COAL & STONE MACHINES.

BOSTON'S OAL BORING MACHINES, all Steel, from 25s. to 36s.

BOSTON'S RATCHET STONE BORING MACHINES, with 3 Drills complete, 35s.

THOS. BOSTON,

WHOLESALE IRONMONGER & TOOL MANUFACTURER, SUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

T. BOSTON received the highest award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1882. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 54b

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,605.

REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

FRIDAY EVENING, May 29th, 1891.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

ROBERT JACKSON

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,

59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

Money.

MONEY TO LEND on Freehold Security.—Apply to JOHN G. MURRAY, Solicitor, 42, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Consett.

SEVERAL SUMS of MONEY to LEND on Freehold or Copyhold Property.—Apply to T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Solicitor, Consett. 691e

MONEY!

IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.

THE SUNDERLAND COMMERCIAL ADVANCE BANK, 29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND.

Are prepared to ADVANCE daily from £5 TO £1,000, To Clergymen, Gentlemen, Farmers, Cowkeepers, and Householders generally (male or female) simply ON THEIR OWN PROMISSORY NOTE, at the most reasonable rates of interest.

NO PUBLICATION. NO BILLS OF SALE. NO SURETIES REQUIRED. STRICTEST SECRECY GUARANTEED.

No connection with Loan Offices or anonymous advertisers. Prospectus free. Apply at once before going elsewhere, as you will find special advantages in dealing with this Bank.

ALEXANDER WOLFE, Manager. 304e

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, by Contract, the several Works required in the ERECTION of a HOUSE, OFFICES, &c., at Consett, fronting the Park, for Mr WILLIAM AYNSLEY.

Drawings, specifications, and conditions of contract, may be seen at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge, on and after the 27th inst.

Tenders sealed and endorsed will be received at the said Office, on or before 4 p.m., on Wednesday, June 10th, 1891.

The proprietor does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

May 21st, 1891. 735e

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET the several Works required to be done in the ERECTION of HOUSE, &c., on Church Bank, Shotley Bridge, for Messrs WILSON BROS.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender obtained, at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge, on and after Wednesday, June 3rd.

Tenders sealed and endorsed, to be delivered at the above office, on or before 4 p.m., on Tuesday, June 16th.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

May 28th, 1891. 789e

Lost.

LOST, between Viewlands, Blackhill, and Benfieldside Lane, a BOOK, called "Gould's Oddities," belonging to Smith's Library.—Whoever brings it to Shotley Hall will receive 2s. 6d. reward.

Found.

FOUND, on the 19th of May, a MULE EWE and LAMBS. If not claimed within Seven Days, will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply, MICHAEL ANDERSON, White Hall Farm, Castleside.

Wanted.

WANTED, a Young GIRL as Servant.—Apply to W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester.

WANTED, a clean active GIRL.—Apply, 20, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 7 5e

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL.—Apply to WILLIAM JOHNSON, Farmer, Iveston. 785e

A GIRL WANTED, for Farm House.—Apply to HY. OLIVER, Hurbuck, Consett. 786e

WANTED, GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, 11, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 791e

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL.—Apply to Mr REED, Farmer, Knitsley. 673e

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, Mrs REDSHAW, Commercial Hotel, Consett. 783e

WANTED, a HOUSEKEEPER for a Farm place; middle-age preferred.—Apply to Jos. B. WALTON, Newbiggen, Lanchester. 795e

WANTED, Small SHOP in or near the main street, Consett; rent, £20 to £25 per annum.—Address, "Shop," *Guardian* Office, Consett. 486e

TAILORS WANTED.—Good Coat, Vest, and Trousers Hands; new Log Prices paid: must be steady men.—Apply, E. S. BELL, Front Street, Consett. 682e

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE for the Grocery Department, Annfield Plain (confined to Members trading at Central).—Apply to the Committee, Annfield Plain, on Monday first, at 7-30.

WANTED, COOKS, HOUSE WAITING MAIDS, good GENERALS, and FOOTMAN, at once.—Apply, DOXFORD'S Registry Office, 9, Ridley Place, Newcastle. 689e

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE.—WANTED, SERVANTS able to Milk, Bake, Wash, and do General Work.—Apply at SERVANTS' REGISTRY, 13, Front Street, Consett. 86d

REQUIRED, FEMALE DOMESTIC SERVANTS from 17 to 35 years, obtain FREE PASSAGES by steamer to QUEENSLAND where they receive high wages. Only payments £1 for ship kit and fare to depot in London. FARM LABOURERS, GARDENERS, MINERS, QUARRYMEN, and DRESSMAKERS receive Assisted Passages. Married men not to have more than two children. On landing, Emigrants received into the Government Depot free. Approved persons paying full fare receive Land Order value £20.—Apply, Local Agent, ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, Durham. 260e

To Let.

MARQUEES, all sizes, TO LET for Sports, Galas, &c.—Apply, THOMAS CALVERT, Grocer, Medomsley.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, excellent COW.—Apply, A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 793

TWO SOWS FOR SALE, close to pigging.—Apply to PATRICK O'NIEL, East Stobb House, Dipton. 770e

AMERICAN ORGAN FOR SALE, 12 Stops and Couplers. Price only 13 Guineas.—Apply, 7, East Stanley. 761e

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IN-CALVING and NEWLY-CALVED COWS and HEIFERS FOR SALE.—Apply at Woodlands, Consett. 725e

FOR SALE, Two First-class BICYCLES, with Cushion and Solid Tyres, Balls to all parts, Tangent Wheels, Patent Quadrant Adjustment to back wheel, and latest improvements. Cheap for cash.—Apply, R. J. BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

FOR SALE, PHÆTON for pair Ponies or Cob; first-class condition; Set Double PONY HARNESS; Set Single COB HARNESS, little used; and Second-hand WHITECHAPEL, suit 14½ Cob.—Apply, J. BRODIE, Shotley Bridge. 702e

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FREEHOLD PROPERTY FOR SALE AT STANLEY.—A FREEHOLD HOUSE, containing 5 Rooms, Let to respectable Tenants, with Large Yard and Out-offices, situate in Front Street, Stanley. Could be made into Business Premises at a very small cost.—Further particulars apply JOHN LOWES, Auctioneer, Stanley. 730e

FOR SALE a Large Assortment of CART, GIG, and SPRING CART HARNESS, WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, CART COVERS &c.—The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North, THOS. OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. T. OWEN has a consignment of Second-hand HARNESS, &c., for Sale.

HARMONIUM FOR SALE, with 9 Sets of Reeds, 16 Stops, and Knee Swell. Very powerful and sweet tone. Suitable for Chapel or Church. Also, another with 3 Sets of Reeds, 7 Stops. Also, English Organ, with Stops and Knee Swell; sweet, mellow tone.—Apply, JOHN INNES, Watchmaker, Lanchester, Durham. 254e

Business Announcements.

L. ARMSTRONG AND SON, WEST KYO, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,

BEG to inform the PUBLIC that they undertake to RE-WOOD WRINGING MACHINE ROLLERS, and RE-FIT WHEELS, &c. All orders receive prompt attention, with workmanship satisfactory. 906d

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

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

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CHEAPEST AND BEST FERTILIZERS

AMMONIA from BLOOD in BLOOD MANURE, Manufactured at REDHEUGH MANURE WORKS, GATESHEAD.

AMMONIA from Fish in Corder's Fish Guano.—Apply to LANGDALE BROTHERS, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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ANY Person Removing, Altering or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any 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.

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GRANULAR EFFERVESCING SALINE in 4d. Boxes and 1s. Bottles.

Quinine and Iron Tonic, 1s. per Bottle; Blood Purifier, 1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle; Indigestion Mixture, 1s. 6d. per Bottle; Dandelion and Podophyllin Pills, 1s. per Box.

Prescriptions accurately dispensed according to the British Pharmacopœa.

MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle.

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SCENTED SOAPS, PERFUMES, and SMELLING BOTTLES in great variety.

Mineral Waters in Bottles and Syphons.

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INSECT POWDER in 3d. and 6d. Boxes.

CARBOLIC ACID and other DISINFECTANTS.

HORSE, DOG, and CATTLE MEDICINES.

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OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES.

Paint Brushes in great variety.

Aspinal's Enamel. Enamel for Cycles, &c. Cycle Oil, Anti-stiff for Cyclists, &c.

Postal Orders promptly attended to at 7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, and 54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 624e

Business Announcements.

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

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

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES (OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE, HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c., PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

GEORGE RICHARDSON & SONS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

BEG to call attention to their NEW SPRING DELIVERY OF CHOICE DRESS GOODS, RIBBONS, LACE, and FANCY STOCK of every description, which will be Sold at the lowest remunerative prices.

DRESSMAKERS, MILLINERS, AND TAILORS KEPT ON THE PREMISES. 430e

MONEY SAVED IS MONEY EARNED.

ROBERT WILLEY

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that his carefully-selected STOCK OF GOODS IS OF THE FINEST QUALITY PROCURABLE.

5/- IN THE POUND

Can be saved by Purchasing Goods at this Establishment.

NOTED FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS.

BOTTLER OF BASS & CO.'S INDIAN PALE ALE, AND GUINNESS'S DUBLIN STOUT.

MILD and BITTER ALES ON DRAUGHT.

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500 PAIRS OF BOOTS, MEN'S, WOMEN'S, AND CHILDREN'S AT REMARKABLE LOW PRICES.

BLENDERS OF THE CELEBRATED GLENFYNE WHISKEY RECOMMENDED FOR INFLUENZA.

LARGE STOCK OF OLD PORTS, INVALID PORTS; HENESSY AND OTHER BRANDIES.

GROCERIES, FLOUR, AND PROVISIONS CANNOT BE BEATEN FOR PRICE AND QUALITY.

FRESH EGGS AND BUTTER FROM THE COUNTRY EVERY DAY.

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T. D. DRYDEN & CO., WHOLESALE & RETAIL GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

TAKE NOTICE.—EVERY SATURDAY

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN

SINGLE TOOTH, from 2s. 6d. A COMPLETE UPPER or LOWER SET from 20s. EQUAL TO NATURE IN APPEARANCE.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO., NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT (OPPOSITE MOUNT PLEASANT HOTEL).

ATTENDANCE: EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 P.M. TILL 6 P.M.

N.B.—Country Patients visited at their own homes by appointment—without extra charge. 858a

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TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.

ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.

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Having recently added the Tea Trade to their Business at Consett for the benefit of their numerous Customers, offer the above Brand—the best and Cheapest Tea in the Market—try it.

"PURE" CEYLON TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.

PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.

GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d

TOBACCO.

ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST AND ROUGH CUT, 3d. PER OZ.

Flour & Feeding Stuffs of every description delivered to any part of the District at the lowest possible prices. Sole Makers of the Celebrated "[illegible]" Horse Mixture and "Germ Meal."

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

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BEFORE GIVING THEIR ORDERS ELSEWHERE WILL DO WELL TO INSPECT

GEORGE HOBSON'S LARGE AND CAREFULLY-SELECTED STOCK OF

ALL KINDS OF SEEDS, OF THE VERY BEST QUALITY, AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICE.

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE MILLS. Post—LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

DEALER IN AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

G. H. is Agent for Messrs. LANKASTER & Co., London, for their Specialities—PATENT HAND SEED SOWER, EXTRA LIGHT and STRONG ROAD CART or TRAP, to carry Two Persons, BULLARD HAY TEDDER, TIGER HORSE RAKE, McCORMICK MOWERS and REAPERS, the Lightest and Best in the Market, &c.

TRY THE PERFECT HAND SEED SOWER, ONLY 20s. A STOCK ON HAND.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH, AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON, OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the cause of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or the ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificial Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

DOBSON GRADON, WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN, BLACKHILL.

HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH SILVER LEVER WATCHES, £3 6s. 0d. BEST MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.

SILVER LEVER WATCHES FROM 30s. ALL WARRANTED.

OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.

WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

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The WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP, DUBLIN, MAY 2nd, 1891, WAS WON ON A "RALEIGH" SAFETY BICYCLE.

"RALEIGH'S" HAVE ALREADY WON THIS YEAR NEARLY

200 PRIZES.

At the recent Sports held at Sunderland, Mr. R. B. SMITH, of Sunderland, won 6 First Prizes within one week on his "RALEIGH" RACER.

Read what Mr. R. F. MACREDY, Amateur Champion of the World, says—"I have been riding a "Raleigh" Road Racer for some time, and have put it to such tests as 30 Miles an hour down-hill without misgiving." Write for Lists, or call and inspect the various patterns. Sole District Agent—

J. DUNCAN HODGSON, SINGLETON HOUSE, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

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PIANOS	£18	18	0	HARMONIUMS	£4	4	
AMERICAN ORGANS	6	6	0	CONCERTINAS (LACHENALS)	1		
CELESTINAS	5	15	0	CONCERTINAS Do. (ENGLISH)	2	12	
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AUREPHONES	2	2	0	ORGAN ACCORDIONS	3	15	0

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VIVIFIC CATTLE MEDICINE and SANATIVE EMBROCATION,

For Horses, Cows, Sheep, Pigs, Dogs.

VIVIFIC for Inflammation, Influenza, Colds, Coughs, Indigestion, &c.

VIVIFIC—MARKED FOR MILK FEVER ONLY.

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SANATIVE EMBROCATION, FOR EXTERNAL USE.

For Influenza, Pink-eye, Sprains, Swellings, Sprung Tendons, or to Blister.

MANUFACTURERS: THE LONDON & COUNTIES CATTLE MEDICINE CO.

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And Chemists and Grocers everywhere. 912c

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Our Sole Agencies comprise:—

THE ROVER, WORLD'S RECORD MACHINE,

EXCELSIOR,

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REFORM, AND

The celebrated KINETIC HUMBER, the most perfect Non-Vibrating Cushion Tyre in the market; also

OUR SPECIAL DIAMOND Ball Socket Head and Ball Bearings and Cushion Tyres, for value and price the Talk of Newcastle. £9 12s 6d CASH.

TO CYCLISTS we offer the benefit of our long experience and sound judgment a Free Trial of any Machine, and the best Value and Cash Discounts it is possible to give.

TO AGENTS—Where not represented a range of the most reliable makes with best terms. If you want a good Agency and to make money give us a call.

EASY PAYMENTS—REPAIRS—CUSHION TYRES FITTED.

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BRADY & MARTIN, Scientific Instrument Makers.

SPECTACLES.—Best Glass, from 3s. 6d.; Pebbles from 8s. 6d.

OPERA GLASSES, MICROSCOPES.

Price Lists on application.

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PUPILS carefully Trained for Theoretical and Practical Examinations. Violins, Bows, and Strings from the best Makers. Tutors, Sheet Music, obtained on the Shortest Notice.

TERMS ON APPLICATION. 974d

DON'T FORGET!

GEORGE McNEAL, BILL-POSTER, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Pit Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton East Castle, &c.

MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Parts in time to return same day. RAIL FARE ALLOWED.

£1 TO £10

TAILORING (*PAR EXCELLENCE*).

S. SWALWELL, TAILOR AND DRAPER, DIPTON,

BEGS to INTIMATE that his PRODUCTIONS in CLOTHING are giving unbounded satisfaction to the numerous Customers who entrust him with their Orders.

OVERCOATINGS, COATINGS, SUITINGS and TROUSERINGS in the Newest Patterns, AT LOWEST PRICES, consistent with quality.

A TRIAL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

MANCHESTER CORPORATION CONCENTRATED MANURE.

MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT, BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c.

ANALYSING ABOUT

38·66 per Cent. of ORGANIC MATTER containing 3·60 „ of AMMONIA.

5·08 „ of ALKALINE SALTS containing 0·90 „ of POTASH.

8·57 „ of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.

2·50 „ of SULPHATE OF LIME.

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 50 miles of Manchester in not less than Two Ton Lots, and within 150 miles in not less than Four Ton Lots.—Special quotation beyond 150 miles.

£3 PER TON.

Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made

HY WHILEY, SUPERINTENDENT, Cleansing Department, Town Hall, Manchester. 680d

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.*

Letters for insertion should reach us not later than Wednesday mornings.

Correspondents are requested to enclose their names and addresses on a separate slip of paper.

THE GAMBLING NUISANCE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I am very glad there is some one like "Justice" to write of the great nuisance of gambling, so common in the village of Blackhall Mill. I was not less struck with the great wrong that these men were commiting, not only to themselves and to those seeking pleasure, but with the young around them. These men ought to feel disgusted with themselves when they think that they were taking pleasure in a course that was likely to prove a ruin to the young people. All that I have talked to seem to have heard with great plainness the disgusting language of these men. These men were but ten yards from the chapel door, and I would say with "Justice," station a policeman in the village.—Yours, &c.,

FREEMAN.

Blackhall Mill, May 19th, 1891.

BUILDING SOCIETIES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Dear Sir,—Adopting the course pursued on the formation of the Blackhill, Consett and District "Model" Building Society of refraining from entering into paper controversy; but replying to all questions asked at public meetings the officers do *not* intend participating in the present correspondence, beyond denying officially the secondary statement of your correspondent, "Vide et Crede," in your issue of the 22nd inst., that the officials stated the premium of £45 5s to be under £3 per cent., and asserting they are not responsible for any false rumours or impressions that may gain circulation among the public.—Yours truly,

W. RAMSAY,
Secretaty Blackhill, Consett and District "Model" Building Society.

2, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill,
27th May, 1891.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—As I expected, our friend "Vide et Crede" has got a most severe attack of "paralatic funkus," caused no doubt by the very changeable weather, and the questions I put to him in your last week's issue. It is to be regretted that instead of answering the questions put to him and giving me proof of the absurd and erroneous statements he made, that he should (as he evidently appears to have done) thought that I was calling upon him to represent and express an opinion on behalf of the whole British public as to the points raised in my letter. If he will be good enough to again peruse my letter of the 15th May, he will find that I questioned, and asked him to prove every statement he made with the exception of the one item, namely, the premium of £45 5s, and I take it that as I did not question the accuracy of this, he with a very questionable taste, shelters himself behind this item, and refuses to answer or substantiate the rest of his statements until I deal with this. Now sir, I could almost admire the cuteness of my friend "Vide et Crede" in so fencing the question at issue, if it were not for the fact that the statement he makes, namely, that the officials of the "Model" at their sale stated that the premium of £45 5s was under 3 per cent. was, like the rest of his argument "incorrect." Now sir, as he has pledged himself in his last effusion to answer the questions I put to him, might I suggest in doing so that he gives us a purely unwarranted statement of the facts, and that he will endeavour to steer clear of the presumptive notion that he is representing the public, and allow the public themselves to draw their own conclusions from his gross misstatements of the truth.—Yours truly,

SEMPER PARATUS.

HAS THEATRE-GOING A MORAL OR IMMORAL TENDENCY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—In reply to your correspondent "Member Y.M.C.A." upon the above subject, a few words upon my experience may enlighten or otherwise interest a few of your readers. It is not often this subject is brought before the press, but whenever it is, as far as I have noticed, it has been opened by those who have no knowledge whatever upon the subject they would try to right us upon. The stage as a rule is looked upon by some as a low demoralising calling. The reason for this being that they have undoubtingly formed their own opinion or fancy upon a profession in which they have not strictly enough observed or derived any personal knowledge. Now, as to a theatre having an immoral tendency, I wish to point out to you the following:—It requires managers and authors to have everything appertaining to a good sound moral meaning to please the public taste; otherwise the receipts may be expected to suffer. A theatre audience is more easily displeased than your correspondent may perhaps imagine. Thus our English plays have to be of a truly moral nature, of the innocent righted and the wronger crushed. "He asks it plays are given as they are written, and why Shakespeare is suppressed?" To this I must reply that Shakespeare has written so true to nature that should a fault-finding patron happen to be seated in the front and hear the lines delivered, it may strike home for the sense of truth and incite an objection by an ever-anxious party to open a discussion upon a subject of which they had but little knowledge. Guarding themselves with a shield highly suitable for the occasion—Morality. So you see our managers omit certain lines to cater for the public taste, and at the same time undoubtedly save an error of an invasion of morality upon morality. Now, as regarding the drama purifying and catching the conscience, your correspondent names the following plays:—"The dark secret," "After dark," and Ibson's "Ghosts." Asking for the names and addresses of those upon whom they have had good effect; also for a gambler who has examined himself after seeing "A million of money," or "Was life worth living," had any influence on the percentage of suicides through love and madness. Now, in favour of the above plays, I have not yet had one case come to my knowledge, although of others I have, of which I shall presently name. Yet many will undoubtedly have derived a good lesson from the above plays, and consequently reformed, of which I am sorry to say few have any knowledge. But even if they have not any moral effect, can your correspondent point out to me one case where the effect has been demoralising?

He also asks if any drunken harlot has ever become a respectable member of society through seeing a play, such as the "Streets of London" or "The lights of London"? To this I say yes. At least three or four, to my knowledge, have reformed from habitual drunkards from seeing "The bottle, or the drunkard's dream," and "Ten nights in a bar-room." He also asks if any reclaimed drunkard attributes his moral salvation to hearing a play? Now, if none have been saved, can he give me any case of a man losing his moral character through seeing a temperance play? As regards managers and authors allowing their daughters to go upon the stage, it is very rare when they are not.

In the latter part of his letter, your correspondent says he is an uneducated lad who happens to be "in the know." Upon the subject of this I am doubtful. Yet he may have had a little experience in a theatre, and not made much use of his time, for had he been any way versed in the theatrical world, he would surely never have condemned a profession out of which a good moral story can always be told. But he evidently wishes to retire, for he undoubtedly does not believe in an honourable defeat.

Now, sir, just one word upon his last piece of advice that he has culled. Psalm I., 1st verse, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." Now, he evidently considers theatricals and their patrons ungodly, scornful sinners. I can only say I have found them civil and respectable, and in a great many cases strict attenders of the church, and highly respected by all those who come to know them—not by those who form a vague, imaginative idea of them. In a town not far from here, a manager of a theatre gave to the building of a school, deserving cases of charity, &c., over £30, and at all times is ready to help the poor and deserving. One would hardly imagine this to be the act of a scornful sinner. But in concluding, allow me to give a line from the play of "Leah"—"Let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

V.C.

20th May, 1891.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—With your kind permission, I would like to make a few more remarks on the good that may be derived from attending theatres. Seeing that "Member Y.M.C.A." has thought fit to criticise, what I intended to be a suggestive letter, which you were kind enough to give a place in your valuable paper. I take the present opportunity of giving "Member" and others my views on this, to me, very important question. We read in that good old "book" from which "Member" quotes his advice to all Christians, and where I am glad to see he appears perfectly at home, "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good," which no one can find fault with. Now, before "Member" finds so much fault with theatres he should consider the most essential point, and the most essential of all points, the mind. A depraved mind will never be able to judge anything justly and truly, as the mind is inclined according to the purity or corruptness of that mind. For instance, a sensual man will never be able to give a just and true opinion of any play, given either in a theatre or elsewhere; for the reason that his mind is vitiated, and therefore his judgments are impure; and as "Member" is so well acquainted with his Bible, he will perhaps recollect that it says "Unto the pure all things are pure." The sights and scenes in theatres are not at all detrimental to any pure minded man or woman; as God has given men that power of discrimination, which enables them, according to their different endowments, to choose the good and refuse the bad. For instance, if you turn a calf into a field, where there are a great variety of different grasses, you will observe that it will enjoy the eating of some, and refuse others altogether; and if a man or woman go to a theatre, and see a play, if they use that mind that God has given them, as rational creatures, they will choose the good and refuse the bad. "Member" will doubtless be aware we have to do the same in churches or chapels, if we are worthy of the name of men and women. He will also be aware that there is equally as many or more mistakes made in connection with churches and chapels as there are in theatres, and a very great deal more controversy is carried on. In a theatre, we have illustrated almost to reality, some of the lowest and most degraded characters, and some of the brightest and best. I need not mention the benefit of having the various characters brought before us, it is quite obvious, but I would ask "Member," if he ever lowers his moral dignity to attend theatres, to use his power of discrimination, and to observe the good, and the bad, and also to remember that it is impossible for him to "Prove all things and hold fast that which is good," without seeing both sides of a question, and not to forget that to be tried and to come out perfect, is a great virtue, inasmuch as our Lord was tempted before being made perfect. It is my candid opinion, that the plays of to-day, are vastly superior and much more pure, than many of the people who attend them, and I think that theatres, judiciously attended by people with a good power of discrimination, and with sufficient regard for their moral character, will indeed prove a blessing and an elevating ideal to mankind. I will close with a little free advice from the good old book (Romans, 14 chap. 14 verse), "I know and am persuaded by the "Lord Jesus Christ" that there is nothing unclean of itself, but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean." Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of this letter, I remain yours &c.,

STRANGER.

Volunteer Intelligence.

5TH V.B.D.L.I.: I AND K COMPANIES.

The members of these volunteer companies who stood highest in the two previous competitions out of four for two nominations, given by the officers commanding the companies to assist the winners in attending the approaching Bisley meet, met on Thursday se'nnight on the Bues Hills range, Blaydon, and tried conclusions in the third shoot. Scores:—

Sergt. W. T. Shotton, 29, 25, 30—84; Corpl. J. Dixon, 23, 30, 25—78; Corpl. J. Grundy, 23, 31, 24—73; Corpl. R. Bennett, 25, 25, 25—75; Corpl. G. Hall, 22, 28, 19—67.

The result of this shooting leaves Sergt. Shotton with a substantial lead to carry back for the final. At the same time a handicap sweepstakes, under the Winlaton club rules, was held at 200, 500, and 600 yards, the winners being Corpl. J. Grundy, 8 start, 23, 31, 24—86, and Sergt. W. T. Shotton, scratch, 29, 25, 30—84.

4TH V.B.D.L.I. (BEAMISH COMPANY).

The annual shooting of the above company was held on Saturday, when a very pleasant day was spent. The following are the scores:—

Priv. Mat Pattison (35 start), total, 90; Sergt. Fred Mole (5), 83; Priv. Henry Willaby (27), 82; Sergt. I. Yates (2), 81; Sergt. Thos. Wrangham (5), 73; Corpl. J. Johnson (7), 78.

Football.

TANFIELD LEA FOOTBALL CLUB.

The members of the above club wound up the season by holding a supper at Mr Irwin's, the Pack Horse Inn, Tanfield, the headquarters of the club, on Saturday night. Upwards of 30 members and friends partook of the good things provided by the host and hostess.

After the removal of the cloth, Mr Jos. Milburn was voted to the chair, and in the course of his remarks said that he was glad to meet so many there that evening, and especially for the purpose that they had met together, as it showed the interest that was taken in the game of football in Tanfield Lea. As for himself, he liked to see young men taking part in any sort of athletic exercises, especially football, cricket, or cycling, and he would always be willing to give a helping hand to promote any of the above games. In conclusion, he moved that a vote of thanks be given to the host and hostess for the manner in which they had provided the supper, as he was sure they had all enjoyed themselves by the way they had disposed of the good things. He knew football men generally had good appetites, especially after indulging in a game. (Applause).

Mr J. Smith (hon. sec.) said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion of the worthy chairman that a vote of thanks be given to the host and hostess, and also to the young ladies who had so ably waited on at the table, as it was a great pleasure to them all to have the honour of their company, and he was sure they would get on badly without them. (Laughter and applause).

Mr Irwin suitably replied on behalf of himself and wife, and said it always gave them the greatest pleasure to be able to lend any assistance to any kind of game that might spring up in their midst. Although he preferred a different sort of sport to theirs—namely, shooting—he always liked to look at a game of football, as he thought it was better to look on than play. (Laughter).

During the evening songs were rendered by Messrs R. Holmes, J. Smith, W. Fletcher, J. Thirlwell, W. Gardner, J. Milburn, and N. Gailes, and a most enjoyable evening was concluded by the company singing "Auld Lang Syne."

SPEN FOOTBALL CLUB.

A supper in connection with the Spen White Leghorns Football Club was held on Saturday night, at Mr R. D. Browell's, Miners' Arms, Spen, when upwards of 30 members sat down to a splendid repast. After the cloth had been removed, Mr Henry Bell took the chair, and Mr William Bell was in the vice-chair. The Chairman delivered a few short, but pointed remarks, and the remainder of the evening was enlivened with songs from the following gentlemen:—Messrs Fred Bell, jun., Barrett, Reddy, Ridley, Short, Moreland, Cox, J. Donnelly, Abbott, and the chairman. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the host and hostess, and the pleasant proceedings terminated by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" by the company.

CONSETT LEAGUE OF THE CROSS FOOTBALL CLUB.

At the annual meeting of the above club, held on Sunday last, the following officers were elected:—President, Mr Thos. Barry; vice-presidents, Messrs P. Hanlon, P. Tumilty, T. Finnigan, M. Ward, J. McPhillips; committee, Messrs P. Coyle, P. Clark, W. Shields, P. Shields, C. O'Neil, P. McGuire, E. Clifford, J. Price, M. McBride; captain 1st team, Mr H. Callaghan; vice-captain, Mr P. McKie; captain 2nd team, Mr J. Mellon; vice-captain, Mr J. Griffin; treasurer, Mr J. Barry; secretary, Mr T. Kane, 60, Princess Street, Consett; assistant secretary, Mr W. McKie, 2, Queen Street, Consett. During the past season the club have played 19 games, of which they have won 13, lost 4, and drawn 2, scoring 64 goals to 24. Taking into consideration that this was the first season of the club, they are deserving of hearty congratulations for the splendid record they have gained. Their victories include two medal competitions, and the competition promoted by the Catholic Sports' committee, on Whit-Monday. The committee of the club, as a mark of their appreciation of the good form shown by the team, have decided to present the members of the first eleven with handsome white shirts and green sashes, which will be the colours donned by the League next season. Although the expenses of the club since its formation have been heavy, there is a balance of £11 in hand.

