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

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

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

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

No. 1,447. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, May 4th, 1888. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

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

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY, From £10 to £2,000, in town or country, on approved note of hand alone, at 5 per cent. Also upon furniture, trade or farm stock (without removal), and to assist persons into business.
No sureties required. Strictly private, and no delay. Write or call on actual lender,
Mr. F. DUNBAR,
Kent Villa, St. Mary's Road, Harlesden, London

Wanted.

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT about 17 years of age.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 501z

WANTED, a respectable GIRL, able to milk, and make herself generally useful; no family.—Apply at Ebchester Post Office. 512z

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, aged from 17 to 20.—Apply at Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge, on or before 4 p.m. on Tuesday, the 10th inst. 525z

WANTED, by the 13th of May, a useful SERVANT GIRL; reference required. Must be a good milker.—Apply to GEO. HOBSON, Harperley Mills, near Annfield Plain. 526z

WANTED, a strong GIRL for a Farmhouse, near Newcastle, where another is kept. Must be a good milker.—Apply to Mr BATY, Bond Street, Stanhope. 511z

WANTED, FEMALE APPRENTICES for the Sales; FEMALE APPRENTICES for the Millinery; Three strong, useful YOUTHS as Apprentices.—Apply to JOHN THURLOW POTTS.

GROCERY AND PROVISION.—WANTED, a YOUTH that has been a year or two at the business.—Apply to J. POSTLE, Newmarket Street, Consett. 515z

DRESSMAKING.—WANTED, one First-class, to take the entire management of room. Liberal salary to competent hand.—Apply with references by letter to "No. 1," *Guardian* Office, Consett. 537z

WANTED, a thoroughly respectable SERVANT GIRL, age not to exceed 20; to go home at nights.—Address, by letter only, stating where last employed and wage required, to Box W, *Guardian* Office. 539z

WANTED, a BAND for the Performance of Music at Shotley Spa Grounds, on Whit-Monday and Tuesday. Tenders to be in by Wednesday morning's post, and to include one or both days. —Address W. RAMSAY, Benfieldside. 530z

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

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

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

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

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

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

WANTED it thoroughly known at Consett and the District that, for a short period before the busy season (Easter and Whitsuntide holidays) commences, HIGH-CLASS PORTRAITS, artistically finished, MAY BE HAD at very Reasonable Prices, at VENICE DUNN'S, PHOTOGRAPHER, 13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT. 92z

SPECIAL NOTICE. — 2,000 Female Servants, Miners, Farmers, Labourers, Quarrymen, and others WANTED for Queensland, Australia. Free and Assisted Passages granted by Mail Steamers. Immediate employment on arrival.—Apply at once to the Queensland Government Agent, WM. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead. — Also, WANTED Emigrants for the United States, Canada, British Columbia, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, South America, Argentine Republic, £8.

NOTICE.—EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.—Lowest Fares to NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, and all parts of the United States and Canada, &c., every week from Newcastle Quay. Special arrangements for the comfort and convenience of Passengers by First-class ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, *via* Rotterdam.
N.B.—Passengers are met on landing, and receive full directions how to proceed to their journey's end.
For Passage, &c., apply personally, or by letter, to GEO. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer, Catchgate, Lintz Green.
NOTE.—G.R.H. undertakes Sales by Auction on the most Reasonable Terms. 361z

To Let.

BEERHOUSE TO LET, situate at Highgate.—Apply to RICHARD MURRAY. 538z

LODGINGS for one MAN, with own Bedroom.—Apply, *Guardian* Office. 526z

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

TO LET, a Free BEER-HOUSE, situate in Benfieldside. — Apply to RICHARD MURRAY, Benfieldside. 489z

TO BE LET, at High Bradley, near Medomsley, a HOUSE, with Five Rooms and other Conveniences; also, large Garden.—Apply to THOMAS SIMPSON, High Bradley. 485z

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

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

TO LET, at May Term, HOUSE and SHOP, situated in Wesley Terrace, Dipton.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 408z

TO LET, a Five-roomed HOUSE, pleasantly situated in Delves Lane, Consett. Possession at May term.—Apply to Mrs CHRISTOPHER, North-Eastern Hotel, Blackhill. 312z

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

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

To Let.

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

For Sale.

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

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

GARDEN SEEDS.—GARDEN VEGETABLE SEEDS, POTATO SEEDS, and CABBAGE PLANTS, to be had at JOHN LEE'S, Seedsman, Middle Street, Consett, and Front Street, Leadgate.

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

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

TO BE SOLD by Private Treaty, the PREMISES occupied by the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society at Dipton, at present bringing in a rental of £34 yearly.—For particulars, apply to R. BROWN, Wood Houses, *via* Lintz Green, who will on application show the Property. 493z

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

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

WOOD FOR SALE.

TO BE SOLD, by TENDER, the undermentioned LOTS OF WOOD lying Cut and Carried to the Roads in the Adelphia Plantations, near Satley.

Lot 1.—Adjoining the West Auckland Turnpike.

473	Scotch and Spruis Trees.	
7	Larch	Do.
435	Prop	Do.

Lot 2.—Adjoining Bedlam Lane.

103	Scotch and Spruis Trees.	
102	Larch	Do.
1218	Larch Prop	Do.

The above Timber is suitable for Colliery or Mining purposes, and can be removed at small expense, as it adjoins a good road, and is within 3 miles of Tow Law. Mr. S. T. Galley will show the Wood.—Tenders will be received by G. WAILES, at Mrs. Wilson's, Satley, on May 9th, 1888, and declare the purchasers. 453z

Business Announcements.

JOHN BRODIE,
TAILOR, HATTER, MERCER, &c.,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
Has much pleasure in announcing that his Stock of SPRING and SUMMER GOODS is complete, and comprises Worsteds, Vicunas, Cover Coatings, Scotch, Irish and West of England Tweeds. Scotch Tweed Suits at 52s 6d, 63s, and 67s 6d. 510z

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

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.
LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.
Accommodation for Passengers equal to any European Line.
Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.
The Shortest and Best Route to the West.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 217z

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

XMAS CASES OF ASSORTED SPIRITS AND WINES. 790y

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

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

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 150 miles of Manchester in not less than Four Ton Lots, and within 50 miles in not less than Two Ton Lots, at £3 PER TON.
Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made.
HY. WHILEY, Superintendent,
Health Department, Town Hall, Manchester; or to W. WOOD, Field Head, Shotley Bridge;
JOHN FATHERLEY, Washington. 799y

QUEENSLAND.
ROYAL MAIL LINE STEAMERS.
PASSAGE £17 ONLY.
LAND ORDER WARRANTS, value £20, are PRESENTED FREE TO all approved PASSENGERS travelling BY THIS LINE.
This young and promising Colony is now offering Special Advantages to all Classes.
FARMERS and OTHERS may obtain FREEHOLD LAND under the Homestead Clauses of the present Land Act up to 160 Acre Blocks, for 6d. per annum per acre, being paid as Rent for Five Years, making 2s. 6d. per acre in all, when payment ceases and the Land becomes Freehold.
LARGER FREEHOLDS and LEASEHOLDS, on specially favourable conditions, may be had under the recently-passed Land Act.
For further Particulars apply to A. BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT; WM. J. JOHNSON, 96, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE; GRAY, DAWES, & Co., 13, AUSTIN FRIARS, LONDON, or the Brokers, Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, & Co., London; Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow. 30r

Business Announcements.

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

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

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

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

MONSTER SALE AT THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS.
JOHN T. POTTS
HAVING PURCHASED THE BUSINESS AND SECURED THE STOCK OF T. H. BATCHELOR, CONSETT, at a large Discount from Cash Price,
THE SHOPS WILL RE-OPEN ON SATURDAY APRIL 14,
When a GREAT SALE OF STOCK will COMMENCE, and CONTINUE FOR THREE WEEKS. Mantle Jackets, Dress Goods, Millinery, Fancy Goods, Carpets, Oilcloths, &c. Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Caps, Shirts, Ties, Collars, &c.,
WILL BE SOLD AT LESS THAN HALF THE ORIGINAL COST.
☞ BE IN TIME FOR THE WONDERFUL BARGAINS. ☜
JOHN T. POTTS,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 373

☞ WANTED! ☜
People who wish to save money to Purchase their Groceries and Provisions at
R. WILLEY'S,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERY AND PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT,
20, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.
WILLEY'S TEA AT 2s, DEFIES COMPETITION.
WILLEY'S COFFEES ARE OF THE FINEST QUALITY.
WILLEY'S BACON, LARD, CHEESE, BUTTER, &c., are of the Finest Brands only
WILLEY'S SOAPS ARE USED EVERYWHERE.
WILLEY'S FLOUR AND FEEDING STUFFS, at Lowest Market Prices.
WILLEY'S FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS, from several Prize-taking Dairies. Fresh three times every week.
Orders by Post punctually attended to. Goods delivered daily by our own cart.
Bottler of Bass & Co.'s Pale Ale and Guinness's Stout. Mild and Bitter Ales on draught. The Trade supplied.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—R. WILLEY, 20, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 615y

WATCHES, CLOCKS, AND JEWELLERY.
WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. D. GRADON, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.
WATCHES.—Splendid English Patent Levers, at 55/ and 58/-. D. G. can specially recommend these Watches, as they are exceptionally good value, and are giving good satisfaction, Warranted. LADIES' SILVER GENEVA WATCHES from 15/-, a Superior Watch, made by Mathey (best maker), 36/6., also a good selection of other Watches. CLOCKS—Marble—Suitable for Presentation, from 21/-. AMERICAN Eight-days' Striking Clocks, from 15/6; Timepieces, from 3/6. JEWELLERY.—Half-dozen Nickel-Silver Tea-spoons and Gold Wedding Ring, from 7/-. A large and choice stock of Jewellery, Whitby Jet, Electro-Plate, &c. SPECTACLES AND EYEGLASSES in great variety. Steel-workers' Spectacles, 1/6 with case. D. G. *supplies the best Steelworks in the United Kingdom with these Specs.* All Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Spectacles, and Eyeglasses repaired on the premises at Moderate Charges. Watches and Clocks Cleaned and Repaired by D. G. are upheld for one year, unless over-wound or damaged by accident.
ARTICLES MAY BE PURCHASED BY INSTALMENTS. CLUBS SUPPLIED. BAROMETERS AND THERMOMETERS.
190z D. GRADON, MANUFACTURER, BLACKHILL.

ROBERT JACKSON,
BOOKSELLER & STATIONER
GUARDIAN OFFICE, AND
9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET
CONSETT

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

FOR THE SEASON 1888.
THAT NOTED CLYDESDALE STALLION, "SIR GARNET," will stand at Toft Gate Farm, Lintz Green. Terms of Service—£2 each mare, to be paid when the mare proves in foal; 2s. 6d. groom's fee at first service. "Sir Garnet" was bred by Cochrane Carr, Esq., Horsegate, and is a dark bay colour, stands 17h. 1in. high, 12in. bone below knee. Sire—McRobbies' "Pride of Aberdeen," by "Topsman" (Crowther's); Dam by George II. "Sir Garnet" has obtained prizes wherever shown, and has travelled the Castle Eden district five successive seasons, and given great satisfaction; and, as may be inferred from the terms, he is an extraordinary sure foal-getter. His stock has taken prizes almost wherever exhibited. N.B.—An extra charge of 10 guineas for all colts kept entire.—For further particulars, apply to
JAMES COXON,
400z Toft Gate, Lintz Green.

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

PRESENTATION BIBLES.
Some of them are really MANY VOLUMES IN ONE, and include such Aids to the Student as Summaries of the Books; Notes on the Natural History, General History, Mineralogy, Chronology, &c., of the Bible; also, an Atlas, Concordance, Dictionary, &c., *forming a portable Biblical Library*, so to speak. The contributors are authors of note. Each Bible in this stock contains the Psalms and Paraphrases, and prices range from 1s upwards.
ROBERT JACKSON'S,
GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET,
AND
9 and 10, NEWMARKET STREET CONSETT

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

SOUTH ACOMB, STOCKSFIELD-ON-TYNE,
June 7th, 1887.
Messrs. JOHN HUME & SON,
GENTLEMEN,
You may recollect that some time ago I purchased several tons of your Germ Meal, and as I keep an accurate account of the food used by our cows, its cost, quantity used, and the amount of milk produced per week, it may interest you to know the result.
During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7¾ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7½ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16½ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.
I am, yours faithfully,
W. TROTTER.

Business Announcements.

FROM HEAD TO FOOT.
IF YOU WANT A RIG-OUT FROM HEAD TO FOOT,
GO TO
THE 2 W.'S.
BOYS' SUITS, from 2s 11d.
MEN'S SUITS, from 16s 11d.
MEN'S FELT HATS (Newest Shapes), from 1s 11d.
SCARFS, SHIRTS, and HOSE in great variety, for Easter.
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, and NEWCASTLE. 303z

W. T. SMITH,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and the readers of the *Guardian* that he will visit at Mr. F. JONES', No. 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, EVERY MONDAY, FROM 11 A.M. TO 5 P.M., where he has every accommodation for receiving his numerous Patrons, and is performing the very highest class operations that can be done in the Dental Profession, in all its branches both Operative and Mechanical, (having received a most thorough dental education in America). Also, all diseases of the oral cavity (the Mouth), facial neuralgia, &c.
Decay can be arrested in the Teeth by stopping them with Gold, Silver, and other Materials, whereby they can be preserved to last a lifetime, if proper care is taken by keeping them cleansed from all foreign matter, such as animal, vegetable, and tartar, which is so often allowed to collect round the necks of the Teeth.
Artificial Teeth inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They can be 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 principal, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia, or effect the eye and ear. As diseased Teeth and roots is one of the principal reasons of the various ailments of these most valuable organs so as when the Teeth are once inserted they fit perfect without the least pain in any way.
Teeth may be extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas, and other means by which the operations become painless.
All fees for services will be most reasonable, especially for Artificial Sets. 963z

W. T. ELTRINGHAM,
AGENT for BUILDERS' STORES and SANITARY GOODS of every description,
RAILWAY TERRACE, BLACKHILL.
ALWAYS ON HAND, FERENS' and LOVE'S NEW SINK and GULLEY with CLEANING BUCKET, as approved of by the Surveyors to the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority and Benfieldside Local Board.
SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR LARGE QUANTITIES. 104z

W. RICHARDSON,
BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL,
BEGS to thank his numerous friends for the liberal support they have given him since he opened the above place, and to announce to his Customers that his Shop is now replete with a BEAUTIFUL and VARIED ASSORTMENT.
Having bought largely, and not having room for all the Goods, he is determined TO OFFER THE WHOLE STOCK AT A VERY SMALL PROFIT, as he is determined that no one shall undersell him in the trade.
Several Packages of the Newest Goods and latest Novelties for the opening Season, all carefully selected, are now ready for inspection.
Special attention is directed to the MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT of WASHING FABRICS, which for bloom and beauty surpass all former efforts in this class of Goods; in Original Designs and Charming Colours.
☞ CALL AND INSPECT FOR YOURSELVES. 238z

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

EDUCATIONAL.
JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.
☞ PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.
Evening School, from 6d. to 1s. per week. Commence on Monday, 18th October. 854w

A. HALL & CO.,
PRUDHOE-ON-TYNE,
CONFECTIONERS,
PLAIN and FANCY BREAD BAKERS, CATERERS FOR TEA PARTIES, CHILDREN'S TREATS, &c.
Funeral Bread, Birthday and Bride's-Cakes made to order.
Special arrangements made with Pic-nic Committees.
Goods delivered free by our own Cart.
☞ PRICES ON APPLICATION. 52z

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS,
INMAN & INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP Co., Ltd.
LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every WEDNESDAY.
Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY, 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95z

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

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS
T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the
TAR ELIXER PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP
Prepared by Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.
PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.
☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, LITTLE & Co.'s, JEYE'S, COOPER'S, and WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips.
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MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP,
Which does twice the Work of any Soap with half the labour. It also Cures Scurvy, Ringworm, Corns, and Sores, and when used with
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Robs Washing Day of half its troubles.
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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.)

THE LONDON COAL TAX AND THE GOVERNMENT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—"Wearsider" referred to this tax, and what was being done to remove it by John Pyle. I am giving free lectures upon this very important subject to the coal trade of the North of England. The tax is 1s 1d per ton upon all coal entering the London market to be consumed within the metropolitan police area, about 20 miles each way from Charing Cross. According to law, this tax will cease in July, 1889. The London Corporation, who get 4d per ton of this tax to spend within the city, or the one mile area; and the Metropolitan Board of Works who get 9d per ton to spend outside the city boundary, but within the metropolis for a limited district. Millions of people, who consume this taxed coal, receive no benefit at all, nor have they a voice in electing the members of the Board of Works, or in spending the money, or examining the accounts. In a word, it is taxation without representation, and that is oppression or tyranny. The London Corporation and the Metropolitan Board of Works are trying to induce Parliament to pass a bill to continue the tax until 1890. Twice Mr Gladstone has refused to pass such a bill. Twice Sir Stafford Northcote refused the same; and, finally, November 18th, 1886, Lord Randolph Churchill refused. He gave his reasons in a speech which awakened the admiration of millions of people; it sent a thrill of delight through many minds, and we then said truly our deliverer is come. But, sir, from that day until this many of his Lordship's admirers cooled towards him. Many said he had proved untrue to the Tory cause. But he, like Earl Beaconsfield, is radical to destroy evil laws, but Conservative to uphold that. His Lordship told the deputation, Nov. 18th, 1886, that the people should be heard, that petitions for and against should speak to Parliament for its guidance, so that the voice of the people may be triumphant. I spent two weeks in London addressing meetings and explaining how the tax affected the coal trade of the North, and a very deep sympathy filled the hearts of the London people with the struggling, suffering miner, as I described his hardships deep below the surface, always exposed to peril, sometimes swept away in a moment with a fiery blast, none being left alone to tell the doleful tale. The widow, the fatherless, and all companions dear were left to mourn their loss. The coal-owner, too, weeps for his faithful toilers, and also because his all is lost. I asked if our industry, which was so exposed to wreck and ruin, should be taxed in order to beautify parts of London, improve its streets, and increase the value of the ground rents of the rich, so that they may increase the rents of the poor struggling shopkeeper, who had worked hard for many years to secure a business, and then that the fruit of their labour to be taken away by increasing their rents, and with one voice the people shouted—"No." Will you allow us miners to fight the battle alone? The people shouted—"No!" I said shall we combine to resist the tax, and with one ringing voice and cheer, the people cried—"We will." And now, Mr Editor, the testing time has come; Lord Randolph Churchill's plan was carried out; the people petitioned; the Corporation tolls by some means had 29 petitions, with 34,000 signatures, amongst which were the names of 15 race horses. I am, Mr Editor, a professed Conservative, a Tory working man; but I trust I am honest enough to lift my voice against such villainy, paid for by Tory money, and carried out in part by Radical agents. Oh! sir, I cannot describe with what feelings I read two blue books filled with names and facts. Oh! England, thy honour is stained. The petitions against the tax are pronounced just and honest. The committee appointed by Parliament to examine the petitions, say that they contain a few irregularities, but they are honest and true. Sir, Lord Churchill knows right well that the people will speak true; the people can be trusted. The Bill before the House had for its chief supporters some London members. The Government, a few days ago, made up their minds and said we cannot give Government support; but we will leave it to Parliament to settle, that means the people's voice again. I was on the platform at Bethnal Green with the hon. member for the North-Western Divison of Durham, who made a most brilliant speech against the tax to a packed meeting; but there was not a vote in favour of the tax. The battle has been long and hard; John Wood, a son of Nicholas Wood, of coal trade renown, is leading the battle in London. He is supported by many Tory members; there are a good number of Peers too in the miners' ranks. Earl Durham has sent me a letter in reply to one from me. He is with us too. He says the tax is injurious to the coal trade of the Nation, detrimental to industry on the Thames, and presses heavily on the poor of London. Before concluding, it is my duty to state that a power from London has been exerted against my efforts. Political paid agents in this county have warned me not to speak against the tax, another threatened to write to all the gentry and nobility of the Tory party, and tell them that John Pyle had turned treacherous to the Tory cause. He lies greatly. It is hard to endure; but to the bitter end I will fight with all my heart.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN PYLE.

Pelton Fell, April 28th, 1888.

Sporting Items.

WRESTLING AT PRUDHOE.—The third of a series of competitions for a silver cup for 10-stone men, given by Mr Tulip, was brought off at the Half-way House. Final—Atkinson, Prudhoe, threw Kilrain, Prudhoe, twice and won. Referees, Messrs Naisbitt and Colpitts. A good attendance.

SPEN ANGLERS IN THE TYNE.—John Cole and George Farrage, of Spen, killed 43 trout on Saturday. Farrage started between 8 and 9 o'clock, and Cole about 12 o'clock. The pair fished until 3 o'clock, when the wind become so strong that they could not keep their lines in the water, blowing from the west. They fished with favoured fly.

PIGEON FLYING AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.—A sweepstakes of six birds, for £5 each, was brought off on Saturday, from Tile Shed Bank, Chester-le-Street to Chester Moor. Result:—Lee's Across the Mile, 4 min 30 sec; Ledger's Fives, 4 min 44 sec; Wilson's Blue Grass, 4 min 52 sec; Bambrough's Swimmer, 5 min 53 sec; Taylor's Cobbler, 8 min 3 sec.

QUOIT HANDICAP AT PELTON FELL.—On Saturday, a quoit handicap in connection with the Pelton Fell Athletic Club took place on their sports ground. There were 32 entries, and the prizes were two silver medals, which were ultimately won by Thomas Thirlaway and R. Miller, beating J. B. Dixon and J. G. Brown by 6 points.

A BIG TROUT CAUGHT IN THE BROWNEY BURN.—Mr Thomas Lawson, of the Black Horse Inn, Try-'em-All, near Langley Park, whilst fishing in the Browney on Saturday, caught a trout 14in. in length, 6in. girth, and weighs one pound. Old anglers say it is the largest they have seen come out of any similar fresh water. Mr Lawson has the right of fishing in the river from Lord Durham.

HILL TOP BALL ALLEY.—Two matches were decided at this alley. In the first game H. Morin was matched to play W. Towers, R. Brown, and W. Fenwick, of Esh Village, 33 points up. When Morin was 26 his opponents were 30, but the former was playing in excellent form, and won by three chalks. In the second match, Henry Morin played R. Brown and R. Elliott, Esh, the latter receiving 15 points start in a game of 21 points up. Morin again had the best of it, and only allowed his opponents to add one chalk to their score. Morin 21; Brown and Elliott, 16. A small handicap followed, double playing. Final—Holliday and Burns beat Donnelly and Myers, after a good game, by one point.

DEARNESS VALLEY GROUNDS.—A large company attended the above grounds to witness the trial heats of Mr H. Greener's £7 10 120 yards foot handicap, which resulted as follows:—Heat 1—T. Bowman, Hamilton, 26½ yards, +1; J. Phillips, Quebec, 21½, +2; C. Mosey, Tow Law, 22, 3. Won by six inches, after a dead heat. Heat 2—J. Stephenson, Witton Park, 18½, 1; R. Fenwick, Willington, 19, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 3—W. Thornton, Brandon, 21½, 1; J. Whitfield, Crook, 18½, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 4—Geo. Reed, East Hedleyhope, 27, w.o. Heat 5—L. Halliday, East Hedleyhope, 21, 1; T. Nelson, Crook, 15, 2. Won easily. Heat 6—J. Britton, Sleetburn, 23, 1; T. Proud, Helmington Row, 21, 2. Won by a foot. Heat 7—C. Douglas, Blackhill, 15, 1; R. Ellis, Hamilton, 24, 2. Won easily. Heat 8—H. Wallace, Consett, 19, w.o. Heat 9—H. Carr, Broadgate, 20, 1; J. Browning, Crook, 18, 2; J. Stephenson, Esh, 19, 3. Won by six inches. Heat 10—H. Collinson, Waterhouses, 19, 1; W. Hodgson, Esh, 21, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 11—[…] Greener, Waterhouses, 21, 1; R. Johnson, Hamilton, 26, 2; R. Davison, East Hedleyhope, 26, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 12—D. Trotter, Esh 26, 1; J. Borills, Waterhouses, 23, 2. Won easily.

WRESTLING AT CONSETT.—The only wrestling competition at present remaining unfinished at the hostelry of Mr Henry Lee, the Coach and Horses Inn Consett, is the contest confined to 11-stone men, and further progress was made with the event on Saturday night. There was a numerous company of spectators. Details:—First round—A. Ferguson, Westwood, threw Wm. Turnbull, Consett; G. Ferguson, Westwood, threw Thomas Miller, Castleside; R. Glendinning, Westwood, threw H. Stewart, Westwood; Charles Brodie, Milkwell Burn, threw Wm. Walton, Castleside; Jake Hall, odd man. Second round—G. Ferguson threw Brodie, J. Hall threw A. Ferguson, Glendinning odd man. Third round—Glendinning threw Hall, G. Ferguson odd man. Messrs Miller and Young officiated as umpires, while Mr Graham was referee.

DOG HANDICAP AT CONSETT (No. 1) GROUNDS.—The event at the above-named grounds on Saturday afternoon was Mr Henry Lee's £5 10s 200 yards straight-out dog handicap, by merit, which was brought off most successfully. There was the largest attendance seen at this popular resort for a considerable period, and several exciting heats were witnessed. Results:—Heat 1—Routledge's Sir Roger, 67½ yards start, 1; Eslam's Puss, 63, 2; Harrison's Sis, 71, 3. Won by a foot. Heat 2—Moss' Rose, 69½, 1; Heymer's Nettle (pup), 77, 2; Lamb's Drop-off, 76, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 3—Proudlock's Ounce of Shot, 74, 1; Williams' Daisy, 69, 2; Applegarth's Princess Mary, 75, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 4—Askew's Jenny, 63, 1; Inglis' Buffalo Bill, 76, 2; W. Lumley's, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 5—Applegarth's Young Pat, 70, 1; Dodd's Young Spring, 70, 2; Lee's Moorcock, 64, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 6—Carrick's Sinner, 72½, 1; Ennis' Old Bell, 72, 2; Hunter's Cumberland Maid, 71, 3. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 7—Ledger's Little Kate, 75, +1; Johnson's Lady Dixie, 73, +2; Elliott's Polisher, 66, 3. Won, after a dead heat, by six inches. Heat 8—Routledge's Peep-o'-day, 80, 1; Moss' Derwent Lass, 76, 2; Glenwright's Taty-Toosey, 78, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 9—Steel's Brandy, 70, 1; Gray's Little John, 67½, 2; M. Wilkinson's Blue Cap, 69, 3. Won by a yard and a half. Heat 10—Wilson's Spring, 73, 1; Ledger's Young Pup, 70, 2; Young's Judy McCarty, 75, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 11—Small's Minstrel Boy, 66, 1; Applegarth's Old Catch 'em, 68, 2; Jefferson's Stolen Duchess, 66, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 12—Carr's Just for Luck, 74, 1; Iley's First Try, 76½, 2; Thorpe's Lizzie Ann, 76, 3. Won by a yard and a half. Second round—Heat 1—Ounce of Shot 1, Sir Roger 2, Rose 3. Won by a yard. Heat 2—Sinner 1, Jenny 2, Young Pat 3. Won by a yard and a half. Heat 3—Brandy 1, Little Kate 2, Derwent Lass 3. Heat 4—Minstrel Boy 1, Just for Luck 2, Spring 3. Won by half a yard. Final heat—Minstrel Boy 1, Brandy 2, Ounce of Shot 3, Sinner 2. Won by six inches; same distance between second and third, and not more than a quarter of a yard between the four dogs. Joseph Dodds acted as judge and handicapper, while N. Lamb was pistol-firer.

ANNUAL SPORTS AND RACES AT WEST STANLEY.

The first annual race meeting of a new company formed at West Stanley was held in fields kindly granted for the occasion by Messrs Watson, Clarkson, and Forster, situate in the centre of the village, and adjoining the main road near the Stanley Inn, on Saturday afternoon. The arrangements were carried out with much vigour, and were very creditable to those concerned. Mr John Clarkson was judge, and Mr T. Forster clerk of the scales and starter. The attendance was very satisfactory, brakes being run from Consett and the surrounding places, and there will be a fair balance in the hands of the treasurer to carry forward to next year's meeting. Results:—

STANLEY STEEPLECHASE.

Mr Haye's BUTCHER BOY, aged, 11st 10lb ...... McBryde 1
Mr Milier's ANNIE, aged, 11st 10lb ...... Henderson 2
Mr Atkin's Charlie, aged, 11st 10lb ...... Martin 0
Mr Wylam's Rat Trap, aged 11st 10lb ...... Owner 0
Mr Elsdon's Lady Grey, aged, 11st 10lb ...... Owner 0
Mr Lever's Death Warrant, 5 yrs, 11st ...... Jackson 0
Mr Hastings's Miss Bruce, 5 yrs, 11st ...... Owner 0
Mr Fewster's Tanfield Lass, aged, 11st 10lb ...... Fenwick 0

STANLEY OPEN FLAT RACE. One-and-a-half miles.

Mr Crawford's TOMMY, aged, 9st 7lb ...... Dent 1
Mr Henderson's GEORGINA, aged, 9st 7lb ... Owner 2
Mr Watson's Midget, 5 yrs, 9st 6lb ..... G. Watson 0
Mr Hayes's Butcher Boy, aged, 9st 7lb.. McBryde 0
Mr Armstrong's Miss Bruce, 5 yrs, 9st 6lb ...... Jackson 0

JOHN HENRY STAKES, for harness horses. One-and-a half miles.

Mr Lever's DEATH WARRANT ...... Jackson 1
Mr Atkin's CHARLIE ...... Martin 2
Mr Crawford's Tommy ...... Dent 0
Mr Hayes's Butcher Boy ...... McBryde 0

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' STAKES, for harness horses within a radius of five miles. One-and-half miles.

Mr Watson's MIDGET ...... G. Watson 1
Mr Wylam's RAT TRAP ...... McBryde 2
Mr Smith's Sweet Meadow ...... Owner 0
Mr Stott's Major ...... Martin 0
Mr Fewster' Tanfield Lass ...... Fenwick 0
Mr Adamson's Adventurer ...... Henderson 0

CONSOLATION RACE. One Mile.

Mr Miller's ANNIE ...... Owner 1
Mr Henderson's Georgina ...... Jackson 0

120 YARDS' FOOT HANDICAP.—First, £5; second, £1, third, 10s.—Winners of first heats—J. Bowie, Blackhill; J. Redshaw, Durham; W. Black, Shotley Bridge; W. Kears, West Stanley; J. Farrage, Spen; T. Murray, Dipton; J. Watson, Tantobie; J. Johnson, Blackhill; J. Haggerstone, Leadgate; and W. Turner, Stanley. Winners in the second round—Redshaw, Murray, Haggerston. Final—T. Murray, 1; J. Haggerston, 2; J. Redshaw, 3. Handicapper and starter, M. Snowdon, Tantobie; judge, R. Wood, Stanley.

FOOTBALL.—Greencroft and Dipton divided, after a draw.

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

GATESHEAD JUNIORS v SWALWELL RANGERS JUNIORS.—Played at Swalwell, and a pleasant game resulted in a victory for the home team by four goals to two.

COMPETITION AT WITTON GILBERT.—A football competition was commenced in a field near to the village of Witton Gilbert, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr Turnbull, farmer. The following is the result of Saturday's proceedings:—First round—Bearpark beat Edmondsley Royal Blues by three goals to nil; Langley Park 2nd beat Tudhoe Grange 2nd by three goals to two. The competition will be resumed to-morrow (Saturday) at four o'clock, when the following teams will play:—Trimdon 1st v Edmondsley; Cornsay 2nd v Langley Park 1st.

