eminently successful. In the morning Mr Carr, of Stockton, preached to a large congregation. In the afternoon, the place was comfortably filled to hear the veteran Wesleyan—Mr W. Thompson, of Newcastle, who addressed the parents, teachers, and scholars in his usual telling manner. In the evening, the chapel was crowded, and Mr Thompson preached a capital sermon. At each service, the scholars recited portions of scripture and catechism, and on no previous occasion have they executed their parts so well. The singing was exceedingly good, and spoke highly of the training both choir and children had received from Mr M. Fawell (conductor) and Mr C. Stelling (organist).—Collections were made on behalf of the school funds, when a good sum was realised.—On Monday, the school could not participate in the demonstration; but the scholars, teachers, and friends partook of tea, &c., in the Gibson Street schools, after which games were indulged in.

BLACKHILL.

At the recent examinations held by the Presbyterian Synod, Miss Burkitt, of 1, Ledger Terrace, Blackhill, passed with credit in the subject of "Church History." This young lady has studied under Mrs Baillie, of The Manse, Cemetery Road.

TRIP TO CARLISLE.—On Whit-Tuesday, the members connected with the various Dissenting denominations paid a visit to Carlisle and surrounding neighbourhood. The excursion train called at intermediate stations between Consett and Lintz Green, picking up a large number of people; and at Prudhoe the party was joined by the Mission band and others. On arriving at their destination, a series of meetings were held; and the excursionists heartily enjoyed their "outing."

BENFIELDSIDE STOCK AUCTION MART.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray held their weekly sale on Monday, when they had forward 11 fat cattle; 6 calving cows; 36 fat sheep; 3 fat lambs; 16 ewes and lambs; 3 veal calves; 4 pork pigs; 15 small pigs; a quantity of fowls, hams, &c. The quantity of stock forward was small on account of the Whitsuntide holidays; but the quality was exceptionally good and sold at fair remunerative prices. Fat bullocks, £20 5s 0d to £23 17s 6d; fat heifers, £12 0s 0d to £23 12s 6d; calving cows, £10 to £17; hoggs in wool, 53s to 61s; fat lambs, 32s 6d to 37s 6d; grey-faced ewes and single lambs, to 42s 6d; Shropshire ewes and single lambs, 46s; calves, 15s to 41s; pork pigs, 39s to 56s; small pigs, 18s 6d to 28s; beef was making 8s 3d to 9s per stone; mutton 9d, and lamb 1s per pound.

BIBLE STUDENTS' SOCIETY.—On Saturday evening, Mr Richards read again a very excellent paper on the Mosaic "Day." The essayist adopted as his platform our common day of twenty-four hours. In doing so, and in adducing some excellent authority in his favour, he gained an almost unanimous support. Leaving this question, an interesting chit-chat succeeded upon the now published Revised Version of the Old Testament, as to the probabilities of its wide or narrow acceptance. We were glad to see and read in last week's *Jewish World* two very interesting articles upon the version. Both articles spoke very highly of the revised text, and commended the version to all readers. This commendation, coming from such a thoroughly Jewish authority, speaks volumes in favour of the new issue, and may stimulate those of our readers who can afford it to purchase a copy. The termination of the Jewish leading article is so forceful and so true that we cannot refrain from transcribing a small portion of it for the sake of our readers. Thus:—"No book, in the eyes of the Englishman, can compare with the Bible; and though Christendom claims to be inspired by the teachings of the New Testament, yet no impartial critic of the times, who judges the Englishman by his acts, rather than by his profession, will fail to see in him the stamp of the Old Testament; to trace in his character the impress of its teachings; and perceive in his morality the influence of its ethics. As Jews we are glad to note all this; and as Jews we can join with every section of our fellow-countrymen, in giving cordial welcome to the Revised Version of a Book, which contains so much we all in common admire and revere."

Mr. Aitan's Church.—In our report of the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the church, a statement was made that the sum of £2,000 had already been subscribed, and that the building cost each had been let to Mr W. Ridley, of Tow Law, for £2,766. This assertion, we are informed, is somewhat misleading. The £2,000 named represent a total of £2,940; and in addition to the amount of the contract, there will be the fees of the architect and the Clerk of the Works to pay, and the expense of purchasing suitable Church furniture, &c., which will run up the expenditure to a sum exceeding at least £400 the amount already subscribed. The cost of the organ chamber is not included in this calculation.

CRAGHEAD.

Found Dead in Bed.—On Thursday se'nnight, about the time a child named Thomas Hardgrave Brown, aged six months, was found dead in bed by its parents at Craghead, the infant then lying asleep back about a foot in the bed-street, on which it was subject to bronchitis and convulsive fits; and it appears cot had been overlaid. The baby has been in ill-health since its birth, having been attacked by several fits, and has been attended by Dr P. Hall, Helmside. No inquest was held.

TANFIELD.

Church of England Temperance Society.—The annual meeting of this Society was held in the School-room on Tuesday night.—There were present many present, and an enjoyable evening was spent. "The Inebriate's Butcher," a recitation by Mr W. Holmes first engaged the attention of the audience. A short recitation by Master T. Brown was followed by a song by Miss Daud. Then came a reading by Master R. Arkless; song, "Our Jack's come home from sea to-day." A duet by Mr. Newman; recitation, by Mr Hall. An amusing dialogue was given by Mr Hall and Mr Brown, the Burnopfield branch of the C. E. T. S., "Deaf as a post." Great amusement was created by this effort, and the audience were appreciative of a recitation by Mr R. Edward, and a song by the Rev C. H. Newman, brought the evening's entertainment to a close.

TOW LAW.

Whit-Monday was observed almost as a general holiday at Tow Law, and the weather, with the exception of a few showers during the early part of the day, was fortunately fine. The Primitive Methodists had a gala on a large scale, and it was largely patronised. The Salvation Army was also out in strong force.

Auction Mart.—Mr Vickers held his usual fortnightly sale here on Monday. There was again a good display of stock comprising 150 head of cattle, 156 fat and keeping sheep, a few young pigs, &c. There was a considerable attendance of dealers at the mart, which may partly be accounted for by the unfavourable weather. The long continuance of cold weather and want of grass, resulted in (what may be termed) a "slow trade," and the ability of the auctioneer to do much in the matter of "knocking down." The following are the numbers and prices of each class:—56 dairy cows, £8 10s to £20; 19 tups, £2 per head, £8 10s to £14; 80 stores, £4 17s 6d to £14 10s; 4 fat cattle, £12 to £15; 3 calves, £2 to £6; 15 fat sheep, 30s 6d to 61s; 20 fat ewes and lambs, 40s to 51s; 65 black-faced ewes and lambs, 20s to 35s per couple; 14 mule grazing hoggs, 20s to 25s 6d each.

BEAMISH.

Mr R. Sanderson has secured the contract for the erection of a new Iron Kiln wing to the Durham County Hospital. The cost of the wing will be upwards of £2,000.

A Tribute to Her Major Joicey.—Mr James Walker, of Finchale Abbey, has quite recently executed a small and also a valuable gold frame pin for Mr W. J. and Mrs Joicey, and the gift is in memory of the painful circumstances under which Mr and Mrs Joicey met with an accident on the ancient priory of Finchale some few months ago. Mr Clark's son, Mr Archer-in-law, and the circumstances attending his death were recorded at the time. We may add that the kindly remembrance of this generous gift was received on the 24th occasion by Mr Walker was well merited.

Two Horses Killed.—On Monday, about 9 a.m. a severe rain and hail storm, accompanied by peals of thunder and vivid flashes of lightning, passed over this neighbourhood, and two very valuable horses were killed by the lightning. Messrs Urpeth Flour Mills, Chester-le-Street, were killed by lightning at Beamish. It would appear that Mr Hutchinson's hind, named Joseph Lyall, and a carman were proceeding up the Mill Bank, Beamish, with a waggon-load of flour, drawn by three horses, when the lightning struck the horses and knocked all three down. On examining, two of them were found to be quite dead. The third, between the shafts of the waggon on to the road, and the hind man turned off and got half-way before this the man received no other injuries. On reaching Urpeth Mills, Mr Hutchinson was informed of the accident, and after restoratives had been applied they soon recovered.

BEAMISH.

Rifle Volunteers.—On Monday D. Bain won the handicap sweepstake competition of the 5th Durham Rifle Volunteers at the Rue Hills Range, Blaydon, on Saturday, with a score of 49 out of a possible 50.—On Saturday, a match between ten men of the 5th and 7th D. R. V. and the same number from the Derwent Rifle Club, took place at the club range, Blaydon. The score of the volunteers was 804, and that of the club 796.

DURHAM.

Swine fever has broken out in several places in this county.

University Intitution.—Michaelmas Term will commence on October 13th, 1885. Several exhibitions and scholarships will be awarded by examination in December, and on Monday, January 14th. Several particulars as to these will be found in an official announcement which appears on our fourth page. The value of the scholarships and exhibitions open to students in arts is nearly £1,000 per annum, an ample provision is available for theological students.

Farewell to a Clergyman.—There was a large attendance of the parishioners of St. Margaret's, Durham, on Wednesday night, at the Miners' Hall, the occasion being a meeting convened to the Rev Thos. Callinan, on the occasion of his leaving for the sphere of labour to which he was preferred by the Dean and Chapter of Durham. The Rev. J. C. Cunliff presided, and Canon Body, on behalf of the congregation, presented Mr Callinan with a bronze timepiece and a purse of 100 guineas. Subsequently a handsome tea provided a curious and unique breakfast service; and Mr J. Shields, on behalf of the temperance body in the town, made a presentation of a studio and a large number of suitable requisites.

County Police Intelligence.—At the Durham County Police Court on Wednesday, before the Rev A. B. Shafto and H. Greenwell, Esq., 24 persons were fined for drunkenness and 21 for wilful damage,—amount of £32, due to Margaret Lindsay, was committed to prison for three months with hard labour.—Edward Bayfield was charged with throwing stones at the telegraph wires at Pity Me, on the 17th inst.—Prisoner did not appear, and the Bench committed him under a warrant for one month's imprisonment with hard labour.—Michael Hogan, for wilfully damaging a hedge on the farm of Joseph Welch, at Whitwell, was ordered to pay £1 damage and the costs.—Joseph Gray, for obstructing the footpath at Hartside, by leaving a cart of furniture standing, was fined 5s and costs.