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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.

Cricket.

☞ Secretaries of clubs will greatly oblige by sending their fixture cards to our office as early as possible.

∗∗ Secretaries of cricket clubs would greatly oblige us by despatching their reports so that they may reach our office not later than *Wednesday* morning.

Consett Excelsiors, 34; Medomsley Church Choir, 20.

Consett Excelsiors 2nd would like to arrange matches with junior teams. F. R. Swainston, 39, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

Burnopfield v Benwell.—Played at Burnopfield on Wednesday week. Score:—Benwell (for four wickets), 123; Burnopfield, 53.

Medomsley Church Choir Cricket Club would be glad to arrange matches with any junior teams under 16 years; all dates vacant. G. W. Hedley, Derwent Cote House, Lintz Green, R.S.O.

Hamsterley v Blackhall Mill.—Played at Blackhall Mill, and resulted in a win for the home team by 81 runs. Score:—Blackhall Mill, 108; Hamsterley, 27.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 1st v CLOSE HOUSE.

Played at Blackfine, and resulted in a decisive victory for the home team. Godfrey, Jameson, Dales, and Turnbull played in dashing style for the winners; while Reed was the man to make any stand for the losers. Score:—

CONSETT.		CLOSE HOUSE.	
A S Godfrey b Emmett	37	G Hunter b Dales	0
G Epping c Robson b Emmett	2	T Douglas b Epping	7
T D Dales run out	14	Emmett (pro) b Dales	7
T Jameson c Child b Emmett	20	J H Reed lbw b Godfrey	14
W Turnbull not out	13	T Child c Epping b Dales	7
G Walton not out	8	D Robson b Godfrey	6
A Wood, M Williamson, J Siddell, S Rayner, Dr Wynne	To bat.	G Marsh b Godfrey	0
Innings declared closed.		W Liddle b Dales	0
		W Chicken b Godfrey	0
		C Robson c Jameson b Dales	0
		C Raisbeck not out	0
Extras	7	Extras	3
Total	101	Total	44

SHOTLEY BRIDGE 1st v CONSETT AND DISTRICT 2nd.

Played at Shotley Spa, and resulted in a draw. Middleton, bowling for Shotley Bridge, performed the hat trick. Score:—

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.		CONSETT.	
T Bell b Robinson	25	Wm Gibson c Seed b Wilson	12
F J Shaw run out	2	R H Watson b Middleton	7
Geo Hall c Gray b Maddison	4	T T Gray b Middleton	0
T B Wilson c Askew b Maddison	0	J G Murray b Middleton	0
J Robson b Robinson	22	T D Robinson lbw b Middleton	0
J Middleton b Murray	10	J Raw b Middleton	5
J W Forster run out	0	J Askew not out	11
F B Richardson b Murray	0	J Maddison not out	15
J Seed b Robinson	8		
W Bell not out	3		
J Chatt c Raw b Robinson	8		
Extras	8	Extras	1
Total	90	Total	51

CHESTER-LE-STREET 1st v HETTON LYONS.

Played at Hetton, and resulted in a win for the visitors by 23 runs. J. Bewicke carried out his bat for a well played 34. T. Middleton bowled exceedingly well, taking seven wickets for thirteen runs. Score:—

CHESTER-LE-STREET.		HETTON LYONS.	
S Shepherd b Horn	2	C P Stewart b T Middleton	1
G Halliday run out	0	J Brown c Halliday	5
E Burnett b Horn	0	J Whitfield c Kell b T Middleton	3
J Bewicke not out	34	J Kirtley b Bewicke	9
T Middleton b Stewart	6	R Hall b T Middleton	1
T L Gray c Brown b Horn	4	G Stuart b T Middleton	1
W Middleton b Horn	0	H Horn b T Middleton	0
G Robson b Stewart	0	A Brown not out	10
T R Hall c Brown b Horn	6	A Bambro c Shepherd	2
J Woodrow c Stewart	0	C Jefferson b T Middleton	6
J G Kell c Brown b Horn	1	T Appleby b T Middleton	1
Extras	5	Extras	2
Total	58	Total	35

WHICKHAM v ST. JAMES'S (GATESHEAD).

Played at Gateshead, and resulted in a win for the visitors by 16 runs. Score:—

ST. JAMES'S.		WHICKHAM.	
Rev J Mackay c Cook	5	M Lawson b Richardson	1
W Hedley c Ryles	3	T B Mowbray b Richardson	5
W B McKinney b Lawson	2	J Mowbray b Reed	9
G T Penman b H Cook	3	J Barron b Reed	1
T Davison b H Cook	0	T Hickson run out	9
C Reed b Lawson	7	R Mordue b Reed	1
G Richardson b H Cook	8	H Cook b Richardson	0
J Ryles b H Cook	4	W Cook b Richardson	1
J Dowdle b Lawson	2	W Thynn run out	3
T Nicholson st T B Mowbray b Lawson	0	T A Snaith b Richardson	6
J McKinney not out	0	G Noble not out	9
Extras	4	Extras	9
Total	38	Total	54

WHICKHAM 2nd v NEWBURN.

Played at Whickham, and resulted in an easy win for the home eleven, the visitors making a poor stand against the deliveries of the brothers Cheesman. Score:—

NEWBURN.		WHICKHAM.	
J T Wilson b T Cheesman	0	G Faldon not out	16
T Storey c Browell b Cheesman	2	T Cheesman c Wilson b Potts	21
W Potts run out	4	W Custance not out	8
R Stuart not out	8	W Mowbray, G Cheesman, T Archer, J Harbottle, W Easy, C Potts, W Browell, E Kerrigan	To bat.
W Wilson c Custance b T Cheesman	1		
J W Gray b G Cheesman	0		
J Stuart b T Cheesm'n	2		
G Wilson b T Cheesman	6		
R Biggins b T Cheesman	0		
G Pigdon c Potts b T Cheesman	0		
W Atkinson run out	1		
Extras	2	Extras	1
Total	21	Total	46

WEST STANLEY v BATH LANE (NEWCASTLE).

Played at West Stanley, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team. Jewitt, Hunter, and Heckels played well for the winners, and Waggott did good service for Bath Lane. Score:—

STANLEY.		BATH LANE.	
R Knox c and b Dixon	0	A Kirton b Robinson	1
J Hunter c Brumbell b Davison	16	E Stephens'n b Heck'ls	0
J Robinson b Swinburne	1	J Taylor b Heckels	0
A Heckels c and b Davison	14	J Davison run out	1
R Gibson c Davison b Swinburne	4	W Swinburne lbw b Heckels	6
P Harkness l b w b Davison	4	J Waggott c and b Jewitt	15
T Jewitt b Dixon	22	J Hall b Heckels	0
W Dodds c Swinburne b Dixon	2	G Lee c & b Robinson	3
W Dyson not out	6	H Dixon not out	3
W Benson b Swinburne	9	A Brumbell b Jewitt	0
R Holmes b Swinburne	1	G Davison run out	10
Extras	10	Extras	12
Total	89	Total	41

CONSETT Y.M.C.A. v NEWCASTLE MARLBRO 2nd.

Played at Newcastle, and resulted in a victory for the home team by 8 runs. Score:—

Y.M.C.A.		MARLBRO.	
R Graham b Hedley	27	Robinson b Hull	3
J Hall c Curley b Robinson	7	Dindsdale b Hull	6
J Colling c and b Hedley	6	Hughes c & b Wilson	7
J Smith run out	0	J Curley c Colling b Hull	2
A Wilson b Hedley	5	Irlom st Graham b Hull	27
H Tomkinson b Hedley	6	Davison c Tomkinson b Wilson	3
C Gambles c Simpson b Curley	0	Dixon b Dunn	2
G B Rogers not out	6	R Curley not out	0
W Loam run out	1	Hedley b Hull	7
J Wilkinson c Robinson b Curley	0	Simpson b Gambles	3
T Dunn b Curley	0	Stokoe b Dunn	17
Extras	7	Extras	4
Total	67	Total	75

BURNHOPE v SOUTH MOOR.

Played at South Moor, and resulted in a win for the visitors, for whom J. Dyson bowled splendidly. Score:—

SOUTH MOOR.		BURNHOPE.	
W Brass b Rowe	2	E Ridley b Brass	12
G Keanacy c Ridley	3	J Dyson b Joice	1
W Greathead b Dyson	1	J Mason b Carr	2
R Nichol b Rowe	0	R Fenwick b Brass	21
E Smith c Heckels	6	A Heckels b Brass	0
T Stobbart b Dyson	2	M Rowe c Smith	6
H Joice not out	8	J Robinson not out	42
M Carr c Rowe	0	G Heslop c Brass	13
M Baker b Dyson	0	J W Moffatt not out	3
J Elliott b Dyson	0	M Heslop to bat	
T Welch run out	1	J Gair "	
Extras	1	Extras	13
Total	24	Total	113

WALDRIDGE FELL v LEADGATE PARK.

Played at Waldridge, and owing to the late start, ended in a draw in favour of Waldridge. Score:—

WALDRIDGE.		LEADGATE.	
Gardner c Walton	13	Watson not out	6
Adamson c Jackson	30	Snaith run out	2
Hall c Smith	24		
Smith b Reed	2		
Rounding b Jackson	3		
King b Reed	27		
Pearson b Reed	5		
E Warren c Watson	2		
G Warren c Reed	0		
R King b Reed	2		
Atkinson not out	10		
Extras	5	Extras	0
Total	126	Total	8

TANFIELD v CATCHGATE.

Played at Tanfield, and resulted in a win for the home team by 78 runs. Score:—

TANFIELD.		CATCHGATE.	
J R Jones c Charlton b Burton	4	Hogarth b Atthey	10
M Pattison c Buck b Burton	10	Burton b Robinson	0
J Charlton b Burton	25	Thompson c Pattison b Atthey	19
W Wallace b Burton	3	Charlton b Wallace	4
E Reay b Thompson	6	Simpson lbw b Wall'ce	6
W G Robinson lbw b Thompson	0	Davidson b Atthey	1
T Atthey not out	34	Buck b E Bowes	3
E Bowes run out	18	Barron b E Bowes	0
A Watson b Thompson	0	Brown c Robinson b Wallace	1
J Robson b Davidson	6	C Gales b Reay	4
J Bowes c Brown b Thompson	9	Stisling not out	1
Extras	27	Extras	12
Total	183	Total	55

ESH CHURCH INSTITUTE v BRANCEPETH.

Played at Brancepeth, and resulted in a draw in favour of Esh. Score:—

ESH.		BRANCEPETH.	
T Buttery b Quarterman	9	J Palmer b Gallon	5
Dr Marrs l b w b Quarterman	3	G Dales run out	3
C Gallon c Quarterman	9	J Drake run out	3
J Lonsdale b Drake	5	W Drake b Gallon	1
Wm Rawsthorne b Palmer	2	G Quarterman not out	25
T Thompson b Quarterman	5	T Ramsay b Thomps'n	1
J Gray not out	7	J McClaren c Buttery	1
J Gallon b Quarterman	0	W Frankland b Buttery	1
H Robson not out	9	E Archer b Gallon	1
E Parkinson to bat		J Rasker c Gallon	2
T Brown "		A Brown not out	1
Extras	15	Extras	5
Total	64	Total	49

USHAW MOOR v EPPLETON CHURCH.

Played at Ushaw Moor, and resulted in a win for the home team by 85 runs and one wicket to fall. Score:—

EPPLETON.		USHAW MOOR.	
J Nurse c and b Harding	9	W Hill not out	59
W Fawcett lbw	7	N Ogg b Fife	8
J Warlock b Harding	0	C Smith b Whitfield	15
J Brewer b Harding	1	J Gilroy c Fife	6
J Milburn b Tenwick	4	G Browning b Whitfield	2
W Whitfield b Harding	2	W Harding c Whitfield	5
A Wood c Harding	2	R Hope c Warlock	17
W Warlock b H'rding	0	J Hudson b Wood	0
R Kay b Tenwick	0	W Tenwick b Nurse	3
J Burrows not out	1	T Woodhall st Milb'rn	0
T Fife b Harding	4	W Lynn not out	10
Extras	4	Extras	3
Total	34	Total	119

KEPIER SCHOOL, HOUGHTON—BOARDERS v DAY BOYS.

Played on the School ground, the Boarders winning easily by 64 runs. Score:—

BOARDERS.		DAY SCHOOL.	
F West b Nisbett	21	E Davison b Routledge	4
J Aynsley b Gibson	15	J Kennedy run out	1
F Harrison c Kennedy	21	J Gibson b Harrison	10
B Routledge run out	0	W Nisbett run out	0
J McConnell b Kennedy	2	C Smailes b Harrison	0
E Veitch c Bulmer	3	T Bulmer b Harrison	2
J Veitch c Kennedy	1	F Phillipson b Harrison	1
C Todd c Nisbett	0	J Farrage run out	1
G Fittock c Davison	2	R Aynsley b Routledge	0
G McConnell run out	1	T Murray b Harrison	0
J Snaith not out	5	T Oliver not out	0
Extras	15	Extras	9
Total	82	Total	28

MEDOMSLEY v WEST DENTON.

Played at Medomsley, and resulted in a victory for the home team. Score:—

MEDOMSLEY.		WEST DENTON.	
W Simpson b Batey	0	A Weir lbw b Campbell	0
R Campbell b Palfreman	25	W Clark b R Cant	2
Dr Mann b Batey	3	T Wilkinson b R Cant	1
R Cant b Batey	3	G Urwin b Campbell	3
M Charlton b Batey	3	J Palfreman run out	2
M T Milburn run out	6	I Palfreman b Campbell	2
J Walton c Urwin b Batey	6	J Potts c Walton b Campbell	11
G E Milburn run out	0	W Hedley b Campbell	0
W Cant b Batey	3	Batey not out	4
W E Charlton b Palfreman	7	Teasdale b G E Milburn	2
G Moon not out	0	W Turner c Moon b G E Milburn	2
Extras	5	Extras	3
Total	49	Total	38

Consett Fell 2nd v Catchgate 2nd.—Played on the Fell ground. Score:—Consett Fell, 87; Catchgate, 50.

Leadgate 2nd v Waldridge 2nd.—Played at Leadgate, resulting in a win for the home team by one run. Score:—Leadgate, 65; Waldridge, 64.

CONSETT FELL v WEST STANLEY 2nd.

Played at Stanley, and resulted in a win for the visitors by 39 runs. Watson took seven wickets for 12 runs. Score:—

STANLEY.		CONSETT FELL.	
J T Curry c Watson b E Lowes	1	G Lowes b Smith	4
T Christopher b Watson	0	T Charlton c Gales b Gibson	7
E Gales b Watson	3	R Lowes b Smith	17
M Smith b Watson	3	J Williams b Smith	2
T Siddle b Lowes	0	J Lowes b Smith	0
W Gibson b Watson	8	T Watson b Gibson	0
D Temple c G Lowes b Watson	1	E Robinson c Curry b Gibson	8
J Hall b Watson	11	W Bell c Smith b Temple	11
T Curry b Watson	0	J Wilkinson b Hall	9
J Robinson b Lowes	2	T Unsworth not out	0
W Craggs not out	0	A Kempster b Hall	0
Extras	2	Extras	9
Total	28	Total	67

CRICKET NOTES.

[By "L.B.W."]

CLOSE HOUSE GO DOWN EASILY.

The first fixture of the season between Consett and District and Close House, which duly came off on the former's ground, on Saturday, excited unusual interest, as it was known that the home club intended to spare no efforts to gain their first victory over the visitors. Close House arrived with a strong team, including the famous Notts pro. (Herbert Emmett), while Consett played about the most powerful eleven that they can possibly command. The weather was, on the whole, favourable, and spectators mustered in good numbers.

—o—

The home team commenced the run getting, Godfrey and "Epping" sharing the defence. The latter was soon disposed of by a clever catch by Robson, but on Dales joining his captain, runs came freely. When well set, Dales was unfortunately run out, his partner calling him, and then sending him back. Jameson came next, and set about him in good style, putting on a capital 20 before Child brought about his dismissal. Godfrey treated the lookers-on to some splendid cricket, and was top-scorer for his side with a perfect 37. He appeared to play the ball on to his wicket which sent him back. Turnbull is fast regaining his old form, and had 13 (not out) to his credit when Godfrey decided to close the home club's innings, which amounted to 101 for four wickets.

—o—

Close House made a very disastrous start, as Hunter was bowled in Dales's first over, and a loud cheer went up when Dales also beat Emmett, who had only contributed seven. When Godfrey took up the bowling, the end soon came, only Reed (14) showing anything like decent form, and all were out for 44, Consett thus gaining a thoroughly decisive victory. Not a single run was scored by the last five batsmen of the visiting team—a truly formidable "tail." The credit of the win may fairly be said to rest with those two excellent all-round cricketers—Godfrey and Dales—the former securing four wickets for six runs, and the latter five for 16.

—o—

THE INVINCIBLE "CITIZENS."

It really seems as if it will take a very strong club to haul down the colours of the Chester-le-Street eleven, who are winning their matches all along the line. On Saturday, they visited the Hetton Lyons club, being without the valuable services of their captain (H. W. Kerrich-Walker), but this did not stop them from gaining a fairly easy win. The visitors put together 58, Bewicke playing a grand innings of 34 (not out), while five of the team failed to notch a run between them.

—o—

The feature of the home innings was the excellent bowling of T. Middleton, who up to the present time has scarcely been so deadly as usual. However, he showed on Saturday that his hand had lost none of its cunning, as he captured no fewer than seven wickets at the small cost of 13 runs. A. Brown 10 (not out) and Kirtley (9) displayed fair form, but the others could do nothing with the deliveries of Middleton, the innings closing for 35. I might mention that six out of the seven wickets obtained by Middleton were clean bowled—an unusual proportion.

—o—

BURNHOPE "SIT ON" SOUTH MOOR.

The latter club entertained as visitors on Saturday the strong Burnhope team, who literally made mincemeat of the homesters. South Moor took first turn with the willow, but made a miserable display, being all dismissed for a paltry 24. The chief factor in bringing this result about was the trundling of Dyson, who was irresistible. I have not his analysis by me, but there is no doubt that the figures would be something remarkable. Dyson, although a good bowler, has generally been more noted for his batting, but he is a capital all-round cricketer, and would not disgrace any team.

—o—

Burnhope gave an admirable batting display, and had put on the big score of 113 for seven wickets when time put an end to further play. I am pleased to observe that that genial cricketer, J. Robinson, was in one of his best moods, and his 42 (not out) was the result of sterling cricket. I hope he will keep it up. Fenwick ably assisted with a nice 21, and G. Heslop (13) and Ridley (12) were also seen to advantage. Although I notice several new names in the Burnhope ranks, they appear to be training on in the right direction, and I trust to have the pleasure of chronicling many more victories for them.

—o—

A DRAW AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Shotley Bridge 1st and Consett and District 2nd met at Shotley Spa on Saturday. The home team totalled the respectable score of 90, of which number, T. Bell (an old Westwood man) contributed a capital 25, Robson being a good second with 22. Middleton (10) also did well. On Consett going to the wickets, W. Gibson (12) was the only one able to do anything with the bowling of Middleton for some time, and five men were quickly dismissed, but on Askew 11 (not out) and Maddison 15 (not out) getting together, they made an invaluable stand, the score at time being 51 for six wickets, consequently the game resulted in a draw rather in favour of Shotley Bridge. Middleton bowled excellently for the home team, and brought off the "hat trick."

—o—

WHICKHAM AGAIN WIN.

Whickham journeyed to Gateshead on Saturday to play the St. James's club. Low scoring characterised the game, not one of the 22 batsmen obtaining double figures. H. Cook and Lawson bowled well for the visitors, and dismissed the homesters for 38. Whickham managed to score 54, thus winning by 16 runs. J. Mowbray, Hickson, and Noble each put on nine for the visiting eleven, who were without one or two of their best men.

—o—

LEADGATE PARK DRAW WITH WALDRIDGE.

The Park antagonised Waldridge Fell on Saturday, on the latter's ground. Unfortunately, the teams were late in starting, which caused the game to end in that unsatisfactory manner—a draw. The homesters batted first, and knocked up the formidable total of 126. Adamson (30), King (27), Hall (24), Gardener (16), and Atkinson 10 (not out) all showed good form. Leadgate had only a short time remaining to bat, and after losing one wicket for eight runs, the game, as stated above, was left drawn. I hear the Park are likely to have the assistance of some good men this season, and no doubt when they settle down the team will be able to give a favourable account of themselves.

—o—

THE DURHAM CUP.

The draw for the first round of the above trophy may be said to have resulted favourably to the local clubs. Consett meet Sunderland 2nd at home, and although the latter are a good second eleven, I fully expect to see the home club figure in the next round. West Stanley oppose Jarrow, at West Stanley, and here again the homesters should be successful. Medomsley receive a bye.

DRUNKENNESS CURED.—A Wealthy American Lady whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression and Exhausted Vitality, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying all known remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Anyone suffering or desiring to help others in this worthy cause, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr James Holland, 25, Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this information, free of charge. Mention this paper.

HUMAN LIFE.—Fifty years' record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Disease, and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D.; author of "Patriarchal Longevity Reattainable," "Earth-Life," &c. &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every Sufferer. Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 48, Theobald's Road Holborn, London, W.C.

LOCAL NEWS.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Chester-le-Street Co-operative Society.—The 114th quarterly report congratulates the members on the excellent results of the past quarter, both trade and members showing a substantial increase. The amount of cash received for goods sold is £52,890 2s 10d, being an increase of £5,494 19s 5d over last quarter, and £5,190 8s 10d over the corresponding quarter of last year. The members have increased from 3,716 to 3,785. The members' capital now stands at the handsome sum of £77,208 5s 6d. There has been paid out during the quarter in the shape of withdrawals £8,205 6s 9d. The gross profit made was £11,150 19s 10d, and after paying working expenses and interest, and providing for depreciation, an allowance of £20 to the library, and a donation of £10 10s to Whitley Convalescent Home, there was left a net profit of £9,447 9s 9d at 3s 8d in the £ for members' purchases. It was also announced that the contract had been let for building new shops at the north end of present premises, and a commencement will be made shortly. The committee have also invested £10,000 in North-Eastern Railway consols. The meeting was presided over by Mr Robert Hamilton, and owing to the length of the balance sheet items, the business of the meeting was not got through, and the meeting was adjourned to a future date.

Death of a Tradesman.—On Monday, there died one of the best known and most highly respected Chester-le-Street tradesmen—Mr George Edward Steele, who succumbed to an attack of paralysis after a week's illness, at the age of 70 years. Mr Steele was a native of Houghton-le-Spring, but as a young man settled in Chester-le-Street, and started business as a clock and watchmaker and jeweller. Mr Steele took an active interest in local affairs, and was a guardian until April last, when he retired from the Board owing to the infirmities of age. He was also intimately connected with the Chester-le-Street Savings Bank, of which he was treasurer. He was also director of several local building societies. Mr Steele was a staunch Churchman, and had for many years filled the office of churchwarden, both for the rector and for the parishioners. Politically he was a Liberal. He leaves a large family, all of whom are grown up.

EBCHESTER.

The Theft of a Cart Saddle at Newlands Haugh.—At the Hexham Petty Sessions *George Hope*, labourer, Newcastle, was brought up in custody on remand on the charge of stealing, in the parish of Shotley, on May 8th, a cart saddle of the value of 10s, the property of John Wilson Simpson, saddler, of Ebchester. The saddle was stolen from a sale at Newlands Haugh on the 8th inst., where it was bought by a Mr Jewitt and given to the prosecutor to take home and get it repaired. The saddle having been missed, accused was taken into custody at Ebchester railway station with the saddle in his possession. In reply to the magistrates' clerk, accused said he would prefer being tried by the Bench than sent for trial to the Quarter Sessions. He pleaded guilty.—Supt. Harkes said defendant was a cattle drover, and attended sales of cattle.—Accused was sent to prison for one month.

FROSTERLEY.

An owl has nested in the out-buildings at Rojerley Hall, Frosterley, and is rearing a brood of three young ones—an unusual occurence in Weardale.

Sudden Death.—Thomas Johnson, Frosterley, one of the most skilful clear water worm fishers in Weardale, died somewhat suddenly at Frosterley on Saturday. He had been ailing sometime previous.

Death of a Frosterley Man in Newcastle.—Thomas Mowbray, a young man of Frosterley, died somewhat suddenly and unexpectedly in Newcastle, on Saturday. He was a young man of great promise, and had only just recently passed his examination for the Civil Service. The news of his sudden death caused a gloom to settle over his native village, where he was well-known and highly respected.

WOLSINGHAM.

The Alpine Choir.—The Alpine Choir visited Wolsingham on Wednesday and Thursday evenings last week, and had good houses each night at the Town Hall.

On Saturday night, the service of song entitled "Her Benny" was rendered by the choir, in Wolsingham Primitive Methodist Chapel. The connective readings were given by one of the circuit ministers (Rev M. Cuthbert). Miss Nellie Pettitt, Wesleyan choir, was the harmoniumist.

SWALWELL.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Sunday, the anniversary services in connexion with the Sunday-school at Swalwell were held, sermons being preached morning and evening by Mr Wm. Thompson, of Newcastle. In the afternoon a musical service was held, under the direction of Mr Geo. Dodds, jun., Newcastle, who presided at the organ, assisted by Mr Stanley Gill. Solos were contributed by Miss E. Bell and M. Robinson, Elswick Road choir, and Miss Winthorp and Mr J. Peel, Swalwell, and choruses by the Swalwell choir. The chapel was crowded to excess, and the anniversary was a great success.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

Ratepayers' Association.—The first meeting of the Ryton Ratepayers' Association was held in the Thorp Schools on Tuesday night. Mr Jos. Wilson presided. The chairman stated that the committee appointed by a meeting some time ago had drawn up a code of rules for the association. The rules having been read, were adopted, and it was decided to have them printed and distributed amongst members. Mr Joseph Wilson was elected president; Mr Michael Westgarth, vice-president; Mr W. Haswell, secretary; and Mr J. Maughan, treasurer. A committee was elected:—Greenside, Messrs H. T. Thompson, William Snowdon, Peter Gainer, and R. Surtees. Crawcrook: Messrs T. Maughan, C. Robson, M. Clark, and M. Westgarth. Ryton: Messrs J. Beckingham, Wells, Appleby, Farr, and Bailey.—The chairman informed the meeting that the Ryton Local Board was petitioning the North-Eastern Railway Company for a booking office to be erected on the south side of the station, for passengers booking to the west of Ryton, and the Board would be much strengthened if a petition from the Ratepayers' Association was adopted.—After discussion, it was decided to support the Local Board.

TOW LAW.

On Saturday night, a good company sat down to a coffee supper which was provided in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Tow Law.

Tow Law Church Choir, conducted by Mr J. Hugliss, gave a sacred cantata in the church on Thursday week night. The vicar—Rev T. H. E. Espin—presided at the piano.

Some female members of the Salvation Army Holiness Brigade visited Tow Law on Saturday, and processioned the streets in company with the Salvation Army Band. At night, a meeting was held in the barracks.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Sunday-School Anniversary.—The Primitive Methodists of Allendale Cottages celebrated their Sunday-school anniversary as follows:—On Saturday afternoon, the children paraded the village, and sang hymns appropriate to the occasion, after which 130 children received their usual free tea. Later on, tea was provided for the public, when the tables were presided over by Misses M. Holland, H. Penrose, M. J. Hocking, A. Clark.—On Sunday, three services were held in the chapel. In the morning, Mr James Greenwood, Blackhill, preached to a fair congregation, and in the afternoon and evening he conducted services when the children recited portions of scripture, poetry, and dialogues, and sang in a creditable manner—assisted by the choir—a choice selection of music. Amongst those worthy of special mention are:—Misses M. Holland, Penrose, Hocking, Richardson, and Master Wm. Penrose, who won the admiration of everyone present.—On Monday evening, a concert was given, Mr Wm. Brand, Consett, presiding. There was only a moderate attendance, owing, undoubtedly, to the inclemency of the weather. The choir was under the able leadership of Mr R. Bewley, whilst Miss A. Dawson, Westwood, presided at the harmonium. The whole of the proceeds, including Sunday's collections, were in aid of the Sunday-school funds, and were in advance of last year.

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

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, May 21st.—Before Councillor JAS. ANNANDALE (presiding), W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq., and Rev F. W. GLYN.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Robert Gladders was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of Henry Tiplady, at South Moor, on the 28th ult.—Defendant, who denied the charge and declared that he had four pints of drink in the house—complainant's housekeeper, however, asserting that he had no liquor in their house—was fined 5s and costs.

BATCHES OF GAMBLERS.

John and *Ellis Williams, Arthur Keeble, Arthur* and *Thomas Welsh, Thomas Clark, Thomas Wright* and *Charles Fairless*, miners, all pleaded guilty to playing at pitch and toss in the Ivesley Lane, near Cornsay Colliery, on the 3rd May.—P.C. Newton preferred the cases, and defendants were mulcted in a penalty of 7s 6d each and costs.