BIRTLEY v LEADGATE EXILES.—These old rivals met on the Birtley ground in a benefit match, before a large company of spectators. The visitors were without the services of Callaghan and McMahon, whilst Birtley was aided by the assistance of that famous back, Miller, late of Bede College. The home team won the toss, and the Exiles kicked off against the wind. Play at once became exciting, both ends being visited in quick succession. Fifteen minutes had thus elapsed, when the ball was put through by Birtley right wing; this success being twice repeated before the end of the first half. In the second half the home team scored again, and eventually won by four goals to nil.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Colds, Coughs, Shortness of Breath.—These maladies require early and unremitting attention, for if neglected they often end in asthma, bronchitis, or consumption. The Ointment well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrating the skin, is absorbed and carried directly to the lungs, whence it expels all impurities. All the blood in the body is perpetually passing through the lungs, and there all noxious particles tending to disease can be quickly, thoroughly, and permanently neutralized, rendered harmless, or ejected from the system. Holloway's Ointment and Pills perfectly accomplish this purification; and through the blood thus cleansed, the influence of these wonderful medicaments reaches the remotest part of the human body, and thus cures all diseased action, whether internal or external.

Cricket.

FIXTURES.

May 5.—Medomsley 1st v Hetton Lyons, at Medomsley.
„ 5.—Lanchester v Burnhope, at Lanchester.
„ 5.—West Stanley v Cragbead, at Cragbead.
„ 5.—Tanfield v Blaydon, at Blaydon.
„ 5.—Bywell v Ryton, at Ryton.
„ 5.—Nursery v Spen Bute, at Spen.
„ 5.—Ovingham v Close House, at Ovingham.
„ 5.—Whickham—opening match—at Whickham.
„ 5.—Newcastle Press v Corbridge, at Corbridge.

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

USHAW MOOR v BEDE COLLEGE (DURHAM).—Played at Ushaw Moor on Saturday. Score:—Ushaw Moor, 49; Bede College, 42.

MATFEN v CORBRIDGE.—Played at Corbridge on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the former. Score:—Matfen, 29; Corbridge, 20.

BERLIN v RYTON.—Played on the ground of the latter on Saturday at Ryton, and, after a good game, resulted in a win for the visitors. Score:—Berlin, 46; Ryton, 41.

BENWELL HILL v BLAYDON.—Played at Benwell on Saturday, and resulted in a win for Benwell Hill. Wadham and Matthews bowled well for the winners, while Reed did good service for the losers. Score:—Blaydon, 8; Benwell Hill, 36.

OUSTON ROVERS v NURSERY.—Played at Elswick on Saturday, the former winning by 11 runs. For the winners M. Moody batted in excellent form, while J. Henderson and J. Dixon bowled well. Score:—Ouston, 26; Nursery, 15.

MICKLEY SQUARE CRICKET CLUB.—The annual meeting of the members was held, when the report showed a small balance on the right side. The election of officers for the ensuing season was put off till another meeting. It was decided to commence practice at once.

CRICKET MATCHES WANTED.—Medomsley C.C. would like to arrange with good first team for Saturday next. Medomsley have a good ground and near to a station. Would play return on June 23rd or Sept. 8th. Address W. G. Thompson, Medomsley Edge, Lintz Green.

OVINGHAM CRICKET CLUB.—This club opened the season on Saturday. Matches have been arranged with Close House, Bywell, West End (Newcastle), Benwell Hill, Blaydon, Wallsend, Haydon Bridge, Hendon, North Durham, and Royal Artillery (Newcastle). Mr B. Wright is captain; Mr W. C. Turner, vice-captain; Mr J. Sanderson, secretary; and Rev C. E. Blackett-Ord, president and treasurer. The match between the captain's (Mr B. Wright) side and the vice-captain's (Mr W. C. Turner) side, terminated, after a pleasant and exciting game, with the vice-captain's side by one run only. The play all round was good. Score:—Vice-captain's side, 35; captain's side, 34.

RIDING MILL v CORBRIDGE.—Played on Saturday at Riding Mill, in a field kindly granted for the occasion by Mr T. Havelock, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team. The weather was all that could be desired, and a fair number of spectators turned out to witness the game. For the home team E. Scott played admirable cricket for 18, and great credit is due to G. W. Swinburne and W. Tweddle, jun., for their fielding. For the Corbridge eleven, Rev E. J. Richardson scored 14, and did good service throughout. Score:—Riding Mill, 45; Corbridge, 29.

LEADGATE v WESTWOOD.

These clubs met on Saturday on the Leadgate ground, and, after a pleasant game, ended in a win for Leadgate. Score:—

LEADGATE.		WESTWOOD.	
J. Smaith b Clark	14	J. Walton b Bage	0
J. Burnhope b Walton	20	W. Simpson b Snaith	2
J. Power hit wkt b Walton	3	T. Murphy run out	7
W. Brears b Walton	0	W. Weston b Bage	3
A. Burnhope not out	4	J. Brodie b Snaith	2
O. Bage b Walton	0	J. Clark c Westhorpe b Bage	1
R. Westhorpe lbw b Walton	0	T. Simpson b Snaith	4
S. Nattrass b Walton	4	D. Clark not out	1
R. Urwin b Walton	0	T. Bell run out	3
J. Snaith, J. G. Turnbull	to bat	W. Walton b Snaith	0
		W. Weir b Snaith	0
Extras	3	Extras	3
Total	53	Total	26

BURNHOPE v WALDRIDGE FELL.

Played at Burnhope on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the home team, after a keen contested game. Mr Jos. Robinson played in fine form for Burnhope, showing some of his grand hitting. Score:—

BURNHOPE.		WALDRIDGE FELL.	
A. Heckels b Briggs	11	H. Williamson b Robinson	0
J. Robinson b Briggs	38	S. Gardiner b Gair	6
W. Dyson b Briggs	1	T. Adamson c Dyson b Gair	7
T. Burnett b Briggs	5	J. Henderson run out	9
J. Lawson b Briggs	1	J. King, jun., c and b Dyson	[illegible]
H. Knowles b King, sen	4	T. Briggs b Gair	[illegible]
G. Heslop b Briggs	1	E. Warren c Gair b Dyson	7
J. Hobkirk b Briggs	0	G. Smith b Robinson	5
J. Gair c King b Gardiner	1	J. Elliott run out	4
M. Johnson b King, sen	6	J. King, sen., not out	2
G. Turton not out	0	W. Adamson b Robinson	4
Extras	6	Extras	9
Total	94	Total	63

CRAGHEAD v SOUTH MOOR.

This match was played on the ground of the latter on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. Messrs C. Cummings and W. Maughan batted well for the visitors, while J. Elliott did good service for the home team. Score:—

CRAGHEAD.		SOUTH MOOR.	
W. Maughan c Ross	14	W. T. Brass run out	3
J. Hunter c Wilkinson	1	J. Dawson c Maughan	1
C. Cummings c Brass	15	J. Wetherall b Reay	0
E. J. Wardle b Brass	[illegible]	J. Wilkinson b Allen	1
W. Reay c Wetherall	8	G. Mason b Allen	1
G. March c Elliott	[illegible]	J. Ross c and b Allen	6
E. Allen b Wilkinson	[illegible]	T. Hazon b Allen	3
G. A. Wright not out	4	R. Dixon b Allen	1
J. Wood c Greathead	0	J. Elliott not out	11
S. Miles b Elliott	[illegible]	W. Greathead run out	0
J. Johnson c Hazon	[illegible]	M. Baker b Allen	3
Extras	[illegible]	Extras	1
Total	58	Total	31

TANFIELD v WEST STANLEY.

This match was played at Tanfield on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the home team by 16 runs. The batting of T. Swinburne (12) and Wm. Christon (8) and E. Reay (11 not out) did good service for the home team. Score:—

TANFIELD.		WEST STANLEY.	
T. Jewitt c Knox b Benfold	1	R. Knox c Christon b Laidler	0
W. T. Brown b Benfold	1	R. Gibson c Holmes b Laidler	3
P. Harkness b Benfold	[illegible]	W. Dodds b Laidler	3
J. R. Bowes c Dodds b Benfold	[illegible]	J. Mann c Brown b Laidler	3
J. Laidler b Benfold	[illegible]	J. Laidler b Jewitt	0
M. Pattinson b Benfold	[illegible]	R. Sanderson c Bowes b Holmes	6
E. Reay not out	11	J. Benfold c Holmes b Laidler	0
W. Robinson run out	[illegible]	I. Harkness c Robinson b Holmes	0
W. Christon c and b Harkness	8	E. Snape b Laidler	5
W. Holmes run out	[illegible]	R. Johnson b Robinson	0
T. Swinburne b Mann	12	L. Kay not out	5
Extras	5	Extras	2
Total	43	Total	27

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion, impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.
"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions, 1s. and 1s 6d. bottles.

CONSERVATIVE MEETINGS IN WEARDALE.

STANHOPE.

On Wednesday se'nnight, Mr Isaac Lyons, Newcastle, secretary to the Northern Union of Conservative Associations, and Mr L. H. Hayter, Barnard Castle, addressed a public meeting in the new bank room, Stanhope—Dr C. Arnison, J.P., in the chair. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Barnard Castle Conservative Association, and was well attended, there being among others present:—Messrs T. Walton, Allergill House; M. Ridley, Peakfield; G. Tinkler, Chester; W. Powell, Crawleyside; T. Sanderson and F. Batute. The subject dealt with by the speakers was, "Why working-men should be Conservatives."—Mr Lyons, after stating that the past election had proved that there were Conservative working-men, and that the Conservatives were radical to reform that which was bad and conservative to preserve that which was good, reviewed the various Acts of the Conservatives of past years, and maintained that the legislation of the Conservative party had been beneficial to the working classes, and special reference was made to the legislation of last year—the Allotments Act, the Mines Regulation Act, and the Trade Marks Act.—Mr Hayter, who was well received, gave a very instructive address on the legislation of the Conservative party, referring to the Radicals as the war party; and he pointed out the marked differences between a Tory and a Radical Government as regards expenditure. Those present, who were principally working men, were urged to study the subject for themselves, and judge whether or not the Conservatives were not the working-man's friends. The speakers had special attention given them, and they were frequently applauded during the delivering of their addresses.—Mr Tinkler, in seconding a vote of thanks to the speakers, did not agree with the Fair Trade cry, and he was challenged to a public debate by both Mr Hayter and Mr Lyons, but the challenge was not accepted.—Mr W. Vickers put questions, which were replied to.—Vote of thanks to the chairman, and "God save the Queen," closed the proceedings.

ROOKHOPE.

A largely attended and extremely encouraging Conservative meeting was held at Rookhope, a thriving village in the mountainous district of Weardale, on Thursday evening. Although the meeting was called for an early hour, the Barrington School-room was filled with a numerous and attentive audience, who evinced the keenest interest in the features of the meeting. Rev J. R. Shepherd, M.A., presided, and in the course of his able remarks added his tribute of praise to the present Government for their success, and begged that his friends in front would accord to the gentleman who had come to address them that measure of patience the men of Rookhope always gave to those who visited their mountain region. (Cheers.)—Mr Isaac Lyons delivered an animated address on the all-important question, "Why working-men should be Conservatives."—The speaker was warmly applauded in concluding his speech.—Mr L. H. Hayter also addressed the meeting, delivering an exhaustive speech, in which he dealt upon labour legislation past and present, and which he contended the Tories had ever championed. (Cheers.) A slight discussion took place, and after this the usual votes to the speakers and chairman having been put and carried unanimously, the chairman replied, and the company sang the "National Anthem."

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL.

A highly successful public meeting was held at St. John's Chapel, on Friday night, under the auspices of the Barnard Castle Division Conservative Association. There was a large attendance, amongst those present being several ladies, and Messrs Vickers, T. Vickers, jun., Gill, Thompson, Gardner, F. W. Deacon, and L. H. Hayter. Mr Octavius Monkhouse (Cowshill) presided, and ably introduced the speakers, the subject for discussion being, "Why working-men should be Conservatives?"—Mr Deacon, in the course of an address, frequently applauded, submitted that working men should rally round their best friends. But who were they? Those who legislated to promote the interests of labour, and that party was the Conservative party, who legislated freely on mines and factories questions long before the working-men were admitted to the suffrage; and not the Liberals, who failed to recognise the importance of labour interests until labourers became a factor in the State.—Mr Hayter claimed that the Conservatives were not only more in harmony with national and imperial interests, but that they were essentially the popular party, and fought with equal resolution either with exclusiveness or Socialistic fanatacism. It was the Tories who have given us social, religious, and political emancipation, and it was the Tories who were now wiping out the arrears of British legislation.—Mr Gill asked permission to say a few words, and this having been granted, proceeded to declare himself a Socialist, and to deny the charges brought by Mr Hayter against the Socialist leaders. The speaker bitterly inveighed against capatalists, saying that those who didn't work, ought not to eat. (Laughter.)—The customary votes, and the "National Anthem" closed the proceedings.

INSTITUTION OF THE RECTOR OF STANHOPE.

On Friday evening, Rev Canon Pulleine, recently vicar of Kirkby Wiske, and now Suffragan Bishop-elect of the diocese of Ripon, was instituted to the Rectory of Stanhope. A fairly numerous congregation took their seats in the fine old church. The Lord Bishop of Durham was present to perform the ceremony of institution, and the after ceremony of induction was entrusted to Rev Chancellor Espin, rector of Wolsingham, rural dean of Stanhope, and chancellor of the diocese of Chester, acting on behalf of the Chancellor of Durham. The other clergy present, habited in surplices, were Rev T. E. Espin, curate of Wolsingham; Rev J. W. Rees, of Stanhope, curate-in-charge; Rev J. P. Shepperd, vicar of Rookhope; Rev Jas. Schofield, vicar of Westgate; and Rev J. R. Hanner, Bishop's chaplain. Rev J. Eddowes, vicar of Eastgate, took a seat amongst the congregation. Rev J. Rees conducted the opening service, which throughout was fully choral, a full complement of male and female choristers being present, whilst Mr Benjamin Probert, of Newcastle, was retained at the organ. The rev Chancellor read the lessons; and afterwards, whilst a hymn was being sung, the Lord Bishop took his seat in a chair placed for him in the chancel, and facing the congregation. The rector-elect then coming forward, halted in his surplice, hood, and stole, and kneeling on the steps before His Lordship, who, in formal phrase, delivered himself of the duty of institution.

HIS LORDSHIP, commenting upon the lessons read, said the best example for a minister was the example of Christ himself. The lesson enjoined three points: First, courage and self-sacrifice. The Good Shepherd laid down His life for His sheep. In the ancient days sheep became a prey to lions, and at a later period to wolves, and against these foes the shepherds of old had to contend. The minister of a church, then, had to be prepared, if he would follow in Christ's footsteps, to sacrifice comfort and ease—to sacrifice all worldly ambition—to sacrifice what ordinary men most valued in life—if he valued his great trust. The second point was personal knowledge and adaptation. The good shepherd knew his sheep by name. This was an ideal of a parish not perhaps possible of realization in many of the parishes of the present day, but it was an ideal every minister of Christ should show. The third point was love and sympathy. The minister of a church must take care of each individual member of his flock.

Then followed the Lord's Prayer, the responses, and a special hymn, "Pour out Thy Spirit from on High," the Rector-elect meanwhile remaining on his knees.

This concluded the service of institution, and the induction took place. Chancellor Espin, followed by the Rector-elect, quitted the chancel and walked down the aisle to the church door, followed by Churchwardens M'Callum and Martin, with their wands of office. The two divines then passed out of the church door, which was formally locked, and the Rector-elect, under the curious gaze of the congregation and of parishioners assembled outside, turned the key and re-entered the church, making direct for the bell-rope, which he pulled with more energy than skill. The bell, however, gave one or two responses. The Rector then returned to the chancel, where, at the conclusion of the service, the Lord Bishop, laying his hand on the Rector, blessed him. The customary formalities were then proceeded with in the vestry, and the congregation retired whilst the organist played the "Hallelujah Chorus."

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr J. S. Murray had forward at this mart on Monday only a small supply of stock, but for those forward there was a good trade, and prices had an upward tendency, best beef making fully 8s 3d per stone, and mutton 9d per lb. Ten fat cattle sold at from £9 17s 6d to £17 12s 6d; 37 sheep, 44s to 60s; 6 calves, 21s to 29s 6d; pork pigs, 36s to 70s; sow, £4 17s 6d; small pigs, 16s 6d to 27s 6d; cows to £13 17s 6d; stirks, £3 10s to £5; geld cows, £6 7s 6d to £9 10; black-faced ewes and half-bred lambs, 22s 6d. Poultry, 1s 6d to 2s each. Potatoes 3s 6d per bag.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday:—15 cows, up to £18 15s; 23 fat cattle, up to £20 7s 6d; 14 store cattle, up to £8 5s; 7 calves, fat hoggs, up to 33s 6d each.

PAINFUL ACCIDENT IN A WEARDALE SABBATH SCHOOL.

On Sunday forenoon, a painful commotion was created in Wearhead Primitive Methodist Sunday School, held in the chapel, where Mr Joseph Featherstone was in the pulpit giving out the lessons, when he suddenly faltered and sank down. The teachers ran to his assistance, and lifted him on to his seat, where water failing to revive him, Dr Hewitson was hastily summoned from St. John's. That gentleman on his arrival said Mr Featherstone had been stricken with paralysis. The beloved dalesman was taken to his residence, where the doctor remained with him for some time, and discovered the use of the right side gone. Uniform sorrow was expressed throughout the district, as, in addition to being an active lay preacher and zealous supporter of the sect, he was a generous visitor to the sick and needy, chairman of the Local Liberal Association, and a member of the Guardians and School Boards. On inquiry on Monday, we learn that Mr Featherstone's condition was not improved.

PIT ACCIDENT AT EAST CASTLE.

An accident, resulting with serious injuries, occurred at the above colliery on Monday last. It appears that a youth named Crossley, engaged as driver, was coming out-bye with a set of full tubs, when at a sloping part of the road the pony stumbled, and the boy's legs became entangled. Ambulance arrangements were soon on the spot, and the unfortunate youth conveyed home. He was attended to by Dr Allen, of Leadgate, when it was found that both legs were broken—one at the thigh, and the other below the knee. Ambulance men, under the tuition of Dr Duncan, of Catchgate, rendered every possible assistance. Mr Allen highly complimented them for the manner in which the boy had been dealt with, which still further adds to the necessity and use of ambulance work.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The first meeting of the new Board (elected for three years) was held on Thursday se'nnight. There was a full attendance of members.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN.

Mr CRAWFORD moved, and Mr P. OSWALD seconded, that Mr Thomas Robson be re-appointed chairman.

Carried unanimously.

Mr P. OSWALD moved, Mr E. NICHOLSON seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, that Mr John Kirkup and Mr George Ridley be appointed senior and junior vice-chairmen respectively.

FORMATION OF COMMITTEES.

The various committees were appointed, and the whole Board was appointed a series of visiting committees, to be arranged by the Clerk.

Mr J. KIRKUP moved, Mr G. RIDLEY seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the whole of the Guardiens be constituted the Rural Sanitary Authority for the Union.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

On the motion of Mr J. KIRKUP, seconded by Mr G. RIDLEY the meeting agreed to the appointment of Mr Thomas Robson as chairman of the Sanitary Authority.

CRAGHEAD AND WAGTAIL SEWERAGE SCHEME.

A letter from the Local Government Board was read, empowering the Edmondsley township to borrow £630 for carrying out their portion of the Craghead sewage works.

THE PROPOSED CEMETERY FOR PELTON.

The Pelton Cemetery Committee were empowered to consider a communication from the Local Government Board respecting the Pelton cemetery works, and to report thereon at the next meeting of the Authority.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY WEARSIDER.]

Mr McGregor, the Highway Surveyor has several important improvements to the roads in the district on hand. The ugly and dangerous bend in Pictree Lane, at the entrance to Chester-le-Street, is to be taken off. This will be a great improvement, and will do away with a most dangerous place. The Burnt House Bank near Pelton Fell is to be altered, and the gradient considerably reduced. This bank has been a source of trouble, danger, and annoyance for many years, and Mr McGregor's improvements will be welcomed by all whose business or pleasure calls them in that direction.

But all the improvements to be carried out during the present year do not keep the roads clean at the present time. Certainly the weather militates against good roads; but the roads in and about Chester-le-Street are all bad, and are always bad alike.

Whether the waywarden ever looks at the roads or not, or whether he takes any interest in them does not appear certain; but certain it is that the present condition of them is not at all creditable to him. More deplorable roads cannot be seen than those in the township of Chester-le-Street, and the most galling thing to Chester-le-Street folk is, that as soon as the township boundary is passed, most excellent roads are met with. But then they are under the care of another waywarden.

WELDON'S LADIES' JOURNAL (3d).—The chief features of the May number of this popular monthly are the cut-out paper pattern of the Empress Victoria Visite and the coloured plate of summer mantles and costumes. The magazine gives special instructions on home dressmaking, the subject of the present issue being "How to cut out and make a summer Visite." Nearly 50 sketches of mantles, visites, wraps, jackets, costumes, French millinery, tea gowns, etc., are given with explicit instructions for making up and quantity of material required, answers to correspondents, sales, short articles on bridegrooms, honeymoons, etc., forming an excellent number which no doubt our lady readers will duly appreciate.

MRS. LEACH'S PRACTICAL FAMILY DRESSMAKER for May shows a large and tasteful variety of spring and summer mantles, suitable for all ages and materials; also in-door and out-door toilettes, young ladies' jackets, Garibaldi bodices, &c. Full descriptions as to the manner of making-up the various garments are given in every case; also a lesson on home dressmaking, which gives most explicit instructions, with diagram, for cutting-out and making the new striped skirts on the cross. In addition, the journal gives valuable hints on fashion, millinery, &c., notes on novelties, and answers to correspondents—a most useful feature. The *Christian Herald* says: "Mrs Leach's Books are the pioneers of Dressmaking at Home." The book is published monthly, price 2d.

Volunteer Intelligence.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RIFLE CLUB.

The second competition of the season in connection with this club was shot off at the range of the corps on Saturday. The handicap was eventually won by Private M. Brown, 3 points start, 5 shots at 200, 500, and 600 yards. Col.-Sergt Adams, Royal Lancaster Regiment, who has just been appointed Sergt.-Major of the 4th Durham Volunteer Light Infantry, made his first appearance on the range during the afternoon, and was warmly welcomed by the members of the club. Principal scores:—

	200y.	500y.	600y.	St.	Tl.
Private M. Brown	21	23	22	3	69
Private G. Spence	19	23	18	4	64
Private W. Curry	17	23	14	14	64
Corporal R. Finlay	17	18	21	7	63
Private W. Robson	19	18	16	8	61
Sergt. James Usher	16	17	19	2	54
Lieut. J. Turnbull	16	15	14	9	54
Private R. Atkin	22	15	12	2	51
Corpl. J. Thompson	15	16	16	0	47
Corpl. H. L. Spence	13	16	13	6	48

DISASTROUS FIRE AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

NARROW ESCAPE OF A FAMILY.

A GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION.

HOUSE AND SHOP BURNT DOWN.

A brief notification appeared in last week's issue of the *Guardian* to the effect that a fire of a disastrous nature had occurred on Friday morning on the spacious business premises of Messrs Forster and Russell, drapers, clothiers, grocers, &c., of Front Street, Annfield Plain. The result of the conflagration was even more serious than was at first anticipated, and it has certainly been the largest break-out that has ever happened in Annfield Plain. The following appear to be the main particulars, as learnt by our reporter:—When the shop was closed on Thursday night at the usual time, everything was found to be in perfect order. Mr Russell and his wife and family reside in the dwelling-house at the back of the shop, which comprises two storeys only, the upper protion being utilized as store and bedrooms. About ten minutes before six o'clock Mr Russell was awakened by his little son, who informed him that something was amiss, as the rooms were filled with smoke. Mr Russell at once jumped out of bed, raised an alarm, and P.C. Minto (who fortunately lives close at hand) arrived on the scene within ten minutes, and discovered that the whole premises were enveloped in flames. A crowd soon surrounded the spot, and efforts were promptly made to ensure the safety of the inmates of the house. Mrs Russell and the family were reached with some difficulty, but all were eventually rescued, being attired in their night-clothes, and sought refuge in a neighbouring house. The policeman and Mr Moore, the resident engineer of the North-Eastern Railway Company, superintended the principal operations, and, procuring three hose pipes belonging to the owners of the South Derwent Colliery, Pontop Colliery, and the Annfield Plain Co-operative Stores, set a body of men to work to play upon the burning building, but the flames had completely grasped the inflammable material in the shop, and their continued efforts were of little avail. Luckily, there was a capital supply of water in the Consett mains, and the pressure was exceptionally good. Messrs Forster and Russell are licensed to store a certain quantity of gunpowder—about 100 lbs.—upon their premises, and, a report being circulated amongst the people that there were 50lb or 60lb of this material in the shop, the men were afraid to approach close to the burning premises for some time. The quantity of powder in stock, however, had lately been considerably reduced, but it exploded with great force about seven o'clock, lifting off a portion of the roof, the fragments being scattered in all directions. The windows and doors were also blown out, and the floors gave way with a crash. The front of the shop was likewise seriously damaged. The fire still raged with unabated fury, and it was feared that the local appliances and resources were not able to cope with the urgent necessities of the case. Accordingly a telegram as well as a mounted messenger were despatched to the police headquarters about seven o'clock for the Consett Fire Brigade, but they did not go to the scene, the men having received orders not to attend fires outside the Local Board district unless they are engaged by some person who will be responsible for any expenses incurred. The conflagration was aided by a strong wind which was blowing, and fears were entertained that the flames would extend to the adjoining premises of Mr W. T. Tait, clock and watchmaker, Messrs Forster and Russell's shop abutting on a narrow street at the opposite end. It being deemed impossible to save the premises from destruction in the face of the raging elements, the men directed their energies to the task of saving Mr Tait's stock, and a hole was instantly broken into the roof, and the watches and jewellry removed to a place of safety. The stock, however, had been partially damaged by the water and smoke. The men persevered with their arduous task with redoubled energy, and about eight o'clock the fire was got under, but it was not entirely subdued till after eleven o'clock. The dwelling-house and shop premises are totally wrecked, only the outer walls standing; the extensive stock-in-trade (which had just been replenished for the summer season) was wholly destroyed, as was also the furniture in the house. The books and accounts connected with the business have met with a similar fate, and a cash-box containing about £40 in gold has, with its contents, been reduced to molten metal. The damage is roughly estimated at £3,000, and is partly insured. The origin of the conflagration has not been ascertained, but from subsequent indications, it is generally inferred that it first broke out in the drapery goods department, where some of the material had by some means or other become ignited. P.C. Minto passed the premises at a quarter before 4 o'clock, and did not perceive any traces of a fire, and several parties who passed subsequently declare that they saw nothing amiss. Mr Russell had only been married to his second wife, and had recently furnished his residence in a handsome and elegant style. The pianoforte alone, just purchased a few weeks ago at a cost of between 60 and 70 guineas, was reduced to charred wood, and other valuable articles in the house were burnt to cinders. Mr Moore and P.C. Minto deserve the utmost credit for the energetic and prompt manner in which they conducted the operations, and everybody exerted their uttermost to save the premises from destruction and ruin. The local agent of the Consett Water Company also rendered signal service in attending to the fire-plugs, while P.C. Hadwin managed to preserve complete order amongst the large crowd which surrounded the scene of the disaster, the place being visited during the afternoon and evening by many hundreds of people. Messrs Forster and Russell, who carry on an extensive trade in the country, have another shop at White-le-Head. Mr Russell is the acting manager of the whole concern, Mr Forster being apparently a sleeping partner in the firm. Much sympathy is expressed in the district, where Mr Russell is widely known and highly-esteemed, at the heavy loss he must have suffered.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By 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. 210

WELDON'S PRACTICAL NEEDLEWORK (2d).—This is another of the cheap and useful publications issued by Weldon & Co., 7 Southampton Street, Strand; the current issue (No. 29) being devoted to "smocking." This work is more than ever in vogue this season, and is applied to every conceivable article of dress, even sunshades, a variety of lovely and perfectly original designs with complete instructions being given for smocking various articles and garments for ladies and children.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, April 26th. — Before Rev J. P. De Pledge (chairman), Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., Wm. Hedley, Esq., and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Flynn, Michael Brannon, John Brannon, George Reading, and *Thomas Donnolly* were summoned at the instance of Sergt. Nicholson for having been drunk and disorderly at Quebec, on the 1st and 2nd April.—The brothers Brannon neglected to appear, and were fined 10s each and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment; the others were mulcted in penalties of 5s each and pay expenses.

John Armstrong was charged by P.C. Thompson with having been drunk and disorderly at West Stanley, on March 30th, and was also fined 5s and costs.

Henry Devlin, Michael Hope, and *George Coxon* were found guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Robinson, of being drunk and incapable at Annfield Plain and Kyo, on March 30th and April 14th.—Hope was let off on payment of a fine of 5s and costs; the other two did not respond to their names, and were ordered to bear a fine double that amount, with the alternative of 14 days' in prison.

Charles Keegan and *William Mitchell* were proceeded against for having been intoxicated at South Moor, on the 29th March.—P.C. Hadwin narrated the facts.—Keegan, failing to attend, was fined 10s and expenses, or 14 days' in default. A fine of 5s and costs was imposed upon Mitchell.

NEIGHBOURS' SQUABBLES AT MAIDEN LAW.

A young fellow named *George Mains* was summoned for having assaulted Hannah Dowson, a married woman, at Dene House, situate between Maiden Law and Burnhope, on April 1st. Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) appeared to prosecute.—Complainant stated that on Easter Sunday she was driving the defendant's hens out of her garden, when Mains appeared on the scene, and threatened to batter in her door. On leaving the house, he took a shovel and removed a mound of earth in the garden. Complainant expostulated with the defendant, and she was endeavouring to build the mound up again, when Mains threw a spadeful of snow over her back. After that, defendant caught hold of Mrs Dowson by the throat, and kept hold for three or four minutes, almost strangling her.—Complainant's son adduced corroborative testimony.—The defence was that Mrs Dowson was busy scaring the fowls out of the garden with a whip, and defendant remonstrated with her. She then came out of the house, and commenced to blackguard him, and Mains merely pushed her away. —The Chairman said that this was a most trivial case, which ought not to have been brought into court.—Defendant was mulcted in a fine of 1s and costs.

The same complainant preferred a charge against *Ann Wake*, a married woman, for committing damage to glass to the amount of 3s 3d, on April 10th. Mr Oliver again prosecuted.—Mrs Dowson stated that a fortnight after the last occurrence, defendant broke four panes of glass in the window of her dwelling-house by throwing stones.—Defendant flatly denied the charge, alleging that she only tossed some pailfuls of dirty water at the windows because the complainant had been scoffing at her.—The magistrates fined the defendant 6d. besides ordering payment of the damage and costs—10s 3d in all.—Defendant exclaimed that if all the windows in the house had been broken, it would not cost 3s to replace them. (Laughter.)

BREACH OF THE MINES REGULATION ACT.

Wm. Timing, on-setter, was charged with committing a breach of the special rules enforced at Mr J. H. Burns's West Stanley Colliery on the 9th, inst.—The offence (according to the statement of Mr J. M. Wilson, manager), consisted in the fact that the defendant, after having been given a signal for to send up the cage empty for to take the men from the pit bank, allowed the cage to ascend filled with four tubs.—Defendant pleaded that he did not hear the signal given for to let the cage go up empty, and he permitted it to ascend, as usual, laden with tubs.—Under the circumstances, the Bench discharged him on payment of costs incurred.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Anthony Wardle, John Crane, and *Wm. Paley* were found guilty of playing at pitch and toss on Easter Sunday, at South Moor, and were fined 5s and costs.—P.C. Thompson proved the charge. One of the defendants alleged that he was simply amusing himself.