Waterproof Sailing Farm.—On Saturday and Tuesday horse and cattle fair was held on Whitsun Monday at Durham. There was a numerous attendance both of buyers and dealers, but the show of horses was not so good as is usually the case. There showed a fair supply of all sorts, but the business done was not extensive. Agricultural horses, of which there was a fair show, £20 and £25 to £45 and £50; harness horses, £10 to £20; cobs, £18 to £25; ponies, of which there was a good show, realised £6 to £14; Scotch-bred galloways as far as £20. The show of cows and sheep was fair. Irish store cattle brought £3 and £4 for calves to £11 and £12 for animals in fair condition; cows, £12 10s to £21; Scotch yeadlers, 45s to 56s; Cheviot ewes with their half-bred lambs, 60s to 65s; and shearlings, 30s to 45s per head.

SILKSWORTH.

St. Cuthbert's Church Bazaar and Fancy Fair.—Intending competitors at the bazaar, which is to be held on June 9th, 10th, and 11th, are requested to note that the entries of articles for competition must be received on or before June 6th, and from which date no articles will be received. The Rev. Canon Hodgson, rector, Silkworth Hall, Sunderland; Miss Watson, secretary, Mr M. Gibson, Mr J. Bowell, treasurer, and Mr W. Holmes, captain, Mr R. Stelker, vice-captain, Mr J. Junior captain, Mr R. Watson secretary, Mr M. Gibson, Mr J. Bowell will arrange matches for either the first, second, or junior teams.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

Gala and Sports.—In connection with the local ordinary accident fund, the annual pic-nic and sports took place last Saturday afternoon, in a field near Sow Spen, granted by Mr E. Telford. The event was well patronised, and some capital sports were witnessed. The Spen Brass Band (under the leadership of Mr C. Summerside) enlivened the proceedings with selections of music. A tea for the public was provided; and a successful gala was brought to a close in the usual way, by the band playing the music, and Mr Thos. Duffy acting as M.A.

FELTON FELL.

The Christ. ch. Lay Lay, with Chair, Felton Fell, has sent £6 14s. per Mr J. an Simpson, to Mr A. Reith, secretary, the Mine, our Permanent Relief Fund, as a donation, being the proceeds of a lecture given by the Rev. W. Lay, on the 12th inst., in aid of the extra liabilities brought upon it by the explosion at Tursdale Colliery, on March 2nd, 1885.

WITTON-GILBERT.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Sunday, sermons were preached by the Rev J. Baker, Durh. on. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather there were fair congregations, and good collects. On Monday afternoon, a tea-meeting was held, when there was a large congregation. A public tea was held, at which large numbers partook. Subsequently, a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr Wm. Wright, of Burnopfield, when the Rev J. Baker and Mr John Willis each gave short, humorous, and pithy addresses.

SWALWELL.

The Narrow Escape of a Child.—With reference to the paragraph in our last week's issue, "Narrow Escape of drowning of a child at Swalwell," which has been correspondence writes to us to say that a passenger in the 9.40 a.m. train from Swalwell to Blaydon, on the 11th inst., saw a little child floating down the river, and the porter named Bendix, in the employ of the North Eastern Railway Company, on the scene, plunged into the stream without hesitation, and rescued the child, handing the body to the guard of the train. Great credit is due to Bendix for his gallant behaviour.

MICKLEY SQUARE.

On Thursday se'nnight, Mr Waddington gave an address on "Radical assertions e. historic facts," in the Wesleyan Chapel, Mickley Square. The room was packed to the doors, and the meeting was a very attentive, chiefly miners, who listened with great interest to an address of over two hours' duration.

TANFORTH.

Football Club.—The annual meeting of the above was held on Thursday se'nnight, when the following officers were elected for the incoming season:—President, Mr W. D. Sewell; treasurer, Mr W. Holmes; captain, Mr R. Stelker; vice-captain, Mr J. Bowell; junior captain, Mr R. Watson; secretary, Mr M. Gibson; and Mr J. Bowell will arrange matches for either the first, second, or junior teams.

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LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

Thursday, May 29th.—Before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), Lt.-Col. J. P. De Pledge, and Geo. Hedley, Esq.

A domestic servant "in her cups."

Jane Hall, a good looking, strongly-built domestic servant, in the employment of Mr Henry Fenwick, of Pierbuck Farm, Consett, was charged (on remand from the last Petty Sessions Court) with having been drunk on license d premises at Satley, on the 16th inst. The defendant pleaded guilty on the night in question, he heard a loud disturbance going on in the kitchen of Mr Wm. Maddison, Royal Oak Inn. He went into the kitchen and found that the act of entering the parlour when the landlord observed him, he (defendant) said, "I have come to get in there!" The officer, however looked inside, and found defendant partially rolling about in a helpless state of drunkenness. She was shouting and singing across the tables and chairs, and the young fellows in the parlour were trying to get her out again. On leaving the premises, the policeman cautioned her, and she had a good deal to say about "not doing there.' Maddison replied that young women of defendant's class, and a number of young men got into her company, and he (witness) could not drive them like all that." (Laughter.) The constable then told the defendant that she had better look after the woman, and get her away. She left the house, but she fell down two or three times on the road—once against the window of the publican supplied her with liquor against her wish; but the latter pointed out that, although it was wrong of the landlord to do so, he might be fined for it. Defendant did not pour the drink down her throat.—Defendant was ordered to pay 5s and 9costs.—The policeman was ordered to take care that no more liquor was supplied to her.

SCRATCHING A CRIPPLE.

Thomas Wedge, a cripple, charged with having assaulted Edward Lambert, a cripple, at West Pelton, on the 16th inst.—Complainant stated that he was proceeding in the direction of Mr Clarkson's, when he observed the defendant, who was in charge of a horse and cart. Wedge came across the road to him, and deliberately struck him in the face with one of the whips, causing him to fall upon the ground. He sustained a bruise on the face. Defendant was cut. Replying to the Bench, prosecutor said he did not give the defendant the slightest provocation; but explained that they had been in the habit of respecting each other's infirmities. Wedge was a cripple, and he (complainant) was a cripple.—The assault was a most unprovoked one.—Defendant stated that he was a cripple, and he (complainant) was a cripple. Complainant had been in the habit of calling him names, and he (defendant) had threatened to "scratch" him. He had done so, and he was sorry for it.—Defendant was fined 5s and costs, amounting to £1 6s altogether.—Defendant said that shall I do to recover the money?—The Chairman answered that he could not, as we have not that case before us now.—The Magistrates' Clerk remarked, "You have the advice you can sue him for their value in the County Court.

NEIGHBOURS' QUARRELS.

Hannah Clark was summoned to answer a charge of assaulting Isabella Langley at Pelton, on the 13th inst.—It appears that the parties interested had been paying neighbours for some time, which eventually led to a quarrel. On the day in question, complainant happened to visit a neighbour's house (Peter Jackson's), and the defendant, who passed as they were conversing together on the door-step, "scolded" and "cursed" her. She remonstrated with Clark, who became exceedingly angry, and exclaimed, "Send that Yorkshire bugger out, and I'll murder her!" Clark "put" her fist to her's. Defendant subsequently "grappled" her by the hair of the head, and dragged her forcibly into the house. She also knocked her against the mantelpiece, bruising her forehead; and finally "threw" complainant on the hearthstone, until she just had breath enough to call for the police, and afterwards had several witnesses, but one of them was unwell and could not be present that day. She was only a delicate woman (laughter); and it was not right for her to be attacked in this brutal manner.—Mrs. Rippon spoke to compel the two women quarrelling on the door-step; and the language used by the complainant was most disgraceful.—Mrs. Langley went into the house, and the defendant acted in a similar manner.

NORTH-WEST DIVISION OF DURHAM.

THE FRANCHISE ACT.

(From the *Daily News*, May 9th, 1885).

The Overseers of some of the London parishes seem to have suddenly awakened up to the new responsibilities imposed upon them by the Franchise Act.

The ninth clause of that Act requires the Overseers of every parish in the kingdom to ascertain during the months of April and May who are the persons entitled to be registered as inhabitant occupiers.

The person rated for any house goes on the list as a matter of course, but a man occupying a room or rooms in any house in which neither the landlord nor his servant resides is an inhabitant occupier under the Act.

If such a person has been living in the house on the 15th of last July, and is living there still, he will be entitled to be registered in November.

It is the duty of the Overseers to find out these people, and to enter their names on the rate-book in a separate column made for that purpose. The neglect of this duty they may serve on the Overseers in a notice requiring them within twenty-one days to give the names of all such persons in the house, under a penalty of forty shillings for neglect. A similar penalty "for such default" is inflicted on any Overseer who "fails to perform his duty under this section."

It should be the immediate care of every Liberal organisation to see that the Overseers discharge this important function.

The Registration that the Act does not come into operation till 1886 will prevent a rush to the registrars, and in the new county constituences may be expected a large class of householders from getting placed on the register.

The Act comes into force on the 1st of last January, and the duties of placing these persons on the rate-book and on the register is incumbent on all Overseers at the present moment.

If it is fully discharged by then a large part of the registration work will be accomplished without any expense to the local political agents. Care must, however, see that the officials do what the law requires them to do, and there are only now remains the month of May in which to do it.

The people must not come under the new law. They must be looked after by the Liberal organisations when the proper time comes.

Annan Burghs Liberal Registration Agent.

Liberal Registration Association for the North-West Division of the County of Durham.

Offices: Town Hall, Consett.

LABOUR v. CAPITAL AT CONSETT.

The *North Star* (Darlington) says:—A correspondent writes:—"A rumour is current in Consett to-day that in the event of the Council of the Liberal Executive for the North-West Division of Durham 'shelving' the nomination of Mr Joseph Dodds, the present M.P., for Mr Pease's nomination, and the withdrawal of the Liberal Labour candidate for Stockton, some judicious hand will have to tackle matters up there, or there will be trouble. The very name of Mr Pease ought to suggest the realities read out of the difficulty.—The *North-Eastern Daily Gazette*.

CATCHGATE POLLING DISTRICT.