Charles Griffith, William and *Abraham Hendy, Frank Lockey, David Smith*, and *Edward Payne* also miners, were summoned by P.C. Newton for gambling with cards, by playing at "Nap," on Ivesley Lane, on the same date.—Defendants pleaded guilty, and were likewise fined 7s 6d and costs.

Thomas Smith, George Brown, William Rodham, William Lewellyan, William Thompson, Michael McGurke, Joseph McKivor, Lindsay Simpson, and *Henry Hunter* were proceeded against by P.C. Phillipson for playing at pitch and toss in the plantation near the Cube Shaft, Pontop Pike, on the same Sunday.—Defendants stoutly denied the charge, but were mulcted in penalties of 7s 6d each and costs.

Charles Piper, James Laider, Matthew and *James Palmer, John Maddison, Reuben Bird*, and *William Byans* were found guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Vickers, of playing at pitch and toss at Shield Row, on the 3rd May, and were ordered to defray fines of 7s 6d apiece and the expenses.

EDUCATION ACT.

Joseph Storey, of Biggen Colliery, was summoned by Mr J. Gibson, on behalf of the School Attendance Committee for the Lanchester Union, for not causing his child to go to school.—Order made to attend Esh National Schools.

UNSANITARY DWELLINGS IN THE LANCHESTER UNION.

Mary O'Neil, widow, Dipton, was summoned by Mr J. E. Parker, M.I.C.E., surveyor and inspector, on behalf of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority under the Housing of the Working Classes Act of 1890, for failing to comply with a notice to make a house at Hill Top, in the occupation of Jacob Charlton, fit for human habitation, or close the premises.—The Inspector said the place consisted of a cellar, and was impregnated with sewerage matter, from which arose a very foul smell, and the occupants had to step upon clothes to get across the floor. Since the summons was served, however, the tenant had gone out; but he wanted the house closed to prevent other people from going into it. He produced a certificate from Dr Benson as to the house being unfit for habitation.—Defendant did not appear, and the Magistrates granted the necessary order for the house to be closed forthwith.

George French, of the Stags Head Inn, Waterhouses, was similarly prosecuted by Mr Parker, in respect to a cottage near the said public-house. Dr Wilson certified that the premises were unfit for habitation, and the occupant was now laid up with typhoid fever. The usual notices had been served on the owner.—The Bench issued an order for the house to be closed in 28 days, defendant to pay the costs.

BREACHES OF THE MINES ACT AT USHAW MOOR.

Benjamin Anderson, a single man, who failed to appear, was charged with committing a breach of the special rules by removing a fence without authority at Ushaw Moor Colliery, on the 11th May.—Mr M. H. Wardle, manager, called evidence to prove that defendant took down a fence which had previously been erected by a deputy-overman.—Defendant was further accused of having his lamp within two feet of the swing of his pick, and struck his pick through the lamp, on the same date. Mr Wardle said he had a witness, who was both deaf and dumb, to show that the lamp belonged to him.—The young fellow, on being put into the box, failed to understand the nature of an oath. He didn't know the deaf and dumb alphabet, and could neither read nor write.—The Magistrates declined to accept the witness's evidence, and dismissed the second offence; with respect to the first case, defendant was fined £1 and costs.

GAME TRESPASS.

Abraham Taylor and *Peter Currigan*, miners, were summoned by Robert Forster for trespassing in pursuit of conies, on land in the occupation of Ed. Hedley, of Burnhopeside Hall, on April 26th. They were ranging the fields with their dogs.—Defendants were each fined 7s 6d and costs.—They alleged that they were not after game, but simply taking a walk.

ALLEGED BRUTAL WIFE ASSAULT AT DIPTON.

Thomas Regan, miner, Dipton, was brought up charged with committing an aggravated assault upon his wife, Bridget Regan, at Dipton, on the previous Friday night.

Prosecutor attested that on the evening named, defendant sent home his own and his son's wages, amounting to 36s, and began drinking at the public-house. She was about to lay the money out in provisions, when her husband came home the worse for liquor, and demanded the return of the money. She handed the cash back to him, and then he beat and kicked her in a merciless fashion, knocking her down, and tearing her hair out by the roots. The neighbours came to her assistance, and it took them several minutes before they separated her husband from her. When he got outside he kicked the door for a quarter-of-an-hour afterwards, and threatened to murder her.

Sergt. Thornton gave evidence of arresting the accused, and on charging him with attacking his wife, he replied, "I did it. It's the d——d whiskey." (Laughter).

By defendant: There was only a hard crust of bread in the house. There was hardly any furniture therein, and nothing to eat.

Defendant explained that when he came home there was nothing for him to eat, and his wife demanded some more money from him, although he had previously sent home all he had got. She refused to let him go out till he gave her more money. None of the groceries were delivered at his house, but were sent to his wife's mother's, who lived 100 yards further up the road. The wife took the family and partook of their meals at her mother's house, and sent down small quantities of food for him. She was always "nagging" at him for more money.

Mrs Regan said that defendant did not give her half of what he earned. Sometimes he spent all his wages in drink, going "on the spree" from the "pay" Friday to the Monday following. It was when he did not bring any money home that she went to her mother's for her meals.

A brother-in-law of Mrs Regan's corroborated as regards the family having to support Mrs Regan and her children when her husband did not provide for them. Defendant did not spend so much on drink himself, but he stood treat for so many other persons, so that they might think he was a "canny fellow."

The Magistrates sentenced the defendant to one month's hard labour, and ordered him to undergo a further fourteen days' in default of not paying the costs.

Mrs Regan afterwards applied for and obtained a judicial separation, and defendant was ordered to pay 10s weekly towards the support of his wife and youngest child—a baby.

ADJOURNED.

Several larceny and assault cases had to be adjourned, in consequence of the late hour the court was sitting in getting through the other business.

SECOND COURT.

Before Lieut.-Col. E. LEADBITTER-SMITH.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Corbett, at West Stanley, 9th inst, 10s and costs, or seven day's imprisonment; *Edward Neilson* and *Bryan Mullen*, Annfield Plain, fined 10s and 5s, respectively; *Thomas French* and *John Riley*, Kyo, respectively 2nd and 8th inst, 5s each; *Lancelot Wood*, West Stanley, 7th, May, 10s and costs; *Peter Towley*, West Stanley, 27th ult, 5s; *Henry Dawson*, South Moor, 25th April, 7s 6d and costs; *John Martin, David Ross*, and *Robert Pattison*, West Stanley, 10s and 7s 6d each and expenses; *Michael McCulloch*, Quebec, 9th inst, 5s; *Catherine Lockering* and *Thomas Mullenox*, Quebec, 9th and 10th inst, adjourned for fourteen days; *Frances Armstrong* and *Joseph Simpson*, Esh, 11th May, 5s; *James Hall*, Cornsay, 9th May, 5s.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

Thomas Palmer, Joseph Bell, and *Joseph Brown* were prosecuted by P.C. Phillipson for fighting at Annfield Plain, on the 9th May, were bound over for the space of six months, besides ordered to defray the expenses incurred.

William Hughes and *John Hammett*, pitmen, were summoned by Sergt Liddell for being guilty of a like offence at West Stanley, on May 9th, and were similarly dealt with.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Elizabeth J. Riddell was charged by P.C. Hadwin with trespassing in a field at Shield Row, on May 4th, and was fined 6d, 1d damage, and costs.

John Patterson, John Humble, Thomas Liddle and *Richard Cox*, for committing the same offence at West Stanley, on the 13th May, were let off on payment of 1d damage and expenses.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, May 25th.—Before Coun. JAMES ANNANDALE (chairman), Col. LEADBITTER SMITH, W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, F. PRIESTMAN, and W. GREEN, Esqrs.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following persons were proceeded against for drunkenness:—*Rose Carroll*, at Consett, 9th inst., 2s 6d and costs; *James Carberry*, at Consett, 15th inst., 5s; *Edward McGlade*, at Consett, 16th inst., 5s; *Henry Carter*, at Blackhill, 9th inst., 5s; *Robert Rogers*, at Blackhill, 11th inst., 5s; *Charles Harris*, at Shotley Bridge, 9th inst., dismissed; *Owen Hewitson, John Mooney*, and *William Spencer*, at Leadgate, 11th inst., 5s each; *Thos. Cooper*, at Shotley Bridge, 9th inst., 5s; *Patrick* and *Owen O'Hare* (brothers), and *Joseph William Wilson*, at Dipton, 9th inst., 5s each; *Thos. Nicholson*, at White-le-Head, 3rd inst., 5s; *James Kirby*, at Burnopfield, 1st inst., 5s; *John Telford* and *Philip Rust*, at Hobson Colliery, 2nd inst., 5s each; *Samuel McIver*, at Hobson Colliery, 2nd inst., 10s and costs, or seven days' hard labour; *John Nevins*, at Burnopfield, 4th inst., 5s; *George Jones*, at Burnopfield, 19th inst., 5s; *Peter Hinds*, at Crookgate, 7th inst., 5s.

IN THE HABIT OF TAKING FITS.

Mary Ellensworth, wife of a hawker, living at Stoney Heap, was charged by P.C. Richardson with being drunk and disorderly at White-le-Head, on the 2nd inst. Defendant pleaded guilty.—The officer spoke to finding defendant lying on the road in a helpless state of intoxication.—The Chairman: How does it come you are here so often?—Defendant: Well, I will tell you, your Worships. I am in the habit of taking fits, and when my husband partakes of the drink, he kicks and knocks me about, and then sends for the police. (Laughter). How does it come that my husband never receives any summons? It is always me. (Renewed laughter). There is more should be here than what is.—The Chairman: You will be fined 2s 6d and costs.—Defendant: Well, I can pay that much to-day for a wonder. (Laughter). —Defendant left the dock, and "forked out" the money.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

George Dale, miner, was proceeded against by P.C. Crabb for refusing to quit the Queen's Head Inn, Burnopfield, on the 19th inst. Defendant was further charged with a breach of the peace at the same time and place. Defendant pleaded guilty to the offences. —Richard Pace gave evidence of defendant *refusing* to quit his premises; and P.C. Crabb averred that he was called into the public-house to eject Dale. After he got defendant outside, the latter took off his coat and threatened to give the officer a good thrashing, and then Dale used the threat that he would "do away" with him. The man's conduct was disgraceful, and he was using very bad language the whole time. Eventually some men came up and took Dale away.—Defendant was fined 5s and costs for refusing to quit; and was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for six months, and pay the costs—altogether £1 1s 6d.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

David Hardy, a married man, living in William Street, Consett, and *Charles O'Neil*, a young man, were again charged with fighting in Newmarket Street, Consett, on Saturday, May 2nd.—Hardy pleaded not guilty, while the other defendant pleaded guilty.—P.C. Pemberton stated that on the evening named, about 7.15, he saw the two defendants fighting. There was a crowd of 300 people congregated in the street. They took O'Neil to the police-station, and he was perfectly sure that Hardy was the other man that was fighting.—Hardy: I was never near the fight. It is a mistake.—P.C. Haw gave corroborative testimony.—Defendant averred that when the fight was going on he was getting his tea. The other defendant lodged with him.—O'Neil stated that Hardy was not the man he was fighting with, and he was never near.—Inspector Benzies testified to O'Neil saying, when he was brought to the police-station, that he had been fighting with Hardy.—O'Neil: I can't remember saying such a thing.—Susannah Calligan spoke to calling at defendant's house, when she saw Hardy partaking of his tea.—Mrs Hardy also gave evidence to the effect that her husband was getting his tea when the fight was going on.—The charge against Hardy was dismissed, and the other defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay the costs.

ANOTHER "BLOSSOM" FROM STONEY HEAP.

Mary Kelly, a married woman, living at Stoney Heap, appeared in the dock with a child in her arms, in answer to a charge of threatening to kill Elizabeth Baker, also a married woman, of the same place, on May 4th. Defendant was further accused of doing wilful damage to glass to the extent of 8s at the same time and place. Defendant pleaded guilty to the charge of wilful damage, and not guilty to the other offence.—Complainant explained that they had some words, and defendant said she would do six months for her, and threatened to take her life. Since defendant uttered this statement, she had been afraid to leave her house. At the same time, defendant broke three squares of glass of the window with a three-gill bottle, and also tossed a pail of water on the floor upstairs, which came into the bed where she had her three children lying.—P.C. Cripp spoke to seeing the defendant next morning, and she was then under the influence of liquor. He also saw that the panes of glass had been broken. Complainant was a very steady woman.—In answer to defendant, complainant stated that she was not in the habit of going with defendant's husband to the Bantling, for beer.—Defendant declared that the money had been allowed complainant to have the glass replaced.—Defendant was bound over to keep the peace for three months in the sum of £5, and ordered to pay the costs; and also fined 1s, and mulcted in 18s damage for the other offence.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

James McKenna, miner, was summoned for committing an assault upon P.C. Crabb, at Burnopfield, on the 19th inst.—The officer alleged that whilst ejecting a man from the licensed premises of Mr G. Pace at Burnopfield defendant got hold of him, and thrust his hand in his side, and attempted to throw him down. Defendant still kept hold of him, and attempted to rescue the man he was ejecting.—Mr Pace gave substantiative evidence.—The Chairman said it was a serious offence for any man to be charged with, and defendant would be fined 20s and costs.

WOUNDING AFFRAY AT DERWENT COTTAGES.

Joseph Blanch, miner, again appeared to answer a charge of seriously wounding his wife, Lucy Blanch, on the 19th inst. Defendant pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr T. W. Welford (Consett).—P.C. Haw asked for a further remand, because complainant was not yet able to appear, and a doctor's certificate was handed in to the Bench to that effect. —Defendant was remanded for 14 days, bail being allowed.—Defendant also applied for a summons against his wife for breaking his arm.—The request was acceded to.

ALLEGED ASSAULT UPON A YOUNG WOMAN: A YOUNG FELLOW AND HIS SWEETHEART.

Edward Wanless, miner, of Cross Road, Leadgate, was summoned for committing an assault upon Mary Jane Daglish, a young woman, near Leadgate, on the 14th inst. Mr T. W. Welford appeared for complainant, while defendant was represented by Mr J. McCartan (Consett and Durham). Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Complainant, a single woman, attested that on the evening referred to she went for a walk with Steel, who asked her to go. Prior to departing, Steel and defendant had some conversation, and then Steel whispered something into defendant's ear. For the walk they went right round East Castle, and they got back to Redwell Hills about 9·30 p.m. They went along the railway, and she saw a man lying. She made a complaint to Steel because she was afraid. Whilst proceeding towards home, defendant made a grab at her, and she caught hold of Steel's sleeve, and held on as long as she could. Steel went away like a coward, and left her to defend herself. Wanless tried to trip her down, and afterwards put his knee to her back for the purpose of putting her down. He also attempted to perpetrate a criminal assault upon her. After this, Steel came back to her, and said he would have nothing more to do with her. Complainant went home, and made a complaint to her mother of what had transpired. She and her mother went to see Wanless, and they sought Steel about the affair, but defendant contended that he had done nothing. Complainant alleged that she was *enciente* to Steel.—Cross-examined by Mr McCartan: It would be about 9·30 p.m. when they got back. They left Leadgate about 8·30. She was not talking to Wanless on the level crossing in Watling Street on that particular night. She was not at the Coach and Horses Inn corner about ten o'clock with Steel. She came along the railway. The assault happened on the railway near to St. Ive's Church.—In answer to the Bench, complainant testified that Steel said, when he came back, "Be d—— if I will have anything to do with you now." The reason she made the complaint to Steel was because she thought they had something planned out for her. This was the third time that Wanless had got hold of her, and Steel had always run away and left her.—In answer to Mr McCartan: She had never charged anyone else with committing an assault upon her.—Mary Daglish, the mother, spoke to her daughter coming home on the night in question and making a complaint. Her clothes were torn, and she was distressed. In consequence of what she said, they went to Wanless's residence, and defendant sought Steel. During the conversation, defendant laughed the affair off, and Steel replied that he wanted nothing to do with her daughter. He would be buried before he would have her now. He would have nothing to say with regard to the assault.—William Steel, miner, deposed that he saw the complainant on the night in question, but did not go for a walk with her. He saw her standing at the Coach and Horses corner about five minutes past ten. There was no one with complainant then. This was the first time he saw her that night. Witness had been with complainant on many occasions previous to this.—Mr McCartan objected to Mr Welford cross-examining his own witness.—Mr Welford: I am treating him as a hostile witness.—Mr Welford (continuing) asked witness if he had seen complainant's mother, and Steel stated that he saw her on the night mentioned, and he told her that he had not been with her daughter that night. He was not on the railway, nor did he go for a walk with complainant as far as the Bantling. When he had been out with the girl, they had met Wanless.—Mr McCartan again interposed, and objected to Mr Welford cross-examining the witness.—After the Chairman had consulted with the magistrates' clerk (Mr A. W. Granger), the Bench regarded Steel as a hostile witness, and gave Mr Welford the privilege of cross-questioning him.—In answer to Mr Welford, witness stated that he was at work that day, and got done a little after four o'clock. From seven to nine o'clock on this particular night, he went for a walk along with a company of others. They passed through to Redwell Hills down the railway to East Castle, then up the road to the North Pit, and then sat down. They came home by the South Medomsley railway, and through the Pont Wood. He could not say what time it would be when they left the North Pit. Witness was never on the Redwell Hills railway. When the mother charged them with the assault, he did not say that he would have nothing to do with the girl. He had uttered the statement prior to the present occasion.—Cross-examined by Mr McCartan: They left Leadgate after they got the *Evening Chronicle*. There were other four men in his company. They reached home about 9·15 p.m. Witness lived in Cross Street, and he left defendant in the company of Prince and McNally, when he went home to his supper. He saw complainant at the "Coach and Horses" corner about 10 o'clock, which was the first time that night. Complainant spoke first, and said that she had been looking for him since eight o'clock. Witness was with the girl two or three minutes, and then went to a public-house and stayed there till closing time. After they came out of the Queen's Head Inn, defendant shouted for him, and told him to come down to his house. He asked Wanless what was the matter. Was it serious, or was there somebody bad? All the reply he got from defendant was, "It was serious enough." The mother then charged Wanless of the offence which he denied, and told her she could make the best of it she could. It was not true that he left the girl on the railway with defendant.—By Mr Van Haansbergen: Witness gave up "keeping company" with complainant because he had seen plenty of her. (Laughter.)—Mr Van Haansbergen: What do you mean by that? —Witness: Well, she was going with other men.—Mr McCartan said that he would call evidence to prove that defendant was standing on the level crossing at Leadgate at the time stated when the supposed assault was committed. He would also show that it was an unfounded charge made against his client.—William Prince, miner, deposed that he remembered leaving Leadgate about seven o'clock for a walk, with defendant in their company. They set away from the Cross Road and went on to the railway at the Redwell Hills Pit, and made towards East Castle. They returned home by the Bradley Road.—By Mr Welford: Steel was with them. They never sat down at the North Pit. Defendant and Steel were never out of his sight till they went for supper. How he knew that it was 9·15 p.m. when they came back, was by defendant's watch.—Thomas McNally, James Armstrong, Hy. Applegarth, John Steel, and others were called to confirm the previous witness's statements, but in cross-examination they gave contradictory statements on some material points. John Steel declared that he never knew that complainant was going to charge his brother with being the father of her illegitimate child.—The Magistrates, after a few moments consultation, came to the conclusion that they were unable to convict in this case, and considered the evidence adduced extremely unsatisfactory. They would not allow the defendant's witnesses' expenses, and complainant's costs were remitted.

"SIX OF ONE AND HALF-A-DOZEN OF THE OTHER."

Hannah Martin was placed in the dock, charged with having assaulted Mabel Blair at Blackhill, on May 12th. Mr Welford defended.—Prosecutrix's story was that, between nine and ten in the morning, she had a few angry words with defendant, who seized hold of her by the hair, administered a good shaking, and also tossed a pailful of dirty water over her.—By Mr Welford: She did not strike Mrs Martin first, or throw a tin can at her.—Bridget Rogers detailed similar evidence; while P.C. Smith deposed to seeing the complainant with her dress drenched with water and a mark upon her forehead.—Mr Welford's defence was that the parties had a quarrel about striking a little boy, whereupon they seized each other by the hair of the head. Complainant threw a tin can at Mrs Martin and also struck her, and his client then retaliated in a similar manner.—Lilly Martin, defendant's daughter, having borne out this statement, the Justices dismissed the summons, and called upon each party to bear the costs (amounting to 6s) between them.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

James Burke, labourer, now living in Consett, was summoned under 52 and 53 Vict., chap. 44, and section 5, to show cause why he should not contribute 2s 6d per week towards the maintenance of his daughter, Bridget Burke, aged nine years.—Mr Welford, on behalf of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, explained that in February last Burke was convicted by the Chester-le-Street magistrates for neglect of and cruelty to his daughter, and was sentenced to three months' hard labour. The Bench at the same time made an order appointing Susannah Calligham, an elder sister, living in Pit Street, Consett, as the guardian of the child. Burke had now come out of prison, and had commenced to work as a labourer at the Consett Iron Works, and they accordingly sought an order for him to contribute 2s 6d weekly towards the support of his girl.—Susannah Galligham produced the magisterial order delivering the child into her custody. She was accompanied by the girl herself, who appeared to be a bright healthy-looking child, very decently dressed, and evidently well cared for.—The Magistrates said they would like some evidence as to the man's earnings; and defendant, on being appealed to, stated that he would much rather have his daughter back again.—The Chairman: The child has already been taken out of your control. Are you willing to pay 2s 6d a week towards the maintenance of your daughter?—Burke: I'll try to do so.—The Chairman: Very well. We will make an order for you to pay 2s 6d weekly towards the support of your daughter till she attains the age of 16 years. Mind you keep up your contributions, or you may get yourself into trouble.—Defendant was also mulcted in 14s 6d costs; but was allowed 14 days to pay in.

ASSAULT ON A BOY.

Margaret Simpson, a single person, was charged with committing an assault upon George Jewitt, a boy, at Allendale Cottages, on April 27th. Mr Welford conducted the defence.—It appears that the lad was "carrying on" with a little girl in front of the Co-operative Stores, when defendant interfered. Complainant began to call her filthy and offensive names, and threw a stone at Miss Simpson, the missile fortunately missing her, and hitting the wall. Defendant, however, picked up the same stone, and flung it back again, the lad being struck on the side of the head, the place being indicated by a piece of sticking-plaister. Jewitt was bedfast for some days, and had to be attended by a doctor.—The defence was that the boy was the aggressor, and provoked defendant by stigmatising her as an immoral character.—The Justices told Miss Simpson that she ought not to take the law into her own hands. She might have killed the lad when the stone alighted on his head. She would be fined 10s and 20s costs.

COMPROMISED.

John Jenkins was charged with assaulting Thomas Jenkins, at Consett, on May 16th. There was no appearance, and the summons was dismissed, complainant having to bear the costs.

SECOND COURT.

Before Col. LEADBITTER-SMITH and W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Thomas Charlton and *Charles Davidson*, miners, were summoned for causing wilful damage to grass to the extent of 1d each, by trespassing on land belonging to David Kirkup, of Upper Lintz, on May 10th. —David Kirkup and Ralph Wilson proved the damage.—Defendants, who averred that they were on the footpath, were found guilty, and Charlton was fined 2s 6d, the damage, and costs; while Davidson was mulcted in a penalty of 1s, and ordered to pay the damage and costs.

Edward Charlton and *George Robinson*, boys, were charged with damaging grass land to the extent of 1d each, belong to Mr Kirkup, on the 10th inst.—Defendants pleaded not guilty.—Prosecutor stated that between five and six o'clock on the day named he observed six or eight boys up an ash tree on his land. When the lads saw him they ran away, and kept pelting him with stones in order that he might not identify them. He was sure that defendants were two of the boys.—Mrs Charlton stated that at the time specified she had her family out for a walk, and her boy could not possibly be present.—Sergt. Thornton spoke to seeing Charlton with his mother after six o'clock.—Defendants were fined 6d, and ordered to pay 1d damage and costs.

BREACH OF THE MINES REGULATION ACT.

Game Parkes, William Dodds, and *George Armstrong*, putters, were summoned by the owners of Hamsterly Colliery for a breach of the Mines Regulation Act, in bringing tubs out on to the engine-plane for the purpose of riding on the same.—The offences, which was committed on the 7th and 8th inst, were proved by Ralph Fenwick, overman.—Defendants were fined 5s each and costs.

A "PROFESSIONAL MOUCHER."

John Clarke, a tramp, was brought up and charged by Sergt. Tones with begging in Delves Lane, Consett, on Saturday afternoon.—The officer stated that defendant had in his possession packets of sugar, tea, &c. He considered him to be a "professional moucher."—Defendant was committed to goal for 14 days' with hard labour.—A warrant was also issued against the scoundrel for having committed a misdemeanour on a little girl near Consett.

DRUNKENNESS.

Joseph McNamee at Consett, on Saturday, 5s; *Jas. Conway* at Consett, on Saturday morning, 5s; *Geo. Brown* at Consett, on Saturday night, 5s.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Patrick McCannell, labourer, of Consett, was accused of assaulting P.C. Dixon, on Saturday night, whilst in the execution of his duty in Medomsley Road.—The officer deposed that whilst assisting to take a man into custody defendant came up and struck him a blow in the face.—P.C. Humphrey also gave corroborative testimony.—Defendant said he knew nothing about the offence, and was fined 20s and costs.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held at the Board-room, Workhouse, Chester-le-Street, on Thursday week. Mr Geo. Ridley presided, and the other members present were:—Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J.P. (*ex-officio*), John Hodgson, John Crawford, J. Chrystal, P. Oswald, B. G. Smith, Geo. Swinburne, J. Witherspoon, G. Pickering, J. C. Potts, Wm. C. Blackett, R. Wilson, J. M. Snowdon, J. Mitchell, T. Langton, J. Humble, J. T. Anderson, R. B. Clarke, J. Cook, R. J. Coxon, W. Gascoigne, and the clerk (Mr W. Dickinson).

THE LATE MRS LINDSAY WOOD.

Mr PICKERING said that not only the Board, but the whole district had suffered a great loss by the death of Mrs Lindsay Wood, of The Hermitage, Chester-le-Street. She had been a true friend to the poor in the Workhouse, and had done what almost no other lady in the district had done. In these circumstances it would be very remiss if they did not notice her demise. He moved that a vote of condolence be conveyed to Mr Lindsay Wood for the loss of his wife.

The CHAIRMAN deeply regretted that they had this mournful duty to perform. Mrs Wood had, by her many acts of kindness and benevolence, endeared herself to the poor both in and out of the House.

The motion was unanimously carried.

RELIEF.

Messrs J. Armstrong and J. McKay, relieving officers, reported that in the Chester-le-Street district £56 8s 3d was paid in out-door relief, and that £59 17s 1d had been paid as out-door relief in the Harraton district.

THE WORKHOUSE MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The Workhouse Master (Mr A. Aikman) reported that there were 105 inmates in the Workhouse at present, against 98 at the corresponding time last year; 75 vagrants had been relieved during the fortnight, against 60 for the corresponding period of last year, showing an increase of 15.

FIRE-GUARDS FOR THE WORKHOUSE.

On the motion of Mr SMITH, the Guardians agreed to purchase eight or nine fire-guards for the Workhouse hose.

VISITING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Workhouse Visiting Committee recommended the adoption of suggestion made by Inspector Knollys in his report for a number of alterations to the premises.

The suggestions which the committee recommended be adopted were agreed to, except that relating to the purchase of two ladders, as a means of escape in case of fire. The Board agreed that one ladder and a canvas shoot should be bought instead.

Mr WITHERSPOON thought the Board should have a parachute. (Laughter).

THE LATE RELIEVING OFFICER.

The Clerk said he wished to know whether he should pay to Mr Turnbull, the late relieving officer, the balance of his salary, amounting to £17 8s 4d.

Mr OSWALD asked if there was any set off against that?

The Clerk said they wanted £21 odd from him.

Mr HUMBLE: Then there's nothing due from this Board to Mr Turnbull. I should say the money be not given.

The CHAIRMAN: We want £21 17s 3d from him, and he wants £17 18s 4d from us.

Mr HUMBLE thought the best thing would be for Mr Turnbull to give them a cheque for £3 18s 11d, which would square the thing.

The matter was left in the hands of the clerk and Mr Armstrong, relieving officer for Chester-le-Street.

THE UNION IN A GOOD POSITION.

The CHAIRMAN said Inspector Knolly's report of the four northern counties showed that the Chester-le-Street Union occupied a very fair position. They were neither the lowest nor the highest. They were the fourth lowest in the county for the number of in-door and out-door paupers, and the percentage of pauperism on the population was two per cent. The ratio of out-door relief to that of the in-door relief was seven to one.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Mr George Ridley presided.

STREET WATERING.

Mr MITCHELL drew the attention of the Authority to the watering of the Front Street, Chester-le-Street. They had not got leave from Mr Crozier to water the street, and he thought that if they applied to Mr Crozier, they would both get leave and some assistance.

The matter was left to the Chester-le-Street committee.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr Duncan, Medical Officer of Health, reported that during the last fortnight there had been 40 deaths in the district, and 84 births, giving a death-rate of 20·5, and a birth-rate of 43·25 per thousand. He had received 13 notifications of infectious diseases, which comprised 11 of scarlet fever, 1 typhoid fever, and 1 erysipelas.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector was received and read; and the remainder of the business was of a routine character.

"HOW TO BEHAVE," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

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.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, kidney diseases, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper.

The most wholesome and nutritious of confection 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.