QUARRELSOME NEIGHBOURS.

Kate Moss and *Elizabeth Pyes*, married women, were summoned by Adelaide Trapwell, also married, for having assaulted her at Burnhope, on the 5th inst.—The parties, who are neighbours, quarrelled whilst hanging out the clothes in the yard on the washing-day, and a regular tumult ensued, fists and tongues being freely used, and clothes pegs and stones were thrown at the complainant, who fared the worst in the encounter. The parties were extremely noisy in Court.—After hearing the evidence, the Bench imposed fines of 2s 6d and costs upon each offender, and asked the neighbours to live peaceably together in future.

WANTON DESTRUCTION BY BOYS.

Wm. and *Frederick Bell, Alex. Orr, John Vickers, Alfred Askew, James Breckon*, and *Adam Bell*, boys of from 12 to 15 years of age, were summoned for causing damage to the amount of 7s each to a cart-bridge which crosses the Kyo Burn, near Harperley, the property of the Lanchester Highway Board, on the 7th April.—The charge was proved by two other boys, who observed the defendants (who were playing a football match at Tanfield on that date) push off a large quantity of coping from the Kyo Heugh Bridge, besides knocking down several square yards of the wall.—Mr W. Dixon (Highway Board Surveyor) spoke to this and other bridges having sustained a great quantity of damage of late, and the estimated cost of the destruction to this particular bridge was between £1 and 30s. He trusted the Board would express their disapprobation of such misconduct.—Defendants complained that the youths who actually knocked the stones off the bridge into the water were called to give evidence against them. —Mr John Orr also stated that the case had been badly got up by the policeman, inasmuch as the worst culprits were not fetched up.—The magistrates, having reprimanded the delinquents, fined them 6d each, 3s 6d damage and costs, and expressed a hope that the parents would severely punish the lads for their conduct.

ARREARS IN BASTARDY.

Joseph Carrick, a pitman, of Hedleyhope, was brought up to show cause why he had failed to pay £3 odd due to Margaret Jane Oliver.—Defendant paid £1 down, and was liberated.

Marshall Willis, a farm servant, living near Consett, was committed to prison for two months for the non-payment of over £19 due on a bastardy order to Elizabeth Jane Milligan.

IMPUDENT THEFT AT BEAMISH.

Alfred Richardson, a young man, the son of a platelayer employed under Messrs J. Joicey and Co., was brought up charged with stealing a Boston lever watch and several watchmaker's tools, &c., valued at £3 12s 6d. the property of Joseph Patrick McGlade, a travelling watch and clock repairer, on the 18th of April. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) defended prisoner. —Prosecutor stated that he had been travelling in the neighbourhood of Birtley, and he called at the Black Horse Inn, Red Row, Beamish, about ten o'clock a.m., on the 18th inst., and met the prisoner in the tap-room. He (McGlade) asked him to buy a watch, and gave him one into his hands. Prosecutor happened to go outside, leaving his black bag, containing an assortment of watchmaker's tools and other articles, open upon the table. When he returned, he found the prisoner had decamped with the watch and the bag. George Scrafton, a man, ran after Richardson, and saw him throw away several tools which he picked up, and the prosecutor identified the articles as his own. McGlade subsequently charged the prisoner with stealing the things; but he denied the theft, and stated that the servant girl had got them. He (McGlade) accompanied the prisoner to Marley Hill, and on proceeding along the railway towards Kimblesworth, prisoner refused to go any further. A severe struggle ensued, and McGlade eventually got Richardson down upon the ground. Another man now appeared on the scene, and enquired what was the matter? Prosecutor explained what had happened, and the new-comer, after giving vent to an offensive expression, obliged him to release the prisoner. The latter got upon his legs, and kicked and beat him very severely, rendering him insensible. His right eye was badly injured, and his hands and face much bruised. He had to seek medical advice. When the prosecutor recovered consciousness, he found that the prisoner had absconded. He returned to the public-house, and afterwards gave information to the police authorities at Marley Hill.—Cross-questioned by Mr Welford: Prosecutor stated that he had a share of two pints of liquor, and was not sober. Neither was he drunk! (Laughter.) He did not sell the watch to the prisoner, nor offer to accept pay for the same in weekly instalments of 2s or 1s 6d. The watch had not been recovered.—George Scrafton, miner, Beamish, gave evidence to seeing the prisoner throw something out of his hands, whilst running off, and on looking in the hedge back witness discovered the tools produced, which had been identified by McGlade.—A heated argument hereupon arose between Mr Welford and Mr A. W. Granger (clerk of the court), the former protesting against the latter gentleman putting leading questions to the witnesses—a proceeding which was most unfair and unjust towards his client.—Mr Granger retorted that they must have something definite upon the depositions. They could not describe a gesture, and make the evidence a "dumb show."—Continuing, witness stated that when McGlade accused the prisoner in the public-house of having stolen the watch, the latter declared that he had given it him back again. —Sergt. Davidson deposed to apprehending Richardson, on April 25th, at Oxhill, and on charging him with the theft, he answered: "I know nothing about it. I never was in the Black Horse public-house." —Mary Anderson, wife of Jos. Anderson, publican, Red Row, Beamish, also gave evidence on behalf of the prosecutor.—Upon being charged in Court, prisoner pleaded not guilty. He reserved his defence. —Three previous convictions for larceny were handed in against Richardson, who was accordingly committed to take his trial at the Quarter Sessions, the Bench agreeing to accept bail—prisoner himself being bound over in the sum of £50, and to find two sureties of the same amount.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, April 30th. Before Jon. Priestman, Esq. (in the chair), J. W. Walton-Wilson, Esq., and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Catherine Irwin, of Shotley Bridge, was proceeded against by Mr Alex. McKean, attendance officer employed by the Benfieldside School Board, for not causing her child to attend school.—Defendant was fined 5s, inclusive of costs.

AN UNLICENSED PEDLAR.

John Peart, a pedlar, was summoned by P.C. Lewis for hawking matches, needles, pins, &c., at Waskerley, on the 12th April, without having a certificate.—Defendant failed to appear, and it was stated that this was his second offence of the same description.—A fine of 5s and expenses was inflicted upon him.

HORSES STRAYING UPON THE TURNPIKE.

James William Armstrong, a farmer, was charged with allowing three horses to stray upon the highway, at Knitsley Four Lane Ends, on the 12th inst.—The charge was proved by P.C. Richardson, who said that he had been informed that the animals had been grazing on the roadside the whole of that day.—Defendant admitted his guilt, but explained that the North Durham hounds had been hunting in the neighbourhood on the day previous, and some of the gates of his fields must have been left open, thus affording the horses an opportunity of getting out.—The Bench dismissed the case on payment of the costs.

CHIMNEY ON FIRE.

John Swan, of Consett, was summoned by P.C. Richardson for permitting the chimney of his dwelling-house to be on fire, on April 10th, thereby contravening the bye-laws of the Consett Local Board. —Fined 1s and costs.

POOR LAW ACT.

Matthew Stephenson, of Consett, was summoned by his wife, Maria Stephenson, for non-maintenance.—Complainant asked for the charge to be withdrawn, and the magistrates gave their consent.

ARREARS IN BASTARDY.

John Evans, of Leadgate, was placed in the dock to show cause why he had failed to contribute the sum of £12, due in respect of two affiliation orders to Margt. Turner.—It was stated that last summer the prisoner went off to America, but had recently returned and was apprehended on warrants. Prosecutrix was willing to forfeit the money owing if Evans would only stay at home and pay regularly on both orders in future.—To this he agreed, and was therefore released, the case being adjourned *sine die*.

ALLEGED AGGRAVATED ASSAULT UPON A WIFE.

Christianna Thompson preferred a charge against her husband, *George Thompson*, for having committed an aggravated assault upon her at Shotley Bridge, on the 23rd inst.—Neither party responded to their names.—The summons was dismissed, complainant having to pay the costs.

CHARGES OF PERMITTING DRUNKENNESS.

"NEITHER DRUNK OR SOBER!"

William Lamb, a beerhouse-keeper, of Durham Road, Blackhill, was placed in the dock to answer a charge of permitting drunkenness upon his licensed premises, on Saturday night, 31st March.—P.C. Phillipson spoke to going to the house about one o'clock on the night in question, and seeing a number of men—four of whom were convicted at the last Court—in a very drunken state, and partaking of liquor. He informed the landlord and landlady that the men were intoxicated, and they ought not to supply them with any more liquor. Returning some short time after, he found the men still there. One of them picked up a quart of beer and drank part of it, whilst he handed the remainder to his companions. The landlord ordered the people out, but one of the men said that he would not go till he had drank the liquor he had paid for.—P.C. Newton adduced corroborative testimony.—Both the defendant and Mrs Lamb stoutly denied that the men in question were served with a drop of liquor in their house. They came from a neighbouring inn, and when they entered, the landlord ordered them away, but they refused to go. When the officer entered, one of the men took up a quart can belonging to a person named Graham, and drunk off some of the liquor.—Mrs Lamb asserted that the men were "neither drunk or sober—they would be about half-way between the two extremes." (Laughter.)—Peter Pearson adduced substantiative evidence, whilst Robert Graham and Thomas Robinson, who were in company together, proved to ordering a quart of beer, and paying for the same. One of the men spoken of took up the can and drank off some of the liquor. Witnesses did not complain to the police that the man had taken up their beer, and they left when the rest of the company were requested to quit the house.—The Bench, after due consideration, dismissed the summons, but added that the police officer was perfectly justified in bringing the case forward.

William Blackburn, landlord of the Railway Hotel, Blackhill, was summoned for a similar offence. Mr Dix (Newcastle), who defended, was detained in London, and Mr Forster (Messrs Forster, Keenleyside, and Forster, Newcastle), who represented the proprietors of the house, said he had no objection to a remand.—The hearing of the case was accordingly adjourned for a fortnight.

A BATCH OF ASSAULTS.

John O'Neil, a young man, was placed in the dock charged with having assaulted Elizabeth Brannigan, a young woman, at Consett, on the 16th April.—Whilst the complainant was passing the Salvation Hall, between 9 and 10 o'clock at night, defendant came up, pushed her on the shoulder, gave her a blow on the mouth, and almost knocked her teeth down her throat. He also kicked her, and threatened to do something else if she brought the "bobbies" to him. —Defendant repudiated the assault. When he taxed Brannigan for having used foul and filthy expressions respecting his sister, she hit him upon the face. He had no witnesses, as he did not think he would have been summoned for such a trivial offence.—The Bench imposed a fine of 1s, and 10s. 6d. Court costs.

Joseph Donald, a youth, was charged with assaulting Thomas Young, a sharp-looking lad, at Medomsley Edge, on April 14th.—Complainant's story was that defendant hit him upon the side of the face, and when he stumbled, kicked at him.—Defendant, whose statement was substantiated by several witnesses, *point blanc* denied striking the boy, but alleged that the complainant flung a stone at him, and while in the act of running away, he fell down.—Complainant asserted that when his father appeared on the scene, these witnesses (Jas. Hornsby and Robert Starr) declared that they would appear to give evidence against him.—The summons was dismissed, complainant having to bear 10s 6d as court fees.

John Gray was accused by Mary Ann Rodham of having committed an assault upon her at Dipton, on the 19th inst.—Having had some dispute respecting a hen-cree, the defendant, it seems, pushed the complainant against a door-step, and she called him a coward.—Mary Ann Berkley also gave evidence as to the assault, which was strongly denied by the defendant, who admitted, however, placing his hands upon the woman's shoulders, when she hit him three times, and threw a pail of dirty water at him, but missed her aim.—The magistrates believed that defendant had received considerable provocation, but fined him 1s and 14s costs.

"SQUARED" FOR FIVE SHILLINGS!

John Wilson, a farmer, was summoned by Edward Parker, an agricultural labourer, for assaulting him, in the neighbourhood of Leadgate, on the 14th inst.—Defendant appeared, and stated that he had given the complainant 5s to settle the case. (Laughter.) He wanted the summons withdrawn with the justices' consent.—Mr Granger: Who's to pay the 3s 6d costs?—Defendant: Oh, you can take it out of the 5s complainant has got from me. (Loud laughter.)—Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen: That's not reckoning much for his day's wages. (Laughter.)—Defendant: Well, I never ought to have been summoned here at all. It's a hard case when you employ a man to work for you, and he is constantly annoying you.

PAINFUL CASE OF THEFT.

An old man, named *William Brown* (65), of Kyo, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing three scarves, valued at 3s, the property of James Craine, residing in Brewery Square, West Stanley, on Friday last.—The evidence showed that Mary Craine (wife) hung out the clothes on the hedge by the roadside for to dry, and the defendant, when passing about noon pilfered the three scarves.—Sergt. Davidson apprehended the prisoner on the highway, near East Kyo, at two o'clock the same afternoon, and found the three scarves produced. Defendant at first stated that he had purchased the articles at Stockton; but subsequently admitted that he had stolen them.—Brown made a rambling statement in his own defence. He explained that he had no relatives in the neighbourhood for to keep him, and he was solely dependent for a means of subsistence upon the relief money he received from two benefit clubs—one at Stockton-on-Tees and the other at Kyo. As he was in a distitute state, he could not withstand the temptation to take the scarves.—The magistrates having consulted together for a long period, told the defendant that he had rendered himself liable to be sent to prison. However, considering his advanced age, and the circumstances surrounding the case, the Bench had determined to discharge him. He was specially warned not to resort to that mode of getting a livelihood, and if he was again caught thieving, he would certainly have to be committed. If the old man could not resist the temptation to steal, he was advised to seek admission to the Workhouse.

SECOND COURT.

Before James Annandale, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Joseph McGovern was summoned by P.C. Christon for having been drunk at Tantobie, on April 21st.—Fined 5s and costs.

Matthew Carroll and *Anthony Wilkinson* were found guilty, upon the evidence of Sergt. Best, of having been drunk and disorderly at Consett, on the 8th and 21st days of April.—Each offender was similarly fined.

Patrick Salmon, George Lamb, and *John Bradley*, who were accused by P.C. Scott of drunkeness at Consett, on the 14th inst. were mulcted in penalties of 5s each and expenses.

Andrew Simpson and *John McIntyre* were proceeded against by Sergt. Tate for having committed a like offence at Blackhill, on the 21st inst., and were fined in like sums.

Patrick Garvey, Patrick McAnaney, and *William Simpson* were summoned at the instigation of P.C. Newton for having been intoxicated and creating an uproar at Blackhill, on April 21st. — Garvey omitted to attend, and was fined 10s and costs, or seven days' hard labour; the other two delinquents were let off with payment of a penalty of 5s and expenses.

P.C. Lawson preferred a charge against *Peter McGough* for having been found drunk in the streets of Blackhill, on the same date, and was fined 5s and costs.

Walter Heugham, charged by P.C. Phillipson with having been inebriated at Blackhill, on the 11th inst, was mulcted in a like penalty.

Bernard Hammil was also fined 5s and expenses for drunkenness at Consett, on April 23rd.—P.C. Million proved the case.

Peter Hawkins appeared to answer a charge, made against him by Inspector Benzies, of having been drunk and disorderly at Consett, on Saturday night last.—The Magistrate inflicted a fine of 5s and costs.

Adam Jackson, charged by Sergt. Bain with a similar offence at Consett on the same evening, was likewise fined 5s and costs.

Peter Rafferty was ordered to defray the same fine for having been drunk and disorderly at Blackhill, on the preceding Saturday night.

Robert Jenkinson was brought up and charged by P.C. Kettlewell with having been drunk and riotous at Cornsay, on the preceding (Sunday) night.—He was also fined 5s and expenses.

PITCH AND TOSS.

John Flannigan and *John Colgan* were summoned by P.C. Phillipson for playing at pitch and toss, at Blackhill, on the 2nd April, and were fined 7s 6d each and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Robert Dawson was charged with doing damage to grass, to the amount of 1d, growing in a field in the occupation of Mr John Hunter, between Allendale Cottages and Medomsley, on the 11th inst., and was fined 1s, and ordered to pay the damage and costs incurred.

MISCHIEVOUS LADS.

Morris Collins, Michael and *Francis McQuiggan, Bernard Lundy, Michael Boyle, Michael McHugh, Patrick* and *Thomas Conley*, and *Benjamin Mason*, all boys whose ages ranged from 9 to 15 years, were summoned, at the instance of the Consett Iron Company, for doing wilful damage to their property to the extent of 18s, on the 10th April.—It transpired that the boys attend the Brooms Roman Catholic School, Leadgate, and on the date in question were playing in the neighbourhood of the Iveston Colliery. The lads mischieviously pulled out a quantity of bricks from the engine-house and boiler-seat, thus loosening the foundations of the erections.—Mr J. J. Hedley proved the amount of damage.—The charge was denied by the defendants.—Lundy, being of tender age, was discharged with a caution; the rest of the offenders were ordered to pay fines of 6d each, besides 2s damage and costs.

CHESTER-LE-STREET GUARDIANS AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL.

A special meeting of the Chester-le-Street Guardians was held on Monday, for the purpose of considering the provisions of the Local Government Bill,—Mr Thomas Robson, chairman of the Board, presiding. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. "That this meeting desires to express its general satisfaction with the terms of the Local Government Bill (England and Wales) now before Parliament, as a broad, comprehensive, and much-needed reform in local government in counties; and their sincere hope that the Bill in its main provisions may speedily become law; and with a view of amending some of its provisions offer the following suggestions for the considerations of the Legislators."

2. "That in the opinion of this meeting, the Local Government (England and Wales) Electors Bill may be avoided as unnecessary by the insertion of a clause in the Local Government (England and Wales) Bill, providing that the overseers in every parish in a county shall in addition to the annual occupiers list of Parliamentary voters purpose and publish in the same manner a list of females, peers, and other persons similarly qualified to vote as burgesses in boroughs, which list and the occupiers' list shall constitute the register of voters for county councils, thereby lessening the duties of the overseers in the preparation of the separate lists, and consequently saving a large expenditure to the ratepayers."

3. "That Clause V of the Local Government Bill be amended so that the preparation and revision of a basis or standard for the county rate be made by the county council with the right of appeal by any person or persons aggrieved to the Quarter Sessions, who would thus be constituted a disinterested authority."

4. "That the whole of the clauses in the Local Government Bill relating to the licensing and control of houses for the sale of intoxicating liquors and the granting of compensation for the withdrawal of any license be eliminated from the Bill with a view of having these questions dealt with in a separate enactment at another time."

5. "That the Clerk be instructed to forward a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the President of the Local Government Board, to Mr Nicholas Wood, and to Mr James Joicey, the Parliamentary representatives for the district of the Union."

"BUCHU PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London.

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

TOWLS PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickley correct all irregularities, and believe the distressing symptoms so prevatent with the sex Baxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere for 15 or 34 Stamp by the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln. — Beware of Imitation.

Dr Bardsley's Antibilious Pills.—For radiocating 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.

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

DEATH OF DR DEVEY, OF WOLSINGHAM.

We regret to announce the death of Mr Valentine Devey, M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng., Wolsingham. The lamented gentleman has only been laid aside a little over a week, but his affliction was of a most deadly character. Several well-known physicians were in attendance, but their combined efforts proved futile, and death took place on Wednesday se'nnight. As a family doctor, he was held in high esteem, and considered very skilful. He had a very extensive practice, and was medical attendant for all the friendly societies in the town. He leaves a widow, and one daughter unmarried. His two sons are living in Wolsingham, one practicing as M.D. and the other as a solicitor. Dr Devey having been practicing in the town for at least a period of over four decades, his loss will be widely felt. Deceased was largely esteemed and respected in Weardale, and was an old and tried worker for the Conservative cause.

On Saturday afternoon, the interment of Mr Devey took place in the Old Churchyard. A large concourse of relatives and friends assembled to pay their last tribute of respect to one who for a good number of years had been the principal doctor in the town. Amongst the numerous train that walked in procession along the main street to the place of interment were noticed: Dr Jackson, Darlington; Mr J. P. Delphin, Mr W. Shaw, Middlesbrough; Mr C. Bainbridge, Leazes; Messrs G. Curry, W. Snowball, W. Love, Master Vickers (Redgate Hall), S. Haig, W. Rutter, T. Johnson, T. Batty, E. Stankley, G. Herron, W. Brown, J. Brown, H. Budd, J. H. Snowdon, T. Bell, representatives from various friendly societies, Press representatives, the bearers being Messrs J. Proud, W. Ord, J. Eltringham, T. Stobbs, E. Hamilton, W. Landreth, Mr J. Landreth was the undertaker. The service, which was choral, was conducted by Rev Chancellor Espin, D.D., assisted by the curates—Revs Sharpe and Espin. Beautiful wreaths of lovely flowers, expressing kindly sympathy, were sent by Rev and Mrs F. Eales, Mrs Plews, Mr T. H. Jackson, and Dr and Mrs E. Jackson, J. W. and Mrs Swallow, Miss Greathead, and Mrs Espin (vicarage). The coffin was of massive oak, with brass handles. The breast-plate bore the following neatly executed inscription:—"Valentine Devey, M.R.C.S. Eng.; born February 14th, 1818; died April 25th, 1888."

PRESENTATION AT WATERHOUSES.

In the Co-operative Hall, Waterhouses, kindly lent by the Crook Co-operative Society, the workmen of Messrs Pease and Partners, Waterhouses and Esh cokeyards, met to present Mr Henry Bowes, their late esteemed manager, on the occasion of his retiring into private life, with a handsome illuminated address, in token of their esteem and good wishes. The friends in the outlying district, who have long been connected with Mr Bowes, both officially and privately, took the same opportunity to present Mr and Mrs Bowes with a beautiful timepiece, together with a silver tea and coffee service. Mr Bowes has been manager of the Waterhouses and Esh cokeyards for 24 years, and is very much respected both as a master and friend. He was ever ready to help forward any good cause which had for its object the elevating of the working class and their improvement intellectually and morally. In the absence of Mr R. Dixon (Messrs Pease and Partners' agent in the coke industry), the chair was occupied by Mr Ernest Forster, who was supported by Dr Mackay, Esh; Mr Bell, Bishop Auckland; Mr Brown, Durham; Mr Raw, stationmaster, Waterhouses; Mr Binns, Waterhouses; and Mr M. Davison, Hedley Hill. The proceedings were enlivened by selections of music by the Waterhouses choral society and the Waterhouses brass band. The chairman read letters of apology from Mr Dixon, Crook; Mr Wm. Crawford, M.P.; Mr Patterson, Durham; Mr Wm. Burnip (secretary of the Crook Co-operative Society); and Rev Geo. Macdonald, Baptist minister. The following programme was first rendered:—Song, "Mrs Foggiarty's cake," G. E. Ward; part-song, "The contest," choral party; song, "Rock-a-bye," Miss E. Crishop.

The Chairman, as representing the working men of the two cokeyards, then in appropriate language presented the address, as follows:—

"Sir,—We, the undersigned workmen employed at Messrs Pease and Partners, Limited, Waterhouses and Esh cokeyards, hereby desire, on the occasion of your retiring from the management of the above-named cokeyards, to express our respect and esteem for you, both as the representative of the firm on whose behalf you have so long had control over us, and also in your private life, in which we have always found you an able and earnest advocate of every good cause. We assure you, sir, that you carry with you in your retirement our best wishes that you may long be spared to assist in such good works, and that the richest blessing of Providence may rest upon you and yours.—Believe us, sir, to be yours very sincerely.

"Signed by 135 of the workmen."

The address was executed by Mr Veitch, of Durham.

Mr Bowes, in briefly replying, said he could not find words to express his deep thankfulness for the expression of their good will, and hoped the same good feeling would be extended to his successor. (Applause.)

Mr Galley and party next gave the glee, "Laugh and grow fat," after which Mr Wood gave an appropriate and laughable reading in the Yorkshire dialect, entitled "My first testimonial."

Dr Mackay next made the presentation from the outlying subscribers. The testimonial consisted of a handsome marble timepiece and silver tea and coffee service, supplied by Mr M. Clish, Waterhouses. The articles bore the inscription:—

"Presented to Mr and Mrs Henry Bowes, on the occasion of Mr Bowes's retiring from the position of manager of the Waterhouses and Esh cokeyards, as a token of esteem by their friends. April, 1888."

Mr Bowes again feelingly responded, after which Miss Griffiths sang "'Tis I that nurses baby," and Misses Morton and Taylor a duet, entitled "Thy light is come;" Miss Johnson also recited "Half-a-bar."

Messrs Bell, Binns, Raw, and Davison also addressed the meeting, after which Mr Roberts treated the audience to "The same old hat," and the choral party gave the "Huntsman's chorus."

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

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.

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

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

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

SHOCKING FATALITY ON THE RAILWAY AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

JURYMEN AND THEIR FEES.

At the Chester-le-Street Justice Room, on Monday, Coroner Graham held an inquest on the body of George Henderson, who was found on the railway a few yards to the south of Chester-le-Street Station, on Sunday morning.

Thomas Henderson, pitman, living at Chester Moor, identified the body as that of his brother, George Henderson, who worked at Framwellgate Moor Colliery, and was 27 years of age; he was married, had two children, and lived at Findo Hill. He came to Chester Moor on Saturday morning, about seven o'clock, to see witness. He had walked over from Findon Hill. Witness and deceased went from Chester-le-Street Station by the 11-22 a.m. train—witness to Newcastle, and deceased to Low Fell, to see his mother-in law. They did not travel in the same compartment together. Witness never saw deceased again alive. Witness had since heard that Thomas Coxon and Frederick McCall, of Chester Moor, had seen deceased at Chester-le-Street Station when the last train from Newcastle came in, and that deceased left the platform, and the station gate were fastened after him.

John Wadge, a platelayer on the North-Eastern Railway, living at Chester-le-Street, in charge of a length from the north end of the viaduct to the south of Chester Moor, said that on Sunday morning at six o'clock, when going on his rounds, he found the dead body on the railway, lying lengthways along the line, with his head towards the station. The body was lying between the signal wires to the south of the station. With the exception of the cap, all the clothes were on; the seat of the trousers was torn, and the head appeared to have been struck at the back. The right leg was broken, and one of the arms. Witness had not previously picked up a dead body on the line. There was a quantity of blood upon the vest and collar of the jacket worn by the deceased. The blood appeared to have come from the nose and mouth. When witness first found the body, he could straighten out the clenched fingers; when carried away, the body appeared limp. Witness gave information to the police as soon as he could.

Charles Allen, signalman at Chester-le-Street cabin, said that he went on duty at 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, until 2-50 on Sunday. The last train from Newcastle on Saturday night left Chester-le-Street platform at 9-58; the down train arrived at 9-59, and left at 10 o'clock. There were no more stopping trains that night. An empty passenger train went down at 10-15; a through goods at 10-45; the Scotch express at 12-5 a.m.; midnight express at 12-20; and no more until 2-47. At 2-40, when pulling the distance signal for this last train, witness found the lever stiff to pull, as though there was something the matter with the wires. After two or three sharp pulls, the lever acted, and worked well enough until witness left, which was a short while afterwards. Witness was called up on Sunday morning to assist in removing the body. From the description given to witness, it appeared that the body had been lying across the wires when witness felt the difficulty with them.

After hearing this evidence, the jury returned a verdict "That deceased had been killed by a locomotive engine, and that he had been trespassing upon the Team Valley section of the North-Eastern Railway at the time he met his death."

After the jury had returned their verdict, the foreman, Mr Wm. Clarke, said that a juror wished to say something to the Coroner.

Mr Matthew Nicholson said he wished to draw the attention of the Coroner to the fees for jurymen. From what they had heard, it appeared that this was another of those cases in which the relatives of the deceased might have been considerably benefitted by the fees which used to be paid to jurymen, and were usually given to the relatives in such cases as that which they had just considered. He wished to know if anything could be done to re-establish the custom of paying jurors? (Hear, hear.)

The Coroner said he would be very glad to assist them if he could, but unfortunately he had no power to do so. The matter rested with the Justices, who had disallowed the fees in the county of Durham, where formerly a fee of 8d was allowed, while in Northumberland a shilling fee was allowed, and in Newcastle, 6d. He had known cases of shipwreck where the bodies were washed ashore at both sides of the Tyne. On the north side the jury usually gave the fees to the relatives of the deceased sailors, while in the county of Durham, where the jury had no fees to give, the hat was very often sent round among them.

Mr Harry Lamb: That makes the Durham jurymen appear very insignificant.

The Coroner: Well, not exactly insignificant, but allows an unfavourable comparison to be drawn. And it was quite bad enough for them to have to spend their time in painful inquiries, without being asked to subscribe to a fund. But their hardships went a little further than that even. They had to attend the Quarter Sessions and Assizes, and were thus compelled not only their time, but their money also He could only advise them to petition Parliament, through their member, for an Act dealing with the matter. They would remember that Mr Joseph Cowen either submitted or backed a bill dealing with the payment of all jurymen. That Bill was not supported with any enthusiasm, nor backed by any agitation. When the County Boards were formed, they should get themselves made members, and then no doubt all those matters would be righted.

Mr James Dorman remarked that the old fee of 8d was paid in order that each juryman might get two glasses of whiskey. (Laughter.)

The Coroner: As that subject had been mentioned, he might say that that had something to do with the abolition of the fee. Inquests were held at public-houses, and some scandal was raised about jurymen staying after the conclusion of the inquiry.

TABLEAUX VIVANTS EXHIBITION AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

On Monday evening, an exhibition of a novel and interesting character took place in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, before a good audience. The *Tableaux Vivants* are quite a novelty in the North of England, and a somewhat new departure in the "entertainment" line. They were lately introduced by Rev R. Tuson, vicar of St. John's, Dipton, and twice successfully exhibited in the Co-operative Hall at that place. The object is to raise a fund for the defraying of expenses in connection with the church. The arrangement on this occasion was excellent, and each performer sustained his or her part in a truly "wax figure" fashion, and gave evidence of good training in their imitation of "machinery" motion in the several attitudes in which they appeared. The figures were displayed at a disadvantage, the platform being rather small, thereby giving it a crowded appearance; but Sambo (Mr G. Thornton) seemed to have a knack of moving in such a small space without disturbing any of the figures. The dresses had been well chosen by those who had control of the arrangements, and went far towards making the entertainment a successful one. What with the clowns and music prior to the commencement of the exhibition, and the variety displayed in the exhibition itself, none could say that they had spent a dull moment. Mr T. Simpson presided at the piano, while the following gentlemen performed on their several instruments:—Messrs A. Allen, Rowell, M. Armstrong, and McIntyre. The musicians acquitted themselves in a highly commendable fashion, and contributed much to the enjoyment of the proceedings. The characters represented on the platform were:—Group I—Britannia, Ambassador from Madagascar, Joan of Arc, Rock of Ages, Bo-Peep, Red Riding Hood, Reaper and flowers, Uncle Tom, Eva and Topsy, and Florence Nightingale and the dying soldier. Group II—Queen Elizabeth, William Tell and his Son, Flower Girl, Swiss Girl, Grace Darling, Child of Regiment, Mrs Squeers and school-boy, Clown, Cinderella, Fairy, Sisters and Prince, Clown. Group III—Britannia, Chinese Giant, The Claimant, Newsboy, Uncle Toby and his family, Mr Winslow and Baby, Pear's Soap and dirty boy, Bridegroom and Bride, Old-fashioned sewing machine, Jack Horner, clowns, and organ Grinder. During the exhibition the following pieces were rendered in an able manner by the band, the music being appropriately set to enhance the interest in the figures:—"God save the Queen"; "Rock of Ages"; "Poor Old Joe"; "Sun of My Soul"; "Death of Nelson"; "Wont you buy my pretty flowers"; "Keel Row"; "Fairyland waltz"; "Rule Britannia"; "Take a bob"; "There's nae good luck"; "Bird waltz"; "Rock my baby to sleep"; "My love"; "Auld lang syne."