On Wednesday evening, an open-air meeting, in connection with the North-West Durham Liberal Registration Association, was held near Urpeth Colliery (kindly lent for the occasion by Mr Robt. Gray), when Mr Jas. Taylor, of Ouston Catchgate, presided, and after having introduced the business of the meeting, he called upon Mr Robt. Gray, of Oxhill, who moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, the passing of the Franchise Act will be a new 'Reformation Bill,' as a very large number of the inhabitants of this district will be entitled to vote every one so affected ought to fully fit." This was seconded by Mr John Ord, of Annfield Plain (vice-president of the Central Liberal Club), and supported by Mr Wm. Shipdijon, next moved, "That in the opinion of this meeting, it is the duty of all Liberals in this district to see that all Liberals in this district should become members of this association." This was seconded by Mr Jas. Ord, and supported by acclamation.—The above resolutions and speeches of each resolution were plain, pointed, and practical. The speakers also urged the embodiment of the resolutions on to British hustings, and that no time might be lost, they fully realise their new position as electors, so to make their power granted to them under the Franchise Act.—The meeting was then addressed by taking into consideration the state of the weather, which was rather cold, and the addition of a fire in the station, breakers and men might be stewed down and thickened to make this latter a little thinner, and the other fresh or cold, if cold meat was used, then a little of the seasoning may be minced up with the meat.

DOMESTIC RECIPES.

Economical Stew Caught for Baking.—If properly made, this stew is not up to the same of pounds from the best fresh butcher's meat; and having cleaned, cut, and having removed the skin, proceed to shred, not chop, the meat as fine as possible. For ordinary flaky paste the suet may be minced in these days lightly in flour with a knife, adding a little salt and cold water, and, on hand, a few drops of lemon juice. The paste then rolled out and rolled as for meat pie paste. If required for a better class of pastry, the suet, after being shred as much as possible, must be pounded to the consistency of butter, adding, if the paste is for sweets, a little sugar to aid in during the process. When reduced to the desired consistency, the suet may be used either for short crust or puff pastry in exactly the same way as butter would be employed; and if properly prepared, will be quite as good as the latter for any pastry prepared with lard.

Marrow Jam.—Two pounds of flour, half a pound of sugar, one pound of currants, one teaspoonful of spice, and half a teaspoonful of salt; mix all well together. Make a hollow in the centre of the flour, and add a wineglassful of yeast, and half a pint of warmed milk; stir this into the flour, and then mix some of the flour round the yeast into a thin batter, cover it with a little dry flour and set before the fire to rise; when risen, add half a pound of warmed butter, and enough to make a light dough; let it stand for half-an-hour before the fire to rise; make into buns, mark with the back of a knife, and bake twenty minutes in a quick oven.

Gooseberry wine is best made in the spring, and is made as follows:—Bruise the fruit in a wooden tub or perfectly clean. To six gallons of water add seven pounds of loaf sugar and the rinds of two dozen lemons; boil for half-an-hour, and to every pound of unbruised ginger well bruised, and a quarter of a pound of isinglass. Put the fruit in the skin well, and pour it off into a vat till the next day; strain and put into a cask with lemons and oranges, an ounce of isinglass, and a handful of bruised ginger. Put all into the cask; stir it each day until fermentation ceases, then bung down close for three days. Bung it tight and leave it for six weeks; strain into another cask, and in six weeks it will be ready for bottling.

Cure for Corns.—The following may be cured in one minute, and the remedy is simply alum and vinegar. To accomplish this the cure is to take a knife or grater and shave off in small particles, a piece of alum, and pound or crush to powder; then mix it with about twice as much vinegar, which is palatable, and administer it as quick as possible. Warmed vinegar is more effectual.

The Sons of Temperance annual National Council have elected T. Johnson, of Newcastle, Most Worthy Associate.

Accident in Newcastle.—Yesterday (Thursday) morning a man named John Kelley fell from the roof of the Goods Office, at the Central Railway Station, Newcastle, a distance of about sixty feet. He was found to be suffering from a compound fracture and severe contusions. The injury is considered very doubtful. Kelley, who lives at Byker, Newcastle, is a painter, and was following his occupation when the accident occurred.

Poetry.

THE RUINED CLAUCHAN.

(By Professor Blackie.)

At Tobermory, o'er the hills,
I wandered, when the noon was sunny,
Through cozy bogs and trickling rills,
And hum of bees that roamed for honey.
I wound my way through many a fern,
A light and graceful wilderness,
Till in the glen there met my gaze
A clump of cottages in ruin.

My heart grew sad, my heart grew warm,
The tears adown my cheeks came rolling,
And in my breast there rose a storm
That kicked at reason's cold controlling.
In all my life I never there flashed to view
The rude old life that lived and laboured,
The hasty thew, the heart so true,
The love, the joy, the mutual handshake.

Who drove them hence, O who was he
Of hoarded rents a stern exactor,
A fitful lover of high dignities,
Close-fisted laird, or inard-faced factor?
I may not know; but I disburse
My bile on him, that ruthless actor,
And curse him, with a hearty curse,
Close-fisted laird, or hard-fisted factor.

Yea! cursed be he, and cursed be all
Who live for gold and counted pennies,
Selling their souls to Satan's thrall,
Who hooks his prey with glancing guilesse;
Who shoals and sands in all their settings
The painted pomp of life bestowing,
But leaves the human heart to starve
From frosted fountain foodly flowing.

And cursed by all who keep the Ben
And every lass about their rangers only,
And leave the green and silvan glen
All homeless, lonanties, and lonely;
Who hear not, who see no more
To serve their country, when we need them,
Who for the love of money lose
Will draw the sacred sword of freedom!

If I had land, as I have none,
The people round it would gather,
And every lad I'll call my son,
And every lass about them all me father;
And to each kilted cotter I
Would say, with word so kind and clamish,
God bless you all in unity,
And earth with Celtic seed replenish!

But I'm just what I am; and so
Will please to what I might be;
From flight beginnings all will flow
And in the end all things will right be.
A human lear it all I see,
A human curse, though scarcely civil—
Curse for all the oppressed of man.
A curse for all who serve the devil!

Hints to Housewives.

MEAT PATTIES OF EITHER UNCOOKED OR COLD MEAT.

This is a very nice way to use up the last scrapings of a cold bone, or any trifling piece of meat left by themselves to appear again. Fresh beef skirt make very nice patties, but fresh meat is desired. Cut the meat up in small dice, only large enough to be mastigated with the teeth. Season this with pepper, salt, and a little chili sauce. Mix and moisten with gravy, or, if none, with a little broth; half a teaspoonful of salt, a quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper, and one teaspoonful of flour; 2 oz. of butter may be added when desired. Add mix all well upon a plate; then mix with the meat. Have ready some flaky paste, roll out to about a quarter of an inch thick as above, and rolled out as thin as a wafer, and cut out with a paste cutter, tumbler, egg glass, or anything else. Put a little meat to each and moisten the edges of the under rounds with a little water, and put a round of paste over the meat, and press the edges together; put a little egg over the top of each as it will give a good colour, and bake in a quick oven for about ten minutes. The scraps should never be kneaded up together; roll out each piece either, and rolled out. Moisten the edges of the other rounds with a little water, and press them neatly on the patties, brush them over with a little egg, and bake in a quick oven for about ten minutes. The yolk will give the best glaze. Bake for fifteen minutes; turn out of the tins when done. The covers may be put on before the meat is put in, or the thickened brown gravy poured into each. The latter, however, is the best way, as the meat might be stewed down and thickened to make this latter a little thinner, and the other fresh or cold, if cold meat was used, then a little of the seasoning may be minced up with the meat.

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(Conservative meetings were held at Catchgate on Wednesday night, and at Lanchester yesterday (Thursday evening), but up to the time of going to press with the first edition (two p.m.) the parcels despatched had not reached our office.—Ed.)

WHERE IS WEST STANLEY?

"Wharesboats is Stanley, Mister?" asked a working miner, newly arrived in the district, who was due to start at the "Auld Kettledrum," as that is the name given to the Grand Hotel (I believe erroneously). The interrogated one, a Tyne Dock engineer, whose temper had not been improved by the infliction of a long journey, which the "fanny man" in a pic-nic party, bound Lanchester-ward, had put up at the wrong station, replied in the first edition (two p.m.) the parcels despatched had not reached our office.—Ed.)

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LADIES' COLUMN.

In spite of the chilly weather, spring indefatigably progressed, the London season set in in good earnest on the first days of this month. The opening of the picture galleries is the signal for the country cousins to turn their steps towards town, and it is only necessary to drive down Regent Street, at one of the water-colour galleries, or at the Grosvenor, to see the visitors working round with that energy which is so truly provincial, that it has passed into a proverb. The jaded Londoner can only take one gallery a day, and one or two theatres, or other evening amusements, in a week. Not so the country cousin, who seems to be endowed with the most marvellous vitality and most inexhaustible powers of endurance. Early breakfast hours at home prove to be admirable training for their dissipation. What the old novelists of the Minerva press styled "breaking the fine air of the ocean," is not affected by the town brezine. The sun rise, as a rule, done his work well before we Londoners turn out for constitutional walks in the parks. But the visitors, determined to make the most of the holiday visit, are out in the streets, catalogues and maps in hands, as soon as the shop shutters are down and the picture shows open.

If the Queen's Drawing-rooms have brought up a number of families with new titles to court, so nearly as necessary for the two which were held last month. One hour in Bond-street made 45 dresses for these two occasions only, and this alone, to which a limited number of customers had admission, is a work we can be remembered for many a month to come.

To a patriotic mind, the most satisfactory feature of the show was the fact that these dresses were supplied by an English house of business, and that it could be successfully demonstrated to the most aspiring mind that there exists no longer a necessity to go to Paris and expend from £60 to £100 for a costume because it could not be had at home. It is true that the materials for many of these dresses were French, but it is to be hoped that one day we may rival our neighbours in the preparation of the fibrous stuff of a dress as now we can do in the loom.

The most striking novelty of the Court dress of this season is the richly embroidered front of the skirt. The plain black beaded lace which came in a few years ago was the parent of the present fashion. Black jet led the way to rainbow jet, steel jet, grey jet, &c., also to pearl, garnet, and other beads being used, sewn upon net or blended with embroidery on the material itself. The outlined of these beaded dresses is to be accounted for by the fact that the work is all hand labour. As yet machinery has not come to take the work from the needlewoman who earns a living, though s scanty one, by sewing on the beads. The handsomest dresses of this season have the beads arranged in paydasia, hanging tassel like, so that these pretty ornaments quiver and scintillate with the movements of the wearer.