"HOW TO DEBATE."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of fourpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson' bookseller, 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett.

MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour. It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, removing dandruff, rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female, young and old. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. 875

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

THE THEATRE AND THE DRAMA.—Although there are indications that the controversy herein is not yet closed and that there are more letters on the subject to appear, there can be no harm in my briefly treating here on the more important points urged by those correspondents whose letters have so far been inserted. I cannot pretend to review all the points urged by the various writers, however, as that would occupy more space than I have at my disposal. Nor shall I enter at any length upon those which, having a favourable bearing towards the stage, are, of course in harmony with my own views.

"Stephen George" is one who is evidently in full sympathy with the theatre and the stage and all that appertains to them. He is a believer in the drama as an element not only of recreation but also as a valuable medium of instruction. Further, touching upon the idea prevailing in some quarters that plays may be read with as much interest and profit by the fire-side as when presented on the stage, he holds, and I think rightly, that this is a fallacy for the most part. In this connection it may not be out of place to give an extract bearing on the point from a speech delivered in 1881, by Mr Henry Irving when in Edinboro', the guest of the members of the Philosophical Institution of that city:—"To boast of being able to appreciate Shakespeare more in reading him than in seeing him acted used to be a common method of affecting special intellectuality. But the pitiful delusion has mostly died out. It conferred a cheap badge of superiority on those who entertained it. It seemed to each of them an inexpensive opportunity of worshipping himself on a pedestal," and so on, and soon. "Stephen George" concludes by wondering who could possibly learn nothing by witnessing such plays as "The silver king," and "Lights o' London"—two dramas out of scores he might have mentioned. Who indeed? There is only one trifling mistake this correspondent makes and that is his statement that the enacting of plays within a building constitutes that building a theatre. I feel sure a moment's reflection will convince him of his error.

"Stranger," although not materially helping the discussion, has a warm and healthy side for the stage. I thank him for the way in which he supports my action in having whipped up the members of the Y.M.C.A.

"JOHN TOPHAM" is of opinion that the drama is immoral in tendency, but he does not attempt to support his contentions in any way unless he considers that he does this by putting a dozen questions or so before readers. It is needless to say that this does not denote any great strength, and that it is scarcely a convincing form of argument. When we ask questions we are generally seeking information not imparting it.

"R. W. H." a Sunderland correspondent, very rightly holds the subject to be so large a one as not to be readily settled either by debate or newspaper controversy. If any reader supposes this possible he should at once abandon the thought. It was with no such expectation that the subject was opened up in this column. The original idea was to just get an expression of opinion from those members of the Y.M.C.A. who took part in the recent debate. That the field has so widened only shows the amount of interest felt even in isolated centres such as our own in the subject and, testifies to the popularity of the stage in every quarter. "R. W. H." like a previous correspondent is fully persuaded of the educational influence of the drama and puts his points—capital as they are, admirably. He scouts the stupid idea held now and then that actors and actresses are of necessity more wicked and abandaned than anybody else in the world. Such a charge is as absurd as it is shameful. The good or ill effects on the mind of the spectator "R. W. H." contends, depends upon that spectator's intelligence. There was never anything more true than that. Concluding, he asks readers to look only for what is good and wholesome in the drama as in everything else. Don't let us be continually fretting to discover faults and flaws, but welcome with open arms the good and healthy.

I am here reminded again of Mr Henry Irving. He says:—"As to the fear of moral contamination, if there is moral contamination from what is performed on the stage, so there is from books, so there may be at lawn tennis, clubs, and at dances. But do we therefore bury ourselves? The theatre as a whole is never below the average moral sense of the time, and this is truer now than ever it was before." "Member Y.M.C.A." is really funnier than he gives himself credit for. I am quite prepared to think that when he says, I am made to say "All plays are written in the language of the sewer." I said no such thing. I said they were *told*, &c. I am quite prepared to think, I say, that when he wrote this he was altogether unconscious of the humour of it. Shakespeare somewhere urges one to "assume a virtue if you have it not," and here is "Member Y.M.C.A." full of unconscious humour of a high order—possessed of an inestimable virtue without the least assumption in the world. In one breath he tells us I have misrepresented what he said in a previous letter, and the next moment virtually admits the correctness of my quotation, and then imagines, or pretends to imagine, he has contradicted me! This is indeed clever, and worthy of a better cause. Let us proceed. This "Member" may rest assured that whenever the drama is attacked there will always be "praters" to defend it. He has, he tells us, sought deep down into the hearts of men—theatre-goers—to find the good the stage has wrought upon them, but has seen nothing but the sewerage (?) floating, as he expresses it, on the top of the current —a long, long way under. But why need he have troubled to go so far down as all that? The good could have been seen in their faces—happy, bright, and smiling, in their conversation in their knowledge of human nature, in their broad views and hatred of all narrowness and cant, in their love of fair-play and their fellow-creatures generally. Hazlitt once said: —"Play-goers are among the most sociable, gossipping, good-natured, and humane members of society," and experience proves the truth of that opinion.

As I have to treat with another correspondent's letter, I cannot, much as I would like, do more than point out one other funny idea of "Member Y.M.C.A." Imaginative himself, he looks upon me, evidently, as equally so. He goes on:—"Old Crow" says he receives pleasure, enjoyment, and recreation in the play, but might not imagination be lending its powerful aid to an expression of his feelings?" This is a somewhat large order, eh? But then, this correspondent is a young lad. I thought so when I read his first letter. I had hoped so all along. He now candidly admits it, and there is no longer room for doubt. He must be congratulated on writing a good letter. On a subject more congenial to him, and one he is inclined to handle in a broader light, he will be more successful than he has proved himself in this instance, for it must be admitted that he has betrayed only a superficial knowledge of the theatre and stage, although using plenty of argument of a kind that may appeal to many readers as strong without in reality being so.

The letter of "Hamlet" is, to my thinking, the most powerful of all, and I cannot, I regret, devote to it the consideration it deserves. For the most part we are agreed. "Hamlet" admits the drama as educative as well as recreative. He goes further, and I go every step with him in his opinion, that the drama is the best portion of our literature. We only part on the threshold of theatrical associations; but I really don't think we are very greatly divided in opinion even there. I feel bound to take exception to the argument adduced from the fact—if it always were a fact—of theatres being in close proximity to immoral houses. Sometimes this is the case, but I am strongly of the opinion that it is due more to chance than set purpose. Let that, however, be as it may, I have the strongest belief that the average play-goer does not support such houses. At most theatres of consequence, there are bars attached to the various parts of the house, as "Hamlet" sets forth. There will be, of course, instances in which these are more frequented than in others, but they are not doing one-fiftieth part of the mischief—even where so-called good business prevails—as the private clubs and other houses in the towns. I can say with confidence, from long experience, that 75 per cent. of theatre-goers do not patronise theatre bars. As to harlots plying their trade in front of theatre doors—*if* they pursued their business in no other localities, there would be something in the point; but I would like to know what place is sacred to them, and where is it that these poor women do *not* wander?

Macready was a great actor indeed, if all accounts be true. I do not, however, admire him any the more, and I am sure "Hamlet" does not either, because in his old age, when his faculties were impaired, and he was no longer able to hold his own, he turned round and flouted that profession by which he had lived, and by means of which his fame had been heralded all over the world. "Hamlet" has doubtless read Schlegel. If not, I strongly advise him to do so. He is probably the greatest authority on the theatre and the drama who ever wrote on the subject. I conclude with an extract from his "History of the Stage":— "The theatre, where many arts are combined to produce a magical effect, where the most lofty and profound poetry has for its interpreter the most finished action, which is at once eloquence and an animated picture; while architecture contributes her splendid decorations, and painting her perspective illusions, and the aid of music is called in to attune the mind, or to brighten by its strains the emotions which already agitate it; the theatre, in short, where the whole of the social and artistic enlightenment which a nation possesses, the fruit of many centuries of continued exertion are brought into play within the representation of a few short hours, has an extraordinary charm for every age, sex, and rank, and has ever been the favourite amusement of every cultivated people."

FATAL FALL DOWNSTAIRS AT CONSETT.

On Tuesday night, Margaret O'Neil, an elderly woman, between 60 and 70 years old, and residing in Harvey Street, Consett, died from the effects of injuries sustained by falling downstairs on Friday night last. The deceased was a single woman, and kept lodgers. About 9·30 p.m., on the 22nd May, a neighbour named Elizabeth Whitfield heard a noise of a fall, and on going into the house found the old woman lying at the bottom of the stairs, which are very steep, resembling half-steps and half-ladder. Mrs Whitfield obtained assistance, and had her carried to the fireside. Dr Shannon was sent for, and discovered that she was insensible. Mrs O'Neil never regained consciousness, and expired as before mentioned. The only person in the house beside herself was an old man, who was lying helplessly in bed, and has since been taken to the Lanchester Workhouse.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr Murray had forward 4 fat cattle, which sold up to £16 7s 6d; 4 fat lambs, to 41s; 48 fat sheep, to 49s 6d; grey-faced hoggs, to 28s; Cheviot ewes and lambs, 27s 6d per couple; calves, 10s 6d to 63s 6d; 32 pigs, 10s to 42s. Traps, harness, and other miscellaneous lots were also disposed of at fair prices. A good company was present, and fair prices were made, sheep being exceptionally high.

TOW LAW.—On Monday, Mr Jas. Vickers had forward 42 diary cows and heifers, 18 fat cattle, 9 store cattle, 5 calves, 51 fat sheep and hoggs, 12 fat lambs, 53 mule and blackfaced ewes and followers. Calved cows made up to £19; cows to calve, to £20; fat cattle, to £21; store cattle, to £11; calves, to 35s; fat hoggs, to 55s—top lots, Mr F. Sanderson, Littlewhite, Brancepeth, and Messrs Bell & Sons, Croxdale; fat lambs, to 39s—top, Mr Elliott, Westgate; mule ewes and followers, to 67s; blackfaced ewes and followers by Leicester tup, to 32s. Next special sale for horses, store cattle, and sheep, Monday next.

SALE OF SLALEY GRASS FARMS.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr Thos. Blandford offered for sale by public competition freehold farms and parcels of land, situate in the parish of Slaley, at the White Hart Hotel, Hexham. There was a large attendance. Lot 1—Slaley Town Foot Farm, with farmhouse, &c., and 143a. 1r. 6p. of land, there was only one bid—namely, £1,500, from Mr Little, Harwoodshield, and it was withdrawn. The farmhouse with 88a. 1r. 9p. of land was offered, and elicited some quick bidding. Mr J. Errington, Dukesfield, offered, £1,200, and Mr W. Rowell, Slaley Town Foot, joined the bidding which rose to £1,720, when the property was withdrawn. Lot 2—Two closes of grass land at Slaley, containing over 14 acres, called forth spirited bidding between Mr Rowell and Mr R. Ridley, butcher, Slaley, the last-named being declared the purchaser at £630. Lot 3—Two cottages and garden, was set agoing by Mr Ridley at £20, and rose to £55 when they were withdrawn. Lot 4—A close of grass land at Slaley, containing 6a. 1r. 31p., was started at £50 by Mr J. Smith, Haydon Bridge, and was joined by the tenant—Mr R. Bell—and Mr H. Havelock, Hexham, until the sum of £110 was reached, when the lot was withdrawn. Lot 5—The Pry Farm, with homesteading and 38 acres called forth only one bid of £800, and the lot was withdrawn. For the sixth lot, a dwelling-house, known as Sandy Braes, was offered. Mr Smith began the bidding at £50; Mr Potts, North Shields, offered £60 and afterwards £70, when this lot was also withdrawn.

PRESENTATION TO CANON CHESTER, OF RYTON.

On Tuesday evening, a goodly number of the parishioners of Ryton gathered in the Thorpe School to make a presentation to Canon and Mrs Chester, before the time of their leaving the place to take up fresh work at Easington. Mr H. C. Harvey, Fern Dene, took the chair, and was supported on the platform by Mr and Mrs Wm. Lamb, Ryton Hall.—The Chairman referred briefly and kindly to the good work of Canon and Mrs Chester in the parish during the last eight years, and then called on Mr Lamb to make the presentation.—In the course of his remarks, Mr Lamb enumerated the great outward improvements effected in the parish during the canon's residence in it, the exquisite interior restoration of the church, the completion of a colliery church at Hedgefield, and the collection of funds for a parish room, shortly to be built. He then handed over to Canon Chester on behalf of the parishioners, a richly ornamented silver salver and waiter.—Mrs W. Lamb gracefully made the presentation to Mrs Chester. This consisted of two of Mr Ruskin's works, "Modern Painters" and "Stones of Venice," comprised in ten volumes, richly bound and illustrated.—Canon Chester rose to give thanks. He said, with much feeling, how impossible it was to express himself adequately to the donors of the gifts. He wanted no such gifts to assure him of the kindness of his parishioners towards him; but he did thank them from his heart for them, and as long as he lived he would value them as an expression of the kind feelings of his flock at Ryton towards him. He could not speak at any length of the reasons which actuated him in accepting the kind offer made to him by the Bishop of the Diocese of a less onerous charge, beyond saying that the chief reason was his health. No one, he continued, could find fault with his work amongst them more easily than he could. As he looked back upon the eight years he had spent at Ryton, he could see many errors, many failings in his duty, many omissions, and but for the thought that his Master was merciful, he would be a very wretched man that night. He asked them to extend a warm welcome to his successor, Canon Baily, when he came amongst them. He thanked them also on behalf of Mrs Chester, for their kind thought of her. She had been a true helper to him, and but for her encouragement and co-operation, he would have far more to lament that night. Canon Chester concluded by asking for their prayers, and assuring his Ryton parishioners of his continued remembrance of them.—Votes of thanks were then accorded.

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No Back Subscriptions to pay.
No Fines when ill or unemployed.
Solicitors' and Surveyors' charges fixed and moderate.
Appropriations can be transferred for sixpence.
Prompt payment of withdrawls at any time after 12 months' membership.
Appropriations twice as quick as in our sixpence per share societies.
The Society is prepared to purchase Appropriations at a fixed premium at any time. A Member can thus retire with a handsome profit immediately the shares are ballotted.
On the death of a Member, Subscriptions returned in full within two months.
A uniform rate of £1 per cent. per annum charged as interest on Appropriated Shares.
Advances, prior to being ballotted, at 5 per cent. on yearly balances, or on same terms as private mortgage.
Every facility will be given for acquiring property at the least possible cost, and no effort will be spared to make the Paragon Building Society even more successful than our popular Starr-Bowketts.
Early application for shares should be made, as the membership is limited to 500 books.
Not more than five shares can be held in one book.
SECRETARY: MR GEORGE SHIMMIN.
SOLICITOR: MR J. F. WEATHERLEY, 32, Fawcett Street, Sunderland. 83e

Public Notices.

NOTE.—The Annual BAND FESTIVAL of the Annfield Plain Y.M.C.A. will be held on Saturday, August 1st. 574

LOOK OUT for the TOW LAW CATHOLIC SPORTS to be held on July 18th, 1891, when upwards of £20 will be given in Prizes. See Bills.

STANLEY Circuit Primitive Methodist DEMONSTRATION will be held on July 18th, 1891. See Bills. 804e

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY SPORTS will be held on June 6th. £7 10s for 110 Yds. Handicap, ½ Mile Handicap, One Mile Safety Bicycle Handicap, and other Sports. See Bills.
735e H. KIRK, Secretary, Dipton.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!! We, the Members of Hamsterley Colliery Lodge, D.M.A., intend holding our Annual GALA and SPORTS on June 6th, 1891, when £6 will be given for 120 Yards Handicap. Entrance fee, 1s. Entries to be made or sent in on or before June 1st, to JOHN BRIGGS, 96, Hamsterley Colliery, Ebchester, Hon. Sec. See Bills. 722e

BURNHOPE COLLIERY READING ROOM SPORTS, TEA, BALL, &c., will be held on Saturday, June 6th. £30 in Prizes, including £5 120 Yds. Handicap Footrace, 1s entrance; no exceptance, close June 2nd. Eleven Travelling Bags, 1st Prize, for Football, close June 2nd. Entrance 1s each Club.
705e GEO LAWSON, Secretary.

STOBART'S SALVES may be had at North-Eastern Hotel, Hexham; White Horse Inn, Groat Market, Newcastle; Wheat Sheaf Inn, Bigg Market, Newcastle; William Robinson's, Grocer and Draper, Medomsley; Railway Hotel, Consett; George Murray, Grocer and Druggist, Dipton; or by application to the Maker, GEO. R. STOBART, Broomhill, Medomsley, R.S.O. 606e

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.
THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday, May 30th, at 5 o'clock p.m.
All Conservatives are invited to attend.
The Annual Meeting will be followed by a SMOKING CONCERT, particulars of which will be given in future announcements.
JOHN G. MURRAY, Unionist Agent, Consett.

SPEN SPORTS.
£50 IN PRIZES, on Saturday, June 13th. A large Programme. £12 10s for 120 Yds. Handicap (open); entrance 1s each, close June 6th. 80 Yds. Handicap; Quarter Mile Handicap (open); 200 Yds. Hurdle Handicap (open); £4 10s for Quoit Handicap. CYCLISTS.—A Splendid Bugle will be given to the Club that forms the most attendants.—For further particulars apply to ED. STOKER, Secretary. See Bills. 684e

NOTICE.
THE First Shotley Bridge and District 370th Starr-Bowkett Building Society will hold an APPROPRIATION MEETING, on Monday, 15th June, 1891. All clear on the 9th June, will participate.—By order,
D. ORMEROD, Chairman.
790e J. GIBBINSON, Secretary.

For Plumbers' Work, Gas-Fitting, and Globes of every description, and very Best quality, go to
RALPH RITSON,
PLUMBER AND GAS-FITTER,
1, AYNSLEY TERRACE, MOUNT PLEASANT CONSETT.
Orders promptly attended to. Estimates given.
ZINC BLINDS MADE TO ORDER. 865e

WATERHOUSES and ESH (Co. Durham) SHOW, on Saturday, August 8th, 1891.
£250 in PRIZES for Flowers, Fruits, Vegetables, Home Industries, Goats, Dogs, Poultry, Rabbits, Cavies, Pigeons, Horse Leaping, and Driving.
One Hundred Classes for Live Stock.
A Grand MILITARY TOURNAMENT and ASSAULT-AT-ARMS by the Royal Artillery.
A Magnificent Display of FIREWORKS.
Send Post Card for Schedule to
774e J. G. CROFTON, President.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
HALF-DAY EXCURSION TO NEWCASTLE AND TYNEMOUTH.
ON WEDNESDAY, the 3rd of June, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Consett and Blackhill, at 2·30 p.m. (with Bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, and Lintz Green), for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH.
See Bills. 764e

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.
SOLE LESSEE & MANAGER - - R. J. BRODIE
ACTING MANAGER - - - Mr R. BROWN.
MONDAY, June 1st, and during the Week, Special Engagement of Will Elliott's Grand Combination of VARIETY ARTISTES from the New Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THOMAS RICHARD DOLPHIN, DECEASED.
ALL PERSONS having any Claims against the Estate of THOMAS RICHARD DOLPHIN, late of Dyke Nook Farm, near Consett, in the County of Durham, Farmer, Deceased, are requested to send particulars of the same to me, on or before the 27th day of June next.
Dated this 28th day of May, 1891.
THOMAS WM. WELFORD, JUN., Consett,
802e Solicitor for the Executor.

ACCIDENTS AT ALL TIMES—IN ALL PLACES,
INSURED AGAINST BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
ESTABLISHED, 1849.
HON. EVELYN ASHLEY - - - Chairman.
CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
COMPENSATION PAID, £2,900,000.
Head Office:—64, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C
W. D. MASSY, A. VIAN, } Secretaries.
Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

MUSICAL TUITION.
JANE ANNIE HEWITSON (Pupil of Miss Sloane), having obtained First-class Honours also Certificates in Pianoforte Playing, and Theory, at the Examination held before Dr E. M. Lott, in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS in Pianoforte Playing, Harmonium, and also in Theory.
☞ Terms on Application.
ADDRESS: 25, CORT STREET, BLACKHILL.

SPORTS! SPORTS!!
REVIVAL OF THE BROOMS SPORTS.
THESE SPORTS will be held in the Field attached to the Brooms School, on Saturday, June 20th, 1891, when between £20 and £30 will be given in Prizes. £10 for 120 Yds. Foot Handicap. See further advertisement. Secretary for Stands, Mr J. R. KINLESIDE, Post Office, Leadgate; Corresponding Secretary, JOHN COSTELLO, Leadgate. 635e

DURHAM AUDIT DISTRICT.
LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.
I, THE undersigned, hereby Give Notice that the AUDIT of the Accounts for the year ended the 25th day of March last, of the Highway Board of the Lanchester Highway District and of the Officers thereof, and of the Accounts for, the year ended the 30th day of April last of such Waywardens of Highway Parishes within the said District as are liable to account, will commence at the Board Room of the Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union, on Tuesday, the 16th day of June, 1891, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.
Dated the 23rd day of May, 1891.
(Signed), CHAS. F. JORDISON,
Assistant District Auditor of the Durham Audit District.
772e

DURHAM AUDIT DISTRICT.
LANCHESTER UNION.
I, THE undersigned, hereby Give Notice, that the AUDIT of the Accounts of the said Lanchester Union, and of the Rural Sanitary District in the said Union and of the several Parishes and Contributory Places contained in the said Union and District, or in the said Union solely, for the Half-year ended Lady-day last, will commence at the Board Room of the Guardians of the Poor of the said Union at Lanchester, on Wednesday, the Seventeenth day of June, 1891, at Two o'clock in the Afternoon.
Dated the 23rd day of May, 1891.
(Signed) CHAS. F. JORDISON,
Assistant District Auditor of the Durham Audit District.
773e

Public Notices.

BICYCLES from all the Leading Makers, £7 to £25. A Stock kept on hand, including the Ivel, Singer, New Rapid, Rival, Premier, Swift, Brooks, Scarborough, and others. Large discount to Cash Customers. Easy payments.
415e G. HUNTER, Medomsley.

NOTICE. — ALL PARTIES applying for Ground for SHOWS, SWINGS, or any other sort of Amusement in Thomas Street and William Street, Consett, must apply to JAMES FROSDICK, Bill Poster, and not to Michael McNally, 733e

MR. WALTER MURPHY has come to Consett once more (on the Co-operative Store Ground), with the Finest Switchback Railway in England. The only man with a Switchback Railway that ever gave a Benefit in Consett. For a few days only. 767e

LOOK OUT for HOBSON SPORTS, Saturday, June 13th. £10 10s for 120 Yds. Handicap Footrace; £2 5s for ½ Mile Handicap. Entries close on Tuesday, June 9th, to R. J. PATTERSON, Hobson Colliery, Lintz Green. Entries for 120 Yards, 1s; ½-Mile, 6d. Entries to be prepaid. 765e

STANLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

ON Saturday, June 6th, a PUBLIC TEA will be provided, after which, the Rev. J. FERGUSON, D.D., of Leeds, will deliver a LECTURE. On Sunday, June 7th, SERMONS—Morning, Afternoon, and Evening—by Rev. J. FERGUSON, D.D.

THE SUNDERLAND WORKING MEN'S BUILDING SOCIETY.
INVESTMENTS RECEIVED AT £4 PER CENT. INTEREST PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY.

ORDINARY Subscribing Shares issued payable at 2s per Fortnight per Share, or otherwise as arranged.—Mortgages arranged on easy Terms. —For further particulars apply to JOSHUA LAX, Shotley Bridge. 526e

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Council of this Association will be held in the Smaller Hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday, June 6th, at Half-past Three o'clock in the Afternoon, when the Officers for the current year will be elected, and arrangements made for carrying on the usual work of Registration, when all Delegates are urgently requested to attend.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A.,
Secretary and Registration Agent.
Town Hall, Consett, May 28th, 1891. 799e

SUCCESS UPON SUCCESS.
2ND BLACKHILL AND CONSETT 'MODEL' BUILDING SOCIETY.
£24,400 WORTH OF SHARES ALREADY ISSUED.
Office—2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL (Open daily).
SUBSCRIPTION MEETING every THURSDAY at the Society's Office, from 7·30 to 8·30 o'clock.
Shares, £100. Subscriptions only 6d. per Week per Share.
Monthly Repayments 10s. per £100 borrowed.
The popularity of the "Model" System is shewn by the fact the 1st Blackhill and Consett "Model" issued the whole of its books representing £64,000 in 9 Months.

FIRST BALLOT will be held at MEDOMSLEY, on Friday, July 3rd, 1891. All Members enrolled on or before Thursday, July 2nd, will Participate.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the CO-OPERATIVE HALL, ANNFIELD PLAIN, on Friday May 29th. See Posters and other Announcements.
Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock.

For prospectuses and other information apply
870e W. RAMSAY, Secretary.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Bedding Out Plants.
MR J. OLEY, instructed by Mr CLARK, will hold his ANNUAL SALE of BEDDING OUT PLANTS, on Saturday, May 30th, at the Late C. Mosley's Gardens, Shotley Bridge.
Particulars and quantities will be given in handbills.
Sale to commence at Three o'clock p.m. 691e

Freehold Property for Sale at Hare Law.
MR JOS. OLEY, instructed by the Owner, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mr J. LUMLEY, Railway Hotel, Annfield Plain, on Monday, June 15th, 1891, at Six o'clock p.m. (subject to conditions read at the time of Sale), all that Valuable FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE and LAND, called Rose Cottage, situate at Hare Law, near Annfield Plain. The Cottage contains Sitting-Room, with Bay Window, Kitchen, Back Kitchen, and Pantry, on the Ground Floor; 2 Bed-rooms on the Upper Flat; with Flower Garden in front of House; Stable, Coach-house, Cow Byre, Piggery, Hen-house, &c.; a large Kitchen Garden, well stocked with Fruit Trees, and a portion of very productive GRASS LAND.
The whole of the Property is enclosed by a good Stone Wall Fence. The House has been re-built within the last 10 years, and stands very pleasant, is let to a good Tenant, who will show the same.
Two Bed-rooms can be added at a very small cost. The Grass Plot is suitable for Building purposes.
Further particulars may be had on application to Mr WM. WILKINSON, the Owner, or to the AUCTIONEER, 16, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge.

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

By Mr. John Lowes.

NOTICE.
STANLEY AUCTION MART will RE-OPEN SHORTLY.
JOHN LOWES, Auctioneer.

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

Hare Law, near Annfield Plain.—Sale of Farm Stock, Horses, Harness, Implements, &c.
MR G. R. HOBSON begs to announce that he has been honoured with instructions from Mr JOSEPH HALL, who is declining Farming, after a tenancy by him and his ancestors of over a century, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Wednesday, the 10th June, 1891, the whole of his HORSES, STOCK, and IMPLEMENTS, &c., as follows.—

HORSES:
1 Brown Mare, 8 years old, about 15·2 h.h.
1 Bay Horse, 8 years old, about 15·2 h.h.
1 Roaned Cob, 5 years old, 14 h.h.
All quiet, good workers in all yokes.

CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS.
2 Farrow Cows, forward in condition.
1 Roaned Cow, newly-calved.
1 " Cow, due to calf, July 17th.
1 " Heifer, newly-calved.
1 " Cow, due to calve, May 30th.
1 " Cow, due to calve, July 25th.
1 " Heifer, due to calve, Aug. 20th.
1 " Bull, 2 years old.
6 Store Cattle.
2 Finger Calves.
5 Ewes and 5 Lambs.
2 Sows, in Pig.
1 Sow, about 20 stones.

IMPLEMENTS, CARTS, HARNESS, &c.
Grass Cutter, by Hornsby; Corn Cutter, by Wood; Hay Rakes, by Nicholson, no worse than new, Winnowing Machine, Chaff Cutter, Turnip Slicer, Albion Root Cutter, Double Turnip Drill, Iron Hay Rake, Small Iron Grubber, 2 Pair Harrows, First-class Water Barrel, 1 Ribbing Plough, 1 Swing Plough, Good Wood Roller, Long Cart, Coup Cart, 1 Clod Crusher, Rakes, Forks, Grapes, and Shovels, 1 Set Cart Harness, Cart Saddle, and Breeching, 2 Neck Collars, 3 Head Collars, and a quantity of other Harness and Chains, Good Whitechapel, with Lamps and Cushions complete, Riding Pad, with Stirrups complete, almost new, Strong Spring Cart, in good order, Churn and Dairy Utensils.

POULTRY.
40 Hens.
2 Geese and Goslings.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Catchgate, Lintz Green. 779e

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE, &c.
A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station. AUCTION SALES will be conducted in the best style, and upon most reasonable terms. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., can be bought right out for Cash. 84e

Sales by Auction.

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

Monday, June 8th, 1891.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Superior Household Furniture and Effects, including Handsome Five-foot Walnut Inlaid Chiffonier, with 5 Bevelled Plates, Mahogany Table, Mahogany Couch, in Hair-seating, Leather Couch, 6 Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs, Easy Chair, 2 Smoking Chairs, 2 Brass-Mounted Bedsteads, and Mattresses, 2 Feather Beds, Bolsters and Pillows, Fender and Fire Irons, Wringing Machine, 2 Domestic Sewing Machines, Glass and China Ware, Pots, Pans, and Earthenware, Stock of Superior Tailor's Tweeds for Suits, Superior Iron-framed Pianoforte, Full Trichord, 9 Stop Harmonium, nearly new, and other Effects.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, June 8th, 1891, the Superior Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS.
Sale at Half-past One o'clock exact time.