Mr Prevell. Dipton, who acted as showman, displayed no small amount of tact in his manner of describing the various figures, giving a short history of each character as they were introduced. Of Sambo (Mr G. Thornton) we cannot but speak in terms of praise. He went through his duties as if "To the manner born," and by his well-timed fun kept the audience in a lively state. The perfect "Get up" of the figures must be seen to be properly realised, the greatest amount of patience being undoubtedly required to keep up the character of a "Wax figure." In group I, where "Red Riding Hood and the wolf" are represented, the wolf would have been much improved if it had looked a little more like that animal. As it was, it seemed to be wantingshape, and from a distance looked like little else than the skin of an animal. The representation of "Grace Darling" left nothing to be desired, and was loudly applauded by the audience. Of the other figures we might speak in a similar strain; but, for fear of creating a sameness, and to avoid repitition, let it suffice that the rest of the exhibition was gone through in a highly commendable style, and met with the warmest appreciation from the audience. The proceedings were brought to a successful issue by the playing of the National Anthem.

MILKWELL BURN UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH.

The members of this Church for many years had to worship in a dilapidated and inconvenient structure belonging to the Milkwell Burn Colliery, which was laid in, and after standing for a long period was passed over to the Consett Iron Company. They thought proper to make alterations in the structural arrangements by replacing two cottage houses and a reading-room. During the alterations, the society had no place wherein to worship, but as soon as the reading-room was completed, they at once made application for the above place, which was granted to them every Sabbath and alternate Wednesday evenings by Mr W. H. Hedley, mining engineer, for the sum of 12s a-year. Under those conditions, this society has been bound for many years, but brighter days seem to dawn upon this Church, and even the circuit at large. About six months ago, the proprietors of the Hamsterley estate granted as much land as was required whereon to build a Free Methodist Chapel on a lease for 99 years, at 6d per year. The friends connected connected with the aforementioned place set to work to promote a bazaar to raise funds for the chapel, and on Saturday and Monday a bazaar was opened in the Wesleyan School room, Blackhall Mill, by the esteemed minister, Rev J. Martin, who is always ready and willing to perform any duty that he may be called upon to do. The bazaar consisted of four stalls. No. 1 and 2—drapery stalls—were superintended by Mrs Liddle, Ridley, Peak, and Miller. No. 3 and 4—toy and confectionery stalls—were presided over by Messrs Thos. Rutter, T. Milburn, R. Reay, and Mrs Twentymen. Mrs Ballenby provided refreshments for each day, and the event was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. There were other amusements, such as a galvanic battery, which was under the jurisdiction of Mr Robert Hunter. Dr Marshall kindly came forward with his microscope, which was highly interesting. Messrs J. Ridley and J. Tonkin attended well as door-keepers. The friends in the surrounding neighbourhood expressed their sympathy to this Church by the liberal manner in which they gave towards the tea, which would supply 400 people. The room was densely packed each day by a good company, who were much interested with the Old Methodist tunes performed by a small string band, under the leadership of Mr John Egglestone. The total proceeds of the bazaar amounted to £49; nett profit, £31 7s, which makes a total of £100 raised during the last six months in aid of the object.

Plans have been prepared for the proposed new chapel by Mr R. Gibson, of Westwood. The new structure is to seat 250 persons, at a cost of £300. The building will be erected with red bricks with stone in-bands and out-bands to door and windows. There will be four windows on each side in Gothic style. In the front elevation is a porch entrance to the chapel; two double windows, headed with a round window, which gives a handsome architectural appearance to the building. The interior of the chapel will be filled with pew seats, singers' rising gallery, a rostrum, and communion place. The latter two will be fixed with pitch-pine pillars and fancy metal railings in green and bronze. The chapel will be cleaded round in cross-cut style, headed with a dark mould round the same. The ceiling will be in slow arched style, ornamented with a large centre flower; two circulating ventilators with a mould round the latter two. The structure will be warmed with an improved heating process, which has been thoroughly tried, and has given every satisfaction to the trustees and plan maker. It is hoped that the scheme will shortly be commenced.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

WEDNESDAY, May 2nd.—Before His Honour E. J. Meynell (Judge).

CLAIMS FOR RENT.

Murray v Watson and Others.—Richard Murray, wine and spirit merchant, Benfieldside, sued C. Watson for £4 19s and H. Price for £4 2s 6d, due as rent for use of houses situate in Cutlers Hall Road. The same plaintiff also sought to recover from John Swinburne, of Blackhill, the sum of £1 15s, rent owing in respect of a stable. Mr J. G. Murray (Newcastle) represented the plaintiff; the claims arising out of an action heard at the previous sitting of the court, when Mr Murray, as the lessee of the properties, was ordered to pay arrears due from himself, less a certain sum expended upon repairs.—His Honour gave judgment for plaintiff in the first two suits, but with regard to Swinburne's case he found for the defendant.

ADMINISTRATION ORDER.

Re Charles Daley, miner, Greencroft.—Debtor was owing various sums, amounting to £14 19s 3d, and as he could not pay the money he applied to the Court for an administration order.—His Honour directed the applicant to pay 5s a month till he had satisfied his creditors with 6s in the pound.

Re Joseph Barron, carrier, Blackhill.—Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared for the debtor, whose total indebtedness was fixed at £48 19s 8d. He was cross-questioned at great length by the judge as to his liabilities, and ultimately His Honour decided that he should pay 5s in the pound in 6s monthly instalments.

Trade Notes.

Durham Miners' Association.—A meeting of the delegates of the Durham Miners' Association was held on Saturday, in the Miners' Hall, North Road, Durham—Mr John Foreman presiding—when resolutions were passed condemning the London coal dues, and petitions protesting against their continuance were drawn up, to be supplied to the various lodges.—It was decided to hold the annual demonstration on Durham Racecourse on July 14th.

Durham Coal Trade: Reduction of Wages.—The accountant's certificate in connection with the sliding scale which regulates wages in the Durham coal trade was issued on Saturday. It states that the net average selling price of coal for the three months of January, February, and March, was 4s 4 69d per ton. The prevailing rate of wages will therefore be reduced by 1½ per cent. calculated upon the standard wages of November 1887.

Catarrh of the Bladder.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

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

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

Business Announcements.

SIXTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 3 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 22, MOUNT PLEASANT. ARTIFICIAL TEETH, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Best English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB, MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1830.

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SOLE MAKERS OF THE COVENTRY IMPERIAL BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, SAFETIES, and TANDEMS

ALL GUARANTEED MACHINES BEAR THE REGISTERED TRADE MARK OF THE COMPANY.

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WATCHES! WATCHES!! WATCHES

MARSHALL & SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

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BEG to announce that they have opened a BRANCH SHOP in the NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, where they are now showing a fine assortment of CLOCKS, WATCHES, & JEWELLERY Splendid Silver Patent Lever Watches from 70s. and upwards. Ladies and Gentlemen's Silver Geneva Watches from 20s. and upwards. Timepieces from 5s. All kinds of Repairs will be executed at Moderate Charges, combined with Good Workmanship.

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NEW TOWN HALL, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, & HIGHGATE, BLACKHILL. 311x

SPRING, 1888.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

GEORGE RICHARDSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPER,

HAS PLEASURE IN ANNOUNCING THAT HIS STOCK IS NOW REPLETE WITH THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

An inspection of his large and varied Stock is respectfully solicited.

ALL GOODS SOLD AT LOWEST CASH PRICES.

207z TAILORS, MILLINERS, and DRESSMAKERS kept on the Establishment.

PAPER HANGINGS! PAPER HANGINGS!

Before Purchasing elsewhere, see the LARGE STOCK at

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS'

FURNISHING WAREHOUSE,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

365z PERAMBULATORS FOR THE SEASON—FASHIONABLE AND CHEAP.

MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. **WARNING.—NOVELTIES** LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

AND NEW GOODS in Clocks, Watches, and Jewellery, at all prices, at the CONSETT JEWELLERY EMPORIUM in great Variety. The Quality and extreme Cheapness of the Goods is noteworthy. New Novelties are being constantly received, and intending Purchasers should see the large Variety before purchasing elsewhere. SILVER GOODS sold at little more than price usually charged for Gilt and Plated Goods. Half-Dozen Best Tea Spoons given to Purchasers of an extra thick 18-Caret GOLD WEDDING RING, from 10s. each.

J. M. wishes to caution the public against taking Watches to inexperienced men to repair, as they do as much harm to a Watch in ten minutes as the owner will do by wearing it ten years. Many people think that when they see "Watchmaker and Jeweller" over the door, they will find a practical man; but this is a mistake, as many shops in the district are kept by men who have no practical knowledge of a Watch whatever.

ALL REPAIRS ARE DONE BY EXPERIENCED MEN ON THE PREMISES; this being an exception to what many so-called Watchmakers do—who send repairs they are unable to do to another man, thus making the public pay a double price for repairs. J. M., not having to send repairs away, saves you the double charge, and GUARANTEES ALL REPAIRS. By the establishment of his two Shops, J. M. entirely obviated the necessity of the public sending their Watches to Coventry and other Watchmaking districts to be repaired.

LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD. **JOSEPH MARSHALL,** Watchmaker, Jeweller, & Silversmith, 7, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, and LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD. 7, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 912y

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S, "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 9, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

SWEEP! SWEEP! SWEEP!

WITH PATENT APPARATUS no dust can escape; no forks to damage the jambs. Address—WILLIAM BUTCHER, 8, Messenger Street, Shotley Bridge. REASONABLE CHARGES.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

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

Note the Address—

CONSETT LIVERY, HEARSE, AND MOURNING COACH ESTABLISHMENT, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

FRANCES CHRISTOPHER, PROPRIETRESS

FARMERS! FARMERS!! FARMERS!!!

CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS.

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

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

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

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

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

Public Notices.

NOTICE

BURNHOPE COLLIERY READING-ROOM SPORTS, &c., will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 1888.
325z GEO. LAWSON, Secretary.

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

Note the Address:—FRONT STREET, CONSETT

CONSETT & DISTRICT 741st STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY

THE ELEVENTH APPROPRIATION will take place in the Small Hall, New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday, May 16th, 1888.

Meeting to commence at 7·30 p.m.

Members should see that they are clear on the Books.

There are still a number of Shares to be taken up, and Members can be enrolled any day at the Office, 5, Mount Pleasant, Consett.

All joining on or before Monday, May 14th, and paying four weeks' subscriptions, will participate in the Ballot.

Subscriptions taken every Monday night from 7-30 to 9.

GEO. CAREY, Chairman.
WILL. ELLIOTT, Secretary.
Office: 5, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 430z

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT for Tantobie Reading Room and Library ATHLETIC SPORTS, June 30th, 1888. £20 to be given in Prizes. 409z

WEST STANLEY WHIT MONDAY RACE MEETING. £9 for Horse Leaping; £3 for Flat Race; £10 for Trotting Handicap; £3 for Steeplechasing; £1 for Consolation Race; £2 10s for Quoit Handicap; £3 for Bicycle Handicap; £1 10s for Foot Handicap; Silver Cup, value 6 guineas, with £1 10s added, for Football. Entries for Horse Leaping, Trotting, and Bicycle Handicaps close on May 14th. Write for programmes to
482z J. TOES, Secretary, West Stanley R.S.O.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!

THE STANLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT DEMONSTRATION will be held in a Field at Oxhill, on Saturday, July 7th, 1888. Concert by the Choirs in the Afternoon at Two; Tea at Four. At 6·30 p.m., R. CAMERON, Esq., J.P., of Sunderland, will LECTURE, subject—"The English in Ireland." 447z

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

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

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

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

ADAM BRODIE TESTIMONIAL FUND.

Chairman - - Mr JOHN CALVERT.
Vice-Chairman - - Mr WM. AYNSLEY.
Treasurer - - Mr R. G. BARCLAY.
Secretary - - Mr C. STEPHENSON.
Bankers - Messrs HODGKIN, BARNETT, PEASE, SPENCE, and Co.

Subscriptions will also be received at the North-Eastern Bank.

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

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

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

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

COMMITTEE.

Mr T. W. WELFORD.	Mr JAMES OLIVER.
" T. DUNNE.	" P. COYLE.
" G. WADE.	" J. THURLOW POTTS.
" T. L. GLEDSTONE.	" G. HAWDON.
" W. WHITTAKER.	" JNO. HUDSON.
" J. W. DAVISON.	" R. JACKSON.
" JAMES HARDY.	" S. ROWE.
" JAMES NOBLE.	Dr GEO. RENTON.
" CHRIS. LUMLEY.	Mr G. T. HYDEN.
" JOS. ELTRINGHAM.	" JNO. PARKER.
" RICHD. MURRAY.	" JAS. KELLY.
Mr JOHN DIXON.	Mr W. SHELL. 444z

Contracts.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY DISTRICT.

TO BE LET,

THE

CARTING AND BREAKING

OF THE FOLLOWING LOTS OF

ROAD MATERIALS.

BENFIELDSIDE TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Blackhill Station to Dean Burn Road. 20 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of the above.

BURNHOPE AND HAMSTEELS TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Lanchester Station to Bargate and Square House. 30 tons.
" 2 " from Cornsay Colliery to Cornsay Lodge and Square House. 30 tons.
" 3 " from Cornsay Colliery to Square House, West to Cornsay Road. 20 tons.
" 4 " from Cornsay Colliery to Click-him-in and Wilks Hill Roads. 40 tons.
" 5 " from Cornsay Colliery to Hamsteels Road. 28 tons.
" 6 " from High Stoop Depot to Greenwell Road. 20 tons.
" 7—Carting Slag from Witton Gilbert Station to Hamsteels and Biggen Road. 50 tons.
" 8 " from Lanchester Station to Greenwell Road. 30 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

BUTSFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Lanchester Station to Hole House and Durham Old Road. 10 tons.
" 2 " from High Stoop Depot to Patrick's Close Road. 20 tons.
" 3 " from Rowley Station to Five Lane Ends and Lanchester Boundary. 20 tons.
" 4 " from Rowley Station to Oliver Ford and Millers Hill Road End. 10 tons.
" 5 " from Burnhill Depot to Oxen Law and Weather Hill Lane End. 60 tons.
" 6 " from Salters Gate Depot to Salters Gate and Weather Hill Lane End. 100 tons.
" 7 " from Salters Gate Depot to Salters Gate Road. 10 tons.
" 8 " from High Stoop Depot to Fines Lane (Satley). 10 tons.
" 9 " from High Stoop Depot to Steely Lane (Satley). 10 tons.
" 10—Carting White Whinstone from Butsfield Quarry to Five Lane Ends and East Butsfield. 30 c. yds.
" 11 " from Butsfield Quarry to Eliza and Five Lane Ends. 80 c. yds.
" 12 " from Butsfield Quarry to Springwell Road. 10 c. yds.
" 13 " from Butsfield Quarry to East Butsfield and Browney Bank. 40 c. yds.
" 14 " from Butsfield Quarry to East Butsfield and Auckland Main Road. 40 c yds.
" 15 " from Butsfield Quarry to Saw Mill Bank. 20 c yds.
" 16 " from Butsfield Quarry to Byerley House and Green Lane. 20 c yds.
" 17 " from Butsfield Quarry to West Butsfield and Rippon Burn. 10 c yds.
" 18 " from Butsfield Quarry to East Butsfield and Coalford Lane. 10 c yds.

Also, the WINNING and BREAKING of 260 c yds of White Whinstone, and the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

COLLIERLEY AND PONTOP TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from South Medomsley Depot to Flint Hill and Pont Cottage. 240 tons.
" 2 " from Hare Law Depot to Delight Bank. 40 tons.
" 3—Carting Broken Slag from Bradley Slag Heap to Flint Hill and Pont Cottage. 50 c yards.
" 4 " from Bradley Slag Heap to the Pike Lane. 30 c yards.

Also the BREAKING of Lots 1 and 2.

CORNSAY TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Blackfield Depot to East of Cornsay. 30 tons.
" 2 " from Blackfield Depot to Blackfield and Cornsay. 100 tons.
" 3 " from Blackfield Depot to Well Banks. 20 tons.
" 4 " from Blackfield Depot to Cornsay and Hedleyhope Beck. 20 tons.
" 5 " from Blackfield Depot to Cowsley Lane. 20 tons.
" 6 " from Blackfield Depot to West Shield Lane. 20 tons.
" 7 " from High Stoop Depot to Bents and Well Banks. 20 tons.
" 8 " from Cornsay Colliery to Low Row and Cornsay Lodge. 60 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of the above Lots.

CONSIDE AND KNITSLEY TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Knitsley Station to Knitsley Nook. 20 tons.
" 2 " from Knitsley Station to Boggle Hole Lane. 10 tons.
" 3 " from Rowley Station to Five Lane Ends and Knitsley Nook. 40 tons.
" 4 " from Rowley Station to Miller's Hill and Five Lane Ends. 40 tons.
" 5 " from Rowley Station to Dyke Nook Lane. 30 tons.
" 6 " from High Carr House to Knitsley and Knitsley Mill. 30 tons.
" 7 " from High Carr House to Delves Lane. 80 tons.
" 8 " from High Carr House to Consett Old Station and Stannifordam. 20 tons.
" 9 " from Rowley Station to Four Lane Ends and Stannifordam. 30 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of the above Lots.

EBCHESTER TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Ebchester Station to The Chair and Mill Lane. 20 tons.
" 2 " from Ebchester Station to Spring House Lane. 10 tons.
" 3 " from Ebchester Station to Wotling Street. 80 tons.
" 4—Carting Slag from Bradley Slag Heap to Lhaw Lane. 20 c yards.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, and 3.

EDMONDBYERS TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Feldon Quarry to Edmondbyers Village. 20 c yds.
" 2 " from Feldon Quarry to Edmondbyers and Roughside Road. 30 c yds.
" 3 " from Slate Quarry to Dead Friars Road. 20 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, and 3.

ESH TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Whinstone from Aldin Grange to Ushaw and Hill Top. 60 tons.
" 2 " Ushaw Moor to East Flass and Flass Inn. 60 tons.
" 3 " Witton Gilbert Station to Hill Top and Esh Laud. 140 tons.
" 4 " Witton Gilbert Station to Wall Nook and East and West Bank Foot. 50 tons.
" 5—Carting Broken Limestone from Waterhouses Station to Flass New Road. 40 tons.
" 6—Carting Limestone from Cornsay Colliery to Esh Laud and Cornsay Lodge. 120 tons.
" 7 " from Witton Gilbert Station to East and West Banks. 30 tons.
" 8 " from Witton Gilbert Station to Finnings Road. 20 tons.

Contracts.

Lot 9—Carting Limestone from Ushaw Moor Colliery to Ushaw and Broadgate. 20 tons.
" 10 " from Cornsay Colliery to Cornsay Colliery Village. 40 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

GREENCROFT TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Annfield Plain to Annfield Plain and East Castle Road. 20 tons.
" 2 " to Row's Cabin and Greencroft Cottages, 20 tons.
" 3 " to Gorcock and Esp Green. 40 tons.
" 4—Carting Slag from Bradley Slag Heap to Hanging Stone Bank. 30 c yds.
" 5 " to Stockerley and Lund's Lane. 20 c yds.
" 6—Carting Slag Screenings from Annfield Plain to near Bankfoot Colliery. 5 tons.

Also the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, and 3.

HEALEYFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone, Whitehall to Healeyfield Road. 30 tons.
" 2 " to Combridge's Road. 20 tons.
" 3 " to Whitehall Road. 30 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, and 3, and the WINNING and BREAKING of 40 c yds. of White Whinstone.

HEDLEYHOPE TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone, Cornsay Colliery to Hedley Hill Road. 50 tons.
" 2—Carting Broken Slag East Hedleyhope to Stanley Beck and Hedley Fell. 40 tons.
" 3—Carting Whinstone to Ivesley Road. 10 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1 and 3.

HOLMSIDE TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Stanley Goods Siding to South Moor and Newacres Bridge. 40 tons.
" 2 " from Annfield Plain to Burnhope and Whiteside. 60 tons.
" 3 " from Annfield Plain to Whiteside and Wheatley Green Burn. 60 tons.
" 4 " Craghead Colliery to Wagtail Lane. 50 tons.
" 5 " Annfield Plain to Whiteside Lane. 40 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of the whole of the above Lots.

HUNSTANWORTH TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone Slate Quarries to Sandyford Bridges. 20 tons.
" 2—Carting Hard Stone, Derwent Mines to Presser Bank and Sandyford. 40 c yds.
" 3 " Derwent Mines to Bay Bridge and White Heaps. 20 c yds.
" 4 " Shildon or the Common to Blanchland and Roughside Road. 20 c yds.
" 5 " Derwent Mines to Aldergate Road. 12 c yds.
" 6—Winning, Carting, Breaking, and Laying on Freestone Packlets Pin Road. 20 c yds.
" 7 " Freestone Deep Road. 20 c yds.
" 8 " Allansbields Road. 10 c yds.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

KYO TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone, Tanfield Moor to White-le-Head Road. 60 tons.
" 2 " Annfield Plain to South Pit and Kyo Road. 100 tons.
" 3 " Annfield Plain to Kyo Heugh. 40 tons.
" 4 " Stanley Goods Siding to Oxhill Road. 30 tons.
" 5 " Stanley Goods Siding to Oxhill and Harperley Gate. 40 tons.
" 6 " Hare Law to Bushblades.
" 7 " Tanfield Moor to Harperley Gate and Tantobie. 20 tons.
" 8 " Annfield Plain to Shield Row Lane. 100 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of the above Lots.

LANCHESTER TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Lanchester Union to Peth Bank. 30 tons.
" 2 " to Ford and Bar Gate. 20 tons.
" 3 " Knitsley Station to Little Greencroft Road. 10 tons.
" 4 " Lanchester Union to Newbiggen and Donleyford. 50 tons.
" 5 " Knitsley Station to Knitsley Nook and Donleyford. 20 tons.
" 6 " Knitsley Station to White Gates and Donleyford. 20 tons.
" 7 " Annfield Plain to Maiden Law and Four Lane Ends. 80 tons.
" 8 " Rowley Station to Long Edge. 30 tons.
" 9 " Rowley Station to Humber Hill Road. 10 tons.
" 10 " Annfield Plain to Burnhope Road. 30 tons.
" 11 " Lanchester Union to Hole House and Durham Road, 20 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

LANGLEY TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Annfield Plain to Four Lane Ends and Bleach Green. 60 tons.
" 2—Carting Slag from Witton Gilbert Station to Bleach Green and Four Lane Ends. 30 tons.
" 3—Carting Limestone from Annfield Plain Station to Broom House Road. 30 tons.
" 4—Carting Slag from Witton Gilbert Station to Broom House Road. 30 tons.
" 5—Carting Whinstone from Witton Gilbert Station to Wall Nook Lane. 20 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1 and 3.

MEDOMSLEY TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Medomsley Depot to Allendale Lane. 30 tons.
" 2 " from Medomsley Depot to Barr House Lane. 40 tons.
" 3 " from Medomsley Depot to Pont Lane. 20 tons.
" 4 " from Medomsley Depot to Watling Street. 50 tons.
" 5 " from Medomsley Depot to Fines Road. 40 tons.
" 6 " from East Carrhouse Depot to Redwell Hills and Pont Cottage. 100 tons.
" 7 " from East Carrhouse Depot to East Castle Road. 30 tons.
" 8—Carting Broken Slag from Bradley Slag Heap to Allendale Lane. 30 c yds.
" 9 " from Bradley Slag Heap to Byerside Road. 60 c yds.
" 10 " from Bradley Slag Heap to Pit House Lane. 10 c yds.
" 11 " from Bradley Slag Heap to Fines Lane. 20 c yds.
" 12 " from Bradley Slag Heap to Watling Street. 20 c yds.
" 13 " from Bradley Slag Heap to Bradley Lane. 10 c yds.
" 14 " from Bradley Slag Heap to Barr House Lane. 20 c yds.

The BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

MUGGLESWICK TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Waskerley to Meeting Slack Road. 20 tons.
" 2 " Waskerley to Waskerley and Gold Hill Road. 20 tons.
" 3 " Park Head to Meadows Edge. 12 tons.
" 4—Carting White Whinstone from Hysop Bridge to Combridge Road and The Parsonage. 30 c yds.
" 5 " Lane Head to Dean Lane and Eddis Bridge Lane. 30 c yds.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, and 3. The WINNING of Lots 4 and 5, and the BREAKING of 60 c yds of White Whinstone.

Contracts.

ROUGHSIDE TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from the Drift, Roughside, to Roughside Main Road. 60 c yds.
" 2 " The River to Cooperhaugh Road. 20 c yds.

Also, the BREAKING of the above Lots.

ROWLEY TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Rowley Station to Four Lane Ends and Smelt Mills. 20 tons.
" 2 " from Rowley Station to Allerheads Road. 20 tons.
" 3 " from Rowley Station to Oliver Ford. 20 tons.
" 4 " from Blackhill Station to Hole House. 20 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4.

SATLEY TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from High Stoop to Pan Lane. 20 tons.
" 2 " from Blackfield Depot to West Shield Road. 12 tons.
" 3 " from Salters Gate to Drover House Lane. 30 tons.
" 4 " from Salters Gate to Wheatley Grange and Drover House. 60 tons.
" 5 " from Salters Gate to Springwell Houses. 40 tons.
" 6 " from High Stoop to Coalford and Fines Lane. 20 tons.
" 7 " High Stoop to Satley Grange. 10 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of the above Lots.

TANFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Lot 1—Carting Limestone from Stanley Goods Siding to West Stanley. 100 tons.
" 2 " Stanley Goods Siding to Shield Row and Kip Hill. 50 tons.
" 3 " Stanley Goods Siding to Kip Hill and Beamish Burn. 50 tons.
" 4 " Stanley Goods Siding to Stanley Edge Road. 180 tons.
" 5 " Stanley Goods Siding to South Moor Lane. 50 tons.
" 6 " Stanley Goods Siding to Tanfield Lea Lane. 40 tons.
" 7 " Stanley Goods Siding to Shield Row South Lane. 20 tons.
" 8—Carting Slag Screenings from Stanley Goods Siding to West Stanley and Shield Row. 60 tons.
" 9—Carting Limestone from Marley Hill Colliery to West House and Beamish Bridge. 40 tons.
" 10 " Tanfield Moor to Tantobie Road. 60 tons.
" 11 " Tanfield Moor to Tanfield Lea. 40 tons.
" 12 " Tanfield Moor to Clough Dene and Long Syke. 80 tons.
" 13 " Tanfield Moor to Lintz Lane. 50 tons.
" 14 " Tanfield Moor to Wester Lea Lane. 20 tons.
" 15 " Tanfield Lane to Tanfield and Kip Hill. 40 tons.
" 16 " Tanfield Lane to Tanfield Village. 30 tons.
" 17 " Tanfield Lane to Barcus Close Lane. 60 tons.
" 18 " Marley Hill Colliery to Bob Gin and Beckley Lane. 40 tons.
" 19—Carting Slag Screenings from Tanfield Lane to Tanfield Village and Kip Hill. 60 tons.
" 20 " Crook Bar Depot to Brian's Leap and Burnopfield Footpaths. 30 tons.
" 21—Carting Broken Slag from Crook Bar to Sandy Path. 20 tons.
" 22 " Crook Bar to Friarside Road. 20 tons.
" 23—Carting Slag Screenings from Tanfield Lane to Middle Causey and Tanfield Footpaths. 60 tons.
" 24—Carting Ashes from the Hobson Colliery to Tanfield and Burnopfield Footpaths. 50 loads.
" 25 " Hobson Colliery to Long Syke Lane. 50 loads.
" 26—Carting Slag Screenings, Crook Bar to Leazes and Lintz Green. 40 tons.
" 27—Carting Limestone from Rowlands Gill to Derwent Bridge Road. 40 tons.

Also, the BREAKING of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 27.

Tenders to be sent to the Surveyor's Office, on or before Saturday, May 12th, 1888, marked "Tender for Carting," or "Tender for Breaking."

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.—By order,

WILLIAM DIXON,
District Surveyor.

Surveyor's Office, The Lodge, Lanchester,
May 2nd, 1888.

Public Notices.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE HIRINGS will be held on Wednesday first, May 9th, 1888. 509z

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

NOTICE.

CHARLES YAGER, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PORK BUTCHER, formerly of Consett, begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and neighbourhood that he has OPENED the SHOP lately occupied Mr SCHELLENBERG, Shakespeare Street, Consett, with a Stock of DAIRY-FED PORK, &c., and hopes by strict attention to business to merit a share of public patronage. 513z

ORDER FROM THE AUTHOR,

Mr. ALEXANDER BARRAS, 133, Lower Cuthbert Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne,

"THE DERWENT VALLEY AND OTHER POEMS."

PRICE, 4s.

"A specimen of good native Tyneside poetry, written by one who knows the district and perceives its beauties."—*The Newcastle Courant*

"The descriptions of nature are those of a real lover of the rural world, and one who 'thinketh in the heart' as the old writer phrases it."—*Northern Weekly Leader.*

THE WEDDING DAY MADE EASY.

GOLD WEDDING RINGS, all Government Hall Marked, at 5s. and upwards, with the usual Half-dozen Nickel Silver Teaspoons.

SPECTACLES made to suit all sights, with Brazillian Rock Crystal and Algerian Petrified Lenses, best adapted for weak and impaired vision, and recommended by the faculty. Frames in Gold, Silver, Shell, and Finest Steel, at all prices. Also, all kinds of Optics Made and Repaired by myself.

ADDRESS:—

T. McCOURTY,

PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND SPECTACLE MAKER,

NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

PATRONS.

W. JENKINS, Esq., J.P.	Dr. GEO. RENTON.
W. TAYLOR, Esq.	R. MURRAY, Esq.
T. L. GLEDSTONE, Esq.	J. THURLOW POTTS, Esq.

A GRAND EXHIBITION OF

TABLEAUX VIVANTS,

OR LIVING WAXWORKS

(As recently witnessed by crowded and admiring audiences),

ON MONDAY EVENING, MAY 7th, 1888,

Over 60 Characters. New Additions.

Brilliant Illuminations. Instrumental Music.

Doors open at 7·30; to commence at 8.

Admission—Reserved Seats (numbered), 2s; Second Seats, 1s.; Back Seats, 6d.

Tickets may be had from Mr H. PREVELL, Dipton; Mr G. T. HYDEN, Consett; Tyler's Boot Shop, Consett; Mr W. DODDS, Mount Pleasant, Consett; Mr P. TEASE, Benfieldside; Mr W. RAMSAY, Blackhill; Mr JOSHUA LAX, Shotley Bridge; and Mr W. BREARS, Leadgate.

Proceeds in aid of Debt of £500 on Dipton Church. Carriages may be ordered for Ten.

Plan of Hall may be seen at the *Guardian* Office, Consett, where Tickets may also be had. 469z

Public Notices.

KINDERSPEIL in the Burnopfield Temperance Hall, on Saturday, May 5th, at 7 p.m. Admission, 1s and 6d. 542z

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.

ON SUNDAY, May 13th, SPECIAL SERMONS will be Preached by Rev. J. WORTHINGTON ATKIN, M.A. (Mission Preacher of the Daily Prayer Union Society). 521z

E. J. SLOANE,

PRACTICAL PIANOFORTE TUNER,

POST OFFICE, BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

NOTICE.—JOHN and JOSEPH MAKEPEACE, trading as Farmers, at Cowhead Leazes, near Muggleswick, have DISSOLVED PARTNERSHIP.