For a Court dress the work of the dressmaker is greatly simplified by having the beaded front ready made. The skirt is prepared as usual, of satin, faille française, velveteen, or some similar material. The beaded front is then laid on and tacked into position, reaching round to the back, where the draperies cover the joining. The bottom of the skirt is also trimmed with a thick pleating, or trimming of some kind. A thick ruche of puked silk seems to be the favourite finish at present. The silk is cut in points with scissors, not by a machine, which gives a clean sharp edge to the frill, lasting longer than when the frill has been pinked by the old method. The points are not on so small a scale as they used to be made, which allows of mixing two colours with good effect.

Beaded gauze and grenadine for mantelets is much less expensive than the embroidery with pendants for dress fronts. Of these mantelets we are now made the little Zouave jackets which are so popular, and to which different names are given, according to the manner in which the fringe or the trimming put on. As an adjunct to a dress, to wear over it, either for beauty, or comfort, these short little jackets are destined to be the fixed established articles of dress this year. When the Zouave jackets were in fashion before they were not much longer, coming down to the waist or under the arms. As now worn they are much shorter, being rounded off and cut away so short as to obviate any necessity for having dart seams. At the back the jacket is either cut straight, or pointed, and comes up well at the neck in a sloping shape behind. Where worn many seams in the Bolero jacket, as some call the Zouave—others style it the Hussar—the back is made in one piece, impossible to use. But as there are only shoulder and side seams, the secure fastening of the beads is easily managed.

No such useful, yet stylish, dress material has been introduced for a long time as the woollen lace for habits or deep flounces. The colloquial name—yak lace—is rather an insulting, as we are likely to confuse it with a rather stout lace made of fine Shetland wool, or a mixture of silk and wool, in fashion a few years ago, and used for lace shawls.

The yak lace is made of the real yak hair. We suggests the pattern to be worked. A good well twisted silk, like pure silk, is requisite. Sure, scissors, needle, &c., are effected. The only limitation of the lace it is well to choose one that has a pattern possible of outlining.

A contemporary relates that one day, when it was raining hard in New York, a freshly-arrived Frenchman, ignorant of New World magic, a good fellow, if not an exquisite, saw a lady making vain attempts to cross a swelling gutter in front of the principal streets; so he lifted her unceremoniously in his arms and deposited her safely on the other side of the gutter. Instead of condescending to thank him, even with a smile, as he naturally expected, the lady glared at him from top to toe, and asked what right he had to dare to touch her. "I will remedy my mistake," the Frenchman answered; and taking up the lady again, he set her down where he had found her.

An amusing story is told of a new Irish cook on board ship. It appears that it was the usual thing for each mess to have a basin cooked on Christmas morning, and twelve had accordingly been given him with directions to cook them for breakfast. The festive morning arrived, the several messes were extremely astonished when a beautiful plum pudding was served up to each of the basins. So, having called up the cook, they asked what he had done with the twelve basins which they had given to cook. He replied that he did not know what he had become of them but was quite certain that he had put them on to boil. The messes certain that he had put them on to boil. The messes being extremely indignant, went in a body to complain to the captain, who told the cook to give an account of the twelve basins, and he replied as before; but being closely questioned, he said that he had cooked a ham before, so had consulted a cookery book, which instructed him that a ham should be cooked two hours; so, as there were twelve hams, he had cooked them twenty-four hours, which accounted for the beautiful soup.

A "notion" seller was offering Yankee clocks for sale and had furnished himself with a looking-glass in front, to a lady not remarkable for personal charms. "Why, it's beautiful!" said the vender. "Beautiful indeed!" A look at it almost frightens me!" said the lady. "Well, now, I guess you'd better buy one than look at it any longer, for it won't break glass!"

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE LIFE OF A WASP.

The wasp, though a very handsome insect in its bright black and yellow armour, is not a favourite with most people. We think of it chiefly as eating our fruit and as a hard, and therefore dangerous sting. But it should be known that the wasp rarely stings except in self-defence, and that its history is one of the most curious and interesting, though not well known, as that of its cousin the bee. Here is an account of a wasp's life:—

Early in August, a wasp happens to be walking near some sunny bank, you may observe a large wasp which has crept out of its nest and is busily buzzing about, going into every hole, poking and prying into everything, and again. The wasp is house-hunting; looking for a hole, made, perhaps by a field mouse. At last she finds one that is suitable, and this she flies over to her home.

On taking possession of her new residence Mistress wasp, first, proceeds to dig away the earth and make a chamber large enough for her purpose, for she wants a bigger home than summer was content with. As she digs she bites out the pieces, and when she has enough to build with she flies off to some old fence or tree, and there she makes the place sufficiently rough for her purpose.

She sets to work and begins to gnaw away the fibres of wood in the same way as a rat would do. These she gnaws and works about till she has made them into a soft pulp, like thick paste, and then flies off with this pulp to her house. She fixes the pulp to the top of the chamber. Then she flies back to her fence, and collects and makes more, which she adds to the other, and goes on doing this, working at the roof which hangs from the top of the chamber. To the roof of this pillar, which she has thus brought down, she now begins to fix cells, made of the same material, but indeed to pure paper—a good strong paper.

Yes, the wasp is a paper maker. Paper is made at vegetable fibre. Wasps make it of the fibres of wood, and they know how to do it many thousands of years before men did.

But to return to the wasp's house. The first cells she makes are cup-shaped, but as she adds more, she makes them oval, and lays an egg in each, and she makes them she lays an eggs in each. The eggs soon hatch and become little white grubs, requiring constant food. The mother wasp must now be very busy, for she has to feed her hungry children. They must be cells, and to lay more eggs. But soon the first grubs that were hatched are full grown and ready for their change. They want no more food and give no more trouble. They wrap up their coils with a little silk and lie quite quiet, till suddenly they burst out a perfect wasp.

Like good children, the young wasps after waiting a little while to grow stronger, set to work to help their mother. They help to build up the upper stories, and she has little else to do but to lay eggs in the cells they build. They want no training. They have served no apprenticeship; but they begin at once, by the skill the Creator has given them, to make wooly paper, and sizzaled cells, and feed their young grubs. They will now be many to come and help too. The work goes on quickly; they build from the top of the pillar, and the paper made is thick paper done over the top cells; then they lengthen the covering down over the cells one round of cells under another is added; then they begin covering in at the bottom, till at length it encloses the whole below and above, and the wasp's nest is complete.

A little hole is left for the wasps to go in and out by, and at the close of the season she contains four or fivehundred wasps.

The autumn has arrived, and now comes another marvel of instinct. The wasp-workers know that their work is done, and the life is about to end. Instead of guarding and feeding the remaining grubs, they leave them—even the mother wasp herself—to the cold weather coming on, they take them from their cells, and carry them out to the mouth of the nest. A little later they all desert the nest, and very soon after. Afterwards all the wasps—the old and children—are dead, except two or three large females that have crept into some sheltered hole for the winter, whence they will emerge in the following spring to start fresh homes of their own.

FOREIGN LANDS.

A little mouse may think the big barn in which he lives is the whole of the world, and in the same way a child may think that the house will open at the who has never been very far from her own garden, got to be a very big place indeed. To such a child the following description of a tree would seem like a peep at foreign lands.

Up into the airiest tree
Who should climb but little me?
I held the trunk with both my hands,
And looked abroad on foreign lands.

I saw the next door garden lie,
Adorned with flowers before my eye;
And many pleasant places more
That I had wished to see before.

I saw the dimpling river pass,
And be the sky's blue looking-glass;
The dusty highroad, where I met
With people tramping in to town.

If I could find a higher tree
Farther and farther I should see;
To where the grown-up river slips
Into the sea among the ships;

Or where the roads an either hand
Lead onward into fairy land;
Where all the children dine at five,
And all the playthings come alive.

SOME FUNNY TITLES.

Americans smile at Europeans for shewing such extraordinary fondness for titles, and they are right to carry their fondness for the use of titles to a much more absurd extent than we do; if they have not the aristocracy, they have the titles. Judge, sheriff, colonel, "generals," colonels," "majors," and "captains" innumerable. Some time ago Punch as suggested that the more general we are, the more we might all be on the same footing. Here is a list of countesses to common folk, as we say Her Majesty the Queen, Her Highness the Princess, His Grace the Archbishop, and so forth. We might all be on the same footing.

His Needfulness the Scavenger.
His Sternness the Stoker.
His Mittness the Cheesemonger.
His Consciousness the Shoemaker.
His Elegance the Fop.
His Treacherousness the Tax Collector.
His Combativeness the Pugilist.

HOUSE TO CRACK.

1.—In imbecile, but not in insanity.
In casual, but not in anxiety.
In bewilder, but not in insecurity.
In unkindness, but not in urbanity.
In expletives, but not in profanity.
Whole a British statesman names.
Of whom all Europe rings the fame.

2.—I consist of eleven letters. Being rather thirsty I, 5, stopped 2, 10, 2, roadside inn II, 9, 5, 4, 7, 11, and called for ale. I, 5, 4, 7, 11, 2, 10, 2, 10, answered 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, the 4, 2, 7, 10, 5, 1, 5, mixed with it 7, 3, 4, 5, 6, but when I, 5, 4, 7, 11, 2, 10, 2, 10, 2, 10, 2, the bill 11, 1, 2, 7, found 11, 4, had not enough 11, 1, 2, 7, 10, 2, 10, 2, 10, 2

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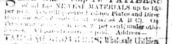

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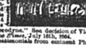

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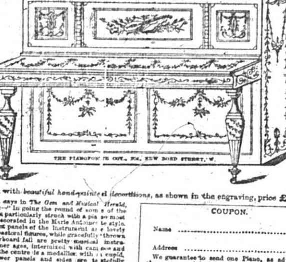

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GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES.—The Nervous Dyspeptic will find information for the Cure of their Disease.

GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES must be studied by those who have broken down their health by High Pressure Business Life, City Work, Worry, Overtaxed Energies, Intemperance, and Late Hours.

GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES is the book for those who wish to Regain Lost Health.

GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES.—All who wish to see what Diseases are brought on by Modern Life should read this Work.

GUIDE-BOOK OF POSITIVE REMEDIES give also a List of Diseases resulting from Loss of Vital Power.

GUIDE-BOOK for Diseases of Old Age or Decay of Nature, Nervous Prostration, &c.