Thursday, June 4th, 1891. — Sale of Valuable Business and Residential Properties and Shares.
MR ADAM BRODIE is instructed to OFFER FOR SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mrs BROWN, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Thursday, June 4th, 1891, the following Valuable BUSINESS and RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES and SHARES:—
Lot 1.—The Superior and Well-Situate FREEHOLD PREMISES, No. 8, in Front Street, Consett, comprising Large Double-Fronted Shop, with good Dwelling-House attached thereto, containing Six Rooms, with Scullery, Wash-House, Pantry, and all the usual Out Offices, as at present occupied by Mr W. E. Turner as tenant.
Lot 2.—The Commodious and Well-Built Freehold Dwelling-House, situate at the corner of Edith and Parliament Streets, Consett, containing Dining and Breakfast Rooms, Four Bedrooms, Kitchen, Large Wash-House with Boiler, W.C., and other Convenience, as occupied by Mr T. W. Welford, the whole being in excellent repair. Two Rooms can be added, for which Plans have been passed by the Local Board.
Lot 3.—The Well-Built Cottage in Dixon Street, Blackhill, at present occupied by Mr John Errington as tenant.
Lot 4.—The Excellent Dwelling-House of Four Rooms, with the usual Convenience attached, situate in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, in the occupation of Mr B. Bailey.
Lot 5.—Two Cottages of Three Rooms each in Benfieldside Road, with good Gardens in front, and pleasantly situate, over-looking the Derwent Valley.
Lot 6.—The Superior and Substantially-Built Freehold Dwelling-House, situate in Medomsley Road, Consett, containing Seven Rooms, with good Yard, Stable, and the usual Appurtenances, as occupied by Mr C. Routledge.
Lot 7.—Fifty £10 Six Per Cent. Preference Shares in Walker, Parker, and Co., Limited.
The various Properties are in good repair, and are well worthy the attention of Intending Purchasers.
Further Particulars may be had from Mr T. W. WELFORD, Solicitor, Parliament Street, or from the AUCTIONEER, Town Hall, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—A. & R. J. BRODIE Auctioneers and Valuers, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the SALE OF PROPERTY of every description either by PUBLIC AUCTION or otherwise, on reasonable terms. FORTNIGHTLY SALES held every Pay Monday, at the Victoria Sale-Rooms, in which Furniture or other Goods can be included, or if preferred, will be Purchased for Cash. Bailiffs under the Agricultural Holdings Act, and under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.
ACCIDENT ASSURANCE. — Assurance against Accidents of every kind in the following Offices, noted for prompt settlement of claims—Scottish Accident Assurance Company, Imperial Union Accident Assurance Company.

SAFETY and other BICYCLES FOR SALE, by the best Makers, on the Hire-purchase System, or liberal discount for cash. Sole Agents for County of Durham for Harlesden Cycle Company. Also Agent for Bown's, Brookes, and Raleigh.—Apply to BRODIE's, Town Hall, Consett. Note: A good Cushion-Tyred Safety for £10 10s. 800e

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.
MONDAY, JUNE 1st, 1891.—Special sale of store cattle and sheep (with ordinary sale. Entries comprise 50 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 17 Fat Cattle; 65 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 10 Fat Lambs; 4 Shorthorn Bull Stirks; 25 Farrow Cows; 125 Store Cattle, various ages; 7 Finger Calves; 2 Sows, in pig; 100 Mule and Black-faced Ewes and Followers, and other Keeping Sheep and Hoggs; 20 Grand Blue-Grey Steers, two-years-old; 4 horses, various ages.
Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10·30 a.m., commencing with Horses, Dairy Cows, &c.
All Stock to be penned by 9·30. Ballot drawn for Store Cattle, Saturday Evening, May 30th.
787e J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.
MONDAY, JUNE 1st, 1891.
8 Fat Cattle.
50 Fat Sheep.
8 Prime Fat Lambs.
5 Mule Ewes and 10 Lambs.
4 Calves, Pork, and Store Pigs.
A Number of Calving Cows and Heifers.
Dog Cart, Harness, Poultry, and other lots.
Sale at One o'clock.
797e J. S. MURRAY.

New Town Hall, Consett.—To the Nobility, Gentry, Hotel-keepers, Restaurant Proprietors, and Others. — Important and Unreserved Sale of High-class Silver-plated Goods, Ivory-Handled Table and Dessert Cutlery, of the Old-Established and Eminent Firm of M. H. C. BECKET, of Sheffield and London, in consequence of a Dissolution in Partnership.
JOHN S. MURRAY respectfully gives notice that he has received instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 2nd and 3rd, in the above Hall, one of the finest Stocks of PLATE and CUTLERY of the newest Designs and best workmanship, including many special designs, comprising—
IN ELECTRO PLATE AND CUTLERY,
Almost every Article in Table Appointments connected with the Trade, consisting of Fruit and Flower Stands, Beautiful Sets of Dish Covers, Hot Water Jugs, Entree Dishes, Soup and Sauce Tureens, Tea and Coffee Services, with Hot Water Kettles to Match, Coffee and Wine Salvers, Biscuit Boxes, Invalids' Tea Sets, with Trays to match, Liquor and Wine Stands, Pickle and Cruet Stands, Cake, Fruit, and Bread Baskets, Butter Coolers, with Revolving Covers, Toast Racks, &c.
The Cutlery consists of Finest Ivory-Handled Table and Dessert Knives, Meat and Game Carvers, Steels, &c., to match; also Walnut Cabinets, containing complete Set of Cutlery, Spoons, Forks (in 12 and 18 Pairs); Fish Eating Knives and Forks, with Ivory, Pearl, and Plated Handles; also Mahogany Cases fitted up as above; Dessert Cases, ditto: Handsome Carved Fish Carvers, in Morocco Cases; also a very large stock of Spoons and Forks of the newest designs, and a very great quantity of General Stock.
Good on view Mornings of Sale. Sale at 6·30 o'clock each Evening.
The Auctioneer wishes especially to draw attention to this Sale, as it offers an unusual opportunity to buyers. 796e

THE GRASS LETTING on the Consett Local Board Sewerage Farm will be held on Wednesday, June 10th. Particulars next week.
798e J. S. MURRAY.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mr. John Crawford's Sale-Rooms, 6, 12, and 25, Victoria Street, Consett.
MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL at the above Rooms, on Monday, June 8th, 1891, a lot of Valuable Mahogany and other FURNITURE.
Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.
Anyone disposing of their Furniture can have it sold on reasonable terms at any time.
25, Victoria Street, Consett. 788e

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK, PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. People that are leaving the District can have their Furniture turned into Cash at once by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25 Victoria Street, Consett. 903a

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
Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. In arrears, repayable at Three Months' notice.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Public (Incorporated) Accountant, Secretary

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER,
AGRICULTURAL, VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
Appointed by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

'EASY IS THE HEAD THAT WEARS A CROWN"
SUPPLIED BY
E. BROOKS,
HATTER TO TRADE,
57, GREY, and 59, CLAYTON STREETS, NEWCASTLE.

GLENDENNING'S
BEEF & MALT WINE,
Composed of Liebig's Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract, and old Port Wine. It is therefore a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength.
PRICE: 3s. 9d. PER BOTTLE; 2s. PER HALF-BOTTLE.
Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, Newcastle.
LOCAL AGENTS:—
CONSETT. — RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. T. D. DRYDEN & Co., FRONT STREET. THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST.
WITTON GILBERT.—T. SUDDES, STATION HOTEL.
MEDOMSLEY.—R. M. RUTHERFORD, ROYAL OAK HOTEL.
DIPTON. — ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT.
STANLEY.—WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL.
ANNFIELD PLAIN.—WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL.
BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES, BURTON HOUSE.
TANFIELD.—JOHN URWIN, PACK HORSE INN.

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Cutlery, Gems &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 & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW, 739

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, MAY 29TH, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGNITO."]

A BIG VENTURE.

Never venture, never win, says the adage; but there are ventures and ventures. That is to say that there are epochs in the lives of men when they should cast the die, and there are epochs when they should refrain from running any risks whatever. It is true that it may be somewhat difficult to hit the happy mean; but it must never be forgotten that the ability to discriminate when and how to act with success constitutes the only possible difference between victory and defeat. I am in blissful ignorance of the names of the personages who ran the risk of bringing to an outlying town like Consett a popular hero of the standing of Mr H. M. Stanley. It was in good truth a bold venture, and one, I am afraid, that has not, in this instance, been crowned with success. I had my fears and my doubts on that score when on a recent visit to Consett I was informed that the nett cost of bringing the celebrated traveller to the district amounted to the very respectable sum of £60—a very tidy thing for a solitary evening, seeing that the renowned traveller was in this quarter of the country on business, and very profitable business too. It will be remembered that I referred to the visit of the illustrious traveller a week or two ago under the heading, "On Stanley, on." I thought then what I think to-day, that the charge for admission was exactly double what it should have been. Five shillings for a front seat! Such a charge might have passed current at a popular watering-place, but in a district in which ninety-nine men out of every hundred must strip to the buff and work hard for their bread and cheese, the figure savours of the ridiculous. Mr Stanley lectured on the Tees the same week, and I happened to glean from the posters on the walls that the reserved seats in that district were only half the price charged at Consett, while working men were encouraged to attend by the hundred at 6d a head all round.

LIVINGSTONE AND STANLEY.

Mr Stanley seems to have made but little or no reference in his lecture at Consett to the chief of explorers—the late Dr Livingstone. He was not so reticent when speaking in the Teeside towns. Alexander Pope declared that a little learning was a dangerous thing, and certain it is that a little learning on geographical matters, and on the life and travels of the late Dr Livingstone in particular has recently led men of whom better things might have been expected, to place the saddle on the wrong horse and crown Mr H. M. Stanley as the discoverer of the source of the Congo, whereas, as a matter of fact, that gentleman was never within hundreds of miles of the source of that now famous river. I have felt so keenly on this point that I have written to the leading daily newspapers of the north and given the statement the lie, and not a solitary champion —no not the members of the yclept Newcastle Geographical Society—dare come to the front and say nay. Stanley is a man gifted with an extraordinary amount of native energy; but he is not fit to tie the shoe of David Livingstone. He found Livingstone, but it so happened that Livingstone was not lost. He knew what he was about and where he was. It is true that he had not an army in his train with the customary complement of sappers and miners, physicians and surgeons, and artisans such as Mr H. M. Stanley was favoured with. When Livingstone's wagons broke down he threw off his outer garments, kindled a fire, and played the *role* of blacksmith for the nonce; but on such occasions Mr Stanley played the gentleman. Stanley revelled in all the luxury of modern camp life, which forms a striking contrast to the endless hardships to which Livingstone was subject, spending long years on the Dark Continent without the luxury of a decent bed, or a cup of tea or coffee for either breakfast or supper.

A COMMENDABLE ASSOCIATION.

The members of the Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club are again on the march. I was interested to learn from the last issue of the *Guardian* that they had emerged in a body from their winter quarters, having pitched their tents for the afternoon at Axwell Park. I wish I had been with them—the spirit is willing, nay even longing, but not one Saturday afternoon in twenty is at my pleasurable disposal. All the same, however, I was glad to note that the members of this most excellent association have again emerged from the shades of winter, and gone forth to enrich their minds in field and forest glade. Wordsworth said—and he spoke truly—that nature never did betray the soul that loved her; and I have no doubt whatever that the members of the Vale of Derwent Naturalists Field Club will find it so in their joyful experience. I hope to meet them again, as I have done before, for I journeyed some twenty miles last autumn to meet them, and so enjoyable was the outing that I have since had many a pleasing day-dream of what I saw and heard.

ANOTHER READING ROOM.

The members of the Consett Co-operative Society have floated a reading-room in connection with their Blackhill branch. The idea savours very strongly of the practical, and for that reason the majority of my readers will be disposed to wish the latest venture in local co-operation the measure of success which it deserves. It is the mind that makes the body rich, and it would not be a matter of surprise to me if a few years hence every provision dealer in the country kept a reading-room on his own account. Everything is fair in love and war, and it is just as true that every innovation is permissible in commerce.

TO ADVERTISERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

COMMUNICATIONS should reach us *not later* than Wednesday morning.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The smoking concert of the Consett and District Cycling Club did not take place last (Thursday) night.

The annual meeting of the North-West Durham Conservative Association is fixed to take place in the New Town Hall, Consett, to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon. A smoking concert will follow the meeting.

CHRIST CHURCH CONSETT.—On Sunday evening, a peal of Bob Minor was rung in grand style by the Consett band of ringers. This is the first peal on the eight bells.

At the Consett Police Court on Monday, the the magistrates granted a renewal of the license of the Theatre Royal, Trafalgar Street, Consett, for another 12 months, to the lessee, Mr Robert John Brodie, the sureties being Messrs Michael Rogers and James Kelly.

THE PIG MARKET.—There were 20 carts laden with young pigs about eight weeks old, at the foregoing market on Saturday, held in front of the Freemasons' Arms Hotel. There was a great demand, and the young pigs were disposed of at prices ranging from 18s to 28s each.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—As will be seen on reference to our advertising columns, the annual meeting of the council of this association will be held at half-past three o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday, June 6th, in the smaller hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, and in view of the probability of a General Election on an early date, we strongly recommend our Liberal friends to attend, and make ready for the contest which appears to be impending in the constituency.

BENEFIT CONCERT. — On Monday evening, a benefit concert was given in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, in aid of the widow and family of the late Philip Cassidy, ironworker, Consett, who met with his death so mysteriously in Newcastle, six weeks ago. There was a fair company present, and the proceedings were presided over by Rev J. Foran, Blackhill. A capital programme of music was rendered by the following artistes:—Misses McDonnell, Hagan, Mulholland (Consett), S. Joel (Blackhill), Mr J. McTaggart (Blackhill), and Messrs Turnbull and Stokoe (negro comedians), Consett. Mr Stokoe (silver medalist) accompanied on the piano.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr Wilfred Protherve and his company are here this week producing a new and sensational drama, in four acts, entitled "True to the Last," and are receiving a fair measure of support, notwithstanding other attractions in the place. Next week we are to have a return to variety business, when Mr W. Elliott's comedy company are announced to appear, amongst them being "Una," or the human fly, Messrs Dudley and Gale, character comedians, Miss Cissie Moxon, who was such a success as "Sally" in the pantomime "Robinso Crusoe," Rushton, the demon jumper, &c., altogether a most powerful array of talent.

WESLEYAN SOCIETY.—On Tuesday evening, a meeting of the members was held in Nelson Street school-room, Consett, in furtherance of the bazaar to be held in aid of the funds of the new chapel building scheme. There was a good audience—Rev J. H. Taylor, superintendant minister, presiding.—It was unanimously agreed to hold the bazaar on Wednesday, Sept. 16th, and following days, in the New Town Hall.—It was agreed that decorations should be procured.—Several other matters were relegated to various committees to carry out, in order that the arrangements in connection with the bazaar, might be as satisfactory as possible. It is to be hoped that the efforts of the members of this Society on this occasion will be successful, because a great deal depends upon the enthusiasm and spirit that is thrown into the scheme at its commencement. The money proposed to be expended upon this great building scheme, will not be raised by one effort, nor yet by two; and it is to be hoped the members will avail themselves of the opportunity, and go in for having the greatest portion of the sum raised before the foundation-stones of the new buildings are laid.

VISIT OF JOHN SANGER'S CIRCUS.—On Wednesday, the well-known circus of Messrs John Sanger and Sons paid a visit to Consett. At noon, they had a monstre procession through the streets, and performances were given afternoon and evening in a large marquee in a field behind the house of Mr Edwd. Wylam, Freemason's Arms Hotel, Front Street. The attendances on each occasion were very large. The show of horses and ponies was decidedly good. The various tournaments were also much admired. The novel race, in which tiny ponies and monkey jockeys took part, caused a great deal of fun. The performances of the twin ponies—"Milk" and "Cream"—excited a good deal of applause, while the ludicrous actions of the clown elephant, "Piccaninny," fairly brought down the house. The other items worthy of mention are the splendid herd of elephants, the performing lions, the equestrian bear and monkey, the double jockeys, the exercises on the horizontal bars, Prof. Hoffman's thoroughbred horses, the performances on the invisible wire, and the daring actions of the winged marvels—Florence, Louis, and Elba. Excellent music was discoursed by a band under the leadership of Mr V. C. White. The clown's department was very well represented, and some of the droll sayings were hugely appreciated by the vast audiences. The whole show was well worthy of a visit.

STANLEY NEW WESLEYAN CHURCH OPENING SERVICES, Sunday, May 31st Rev W. OLDFIELD, of Newcastle, at 10·30 and 6.

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LANCHESTER.

PRESENTATION TO A POLICEMAN.—On Tuesday, P.C. Dryden was the recipient of a gold pendant, subscribed for by a few officers and constables of the Darlington Division of the Durham County Constabulary, on his leaving Darlington for Lanchester, after staying a term of about eight years. The inscription on the pendant was as follows:—"Presented to Henry Dryden by a few officers and constables of the Darlington Division, on his leaving for Lanchester. May, 1891."

DEATH OF MRS RUKIN.—We deeply regret to announce the death of the wife of Mr Thomas Rukin, of Fen Hall, Lanchester, which took place on Friday last. Deceased had been ailing for some time, but no immediate cause for alarm was felt by her friends, as she appeared in somewhat better health than usual up to a few days before her death. Unfavourable symptoms, however, set in, and she passed away peacefully on the 22nd inst., in the 68th year of her age. Mr and Mrs Rukin resided about 40 years at Blackhill, and for many years kept the library and reading-room, where their geniality and efforts to discharge the somewhat onerous duties were highly appreciated. Deceased was for many years an active and consistent member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and also a teacher in the Sunday-school at Blackhill. The interment took place at the parish Church, Lanchester, on Monday last, and the remains of deceased were followed to their last resting-place by a large number of sorrowing friends from Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, and other places.

TOW LAW.

Mr Wm. Robinson, an old resident of Tow Law, died on Thursday se'nnight.

In connection with the intended Presbyterian new Sunday School a sewing meeting was held in the chapel vestry on Monday afternoon, and at night a coffee supper was held.

Some female members of the Salvation Army Holiness Brigade visited Tow Law on Saturday, and processioned the streets in company with the Salvation Army Band. At night a meeting was held in the barrack.

CANTATA.—On Thursday se'nnight, the sacred cantata "Bethlehem" was given in the Parish Church, Tow Law, by a very efficient choir. The solo parts were taken by Master J. A. Hughes, soprano, Miss E. Christison, contralto, Mr John Hughes, tenor, and Mr J. Raine, bass, while the vicar (Rev T. E. Espin) acted as organist. All the pieces were given in good style, particularly the chorus parts. A silver collection was taken in aid of the choir funds. There was only a moderate attendance.

I.O.G.T.—The 73rd quarterly session of the South Durham District Lodge of Good Templars was held on Tuesday week at Tow Law, and was well attended by representatives from all parts of the district. Bro. John E. Dixon, D.C.T. (Tow Law) presided, and opened the proceedings. The death of the D.M. was reported, and Bro. W. Parker (Shildon) was elected to the vacant office. Bro. J. J. Woods, P.D.C.T. (West Hartlepool), presented the report of the executive council, which showed an increase of 94 in the membership during the past quarter, there being now 1,990 Good Templars in South Durham. There was an increase in the juvenile order of 49, making the number 1,740. Bro. G. H. Pattinson, D.Sec. (Tudhoe) gave a report of the Grand Lodge annual session held at Great Yarmouth in Easter week, which was much appreciated. Bro. H. Weatherill, D.S.J.T. (West Hartlepool) read a paper on "Our olive branches," which appealed to the members present to use every effort in the promotion of the juvenile branch. Bro. Woods read a paper on the present position of the licensing question as affected by the Sharp v Wakefield case. The lodge closed at 5·30 p.m. to meet again at Spennymoor in August. In the evening, a public meeting was held, presided over by Bro. Dixon, and addressed by Bros. Macmillan (Sunderland), Whitehead (Newcastle), and Rhymer (Tudhoe).

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Sunday, special sermons were preached in this place of worship at Annfield Plain, by Rev F. R. Smith, in the forenoon, and in the afternoon and evening by Mr Robt. Turner, St. Helen's, Lancashire. Good congregations were present.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—Special sermons were preached in this chapel at Annfield Plain, on Sunday, by Rev Wm. Bowe, of Durham. There were good congregations, and collections were taken in aid of the new building fund.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—On Saturday afternoon, the annual tea in connection with this society, was held in a marquee, erected in Mr Robt. Wilson's field at Annfield Plain. Over 2,000 people partook of the good things provided. In the evening, a public meeting was held in the society's long-room, Mr J. W. Taylor (president), Dipton, occupied the chair. Addresses were given by Rev A. Bromley, Blackhill, and Mr Robert Turner, St. Helen's, Lancashire, formerly of Annfield Plain. Songs, recitations, &c., were given by several ladies and gentlemen.

MARRIAGE OF MISS C. HALL.—The marriage of James Parker Stokoe, London, to Miss Caroline Marguerite (Carrie) daughter of Mr John Hall, of Wisboro Tower, Sussex, and Annfield Plain, was celebrated on the 16th inst., at Elvington parish church, York, by the Rev P. Hughes, B.A., brother-in-law of the bride, assisted by the Rev A. Collins, F.R.A.S., rector. Amongst the numerous presents received was a very handsome marble timepiece presented by the employees of Messrs Hall and Smith, Annfield Plain.

DEATH OF MR THOMAS SCOTT LAMB.—On Thursday, the 21st inst., Mr T. S. Lamb, a gentleman well-known in the Annfield Plain district, died at his residence, 1, Balmoral Terrace, Gateshead. Deceased was born in Newcastle, and when a young man removed to Annfield Plain, where he resided about 29 years. During that period he wrought as a miner, and also carried on a lucrative business as newsagent. He was most industrious, and studied coal mining with such success as to pass satisfactorily, and ultimately became colliery manager. On his removal to Gateshead, nine years ago, he took the management of Deckham Hall Colliery, which post he retained to his death. Mr Lamb was a man of a sociable disposition, and, as a consequence, made many friends. Although never a robust man, he enjoyed good health until a few months ago, when he vomited a quantity of blood, resulting, it is said, from a strain received while assisting some of his workmen in putting some waggons on the rails down the pit. The death of his wife, ten months ago, and of a son, 18 years of age, three weeks ago, had a very depressing effect upon his health. Shortly after the death of his son he became rapidly worse, and sank to rest on the 21st inst. The interment took place at Gateshead Cementery on Sunday last. After the burial ceremony, which was performed by the Rev Mr Gregson, curate of St. George's Church, in an impressive manner, several officers and brethren of the Northern Counties Lodge (of which he was member) and the Borough Lodge of Freemasons joined in the burial service of that order. Amongst the brethren present were:—Bro. Marris, WM; Bro. E Dunford, PM; Bro. R G Salmon, PM; Bro. Duncan Macdonald, PM; Bro. W M Lyon, PM; Bro. W Dorman, SW; Bro. J U Simpson, JW; Bro. Ferry, organist; Bro. Curry, tyler; Bros. Thomas Salmon, Shayler, H Yarraw, Wootten, Rayner, Atkin, Brydon, Wastell, Howe, Brydon, all of Northern Counties, 400; Bros. T A Moffit, PM, 424; W Smith, 424; T R Jobson, WM, 1,664; J H Brown, jun., PM, 1,626; T Wright, sec., 1,342; J Taylor, 1,342; D Gordon, 1,342; W J Jobson, SW, 48; Bryson, 48; G Hilbert, 48; G C Botts, 48; James Brown, 1,643; W J Mayer, 1,643; Rev T Haslewood, W T Turner, Cleveland Lodge, Yorkshire, also a large number of his fellow workmen from Deckham Hall Colliery. Amongst those present from this district were:—Messrs George Browell, East Pontop; Thomas Johnson, East Castle; Robert Kaye, Oxhill; Mr and Mrs Tait, Mr and Mrs Sterling, Mrs and Mrs Lumley, Mr and Mrs McGarrity, Mr and Mrs Jackson, Mr and Mrs Moor, Mr and Mrs Jopling, Mr and Mrs H Greener, Mr and Mrs Green, of Annfield Plain, Mr T Collinson, Catchgate; and Mr Robt. Jackson, Consett.

WEARDALE.

On Tuesday, the Hon. C. G. Legge inspected the police stationed in the Wolsingham and Stanhope Petty Sessional Division.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.—Weardale hitherto has fortunately escaped the influenza epidemic this season until now. A few cases are reported here and there—not in any way general. A case or two has been mentioned at Frosterley, and a few at Wolsingham. Mrs Espin, wife of the Rev Chancellor Espin, rector of Wolsingham, who has been to London, has returned and broken down in it, and succumbed on Wednesday morning. The working classes somehow do not suffer from it to the extent to which the upper classes do. This speaks much for plainer food, more exercise, and the fact that man was made to work. Nature has formed him for it, and the class who do the least work and live high are the class most susceptible to disease, especially the influenza, whose effects are most disastrous among that very class.

Mrs M. A. Moore, Westgate, continues to improve from the mishap which befell her on Saturday at Killhope, *en route* to see a sick relative at Nenthead. Mrs Moore, who was accompanied by Mr George Muschamp, was about to get out of the trap to make the descent to Nenthead, when the horse moved forward, throwing her heavily on to the road. She was left with Mr Hodgson, farmer, on the moor, and medical aid summoned, which enabled her removal home.

FROSTERLEY.

On Thursday se'nnight, Rev Ed. Smith, of Bradford, but late of St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, preached and lectured in the Wesleyan Chapel. The lecture, entitled "Curiosities of London, &c.," was brimful of soul-stirring incidents. Mr C. Bainbridge occupied the chair, supported by Rev J. R. Cleminson and Mr T. E. Fenwick. Proceeds in aid of organ fund.

WOLSINGHAM.

Mrs Espin, wife of the Rev Chancellor Espin, D.D., Rector of Wolsingham, died on Tuesday morning after a long illness, terminating with influenza and congestion of the lungs.

CASTLESIDE.

On Saturday night, a coffee supper was held in the Castleside New Primitive Methodist Chapel. The feast was fairly well patronised.—On Sunday, Rev J. Hallam, ex-president of the Conference, preached to very large congregations.

The death occurred yesterday (Thursday), after a brief illness, of Mrs Leybourne, the esteemed wife of Mr Elliot Leybourne, of Castleside, at the age of about 75 years. Mr Leybourne is one of the best-known and most popular men in the village, and the demise of his wife is most sincerely deplored.

TANFIELD LEA.

STANLEY CIRCUIT SUNDAY-SCHOOL COUNCIL.—On Saturday, the quarterly meeting of this council was held in the Tanfield Lea Primitive Methodist Chapel. The was a good attendance of representatives, and the chair was occupied by Rev J. Magee (president).—The visitors' reports were received, which showed the schools to be in a very satisfactory condition.—The secretary's (Mr P. Reay) report was read, which stated that there were 170 teachers on the books; average attendance 114. All the teachers were members of the church except 11. The number of scholars were 1,180, being an increase of 30 for the quarter. The average attendance was 806. There were four catechumen classes with a membership of 44. The number of member in the band of hope were 620. Three of the schools possessed good libraries.—A letter was read from Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P., promising to support the Sunday-School Bill.—It was agreed to hold the next council at Craghead.—Tea was provided by the teachers of Tanfield School.

SATLEY.

THE LATE REV J. P. DE PLEDGE.—At the annual meeting of the Council of the Barnard Castle Division Liberal Association, held in the Mechanics' Hall, Crook, on Monday, the Chairman (Mr T. Douglas, C.C., J.P., moved a resolution recording deep regret at the death of Rev J. P. De Pledge, and requesting the secretary to forward a vote of condolence with the bereaved family.—Sir Joseph Pease seconded, and said that Rev J. P. De Pledge was a very sound Liberal, and when very few of his profession were in the Liberal camp he joined their ranks and took the chair for them repeatedly at Tow Law, and showed by his words and conduct how thorough a Liberal he was at heart. It was a great loss to the Liberal party when such men were taken away, and though each had to go, it did not prevent them from mourning such losses.

STANLEY.

Our readers will see from our advertising columns that the Rev J. Ferguson, D.D., of Leeds, is announced to give a lecture on Saturday, June 6th, in the Stanley Primitive Methodist Chapel. The rev. gentleman will preach three sermons on the Sunday.

THE FATAL FALL DOWNSTAIRS AT CONSETT.

Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, at the Police Buildings, Consett, an inquest was held on the body of Margaret O'Neil, an elderly woman, who died on Tuesday night, under circumstances fully detailed in another portion of this issue, before Mr Coroner Graham. Mr Jas. Carey was chosen foreman of the jury.

Michael McShane, labourer, Spencer Street, Consett, identified the body, and said that Margt. O'Neil (who was never married) kept lodgers at her house at 15, Harvey Street, Consett. She was not, to his knowledge, subject to fits.

Elizabeth Jane Whitfield, living next door to the deceased, testified that on Friday night, about 9·30, she heard a noise in O'Neil's house, resembling a fall downstairs. After the lapse of five minutes, she pushed the door open, and found Mrs O'Neil lying at the foot of the stairs, with her head on the cement floor under the first step, and her feet against the door. She was not able to speak. One of her hands was bleeding. With the assistance of her brother and a young man from Blackhill, witness succeeded in carrying Mrs O'Neil to the fireside, and Dr Shannon was sent for.