(Signed) JOHN MAKEPEACE.
527z JOSEPH MAKEPEACE

BLACKHILL GOSPEL MISSION.

BIRTHDAY GATHERING, Thursday, May 10th, 1888. Service in Wesleyan Chapel at 6·30 p.m., conducted by Mrs WALLACE and Miss WILSON. Supper at 8 o'clock. Tickets, 6d each.

LOOK OUT for the W. J. Joicey Lodge SPORTS at Tanfield, on May 19th. 120 Yards Handicap—1st Prize, £5; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s; Entrance, 1s. Quarter-Mile Handicap—1st, 25s; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s; Entrance, 6d, to close May 15th. Remittance to accompany the Entrance to Mr T. SWINBURN, Tanfield High Farm, *via* Burnopfield. 494z

NOTICE.

BURNHOPE COLLIERY Reading Room SPORTS will be held on June 23rd, 1888. £20 given in Prizes. £2 10s for Cricket; £1 10s for Football; £2 10s for Quoit Playing; £1 5s for Singing; £5 for Wrestling; and £5 for 120 Yards Handicap Foot-race. Entrance, 1s; close June 19th.
497z GEO. LAWSON, Secretary.

LOOK HERE.

HOBSON FOOTBALL CLUB will hold their ANNUAL SPORTS and GALA on Saturday, June 2nd, 1888, when upwards of £20 will be given in Prizes. £5 10s for Foot Handicap. £3 10s for Football. Entries for Handicap close on Monday, May 27th; Tuesday's post in time. Entrance, 1s; to be sent to Mr R. S. PATTERSON, handicapper, Hobson Colliery, Lintz Green.

W. GORDON, Secretary.
Hobson Colliery. 496z

NOTICE.

£1 REWARD for anyone giving information that will lead to the conviction of the parties who have taken the Sawdust and Slabs out of Stockerley Woods. All parties in future found taking Sawdust or Slabs without permission in writing from EDMUND BALLEXY will be Prosecuted

SPA GROUNDS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS FOR

WHIT MONDAY & TUESDAY.

Under the Patronage of Messrs. WILSON BR and Consett and District Cricket Club.

MONDAY.

1. Cricket Match (Consett v Newburn).
2. Bowling at Wicket.
3. Tug-of-War (Teams of Five).
4. Obstacle Race.
5. Wrestling (All Weights).

Entrance fees for Nos. 2 and 4, 6d each; No. 3, 2s 6d per team; No. 5, 1s.

TUESDAY.

1. Cricket Match (Consett v Newcastle Royal Artillery)
2. Throwing Cricket Ball.
3. Running High Jump.
4. Three-Legged Race.
5. Mile Walking Handicap.
6. Sack Race.
7. Pole Jump.

Entrance fees for No. 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7, 6d each; No. 5, 1s.

ENTRIES CLOSE MAY 14th.

With the exception of Wrestling, all Competitions are confined to Amateurs.

Music in attendance both days.

Admission—Adults, 4d; Children, 2d.

W. RAMSAY, Hon. Secretary,
529z Benfieldside.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

JOSEPH VICKERS SPRING SALE APPOINTMENTS.

May 5th.—Broadwood Park, Lanchester, Furniture, &c.
" 7th.—Annual Fat Stock Sale "Tudhoe Moor," Spennymoor.
" 9th.—Carr Shield, West Allendale, Farming Stock, &c.
" 10th.—Bellmont, Blanchland, Farming Stock and Moor Sheep.
" 11th.—Smale, near Falstone, Farming Stock and 1,000 Hill Sheep.
" 12th.—Guy's Close, Stanhope, Farming Stock.
483z Mart Office, Tow Law.

Broadwood Park, near Lanchester.—Sale of Exquisite and Valuable Surplus Furniture, and other desirable and Magnificent Effects.

MR. JOS. VICKERS begs respectfully to intimate to the public generally, that by the esteemed commands of GEO. G. TAYLOR-SMITH, Esq., J.P., who is leaving Broadwood Park, he will have the honour to DISPOSE of a Large Assortment of Costly FURNITURE, OLD CHINA, and an innumerable variety of other Artistic EFFECTS, on Saturday, May 5th, 1888. Of the elaborate Inventory, the following is a portion:—

Round Oak Dining Table with Leaf; 4 Carved Oak Chairs in Red Velvet; Large Carved Oak Arm Chair; Whatnot; 2 large Oval Drawing-room Wall Mirrors; Settee, black and gold, upholstered in red; Satinwood Sofa upholstered in Silk; Sofa upholstered in red, and 6 chairs to match; 4 Carved Oak Chairs, in leather; 2 Carved Oak Arm Chairs, in leather; 2 Sofas in red and American cloth; splendid Drawing-room Crystal Chandelier for 10 Candlelights; 2 Gasaliers for oil; Several Valuable Pieces of Old China, in black Wedgewood, Dresden, Walton, and Worcester Ware; 4 Mahogany and Iron Bedsteads; 7 Hair and Straw Mattresses; 1 Feather Bed; 5 Counterpanes; White, Red, and Silk Spun Bed Curtains; Large Mahogany Wardrobe; 3 Painted Wardrobes; 8 Wash-hand-stands, some of which have Marble Tops; 6 Dressing Tables; 3 Bedroom Chests of Drawers; 5 Towel Rails; Toilet Mirrors; 8 Bedroom Chairs; 2 Night Commodes; Dozen Pairs of Green Repp, Marone, and other Window Curtains Cornices, Cornice Poles, and Fittings; 24 Window Blinds; 2 Large Pieces of Turkey Carpetting; Large Piece of Landing Staircase Carpet, and Strips of Hall Carpet to match; 3 Bedroom Carpets; Several Pieces of Stair, Felt, and other Carpetting; 20 Pictures; Reindeer's Head; Large Four-fold Screen; Polished Oak Cupboard; Oblong Mahogany Table; 2 Painted Presses; large and small Kitchen Tables; 6 Kitchen Chairs; Treadle Sewing Machine; Hand Sewing Machine; Musical Box; Hat and Coat Stand; Lawn Mowing Machine, for Pony; Hand Lawn Mowing Machine; large Pair of Steps; Child's Crib and Mattress; Iron Folding Bed; Ice Machine, with Moulds; Paraffin Lamps; Fire Meat Screen and Jack; Old Blunderbuss on Tripod; large Bath; Baby's Basket Chair; 5 Bird Cages; Stuffed Golden Pheasant; Brass, Steel, and Wire Fenders; Fire Irons; Coal Vases; Kitchen Pans; Brass Kettle; Brass Candlesticks; Pair of Scales; 24 Tumblers; 38 Sherry and Port Glasses; small Barrel Churn and Dairy Utensils; Breaking Bridle and pair of Carriage Bits; Horse Syringing Pipe; 2 Swing Stable Lamps; Hall Glass Case for Lamp; Sundry Kitchen Utensils, and a host of other Articles too numerous to particularise.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock, prompt.
Auction Mart Office, Tow Law, 1888. 473z

Belmont Farm, Blanchland.—Sale of Valuable Farming Stock and Moor Sheep.

JOSEPH VICKERS, acting upon instructions with which he is honoured from Mr SNOWBALL, who is leaving, will DISPERSE BY AUCTION, on Thursday, May 10th, 1888, the whole of the FARMING STOCK and 400 MOOR SHEEP; also, the whole of the Household FURNITURE, &c.

Particulars next week.
Mart Office, Tow Law. 419z

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

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

SPECIAL SALE for Store Cattle and Sheep on Monday, May 14th. 533z

JOSEPH VICKERS Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 475z

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Nicholson

King's Head Inn, Lanchester, on Wednesday, May 9th, 1888.

MR. WM. NICHOLSON will hold a SPECIAL SALE of COWS, GRAZING CATTLE, PIGS, &c.

Present Entries.

1 Superior S.H. Cow, due at time of Sale.
1 Do. H.B. do. do.
1 S.H. Cow, newly calven.
1 S.H. Heifer, do.
2 S.H. Heifers, 3 years old.
6 do. 2 years old.
12 Stirks, 8 to 16 months old.
1 S.H. Bull, 7 months old.
26 Young Pigs.
1 Pedigree Brawn, 5 months old.
1 Sow, due May 19th.

Further Entries taken up to time of Sale.
Sale at Three o'clock.
Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester. 541z

Lanchester.—To Capitalists and Others.

MR. W. NICHOLSON, instructed by the Trustees, will OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mr PETER HODGSON, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester, on Thursday, May 10th, 1888, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon (subject to such Conditions as will then be produced and read), all those two Valuable Copyhold

COTTAGE HOUSES,

With GARDENS, and all necessary Out-Offices. Situate on the north or north-west side of the road leading from Lanchester to Newbiggen, and belonging to the late GEORGE BURLINSON. Now let in three tenements to Mr GEO. APPLEBY, Mr JOS. BURLINSON, and Mrs TROTTER, as tenants thereof.

For further particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, or Messrs J. G. WILSON and ORNSBY, Solicitors, 5, North Bailey, Durham.

Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester, 1888. 491z

Steely Farm, Satley.—On Thursday, May 10, 1888, at 12·30 o'clock, prompt.

MR. W. NICHOLSON, honoured with instructions from Mr HEADS, who is retiring from Farming, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, without reserve, the whole of the valuable FARMING STOCK, FARM IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY UTENSILS, &c., viz:—

HORSES:

Powerful Black Mare, 7yrs., in Foal to "King George."
Bay Mare, 10yrs., in Foal to "King George."

CATTLE:

1 S.H. Heifer, due at time of Sale.
1 S.H. Cow, recently calven.
1 S.H. Cow, geld.
4 S.H. Heifers, 2 yrs. old.
1 Steer, 18 months.
1 S.H. Bull, 2 yrs. old.
1 S.H. Bull, 1 yr. old.
2 Steer Stirks, 12 months old.
2 Heifer Stirks, 12 months old.
2 Finger Calves.
5 West Highland Kyloe Heifers, 2 yrs. old.

SHEEP:

46 Young B.F. Ewes and Followers by Leicester Tup
10 H.B. Ewes and Followers by Leicester Tup.
1 Leicester Tup, Two Shear.

POULTRY:

50 Hens and Ducks; Goose, Gander and Goslings; a number of Pigeons.

IMPLEMENTS.—One-horse Grass Cutter; 2 Long Carts, with broad wheels, one little worse than new; 2 Coup Carts with Patent Arms; Iron Wheel Plough; Swing Plough; Double-mould-board Plough; Drag Harrow; Scuffler; Clod Crusher; Pair of Harrows; Horse Hay Rake, nearly new, by "Ransome"; Winnowing Machine; Chaff Cutter; Turnip Slicer; 2 Sheep Hecks; Sheep Troughs; Cart and Plough Harness for 3 Horses; Cow Tubs; Cow Bands; Ladders; Forks; Rakes; Gripes; Shovels; Pig Troughs; and other small Tools. Dairy Utensils; New Churn, by "Tinkler"; Butter Tubs; Scales, Cans, &c.

Please note time of sale, Half-past Twelve o'clock prompt.

Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester, 1888. 505z

West Newbiggen, 1 Mile from Lanchester Station, N.E.R.

MR. WM. NICHOLSON, acting with the confidence of J. W. ARMSTRONG, Esq., who is declining Farming, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Tuesday, May 8th, 1888, the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HAY, WHEAT, DAIRY UTENSILS, and a Portion of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

HORSES.

Lot 1—A very superior Draught Mare, 6 yrs., 16·2.
,, 2—A clever Brown Mare, 10 yrs., 15·2.
,, 3—Half-bred Brown Brood-Mare, aged.
,, 4—Thorough-bred Mare, "Miss Bruce," 5 yrs.
,, 5—Grey Colt by "Cleverlegs," 3 yrs., unbroken.
,, 6—Grey Colt, by "Highland Chief," 3 yrs., unbroken.
,, 7—Bay Colt, by "Beamish," 2 yrs., unbroken.

CATTLE.

1 Blue-grey Cow, due June 4th.
2 S.H. Cows, time up.
2 Prime Fat Cows.
3 Stirks.
1 Pedigree S.H. Bull, "Home Rule," 2 yrs.
50 Barn-door Fowls.
Retriever Bitch.
Springer Dog, shot over one season.

IMPLEMENTS.

2 Long Carts, Coup Cart, with Shelvings, strong Whitechapel, 2 Chaff-cutters, Boiler suitable for driving a 3 h.p. Engine, Portable Engine, 6 h.p., Thrashing Machine and Belts, 2 Corn Mills, Corn Dresser, New Potato Riddle, with 2 sets of Riddles, 2 Ploughs, Scuffler, Clod Crusher, Turnip Cutter, Sheep Stools, Feeding Troughs, Ladders, 2 Riding Saddles, 3 sets of Gig and Spring Cart Harness, Cart and Plough do, for 1 draught, Stretcher and Chains, Quarter Sheets, Stable Lamps, Combs and Brushes, a Quantity of Blacksmith's Tools, including Vice, Bellows, Anvil, &c., large Metal Pot, small Do., dozen large Flat Sheets, Hurdles and Posts, Tile Pans, Barrels, Corn Bins, Dog Kennel, Rakes, Forks, Shovels, Gripes, Cowbands, Bags, a Quantity of Pitch, and a Lightning Protector. Tinkler's Churn, will churn from 2lbs; with the whole of the Dairy Utensils, including Large Leaden Bowl.

About 10 tons of Prime Old-land Hay, in lots to suit Purchasers, and 30 Bolls of Red Wheat.

FURNITURE.

Press, Bedstead and Mattress, Easy Chair, Swing Cradle, Fenders, Fire Irons, Wash Tub, &c.

EXTRA STOCK (the property of Mr SEVERS.)

Black Horse Pony, 8 yrs. old, 11h. 2in. high, good in all Harness, and has taken several Prizes in the Show-yard; Trap and Set of Harness to suit, to be sold in one lot, or separate.

Sale to commence at 1·30 p.m.

Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester, 1888. 504z

Low Woodside, two miles from Lanchester, N.E. Railway.

MR. WM. NICHOLSON instructed by Mr JAS. GRAY, who is declining Farming, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Friday, May 11th, 1888, the whole of his Valuable FARMING STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, &c., comprising—

HORSES.

Powerful Black Mare, 5 yrs., 16·1.
Powerful Black Horse, 7 yrs., 16·1.
Bay Mare, 3 yrs., 16·0.
Black Colt, by "Beamish," 2 yrs., been in all yokes.
Grey Filly, by "Derwent Lad," do.

CATTLE.

5 Young S.H. Cows, calven and to calve.
1 do. Heifer, time up.
1 do. do. due in July,
1 do. do. due in September.
3 S.H. Heifers, 2 yrs., old.
2 S.H. Steers, 2 yrs., old.
15 S.H. Stirks, from 10 to 15 months old.
1 Bull Stirk, 12 months old.
3 Finger Calves.

SHEEP.

23 Mule Ewes and Followers.
13 Mule Hoggs.

PIGS.

1 Sow and 7 Pigs, 9 weeks old; 1 Sow, in Pig.

POULTRY.

20 Hens, and 3 Ducks.
Gander, Geese, and Goslings.

IMPLEMENTS.—5 Coup Carts, 2 with Shelvings; Long Cart; Combined Reaping Machine; Grass Cutter; 2 Horse Hay Rakes; Double-mould-board Plough; 2 Iron Swing Ploughs; Wheel Plough; Metal Roller; Wood Roller; Scuffler; Clod Crusher; Double Turnip Drill; Pair of Zig-Zag Harrows; Pair of Four-bull Harrows; Grub Harrows; Pair of Seed Harrows; Cart and Plough Harness for 6 Horses; Sheep Hecks; Sheep Troughs; Pair of Patent Blocks; Cart and other Ropes; Potato Riddles; a large quantity of Deals and other Timber; Turnip Cutter; Winnowing Machine; Cow Bands; Scythes; Stubble and other Rakes; Saws; Augurs; Sacks; 2 Milk Barrels; Barrel Churn, and other Dairy Utensils; a quantity of Champion and Regent Potatoes.

The Horses are a very superior lot, and fit for any work. The Cattle, mostly Shorthorns, are forward in condition and full of hair. The Ewes are all young, with a good crop of Lambs. The Implements are little worse than new.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt. 507z

Sale and Valuation Office, Hill House, Lanchester.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Nicholson.

Old Cornsay.
To Blacksmiths, Farmers, and others.

MR. W. NICHOLSON, instructed by Mr WM. GASCOIGNE, and the Trustees of the late JOHN GASCOIGNE, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Saturday, May 12th, 1888, the whole of the STOCK-IN-TRADE, COWS, HAY, and a portion of the Household FURNITURE, consisting of—3 Anvils; 2 Vices; 2 Pairs of Bellows; Stocks and Dies; Large and Small Mandrels; about 400 Pairs of Horse and Pony Shoes; 10 Tons of Old and New Iron; Sheet and Hooping Iron; Wheel Plate; Wheel Hoop Turner; large quantity of Nails; Fan Blast; Barrow Wheels; Plough Mould-boards and Land-sides; a quantity of Knives, Brasses, &c., for Reaping Machines; Bolts, Nuts, &c.; 2 Pairs of Steelyards; Socks and Cowterlies; Cut Willows; 4 Hay Rake Wheels; Loops, Bands, and Crooks; 2 Sets of Limber Graithing; Fork, Gripe, and Shovel Shafts; 2 Metal Boilers; Manure Drags; Shoeing Boxes; a large quantity of Hammers, Tongs, Swages, and other Hand Tools; Several Old Reapers; Pair of Rolley Wheels and Axle. Red Cow, time up; Red and White Cow, recently calven; Roan Steer Stirk; 10 Hens. Coup Cart; Long Cart; Chaff Cutter; Cow Tubs; Cow Bands; Wheelbarrow; 6 Water Tubs; Water Barrel; Paring Spade; Plough Chains; Clod Crusher; Grindstone; Spades and Shovels; Rakes and Forks; Large Copper Kettle; Wood Bee Hives. Also, 1 Hive of Bees; 1½ Ton of Magnum-bonum and Champion Potatoes; 1½ Ton of Swede Turnips; Stamp of Very Fine Old-land Hay, about 4 Tons, in Lots; small Stack of Old-Land Hay; and a large quantity of Household Furniture and Dairy Utensils.

N.B.—The Gascoigne family have had the business at Cornsay for upwards of a hundred years, which will be a sufficient guarantee that everything connected with the trade will be there on the day of Sale, and *Sold without Reserve.*

Sale to commence at 12·30 p.m.

Sale Office, Hill House, Lanchester, 1888. 506z

By Messrs. A. & R. J. Brodie

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

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

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

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Monday, May 14th, 1888.—Under distress for rent. —Important Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture and Miscellaneous Effects.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, under distress for rent, on Monday, May 14th, 1888, the Superior Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, removed from Blackhill under distress for rent, as follows:—Handsome Mahogany Wardrobe; Mahogany Press; Desk Bedstead; Mahogany Sofa; 2 Easy Chairs; Rocking Chair; Mahogany Centre Table; 2 Occasional Tables; 6 Hair-seated Chairs; 6 Windsor Chairs; Longsettle; Painted Dresser and Delf Rack; Kitchen Table; Tea Table; Washstand and Dressing Table; 6 Kitchen Chairs; 2 Mirrors; Swing Glass; Stool; Large Pickle Jar; Clock; 5 Forms; Fender; and 1 Table Pianoforte.

Also the following, belonging to Mr E. SIEVEWRIGHT and another, removing—2 Mahogany Centre Tables; Mahogany Easy Chairs; 6 Best Mahogany Bolted Chairs, in Hair-seating; 2 Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses; 2 Iron Bedsteads; Feather and Down Beds; Bolsters and Pillows; Fender and Fireirons; Ash Pan and Tidy; Washstand and Dressing Table; 2 Superior Carpets; 20 yards of Floor Oilcloth; Wringing Machine; Domestic Sewing Machine; Bookcase and Books; Iron Rocking Chair; small Cheffioneer; 2 Tables; Dog Kennel; Clock; 2 Stools; Fire Guard; together with the whole of the Miscellaneous Effects and Sundries, including Pots, Pans, Earthenware, &c., &c. Also, Fine Oil Paintings; Oleographs; Steel Engravings, in handsome frames; and Fine-toned Iron-framed Cottage Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, equal to new.

Sale to commence at One o'clock, exact time
No Reserve. 528z

Langley Park, Durham.—To Brewers, Capitalists, and others.—Sale of substantially-built and valuable Copyhold Property, including—Hotel, House and Shop, and Two Cottages.

MR. ADAM BRODIE, Member of the Institute of Estate Agents, is instructed by the Mortgagees to OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mrs BROWN, Three Tuns Hotel, Durham, on Wednesday, May 9th, 1888, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to conditions to be then and there produced and read, all the valuable and substantially-built

BLOCK OF PROPERTY,

As follows:—

The PREMISES in Quebec Street, Langley Park, built for a Hotel, and containing Twelve Rooms, including—Long Bar, Commercial Room, Parlour, Smoke Room, and Bar Snug, and Six Rooms upstairs; together with good Cellarage, Stabling and Coach House, and the usual Out-offices, with the Off Beer License attached, as at present occupied by Mr Joseph James.

The HOUSE and SHOP immediately adjoining, containing—Roomy Shop, with Front and Back Kitchens, 2 Bed-rooms, and Pantry, Coal House, &c., in the occupation of Mr E. Lawton.

Two COTTAGES of 2 Rooms each, with Out-offices, in the occupation of Mr Joseph Thompson and another.

The whole of the Property is well and substantially built, with good Fell-blocker Fronts, and is in excellent repair, and let to rent-paying tenants, and will be sold in One or more Lots, as may be determined on at time of Sale.

Further particulars may be had from Mr THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Jun., Solicitor, Parliament Street, Consett; or from the AUCTIONEER, Town Hall, Consett. 423z

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Wednesday, May 23rd, 1888.—Little Greencroft Farm, near Consett.—Eatage of Rich Grass Land to Let.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed by E. W. E. BALLENY, Esq., to LET BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Little Greencroft Farm, near Consett, on Wednesday, May 23rd, 1888, at Two p.m., the EATAGE of 86 Acres, or thereabouts of good GRASS LAND, on the said Farm, up to November 23rd, as follows:—

Big Stockerley Field	-	24 Acres.
Quarry Field	-	17 ,,
Hop Clover Field	-	10 ,,
Horse Field	-	9 ,,
Cottage Field	-	12 ,,
Low Far Field	-	14 ,,
		86 Acres.

Terms of Payment:—2½ per cent. Discount for Cash, or Four Months' Approved Bills.

Auctioneer's Office, Town Hall, Consett. 502z

Saturday and Monday, May 12th and 14th, 1888.—New Town Hall Buildings, Consett.—Important Sale of High-class Musical Instruments, including Pianofortes, American Organs, Harmoniums, Violins, &c., and Music Books and Sheet Music by the best Composers.

MESSRS. A. AND R. J. BRODIE are instructed by Mr JESSE DEXTER, who is giving up his Consett Branch, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on the Premises, New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, on Saturday and Monday, May 12th and 14th, the whole of the STOCK-IN-TRADE, including—Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, Trichord Check Action, by Jarratt and Goudge; Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, superior full tone, by Bishop; Trichord Iron-Framed Pinoforte, by Thomas; Trichord Iron-Framed Pianoforte, by Albert and Co.; American Organ, by Lange and Co.; American Organ, in Walnut Case, with 4 Stops and Knee Swell; 2 Harmoniums in Walnut; Harmonium in Rosewood; Violins; Melodeons; Flageolets; Concertinas; Banjos; Flutes; Violin Cases; Music Stools; Music Books, and Sundries. Also, a Large Variety of High-class Sheet Music by the best Composers.

Sale to commence at Six o'clock each evening.

This Sale being *bona-fide*, and the Instruments intended for a High-class Trade, this is a favourable opportunity for persons desiring to purchase.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

Red Lion Inn, Greenhead.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday, May 5th, 1888, the FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, Household FURNITURE, and EFFECTS, belonging to Mr. ROBERT BRUCE, who is leaving the district.

JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

INVENTORY—

1 S.H. Cow, 14 days' calved.
1 S.H. Cow, 5 months gone in calf.
1 S.H. Cow, geld.
2 Heifer and 1 Bull Stirk, 5 to 7 months old.
1 Heifer Calf.

EXTRA STOCK.

10 Heifer and Bullock Stirks, 6 to 18 months old.
1 Heifer, 3 years old
8 Young Black-faced Ewes and Lambs, by Leicester Tup

IMPLEMENTS, &c.—One-Horse Grass Cutter, by Wood, in good order; Hand Barrow; Pigeon Cote; Aberdeen Scythe; Iron Plough; Set of Cart Harness; Riding Saddle; Coup Cart and Shelvings; Oil Cake Crusher, nearly new; Horse Hay Rakes; Set of Gig Harness; Cart Ropes; Ladder; 2 Sets of Wood Gate Posts; a quantity of Wire Rope; Paraffin Oil Cask; a lot of Spirit Jars; 8 Trestles; 2 Long Forms; 2 Large Table Tops; Hay Rakes and Forks; Gripes; Shovels; Spades; Cow Bands; Bee House; 2 Wood Sheds; Ladies' Saddle; Pig Troughs; Barrels; Bee Skeps and Dandies; 60 Head of Poultry, all young.

FURNITURE.—4 Arm Chairs; 8 Kitchen Chairs; Longsettle; Large Table; Tap-room Table; 4 Kitchen Tables; 3 Wooden and 2 Iron Bedsteads; Flock Bed and Mattress; Mahogany Cupboard; Dressing Table and Washstand; Fenders; Kitchen Dresser; 3 Quilts; Druggetting; Cocoa Matting; Hearthrugs; Timepiece; Clock; Blinds and Rollers; Fishing Rod; Bird Cages; Single-Barrelled Gun; Quilting Frames; Pictures, &c., &c.

DAIRY UTENSILS, &c.—Barrel Churn; 2 Sets of Milk Barrels and Pads; Butter Tub; Scales and Weights; Milk Bowls; Cream Mugs; Butter Boards; Basket; Glasses; Jugs; 4 Spirit Kegs; Bottles; large Store Cask; together with various other lots too numerous to particularise.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock with the Implements, Cattle and Furniture in order.

As the lots are numerous, an early attendance is respectfully solicited.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 421z

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, MAY 7th, 1888.

Present Entries.

12 Fat Cattle.
45 Fat Sheep.
2 Fat Lambs.
3 Veal Calves.
A number of Calving Cows, Geld Cows, and Grazing Stirks; Finger Calves.
Pork and Store Pigs; Poultry, Pigeons, &c.
Waggonette, Set of Spring Cart Harness, 2 Sets of Gig Harness, Bridles, Head Stalls.
A quantity of New Steel Hames, Shoulder Chains, Cow Bands, &c.
New Coup Cart.

Sale at One o'clock.

524z JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

Important Sale of Valuable Business Premises at Blackhill.

J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer, instructed by Mr JOHN WILSON, Blackhill, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Royal Hotel, on Wednesday, May 9th, at 8 o'clock p.m., the whole of that Valuable, Well-situate, Corner

BLOCK OF BUILDINGS,

At present in the occupation of Mr JOHN WILSON (the owner), comprising—Shop, with frontage to Derwent Street and Dale Street; Front Room to Derwent Street; Large Kitchen behind; 2 Large Cellars; Sitting Room and 2 Bed-rooms upstairs; 2-Stalled Stable, and Hay Loft; Slaughter House; Large Yard, and all necessary Conveniences, the whole being well adapted for carrying on an extensive business, being well and centrally situated in the midst of a dense population, close to the general district Post Office, and within two minutes' walk of the Railway Station; and the whole being in first-class order, the Auctioneer can with confidence recommend it as a first-class investment. Conditions will be read at time of Sale, and any particulars may be obtained of the Auctioneer, J. S. MURRAY.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 522z

Sale of Furniture, Public House Furnishings, Bar Fittings, &c., at the Station Hotel, Blackhill, on Saturday, May 12th, 1888.

MR. J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer, favoured with instructions from Mr DICKINSON TAYLOR who is leaving the above Hotel, will SELL on the above date, the whole of his Surplus FURNITURE, &c., &c., comprising—Large Tap-room Table, 7ft by 4ft; Large Mahogany Telescope Dining Table, in 4 parts; Kitchen Table, 7ft 2in by 2ft 6in; Bar Table; Tea Table; Couch, in Hair-seating; Sofa, in do.; 6 Chairs, in Hair; 4 Smoking Chairs; 6 Cane-bottomed Chairs; 4 Dining Room Chairs; Eight-days' Clock; Alarum Clock; Massive Gilt Cornice Pole and Rings; 4 Bedroom and other Fenders; 2 Iron Bedsteads and Mattresses; 2 Hair Mattresses; Four-poled Bedstead and Mattress; Cornice Pole; 2 Small Chests of Bedroom Drawers; 2 Washstands and Dressing Tables; Chamber Ware; Handsome Sideboard, with Large Plate Glass Mirror; Large Wardrobe; Sewing Machine, nearly new, by Maxfield; Dresser and Delf Rack; Towel Rail; 2 Large Table Tops, with 4 Trestles; Several Kidderminster and Tapestry Carpets, little worse than new; Large Handsome Oilcloth, 50 sq. yds., Passage Linoleums; a quantity of Small Carpets; Oilcloths; Druggets, and Bedroom Carpets; Wringing Machine; 2 Poss Tubs; several other Large Tubs; Case of Squirrels; Door Scraper and Brush; Garden Seat; 4 Dish Covers; Tea Urn; Tea and Coffee Pots; Warming Pan; 2 Pairs of Painters' Steps; 8 Spittoons; 18 Window Blinds; 6 Wire Blinds; a number of Pictures, including some very superior Proofs and Prints; a quantity of Valuable Books; Part of the Bar Fittings, including Glasses, Jugs, Mahogany Cigar Show Case, &c.; Pans, Pails, Plates, Dishes, &c.; about 30 Head of Poultry, including 6 Young Hens and Cock, pure black Minorcas; Garden Frame, 14ft by 6ft; Garden Tools; Flower Pots; Forcing Pots; Seed Boxes; Sage Plants; and several other lots, too numerous to mention.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 523z

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

By Mr. William Raw.

56, Durham Road, Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having been instructed, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION (under power of a Bill of Sale), on Saturday, May 5th, 1888, the Valuable Mahogany and other FURNITURE, FEATHER BEDS, &c., belonging to Mr THOMAS YOUNG, of 56, Durham Road, Blackhill; comprising—Mahogany Press and Drawers; Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Sofa, in Chintz Cover; Chairs; Tables; Oak Desk Bed; Painted Press and Drawers; 5 Feather Beds, Bedding, Pillows, and Bolsters; Ash Desk; Swing Glasses; Chamber Ware; 2 Iron Beds and Mattresses; 4-Poled Bedstead; Fenders and Fireirons; Eight-days' Clock; Carpets and Hearthrugs; Pictures and Ornaments; Longsettle; Round Table; Kitchen Table; and Kitchen Utensils.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

By Mr. Thomas Wetherell.

The Ford near Lanchester.—Annual Grass Park Let of 240 Acres, and Sale of Implements &c.

MR. THOS. WETHERELL, again honoured with instructions from MATTHEW KEARNEY, Esq., will LET BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, May 9th, 1888, the whole of the RICH PASTURES of the above PARKS, comprising—16 Lots, varying from 6 to 30 Acres each. The above Parks are Let up to the 23rd of November, and are all well fenced, and have a constant supply of water. An experienced Herd in attendance.