GUIDE-BOOK to Cure Constitutional or Hereditary Diseases, Scrofula, Consumption, Pimples, &c.

GUIDE-BOOK of Medicines for the Cure of Diseases of Winter Coughs, Bronchitis, Asthma, &c.

GUIDE-BOOK gives what Medicines will Cure Diseases resulting from Impure Blood, all Skin Diseases, &c.

Self-Treatment is Easy, Safe and Effectual by following the Rules given in this Book.

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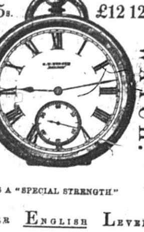

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BOOKSELLER, &c.,

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SECOND EDITION.

THIS DAY'S NEWS.

"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRIDAY, 4 P.M.

THE RE-ASSEMBLING OF PARLIAMENT.

[CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.]

Sir Charles Dilke, President of the Board of Trade, left Dublin for London this (Friday) morning.

Lord Rosebery arrived at Dover by the Calais boat this (Friday) morning, and left by the express for London at 4 16 a.m.

THE GREAT AMERICAN FRAUDS.

An American, named Marsh, who absconded from New York with 50,000 dollars, arrived at Queenstown in the ship *Nevada* to-day (Friday), when he was met by an English partner of the defrauded firm. Marsh begged their forgiveness and surrendered the money. The partner, however, proceeded with the prisoner to Liverpool. When Marsh left New York a pursuit was made, and he attempted to commit suicide. The captain then refused to surrender him.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN QUESTION.

The new cruiser *The Leader* was commissioned at Chatham dockyard this (Friday) morning; but her destination has not been announced. She is the last vessel with ten heavy guns.

The *Daily News* telegraphs:—Colonel Stewart, Major Holdich, and Captain Peacock publicly entered Herat by the Ameer's invitation, on May 10th. They were entertained by the Governor in a house adjoining his residence, and were received by him in a durbar, attended by the Afghan Generals. The entire garrison paraded in the evening. On the 11th the British officers left. The reception they met with from all classes was most satisfactory, including the priests, who were cordial, and the Cabuli soldiery, who were friendly.

It is reported that 300 Cossacks still hold Zulfikar and Akrobat.

The Afghan Frontier Commission is encamped 20 miles to the north-west of Herat.

THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

SUAKIN, FRIDAY MORNING.

All navies have now left here, and the railway is being worked by the Royal Engineers. Sickness is increasing among the troops.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS IN IRELAND.

The Fifth Royal Irish Lancers arrived in Dublin to-day (Friday) from Dundalk, having been replaced by the Fifth Royal Dragoons, and will embark in the troopship *Assistance* at Kingstown for England to-morrow (Saturday).

STRANGE AFFAIR AT CASTLESIDE.

A DOCTOR SERIOUSLY INJURED.

Information reached Consett early this (Friday) afternoon giving meagre details of a sad accident which has befallen to Dr. Richards, assistant to Dr. W. Renton, of Consett. As far as can be ascertained, it appears that shortly before noon, the doctor, mounted on a spirited grey horse, was riding in the vicinity of Castleside to attend to his professional duties, when the animal began to prance and kick about; and eventually succeeded in throwing Dr. Richards with violence on to the ground. He sustained a broken limb and other severe injuries, and whilst lying on the turnpike, it is said the animal attacked him in a vicious manner, biting the doctor in many parts of the body, and tearing his clothing all to pieces. Mr Robert Christopher, of Consett, fortunately happening to arrive on the scene, made an attempt to get hold of the horse, but it endeavoured to bite him, and also kicked him. Dr. Richards, however, was at once conveyed to the nearest house, and Dr Kirkhouse was immediately summoned from Consett to attend to his injuries. The horse was caught only after considerable difficulty; when it was attached to a passing conveyance, and brought back to Consett. On arrival, it was allowed to rove about the yard for some time, until the groom came and succeeded in securing the horse in the stable. This is the same animal that similarly attacked a groom at Blackhill some months ago. Alarming rumours are now circulated in the town, and the affair has caused the greatest consternation both here and in the usually quiet village of Castleside.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE, Friday.—Consols are seven-sixteenths better. Wheat is drooping.

NEWCASTLE FISH, Friday.—There was only a small supply of fish at this market. Fair prices were realised.

NORTH SHIELDS FISH, Friday.—Good supply of fish selling at ordinary prices.

A SOUTH SHIELDS TUG ASHORE.

News has arrived at South Shields this (Friday) morning, that the tug *Ulysses*, the property of Messrs Lawson, South Shields, has gone ashore at the Farne Islands. The *Ulysses* left the Tyne about eight o'clock last night, and as the weather has been clear and fine since, it is not known how she has got ashore. The tug *Scotland* has been sent round to her assistance.

LOSS OF TWENTY LIVES AT SEA.

The *Standard* New York correspondent telegraphs:—The steamship *City of Rome* ran down the French barque *Georges et Jeanne*. The steamer scarcely felt the shock, but the barque went down at once with 22 of her crew. Two men were saved by the boats lowered from the steamer. The same forenoon, in latitude 44 deg. north, long. 49 deg. west, the *City of Rome* sighted 58 icebergs.

THE ACCIDENT AT NEWCASTLE FORTH GOODS STATION.

On inquiry at the Newcaste Infirmary this (Friday) morning, it was ascertained that Thos. Relly, painter, who was so severely injured yestesday by falling from the roof to the platform at the Forth Goods Station, a distance of 60 feet, remains in a precarious condition, and that his recovery is considered doubtful. His limbs sustained several fractures.

FUNERAL OF ALD. HODGSON, OF GATESHEAD.

The funeral of the late Ald. Hodgson took place at noon to-day (Friday), at Jesmond Old Cemetery. The Mayor and Corporation and the magistrates of the borough of Gateshead met at the Town Hall at a quarter to eleven o'clock, and proceeded to the Central Station for the purpose of meeting the body. The business of the Gateshead Borough Police Court was adjourned until twelve o'clock, to enable the magistrates to attend the funeral. The remains of the deceased gentleman were removed from Harrogate, arriving at the Central Station, Newcastle, at 11·23 a.m., and were conveyed direct to Jesmond Old Cemetery for interment.

LETTERS FROM THE SEA.

The subjoined interesting letters were written on the high seas, by a boy who sailed from the Tyne in the autumn of last year, and who will not return to this country before the month of August next. This was the lad's first voyage, and it will be seen by his letters that his experiences have been of a somewhat varied order. The boy belongs to a family occupying a good social position, and favoured by the advantages accruing from such, the lad had every inducement to chose a less hazardous profession; but animated by a spirit of adventure he would be a sailor. In keeping with these predilections the boy was bound as premium apprentice on board a Tyne-built iron sailing vessel of large size. The ship was quite new and left the Tyne in Steptember last, with coals and general cargo bound for San Francisco. The letters seem to have been written as opportunity offered, and dispatched to England in a budget after the vessel had, as the sailors say, gone to Davey Jones's locker.

Letter No. I was written a few days after the vessel left Shields, and bears date, September 8th, 1884.

Ship, *Cowden Law*.

DEAR MOTHER,—We will arrive at the Downs tomorrow, where we will put in for repairs, having got our fore-topsail yard damaged shortly after father left us. The tug with father on board had not gone very far when the crew refused duty, and told the captain that the ship was unseaworthy aloft, and that they would not go to sea until she was repaired. The captain, after giving them three warnings of the penalty of the law for refusing to work the ship, told them he would work the vessel to San Francisco himself independent of them, and that they would rue it. This was on Saturday night, and on Sunday morning the men told the captain that they would take the ship to the Downs, where if she got repaired, they would go to sea, so we expect to arrive there to-morrow, having taken eight days to come from North Shields, but we have had very bad weather, contrary winds the whole road, and the ship tossing in the sea like a tub—the waves breaking over her as if she had been a small boat. I have been sick for four days, eating and drinking nothing, living on air in fact; but I have managed to get better in time to eat my birthday cake. . . . . I have cut all the pictures from the copies of the *Graphic* which I brought with me, and they are all stuck round our cabin. I have the French puppet show at the foot of my bed, and when I was sick the captain came in to see me, and asked me if I was not ashamed to lie in bed with so many faces laughing at me! We have four hours up, and four hours down, besides two hours for dog watch—from six o'clock to eight. Fred, from Wakefield, and I are mates, and we have had a turn at the wheel once or twice—two hours at a time. I have just been washing my black stockings that Agnes forgot, besides some other things, for there is no second supplies at sea. When you write tell me about Archie, Annie, and the rest of them. With love to father and you.—I am your affectionate son.

Many an older head might well learn a lesson from this sailor boy, and distant friends who fancy they have nothing to write about will do well to take it to heart.

The second letter was written two days later, being dated September 10th:—

Ship, *Cowden Law*.

DEAR MOTHER,—I have just time to write a few lines. We arrived at the Downs last night all well, where we will remain three days. This morning the *Berick Law* [a vessel belonging to the same owners as the ship to which the lad was apprenticed] passed us, and we dipped our flag to her signals. We have nothing to do now but fish. Yesterday was my birthday. I gave the captain, the two first and second officers, and some of my shipmates, a bit of my cake. When I gave the captain a bit, he asked "Where was the brandy!" I told him that I had supplied the cake, and he ought to provide the brandy!

September 13th.—We have now been in the Downs for four days undergoing repairs, and I have been very busy; but we are nearly finished, and I think we are going to sea to-night Mrs —— came on board on Thursday, and I think she is going with us. We are lying just off Deal, which seems to be a very pretty place, as far as I can judge from the ship, for we are surrounded by small boats, and cannot get ashore. On Thursday, the mission for seamen sent a small boat alongside, and the Rev T. S. Treanor came on board and gave us a sermon. The four apprentices signed the pledge; and some of the seamen did so also.

A considerable period elapsed before the young sailor again had recourse to his log, the next entry being dated the 23rd January, and is written on board a French ship. Like all the entries in his log, this, the most interesting of the series, is of an epistolary character, and is addressed to his distant mother.

Barque *Leopold and Marie*,
January 23rd, 1885.