By the Jury: There was only an old man in the house, who was sitting near the fireplace, and he had since been removed to Lanchester Workhouse.

Mr Weaver stated that the stairs were very steep, and only had a temporary hand-rail.

Dr Shannon spoke to attending Mrs O'Neil on the following (Saturday) morning, and found her lying in bed, quite insensible, and she remained in the same condition till she expired on Tuesday night from concussion of the brain. He examined her externally, and discovered bruises on the back of the head, right wrist, and hand.

The Jury, without consultation, returned a verdict that her death was due to an accident.

'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, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Picadilly London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell you IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

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

SIR JOS. W. PEASE AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

MEETING AT ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL.

Sir J. W. Pease, Bart., M.P. for the Barnard Castle Division, on Saturday addressed a meeting of electors in the Board School, St. John's Chapel, in commencement of a series of visits to several of the polling places in the Barnard Castle Division. Dr C. C. Hewitson presided, and amongst those present were Ald. Sedgwick (Darlington), Messrs A. Nattrass, J. Harrison, J. Hewitson, E. Fairless, T. Hodgson, H. Featherstone, T. Wearmouth, J. Coulthard, J. S. Freeman, T. Wilson, J. Wilson, Humble, P. Walton, J. Dalkin, T. Dawson, J. Rutherford, J. Teesdale, J. Watson, T. Pentland, R. Phillipson, R. Peart, S. Reed, J. Hill, J. Walton, M. Nattrass, Jos. Harrison, T. Peadon, J. Robinson, W. Bainbridge, J. Moore, T. Watson, Lowe, J. Kidd, Emmerson, A. Walton, J. Dawson, W. Charlton, R. Walton, J. Pattenson, W. Lowes, Craig, J. Ritson, J. Jackson, T. Lonsdale, and Maddison, and ex-Sergt. Rogers (Darlington).

Prior to the meeting, a deputation of the Public and Mining Committee, consisting of Dr C. C. Hewitson, Mr J. Harrison, Mr Thos. Hodgson, Mr H. Featherstone (Wearhead), and Mr T. Pentland, Ireshopeburn (who was the principal speaker) discussed the projected visit to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on the state of Weardale and the needs of a railway with Sir Joseph, who received them courteously, and chatted over the subject without reserve.

The CHAIRMAN said that one matter for which Sir Joseph deserved great praise and increased confidence for was the interest he had taken in the opium traffic. (Applause). If there was one subject more deserving of attention than another, it was the opium traffic, as it involved the interests and happiness not only of this nation but of others. It had given rise to the great evil of the insidious use of opium, which was a drug that ought to be confined to medicinal purposes—(hear)—but instead of that it had been used very extensively in large public opium dens. He believed that the traffic in opium was even greater than that in intoxicating drink. No one could safely indulge in opium, so that any one doing so committed moral suicide. (Hear). All the efforts that Sir Joseph could put forth would not be too many to obliterate the traffic, and he hoped he would persevere until he had accomplished that purpose. (Cheers).

Sir JOSEPH PEASE was loudly applauded, and said he had been very much gratified from time to time by being told that they desired to hear a political address from him some Saturday afternoon, but he did not call it so much a political address as a political conversation with the people, who, for a great number of years now had done him the honour of returning him as their member to Parliament. (Hear). If he lived until July he would have been in Parliament for 26 years—(hear)—but he did not think that his natural force had very much abated. But what he wanted them to feel was that Liberal politics were not his politics or those of any other man, but were the politics of the nation, and that it was by them that they throve and held their own. (Hear). The previous day he had been telegraphed for to go to the House in connection with the death of the late Sir Robert Fowler, who was a man of his own age, and of very robust physique. Pehaps that fact impressed him more than usually with the fleeting character of human lite, and made him say that they were there not to listen to himself, but in support of Liberal principles. There had been a young gentleman down amongst them, and he believed there had also been what was called a Primrose League meeting. He did not know whether it was dining and dancing, or dancing, dining, and a "Punch-and-Judy" show—(laughter)—because they often come together at Primrose League meetings—or whether it was sober politics. He had no objection to either Mr Bowes-Lyon or anybody else coming there, but he wanted them to remember that Mr Bowes-Lyon belonged to and supported the party which resisted Catholic emancipation until there was nearly a revolution, resisted the admission of Jews to Parliament, the repeal of the corn laws, national education, household suffrage in the counties, vote by ballot, the repeal of the church rates, abolition of purchase in the army, the abolition of university tests, and the Endowed Schools Bill. They must also remember that when people talked about Liberal Unionists there was no half way house in the House of Commons, and if a man did not go into the Liberal lobby to record his vote he must go into the Tory lobby. Of late the Conservatives had tried to make sugar dearer and had failed; and then they tried to endow the brewers. Still more recently they had voted against "One man one vote," which he thought was a necessary measure. Whilst it might be said that it would deprive property to a certain extent of voting power, still he thought the evils connected with the dual vote were so great that it would be much better to give each man one vote. He did not think it would make much difference in the strength of parties, and would work much more fairly in the representation of the people. (Hear.) He had endeavoured as far as he could to promote temperance legislation. The other day the Welsh members brought in a veto bill, which he thought was a great deal better than any bill Sir Wilfred Lawson ever brought in. Since the wonderful decision in the Sharp *v.* Wakefield case it was evident that the magistrates had power to decline licenses; and under the veto bill if the ratepayers said "Instead of issuing 18 licenses you shall only issue 16," the magistrates had no further power but to carry out the wishes of the ratepayers. The Conservative party were wrong in opposing the putting of the power of licensing into the hands of the people, because after all the ratepayers had to pay the taxes, and they all knew from the valuable statistics prepared by the convocation of the Church of England at York and Canterbury that about 80 per cent. of all the people in Workhouses and gao's went there through drink. Therefore the Conservative party were wrong in opposing so valuable a measure of temperance reform. (Hear.) There was a very interesting discussion a few nights ago in the House of Commons on a motion by Mr Acland to establish local parish councils. The Conservative party boggled at that, and at last voted against it. He thought that if they wanted to produce a healthy life in the country districts it was essential that the vestry should be constituted as representatives of the ratepayers in a very different manner from the present. There was another question on which they might or might not have to vote; that was the question of free education. (Hear.) They would remember that for several years he had advocated what was termed free education, and that he had always said he was very anxious that nothing that had been done by what were called denominational schools should be thrown away. They owed a great deal to the denominational schools—the schools of the Church of England especially—to the National School Society's schools, and to the Wesleyan schools. He did not want to hide from them and from himself that he thought there were great difficulties in the way of free education, and when those difficulties were faced by any Cabinet or Government they would be very likely to pause. He thought it very likely that the present Government would pause when they faced the difficulties. His opinion was that if the taxpayers' or ratepayers' money was used for the purposes of education, they had the right to a voice in its expenditure. (Hear, hear). At the present time a really good school—say with 1,000 scholars—could earn about £1 a head, and if the Government were to give 10s additional, making 30s a head, very little more would be required. But if the aid was to be given to denominational schools, in his opinion it would be very difficult to do it to the satisfaction of the people at large if they were not given a voice in the management of the schools to which their rates and taxes were contributed. When the present Government had to face the denominational question—and they would have to face it if they touched the question—he thought they would very likely leave it for further consideration as they had done many other bills. (Hear, hear). Another thing he wanted to see was a better system of registration in the counties. As to Ireland, the Conservative party said that the coercive rule of Lord Salisbury and Mr Balfour had been very successful, and that agrarian crime had diminished. So it had; but he attributed it to Mr Gladstone's Act of 1880-81, and to the fact that the people of Ireland were looking to the Liberal party of England for help to give them the power to rule their own affairs. Sir Joseph quoted statistics showing that the immense body of Irishmen were in favour of Home Rule, and that the cost of police and soldiery in Ireland was excessive, and then, in reference to the Irish Land Bill which has just passed the House of Commons, said he still detested the principle, and he was perfectly sure that was not the last Irish Land Bill they would see, and before the bill went through the House of Lords they would hear more about the subject. He (Sir Joseph) had received a good many letters from the Auckland Division stating that pamphlets had been distributed showing the enormous benefits that the country derived from the financial operations of the present Government by the large reductions of the National Debt, but he found that, taking the last four years of the present Government, the debt had been reduced by £25,900,000, whereas in the last four years of Mr Gladstone's Government it was reduced by £29,889,000, so that all the arguments about the reduction of the debt by Mr Goschen went for nothing. What he blamed the present Government for, was not paying their way as they went. They had mortgaged the £500,000 a year which in five years' time would come from the Suez Canal, and as to the surplus Mr Goschen had in 1891—£2,000,000—he had at the same time added £3,000,000 to the Unfunded Debt. Referring to the recent speech by Mr J. E. Backhouse, Sir Joseph said the remarks that gentleman made simply threatened the electors of Barnard Castle Division with being over-awed by the Duke of Cleveland and the Earl of Strathmore. That was what Unionism was coming to. They could no longer trust in the people, but put their trust in dukes and earls. That was not the tendency of England generally; it was quite the other way. The matter was in the hands of the electors, and though they might be looking out for a younger man than he, he did not think they were looking out for a Tory. (Cheers). If they were satisfied with him, he believed he was what he was twenty-five years ago, a Liberal heart and soul, and it was only as a Liberal that he wanted to represent them. (Applause).

Mr G. HUMBLE proposed—"That the meeting desires to express its continued confidence in Sir J. W. Pease, Bart., M.P., as the representative of the Barnard Castle Division in Parliament, heartily thanks him for his past services to the Liberal party, and for his eloquent advocacy of the principles of progress and freedom, and assures him of its firm support in the future." He had always found Sir Joseph honest and upright in regard to his Parliamentary duties, and the principles he had advocated were those that Liberals had always had at heart. (Hear).

Mr J. HARRISON seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

Ald. T. T. SEDGWICK moved:—"This meeting condemns the policy of the Government towards Ireland; believes that a measure of Home Rule which would give to the Irish people a Parliament in Dublin for the management of Irish affairs, whilst maintaining the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, is the only solution of the Irish difficulty; and expresses its unabated confidence in Mr Gladstone and the leaders of the Liberal party."

Mr A. NATTRASS seconded, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

MEETING AT TOW LAW.

On Monday evening, a continuation of his campaign through the Division, Sir Joseph Pease addressed a largely attended meeting of his constituents in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law. It is over two years since the hon. baronet visited Tow Law. Mr James Vickers (checkweighman) presided, and there were present Dr Hood, Dr Wild, Councillor Vickers, Ald. Sedgwick, Rev A. Graham-Barton (Crook), Messrs Telford, McCullagh, J. Davies, J. Dodd, J. Young, R. Dixon, G. Bell, T. Cheeseman, W. Grey, and others.—The CHAIRMAN briefly introduced Sir J. W. PEASE, M.P., who met with a cordial reception, and said he knew that they approved of a good deal he had endeavoured to do. He had endeavoured to help other places that were not quite so strong as Tow Law in the Liberal cause. In the autumn of last year he thought it his duty, as their representative, as well as a warm Liberal, to do all he could for Mr John Wilson in Mid-Durham. (Hear). What their Tory friends wanted to do was to put in a cousin of Lord Londonderry instead of a pitman's representative. He thought to himself that coalowners were very fairly represented in the House of Commons—Mr Joicey, Sir Charles Palmer, himself, and he might run over half-a-dozen more—and so far as the North of England was concerned there were only left as miners' representatives Mr T. Burt, Mr Fenwick, and the vacant place of poor William Crawford. He thought that it was a great insult to the large majority of the miners, and they were the majority of the voters in Mid-Durham, to put up a Tory candidate when they knew very well that they could not win, and put the miners to all the expense of a contested election. With that feeling he took up his quarters in Durham for four or five nights and spoke every day for Mr Wilson, and he was returned. And he was quite sure that Mr Wilson had not yet, and probably never would, disgrace the voters that sent him to the House of Commons. He took a good deal of part in the Hartlepool election, and worked against his old chairman in that district, Sir Wm. Gray—than whom there was not a better man living, but he was wrong on the Irish question, and until that question was settled it would not do to send men to Parliament who would not vote straight on the question. They carried Mr Furness very nicely in at the top of the poll, and his (Sir Joseph's) labour certainly was not lost, whether it did any good or not, in the Hartlepool election. Since then he had been at Hartlepool on behalf of Mr Joseph Richardson, the Liberal candidate for South East Division of Durham. He had also been at Stockton helping them two or three times, and was with his friend, Sir Charles Russell, at two or three places in this county, or the neighbouring one of York, and he did not think that they could say their member had been a very idle man, even though he had perhaps not given them the attention they merited. But he was not speaking for himself, but for principles. People said, "Oh, Sir Joseph Pease is getting old, and he will be out of the way, and then some of these nice young Tories will have a chance." He did not think they would have a bit. He was only there because he represented those principles which were dear to the Liberals of the Barnard Castle Division of Durham, and when he ceased to be the representative of those principles he did not desire to go back to Parliament. When he ceased to exist he had no doubt they would find someone to hold up the banner he had endeavoured to carry for a quarter of a century with quite as much satisfaction to them as he had given. (Hear). They owed nothing whatever to the Conservative party. He had been asked to say something about the temperance movement. He himself had brought in a Sunday Closing Bill of a certain stamp, and his friend, Mr Stevenson, brought in another. His (Sir Joseph's) number in the ballot was 158, and Mr Stevenson's was 160 or 170, and therefore neither of them went any further. But there had been a majority for Sunday, and for absolute Sunday closing, in the House of Commons; but his bill was a half-way house, which, if it had got through, would have done a great deal of good. It was a simple bill, which in country districts entirely closed public-house, which in populous places (as described by Act of Parliament) only had the public-house open for an hour at dinner time and an hour at supper time, in order to sell beer for consumption off the premises, and it was a bill which limited the hours of opening London public-houses to ten o'clock at night. He got that bill through twice, but he never got it through committee. He was a Sunday closer, and if they could carry Sunday closing so much the better. If they could not get all they wanted they must take all they could get. (Hear). But Ireland stopped temperance legislation, as it did several other burning questions. Of these burning questions one was the habitations of the people in great towns. He did not think men ought to be allowed to let houses and rooms of the character that were let in some of the great towns, and which were altogether unfit for human habitation. In such habitations they could not have decency or morals, or that better life which ought to be the life of the working classes of this country. (Hear). Alluding to free education, he thought they would find that Board Schools were perhaps giving a better education than the denominational schools, although he did not wish to say anything in disparagement of denominational schools. He believed that there was in the Board Schools generally a religious teaching which was not sectarian and not dogmatic, and which it would be well to adhere to. (Hear). He was sometimes asked how he liked the split between the Parnellites and the McCarthyites, but he told them he was neither a Parnellite nor a McCarthyite, but a Home Ruler. Was the Home Rule principle making any progress at all? There had been an amendment on the Address for the last four years on the Irish question. Mr Parnell had generally moved that. On the first occasion, in 1887, the majority against his amendment was 106; in 1888 it was 88; in 1889 it was 79; and in 1890 it had dropped down to 67. That showed that the House of Commons had very considerably altered its attitude on the Irish question. And the bye-elections had told a great tale. He thought there were now sixteen or seventeen seats which had been won from Unionists and Conservatives, and only one seat had been lost to the Liberals. (Hear). In the Loughborough Division of Leicestershire a Tory majority of 900 was turned into a Liberal majority of nearly 500. Let them be thankful that in that part of the world they had nothing to reproach themselves for, because in the county of Durham they had sent a large majority of those who steadily voted which he called rightly on the Irish question, and who still lived in hope. He was catechised very severely at Tow Law in 1885 by two Irishmen who said he had voted for coercion. He did vote for coercion, but now in his opinion he had made a mistake. It was not coercion that had made Ireland more tranquil, but the sympathy of audiences like that, and in the warm feeling of the Liberal party throughout England. (Hear). Could a land ever be contented when it was ruled against the wishes of the great majority of its people. They wanted to have a people to whom they could say, "The Empire is in danger; we want the troops elsewhere: Russia is coming in at the north of India" (which he did not believe they ever would), and the troops might be taken away. Referring to the land purchase scheme, Sir Joseph said the great evil in Ireland was non-resident landlordism; but by purchasing the land and the State becoming the landlord they would be actually exaggerating that evil. He very much objected to the Land Bill, which he thought put a great danger and burden upon those whom he represented—the English taxpayers. There was nothing to prevent the same state of things occurring at the end of forty years, and those living after them might have the same sort of Irish difficulty which the present generation ought to have remedied, and which it could only remedy by giving to the Irish people the control of those things which they could manage for themselves. It was only by finding out how the grievances of Ireland were to be removed that they could make Ireland loyal and the nation strong. So long as the country was ruled by a force of armed police and regiments of soldiers so long would they maintain the want of union and so long would they prevent all those social reforms of which he had spoken as being kept in the background because right and justice were refused to Ireland. (Loud applause).

The CHAIRMAN invited questions, but there were none forthcoming.

Councillor VICKERS moved "That this meeting desires to impress its continued confidence in Sir J. W. Pease, Bart., M.P., as the representative of this division in Parliament, heartily thanks him for his past services to the Liberal party, and for his eloquent advocacy of the principles of progress and freedom, and assures him of its firm support in the future." He said that he did not think their member was ever more popular than to-day. (Applause).

Mr R. DIXON seconded, and Dr WILD supported the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Sir J. PEASE, in reply, remarked how much he missed Rev J. P. De Pledge from that platform. He was a striking instance of one of the clergy leaving what was the bonds which some of them often thought they were held in, and going on a Liberal platform to advocate through a long and consistent life the principles which were dear to his heart.

Mr A. W. EMERSON moved: "This meeting condemns the policy of the Government towards Ireland, believes that a measure of Home Rule which would give to the Irish people a Parliament in Dublin for the management of Irish affairs, while maintaining the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, is the only solution of the Irish difficulty, and expresses his unabated confidence in Mr Gladstone as the leader of the Liberal party."

Mr G. BELL seconded, and Ald. SEDGWICK supported the motion.

Rev GRAHAM-BARTON also supported the motion. He was convinced that the Tories had quite failed to satisfy the demands of the Irish people, and he was also satisfied that the Liberals had failed, and nothing would do now but granting them the principles of self-government. Ireland was now dealt with more as a conquered country than as a corporate part of the empire. (Hear).

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL JOTTINGS.

Mr Edward Eccles has contributed £5 to the fund for the assistance of the bereaved family of the late Mr Isaac Smiles, of Chester-le-Street.

—:o:—

The sum of £8 has been contributed by a few friends and admirers of the late Mr Hodgson, Workhouse Master, at Stanhope, by Messrs Thos. Robinson and George Philipson, towards a testimonial to his widow, Mrs Hodgson, in token of their esteem and respect. It is contemplated presenting her with a tea and coffee service.

—:o:—

On Saturday, there was presented at Tow Law to John Hogg, by the officials and workmen of Black Prince, West Thornley, and Hedley Hill Collieries, on the occasion of his leaving the Weardale Iron and Coal Company's service and being appointed to the position of engineer at South Durham Colliery, Eldon, a set of four choice engravings framed in gilt.

—:o:—

Probate of the will, dated 3rd July, 1886, with codicils made 21st October, 1889, and the 24th February, 1890, of the late Mr Robert Nicholson, of Oakfield, Ryton, who died on the 28th January last, has been granted to the executors, his wife, Mrs Emily Esther Nicholson, and his son, Rev Ralph Nicholson. The testator gives to his wife the northern half of his house, Oakfield, and furniture to the value of £500; and to his daughter Georgina Elliott Nicholson, the southern half of the house and furniture to the value of £500. He leaves in trust for his daughter Georgina £8,000, and bequeaths to his daughter Annie Elizabeth Stephenson £2,150, to his son Ralph £4,350, and to his son William Lambton £3,850, to make up for each of these three the same amount of £5,150 as he had given to his sons Walter Elliott and George Robert. The testator bequeaths his 69 shares in the Stonecroft and Greyside Mining Company, as to 15 shares to his son Walter Elliott, as to 14 shares each to his daughter Annie Elizabeth Stephenson and his sons Ralph and George Robert, and as to 12 shares to his son William Lambton. He devises and bequeaths his residuary estate in trust in equal shares for his five last named children.

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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.

Sporting Items.

DERBY, 1891.—The result was as follows:—1st, Common; 2nd, Gouverneur; 3rd, Martenhurst. Time by Benson's Chronograph, 2 min. 56 4-5 secs. Time last year, 2 min. 39 4-5 secs.

ANGLING IN WEARDALE.—A Stanhope angler, last week, killed a trout in one of the tributaries with worm fishing, of a peculiar character. Its upper jaw was wanting, and apparently had been bitten or chopped off when little. It presented a most curious appearance with its under jaw projecting, and its top one wanting from the eyes. The angler returned it to the brook.

ANGLING AT WASKERLEY.—There were ten anglers at the Waskerley reservoir, on Whit-Monday, five of these being from Stanhope. One of them killed eight fish, another five, and the other three killed none. The weather in the forenoon was extremely unpleasant, showers of snow and hail fell at intervals, and it is said their lines actually hardened in the crisp frost air that prevailed. In the afternoon it was much pleasanter, the sun peeped out occasionally. The angling at this reservoir is of a peculiar character, and a novice does as well and even better than a skilful fly fisher in the rivers. The fault of the skilled angler here is he is too fast—generally speaking. The fisher here to succeed wants to be slow. The fish are slow and sluggish in their habits compared with river and burn trout, and a worm fisher's ways when fly fishing here ensures better sport than if he were a skilful fly fisher, from the fact he is much slower. One of the Stanhope anglers let his flies swim in the water while he was tying on his stintin, and to his surprise found a good fish had hooked himself. He got a second fish in a similar manner, while the more experienced skilled fishers were flogging the pond as they would the river.

CHESTER-LE-STREET ROWING CLUB.—A general meeting of the members was held on Wednesday night at Mrs McLean's, Crown Inn, Mr J. A. Green in the chair. Eleven new members, including two hon. members, were enrolled, bringing up the membership roll to 71. The committee appointed to inquire into and report upon the proposal to establish an amateur section in connection with the club, asked for an extension of time to complete their investigations, which was granted. A committee was appointed to arrange and carry out a preliminary handicap, prior to the competition for the McLean Challenge Cup. It was also arranged to hold a social gathering of members and friends at an early date.—The chairman announced that, although no direct appeal had yet been made to the public, they had received a large amount of spontaneous support. (Applause.)

THE CONDITION OF PIT VILLAGES IN LANCHESTER UNION.

Mr W. H. Patterson, the secretary of the Durham Miners' Association, has received the following letter from the Local Government Board:—

Local Government Board, Whitehall, S.W., May 22nd, 1891.

Sir,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to your letter of the 25th ultimo, in regard to the supply of water to certain villages in the Whickham Local Government District, and in the Rural Sanitary District of the Lanchester Union, and to state that the Board have decided to instruct one of their inspectors to make an investigation of the facts of the case, and report to them thereon. The inspector's visit will take place as soon as it can be arranged for, and due notice of it will be given to the persons and authorities concerned.—I am,

AGRED D. ADRAIN, Assistant Secretary.

Mr W. H. Patterson, 16, North Road, Durham.

POLICE INSPECTION AT CONSETT.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Hon. C. G. Legge, Her Majesty's Inspector, held his annual review of the members of the Durham County Constabulary stationed in the Lanchester and Consett Petty Sessional Division; the inspection taking place in the ground behind the police buildings, Consett, in the face of a drizzling and incessant fall of rain. Lieut.-Colonel White, Chief Constable, was also in attendance. The total strength of the division is 51—44 ordinary and seven special constables. Of this number, however, 47 were present on parade, two being absent on duty and one on sick leave. In addition to Supt. J. Oliver (Consett), Inspectors P. G. Benzies (Consett) and G. Mitham (Lanchester), there were seven sergeants and 37 constables on parade. The men were put through the customary exercises, and performed their evolutions in a manner which afforded every satisfaction to Capt. Legge, who paid a compliment to the rank and file for their smart appearance and general demeanour. The condition of their clothing and accoutrements likewise came in for a measure of praise. Afterwards, Capt. Legge made a thorough inspection of the offices, cells, barracks, and all the county buildings, and expressed himself as being very much pleased with the clean and tidy appearance of the different premises visited in turn. The whole of the books, documents, &c., belonging the division, also underwent a searching scrutiny at his hands, or rather eyes, and it is creditable to mention that not a single error was detected, and no fault whatever was found in respect to the excellent manner in which the somewhat intricate entries are posted in the several ledgers and books.

CHESTER-LE-STREET CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday night, the sixth annual meeting of the members of the Chester-le-Street Division Central Conservative Association was held at Gateshead, under the presidency of Mr Ed. Eccles. There was a good attendance.

The organising secretary (Mr J. Tolson) read the annual report, which congratulated the members of the association upon the work accomplished during the past twelve months. The association regretted the deaths of Mr R. Nicholson, Ryton, and Mr Isaac Smiles, Chester-le-Street. The result of the Revision Court, held in September, showed a satisfactory gain to the party. The membership of the 15 local associations showed an increase of 200 members during the past twelve months.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that it had been unanimously resolved to support Sir Edward Sullivan as Unionist candidate for the division. Sir Edward had made a nuumber of visits to the division, and was making great progress amongst the people. Certainly, from the ability Sir Edward displayed in his political addresses they ought to be proud of having such a candidate. (Hear).

Mr R. CLEPHAN seconded the motion, which was carried.

The financial statement, which was of a very satisfactory nature, was carried.

On the motion of Mr J. RICHARDSON, Mr Edward Eccles was re-elected president of the association. The vice-presidents having been elected, Mr J. A. Dixon was re-elected hon. secretary, Mr R. Clephan was appointed treasurer, and Mr Parkinson hon. auditor.

Mr R. CLEPHAN moved a vote of confidence in Her Majesty's Government, the members of which, he said, had conducted the affairs of the country in a most able manner.

Mr J. RICHARDSON seconded the motion, and said that in Ireland at the present time there was peace and plenty, and the people were prosperous and thoroughly satisfied with the present Government. (Hear).

The CHAIRMAN supported the proposition, which was carried.

Mr W. WILLSON moved, "That we enter our protest against the wilful and systematic obstruction on the part of the opposition now carried on in Parliament."

Captain BURNETT seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr PYLE and agreed to.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

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., Homoeopathic Chemists, London." Dr George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."

SNOW IN SUMMER.—The Weardale hills have recently been frequently covered with snow and hail several times last week, and very cold weather has prevailed. Ice of considerable thickness was found several mornings last week, and potatoes have been blighted, having been frozen to the ground in several gardens. Other crops in the gardens have also suffered severely.

DARKWOOD.

A TALE OF LONEMOOR.

CHAPTER X.

AN UNWELCOME SUITOR.

Upon the morning succeeding the visit of young Orkney, Gwendoline signified to Mr. Quillet, whom she seemed to regard as the representative of Squire Markham in matters concerning herself, that she desired a saddle horse for her daily and exclusive use.

The old butler carried this demand to his wife, in high perplexity.

"If Miss Gwendoline wants a saddle horse," said the housekeeper, "she must have it. We've gone too far now, John, to stop at trifles. Besides, the poor child has no friends, no amusements, and we can't keep her here a hermit. We can afford the horse and a habit too—though, now I think of it, there's a habit of Miss Clare's upstairs which will fit Miss Gwendoline, I'm sure."

The butler thus encouraged to gratify Miss Winter's desire, remembered that a tenant upon the estate possessed a horse suitable for the purpose in hand, and set out to make a purchase of it. He returned a couple of hours later leading the animal. By this time Gwendoline was in possession of the habit which had formerly belonged to Miss Markham, and had found that it could readily be fitted to her more slender figure.

That afternoon, attended by a servant who was made to do duty as groom, the young girl had a wild ride over the moors, returning home in a state of great exhilaration.

The next day she rode again, in the direction of Penistone. She met at a distance of some four or five miles from Lonemoor a waggonette, in which were seated young Orkney and three commonplace young women, his sisters.

The young man bowed to Gwendoline; his sisters stared at her after an ill-bred fashion, which brought the hot blood to Gwen's cheeks.

"What do they mean by looking at me like that?" thought the girl, with a passionate sense of anger—for this poor Gwen of ours was very human, and very apt to resent slight or injustice. "They look at me as if I were not as good as they. I wonder if they know that I am Miss Winter, of Lonemoor? But that Orkney must have told them. And though he looked at me in a different manner, I did not like his look one whit the better."

Touching her little silver spur to her horse's side, she galloped onwards, and presently forgot her annoyance in the fresh moor breezes, the wide expanse, and the sense of freedom that came to her.

In the course of a week Gwendoline had established herself at Lonemoor, after her mistaken ideas of what was due to herself and Squire Markham. She occupied the drawing-rooms daily. She walked the gardens as if she owned them. She rambled and rode upon the moor. She attended the church at the nearest hamlet, and occupied the Markham pew.

Her conduct in all things was quiet, gentle, and thoroughly well-bred. She was gracious, sweet, yet proud after a high and noble fashion. Had she been the acknowledged granddaughter of Squire Markham, or even his adopted heiress, every one would have commended her, have lauded her actions, have admired her. But she was nameless, of an origin believed to be shameful, and within a week of her arrival at Lonemoor, the country people looked askance at her, spoke of her "airs," declared their belief that "she would turn out just as her mother had before her"—believing her mother to be a nameless vagrant, be it understood—and wished that Squire Markham would return to expel her from his house, and to punish his butler and housekeeper as they deserved for their "strange carryings-on."