Also, WILL BE SOLD on the same day, the following IMPLEMENTS, &c., comprising—Long Cart; Coup Cart; Hay Turner; Hay Rake; Hay Sweep; Grass Cutter; Iron Stack Stands; Oil Cake Crusher; 2 Cattle Troughs; 2 good sets of Cart Harness; and other Sundry Lots.

Conditions of Letting at the time of Sale.

Luncheon, as usual, at One p.m.; Implements at 1·30 p.m.; Letting in Lot 1, at Two p.m.

Further particulars can be had from the Auctioneer on application.

Sale Offices, 45, Sadler Street, Durham. 479z

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

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

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, &c. 683y

Sales by Auction.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Medomsley East Farm.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, honoured with instructions from the Executor of the late Mr JOHN SMITH, deceased, will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, on the above Farm, on Thursday and Friday, the 10th and 11th days of May, 1888, all his valuable FARMING STOCK, HORSES, PIGS, POULTRY, and IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY, with all the Household FURNITURE and DAIRY UTENSILS, as follows:—

CATTLE.

5 Newly-calved Cows, 3 Two-years-old In-calving Heifers, 5 Two-years-old Grazing Steers and Heifers, 10 Yearling Stirks, 2 Prime Fat Bullocks, 2 Prime Fat Heifers; 2 Calves, 6 months old.

HORSES.

Bay Mare, 5 years old, 16h. 1in., with Foal at Foot, by "Evan"; Grey Mare, 3 years old, 16·1 h.h.; Brown Mare, 8 years old, 16·2 h.h.; Bay Mare, 10 years old, 15·1 h.h.; Yearling Filly, by "Tankerville," very promising; an excellent Pony, quiet to ride or drive.

PIGS AND POULTRY.

Young Sow and 5 Pigs, 8 weeks old at time of Sale; 30 Head of Barn-door Fowls.

FARM IMPLEMENTS, &c.

4 Long Carts, Long Cart Body, 4 Coup Carts; 2 Do., with Shelvings; Cart Coup, 4 Iron Swing Ploughs, 2 Double Mould-board Ploughs, 3 Ribbing Ploughs, 3 Iron Scufflers, 3 Pairs of Wood Harrows, Pair of Iron Harrows, Chain Harrow, Pair of Lap Harrows, 2 Iron Grub Harrows, 4-Horse Harrow, 4-Horse Iron Drag, 2 Metal Rollers, Stone Roller, Double Turnip Drill, 2 Horse Hay Rakes, 3 Reaping Machines, Corn Drill, Weighing Machine and Weights, 2 Oilcake Crushers, 3 Turnip Cutters, 2 Windering Machines, Thrashing Machine (if not privately sold before the Sale), 4 Iron Stack Stands; 2 Sheep Racks, on Wheels; a number of Sheep Troughs, Cattle and Pig Troughs, 6 Stackyard Ladders, Stamp of Hay, 2 Hay Knives, 5 Corn Bins, Set of Pulley Blocks and Rope, 2 Half-bushel Measures, 3 Sack Barrows, 80 Corn Bags, 2 Wheelbarrows, 2 Grindstones; a quantity of Rock Seed Potatoes, in Bags; an excellent Phaeton, 2 Sets of Gig Harness, 2 Gentlemen's Riding Saddles and Bridles, Ladies' Do., 2 Horse Cloths, 2 Horse Rollers, 2 Show Collars, Knee Caps, a complete Set of Breaking Harness, 8 Sets of Cart Harness and Plough Gears, Riding Pad, a large quantity of Miscellaneous Harness, 7 Pairs of Cart Ropes, Warrock Chain, 4 Sheep Nets; a large quantity of Hand Implements, including Aberdeen and other Scythes; Hay Rakes, Steel Forks and Gripes, Hoes, Iron Bars, Hedging Tools, &c., &c., with a large quantity of Old Iron and Metal; Old Timber, &c. DAIRY UTENSILS comprise—Patent Churn, by Tinkler; Lead Milk Bowl and Stand; Milk Cans and Dishes; Cream Mugs; Butter Boards and Prints; Butter Scales and Weights; 60 feet of Gutta-percha Piping, nearly new.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

DRAWING ROOM.—Walnut Suite, including—Inlaid Oval Table; Sofa, in Cretonne; Lady's and Gent's and 6 Small Chairs, in Do.; Oak Tea Table; beautiful Mantel Mirror, in Gilt Frame; 3 Pictures, in Do.; Glass Letter Stand; Chimney Ornaments; Brussels Carpet and Hearthrug; Pair of Hassocks; Fender; Set of Polished Fire-irons; Japanese Coal Vase; Brass Cornice Pole and Rings.

DINING ROOM.—Secretary and Bookcase, with Cellarets; Mahogany Sofa, in Leather; 3 Mahogany Chairs and 1 Mahogany Arm Chair, in Do.; 2 Smoking Chairs, with Cushions; Mantel Mirror; Barometer; Mahogany Cornice Pole and Rings; Folding Tea Table; 4 Pictures, in Gilt Frames; Mantel Board, with Cover and Fringe; Kidderminster Carpet; Hearthrug; Druggetting; Large Oilcloth; 2 Hassocks; Mahogany Tray and Stand; Duplex Table Lamp; Colza Do.; Brass-mounted Fender; Tidy; Set of Polished Fire-irons; a few Volumes of Books; Sewing Machine.

NO. 1 BED-ROOM.—Mahogany Chest of Drawers; beautiful Mahogany Tudor Bedstead, in Crimson Damask Hangings, and Mattress; beautiful Mahogany Dressing Table, with Glass and Drawers; Do. Washstand, with Marble Top; Mahogany Towel Rail; Feather Bed; Carpet; Splash Oilcloth; 3 Cane-bottomed Bedroom Chairs; Easy Chair; Mahogany Cornice Pole and Rings; Bedroom Fender and Fire-irons.

NO. 2 BED-ROOM.—Mahogany High Chest of Drawers; Mahogany Press; Cupboard; 2 Brass-mounted Iron French Bedsteads, with Mattresses; Hair Mattress; 2 Feather Beds; Painted Dressing Table; Washstand; Swing Dressing Glass; Set of Chamber Ware; 5 Pictures; 2 Chairs; Brussels Carpet.

NO. 3 BED-ROOM.—Painted Wardrobe; Painted Chest of Drawers; Sofa, in Leather; Iron Bedstead and Mattress; Feather Bed; Dressing Table, Washstand, and Towel Rail; Chamber Ware; Dressing Glass; Carpet.

NO. 4 BED-ROOM.—Stump Bedstead and Mattress; Feather Bed; Painted Night Commode; Sitz Bath; 2 Forms; Large Flour Bin, with two compartments.

KITCHEN AND WASH-HOUSE.—Eight-Days' Clock, in Oak Case; 2 Kitchen Tables and Forms; 7 Kitchen Chairs; 2 Arm Chairs; 2 Stools; with a large quantity of Ware, including Dinner Set and China Breakfast Set; Block-tin Dish Covers; Tin Ware; Bake Board; Plate Warmer; Meat Safe; Cooking Utensils, &c., &c.; Poss and Washing Tubs; 2 Poss-sticks; 2 Clothes Horses; Pails; Baskets; Double-barrelled Gun; a handsome Garden Seat; Single-barrelled Gun; Kitchen Fender and Fire-irons.

ORDER OF SALE.

FIRST DAY'S SALE.—Commence with the Implements at 11 a.m. Lunch at 1 p.m.

SECOND DAY.—Household Furniture at One o'clock p.m.

REFRESHMENTS, on reasonable terms, will be provided by Mr HART, of Consett.

N.B.—The above Thrashing Machine, which stands at the Allendale Farm, may be viewed before the Sale. 452z

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

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

MR. EMMANUEL MADDISON'S SALE at Dipton, as advertised in last week's issue, will be held on Wednesday, May 9th.

Sale to begin at Eleven o'clock. 534z

Messrs OLEY and PHILLIPSON, Auctioneers.

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

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

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

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

Business Announcements

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

MOST MONEY LENT
ON Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
(FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.
☞ SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739y

Business Announcements.

"The weary find new strength in generous wine."
Homer.

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

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT
☞ 36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Bottle. ☜

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

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

OH MY CORNS!
HAVE YOU A TROUBLESOME CORN?
THE
CORN AND WART ANNIHILATOR
removes in a few days, Hard or Soft Corns, without pain.
PAINLESS! SAFE! EFFECTUAL!
GET A 1/- BOTTLE TO-DAY.
☞ Observe "ROBERTS" on every package.

J. ROBERTS CHEMIST (by Diploma), Sole Proprietor of the Celebrated Buchu Bitters, "The Great Kidney and Liver Cure."
1, NEW BRIDGE STREET, 97 & 99 CLAYTON STREET, and 29, SANDHILL, NEWCASTLE.
Please Note particularly the Precise Addresses, and don't be misled elsewhere. 359z

EDITORIAL NOTICE.

FAIRPLAY.—Our correspondent need have no fear of the writer of "Notes from Weardale" doing an injustice to Nonconformists. It is but fair that we take the blame for expunging so much written in their praise by "Stanhope," whose notes frequently savour too much of an advertisement to be inserted.

A CORRESPONDENT writes respecting some report circulated to his detriment; but his letter is an advertisement, and if inserted, must be paid for as such.

NOTES FROM ANNFIELD PLAIN have been overlooked, but will appear in our next.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAY 4TH, 1888.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

THE MEN OF THE DALES.

I am always interested in the news from the dales. The proprietor of the *Guardian* did a good thing for his paper when he widened the area of its influence by embracing the upper reaches of the Derwent and the Wear. I used to congratulate myself on being able to distinguish a dalesmen by sight—men from Allendale, Stanhope, and the Blanchland quarter—just as a farmer knows sheep bred on the hills from those reared in the lowlands. It may be that having first seen the light in a sequestered neighbourhood, I may, peradventure, have a kind of innate leaning to those unsophisticated children of the dales. There is usually something about their gait and appearance very different from people living in densely populated centres. The Lowland Scotch have a very simple method of pronouncing whether a group of men walking along a country road are native Highlanders or lowland men. I have never seen this infallible rule in print, and, therefore, offer it gratis to an inquisitive generation. It is this. Bred among the mountains where there are no turnpikes, Highlandmen walk one after the other in what is known as "Indian file," following the narrow tracks made by sheep and deer. So strong is the force of habit, that when they stray southwards to make their bread they follow the custom acquired in their youth. Such, however, is not the rule by which I measure the natives of the dales. I have another standard; but as it has been wisely said: "Aye keep something tae yersel," it is prudent that I keep my own council on this particular matter. By and-bye it might be worth while to take out a patent for it.

WILL IT LIVE?

I am disposed to hazard an answer in the negative, and when it is understood that I refer to the current report that there is a likelihood of floating a dramatic society at Consett, I do not suppose that anybody will be very much affected, granted even that the new-comer die as did the infant porkers spoken of by Charles Lamb in his essay on "Roast Pig":—

"Ere sin could blight, or sorrow fade,
Death came with timely care."

I know well, and many of my readers know, that many an association vastly more useful to the greatest number—and that is the standard of excellence in these days—has been cast upon the waters, and flickered for but a brief day, and passed from the catalogue of mundane institutions. There were the Y.M.C.A and the Parliamentary Debating Society—the most powerful, as well as the most pretentious of all the local institutions ever launched at Consett. Each died a perfectly natural death, and should a dramatic society be formed, it may naturally be assumed that it will very quickly be prostrated by a virulent attack of one or other of the maladies to which such creations are subject. Mankind have suffered greater losses. The present is a purely practical age, and it is every man's business before identifying himself with every new craze to quietly count the cost. I can quite understand what is to be gained by a connection, however short, with debating societies and Young Men's Christian Associations; but a dramatic society comes under the head of quite a different order of intellectual culture. In what respect will I be wiser or better by spending my spare hours in connection with a dramatic society? That is a fair question; and is a question which every man who fully recognises the value of time has a right to put to himself. A dramatic society may turn out a very amusing concern; but what does it lead to? Where is the fruit? In short, life in these closing decades of the nineteenth century is a deal too precious to be wasted in the manner in which a dramatic society would necessitate. I trust that the young men of Consett and district will float an association from which more lasting pleasure and profit will be derived.

VERSE *versus* PROSE.

Speaking of the hardy denizens of the dales, the general reader must have long ago observed that the reports of the doings in Weardale and that quarter are seldom detailed in the customary matter-of-fact method of dull prose. It is quite immaterial whether the subjects handled are calculated to produce joy or grief, the political reporters must tune their harps and saddle pegasus—and they do it. Alexander Pope's scathing observations, that there were men in his day, who, as he pointedly put it:—

"———upon scraps of learning dote,
And think themselves immortal as they quote."

has no reference whatever to the Weardale reporter for one very good reason, and it is this: The Weardalians make their own verse, as a rule. If they have not Home Rule, they have at least home-made verses. It is said that the author of Waverley was wont to make a verse or two when he wanted a few lines to head a chapter or round a sentence, and to append the words "Old song" at the bottom thereof, and so it is with the Weardale scribes. Be it noted that I speak of reporting pure and simple—not the higher walks of literature coming under the designation, notes and articles. Be it also understood that I am in no sense taking exception to this distinguishing characteristic of Weardale reporting. It pleases me very well and the man who can write to please the people has not mistaken his vocation. Last week's issue of the *Guardian* furnishes a noteable illustration of Weardale prose and verse reporting—poaching affrays, marriages, births and deaths being alike garnished with flights of song. Perhaps the gentlemen quill-drivers in the dales think, as did the bard who penned the lines:—

"Verse sweetens toil, however rude the sound."

MAY-DAY AT BURNOPFIELD.

[BY A VISITOR.]

One of the most successful and pleasing entertainments given by juveniles that it has been my lot to attend was held in the Burnopfield Temperance Hall, on May-day. The "Kinderspiel" presented is called "Playmates." The idea of the piece is this:—Mother Goose and her son Jack, through the fortunate circumstance of having purchased a goose that laid golden eggs, have become rich, and are settled near Burnopfield. When part one opens, Jack is holding an out-door gathering of all his playmates, who amuse themselves with singing and games. They are joined by Farmer Jack (afterwards Jack the Giant Killer), Whittington (afterwards Lord Mayor of London), and Cowboy Jack (afterwards Jack o' the Bean Stalk), who intimate they are going away on their several missions. Then other visitors come—Flora McDonald, Annie Laurie, and Maggie Lauder. Those are wishful for the return of the three heroes, and send Simple Simon and his gallant Highland regiment to search for the missing ones. Part II. opens on May-day, and Jack and his playmates are seen playing round the May-pole. Simon and his warriors, with signs of battle on the war flag, come and announce that the missing playmates will soon be here. By-and-bye, Jack the Giant Killer, the Lord Mayor of London, and Jack o' the Bean Stalk arrive and explain their new position. Their stories are made to point a moral, which Mother Goose impresses on the children. Some more play around the May-pole, and the good-night chorus finishes the "Kinderspiel." The whole piece was extremely well done; the dresses, the singing, and the games being admirable. Great interest was evinced in the clever way the ribbon girls entwined the ribbons round the May-pole, and the Highlanders in their "braw claes" were heartily cheered. Simon was very amusing, and indeed all the principals did their parts well. They are:—Miss Riddle, S. Brabban, A. Maddison, H. Hanover, J. Holme, G. Hope, Jos. Spinks, W. Wood, J. J. Morgan, and W. Hindhaugh. Mr Hogarth, whose scholars the performers are, presided skilfully at the piano. The bills announce another performance for to-morrow (Saturday), and I am sure the children may look for a bumper audience.

PAINFUL INCIDENT AT BLACKHILL.

DEATH—FROM MISADVENTURE.

Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, an inquest was held at the house of Mrs Christopher, North-Eastern Hotel, Blackhill, before Coroner Graham, on the body of a man named Walter Fiddes (57), living in Roger Street, Blackhill, a labourer employed at the Consett Iron Works. The deceased, it appears, had come home on Monday afternoon in a drunken state, and gone upstairs into a bed room, where he was afterwards found lying across the bed quite dead. He had been searching in the drawers for a bottle containing spirits, and had got hold of the bottle containing carbolic acid, which had been used by one of his daughters for an injury to her foot. He had drunk the lotion, thinking it was spirits, and had died from the effects thereof.

Sarah Jane Fiddes said that her father came home on the Monday afternoon, about four o'clock, in a very drunken state. She was downstairs at the time, but she afterwards went up to where her mother was. He had laid down on the bed for about two hours. About six o'clock, she heard a noise in the room, and she went in and found her father standing on the floor. He had a bottle in his hand, containing port wine. She was sure it was not the bottle that had contained the lotion, but a small spirit bottle. She took it from him, and took it away with her. She went up again about a quarter-of-an-hour afterwards, when she found him lying across the bed quite dead. The bottle containing the lotion was on the drawer-top. After his death, they found a bottle filled with spirits in a drawer below that in which the lotion had been placed. He had worked that day from six o'clock a.m. until twelve o'clock.

William Fiddes also gave evidence to the same effect.

Isabella Fiddes said she put the bottle away between one and two o'clock p.m. on the day in question. It would be about one-third full. The bottle containing the port wine was in the same chest of drawers. It was not in the same drawer. She had been using the lotion for her foot that afternoon.

Dr Short, assistant to Dr George Renton, stated that he was hastily summoned on Monday evening to attend the deceased, who, it was reported, had taken poison in the shape of a lotion of carbolic acid which he had prepared for his daughter's use. He arrived at the house about seven p.m., and on examination of the man found life extinct. There was a strong smell of carbolic acid on entering the room. The deceased was lying across the foot of the bed, with his legs hanging over the side. The body was cold; the expression placid; the countenance livid; and the pupils of the eyes contracted. A strong odour of the acid emanated from the mouth and lips, and the linings of the mouth were whitened, hardened, and shrivelled up. The strength of the lotion was four ounces of carbolic acid to six ounces of water. The bottle was labelled "Poison." It had been directed to be used by adding a teaspoonful of the lotion to a pint of water. Two tablespoonfuls of the acid was a fatal dose. It is readily soluble in alcohol, which would render its absorption into the system the more rapid. He was of opinion that the deceased had died from an over-dose of carbolic acid.

The Coroner, in summing up, said it was quite plain from the evidence adduced that the deceased had inadvertently taken the poison in mistake for spirits.

The jury accordingly returned a verdict of "Death from drinking carbolic acid, taken in mistake for spirits while under the influence of drink."

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A FATEFUL NIGHT:

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

By RALPH FAIRLEY.

CHAPTER VII.

"A CLIVVOR-TONGUED CHEP."

Monday passed away, and the body of poor Jamie Reay had not been recovered from the pond. His associates and fellow-workmen had toiled earnestly by turns, and they thought they had dragged every inch of the pond. In their intervals of rest groups of men of varying ages could be seen watching with interest the doings of those who had taken their spell at the grappling irons. They also chatted to each other about what they knew concerning their deceased comrade. Each contributed some episode in which Jamie was the hero, or which in some striking fashion reflected credit and honour upon him, or which in some way brought out his strong individuality.

"Ah've been at a few places, an' ah nivvor saa a young chep hev such a weight wi' the colliery o' men as Jamie had," remarked a burly fellow in one of the groups, as he puffed his clay pipe. "Ye might hunt the county through, an' not get such anuthor. He was a forst-rate hewer, an' must hev been young at it."

"He nivvor was a lad in a manner o' speakin'," chimed in a second.

"That's troo," put in a third. "He was wise above his ecors."

"An' what a figgor he hed when he was storred up," said a fourth. "Lads, ah'll tell ye what, ah've mony a time thowt he wad hev passed for a lord. It wad hev been grand to hev seen him in an officer's claes. But ah must say he nivvor put on ne airs."

"Thoo's jeist hit it, ma lad," said Jim Bryson, the first speaker. "You've heard me say mony a time that he had big influence over me." Bryson then told his oft repeated story of how he had never been at chapel until he came to Tanfield, and although it was a severe trial for him to give up his dog, he conquered in the struggle. To use his own not elegant way of stating his changed life, he said—"Ah used ta luv dog; but efter ah forst saa an' heerd Jamie Reay, ah torn'd reet roond aboot, an' now ah luv God."

Shortly after commencing to work at Tanfield (so he began his story) a lecturer came to the village, "a clivvor-tongued chep," Bryson called him. There was a large audience, men having come some distance to hear him. The lecturer spoke with great fluency about the poor being ground down by the rich, oppressed by the Government, and deserted by the church. The land belonged to the people, but it had been stolen from them, and the Government refused to redress their wrongs, while the Church sided with the bloated aristocrats, and the only way open to the honest working man was to combine to promote a revolution. France had shown the people of England how alone they could get their just rights restored to them. This sentence drew a burst of applause from a section of the audience but the majority sat stolidly or moved uneasily in their seats.

Encouraged by the reception of the remarks he had just made, the lecturer launched out against capitalists and religionists generally. Men's bodies he held, were enslaved to the holders of money, and their minds were lorded over by priests and parsons. They plumed themselves upon being the free citizens of a free nation, while in reality they were no better than priestridden serfs. He came to them with the new gospel—the gospel that the nation needed—the gospel of true freedom. Every man should be his own master, acknowledge no restraints, be his own saviour and regenerator, and have full remuneration for his capital, which was his labour. They had their redemption in their own hands, and needed neither capital nor religion. The world could do without both of the latter, but it could not do without labour. Before the light of reason, and the advance of science and civilisation, religion was hastening to oblivion, churches and chapels would be closed, or used for lecture halls and institutes, and priests and parsons would be compelled to get their livelihood by useful work. A small knot of listeners made the most noise they could to show their approval of this statement, but it was immediately followed by a strong counter demonstration of opposition.

"Aha!" burst out the now excited lecturer. "I find I have some of the weak-minded lot here. Some of your long faced, psalm-singing, canting Ranters—poor mean creatures that go whining and praying about, and take advantage of their fellow-men wherever and whenever they can. It is that kind of cattle that honest, independent work-men have always the greatest difficulty with in their movements for the reformation of society and the amelioration of the condition of the race. The priest-ridden crew, professing to believe in a book which has cursed the nations, supported caste, and promoted immorality—its votaries who appear so holy outside do their dark deeds under cover."

"Had thee hand theyor, mistor!" bawled out a herculean pitman, the beads of sweat standing upon his massive brow, and showing how strongly he had been wrought upon and the effort he had made to repress his feelings. "Ah isn't a relidjis man, but me feythor was, an' me buity is, an' ye're a b——lyor."

"Wheesht, Joe!" cried a voice from the other end of the room.

"Order! order!" demanded the chairman, after he had recovered from his momentary surprise.

"That is one of the specimens of the champions of religion in his true colours," sneered the lecturer.

"Ah ins't relidjis, didn't ah tell ye. Ah only shud be, for ah've seen it's the best life; an' if thoo says anuthor half word aboot yer skepticism, ah'll knock yer b——head off."

"Sit down!" demanded the chairman, who saw that there was likely to be an uproar. "I hope, men, you will support the chair."

"You have here," continued the lecturer in the same taunting tone, "an ample justification for every word I have spoken. No arguments; only denunciation, and appeal to brute force."

"Who's a brute?" roared Joe Simpson, now thoroughly enraged. He was in the act of springing upon the platform when Jamie Reay intercepted him, and succeeded in getting him to sit down on the form beside him. On the other side of the giant was a spare-built youth from Northumberland, Peter North's son Tommy, and the two young men managed to calm Simpson.

The lecturer, however, was thoroughly upset by the incident. The fierce look on Joe Simpson's face had completely cowed him, and he found himself unable to proceed further.

The chairman at this junction intimated that a short time would be devoted to discussion and questions. The lecturer somewhat demurred to this arrangement, but the chairman said they would not have any one-sided meetings like the chapel people. The lecturer must be made aware of the fact, if he did not know, that the people of the north were not satisfied with flashes of rhetoric. They wanted to know the truth, and to look at a question from all sides. The decision was received with favour by the meeting.

In an instant up jumped a "leather-lunged local," with little gumption and less grace. He entered into a long tirade against Tom Paine and Voltaire, neither of whom he knew anything at all about. He was one of those long-jawed, shallow-pated creatures whose boundless conceit, self-assertions and egotism carry them into the front of all public movements, and when they get well snubbed, or are passed over by a discerning, though long suffering people, go to another sect, or turn over to the enemy. They never are a credit to anybody—a self-seeking, popularity hunting, vain-glorious pack, making use of the platform or the holy ordinance of God's house to show off and exalt their own miserable selves. No wonder that many a sensible man hung his head in the audience while the spouter was disgracing the cause he was professing to serve.

The lecturer and his sympathisers regained their self-possession, and thought it would be an easy matter to discomfit their opponents if this was the style of thing they had to meet. The chairman at length extinguished the vociferator by ruling him out of order, and invited any other person present who had any remarks to make on the subject of the lecture or any question to ask arising out of the statements made by the lecturer, to do so.

There was a long pause, during which the lecturer looked round the room with an air of great gratification. He was about to rise, when Jamie Reay stood up and said—"Before the lecturer makes his reply, I have a question or two I would like him to answer. I was waiting in the hope that some older man than I would put the question, but as no one seemed inclined to do so, I felt it my duty to ask the lecturer how he proposed in the present condition and arrangements of English trade and commerce to employ labour successfully and beneficially to the labourer without capital, or capitalists, or the directing minds now controlling British enterprise? I also ask him to show by well-authenticated statistics, extending over the past ten, twenty, or thirty years—I am not particular to ten years—the progress religion—the Christian religion—is making towards oblivion? I will also put this Bible (holding it up) into his hands, and ask him to point out were it teaches and promotes immorality. I presume he is well acquainted with the book. These, I think, Mr Chairman, are questions fairly arising out of the lecture we have heard to-night. If I am wrong, you will correct me, sir."

"The questions are perfectly in order," replied the chairman. "Any other remarks or questions."

"Ah think they'll do—they're mazors," answered Joe Simpson, in a quiet significant tone, such a contrast from the exhibition he made just a short time before, and the audience broke into a hearty laugh.

A pause followed. The lecturer coughed, and looking at the paper on which he had been taking notes, asked Jamie to repeat his question.

"My friend Tommy North and I had scribbled them out, and you may have them as written," replied Reay, handing the lecturer the piece of paper.

The lecturer, instead of dealing with these questions, however, took the easier task of ridiculing the leather-lunged brother. It was good tactics on the lecturer's part, for he soon saw that his strictures and banter were not disagreeable to the bulk of the audience—a popular assembly never is averse to seeing an egotist get scorched.

"Mr Chairman, I rise to a point of order." It was Tommy North who spoke. "If I am not mistaken, you ruled the man oot iv order that the lecturer is now discussing, and you ruled Brother Reay's question in order. Well, then, it seems to me that the only questions before the hoose is the question of Brother Reay."

"That is the case," replied the chairman. "The lecturer will now address himself to the question put by Brother Reay."

The lecturer said the questions opened up many big subjects, and each of them was sufficient for a night. The hour, too, was now advanced, and as he had to lecture at Annfield Plain on the following night, he would take the opportunity of dealing with them there.

"Hoo! hoo!" cried Joe Simpson; the beggor wants anuther sixpence.

Thunders of applause and shouts from all sides of the room followed this sally.

"I repudiate this accusation," shouted the lecturer with warmth. "I am prepared to proceed with my answer at once, if the audience thinks fit; but I cannot do the work satisfactorily under an hour."

"I have no desire to hurry the gentleman," said Jamie. "I see he is also advertised for Dipton on Friday night. If he thinks it would be better to adjourn his reply until then, or even to Newcastle on Saturday, he is quite welcome."

"Ye're far ower kind ta the beggor, efter he's caalled yor relidjin is he hes done," interposed Joe, who felt rather proud of being identified with the young man.

"Then, sir," said the lecturer, with a great show of confidence, "I will dispose of this young man's questions to-morrow night."

"Dinnet be ower sure aboot that. They're posers, mind yor eye." This additional sally of Joe's was enjoyed by all present, save the lecturer. Even the chairman could not resist smiling.

"Joe Simpson's caashin was right," observed Jim Bryson, concluding his narrative. "A big lot iv us went ta the Plain the next neet, but no lectoror came. Wasn't Joe Simpson in grand form. He offered to lay any odds that the sooth-country brag wad nivvor feyce the Tanfield and Northumberland lads, for he knew that Tommy North had as much ta de wi' the questions as Jamie Reay. The lads lector'd thorsells efter that, an' smashed the skeptic intiv mincemeat. Tommy did the trade question an' the information he hed was wonderful. Ye aall knaa aboot his ideas iv a men's union. He'll be sumthin' and de sumthin' yet, if he lives. Jamie did the relidjis question clivvor. It torn'd Joe Simpson as well is mesel. Poor Joe! he's aafully cut up wi' this misfortin. Yonder he's draggin' i' the most dangorous bit i' the pond. Hulloa! what's that he's got?"

The exclamation turned the attention of all the listeners in the group to Joe Simpson, and they hastened to where he was standing. He had brought up a cap. All who knew Jamie Reay said it was the cap he had worn the day before.

CHAPTER VIII.

A THREATENED STRIKE.

With the finding of the cap, all concerned had additional confirmation of their worst fears of Jamie's fate. Dr Bolton had visited the scene of operations during the day, and showed the greatest interest in the work of the anxious volunteers. He took possession of the cap soon after its recovery, and heard the testimony of two of Jamie's companions that it had been worn by their friend. One of the companions ventured to ask the doctor how Mr and Miss Fenwick were.

"They have recovered from the shock of the accident wonderfully, but the apprehended fate of their deliverer has very much unhinged them. But the ser——er—the young woman who was in Reay's company last night is very seriously shaken, indeed."

The last sentence was spoken by the doctor with very unusual depth of feeling for a professional man, and impressed those who heard it in a way that the doctor never intended. They concluded that Alice was dying. They were mistaken; but, nevertheless, this aspect of the case was communicated from one to another, and an additional mournful feeling was experienced by the visitors from the villages.

Darkness having set in, the grappling was suspended for the day, and as the groups wended their way homeward the one topic of conversation continued, of course, to be some well-known incidents in the life of Jamie Reay. Will Burnett's story is worth recording; and this is how it really occurred rather than how Will related it.

It had been a time of deep depression in the coal trade. Wages were low and work irregular, and a commotion had risen at Tanfield on the officials proposing to introduce several economical changes. The owners were losing money, and every item of expenditure, as well as the mode of working the colliery, had been investigated and revised so as to cheapen the production. The men resisted the innovations of the new manager. (Mr Atkinson), who had been two years at the colliery, but who was still spoken of as the new manager. The men detested him in the same proportion as they had revered old Mr Bullerwell, whom he had superseded. Where are all the great things he was going to do? they asked. It never could be said in Mr Bullerwell's time that the colliery was losing money, and he had carried the business through many a bad time. The new besom only swept clean for a short time, but the new-fangled plans did not work. The manager badgered the over-men and deputies until the viewer had to interfere, but not before several resignations had taken place. Added to this undesirable state of things at the colliery itself, which interfered with the output, the markets were falling all round.

Affairs came to a climax when Mr Atkinson attempted to take away some old privileges which the men had had from time immemorial. For months the men had grumbled at the hardness of their lot, and their constant refrain was—"If Mr Bullorwill had been heor, thor wad hev been nyen o' this." This got to Atkinson's ears, for he had a creature or two about the place, and he was so exasperated that he determined to put a shilling a load on the coals. Next morning the men came sullenly to the corner of the engine-house, where they usually assembled before entering the cage. The first batch positively refused to descend. The manager was sent for, and he bullied and raved, but it had no effect. He threatened them that he would lay the colliery idle for an indefinite period, and put them out of their houses; but they remained obdurate.