DEAR MOTHER,—I hope you are all well, as I am myself. We left the downs on a Saturday night with a fair wind, and after landing the pilot at Beachy Head we proceeded to sea. We passed the Isle of Wight the same night, and saw the lights of Cowes in the distance. We were favoured with a good wind, and for days we were employed tarring the ropes in the rigging. By the time we had reached the Falkland Islands the weather had become so bad that work of that character could not be proceeded with. We go into the North-East trade winds about this time, and they took us as far as the Line. We lay there becalmed for three weeks before we got the South-East trade winds. After that we had a strong, steady wind blowing on our quarter, which took us as far as 28 degrees south of the line. From this point to Cape Horn we experienced high winds and gales; and coming round the Horn we were overtaken by a terrible hurricane, which caused the ship to heel over so much that the cargo shifted, and the vessel shipped a deal of water. Toward night the weather brightened up and the wind went down. Two days after this, we came in sight of Diego, whilst running 60 miles west of Cape Horn. We had then a light head wind, until we reached seven degrees north of the line, after which we again got into the North-East trade wind till we were 28 degrees north of the line. The winds then settled down to almost a calm, it taking us three weeks to go from that point to 32 degrees north. The ship seemed actually to crawl, going sometimes about two knots a day. On the 18th January we discovered smoke issuing from the fore and main hatchways; and the captain signaled a vessel in the distance. The ship bore down on us; and when she came along side she proved to be the *Leopold and Marie*, a French barque, bound from Bordeaux to San Fancisco with a cargo of wine. The French captain asked what was wrong; and our captain told him that the ship was on fire. He enquired how long she had been on fire; and we told him we had only discovered it that morning. He agreed to stand by; and on Sunday night the flames broke from the main hatch with great fury. It was our watch on deck; and we called the ship's company, got out the boats, and they all got away, leaving the captain, the mate, and I on board. It was arranged that the gig would come back for us. I forgot to tell you that we saved the most of our things, having put them on board the Frenchman the day we sighted her. The gig came back for us; but before we went on board we went along to the main hatch. It was all in a blaze; and the captain, who seemed to be much troubled, said the ship was doomed. We saw her the next night from the deck of the Frenchman burning furiously at ten o'clock, and at eleven she was no more. She must have blown up, as there was a keg of gunpowder on board. We were a week on board the Frenchman, who landed us at San Francisco on Monday morning, the 26th January.

The next communication is written on board the ship *Berwick Law*, the vessel which the boy refers to as having passed them in the Downs, outward bound.

Berwick Law.

We were taken from the Frenchman this afternoon, part of the crew having been put on board the *Sutherlandshire*, and the rest on this ship. I like the *Berwick Law* much better than *Cowden Law*. She is a better sailor. It took us 140 days from the Downs to this place; and but for the Frenchman we would not have been here yet. I will write again soon.—Your loving son.

No further communication has up the present been received from the young sailor, who is now homeward bound. A boy who can write so well, and who seems to be so much attached to "a life on the ocean wave," is sure to rise in the profession he has chosen. Nature seems to set her seal on her children; and to fashion their inclinations to her will, so that there shall be men for every occupation under the sun—even the perilous life on the deep.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Those who have given these remedies a fair trial freely admit that they inherently possess every property suitable for healing and removing eruptions, ulcerations, piles, abscesses, sores, bad legs, gathered breasts, and all disorders of the glandular system. When carefully rubbed in the Ointment relaxes the swollen muscles, diminishes inflammation, assuages pain, and even alleviates dangerous maladies which may have lasted for months, or even years. Holloway's excellent preparations are effective singly, resistless in combination, and have been recommended by grateful patients to be resorted to as alternatives when all other means of regaining health have failed. Their action is temperate, not violent or reducing.

HINTS FOR THE HOME.

UNSELFISHNESS.—When we begin to live out of ourselves, to appreciate interests that we do not share, have sympathies with joys and sorrows not our own, to respect knowledge that we have not gained, and wisdom from whatever source it comes, then shall we be released from the chains which keep us back from seeing much that is true and feeling much that is good, and our lives will become full and rich to ourselves and precious to others.

BEAUTY.—All beauty must be organic. It is the soundness of the bones that ultimates itself in a peach bloom complexion, health of constitution that makes the sparkle and power of the eye. It is the adjustment of the rise and of the joining of the sockets of the skeleton that gives grace of outline and the finer grace of movement. Every necessary or panic action pleases the beholder. A man leading a horse to water, a farmer sowing seed, the labourer, haymakers in the field, the carpenter building a ship, the smith at the forge, or whatever useful labour, is becoming to the wise eye; but if it is done to be seen, it is simply neither more nor less than mean.

TRUE UNION IN THE FAMILY.—There is no sadder sight than a family of growing boys and girls, or grown-up young men and women, accepting cooly and carelessly every form of sacrifice and favour from loving, anxious parents, who are wearing out their lives in their service, and reaping only ingratitude and indifference in return. Let every parent guard against such a state of things by the far more real kindness of training the children from first to last to share with them in the responsibilities, the labours, the sacrifices, the economies, as well as in the pleasures and comforts of the household. Only in this way can a family be truly united, and filial sympathy and gratitude be thoroughly developed.

GOOD TEMPER.—It is not within the domestic circle only that good temper should be exercised; it is an invaluable possession even amongst the more distant connections of social life. It is a passport with all into their esteem and affection. It gives a grace to the plainest countenance, and to the fairest is an ornament, which neither time or disease will destroy. Every day of life teems with circumstances by which it may be exercised and improved. Towards the husband, it is manifested by forbearance, when he is irritated and vexed; and by soothing, comforting, and supporting him when under the pressure of deeper and more afflicting troubles. It is shewn towards children and servants by willingness to promote their enjoyments, while superiority is mildly but steadily exerted to keep them in proper subjection. It is exhibited in every direction, by unwillingness to offend; by not opposing our own opinions and pleasures to the prejudices of others; and it is above all demonstrated by the cheerful, even tenor of spirits that dwells within the well-governed mind, and which renders it happy almost in spite of vexations and sorrows.

BOLD ABLUTIONS.—There is nothing more invigorating, more tonic, and refreshing than a cold ablution. Moreover, it makes one feel clean and sweet and wholesome, and improves our physical constitution, and likewise our moral character. A dirty man has often a dirty mind. A man who has once thoroughly washed himself immediately afterwards resents the presence of what is stale and sour. He will not endure a stuffy room or offensive drain with the forbearance with which he tolerated it in his unwashed state, when he carried about with him a cognate atmosphere. The habit of cleanliness will tell all round—in his house, his family, and daily surroundings. Skin cleanliness is certainly a great preservative against passing epidemics and against visitations of the most infectious and contagious diseases. Experienced trained nurses, regularly attending scarlatina patients, give themselves regularly head to foot ablutions twice a day and a change of clothes once a day. Soap and water should be used at least twice in the 24 hours to the face and hands, and the whole body should be sponged once daily.

A TRUE FRIEND.—Did it ever occur to you to reflect on the depths of deceit which lie still and dark even in the most honest minds? Society reposes on a thin crust of convention, underneath which lie fathomless possibilities of crime. Friendship, however close and dear, is not free from its reserved, unspoken beliefs, more or less suppressed opinions. The man whom you indignantly defend against any accusation brought by another, so confident are you in his unshakable integrity, you may yourself momentarily suspect of crimes far exceeding those which you repudiate. Indeed, I have known sagacious men to hold that perfect frankness in expressing the thoughts is a sure sign of imperfect friendship; something is always suppressed, and it is not he who loves you that "tells you candidly what he thinks" of your person, your pretensions, your children or your poems. Perfect candour is dictated by envy or some other unfriendly feeling, making friendship a stalking horse, under cover of which it shoots the arrows which will rankle. Friendship is candid only when candour is urgent—meant to avert impending danger or to rectify an error. The candour which is an impertinence never springs from friendship.—*Free Press.*

"NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR THE CHILDREN."—There has been and is much false sentiment thrown away in this world, and in no one direction does this appear to be more strongly the case than in the treatment of children. Perhaps, however, it is not so much in the actual treatment of children as it is in the way in which this subject is treated in literature. There is a certain class of writers who are never weary of crying out against the "shut up parlour" which is considered too good for the children. Probably these writers are women, but probably they are not mothers, or they would not advocate the rights of children quite so strongly. The fact is, there is neither common sense nor kindness in the idea that no room is too good for children. If you yourself love to have every corner overrun by lawless children, you at least owe it to your friends and calling acquaintances to have one room in which one is not in danger of seating herself upon broken remnants of food, ruining delicate gloves by touching sticky latches and door knobs, or running the risk of a sprained ankle or broken neck by stepping unwarily upon a marble or rolling spool. If one is unwilling to do this much, it were better to hang out a placard at once: "This house is sacred to children. Nobody else has any natural rights or privileges here."

DREAMS.—Dr. Delaunay, an eminent French student, writes to the Paris Biological Society on the subject of dreams. The character of our dreams, he claims, is very much determined by the position we occupy in sleep. The most general method of lying, perhaps, is on the right side, and this appears to be also the most natural method, for many persons object to lying upon the side of the heart, which, it has been more than once asserted, should have action during sleep. Nevertheless, Dr. Delaunay's statements hardly harmonise with this opinion. When one sleeps upon the right side, that is to say, upon the right side of the brain, one's dreams have marked and rather unpleasant characteristics. These characteristics, however, are essentially those which enter into the popular definition of dreams. One's dreams are then apt to be illogical, absurd, childish, uncertain, incoherent, full of vivacity and exaggeration. Dreams which come from sleeping on the right side are, in short, simply deceptions. They bring to the mind very old or faint remembrances, and they are often accompanied by nightmares. Dr. Delaunay points out that sleepers frequently compose verse or rhythmical language while they are lying on their right side. This verse, though at times correct enough, is absolutely without sense. The moral faculties are then at work, but the intellectual faculties are absent. On the other hand, when a person slumbers on his left brain, his dreams are not only less absurd, but they may also be intelligent. They are, as a rule, concerned with recent things, not with reminiscences.

BEAUTY OF THE FOOT.