The worshippers in church forgot their worship to look at her curiously. The labourers on the estate whispered her story when she was near. The maids objected to Mrs. Quillet to serve a mistress "who was not a lady," and who but for charity would have been a servant herself. The tenants came over to Lonemoor ostensibly on business, but really to see Gwen, and Mr. Orkney the elder came up to the great house, as the mansion was called, every day, to expostulate with the Quillets upon their indulgence to their charge, and to threaten them with Squire Markham's severe displeasure when he should know how and by whom his house was inhabited.

The younger Orkney came to Lonemoor every day, and invaded Gwendoline's presence, whether she were in the gardens, library, or drawing-room, with a want of ceremony against which she vainly protested.

Finding the Quillets insensible to his angry denunciations, the bailiff went to Penistone, and had a serious interview with Squire Markham's solicitor, with a view to restraining the Quillets in their use of their master's property. The solicitor drove over to Lonemoor with the bailiff, had a private interview with the housekeeper, and departed without having uttered one threat against Gwen or her protectors. Mrs. Quillet had kept her secret, but had bidden the lawyer appeal to the squire, declaring that her master would uphold her in her present course. And the solicitor remembered that the squire during their last interview at Penistone had told him that his housekeeper was worthy of all trust, and that she and her husband were to be left in absolute charge of the mansion. Remembering this, he declined to interfere in the matter, beyond warning the Quillets against abusing the confidence reposed in them, and bidding them remember that the squire would surely return some day, and that he would hold them to strict account for their stewardship.

"We accept the responsibility," said the housekeeper, firmly. "We have been faithful servants in all things, and the master will approve our course!"

And so, silenced, even if still disapprovng, the solicitor returned home with his errand unaccomplished, greatly to the disgust of the worthy bailiff.

"If I were in your place, sir," said Orkney, as the two were about to part, "I should turn this beggar out neck and crop, the squire's orders that the Quillets be left in absolute charge of the house notwithstanding. Shall we stand by and see the squire's property abused and destroyed? That girl rides over these moors daily as if she owned them. She occupies the house, she rules the servants, she is lady of the mansion—she, the child of a servant who died on the moors, and was buried in a pauper's grave! And you won't eject her? You must do as you judge best, sir! It is to be hoped that the squire will soon return!"

And the bailiff, in high dissatisfaction, returned to his home to meet the eager inquiries of his three commonplace daughters, who were greatly shocked at the "goings-on" at the "great house."

It must not be supposed that Gwendoline was blind and deaf to all these things.

She had discovered that the servants were not swift to obey her. She had noticed familiar looks upon the faces of farmers' sons during her rides. She could not be blind to the contemptuous stares of the Orkney girls and the farmers' daughters. The manner of the bailiff to her was uniformly severe and dictatorial, and aroused her antagonism. The manner of the younger Orkney was even more to her, being easy and familiar to a high degree—precisely as if he considered her socially his inferior.

All these things were small thorns, perhaps, but being many and sharp they pierced deeply.

The conduct of Mrs. Quillet was also unsatisfactory. The butler was coldly respectful always, but the manner of the housekeeper varied with her moods, which were many. Having little love for the girl who had unconsciously brought with her so much trouble to Lonemoor, there were times when Mrs. Quillet could not bear to look upon her.

And then the worthy woman was secretly doubtful whether she had done well in bringing up her charge as a lady—whether, in view of Gwen's origin and probable future it would not have been better to have sent her to an orphan asylum at the beginning, and so have been relieved of all responsibility in the matter.

Squire Markham, the girl's own grandfather, had declined to take upon himself any responsibility whatever in regard to her, had never owned her existence, never looked upon her face, never set aside one penny for her expenses. Why, then, Mrs. Quillet often asked herself, should she and her husband expend their hard earnings upon the unowned child of Miss Clare? The squire would some day return, and very probably overwhelm them with reproaches. Very probably, also, he would turn them out of his house. And the girl herself—a lady without the social position of a lady—what was to become of her? Perhaps she would follow in her mother's steps, to meet her mother's fate!

All these doubts and fears assailed the housekeeper singly and in troops, making her life a burden to her. Sometimes she thought she had done rightly—more often she believed herself foolish and Quixotic.

Mrs Quillet had been a farmer's daughter, had received a good common education, and had been regarded as the social equal of the farmer's wives, and had even been on visiting terms with the Orkneys. Now her social atmosphere became clouded. Her former visitors ceased to drop in upon her. People looked askance at her, as if they thought her unfaithful to the trust the squire had reposed in her, or as if they censured her singular indulgence to the waif she had so long protected. And although the housekeeper was not of a social temperament, she felt all this keenly.

As was natural, perhaps, to her, she visited her chagrin and anxiety upon the head of the young girl who was their secret cause. She had few pleasant words for Gwendoline. For the most part she was silent and frowning, but when she did speak it was generally in words of censure.

Now our little Gwen was not an angel. She was only a warmhearted, highspirited, impulsive girl, wilful and resentful, proud, and possibly wayward—a sweet human girl, with some faults and a thousand virtues—a girl to be adored, but not a girl to bear meekly undeserved reproofs, and cold glances, and contemptuous smiles. Brave and fearless to a wonderful degree, she would have faced any peril resolutely and without flinching, but was not one to sit down and brood over her trials, and give herself up to melancholy and sentiment.

She endeavoured to elicit an explanation of her variable manner from Mrs. Quillet, but the housekeeper had declined to answer, and put an abrupt end to the interview. The girl was too proud to question anyone else, and finding the atmosphere of home unpleasant, indulged in longer rambles and rides upon the moors, remaining away hours at a time.

"I dare say it is all my fancy," she said to herself on one of these rides, "this coldness on the part of everyone. Why should anyone look askance at the ward of Squire Markham? It's all nonsense. This lonely sort of life will make my mind unhealthy, unless I am on my guard. Of all things, I despise a lackadaisical young woman with a melancholy face and a secret grief."

She gave rein to her horse, and indulged in a wild gallop that delighted the animal equally with herself, and so put to flight by active exercise—her usual resort—all unpleasant thoughts.

The summer passed slowly. No visitors came to Lonemoor in these days, even to see Mrs. Quillet. The housekeeper was morose in the highest degree. Her mind seemed settled upon a solemn disapproval of Miss Winter, and she rarely bestowed other than a grimly sour look upon her charge. The butler was uniformly respectful and attentive to the young lady, but the problem of her future and the anxieties of his wife burdened him heavily.

The bailiff came often to the great house, and made speeches expressive of his hearty disgust at the state of affairs there, but his wife and daughters held themselves righteously aloof. The bailiff's son came frequently, but Miss Winter carefully avoided him, his appearance being always the signal for her withdrawal from garden or drawing-room. And still, despite all the indications of a suppresed fire, Gwendoline had no suspicious that all was not right.

But this calm was to be broken up. The hour of the girl's awakening was at hand.

One day in September she went to ride as usual. She had left off the habit of having a groom to attend upon her, and went alone. The shooting season had commenced. For several years the bailiff had let the shooting during the season, and already sportsmen, with their bags and guns and dogs, were to be met with daily upon the moors. Gwendoline had carefully avoided them so far, and expected to continue to escape their notice.

She knew that the shooting box, a picturesque little cottage, was some three or four miles distant from Lonemoor, and that it had been taken by a young gentleman, who was now occupying it with a party of friends. Her rambles were made in an opposite direction to the shooting-lodge, and upon this occasion she confirmed to her new custom.

The road to Penistone stretched over the moors, a grey, serpent-like line, winding through the gorse and heather, and she rode leisurely along upon it.

No one was in sight anywhere upon the wide purple moors. The air was crisp, clear, and bracing. It was one of those days when the mere sense of existence is a luxury—when every sense is steeped in a deep and delicious satisfaction. Gwendoline had no errand in view—she rode for riding's sake, and because the sense of freedom was pleasant. Of late, the presence of her groom had grown irksome, and she had fancied that he had grown less respectful to her.

She rode several miles, and then, attracted by some wild wayside flowers, dismounted and plucked them. She walked a little distance thereafter, her habit caught up under her arm, one hand upon her bridle-rein, the other full of flowers.

She was so walking when a waggonette, containing the three Misses Orkney, with their fat and commonplace mamma, approaching her from the direction of Penistone.

As the waggonette passed, the eldest Miss Orkney, who was driving, slackened the speed of her shaggy pony, and the four Orkney women stared insolently at the young girl, who faced them bravely, but with a flushing cheek.

Gwendoline Winter had never looked more lovely than she did now, in her dark blue habit, with her tall hat surmounting her straight Greek features, and with one massive bronze-coloured curl straying over her shoulder. She looked every inch of an aristocrat, as Claxton Orkney once said, and she met the insulting looks of her enemies with a haughty glance, and then walked on.

The Orkney woman tittered and muttered some contemptuous words, and drove straight on. Gwen stopped short, her face darkening, her brows knitting themselves together in mutinous fashion, her purple eyes growing black in the sudden passion that seized upon her.

"How dare you look at me like that?" she said to herself. "How dare they? I've a good mind to ride after them and ask them what they mean. Cowards! Mean, pitiful cowards! I'll stand this no longer. I'll go back to the *pensionnat*! I'll write to Squire Markham, and ask him what he means by leaving me here to be exposed to the insults of such—such creatures!"

The hearty passion Gwen put into the last words greatly relieved her.

"No, I won't go after them," she said, upon second thought, gazing after the waggonette "Let them act out their natures. I'll write to Squire Markham, and tell him just how things are going here, and he shall either come home to protect me, or he shall find another home for me."

The sound of horses' hoofs aroused her. Turning abruptly, she beheld Claxton Orkney approaching on horseback, and also from the direction of Penistone. The young man had attended his feminine relatives upon a shopping expedition, and was now returning home leisurely, just keeping them in view.

Gwen turned to mount. Too late. Young Orkney had touched up his horse, and was at her side as soon as she had disembarrassed herself of the flowers.

Orkney raised his hat courteously, his face lighting up with a glow of pleasure.

"A lovely day, Miss Gwendoline," said her admirer. "Are you alone? Is it quite safe for you to ride alone upon the moor, now that the sportsmen are here?"

"Quite safe, I think," answered Gwen, coolly, endeavouring to pass him.

"Permit me to accompany you," said Orkney, wheeling his horse. "It is hardly prudent for you to be alone."

"I have no fears," said Gwen, quietly. "And I prefer to be alone," she added pointedly.

But Mr. Claxton Orkney's ardour was not dampened by this rebuff. He dismounted, and leading his own horse, walked at her side.

"You have avoided me lately, Miss Gwendoline," he said, reproachfully. "You withdraw to your own rooms when I come to Lonemoor, and give me no chance for private speech with you. But luck has befriended me. I have something of the utmost importance to say to you, Gwendoline. Hear me. No, you shall not mount until you hear me. You will not see me when I come to Lonemoor, and you shall hear me now."

He seized her hand. Gwen snatched it away in a quick fury.

"Don't touch me," she commanded. "Don't touch me. Keep your distance, sir. If you have anything to say to me, say it, and be quick about it."

To be continued.

HANDYSIDE'S ROOMS 126, KING'S CROSS ROAD, LONDON, Feb. 28th., 1891.

MR. G. HANDYSIDE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is a description of the work and cures under my supervision, in London. In a little over three months I have taken in hand over 700 patients to whom I give medicine free. Many are already cured, and the rest still under my treatment. The patients are suffering from Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, Rheumatism, Indigestion, Fits, Eruptions, Sleeplessness, Costiveness, Paralysis, and Cancer, and the results in each class of these complaints have been most marvelous. There are many who were laid up with consumption, when you sent me here three months ago, who are now perfectly well and able to attend to their daily occupation. A Miss Hobbs, 15, George Street, Canning Town, London, E., had been in consumption for three years. She had been under the best medical treatment, and the best hospitals, but they could do her no good, she was continually wasting away, suffering cold night sweats, bad cough and spit; in six weeks after taking the consumption cure, she is perfectly well and able to take a situation. Another case "and I enclose his testimonial." Mr John Martin, 52, Wharton Street, W. C., who had been suffering from Bronchitis and Asthma for many years, had tried everything he knew of, also hospitals and doctors, before he came to me he had to be propped up with pillows in bed, was getting weaker and weaker, and unable to work, he has had 3 lots of Handyside's Blood Purifier and is now able to work. The Rheumatic cures, have been numerous and wonderful, persons have come to the van bound in grip of Rheumatic pains in 20 minutes the pains have been driven away and they have run jumped and danced and the blood purifier has perfectly cured them. In paralysis there have been some wonderful effects. Altogether I have in hand about 40 of this class, and there have been some magical results, one is Miss Inman, 44, Parnell Road Old Ford, London, E. she is 15 years of age has been suffering nearly all her life, before she came to me Miss Inman had never been able to put up her own hair, I had her come to my room, and in this case I used the electric chair and at the same time applied the liniment, after the first visit she could do her hair and has been getting better ever since. I have another one Mr Archer, 75, Arcadia Street, Bow, London, E. This gentleman had been paralysed for 7 years, in both legs, for five years he had not been able to stand without assistance; in six weeks under our treatment he came to the van for his medicine, without any assistance. I have a number of children who were paralysed in the arm and hand, and were not able to open the hand, only when forced open by the other hand, but now they can open their hand at will which is a most wonderful result, and all these cases have been under the best hospitals and doctors. I have had the same success in fits. There was one child brought to me at the van, by its mother, Mrs Anderson, Cardigan Road Old Ford, London, E. This child had been suffering from fits, 2 years 9 months, and had 10 fits in a day, she had been under the best medical treatment, and they had failed to do her any good. I gave them the Blood Purifier, the first week they were reduced to 8 a day the second week to one and the last time I saw the mother she said the child had not had a fit for a fortnight, this marvellous result was effected in one month. I have many other of a similar nature all of which are getting better. But the most wonderful cure I have in hand is a case of cancer, a lady, Mrs McGuire, Orchard Avenue, Barking, London, E., has been suffering from this distressing disease for many years, she has been under 46 medical men, in the best London Hospitals, and has formed the special subject for the physician's lectures, and the only hope they have ever given her, has been the cutting of the cancer away, this they have tried to do but as often as they have cut it, it has grown deeper into the head, for 4 years the lady has been very bad, the eye has been taken completely out, they have cut her 6 times and tried to burn it out 22 times, but it has baffled all their efforts. When the lady came to me, she had not had a night's rest for 4 years, and the eye was worse than it had ever been, the poor woman was distracted with pain, her memory failed her and she scarcely knew how or what to do, she consulted medical men at London and not one would undertake her case, they could give her no relief in her distraction. Her children said "Mother," why don't you go to Mr Handyside he is doing a great deal of good, try him. She came, and after she had taken it 5 days, she got the first night's rest she had had for 4 years, when Mrs McGuire had taken the medicine 4 weeks her pains were entirely gone. The case itself baffles description, and it must be seen to be realized. The people of Barking district, London, are astounded at the work we are doing.

Yours truly,
J. BROOKS.

A testimony from the Rev Father Hickley, Barking, London, accompanies the above, and also from Mr W. R. Lonythies, Coffee Tavern, 5, Heath Street, London.

I must confess I could not believe it, and went myself to see it, and I have no hesitation in confirming the opinion of the lady herself, and all in the neighbourhood that it is a perfect cure. The upper bone of the eye is eaten away. I will in August give two thousand of my patients a trip from London to the Crystal Palace, and give prizes for dancing to those whom doctors have given up as incurable. The lady that is cured of cancer will likely be amongst them. Everyone should go and see the marvellous effect of this medicine. The doctors are satisfied that all diseases arises from animalcula, or insects in the blood. If this kills the insect of cancer it is exactly what Koch and all great medical progressists are endeavouring to find out. When this medicine possesses this power, it is no wonder that it cures cancer, consumption, indigestion, costiveness, night sweats, fits, languidness, a weak heart, eruptions of the skin, runnings of the body, change of life, sleeplessness, fevers, small-pox and measles.

Every aged person who takes it should notice what a youthful elasticity it imparts to them, it makes them quite jaunty and young. By purifying the blood it is the best thing for the complexion, and restoring to age a great portion of the loveliness of youth. It is no use taking it for the restoring the lungs, or what cancer has eaten away. What is eaten away this medicine cannot restore, it will only arrest further decay. It has cured hundreds when taken in time, but when the lungs are far gone, it will only sooth the cough, and temporily restore the strength. Everyone should go to Handyside's Consulting Room, 126, King's Cross, London, and hear what the patients say about the cure of consumption, and they will not be surprised that the deaths from consumption have fallen from 80,000 to 50,000, deaths per annum.

I do not need to say anything about Handysides Rheumatic Cure fifteen hundred people have been rubbed some of 20 years' standing with the assistance of Handysides Blood Purifier all have been cured and only three cases have relapsed, any one can come and be rubbed by their friends there is no art in it, but those who belong to that class of people that condemn a thing without investigation, I suppose they must go on suffering.

Those who prefer to take pills, should never be without Handyside's No. 1 pills, they should be in everyone's house they operate quick, and, in cases of inflammation they may save life. No. 2 is a grand liver pill, anyone troubled with bile should not be without them, they purge away the bile and remove the gloomy feeling that all bilious people are afflicted with. No. 3 pill is the grandest pill for building up the constitution ever discovered, they contain a large amount of Handyside's Blood Purifier, and never lose their effect, but if they do not relieve the bowels every third day, No. 1 should be taken with No. 3 until No. 3 pill will do its work. Those who try them and notices the improvement in their health soon find out which pills are worth a guinea a box. They are entirely made of herbs, and a very small pill, and the boxes are large, therefore no one need be afraid of taking a few extra, and if they can be made to do their work, no pill in the world is equal to them. I deposited a £1,000 and challenged all the doctors in the world united, and I have kept £20,000 laid in my bank for some time, so that I would be ready if anyone accepted my challenge, but none has dared to come forward, and since cancer has been cured I fear there is less chance of getting any one now to accept the challenge. Handyside's Consumption Cure, 3 and 10, Blood Purifier 2 shillings and 6 pence, Health Restorer 1/1, Handyside's pills, 1 shilling per box, Rheumatic Cure 1 shilling per bottle. Everyone should take Handyside's Health Restorer, it builds up the system, and keeps away disease.

Handyside's Mother Shipley's Syrup, a ready relief for a bad stomach, eating and drinking what has not agreed with them; no connection with Mother Seigal's Syrup try both and see which is the best. It does not build the system up like Handyside's Blood purifier, but it give relief sooner. Price One Shilling per bottle.

Beware of imitations; none are genuine that has not 'Handyside, Bentinck," on the Government stamp. Many lives have been lost by unprincipled chemist's recommending their own preparations for the sake of extra profit. Those who have not faith that they are getting the genuine articles should write to G. Handysides, Newcastle; it will be supplied at the regular price, carriage paid, with the following guarantee sent with each lot enclosed.

"So certain am I of the marvellous effect of "Handyside's Consumption Cure," and also his "Blood Purifier," and "Rheumatic Cure," that I hereby certify that if this medicine does not do them more good than any other medicine I agree to return the money."

Ask any chemist to give you the same guarantee, and this will put a stop to imposition.

Handyside's Nerve Restorer has never failed to take away the desire for alcholic drink, but it is no use one buying it to cure another, for if they have not the desire to reform, they will get what they like best when out of sight.

This medicine is sent out for any of these diseases, carriage paid, without the money, with a note enclosed, that if it does not do them more good than other medicine they have taken, they need not send the money, and it is surprising how few do not send the money. Nearly 6,000 lots have been sent out, and only one has applied for the money.

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CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By Wearsider.]

The launching of the boats over, the members proceeded to perform before Mr A. F. Fenton's camera, and in the midst of the preparation a laughable, but somewhat exciting incident occurred. Joseph Thompson, winner and owner of the Chester-le-Street Champion Cup, and Ed. Hutchinson, holder of the McLean Challenge Cup, were seated in the double sculling boat, which had been euphoniously named the Heroes, and the two rowers also spoken of as heroes, when they suddenly capsized in deep water. Hutchinson is an expert swimmer, and made very light of the upset; but Thompson, who does not possess that very necessary qualification in a rower, immediately mounted himself astride upon the up-turned craft, and sat there amid the laughter of the crowd upon the banks. Mr J. A. Green, the captain of the club, went forward to him in an open boat, and when Thompson got hold of the stern end, dragged him ashore, at great risk to himself, amid the plaudits of the spectators.

In the evening, there was a social gathering of members and friends at their club house, Mrs McLean's Crown Inn, a rare muster of the fraternity putting in an appearance. The usual complimentary toasts were received with even more than the usual amount of enthusiasm. Capital singing was provided by the members and others, and Mr Finlay was in his best form at the piano, and in his funny songs. Of course the original Blue Boat song was sung by the composer, and as usual brought down the artiste? As I have often said before in this column those rowists are really plucky fellows, and if any credit is due to one more than another, where all have laboured so earnestly, it is to Mr J. A. Green, the captain, and Mr J. Russell, the hon. secretary. But all have done well and will do better yet.

On Tuesday evening, at a general meeting, the members arrived unanimously at an important decision. The decided that whatever they might have done when "they were in furnished lodgings" as one member facetiously put it, they would not now countenance nor encourage Sunday rowing. A resolution was adopted that the boat-house remain closed, and that no club boat be allowed on the river on Sundays. This is clearly a step in the right direction, and will meet with the applause of all right-minded people. Many of the members proclaimed themselves as being individually in favour of Sunday rowing, but were each and all willing to forego their own inclinations to meet the requirements and benefit of the club. This action of the club, I am sure, will commend itself; and neither will the club nor the individual members suffer in consequence of the decision of the meeting.

Another serious accident, happily unattended with loss of human life, occurred last Thursday afternoon, at the New Bridge. A horse belonging to Mr Whittaker, of Sunderland, ran off down the bank with a ton of potatoes upon a flat cart, and failing to make the turn for the bridge was dashed with terrific force against the wall. So violent was the force of the collision that the masonry gave way, and the horse was thrown over the wall, where it fell a distance of nearly twenty feet on the other side. The horse, a very valuable animal, was so seriously injured that it had to be shot there and then. Only a few days previously a young man named Gibson was riding a bicycle down the same bank, and losing control of his machine was thrown violently against the wall, sustaining severe injuries.

At last the water cart has made its appearance, and during the week, the Front Street has been regularly watered, much to the delight and benefit of the shopkeepers on the street. Why cannot the County Council, whose duty it is, or the Rural Sanitary Authority, whose duty it is not, provide a horse brush and thoroughly clean this important thoroughfare once a day? It's present condition is not creditable to anybody concerned. But we shall have a Local Board some day soon.

Our city is threatened with a new danger, but, thanks to the good sense of the magistrates it is likely to be avoided. Some one, rightly or wrongly, has an idea that a whole host of children should be sent to an industrial school. The accommodation in those institutions is already taxed to its fullest extent, and if our magistrates paid any attention to the demands of the officer, Chester-le-Street would require an industrial school of its own, for its own especial use. Fortunately, and very properly the justices do not fall in with such wholesale sweepings.

I have before pointed out, that since the School Attendance Committee found it necessary to appoint an additional attendance officer, the public, who have the money to find, ought in all fairness to know whether "the game is worth the candle." Returns ought to be published, showing whether the attendance is better or worse since the additional expenditure has been incurred. Nothing of the kind reaches our ear, and we are just as much in the dark as before. It would not be a very difficult matter for each officer to supply a tabulated statement of the attendance at such school in his district. Such a plan would meet with general satisfaction and commendation. At least, it would at all events show whether the work of the officers was done in a satisfactory way or not, and it would also show whether it was wise and necessary to appoint an additional officer, or whether it is not still necessary to further improve the staff, in order to secure the most satisfactory results.

The School Attendance Committee might also further extend their usefulness by calling before them delinquent parents, instead of accepting the unqualified second hand statements of their officers. Cases have arisen where the committee have heard the officer, and most respectable people have, without further ado, been hauled before the magistrates like so many felons. At least the committee might hear an explanation before proceeding to such extreme measures, it would be only fair, both to themselves and to others. There is also another consideration, their officers might be instructed—if their own sense does not tell them—that it does not out of necessity follow that because a child is not sent to this, or that, particular school, that therefore the child is not being educated. There are many ways in which a child may be educated, without even the assistance of an attendance officer.

At the instance of Mr George Pickering, the Guardians paid a graceful tribute to the memory of the late Mrs Lindsay Wood, of The Hermitage, Chester-le-Street. Mrs Wood was a true friend to and took the most lively interest in the welfare of the inmates in the Poorhouse particularly, and the poor of the district generally. No deserving case failed to benefit from her benevolence, and her demise is indeed a loss to the neighbourhood.

I deeply regret having to announce the death of Mr George Edward Steele, one of the oldest, best-known, and most highly respected tradesmen in our city. A native of Houghton-le-Spring, Mr Steele came to Chester-le-Street a very young man, and set up business as a clock and watchmaker and jeweller, and by dint of untiring energy and straightforward dealing established an extensive and lucrative business.

Mr Steele took an active interest in local affairs —"parish politics," as some folk like to say. He was for many years a Guardian of the poor and member of the Sanitary Authority, only retiring in April through the infirmities of age. A staunch and devout Churchman, Mr Steele was for many years churchwarden, both for the rector and the parish, and his familiar figure will be missed from the services in our parish Church. Mr Steele was also closely identified with the fortunes of the prosperous Chester-le-Street Savings' Bank, of which institution he was treasurer. He also acted as director in several local building societies, all of which were attended with success. He was also a large property owner. The deceased gentleman was stricken with paralysis about a week ago, and never rallied from the attack, dying on Monday afternoon, at the age of 70, and carrying with him the goodwill of his fellow-citizens.

There are no pleasanter walks in our pleasant and beautiful neighbourhood than those by the Wear side, and none more popular. But even these walks are likely to be made distasteful to respectable people through the profane and vulgar language of some of the boat-rowing fraternity while practising on the river. Even Sunday does not deter them from indulging in their strong but limited language of invective and expletive. Conduct of this sort is as reprehensible and objectionable as the carding and gambling which went on by the side of the same walk some years ago, but which, thanks to Inspector Maxwell, has been considerably diminished. It will indeed be a pity if people are to be prevented from enjoying a pleasant walk because of the annoyance caused by the vulgarity of what are otherwise no doubt a set of decent-going sportsmen. This has been brought to my knowledge by what transpired on Sunday morning. It may interest my informants to know that the members of the Chester-le-Street Rowing Club have adopted "Sunday closing," and neither is their boat-house open, nor are their boats in use on Sundays. This is a consideration for the feelings of the public, which might with advantage be followed in other quarters.

I have no wish to trespass upon the manor of my friend "L.B.W.," but I cannot refrain from saying a word of praise of my esteemed friends our "citizen" cricketers, who are shewing such grand form this season. Last Monday week they played Philadelphia, and for the second time this season administered a defeat to their old rivals; on Wednesday, they were visited by Mr S. J. Crawford's famous combination, "The Tynesider Wanderers," and although the match ended in a draw, I have the authority of Mr Crawford for saying that if twenty minutes' more had been played the "citizens" would have beaten the Momads. On Saturday, they journeyed to Hetton, and beat the Lyons by 23, thus securing three important wins in one week. Well played "citizens."

Some busy bodies in Chester-le-Street are, or profess to be, very anxious about the building up of the footbridge which fell down on Shrove Tuesday. It will be remembered that at a public meeting, informally formed, a sum of £80 was voted for the purpose of putting up an iron bridge in place of the gew-gaw which collapsed during the football match. It will also be remembered that I pointed out then that it was the duty of the County Council to re-build the bridge. That opinion has been endorsed by the Highway Board, who have referred the matter to the proper quarter—the County Council. All the same, our roads and footpaths are just as safe in the hands of the waywardens as in the hands of the County Council.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[By "Stanhope."]

Sir Joseph has again visited the dale, and addressed his constituents at St. John's Chapel. This time he did not trot out the Weardale railway in his speech, but talked it over privately with the leading lights previous to the meeting. Weardale is as near having a railway now as it was fifty years ago. The chances are all against it. Already the Weardale Iron Company have a mineral line into the dale, and for the small amount of railway traffic the Lead Company have it matters little whether there is a railway or not. A deputation is to wait upon the Commissioners at Whitehall. Of course, they will be courteously treated, and there will be promises of the consideration of their proposals, and probably it will end in smoke as it has often done before. A similar deputation has waited upon the North-Eastern Railway directors. They were courteously treated, but what came of it? Practically nothing. The ironstone and lead veins in Weardale are all now leased from the Commissioners, and the nature of those leases are only too well known. One company acts the part of the dog in the manger with the ironstone, and the other plays a similar but rather better part with the lead-mining.

"Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey,
Where royalties flourish and industries decay."

For the Weardale Railway project to succeed, it should not stop in Weardale, but be carried through to Alston. By connecting the Stockton and Darlington lines with those of the West it would make the directest route to and from Scotland, and cut off some 80 or 100 miles by the Eden Valley. It is generally considered by experts that the tunnelling of Killhope would amply repay the speculators, by tapping rich veins of mineral wealth, of silver and lead, and other ores which are known to traverse the stratas of rock of which the Weardale alps are composed. Here, ye gods of finance and speculation—here's a chance for you, an investment that would pay and fill your coffers to overflowing, besides giving a fillip to the drooping industries of a depressed country, and putting a stop to the depopulation of an extensive mining field embracing, as it does, Weardale, Allendale, and the district of the next water, west of Killhope. Fancy the express, the flying Scotchman, emerging from Killhope at lightning speed down Weardale, bearing in it the Queen on her return from Scotland; the Grand Old Man returning from his Midlothian campaign, bowing to the crowds gathered at the stations in the valley—St. John's Chapel, Stanhope, Wolsingham, and Bishop Auckland; or Mr Balfour and Lord Salisbury returning from Glasgow.