"We've got oot o' wor beds to gan to wark, an' let's gan te wark," at length spoke up Wi Burnett, and the men turned fiercely upon him.

"Hev ye torn'ed caafy, Will Burnitt, eftor all ye've been sayin'?" sneeringly asked one of the batch.

"Me caafy? Ye owt to knaa me bettor nor that," quickly retorted Will. "Whativor ah've said ahint thi maistor's back, ah can say afore his fyece. But ah'll say it at thi' reet time. Let's gan doon this shift, an' ah guarentee we'll hev wor grievances laid before the whole colliery men."

This declaration had the desired effect, and the men went to work, for they could rely on Will Burnett's promise. Mr Atkinson did not relish the prospect, and later on in the day he had proof that the discontent he had seen manifested that morning was general among the hewers. What had transpired with the fore shift men was duly reported to those belonging to the back shift and an informal meeting was held on the pit heap, when it was decided to request Will Burnett to call a meeting to be held on the following Saturday afternoon. Will was informed of this resolution when he came to bank, and he accordingly arranged that the meeting would be held as desired.

Nearly every man in the colliery attended the meeting, and all the indications portended a serious result. The trapper and putter lads were in high hopes that there would be a strike. The poor boys could only see the prospect of a holiday, in which they would have a chance of seeing the sun and fields, and have time for indulging in their sports. In their experience there had been no strike, and they knew nothing of the pinching want it entailed. Some thoughtless women urged their men to fight right out for their demands, and either have them that day, or stop work forthwith, never giving a moment's thought to the consequences; but the majority of the matrons, the most of whom had had a bitter taste of the horrors of a trade struggle, were quiet and apprehensive. What little they did say was in the way of caution to their breadwinners.

Will Burnett was called upon to preside over the meeting. He accepted the position, and made a prudent and moderate speech. He was in full sympathy with the body of men, he said, in their grievances, but he admonished them not to lose sight of the critical position in which their masters were put at that time. Trade was bad—very bad—he need not tell them that, and the masters had their troubles and anxieties. He was there to speak the truth, and he must be honest, and say that the owners of Tanfield pit had always done well for their men. Mr Bullerwell had never said anything else, and his actions showed that whatever complaint the men had had the owners had always received it with respect. They were not, therefore, to blame in bringing about the present difficulty. So far Will's speech was received in dead silence. The majority of the men were evidently disappointed, but here and there were countenances that betokened satisfaction. On proceeding he warned them to be careful what they said about the manager, for there were men in the meeting who would carry every word to him—with additions.

"Stop them, and we'll hoy the b——s oot!" burst out a thick-set, bullet-headed hewer.

"No," replied the chairman; they've a reet ta be heor, an' ah hope thor'll be ne mair bad langwidge used thi day."

The man thus rebuked apologised, saying he had used the objectionable word in the heat of the moment. The chairman then added that he felt grieved that in Durham county men could be found who would stoop so low as to become the lick-spittles of those in power, and the betrayers of their fellow-men. But they would never prosper. When the man they were cringing to and serving at the expense of their brethren, and at the expense of their own honour, had his turn served with them he would throw them off like a pair of old boots; and serve them right. They might tell Mr Atkinson that Will Burnett said so.

"Gan on Will, lad," shouted the irrepressible thick-set man, "Thoo's in the reet kayvil this time."

Others also applauded the chairman's fearless statement, but he was not thereby led on to say more, and he at once declared that the meeting was open, and every man present was entitled to speak and entitled to be heard. He hoped the meeting would support him in securing fairplay to every man.

The speaking which succeeded was fierce and hot. Every man who got upon his feet had a special grievance, independant of the general grievances. They declared themselves and their fellow-workers to be white slaves, and the manager to be a tyrant as rank as the nigger-drivers in the American plantations. At length, getting reckless, one of the men boldly moved—"That, as a colliery o' men, we strike Maistor Atkinson oot, and ask the owners ta send back Maistor Bullorwill." About half a score jumped up to second this motion, amid cries of "clivvor," "that's the style, lads," "doon wi' the upstart," (Mr Atkinson's father had been a hewer in the adjoining county), and other ejaculations of a like nature.

Matters were undoubtedly assuming a serious aspect, for though a considerable number of the men sat very quietly, (some of them with troubled countenances), a large section with plainly at fever heat. After a time, a clean-washed, modest looking, gentle being ventured to stand up, and, clasping his hands, began—

"Worthy chairman and brethren———"

"Let's pray!" squeaked a voice in mocking imitation of the speaker. Loud roars of laughter were provoked by this unexpected and ludicrous incident, and the gentle being dropped into his seat as if he had been shot.

"Order, order! Let's conduct worsells properly, Bruthor Smith hes the chair."

The chairman was mistaken. Brother Smith had the ague, and so great was his agitation that he could not possibly face the ordeal again.

"Worthy chairman and gentlemen," came in a stentorian voice from a dark visaged pitman, whose head was thrown back, and his body placed in a stagey attitude.

"My name is Norval!" followed in distinct and sonorous tones, immediately succeeded by "To be, or not to be," in solemn accents.

The meeting became uproarious. It was splendid fun for the young men, who laughed and cheered the unknown ventriloquist. Some of the older ones joined in the laugh, but the more earnest minded cried, "Put 'em oot!" "Chair, chair!" "Order!" and so forth. The din continued for some time, during which the stagey one kept his feet with a defiant air. The uproar was perfectly unreasonable, for those who made it could not possibly tell which way the man intended to go, but they suspected he was against the strike motion, and they would not hear him. Eventually he sat down, and there was vociferous cheering. As soon as there was a lull he sprang up again; but it was no use, he could not get a hearing, and he was compelled to give in. The next to rise was a tall thin man, with a plausible smile on his face.

"Worthy chairman," he began, I am————"

"A sneck! interjected the ventriloquist, and so cleverly was it done that many present really believed that the man himself had confessed with his own lips to the reputation he held at the colliery.

"That's ne lee, hooivver," said an old man with marked emphasis who was sitting beside him. "That'll de, ma man; we want ta heor ne mair the neet. Keep the rest for the penitent form the moren, insteed iv gannen tiv Maistor Atkeensin's wiv yor stories."

The man turned pale, a cold sweat covering his body, speech forsook him, and he quickly collapsed.

Will Burnett, who was not without an inward feeling of gratification at this incident, felt it his duty to put on a severe look, and threatened to eject the author of these interruptions if they were repeated. They were met to discuss a serious matter (he continued), and if the motion before them were adopted, it might mean a great amount of suffering for themselves and families. He trusted that the business would be proceeded with in a becoming manner.

This had a sobering effect, and silence ensued. This continued for a minute or so, when the chairman remarked that the time was getting on, and if there was no other speaker he would put the motion. Another pause followed—a striking contrast to the scene a short time before. The chairman again rose, and said—"Ye've heard the motion."

"Mistor chairman!" It was Jamie Reay who spoke, and instantly all eyes were turned upon him. He had been sitting in the neighbourhood of the chairman during the meeting, and only a few of those near to him knew that he was present. Before the vote was taken he said he wished to make a remark or two. He touched sympathetically on the grievances of first one and then another, denouncing the petty tyranny of the manager in scathing terms, utterly regardless, it seemed, as to what the result of his words might be so far as he himself was concerned. The general grievance he characterized as unheard of in the trade, and what no body of men with any degree of independence would submit to. From what he knew of the Tanfield men, they would rather suffer a reduction under Mr Bullerwell than work much longer under Mr Atkinson; and if any of the contemptible sneaks were present who carried tales to the manager they were quite welcome to tell him all that he had said. This was following in the wake of the chairman, and it was received with general applause. Having thus placed himself fairly in accord with the men, he proceeded to show that the motion was wrong both in spirit and policy. It was dictating to the owners, and would defeat the object they had in view. As men they had nothing to hide, and nothing to fear. Let them ask the owners to meet a deputation of the men and Mr Atkinson, and have the whole case discussed at the fountain head. (Demonstrations of approval). That was a rational way to go about their business, and he was sure that he need not tell them that the owners were gentlemen every one of them—men who had a genuine interest in their workmen. He need but name to them Mr Arrowsmith. He was no "belted knight," or man-made grandee, but he was a christian nobleman.

"Bravo, Reay!" cried a youth, jumping on a form, and waving his cap, and the whole assembly, with one or two exceptions, joined in the cheering.

(To be continued.)

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CRŒSUS' WIDOW.

BY DORA RUSSELL,

Author of "FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW;" "THE VICAR'S GOVERNESS;" &c., &c.

CHAPTER XLV.—JOANNAH'S CAPTURE.

A few days after this Nora went on her visit to Ryecourt, and was received with the greatest cordiality by Lady Seaforth. Nora thought that Lady Seaforth looked a little worn, but she assured Nora she was perfectly well.

"And my son is almost quite well too, now," she added, smiling. "I am so thankful—a fever pulls a man down so terribly, and it was dreadful to see him so ill—and I hope his affairs will soon be put all right now."

She hid the skeletons that she had locked away in her closet very well this proud lady. One of these skeletons—(Nellie's letter to Seaforth)—still lay securely hidden at Ryecourt when Nora arrived there. Perhaps my lady's face was a shade paler, and a pang of shame sometimes crossed her heart when she remembered this, but on the whole she looked very well, and bore herself very bravely and pleasantly considering the cirumstances.

She took Nora all over the old house the day after Nora's arrival at Ryecourt, and smilingly told her again of Hugh Marchmont's stupid attachment to herself.

"It has made him so strange, I suppose," she said. "He lives here like a hermit, only he has every comfort around him—then he has such wonderful ideas—I believe he thinks of nothing but what he imagines to be doing good, and he has pensioners of every description—he is a very odd person."

"He struck me last night as being a very interesting person," answered Nora. "I never saw such a benign and peaceful face, I think."

"Yes, that is so astonishing," said Lady Seaforth, shrugging her shoulders. "What can make him look so contented?"

Something that Lady Seaforth had never sought for and never found in her worldly, unhappy life. She could not understand Hugh Marchmont, could not understand how the man, who once had been at her feet, could now placidly spend week after week under the same roof with her, and never show the faintest wish or idea of resuming the old lover-like relationship between them.

And Lady Seaforth soon saw this. After that first morning when they had breakfasted together, and when she had spoken of "circumstances which sometimes make us appear deceptive when our hearts are true;" and when Hugh Marchmont had left her for his parson, she had made no further advances to him. She was too proud to woo any man—but she could not understand it. She was still handsome, and she was free now, and Hugh Marchmont had once loved her so deeply. Yet here was Hugh Marchmont unmoved, kind and placid, day by day, as if he were her grandfather!

Therefore, Lady Seaforth told Nora he was a very strange person, and really thought so. But Nora took quite a fancy to this grave-faced gentleman, who lived "imagining he was doing good." She understood him better than Lady Seaforth, and after Hugh Marchmont's quiet, penetrating eyes had rested on the young widow's face for a day or two, he made a remark which greatly surprised and annoyed Lady Seaforth.

"I don't think your match-making will answer," he said smiling; "Mrs. Trelawn is not the woman to marry Seaforth."

"And why, may I ask?" said Lady Seaforth angrily.

"You will see," said Hugh Marchmont, still smiling; and my lady felt very angry with herself, and very angry with her distant kinsman.

"I have been a fool to confide anything to him, he is so absurd," she thought. The reason she had confided, or rather hinted her scheme to him about Nora, was when she wanted to borrow the money for her son to go to Paris from Mr. Marchmont.

"It will be all right some day, Hugh," she had then said smiling; "I look on Seaforth's marriage with Mrs. Trelawn as almost a settled thing—she is quite devoted to him, I am certain,—if only Seaforth would settle."

Therefore she felt very angry with Mr. Marchmont when he prophesied that her matrimonial scheme would end in disappointment.

"But Hugh is so absurd," she told herself, and she was more agreeable than ever during the rest of the day after this conversation with Crœsus' Widow, for Lady Seaforth rarely showed her real feelings.

But while Nora was gathering cowslips and primroses on the grassy wolds round Ryecourt, and Lady Seaforth was standing by smiling and chatting, let us return to those in town whom the under current of life was drifting nearer to Lady Seaforth's path.

Her old lady's-maid, Mrs. Benson, had had more than one visit during this time from Joannah Brewis, who was most anxious to redeem her promise to Strathearn, and find out where Clayton was. But Mrs. Benson had been as reserved and mysterious during these visits as she had been when Joannah had first called to make inquiries about Clayton.

"I am not at liberty to say anything, Miss Brewis," at last she had told Joannah, and Joannah had sniffed indignantly.

"There's good cause of secrets, I dare say," she said; "for my part I'm straightforward, having nothing particular to hide!"

But Joannah felt very much aggrieved by finding that Mrs. Benson could "keep anything from her." She despised Mrs. Benson's mental endowments, and had expected that Mrs. Benson would tell her anything she chose to ask, and when she found this was not the case she felt extremely irate, and her temper grew so irascible that three maid servants ran away from her in a week, and she received two summonses for wages, which she declared she would never pay "while alive."

But while she was in this irritable frame of mind fortune suddenly favoured her. She was returning from a register office one afternoon, just as it was turning dusk, when as she passed the corner of Belgrave-road her sharp eyes fell on the figure of a man who was at that moment leaving the shop door of her friend, Mr. Benson, the chemist, the husband of Lady Seaforth's old lady's maid.

Joannah looked at this man and at once recognised him. It was Clayton himself she felt sure, and it was Clayton. Lord Seaforth had not taken his servant to Paris with him when he went there, but had sent Clayton back to London when he quitted Ryecourt, and Clayton had been calling on Mrs. Benson when Joannah saw him.

No sleuth-hound ever felt a keener joy in sighting his prey than Joannah felt at the sight of this man. Her eyes gleamed, her steps quickened, and yet she followed him warily, for she wanted him quite away from Mrs. Benson's ken before she attacked him.

But she never took her eyes off him. On went Clayton before, and on warily followed Joannah behind. Then suddenly she pounced upon him; fixing her long thin fingers with a claw-like grip upon his arm.

"And how do you find yourself this evening, Clayton?" she said with a triumphant giggle. "You've got home, then?"

"Ah! Miss Brewis," said Clayton, who felt a little startled, looking round, "is that you? Yes, I've got home."

"I'm glad I've met you," continued Joannah, still with her eyes eagerly gleaming and fixed on the man's face, "for I've something at my house I would like you to see—something that came for your lord as you call him—I fancy from a party we know who has disappeared, and, if you'll come with me I'll put it into your hands, to forward as you please."

Clayton at once fell into Joannah's snare.

"What!" he said, "has anything come from the poor young lady? I'm glad to hear it Miss Brewis, and my lord will be glad too—I know that, for he's fretted terribly about this business. Is it a letter?"

"I'll show you when we get home," answered Joannah grimly; and with alacrity Clayton turned with her, and a few minutes later was entering Miss Brewis's house.

"Kindly step into my little private parlour," said Joannah, as soon as she had closed the hall door. "I'll go and fetch what I want in a moment or two if you will stay here."

Innocently Clayton walked into Joannah's parlour and swiftly Joannah ran upstairs. When she arrived at bedroom number three, her actions appeared a little extraordinary, for she instantly took the door key out from the lock and put it on the inside of the room, and placed it in the lock outside. Having done this, she glanced anxiously round the room, and snatched up a little ornament from the mantel-piece that she considered valuable, and put it in her pocket. Then assuming as bland an air as she could, though she could not help the cat-like and ferocious gleam in her green eyes, she descended the staircase and went into her parlour, where Clayton was standing looking thoughtfully out of the window.

"Now, Clayton," she said, "if you'll come upstairs with me I'll show you what I mean."

"Certainly, Miss Brewis," said Clayton politely, and he followed Joannah upstairs, and walked into bedroom number three, when Joannah indicated that he was to do so.

But the moment he was inside the room Joannah shut the door after him, remaining herself outside, and before the astonished Clayton could turn round he heard the door key turned, and saw at once that he was locked in.

"Why, Miss Brewis, are you going to make a prisoner of me?" he shouted through the door, wondering what Joannah could mean.

"Yes, young man," shouted Joannah, grimly, in reply, "you'll stay where you are till a party I know of arrives here to ask you some questions that I'll be bound he'll make you answer. It's no use you shaking the door or shouting—if you shout loud and anyone hears you I'll tell inquirers that you are a party waiting to be conveyed to the lunatic asylum, and therefore all your tantrums will only be considered natural."

"Come, Miss Brewis, this is a little too bad," said Clayton, shaking the handle of the door. "Let me out, my good lady, and I'll answer any question you wish to ask."

Joannah gave a sarcastic giggle.

"I daresay," she said, "but I prefer you inside; and inside you'll stay for the present. There's a Bible on the mantelpiece," she added, with another bitter giggle, "and I advise you to have a little quiet reading, for you'll have time, and maybe it will improve your morals!" And having given this parting shot, Clayton heard Joannah descend the staircase.

In vain he shook the door, and opened the window, and shouted for assistance. Joannah had secured him in a back bedroom, which looked upon her own back premises, and there was no one apparently to be seen. Clayton, therefore, tried to resign himself, and sat down and began to consider what possibly could be Joannah's motive. He came to the conclusion it must be some of the creditors of his lord who had bribed Joannah to snare him, so that they might discover where his lordship was. He, therefore, waited fairly patiently for the first hour, expecting every moment to be released.

In the meanwhile Joannah had not been idle. She had telegraphed to Strathearn to come at once to her house, and she was sitting impatiently downstairs, awaiting his arrival.

But hour after hour passed away, and no Strathearn appeared. Strathearn, in fact, had gone out of town for a few hours, and thus had not immediately received Joannah's telegram. At nine o'clock, therefore, Joannah went upstairs to look after her captive.

"I say, young man," she shouted through the key-hole, "d'ye want any supper?"

"This is too much, really, Miss Brewis," answered Clayton, from inside; "a man can't stand such treatment, I can tell you. Supper indeed! I'm starving, and would give anything for a drink o' beer. Do let me out, my dear lady, just for a glass o' beer, and then you can put me in again."

"I'd too much trouble to get you in, to try the experiment," shouted Joannah, now putting one of her green eyes to the keyhole to view her captive, who in the meanwhile had lighted the gas, having found a box of matches. "Oh! you've lit the gas have you? Well, you seem pretty comfortable—and if you want any supper, I'll slip a sandwich or two below the door, and for drink you'll find plenty of water in the bedroom jugs." And Joannah indulged herself in a giggle.

"But what on earth do you want with me that you are keeping me here?" inquired Clayton.

"I want nothing with you," replied Joannah, in a virtuous tone, "and the party who does want something with you hasn't come, and till he does come you won't see the outside of the door I can promise you, young man! But I don't wish to deprive you of victuals, and you shall have ham and beef sandwiches to choose from in five minutes."

Joannah was as good as her word, and presently returned to the bedroom door with a plate of sandwitches.

"Come, young man," she said, "I've cut them myself, and you'll find them not like the choking articles some people call sandwiches—there's one through (Joannah had by this time slid one of the sandwitches below the door)—there's another—when you've finished these two, I'll pass in number three."

"But my dear, good lady, do give me a drop to drink!" pleaded the unhappy Clayton from inside.

Upon this point, however, Joannah was obdurate.

"They say there's nothing so wholesome as water," she said, "and you've plenty of it. Now just you have another sandwitch!"

But Clayton was too angry to eat. He was just beginning to threaten Miss Brewis with all sorts of legal punishments for her illegal act when a thundering rap and ring at the house door announced an arrival.

"That's the party, I'll be bound!" exclaimed Joannah, and she ran downstairs, and just entering the hall as she did so she found Strathearn.

"I've caught him, sir!" she said triumphantly. "I have him upstairs, safe under lock and key."

"Who? Clayton?" asked Strathearn, eagerly.

"Clayton himself," answered Joannah. "I snared him—they've been too sharp for me they thought, but I've been too sharp for them for once! Ha, ha, ha!" And Joannah giggled with satisfaction.

Then Strathearn followed her upstairs, and as she unlocked the bedroom door Strathearn gave a harsh laugh.

"What, have you him here?" he said.

"There he is!" answered Joannah throwing open the bedroom door. "I said I would catch him, and I've caught him—so now I'll leave you together."

Then Strathearn entered the room, and Clayton at once recognised him, and began dimly to understand the situation.

"Now, my man," said Strathearn, "I want a few words with you. I didn't tell that good lady mind to lock you up, but I asked her to try to find you, for I want some knowledge I believe you possess—and I am ready and willing to pay you handsomely for it."

Clayton bowed like a well-bred servant.

"Miss Brewis has certainly treated me very oddly, sir," he said, "and as for any information I possess—unless it's against my duty—I shall be very glad to give it to you."

"What do you mean by your duty?" asked Strathearn roughly. "Do you mean your duty to the man you call your master—Lord Seaforth, or do you mean your duty as an honest man?"

Clayton cast down his eyes.

"I have been a long time in the service of my lord, Mr. Campbell," he said.

"Exactly," said Strathearn; "and now I want to make it worth your while to quit his service. Look here, man!" he added, yet more roughly, and he walked forward close to Clayton—"I know something at least of your past life—I know you helped to deceive an innocent woman last August in Edinburgh; but I want to know something more than this, for which I am ready to pay you handsomely."

"You mean ——" said Clayton, without lifting his eyes.

"I mean did Seaforth—the man you call your [illegible] I mean, was he married to her in Edinburgh, as she believed; or was that marriage a farce, as he told her it was before she disappeared!"

Still Clayton stood with his eyes cast down before the eager and excited Strathearn.

"If you will tell the truth, the exact truth mind ye, I will give your five hundred pounds," continued Strathearn.

Then Clayton lifted his eyes.

"Five hundred pounds!" he repeated.

What visions this sum conjured up! He could retire from service—he could start a bar—he could get married—but, on the other hand, could he betray his master?

"I've been uncommonly sorry for the poor young lady, sir," he said, presently, after considering both sides of the question; "uncommonly sorry, and so, I am sure, has my lord. But you see my lord's in a terrible hole, sir—it's no secret we had an execution in the house, and the bailiffs were only got out by a party advancing the money, and this party my lord——"

But here Clayton paused—he began to think he was telling too much, and again he turned over both sides of the question in his own mind.

"If I hold my tongue," he thought, "my lord will likely marry the rich widow, and be on the swim again—but will this be worth five hundred pounds to me—five hundred pounds in cash——"

"Sir," he said aloud, "will you allow me to think the matter over? I am sure you will think no worse of me for wishing to act honourable to my lord—but then, on the other hand, the poor young lady is to be considered—and I'm sure when I thought she had gone and drowned herself I was almost as much upset as my lord."

"And you know nothing of her—nothing more?" asked Strathearn, in a faltering voice.

"Nothing, sir, on my honour," replied Clayton; "nor does my lord. Since the day she ran out of this house, after she and my lord quarrelled, we have never seen or heard of her. But all the same, I think there's no reasonable doubt that she's alive, and well taken care of, for there's no doubt she was the young person who tried to throw herself from the Chelsea Bridge, and who was taken away by the lady in the carriage—but of course you've heard the whole story, sir?"

"Yes," answered Strathearn, briefly, "and now—when will you make up your mind to tell the truth?"

"Will you give me two days to consider, sir, what is best for me to do?" asked Clayton.

"Yes," again said Strathearn, and on this agreement they parted.

"He will tell," thought Strathearn, bitterly, as Clayton walked out of the room. "And I believe now there is something in this marriage," he thought, yet more bitterly—he had offered a reward of five hundred pounds for knowledge that stabbed him like a sword.

CHAPTER XLVI.—HOPE DEFERRED

In a neat, quiet little house, not far from Victoria Station, and close to one of the bridges, Nellie had now found a temporary home. The mistress of the house had been in the service of Mr. and Mrs. Barrett as well as her husband, and therefore Mrs. Tom Bertrim's recommendation was quite sufficient for Mrs. Moore, as Nellie's new landlady was called.

Nothing could exceed the kindness and delicacy with which Dossie Bertrim behaved to Nellie at this time. She paid for her lodgings a month in advance, and she put a sufficient sum for Nellie to live on for a much longer period into her hand; and she told Mrs. Moore that "her friend Mrs. Murray" was an officer's wife, who was abroad at present, and requested that Mrs. Moore would pay her every attention, "for my sake," added Dossie.

Mrs. Moore smiled kindly in reply. She had known this sweet young woman who was asking her to be kind to her "friend," since she was a little child. Dossie Barrett had been almost as much loved by the servants at her father's house as she had been by every one else. "Every one is always so kind to me," she used to say, but the truth was that she was so kind that it was impossible not to love her. Therefore, Mrs. Moore gladly promised to do her best for her "dear young lady's" friend. And Dossie filled the quaint little vases about the room with flowers, and brought grapes and other luxuries for the poor drooping invalid whom she had confided to her old servant's care.

But there are some ills no earthly kindness can cure, and it's vain to try to heal a broken heart.

"It's sad to see her, ma'am," Mrs. Moore confided to Dossie; "there she sits all day, and seems to notice nothing—I fear there's something wrong with her that will not mend."

It was at this time that Nellie wrote her second letter to Lord Seaforth; the letter my lady hid away at Ryecourt; and while my lady was smiling and gathering primroses with Nora Trelawn, the broken-hearted young creature who had written it was watching for each post, and listening for a footfall that never came.

Day by day passed away, each more dreary than the last. It was wet spring weather, and the rain came patting down on the streets, and the sky was grey and cloudy.

"Would he never come—never, never——" she kept moaning. And yet she could not believe that he would thus utterly forsake her. In the letter that Lady Seaforth had hidden away, Nellie had appealed in simple and touching language, "not for my sake, Murray," she had written, and surely, surely he would not resist this helpless cry.

Yet he never came, and no letter came. We know how this was, but the unhappy girl did not know. She had addressed her letter to Lord Seaforth at the house at South Kensington, where she knew he lived with his mother, and as this letter was never returned to her, and never answered, what could she think?

She waited a fortnight—fourteen weary, weary days—and then she thought she would write again. She must do something she knew; she could not go on living at the expense of strangers like the Bertrims, however kind and good these strangers might be. Her letter might have been lost—Murray must be away—she decided, and so she wrote again.

Then came other weary days and nights of suspense—sometimes of despair. Yet she did not turn to death now, as she had turned in her first dark agony, when she had learned that all her love and all her hopes had been given to a lie. Other thoughts stirred in her heart—perhaps other hopes. But her second letter shared the same fate as her first. Again Mrs. Benson enclosed "a letter for my lord," to my lady; and my lady looked at this second letter, shivered, grew red, then pale—and locked it away beside the first.

Nora Trelawn was still at Ryecourt when this second letter was forwarded there. She had enjoyed her visit, and the fresh country air had brought back some of her early bloom; and Lady Seaforth, writing to her son in Paris, told him that "Mrs. Trelawn was looking absolutely charming;" and she urged her son to come over and join them without delay.

This second letter, therefore, came like a shock to Lady Seaforth. She was expecting her son, hoping for him—and yet she grew afraid when this second letter was enclosed by Benson. She thought even of writing to tell him not to come to Ryecourt—but then it was such a chance—living in this lonely, out-of-the-way spot with the richest independent woman in England—in town it could never be like this, even if Seaforth could be in town, which his circumstances (as his mother well knew) entirely prevented.

She would risk it, decided Lady Seaforth, but this second letter somewhat shattered her nerves. She did not open it; she hid it away, but she could not forget it. "The wretched girl" who had written it, as she inwardly designated Nellie, was in the meanwhile still waiting and watching. She waited a week, and then one day, thickly veiled, she crept out of doors and drove nearly to the square in South Kensington where Lady Seaforth lived. Then she left the cab and crawled wearily to the very square. The house was shut up; Nellie looked up, saw this, and turned deadly faint. She was still very weak and ill, and it was all she could do to totter back to her cab, and wearily leaning back in it she returned to her present home.

That closed house seemed to tell its own story to the unhappy girl. So he was away—most probably abroad—and what was she to do?

"Father! father!" the next moment broke from her white parched lips. This piteous cry came almost without thought, but it brought a new thought. She would go to her father. She clasped her hands, and recalled his constant love—would he turn from her now—now when she was quite forsaken—perhaps about to die? No, she would go to this last refuge. Her father would take her in and shield her if he could.

"It is, not for my own sake," she moaned piteously, pressing her hot hands against her burning brow. "Oh! the shame, the anguish of that moment! To go back dishonoured, heartbroken—to face Margaret's cold looks—perhaps hear her hard cold words!

But she must do something—she must go. If henceforth had forsaken her; if he really meant to marry this other woman, it was only right that she should try to seek protection for her unborn babe. Perhaps her father, perhaps Vyner, might persuade him to do her justice for the child's sake. For herself—what matter was it!—she had lost everything when she found out she had given all her love, all her hopes to a lie.

And as she thought and thought, her miserable heart began to take some comfort from the memory of her father's love. His dear face seemed to shine out of darkness benignant to her still. Yes, she would go to him, but she was too ill and weak to go that day.

She was so prostrate and overcome indeed that her landlady, Mrs. Moore, privately wrote to her "young lady at Castlewood Lodge," as she still called Dossie Bertrim, to tell her of Mrs. Murray's state; for Dossie had left particular orders that Mrs. Moore was to write to her if she saw any change in Mrs. Murray.

"The poor young lady looks worse and worse to my mind," wrote Mrs. Moore; "she drove out for a short time to-day, and returned quite overcome. She has done nothing but moan almost ever since she came in"—and so on.

This letter was delivered the next morning at Castlewood Lodge, and caused the sweet kind-hearted young mistress there considerable pain. She would have driven into town at once to see after her, the unfortunate girl whom she had befriended, but they were expecting some friends to lunch that day at Castlewood, and as it was more than fifteen miles out of town, Dossie had not time to drive in and return before the luncheon hour to receive her guests.

Therefore she put off her proposed visit to Mrs. Moore's until the next day; and on this small and seemingly accidental pivot a great change came to Nellie's hapless life.

For, after a night's rest, Nellie still kept to her resolve to go to her father. She rose about ten o'clock, and trembling, shaking in every limb, she prepared to go out. She put on a black dress and a long black cloak and veil, and would not listen to Mrs. Moore's counsel and advice.

"You are not fit to go out, indeed, Mrs. Murray," urged the good woman, looking with compassionate eyes at the white, quivering, agitated face. "Do wait, please, my dear, until my young lady comes—I'm sure she'll go with you if you have any business that requires looking after—for you're not fit to go out by yourself—and for that matter if you like I'll go with you!"

No, Nellie must go, and go alone. She had nerved herself up for the interview with her father. Did some recollection of the Prodigal Son—of the pitiful cry, "Father, I have sinned,"—pass dimly through her mind? And the old man "fell upon his neck and kissed him." Was there such love in store for her? She had forsaken her father—she was going back to him, crushed, heartbroken—but still he would kiss her, he would kiss her—Nellie was sure of this.

So she made ready to go. It was now about eleven o'clock, and Mrs. Moore called a cab for her, and exerting all her strength Nellie tried to appear calm, and ordered the driver to stop at the Metropolitan Railway Station nearest to her father's house. This station was quite close to the street where Major Blythe lived, and Nellie thought she would have strength to walk this short distance.

She closed her eyes as she was being driven along; she tried to picture her father's grief—she felt thankful he was blind. Then the cab stopped with a jerk, and Nellie looked up, and recognised the familiar railway station. She was close now, she thought—close —— and she drew a long breath, and feebly got out of the cab and paid her fare.