Faithful care of the feet has more to do with good looks than most young ladies are inclined to believe. They must be kept warm and comfortable by proper coverings, and by daily bathing and rubbing. No part of the body requires bathing more than the soles of the feet. The pores here are very active, and should be kept open. All hardening of the feet should be avoided if possible. If the feet are given to excessive perspiration, a few drops of ammonia should be added to their daily bath of water. If they turn, or are very tender, bathe them in weak alum water. The water should always be warm. Cut the nails carefully, shorter than the finger nails. If they break rub on mutton tallow before going to bed, wrapping the toes in soft linen cloths. The beauty of the foot does not depend, as so many think, upon its small size, but rather upon its slenderness, height of instep, and perfect arch, and upon its firmness and colouring. Beauty is opposed to a tight boot. Any foot looks better when the shoe fits perfectly than when either too tight or too loose. A tight boot makes the face red—not a pretty flush which might be welcome, but a dull purplish red, which is not at all becoming. But a very loose boot is almost as bad for corns as a tight one, as the rubbing will produce hard spots. Moderate heels should be worn. It is not easy to walk in shoes with no heels at all, and high heels are not only uncomfortable and bad for the health, but they destroy all grace of movement. If the feet are long and slender wear front-laced or buttoned boots with a short vamp. If short and plump, long vamped boots, laced at the side, will make them look more slender.—*Household.*

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

LECTURE BY MR CROSTON AT BLACKHILL.

A large and respectable audience assembled in the Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside, last (Thursday) night, to hear a lecture delivered by Mr W. Croston, J.P., of Manchester, entitled, "Why should a working man be a Conservative?" The meeting was held under the auspices of the Central Conservative Association for this Division, and was presided over by Mr John Booth, of Shotley Bridge (president of the above-named Association), who was also supported on the platform by Mr J. W. Walton-Wilson, J.P., Shotley Hall; Rev F. Steggall, Vicar of Consett; Messrs W. Shell, sen., J. Tait, and Geo. Christopher, Consett; Richard Murray, J. S. Murray, Thos. Whinney, Blackhill, &c. In addition to the presence of many of the most prominent Conservatives in the district, there was a goodly number of ironworkers and miners in attendance.

The CHAIRMAN, who was cheered on rising, opened the meeting by briefly introducing Mr Croston, and hoped the audience would give the lecturer a fair and patient hearing, as he felt assured that that gentleman would place his facts before them and express his opinions in an impartial and unbiassed manner. Mr Croston was a gentleman well-known in the North, and has paid a great deal of attention to political questions. He (the Chairman) felt sure that, from the subject Mr Croston has chosen to speak upon, he will state some plain facts that will enable working men to form an independent opinion upon the great political questions of the day. Instead of the subject being, "Why should a working man be a Conservative," he thought the question might have been slightly altered to this form, "Why should a working man *not* be a Conservative?" (Applause.) Perhaps in putting it the other way, it might suggest the answer, "Why not, indeed?" The working class would soon be emancipated and become fully enfranchised. In entering the region of practical politics, there was a variety of roads; and Mr Croston came in their midst as a sort of guide-post to direct them on the proper way. There were some guide-posts, however, which were extremely puzzling—for instance, the post with the word "Retrenchment" inscribed on one side, and "Waste" on the other. Another post had "Peace" written on one side; and on the opposite "War." Then there were guide-posts which contained the omnious words, "Ransom," "Confiscation," &c. These were dangerous and difficult paths for working men to follow, and he urged all present to adhere to and not forsake the one broad path of Constitutional and Conservative principles. (Loud cheers.)

MR CROSTON, who was heartily received, reminded the working classes that they would shortly be brought face to face with political work and political life. By means of the present Parliament, with the co-operation of the Conservative party, they would soon have an opportunity of exercising the right of the Franchise, to select a representative to watch their interests in the House of Commons. He reminded his hearers that this privilege was encompassed with certain responsibilites; and it was their duty to exercise their right, not with a desire to benefit themselves alone, but so as to prove advantageous to the country generally. It was right and proper that they should calmly and deliberately consider the great political questions of the day, and also fully understand the principles that guide the two great political parties in the State. It was not his intention to address them in a spirit of denunciation of the present Government, because he did not seek to assail the character of private individuals or of any members of Her Majesty's Ministry. So far as his own experience went, the working men had received more at the hands of the Conservative party during the time they had been in power than was ever vouchsafed to them by the Liberals. The Conservatives had not promised them very much, but their performances, he honestly believed, surpassed the efforts of their opponents when in office. (Cheers.) The Conservative party did not go in for revolutionary principles—they did not approve of overturning the institutions of the country, or of breaking down the bulwarks of the State; but when they have been in power, they have supported practical legislation, and carried measures which tend to promote the comfort, happiness, and well-being of all classes of the community. (Loud cheers.) Their political opponents would tell them that they only have been the good and tried friends of the people, and to the working men are indebted for all beneficial measures granted to them in the past; whilst on the other hand they assert that Conservatives have always been opposed to the interests of the labouring classes, and are only Conservative in preserving and maintaining that which is rotten and corrupt in the Constitution. Neither of these descriptions answer to the parties. He emphatically denied that all useful legislation came from the Liberals. In judging the two political sections, they ought to take into account the length of time each party has been in office. During the past half-a-century, the Liberals have been in power four-fifths of that period, and if they had been earnest in their intentions and professions, really there would have been no necessity for legislation at the present moment. Every grievance would have been removed, every evil suppressed, and the country generally would be prosperous, happy, and contented. The Conservatives have only been at the head of affairs one-fifth of that time, and when they compared the measures adopted during that brief period with the performances of the Liberal party during the lengthened time they have been in office, the contrast is much in favour of the Tories. (Cheers.) It was fortunate for them their political opponents styled themselves Liberals; but he denied their right to call themselves by that name at the present day, as they were not Liberals, except sometimes in the sense of disposing of property that did not belong to to them. (Laughter and applause.) The Conservatives were in power under the late Mr Disraeli (cheers) for the space of six years—a period beset with greater obstacles and unforeseen difficulties that has ever fallen to the lot of any Government; and yet they applied themselves to the task of passing many of the useful measures which now grace the statute-book. He (the lecturer) was much struck at reading a manifesto issued a short while ago by the Right Hon. John Bright, which was intended as a guide to the new electors as to the selection of Parliamentary representatives. The main facts, however, were carefully suppressed, and a false colouring was given to many of the statements made. One of the first things the Conservative Government took in hand was to redress a grievance which had rankled in the minds of the labouring class for many years—viz., a settlement of the law affecting employers and employed, as the absence of such a measure was most unfair and unjust to working men. The Conservatives carried the Employers' Liability Act; and for this circumstance the late Mr Alex. McDonald, M.P. for Stafford, who was regarded as the working man's representative in Parliament, in a subsequent address to his constituents, paid a high tribute to the Conservative Government for having passed such a Bill, asserting that "in this measure the working men have received more from the hands of the Conservative Government than they could have got from the Liberals; and was even more than the Liberals dared to have given to them." (Prolonged cheers.) The last was a striking expression, and what was meant by it? It was that the Liberal Government looked for the support of a vast number of large employers of labour, therefore they dared not take up a question affecting masters and men. They had read a great deal in the newspapers about working men's dwellings, and on coming up to Blackhill that evening, he (Mr Croston) was much struck with the comfortable-looking cottages on the roadside, many of which he understood had been erected out of the savings of the artisans of this district, and all credit was due to them for their efforts. But in large centres of population, there were many places where the working classes were hoarded together in dens quite unfit for human habitation. These were the pest-houses and hotbeds of fever and epidemics, and it was impossible for people to live there with any sense of safety, decency, or self-respect. The Conservative Government, with Sir R. Cross at the forefront, introduced the Artisans' Dwellings Act (cheers), the object being to remove these fearful plague-spots from the face of the earth, and erect places where the working classes could live together in comfort and ease; and likewise conferred the right on local corporations to borrow money at a low percentage of interest to be devoted for such purposes. In no town has this measure being taken more advantage of than in Birmingham; and when Sir R. Cross paid a visit to the town, the Radical corporation—of which the Right Hon. J. Chamberlain (hisses) was then a member—gave a banquet in honour of the event, and congratulatory speeches were made by Liberals to the late Home Secretary. (Cheers.) The Liberals might tell them that during the six years the Tories were in office nothing was done except spending money and engaging in war. (Ironical cheers.) The Conservatives likewise passed measures to prevent the adulteration of food; and also to secure the freedom of common lands in towns where open spaces are limited, for the purpose of allowing the working man, after he has completed his day's work, a few hours innocent enjoyment and healthy recreation with his wife and family. (Applause.) These might not be termed sensational Acts of Parliament, but they tended to promote the comfort and happiness of the people, and were quite as useful as the sensational measures which aims at overthrowing all existing institutions. (Cheers.) The same Government also brought into Parliament the 10 Hours Bill in the cotton factories; although strongly opposed by the Liberal party, the Conservatives stood firm and true to the interests of the working men, and succeeded in passing the measure, despite the strenuous opposition offered to it by the leaders of the Liberal ranks (Renewed cheers.) The principle was afterwards applied to mills, mines, workshops, and other branches of industry. Mr Bright, who claimed to be the friend of the labouring class, was always found to be opposing the interests of the working men and advocating the claims of the employers in the House, and has done everything in his power to prevent the adoption of measures which have a tendency to elevate and improve the social condition of the community at large. (Counter cheers.) The Liberals assert that they are the party of progress, and that the Conservatives were opposed to all kinds of reform. No; the Conservatives did not hold the cold creed of stagnation, but they were essentially the party of progress. (More cheers.) His experience led him to believe that the Tory party was opposed to measures of revolution and destruction; but they were consistent advocates of true and progressive reform. (Cheers.) They did not desire to overturn the old institutions of the country, which they held to be the outcome of experience and wisdom of the past. They were memorials of the growth of the empire; they are entwined in the history of the country; their existence is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people, and therefore could not be overturned without a revolution. The Conservatives also believed, at the same time, in reforming and improving, in building-up and repairing, these institutions in accordance with the progressive tendencies of the age, so that they may be better adapted to the increased intelligence of the times in which they lived; and then hand these institutions down to their ancestors so that they may improve and reform them if necessary. They contended that steady progress was the truest reform of the country; as well as to secure the liberty, rights, and freedom of all sections of the community. The lecturer also claimed for the members of the Church party, which was mostly composed of Conservatives, the credit of passing the Elementary Education Act of 1874, and quoted the words of the Right Hon. W. E. Forster to the effect that he was indebted to the members of the Church of England for their valuable support and assistance. (Cheers.) It was not intended that this measure should supersede or overthrow the existing means of instruction, but merely to supplement the denominational schools. Mr Bright, however, claimed for the Liberal party the honour of passing Mr Forster's Act. Was it carried by Liberals, and exclusively opposed by Conservatives? Mr Bright knows full well that the Party he is connected with fought against the measure, but despite all opposition, Mr Forster, assisted by the Conservative party, carried his Bill through the House. (Loud cheers.) Mr Forster was soon afterwards rejected by the Liberal electors of Bradford simply for having been instrumental in the passing of the Elementary Education Act; but he was returned as the candidate of the Conservative party. (Cheers.) Mr Bright also claims credit to his colleagues for Parliamentary reform, because they gave them the Reform Bill of 1832. (A cheer.) His Liberal friend at the back end of the room need not cheer, because such a measure did not give him political power, but rather the the masses were extinguished, politically speaking, in that Franchise Bill. (Laughter.) If a Tory had followed the example of Mr Bright, and gone back 20 or 30 years, he would have been informed that that was "ancient history." (Laughter.) He (the lecturer) did not object to examining the past, but urged his hearers to look back a little more fully, and then many erroneous impressions in their minds would be corrected or removed. If Mr Bright must needs go back 35 years upon the question of Reform, then why should they not look back to the very beginning of that movement, and tell honestly what Lord John Russell said—that the advocates of Parliamentary reform were chiefly supported by the Conservative party. (Prolonged cheers.) The first Reform Bill was introduced by Pitt—a Tory of the Tories—and was opposed by the Whig party at the time. Why did not the Liberals grant them the Franchise Bill before now, seeing that they have pledged themselves to pass such a measure in several Parliaments? How can they explain the fact that five years have been allowed to elapse before they introduced their only Reform Bill giving political power to the working classes? The first measure of Household Suffrage was passed by the Conservative Government, with the late Lord Derby as Prime Minister and Mr Disreali as Leader of the House of Commons. (Cheers.) They have had the Liberals in power for many years, with large majorities behind them, powerful enough to carry any measure they might desire. It is true the Liberals were constantly promising Reform at the hustings, and thus securing the votes of the people. (Laughter.) The Liberals were continually laying their Bills before the House, and soon after withdrawing them again without allowing them to be considered. (Renewed laughter.) "Reform" was a useful cry, for it served their purpose in many ways, and they gulled the people so much with the phrase that they could not find in their hearts to part with it. (Laughter and cheers.) The Conservative Reform Bill was first advocated by Mr Bright and afterwards opposed by that gentleman, who said they were putting political power in the hands of the residuum—that is, the political dregs of the earth. Mr Bright had since regretted using that word, and he (the speaker) found it was carefully omitted from all his published speeches; and when a clergyman (the Rev Mr Reed) accused Mr Bright of having made use of such an expression, the Right Hon. gentleman utterly denied the truthfulness of the statement, declaring that it was only the assertion of a slanderous priest. But when it was subsequently pointed out to Mr Bright such a word was attributed to him in a volume of "Hansard," he had not the good sense or manners to withdraw the charge made against Mr Reed. However, Mr Bright voted against the Bill. If the Liberals were so earnest and desirous of extending political power to the masses, why did they not give them the Franchise Bill years ago? They said they were bound by the mandate of the people; and granting this statement to be true (although there was no such indication at the last general election), he thought the wish of the community should have been promptly attended to, instead of waiting until last session. The Liberals had manipulated the electors in such a way that there were plentiful promises of peace, whereas the Government had plunged into several wars; of retrenchment, whereas the country was burdened with a gradually increasing taxation; of good trade, whereas commerce and industry was at a low ebb indeed, and wages were as meagre as they could possibly be. So far as the Conservatives being opposed to Reform, as asserted by Mr Bright, they heartily supported the last Franchise Bill; only they desired to adhere to Mr Bright's policy of demanding an equitable measure of Redistribution along with an extension of the Franchise. The Conservatives only asked the Government to lay before the House their scheme for Redistribution, which was the more important half of a Reform Bill—a request the Government flatly refused to concede. After some warm debates, the last stage of the Franchise Bill passed the House of Commons nem. con. The lecturer next recounted how the Upper House rejected the Franchise Bill unaccompanied by a Redistribution scheme, and suggested an autumn session for considering such a measure. He next adverted to the numerous political demonstrations held throughout the country last autumn in support of the Franchise Bill and advocating the abolition of the House of Lords; spoke of the many counter gatherings promoted by the Conservative party; of how the Government finally surrendered, and invited the leaders of the Conservative party to confer with the Cabinet in formulating and preparing an adequate scheme for the Redistribution of Seats. The lecturer maintained that this was a Conservative as well as a Liberal measure of Reform, and quoted from a leading article in the *Daily News* supporting this theory. Mr Croston then dwelt at considerable length on the foreign policy of the Government, and graphically reviewed the blunders committed in Egypt and the Soudan, and the troubles facing them in Afghanistan. Commenting upon the negotiation now in progress for a peaceful settlement of the difficulty between Russia and England, the speaker explained that the previous conduct of Mr Gladstone and his vacillating Cabinet, (and the threatened and aggressive attitude of Russia, did not inspire the country with much confidence that an honourable treaty would be concluded; and he was of opinion that before long these two Powers would be engaged in war. The present was the most costly Government they ever had; and the pending negotiations he regarded as a manœuvre to "square" a piece of petty robbery by the Russians. This result was in striking contrast with the peaceable and honourable settlement effected by Lord Beaconsfield at the Berlin Conference, when Russia desired to enter the gates of Constantinople. (Deafening applause.) Mr Gladstone had entirely reversed the policy of Lord Beaconsfield, and was now extremely anxious and determined to carry it into effect. There was no doubt the Russians had enter upon the Afghan territory, and they ought to be thrust back beyond their own frontier forthwith. (Cheers.) In conclusion, the lecturer expressed a fervent hope that at the next General Election, a Conservative Government would be returned to power, so that the gross blunders of the Gladstone Administration could be amended and rectified. (Prolonged cheers.)—[For upwards of an hour-and-a-half, Mr Croston maintained the attention of the large audience, and many of his observations and criticisms were received with enthusiastic rounds of applause.]