Very few of the oldest inhabitants can ever remember us having so fine a February, or so miserable a May, as we have experienced in this year of grace 1891; and yet the weather prophets all claim infallibility in reference to predictions. They are all right, no doubt. Their predictions are so worded and formed as to be right which ever way the clerk of the weather decides. The man that can with any reasonable degree of accuracy foretell the weather twenty-four hours ahead is yet unborn. On the 12th we had tropical heat, since then—even the next few days—we had ice and snow, and cold weather such as would have done credit to Christmas.

An esteemed correspondent of the *Newcastle Daily Journal* is surprised that anyone in Weardale would shoot a kingfisher. He needn't. Any strange bird venturing into the dale has a bad time of it. It is hunted, like partridge on the mountains, until it fall a prey to some gun. Its rareness is an incentive to the dale sportsmen to shoot it. There is a class in Weardale, as in most other places, so fond of the gun as to shoot anything rare in the air, on the land, or in the water, even his Satanic Majesty himself, if he was to appear and could be shot.

A match factory has been established on Pikestone Moor, where matchwood is made in double quick time from wood hurdles, by machinery of original and antique character, viz., a stout post and a strong muscular bullock walloper behind it.

White Kirtle must be a queer place. Cattle will not face it. They go like shavers until they arrive at the top of the row of houses. There they suddenly stop, sniff the air, turn their tails, and gallop back. They will not have it somehow on any account. Only the other day some farmers were in an awkward fix. They had driven the cattle almost to this wonderful place in Wolsingham parish several times, when some young ladies took pity on them, armed themselves with stout sticks, and became bullock wallopers with a vengeance. What the lords of creation could not accomplish these White Kirtle maidens managed easily, and proved that their bullock walloping proclivities were superior to those of the sterner sex. One young lady broke her cudgel over an incorrigible bullock's back. The bullocks were glad enough to get through the place, and after that they went as nicely as could be wished for. Evidently, they do not care to be under petticoat government.

The curiosity shop at Stanhope, occupied by the Messrs Tickler, has had another acquisition in the shape of an old steel picked up in the streets of Sebastopol, just after the siege, by one who was there. It is not much of a sight, in itself, nor is it of much intrinsic value as a steel; but the circumstances which surrounded the siege render it valuable as a memento of our last brush with the bear.

An owl has nested in the outbuildings adjoining the grand old manse of Rogerley Hall, Frosterley, and is rearing three young "Jenny owlets"—a most unusual circumstance for Weardale. By-and-bye they will disturb the peace of the "belted cruisers" of Lovers' Lane, with their unearthly screechings at a late hour, thus verifying the truthfulness of the old adage—"The course of true love never did run smooth."

Wolsingham is again to the front in procuring for the public a special musical treat. The old town is arousing from its lethargy, and is making a desperate effort to be leading in the van of progress. If it only had a pushing and enterprising Local Board, with its sulphur springs, iron water, and scenic beauties, it might favourably vie with Stanhope as a popular health and pleasure resort.

The bachelors of Eastgate seem in for it proper. One by one of late has been captured by the enemy. Fortresses which were deemed impregnable have capitulated and fallen. Some were really thought to be invulnerable, yet they have been easily captured after a short siege. Victory after victory have been achieved, and the fair sex have succeeded all along the line, until nearly every castle of importance has fallen to their guns, and what remains standing is threatened. The garrisons cannot hold out. Eastgate, Lynn, and Billingshield have fallen; Ludwell and Brotherlea are threatened. The former has already run up the white flag, and the latter has given up the keys of the castle. The few remaining bachelors will either have to cross the Rubicon, or leave the district; some have left it, but have returned to combat with their formidable antagonists, and their fate is sealed, and already there are indications of a cave in. The flag of truce has been hoisted. Eastgate sports will see other castles attacked, not so formidable as some that have fallen. Their chances of holding out are small indeed.

The gallant Lothairs of Weardale write gushing epistles, occasionally, to the fair ones they fall in love with. Sometimes they are accidentally dropped out of the fair one's pocket, and picked up by a waggish fellow, who lets all his acquaintances read it. I give the contents of one thus picked up, in the hope that young ladies will be more careful with them:—

Dear Miss,—I beg herewith to make you an offer of my hand and heart. I have long admired you, and now that I am in a position to support a wife, I hasten to throw my all at your feet. I am a noble young man. I never stay out late at night, and never go out to tea. I am fond of dogs, and rather like a cat. Chide me not for fondly cherishing the ambition that you will one day be my helpmate and sweetheart for life. I will toil on, hope on, if not to win a proud and lofty sphere, to feel worthy of one I trust I may some day, before long, call my own sweet loving darling.—Ever affectionately yours,

—The waggish fellow who picked it up wrote on the bottom the following lines, and sent it back to the gushing writer, in order to damp his ardour a little:—

"A pretty maid is nice to see,
And she is also nice to woo;
But it matters not how sweet she be,
If she isn't sweet on you."

FATALITY AT VICTORIA GARESFIELD COLLIERY.

Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, an inquest was held at Mr R. Rowell's, Miners' Arms, Low Spen, concerning the death of Robert Stoker, aged 50, living at Ramsay's Cottages, Spen.—The evidence showed that on Monday, while at work in the Victoria Garesfield Colliery, a piece of stone, upwards of a ton in weight, fell upon the unfortunate man, crushing him to death.—A verdict of "Accidentally killed" was returned.—The interment to place at Winlaton last evening, the funeral being very largely attended.

DEATH OF A LOCAL RESIDENT IN NORFOLK.

The funeral of the late Mr H. Ridley Surtees, who died on the 12th inst., after a few days illness, aged 54 years, from a complication of diseases, took place in Didlington churchyard on the 15th inst. The deceased was for 20 years head gamekeeper for Mr William Amhurst Tyssen Amherst, M.P., and was a native of the North of England, having been born at High Fortherley, a small village near Riding Mill. The deceased was a powerfully-built man, of great stature, considerably over six feet, and stout in proportion. He was a faithful and good servant, quiet and unostentatious in his manners, and was regarded by those under his command with the greatest possible respect, and it may be said he won the confidence and sincere esteem of both his employer and all in whom he came in contact. It therefore was not surprising to see such a large number of persons present at the funeral to pay a last tribute of regard. A long procession left his late residence shortly after three o'clock, and wended its way through the park to the Church. In front of the coffin walked the keepers in their livery, with black bands on their left arms. Next to the coffin came the widow and brother of deceased (Mr J. Surtees, Shotley Bridge), then Mrs Davison (Castleside), and Mrs R. Barron (Shotley Bridge), sisters, the other friends following in their degree of relationship, with the *employes* on the estate in the rear, there being large numbers from Didlington, Northwold, Watton, Foulden, Brandon, &c. Mr W. Ford represented Mr W. A. T. Amherst, who was absent through illness, and Lord William Cecil, who was with his father, the Marquis of Exeter, during his illness at Burghley House, Stamford. The Church was crowded, many being unable to obtain admittance. The service was performed by the Rev H. C. Hart, vicar, a favourite hymn of deceased, "Jesu, lover of my soul," being sung, and the organist, Mr Neal, played the "Dead March *in Saul*." The shell was of elm, and the coffin of polished oak, with brass mountings, it being seven feet three inches in length, three feet wide, and two feet deep, and was borne on the shoulders of six stalwart men. Upon the brass escatcheon were these words:—"Henry Ridley Surtees, born August 6th, 1836; died May 12th, 1891. Thank God," this final sentence being his last words just before death. He leaves a widow, but no family. The coffin was literally covered with most beautiful wreaths. Among the many contributors were:—Mr, Mrs, and Misses Amherst, Captain and Mrs Drummond, Rev H. C. Hart, household servants and workmen, gamekeepers on the Didlington estate, Mrs and Master Alfred Bunkall (King's Lynn), Mr and Mrs Dixon, Mr and Mrs Beeby, Mr and Mrs Jacobs, Mr, Mrs, and Miss Barron (Shotley Bridge), Mr G. Renwick (Newcastle), Mr and Mrs Ward, Mr and Mrs Isley, Mr and Mrs Ingram, Mrs Matthews, Mr Tuck (Hellborough), Messrs Collier (Norwich), Mr G. Dixon, Miss B. and N. Isley, &c. Numerous telegrams and letters of sympathy were received from all parts, among which were some from Lady William Cecil, Mr W. Amherst, Miss Sybil A. T. Amherst, &c. The undertakers were Messrs Parker and Warren, Northwold. On Sunday, the Rev H. C. Hart preached a funeral sermon from the text Romans viii., 16th and 17th verses, in the presence of a large congregation.—From the *Lynn Advertiser, Norfolk and Cambridge Herald*, of May 23rd.

The gratis paper pattern presented to every purchaser of Mrs Leach's Practical Family Dressmaker consists this month of a Fashionable Cape, and in addition to the usual useful and entertaining contents there is a large variety of new designs for Spring and Summer Capes, Jackets, Mantles, &c.

Weldon's Ladies' Journal for June (3d.) is an excellent number. Undoubtedly capes lead as an outdoor garment, and the prettiest models are now shown in lace and jet, the cut out paper pattern of the Elaine lace cape is presented, also a coloured plate of summer designs.

Weldon's Jewelled Embroidery (2d.) a new fancy work for ladies. The issue forms No. 66 of Weldon's Practical Needlework and contains thirty-two choice wood engravings and instructions how to use jewels with embroidery silks for personal and home decoration.

"The World of Fashion" for June is a reliable guide for ladies in all manners pertaining to dress for ladies and children for the present season. Excellent illustrations accompany the work, and short articles on subjects of importance to ladies are also included.

DEATH OF MRS ESPIN, OF WOLSINGHAM.

Mrs Espin, wife of the Rev Chancellor Espin, rector of Wolsingham, died at her residence on Wednesday from influenza.

THE HEALTH OF LANCHESTER UNION.

At the monthly meeting yesterday (Thursday) afternoon of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority—Mr Wm. Logan presiding—the following reports were read from the Medical Officers:—

Lanchester District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,—Since my last report, the following are the fresh cases of epidemic disease that have appeared in this district:—9 cases of scarlet fever, 2 of continued fever, 5 of whooping cough, 2 of measles, and 2 of erysipelas, at Langley Park; 1 case of scarlet fever, 7 of whooping cough, and 2 of erysipelas, at Ushaw Moor; 2 cases of scarlet fever at Esh; 1 case of typhoid fever in the cottage belonging the Stag's Head Inn, near Waterhouses; 4 cases of scarlet fever at Hamsteels Colliery; 1 case of scarlet fever, 3 of whooping cough, and 3 of measles, at Quebec; 1 case of continued fever, and 4 of whooping cough, at Cornsay Colliery; 3 cases of scarlet fever at East Hedleyhope; 2 cases of scarlet fever at High Stoop; 2 cases of scarlet fever, and 1 of erysipelas, at Lanchester; 1 case of scarlet fever at Quaking Houses.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

John Wilson.

May 28th, 1891.

Eastern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,—The following cases of infectious diseases were notified to me during the month, viz.:—2 of scarlatina at Dipton, 2 at East Castle, 3 at Kyo, 5 at Hill Top, and 4 at Flint Hill.

The mortality for the month is below the average; 26 deaths were registered, giving an annual ratio of 16 per 1,000.—I remain, gentleman, your obedient servant,

T. Benson, Medical Officer.

May 26th, 1891.

Medomsley District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,—The following cases of infectious disease have come under my notice during the month:—Two cases at Milkwell Burn, one scarlatina and the other diphtheria; four cases at Hamsterley Colliery, three scarlatina and one typhoid; Blackhall Mill—one case of scarlatina; one of scarlatina at Allendale Cottages; Croniwell—one case of erysipelas; Ebchester is free from zymotic disease.

The health of the district continues in a satisfactory state.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. T. Bolton.

Ebchester Hill, May 27th, 1891.

NATURALISTS AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Brilliant weather attended the first field meeting of the season in connection with the Tyneside Naturalists' Field Club, which was held on Wednesday at Chester-le-Street. The party was not a large one, and, on arrival at Chester-le-Street, Lambton Park was first visited, permission having been kindly granted by the Earl of Durham. Here the party was courteously met by Mr Taylor, head gardener. After a pleasant ramble through the gardens and vineries, the castle was visited, and the antique furniture and lovely pictures admired. Taking a circuitous route the party strolled through the park and back to Chester-le-Street, where dinner was partaken of at the Lambton Arms Hotel. Councillor Barkus, of Newcastle, presided, the vice-chair being occupied by Mr Thos. Thompson. After a substantial repast, Mr Blandford read an interesting paper on "Bird life at the Farne Islands," which described the mode of living of sea birds. After a tour round Chester-le-Street, the return journey to Newcastle was made at six o'clock.

INTERESTING GATHERING AT PEASES' WEST.

PRESENTATION TO MR T. DOUGLAS, J.P.

On Monday, in the British School, Peases' West, a large proportion of the adult inhabitants assembled to take part in the ceremony of presenting to Mr Thomas Douglas, J.P., C.C., colliery manager for Messrs Pease and Partners, several tokens of esteem on the occasion of his leaving the district to live in retirement at Darlington. The rostrum had been covered with crimson cloth and flowering plants. In the centre was a handsomely illuminated address to Mr Douglas, and on a table to the right were displayed a number of books, &c., to be presented to the son of Mr Douglas. The presentation to Mr T. Douglas took the form of the illuminated address and a purse of gold, while to Mrs Douglas was presented a very elegant phaeton with complete equipment. Prior to the ceremony the Peases' West band played a number of musical selections on the lawn in front of West Lodge (the residence of Mr Douglas), and also rendered a few airs in the school-room immediately before the ceremony, over which Mr Robert Dixon presided.

Sir Joseph Pease made the presentation. The address was as follows:—

Honoured and Dear Sir,—It is with heartfelt regret that we learn of your anticipated removal from our midst. We feel we are losing, not only a mining engineer of the first rank, but one who has proved a true friend and helper to all. It is said that "character is the crown and glory of life," and after a residence of thirty-six years amongst us we feel assured that such a crown is yours.

The development of the various industries of Messrs Pease and Partners, and the great success they have attained under your guidance, prove conclusively your great ability for general management and your capacity for mastering every phase of mining work.

The humanitarian side of mining life has always been a distinguishing feature of Messrs Pease and Partners, and we know how well you have seconded their efforts. Improved dwelling-houses, model institutes, and model schools have been erected, and have flourished under your beneficent care. Scholars, students, teachers, and the public generally grieve at the loss that these institutions will sustain.

A noble trait of your character has been your readiness to succour the distressed. Many gratefully testify to your timely help which enabled them to find the path of progress again.

The mining pupils trained by you have received the impress of their master, and, in different parts of the kingdom, fill high positions, a credit to yourself and to the profession generally. It is also a matter for extreme gratitude that the Peases' West Collieries have enjoyed an immunity from trade disputes and accidents—a freedom obtained through your foresight, discretion, and superior judgment, exercised at all times for the benefit of employers and employes.

The public duties devolving upon you as a county magistrate and county councillor—offices for which your long and varied experience so well fit you—have, in addition to your onerous professional work, had your earnest attention.

The energies of your [illegible] wife have in no less a degree been directed towards the elevating of domestic life. The mo[illegible]thers and daughters of the mining population are grateful for and bear testimony to her Christian example and never varying regard for their welfare. Many homes have been comforted in sickness and sorrow by her practical sympathy and prayers.

We beg your acceptance of this humble tribute, and also of a carriage and equipments for Mrs Douglas, and a purse of gold for yourself.

Into your new sphere you carry our sincerest wishes that [illegible] you may for many years be spared to continue your work of social progress and Christian philanthropy, realising that

"There's nothing 'neath the sun
Gives a truer satisfaction
Than a sense of duty done."

Robert Dixon.
Lawrence Candler.
Charles S. Carnes.
Alex. Mackay, M.D.
James Wild.
Jno. Geo. Crofton.
Thos. Serginson.
Wm. Oughton.

Mr Douglas, on behalf of his wife and himself, suitably responded.

Mr Douglas is a brother of Mr C. P. Douglas, of Consett.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE OCCASIONAL COURT.

Thursday, May 28th—Before Councillor James Annandale.

DRUNK.

Patrick Doran (29), John Street, Consett, was charged by P.C. Banks with being drunk and disorderly at Consett, on Wednesday night.—Fined 5s and costs.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."

Sylvester Gruger (30), labourer, was brought up for a similar offence.—P.C. Haw stated that about 11·30 on Wednesday night, he came across prisoner in Trafalgar Street, helplessly drunk, and singing "Driven from home." (Laughter).—Fined 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment.

ALLEGED ASSAULT UPON THE POLICE AT CONSETT.

Two brothers named *James Bradley* (28), steelworker's labourer, and *Dominic Bradley* (20), puddler, living in Princess Street, Consett, were charged with committing an assault upon P.C. Bradley, at the corner of Church Street, Consett, on the previous (Wednesday) evening. James Bradley was likewise charged with being drunk and disorderly.—Defendants were remanded (on bail) till June 8th.

CRICKET.

To-morrow's Fixtures (Saturday, May 30th).

Consett and District 1st v Hexham 1st, at Hexham.
Medomsley 1st v Ushaw Moor, at Medomsley.
Consett Fell v Catchgate, at Catchgate.
Shotley Bridge 1st v Leadgate 1st, at Leadgate.
Consett Steel Smelters v Leadgate 2nd, at Consett.
Oxhill v South Moor, at South Moor.
West Pelton Violets v East Stanley Nobblers, at West Pelton.
West Stanley 2nd v The Lizzie (Annfield Plain) at The Lizzie.
Tanfield v Burnopfield, at Burnopfield.
The Lizzie 1st (Annfield Plain) v Burnhope, at Burnhope.
Beamish v Blaydon, at Beamish.
Waldridge Fell Lillies v Littleburn 2nd, at Waldridge Fell.
Consett Y.M.C.A.—Captain's v Vice-Captain's team.
Blaydon 1st v Greenside, at Blaydon.
Esh Winning Church Institute v Sleetburn, at Sleetburn.
West Denton v Whickham, at Whickham.
Haydon Bridge v Ryton, at Haydon Bridge.

WEDNESDAY.

Consett and District v North Durham, at Gateshead.

Consett 2nd v Hexham 2nd.—We are authorised to state that the fixture between these two teams has been cancelled.

Consett v Hexham.—To be played at Hexham to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon. Consett team:—A. S. Godfrey (captain), I. R. Epping, T. D. Dales, T. Jameson, W. Turnbull, G. Walton, A. D. Wood, M. Williamson, J. Siddell, S. Rayner, and Dr Wynne. Reserve—Wm. Gibson. The team will leave the Royal Hotel, per brake, at twelve o'clock.

Medomsley v Ushaw Moor.—To be played at Medomsley to-morrow (Saturday), when the home team will be represented by the following:—W. E. Charlton (captain), M. Charlton, Geo. E. Milburn, M. Milburn, W. Cant, R. Cant, A. Little, Dr Mann, Geo. Moon, R. Campbell, and W. Simpson.

Consett Steel Smelters v Leadgate 2nd.—This match will be played to-morrow (Saturday) at Consett, the Smelters team being:—E. Walker, T. Cockburn, J. Mason, H. Whitcombe, J. T. Little, J. Thompson, J. Struthers, H. Stanton, J. Aitken, M. Pratt, and J. Brown.

Lumley Warriors v Craghead Tonic Solfa.—Played at Lumley, and after a very pleasant game, ended in a win for the visitors by two runs. Score:—Tonic Solfa, 49; Warriors, 47.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held yesterday (Thursday), under the presidency of Mr William Logan (chairman). There were present:—Rev C. F. D. Hodge, Councillors J. A. Corry and R. Murray, Messrs W. Rutherford, G. Hobson, Wm. Aynsley, J. Collinson, T. J. Muse, P. Kirkup, R. Robson, W. Gray, T. Nichol, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

Week ending May 20th	151
Corresponding week last year	165
Week ending May 27th	150
Corresponding week last year	159
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	7
Corresponding period last year	9

RATE COLLECTOR FOR MEDOMSLEY TOWNSHIP.

A letter was received from the Local Government Board intimating that they would issue a special order for the appointment of a paid collector of poor rates for the parish of Medomsley.

The Chairman remarked that the order would probably arrive before the next meeting, and then the Board would be in a position to advertise the post. He thought there would be plenty of applicants. (Laughter.)

MEMBERS AND OUT-RELIEF ORDERS.

An item in the relief accounts for wine supplied by a Guardian by order of the relieving officer at Consett to a person receiving parochial relief was struck off by the clerk, on the ground that the payment was illegal.

Mr Collinson thought the Act only applied to contracts, and that the master of the Workhouse or relieving officer could go wherever they liked for goods required and pay cash down.

The Chairman said that such was not the case. Section 37 of the Poor Law Act distinctly set forth that any person concerned in the administration of poor law or holding any office could not supply goods to the Union by order of any officer or otherwise, the penalty being that such person's seat or office would be invalidated.

Mr John Moon (relieving officer) explained that he had no alternative in the present instance, except to go to this particular shop. The medical officer gave a special request that the woman should have Burgundy wine, and he could not obtain the article elsewhere.

The Clerk stated that the reason he struck this item out was because a similar instance appeared in the accounts a fortnight ago, when Mr Moon got things from a grocer at Castleside, and the explanation was that he was the only grocer in the village. He took this course on behalf of the Guardians themselves, who were endangering their seats.

Mr Wm. Aynsley remarked that supposing a relieving officer had some spite against him, he might send such an order to his shop, knowing that he might be ignorant of the law on the point. Did the chairman consider the transaction would be illegal?

The Chairman said that if an appeal was made to the Local Government Board, they might accept it as a valid excuse in the present instance that the article in question could not be obtained elsewhere.

Mr Hobson pointed out that some time ago, when he was supplying flour to Mr Cooke, of Annfield Plain, who was the contractor to the Union, and he happened to send his carts down with the stuff to the Workhouse at Mr Cooke's request, the Local Government Board, on being appealed to, prohibited the practice.

The Chairman suggested that the wine should be procured at Newcastle.

Mr Moon said the difficulty could be overcome by giving the patient money, and allowing her to send to the shop herself for the wine, instead of relieving them in kind.

The Chairman said it was always preferable to give money instead of relieving in kind, except in the instances where the parties would misappropriate the money.

It was eventually arranged that the tradesmen in question should make an absolute gift of the wine, unless the relieving officer paid the money out of his own pocket.

Two large and handsomely-framed pictures, "Twixt Love and Duty" and "Forgiven," are now being exhibited in the Bank window, Tow Law. The pictures have been presented by the officials and workmen of the Weardale Company's collieries to Mr John Hogg, the late colliery engineer.

OPENING OF A NEW WESLEYAN CHURCH AT WEST STANLEY.

On Wednesday, the Wesleyans of West Stanley witnessed the opening ceremony on the completion of their great building enterprise in the erection of a new church for the village. The members of this society are to be congratulated upon the success that has attended their efforts. The sacred edifice, which is really the finest Gothic building in the neighbourhood, has cost something like £1,300, and will provide sitting accommodation for upwards of 350 people. A full description of the building was given in our last week's issue, and it is only left for us to state that the separate contractors for the different work, in the construction of the same, have given every satisfaction, and the execution of some of the work is beyond praise, especially the joiner work. The interior of the church is well finished, and when the walls are painted and decorated we have no hesitation in saying that it will be one of the finest churches in the district. From the time Rev F. R. Smith, Annfield Plain, came into the circuit, he has worked hard on behalf of the construction of this church, and a considerable amount of credit is due to him for the manner in which he has pushed the project forward, and having brought its completion to a successful issue. It says something for the zeal and spirit that has been thrown into the scheme by everyone concerned, when there is only £150 to be raised by the opening ceremony, and then the church will be free from debt.—In the afternoon, the dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev J. Bush, chairman of the district, and ex-president of the Conference, of Newcastle. There was a large congregation present. The service commenced with the hymn, "Lord of the worlds above," after which the rev gentleman took for his text, II. Kings, iii. chap., 16 17 verses—"And he said, Thus saith the Lord, make this valley full of ditches: For thus saith the Lord, ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye seen rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts." After the service, a public tea was provided in the old chapel. The trays were given, and presided over by the following ladies:—Mrs Oliver, assisted by Mrs Gray and Mrs Pyle; Mrs Robson and Mrs Cooper; Mrs Wood, assisted by Miss Forster; Mrs Willey, assisted by Miss Willey and Mrs Morland; Mrs Armstrong, assisted by Mrs Proudlock; Mrs Eltringham, assisted by Miss Cawthorn. Bachelors' table—Miss Roxby and Mrs Cawthorn. Trustees—Mrs Reed and Mrs Mann. Mrs Wadge and Mrs Heslop also assisted at the tables. A large number of people partook of the good things provided.

In the evening, a public meeting was held in the chapel. Mr T. J. Muse, Castleside, occupied the chair, in the absence of Ald. Stephenson, of Newcastle. Addresses were given by the Revs J. Bush, J. W. Keyworth (Houghton-le-Spring), and F. R. Smith. Votes of thanks and a supper concluded the day's proceedings, which were a financial success. The services will be continued on Sunday next.

The Wearhead Wesleyan Society are pushing forward their effort to rehabilitate their village sanctuary, which is sadly in need of renovation. The lady members meet weekly in the chapel, but it is proposed to change the venue to the Board School to permit of those little sociable amusements which focus the certain patronage of the young folks.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Crookhall—Red Row, 24th inst., the wife of James Nimmins, of a son.

Hamsterley Colliery—10th inst., the wife of James Cater, of a son.

Allendale Cottages—24th inst., the wife of John Topham, of a daughter.
26th inst., the wife of Robert Dawson, of a son.
27th inst., the wife of George Rutherford, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Lanchester—Register Office, 23rd inst., Thomas Lawson, West Stanley, to Mary A. Amble, Catchgate.—26th inst., R. Body to E. Wilson, both of Derwent Cottages.—28th inst., William Patterson, Hamsterley Colliery, to E. Westgarth, Blackhill.

Holmside—St John's Church, 20th inst., by Rev P. Cameron, Thomas Stephenson, Billing Shield, to Jane, eldest daughter of the late John Burn, of Broom House, Witton Gilbert.

Elvington—Parish Church, 10th inst., by Rev T. Hughes, B.A., brother-in-law of the bride, assisted by Rev A. Collins, F.R.A.S., rector, Mr James Parker Stokoe, of London, to Miss Caroline Maguerite (Carrie), daughter of Mr John Hall, of Wisboro Tower, Sussex, and Annfield Plain. 780a

DEATHS.

Blackhill—Eltringham Street, 27th inst., aged 5 years and 5 months, Jane, daughter of E. and M. Teasdale. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Saturday, at Three o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation. 782e

Castleside—Healeyfield House, 28th inst., aged 75, Mary, the beloved wife of Elliott Leybourne. To be interred on Monday, at Three p.m., at Castleside. Friends, please accept this intimation. 784e

Medomsley—25th inst., aged 30, Jane Ann, dearly beloved wife of Thomas Robinson, and eldest daughter of J. N. Ballantyne.

High Waskerley—23rd inst., aged 72, Ann, eldest daughter of the late Cuthbert Charlton.

Wolsingham—Rectory, 26th inst., Mrs Espin, wife of Rev Chancellor Espin, D.D.

Dipton—27th inst., aged 16 months, Hannah Mary, beloved daughter of Edward and Hannah Mary Herdman. 792e

Horsleyhope—26th inst., Jane, the beloved wife of William Angus, aged 60. Interment at Muggleswick to-day (Friday).

Lanchester—Fenn Hall, 22nd inst., Janet, wife of Thomas Rukin, late of Blackhill.

White-le-Head—20th inst., aged 61, Mary Offord, formerly of Wylam.

Stanley—20th inst., aged 2 years and 9 months, Sydney Joseph, son of Phillis and the late John Richard Toes.

Craghead—19th inst., aged 3½ years, Isabel, daughter of Robert and Margaret Walton, late of Pelton Fell.

Chester-le-Street—25th inst., aged 69, George E. Steele.

Victoria Garesfield—Killed by fall of stone while at his work at Victoria Garesfield Colliery, 25th inst., aged 50, Robert, son of William Stoker, of Ramsey's Cottages, Spen.

Birtley—25th inst., aged 43, Ellen, wife of Thomas Newman.

Addison Colliery—26th inst., aged 54, Isabel, wife of Wilfrid Hutton.

Frosterley—16th inst., Jane, widow of the late W. Simpson, of Pye Close Farm.
23rd inst., aged 69, Thomas Johnson.

Sunniside—24th inst., aged 63, Emma, widow of the late Frederick Fenton.

Ouston—25th inst., aged 43, Henry, husband of Elizabeth Hush.

Pontop Cottage, The Deans—21st inst. (at the residence of his son, F. Jordan), aged 78, James Jordan.

Newcastle—23rd inst., aged 21, Thomas Mowbray, of Frosterley.

Gateshead—Balmoral Terrace, 21st inst., aged 55, Thomas Scott Lamb, husband of the late Margt. Lamb, formerly of Annfield Plain.

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