The CHAIRMAN then invited any person to come forward and ask questions of the lecturer, but after the lapse of some minutes, no one essayed to do so, and

On the motion of Mr HARKNESS (a working man), seconded by Mr J. S. MURRAY, a cordial expression of thanks was paid to the lecturer for his able and instructive address.

The proposition was carried by loud acclamation, and Mr CROSTON, having acknowledged the tribute, moved a similar vote to Mr Booth, speaking in eulogistic terms of the conduct and character of that gentleman.

Rev F. STEGGALL having seconded, the motion was heartily carried; and the proceedings terminated at 9 30 p.m.

Yesterday (Thursday), the Archdeacon of Northumberland held his annual visitation to the clergy of the eastern portion of the diocese at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Newcastle.

ILLNESS OF LORD HARTINGTON.—Great disappointment has been caused at Belfast owing to the fact that the sudden illness of Lord Hartington prevents the fulfilment of his engagement yesterday (Thursday) to open the Ulster Reform Club.

ODDFELLOWS' ANNUAL MOVEABLE COMMITTEE.—The Oddfellows' A.M.C., Manchester Unity, opened at Aberystwith on Monday, the number of deputies nominated to attend being 450, the largest on record. Grand Master Wollatin's inaugural address revealed a flourishing condition of affairs. The net increase in membership during the last year was over 14,000, or nearly 500 in excess of the net increase of the previous year, notwithstanding that the number of members seceding was 2,000 in excess of the same period.—The A.M.C. was resumed on Wednesday morning, and the T.C.S. announced that 434 delegates were present, the second largest gathering which had taken place in connection with the Order. The sub-committee recommended the raising of a fund in aid of distressed districts and lodges, but that no relief should be afforded them until their circumstances had been investigated and recommended by the directors, and sanctioned by the A.M.C.—Yesterday (Thursday), the members resumed the consideration of the directors' report. A recommendation that the valuer be paid one penny three-farthings per member from the present valuation, an increase of £1,300 on the last valuation, gave rise to an animated discussion lasting a couple of hours. The directors offered to accept 1½d to include all incidentals, and ¼d to include funeral fund valuations only.—Half-a-dozen amendments were proposed.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—25th inst., the wife of Joseph Collinson, Oakfield, of a daughter.

TOW LAW.—Ironworks Road, 25th inst., the wife of William Potts, grocer, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BENFIELDSIDE.—St. Cuthbert's, 25th inst., Christopher Rutherford, of Gateshead, to Elizabeth Ann, eldest daughter of Mr Michael Ramsay, of Shotley Grove.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 23rd inst., by Rev M. A. Drummond, Robert Graham, of Newcastle, to Annie Young Robson, of South Pelaw.

DEATHS.

LEADGATE.—24th inst., aged 36, suddenly, James Parker Waugh, draper, late of Catton, Allendale.

TANTOBIE.—24th inst., aged 65, John Allison.

BROWNEY COLLIERY.—(At the residence of his father), 24th inst., aged 44, George Cowings.

OXHILL.—23rd inst., aged 68, William Fenwick.

PELTON FELL.—23rd inst., aged 54, Richard Brown, late of Limestone Brae, Allendale.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY.—27th inst., aged 60, Dorothy, wife of Thomas Lumley.

WITTON GILBERT.—White House Cottages, 23rd inst., Thomas Thompson, aged 58.

BLAYDON.—Tyne Street, 26th inst., aged 23, Elizabeth Margaret, third daughter of the late Alexander Rutherford.

Railway Inn, 25th inst., aged 2 years and 3 months, A. E. S. Hall, son of A. E. and J. Hall.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—John Street, 27th inst., aged 18, Mary Jameson (Polly) Hepple, daughter of the late James Hepple, schoolmaster.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.—27th inst., aged 33, Elizabeth Frances, wife of George Metcalfe, stationmaster.

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FOR SALE, a[…] FORTES, i[…] Rosewood Cases, b[…] our SPECIAL HI[…] for three years, […] Property of the H[…] for seven years. […] month, on the same[…] and Harmonium W[…] Saville Row, Ne[…]
TO BE SOLD, […] possession, […] "Whinny Allotm[…] Ordnance Map, an[…] abouts, now formi[…] the Township of […] of Mr. John Bow[…] conveniently situa[…] on the south-east […] particulars on app[…] Stockton-on-Tees, […] Stockton May, […]