She felt weaker than she had thought she was as she slowly crossed the street and turned into the one where her father lived. Surely, there was a greater crowd than usual in it! A crowd, chiefly gathered lower down—lower down, where her father lived. Nellie tottered on, her eyes fixed on this crowd. She neared it; suddenly she saw why it was there. It was a funeral—a hearse and two mourning coaches standing—oh, God! before her father's door! Nellie gave a half cry, and then a ghastly smile. How foolish she was, she thought—it was only in the street—she would ask who it was.

She turned to a bystander, a respectably-looking elderly woman—

"Whose—" she faltered, for her clammy tongue seemed to refuse its office.

"It's Major Blythe," answered the woman. "Ay, poor man, he's lived in the street a long time, and they say he's died of a broken-heart—he never looked up after his young daughter ran away."

As the woman spoke—just after she had mentioned the dead man's name—the funeral procession began to move. On came the black horses and the nodding plumes; on—then there was a sort of stir in the crowd and a cry. A woman had fallen down—she fell just as the hearse passed her, flinging her arms forward, and one of the black horses swerved, and its hoof struck down on the woman's extended hand.

A moment later and a policeman had snatched her up from beneath the horse's feet.

"What is the matter?" asked a gentleman, putting his head out of one of the mourning coaches, for he had noticed the stir in the crowd, without seeing the cause.

"One of the horses has kicked a woman, that is all," answered a man standing by; and so the funeral procession moved on, and the woman who had fallen and been injured was carried by the policeman into the railway station.

They laid her on a couch and put back her veil, and cut the glove off her crushed and broken hand. As they were doing this the policeman who had picked her up was attentively looking at her features. Then he retired to one side of the waiting room, and drew some memoranda out of his note book. After he had read these he returned to the woman and gently moved back her fair hair from her pallid brow. Beneath this fair hair was a red scar, and as the policeman saw this he smiled and made haste to get a cab to convey the woman to the nearest hospital.

A quarter of an hour later she was carried into the accident ward of Middlesex Hospital, and her hand was dressed and every possible attention paid to her. But the policeman who had brought her there did not linger to inquire after her condition. He placed her in the hands of the proper authorities, and then hastily left her. He thought he had recognised her (from the printed description) as the woman for whose discovery two hundred pounds had been offered, and he hurried away in the hope of getting the reward.

(To be continued).

A very interesting feature of the Knightsbridge Exhibition was a collection of cookery books, old and new. The earliest was a "Noble Book of Cookery for a Prince's Household," that prince being Henry IV., dated 1467. Between that and the date of the next several centuries intervened, "The Lady's Companion" came out in 1723. Then came Mrs. Sarah Harrison's, 1755, and a number of volumes belonging to the 19th century of more or less importance and interest. The famous Mrs. Margaret Dodds, familiarly known as "Meg Dodds," was a great authority in Scotland 30 or 40 years ago. But tastes change, and though many of these old books are most valuable references on plain cooking, and treasures in many households, it would be in vain to look for even the names of half the ingredients, as well as the culinary vessels, used by modern cooks. One very interesting book in the collection was "Physiologie du Gout," dedicated to the author of the "Memoirs of the Marquise de Cregny," published in 1839 by M. Reguière, author of "L'Almanach des Gourmands," a famous French annual. This last-mentioned book is a very scarce one in its complete form, as it consists of a number of volumes. The late Douglas Jerrold, who was an authority on the art of dining, used to hang about old bookstalls in search of books of this class, and he considered himself fortunate in once getting four odd volumes in a bookseller's on the Quai Voltaire, Paris. "You are just too late," said the bookseller. "I have been for years collecting a complete set of volumes, and yesterday Alexandre Dumas pounced down on them and carried them off. He also has been for years trying to make up a complete set."

AURORA.

BEDDING PLANTS. HALF A MILLION IN STOCK. From 4d. doz. Lists free. G. PHIPPEN, F.R.H.S., Nurseries, Reading, Berks.

NORWAY.—Passenger Steamer "NORGE," NEWCASTLE for BERGEN, every TUESDAY, 7 p.m. Fares, £3 Single, £5 Return (available entire season), including Provisions. Passage 36 hours. Guidebook to Norway, 3s. 6d., post free. Apply BORRIES, CRAIG & CO., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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SOMETHING FOR YOUNG FOLKS

AN EXCITING CHASE.

The poet Cowper gives in a letter to a friend the following startling description of the escape and recapture of one of his pet hares:

"Last Wednesday night, while we were at supper between the hours of 8 and 9, I heard an unusual noise in the back parlour, as if one of the hares was entangled and trying to disentangle herself. I was just going to rise from the table when it ceased. In about five minutes a voice on the outside of the parlour door asked if one of my hares had got away. At once I rushed into the next room, and found that my poor favourite Puss had made her escape. She had gnawed asunder the strings of a lattice-work with which I thought I had sufficiently secured the window, and which I preferred to any other kind of blind because it admitted plenty of air. From thence I ran to the kitchen, when I saw the redoubtable Thomas Freeman, who told me that, having seen her just after she had dropped into the street he attempted to cover her with his hat, but she screamed out and leaped directly over his head. I then left him to pursue as fast as possible, and added Richard Coleman to the chase, as being nimbler, and carrying less weight than Thomas, not expecting to see her again, but wishful to learn, if possible, what became of her. In something less than an hour Richard returned, almost breathless, with the following account. That soon after he began to run he left Thomas behind him, and came in sight of a most numerous hunt of men, women, children, and dogs, and he did his best to keep back the dogs, and soon outstripped the crowd, so that the race was at last disputed between himself and Puss—she ran right through the town, and down the lane that leads to Dropshort. A little before she came to the house he got the start and turned her; she pushed for the town again, and soon after she entered it sought shelter in Mr. Wagstaff's tan-yard. Sturge's harvestmen were at supper, and saw her from the opposite side of the way. Then she encountered the tan-pits full of water, and while she was struggling out of one pit and plunging into another, and almost drowned, one of the men drew her out by the ears and secured her. She was then well washed in a bucket to get the lime out of her coat and brought home in a sack at ten o'clock. This frolic cost us 4s., but you may be sure we did not grudge a farthing of it. The poor creature only received a little hurt in one of her claws and in one of her ears, and is now almost as well as ever."

THE STATE OF TULAIT.

How sad it would be for you and for me if, neglecting the warning of King Bizzibee, we let ourselves float in our cockleshell boat down that swift-flowing stream of inaction and dream which will land us at last, and at no distant date, on the shores of the terrible State of Tulait.

In spite of mamma's reproachful eyes,
She was always, always, late to rise;
And late at breakfast and dinner and tea,
And late at school and at church was she;
Till at last, after going too late to bed,
A wonderful dream came into her head,
With stories weird
And with warnings great,
Of a place to be feared;
'Twas the State of Tulait.
O dear!
How crazy and queer
Was the careless State of Tulait!

She thought she had strangely and suddenly come
To King Bizzibee in the land of Hum,
Who eyed her gravely, and said, "Alas!
She rose too late to look in the glass.
Her buttons are wrong, and her collar is gone,
And, worst of all, there's her night-cap on!
By this I know
Of her horrible fate;
She is bound to go
To the State of Tulait.
Ah me!
'Tis sad to see
Fair maids in the State of Tulait.

"Would you like to know what the farmers do
In the State of Tulait? I'll tell you true:
They dally and dream in the spring-time sweet,
They plant their crops in the harvest heat,
They hoe their corn in the frosty fall,
And winter finds them with nothing at all.
You'll hunger and thirst,
And want and wait,
And that isn't the worst
In the State of Tulait.
Oh, no!
And yet you'll go
To the desolate State of Tulait.

"Would you like to know what will happen to you
In the State of Tulait? I'll tell you true:
You'll go to the show at the end of the fun;
To the concert hall when the music is done;
You'll come to the table too late for the pie;
And you'll see the parade when it's just gone by.
You'll never be wise
Nor rich nor great;
No fortune lies
In the State of Tulait.
Oh, why
Did you choose to try
The sorrowful State of Tulait?

"Would you like to know what your fate will be
In the State of Tulait? Ah, listen to me:
You will long in vain for your native land;
Your speedy return will oft be planned;
You'll hurry and strive with might and main,
But you'll NEVER be able to catch the train!
So you'll sob and cry,
And worry and wait,
And you'll live and die
In the State of Tulait.
For nevermore
Can you leave the shore
Of the terrible State of Tulait."

At this she woke, so great was her fright,
And she saw the gleam of the morning light;
'Twas the first pale gleam, but she bravely rose,
And quickly and carefully donned her clothes;
"For oh," she said, "I could never endure
To live in that horrible place, I'm sure!
No longer I'm bound
For the State of Tulait;
And I'll never be found
In the State of Tulait.
No! No!
I *never* will go
One step to the State of Tulait."

"NOTHING SO BAD AS WATER."

It is to be hoped that this is not the opinion of any of our readers, though we have heard of a few little boys and girls whose skins are so sensitive that they cannot bear contact with water, especially if there happens to be soap with it. There are some grown up people too who share this prejudice. An English lady, taken sick while touring among the Canary Islands, gives an amusing description of the strange notions entertained by her attendants as to the dreadful properties of water.

A few days after the commencement of my illness, feeling able to raise my head off the pillow, I innocently asked the señora for some warm water and my brush and comb. I little knew the storm I was bringing down upon myself.

"You must not wash; it will kill you; and it is very bad to do your hair."

"But," I said, "it is warm water I want; I am not going to use cold."

"Hot or cold, there is nothing so bad as water."

I explained that we always used it in England, in our hospitals as well as in private houses, for those who were ill. No, nothing would induce the señora to give me water.

"Supposing one were in bed a month," I said, "do you mean to say that one should not wash or use a brush?"

"Certainly not!" the señora replied.

Argument was useless; but an hour later the servant came in, and I made my husband ask her for hot water, which she brought in all good faith, thinking it was for him. When, however, she returned a few minutes later, and found me at my toilet, her grief and consternation were really comical.

I learned afterwards that she went to the señora, and with despair in voice and gesture, exclaimed, "The señora inglesia will die; she has washed!"

Teacher: "What can you tell me of Macbeth's wife?" Little Girl: "Nothin'. Mother says I mustn't talk about other folks behind their backs."

Our little boy, six years old, was sent to school last week for the first time, and on his return home asked his papa, "Who taught the first man his letters?"

"I say, mamma," said a youngster who had been labouring over a very tough wing of old chicken, "I think that this fowl must have been hatched from a hardboiled egg."

It was a quaint little fancy the small girl had as she stood in front of the grate listening to the peculiar singing of a log-wood fire. "Mamma, just listen to the poor little worms crying."

Teacher: "And now you may ask any question you like." (Little boy in the back row holds up his hand). Teacher: "Well, what is it, Willie?" Willie: "Be we goin' to have a picnic this year?"

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Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The mission services conducted at the Wesleyan Chapel, Consett, were concluded on Wednesday.

The Gale.—A violent gale of wind swept over the Consett district yesterday (Thursday), and foot passengers were almost blown off their feet. Slates from the roofs were carried away in all directions. No serious damage is fortunately reported to have occurred.

Theatre Royal.—This week, Mr Hubert O'Grady's Company made their first appearance at the Theatre Royal, Consett, in the popular plays of *The Famine* and *The Eviction*, which have been performed before crowded and delighted audiences, the place being packed to excess every night. The different actors have attained a high standard of proficiency, and sustain their parts to perfection. The plots are sensational, and the play most amusing.

Tableaux Vivants.—The inhabitants Consett are to be favoured with a visit of artistes who are announced to appear in the New Town Hall, on Monday evening. The entertainment in which they will make their *debut* to a Consett audience is both novel and interesting, and as above 60 characters are represented in this exhibition of *Tableaux Vivants*, or Living Waxwork, an evenings enjoyment may fairly be expected. The artistes have appeared elsewhere, and caused considerable sensation and amusement. It is in every sense a most interesting entertainment, displaying considerable skill and taste in the arrangement of the groups, and in the dress, posture, and motions of each figure; while the descriptions given by the interpreter convey no small amount of useful information. A powerful "Lime-light" will be used for the illumination, and Mr T. Simpson's orchestra will supply the music. The object of their visit is to assist in clearing off the debt on the new church at Dipton, and we are glad to learn that several gentlemen belonging Consett have promised to assist in this noble effort.

Colporteur's Society.—On Sunday, two sermons were preached—afternoon and evening—in the New Co-operative Hall, Consett, by Mr J. Nairn, the Scottish Evangelist, in aid of the above society. There were good congregations.—On Monday night, Mr Nairn gave one of his popular lectures, entitled, "The Scottish Covenanters." The meeting was opened by hymn and prayer, after which Mr Tr L. Gledstone described the work they had in hand, and urged upon those present their duty to support this noble cause. At the close of his remarks, he called upon Mr Thos. Swainston to take the chair.—Mr Swainston said that as all had been done for him by the last speaker, he had nothing to do but to call upon Mr Nairn to give his popular lecture on "The Scottish Covenanters," but before doing so, he spoke upon the literature which was circulated in their midst. Mr Nairn then delivered his thrilling and animated lecture. He showed what the Scottish people had had to endure for the sake of the Gospel. He also dilated at some length on the lives and memories of our Christian ancestors, who suffered so much for the blessings of the civil and religious liberty which we were all now enjoying. He referred to those glorious sufferers who exposed themselves to the fury of persecution, and, like true soldiers of Jesus Christ, patiently, perseveringly, and zealously fought on behalf of all that was dear to man, and the courage with which they suffered. The lecture was interspersed with anecdotes, and was highly interesting to all.—On Tuesday evening, Mr Nairn gave another of his lectures. Mr J. W. Davison occupied the chair. The subject was "President Garfield; or, the power of perseverance." There was a good attendance on each occasion.—Collections were taken at the close of each gathering in aid of the funds of the society.

BLACKHILL.

The Board Schools.—At a special meeting of the members of the Benfieldside School Board, on Monday night, Mr Fr Brodie, son of Mr Adam Brodie, of Consett, a duly certificated teacher, was unanimously chosen as assistant master of the Benfieldside Board Schools, in the place of Mr W. Ramsay, who resigned.

WESTWOOD.

Service of Song.—On Monday evening, the members of the Medomsley Wesleyan choir again rendered their service of song entitled "Eva," in the Free Methodist Church, Westwood. The musical part was rendered in good style. The solo, "Thou art passing away," was taken by Miss E. Robinson, who sang with her usual ability. The connective readings were given by Mr W. Palliser, Westwood; and the singing was under the leadership of Mr J. A. Adamson. After votes of thanks to the chairman (Mr W. Hogg) and the performers, the company dispersed after singing the doxology.

FROSTERLEY.

Entertainment.—On Saturday evening, the Frosterley Primitive Methodist Band of Hope gave an excellent entertainment in the Bridge End Schoolroom. A good programme was gone through, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Songs, readings, and recitations were given at intervals. A good company was present. Mr John Gardner presided.

STANHOPE.

Mechanics' Institute.—Mr George Robinson has been appointed secretary of the Stanhope Mechanics' Institute, in the room of Mr Charles Hornsby, who has left Stanhope for a situation at Halifax.

The Milk Question.—In the agitation for the reduction of the price of milk to a penny a pint, the limestone quarrymen have won, and milk can now be had at the door for a penny a pint. Fun was made at the quarrymen's efforts, but they put up with it, and now they have secured a victory over the farmers and milk-vendars. The quarrymen are queer fellows!

Canon Pulline at Stanhope.—Canon Pulline, the new Rector of Stanhope, preached in Stanhope Church twice on Sunday last, and read himself in at the incoming service. Large companies were present on each occasion to hear him, especially at the evening service, when the church was crowded. The rev. gentlemen took for his text in the evening St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians, 3rd chapter, and 10th verse. The service was choral throughout. Mr T. Green conducted the choir. Mr Benjamin Probert, of Newcastle, presided at the organ. Canon Pulleine was the guest of Dr Arnison, J.P., Butts Mansion.

Death of an Old Stanhope Standard.—There died, last week, at Stanhope, at the age of 71, another of Stanhope's old standards, who every year are getting fewer—Michael Brown, tailor. He was one of those tailors who used to go out to sew by day at his customers' homes—a thing of the past in these days of readymades. He was greatly respected. Dr Livingstone attended him during his last illness. He was interred at Stanhope Churchyard on Sunday.

EBCHESTER

Church of England Temperance Society.—The monthly meeting of the Ebchester Branch was held in the Temperance Hotel, Ebchester, on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of Rev H. Linthwaite. There was a good attendance, and a lengthy programme was gone through, which commenced with a reading, "The parish register," by the president; a clarionet solo, "The Blue Bells of Scotland," by Mr Waugh, was very ably done. "The Quaker" was sung by Mr Chaytor in his usual grand style. Miss Forster gave a reading, "Why am I a Guardian?" which was highly amusing, and created much laughter. This was succeeded by a violin and piano duet, "Peacefully slumber," by Mr Chaytor and Miss Linthwaite. A vocal duet, "The Convent Bells," by Misses Jackson and Middleton was well sung, and reflected great credit on these ladies. Mr Priestman gave a reading; Mr Waugh a clarionet solo, "Home, sweet home." Another reading was given by Miss Hunter, after which the company dispersed, everyone present being delighted with the evening's entertainment.

EAST HEDLEYHOPE.

Wesleyan Methodist Society.—On Saturday evening, Mr A. Phillipson, of Dipton, delivered his most instructive and interesting lecture on "General Gordon, the hero of the Nile," in the Wesleyan Chapel, at East Hedleyhope. Mr Dees, of Hedleyhope, occupied the chair. On Sunday, three excellent sermons were preached, in the morning and evening by Mr Phillipson, and in the afternoon by Mr Dees. Good congregations were present throughout the day. The proceeds were in aid of the society funds.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

Welcome Notes.—The cuckoo was heard on Monday at Crawcrook, near Ryton, for the first time this year. Large numbers of swallows are seen in the neighbourhood every day.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Change Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, at St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, for practice, a date touch (1,888 changes) was rung in one hour and 15 minutes. J. W. Forster, treble; W. Oliver, 2; T. H. Suttees, 3; T. Bell, 4; F. Barron, 5; J. Spraggon (conductor), 6. This is the longest peal on the bells, and the first date touch by a local company.

A Dilapidated Bridge.—"Novocastrians and others whose wont is to make periodical visits to the beautiful village of Shotley Bridge, will be pleased to learn that there is now a probability of the antique bridge which spans the Derwent near Shotley Grove being repaired and again made serviceable to the general public. The Spa Wells, together with the natural grandeur of the scenery in the neighbourhood of Shotley Bridge, have rendered the district a favourite resort of all who can afford the luxury of a holiday, and had the bridge referred to been allowed to remain in its present dilapidated condition—for by traversing it the pedestrian obtains access to the sylvan walks on the west banks of the Derwent—the district would have been shorn of one of its most attractive features."—"Elfin," in *Newcastle Chronicle*.

DURHAM.

Diocese of Durham.—At the meeting of the Diocesan Societies, held at Durham recently, the following local grants were made:—Diocesan Fund—£60 to Canon Chester, Ryton, for Sunday school. Bishop's Special Church Building Fund—£300 to Hedgefield, Ryton. Diocesan Board of Education—£45 to Chester-le-Street, for new school; £15 to Leadgate, for enlargement; £10 to Medomsley, for new school (second grant).

CRAGHEAD.

Primitive Methodist Band of Hope.—The members of the West Pelton Band of Hope gave an entertainment in the Craghead Primitive Methodist Chapel on Saturday night. Solos, recitations, duets, quartettes, and dialogues were nicely rendered. Mr Robert and Misses Goldford gave solos and duets in a very pleasing manner, and were loudly applauded. Misses Lowther, Borridge, and Elwood also acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of all. Mr Makepeace occupied the chair.

KIP HILL.

Wesleyan Methodist Society: Special Services.—Mr M. Frankland, of Blackhill, concluded his mission at Kip Hill on Thursday se'nnight. During this mission, 17 persons profess to have found peace, and have received a hearty welcome into the society. After receiving the new members, the whole of the society, with several of the brethren of the Tanfield Mission Band partook of a social tea, when a very pleasant evening was spent. Mr Frankland is a model village preacher, tireless in working, and full of love and zeal. The interest in his services has been sustained throughout. Mr Frankland, believing in the united efforts of all God's people as necessary to a successful result, mixed the services with short addresses from the members of the congregation and brethren and sisters from adjoining societies, and the hearty singing of inspired hymns from the Mission book. A rich blessing has been received by all the members, and all are believing that the seed which has been sown will bring forth more fruit. During the services, the village has been missioned every night when the weather would permit. The people listened to the invitations with rapt attention. Annfield Plain and Tanfield Lea Mission Bands came willingly and rendered every assistance available, both in the open-air and in the services. These two bands are composed of men of the right sort for special services—converted.

MINSTERACRES.

Will of the Late Mr H. C. Silvertop.—Probate of the will, dated 28th April, 1888, with a codocil made 6th July, 1887, of the late Mr Henry Charles Silvertop, of Queensberry Place, London, and Minsteracres, Northumberland, J.P., and D.L., High Sheriff 1859, who died on the 3rd December last, aged 61 years, has been granted to the executors. The testator bequeaths the china, pictures, bronzes, sculptures, and works of art at Minsteracres and the effects in and about his London house to his wife, Mrs Caroline Filemina Silvertop, daughter of Mr Edward J. Weld, of Lulworth, and all other household effects to his son, Mr Henry Thomas Silvertop, who mother the testator's first wife, was a daughter of Lord Camoys. The testator devises for sale all his own real estate, including tithe-rent charges in Northumberland and Durham, and bequeaths all the residue of his personal estate, the personalty being valued at upwards of £32,000, in trust to pay the income for her life to his wife, and on her decease, for division amongst his daughters, Henrietta and Mabel, and his son Arthur.

RIDING MILL.

Primrose League.—On Friday, a large tea meeting in connection with the Broomshaugh and Riding Mill Habitation (No. 1,747) of the Primrose League was held in the School room, Riding Mill, and was much appreciated by the dames, knights, and councillors, who were present and partook of it. After tea was over, an adjournment was made to the Habitation, where the company, to the number of upwards of 130, after a few words from the Ruling Councillor, who opened the meeting, enjoyed themselves in very spirited dancing for some hours. Both the school-room and habitation were profusely decorated with primroses, and with copies of the League's monogram formed of the same flowers; the former by the dames of the habitation, including Mrs Carr, Misses Lowry, Miss Moody, Miss Slater, Mrs Maclagan, and others. The habitation is indebted to Mr and Mrs Lowry for a meeting place, and for lighting and others comforts found there.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Entertainment.—On Monday evening, an excellent entertainment was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. The recitations were given in an effective manner by Mr Joshua Lax, while Messrs C. C. McColvin and J. Dawson as vocalists were everything to be desired. Miss Ann Dawson presided, with her accustomed ability, at the harmonium. The chair was occupied by Mr W. McClennan. At the conclusion of the entertainment an excellent supper was partaken of in the School-room.

WOLSINGHAM.

Weardale Highway Board.—On Tuesday, the annual meeting was held at Wolsingham—Mr Backhouse, J.P., was unanimously re-elected chairman, and the vice-chair was again given to Mr G. R. Wooler.—Snowcutting this winter cost £329 1s 9d.—The Wolsingham vestry scheme for paving that town was, as pre-arranged, brought forward; but it found no support save from Mr Wooler, who would have consented to similar improvement, by easy instalments, over the entire district. Besides, the Board objected to any fresh scheme in the face of imminent changes in local government.

Judgment in the Wolsingham Mill Race Case.—Judgment was given on Tuesday at Auckland Court in the Wolsingham action, in which Mr G. R. Wooler claimed from Mr Collinson a fifth of the damages and cost formerly awarded against Mr Wooler, for alleged negligence in not putting down a sluice, which admitted water from the Wear when the latter was in flood.—His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff for £83 1s 2d, and also for him on the counter-claim.—Mr E. Wooler asked for costs on a higher scale, but his Honour allowed costs on the amount for which judgment was given.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Young Men's Christian Association.—On Saturday evening, a public meeting was held in the Board Schools, Annfield Plain, under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. The school was crowded. The district secretary (Mr Moor) was the chairman, and spoke on 2 Peter i, 1-11. Mr F. J. Fedarb, general secretary, Sunderland Y.M.C.A., and Mr Walter Price, of Sunderland, gave addresses, and at intervals anthems were sung by the United Methodist Free Church choir, and the singing was led by the mission band of association. Mr Philip Reay also took part in the meeting.—On the motion of Mr McPherson, the thanks of the meeting were expressed to the chairman and speakers; and a vote of thanks was also cordially passed to the choir and mission band. A coffee supper was afterwards held, to which many remained. Mr J. F. Smith is the secretary of the association, and is aided by a numerous band of workers.

TOW LAW.

At the rent audit at Tow Law and Durham, held on the 27th and 28th ult., Mr Edward Taylor-Smith, with his usual liberality, returned 10 per cent to his tenantry.

The Accident at Black Prince Colliery.—The funeral of Mr Wm. Simmonds, who died from injuries received when at work in Black Prince pit, took place on Friday, and was attended by a very large number of people. Deceased was a member of the Salvation Army, and their excellent band took part in the funeral ceremony, which was conducted by their officers.

Good Templary.—An entertainment in connection with the "Beacon of Hope" Lodge String Band took place on Monday night, in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law. The band (15 in number) was under the able leadership of Mr Thos. Macdonald, and played a selection of lively pieces in a very creditable manner. Songs were given by Miss Morgan, Hedley Hill, and by Messrs Raine and Goulden. Recitations were given by Miss E. Christison and Messrs Parkinson, Rawes, and Horne. A cornet duet by Masters Lawson and Gill, and trios by Messrs Macdonald, Hodgson, and Pallister were a very pleasing addition to the programme. The chair was occupied by that most popular of chairmen—Mr James Vickers. The concert, which was patronised by a good audience, was in every way a success.

Lecture by an Ex-Convict.—On Saturday evening, a large audience assembled in the Auction Mart to hear Mr Joseph Turnbull, ex-convict, Willington, give his lecture on "Reminiscences of his trial and prison life." Mr James Vickers took the chair, and introduced Mr John Storey, who sang "Where is my wand'ring boy to-night?" the company joining in the chorus. Mr John Hopwood (of the Salvation Army) engaged in prayer. The hymn, "Rescue the perishing," was next sung, after which the chairman introduced Mr Turnbull to give his lecture. Mr Turnbull is a good speaker, and for two hours gave a vivid description of his arrest, trial, and prison life.—A vote of thanks to Mr Jos. Vickers for the use of the Auction Mart was carried with acclammation. The chairman, at the request of the company, then read Mr Turnbull's ticket-of-leave.—A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close. Several stayed behind to see the ticket-of-leave, to purchase a photo of Mr Turnbull, and to shake hands with one who had been so near to death, Mr A. W. Emerson and Mr Jos. Vickers among the number. Mr Vickers, in accepting two of Mr Turnbull's photos, wished him well, and said he would find a place for them in his album.

MICKLEY SQUARE.

Mr Joseph Audi, from Jerusalem, delivered his lecture on "The life and family of Jacob," at Mickley Square. Mr H. Jameson presided, and the chapel was crowded in every part. The lecture, which was illustrated by living characters, was very interesting, and highly appreciated. Mr Audi also gave Gospel addresses on Sunday afternoon and evening.

STOCKSFIELD.

Concert.—On Thursday week, a concert was given in the school-room, Stocksfield-on-Tyne. Mr J. K. Lyall presided, and there was a crowded company. The various items of the programme were provided by Messrs J. G. Benson, Bond, and Carr, and Miss C. Bellas, Miss M. Bellas, and Miss Thompson, all of Newcastle. The performances were of capital quality, and in almost every instance received hearty *encores*. The ladies, who are well-known artistes, gave among other pieces, "Home, sweet home," "Daddy," "The children asleep," "Tit for tat," and "The lost chord," the latter, by Miss M. Bellas, being exceptionally fine. Mr Bond's good voice came out well in "I fear no foe," and other songs. Mr Carr was also happy in "True Blue," and in the "A.B.C." duets, he and Miss Thompson "brought down the house." Mr Benson added to the humour of the night by a piece showing how love laughs at the resolves of jolly tars. Hearty thanks were accorded to the kindly visitors, and to the committee, which during the winter had provided excellent entertainment.

LINTZFORD.

Newcastle Y.M.C.A. Rambling Club.—About forty members of this club visited Messrs Annandale's paper mills, Lintzford, on Saturday afternoon, and were shown round by the manager, Mr Wm. Lynn. After tea, the officers were elected as follows:—Dr Bruce, president; Mr R. Noble, secretary; Mr W. M. Richardson, treasurer; and a committee of six. Chopwell Woods were afterwards visited, and much enjoyed by the party.

WEARDALE.

Marvellous Escape of a Boy.—Last week, while Mr T. Dawson, butcher, Ireshope Burn, was going to his farm at Hotts with a pony and cart, in which were his two boys, the horse shied at a youth with a shawl over his head while ascending the hill diverging from the main road at High House, and running backwards down the embankment it dropped over the wall on to the road. The elder of the lads leapt out, but how the younger one escaped injury is a marvel. The father, who clung to the animal's head, went over with it, and had to keep it down till assistance arrived. The horse was no worse.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Sale of Work.—On Monday, a sale of work was held in the Parish-room, Chester-le-Street, in aid of the general parish funds. The respective articles offered for sale have been made by the lady workers in the parish during the winter. Canon Blunt, rector, opened the proceedings in an appropriate manner. The following ladies presided over the work stalls:—The Countess of Scarborough, Mesdames Finlay, Ridley, W. Mitchell, and R. Hall, together with Miss M. Potts and Miss Newcombe. The following ladies were in charge of the refreshment stalls:—Mrs Geo. Curry, Mrs Wm. Hall, Mrs W. Venus, and Mrs J. North. A substantial sum was realised, a brisk sale being effected.

Sudden Death.—At the Justices' Room, Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday, Coroner Graham held an inquiry touching the death of Joseph Harland (aged 71), who died suddenly, in his own house, on Monday afternoon.—George Robson said deceased was watchman at the engine works, where witness worked. Mrs Harland rapped at the window of her house as witness was crossing the yard. Witness went into the house, and Mrs Harland said that "Father had died." Deceased was lying on a longsettle by the kitchen fire. Witness went to inform Mrs Middleton of her uncle's death.—Dr Duncan said that when called at five o'clock to see deceased he found that the body had been dead about two hours. In his opinion death had been brought about by senile debility.—The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

The London Coal Dues.—A public meeting was held in front of the Lambton Arms Inn, Chester-le-Street, on Saturday, to consider the London Coal Dues—Mr Robert Kell presiding. The chairman briefly introduced Mr John Pyle, of Pelton Fell, who addressed the meeting at length, dealing exhaustively with the subject. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That this meeting protests against any renewal of the London Coal Dues, believing such tax to be injurious to the mining industries of the nation, and that it presses heavily on the poor of London; and that a copy of this resolution, signed by the chairman of the meeting, be forwarded to the Marquis of Salisbury, the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and to Mr Jas. Joicey, M.P.

Ouston Collieries' Mechanics' Institute and Workmen's Hall.—Prof. Lenton, London, the celebrated ventriloquist and illusionist, paid his second visit to the above place on Monday. During the afternoon, a special children's performance was given by Mr Lenton, when between 400 and 500 boys and girls attended, and showed by their boisterous merriment and laughter how very much they appreciated the Professor's entertainment. The talking dolls seemed to find most favour with them. The old lady who was anxious to sing in her thin cracked voice, and the old gent who was just as anxious to stop her, caused no end of merriment. At the close, three ringing cheers were given as only children can cheer, mingled with shouts of "Mind you come back again!"—In the evening, a large audience again assembled in the large Hall, and the Professor added one more triumph to his skill and talent, earning on every side the enthusiastic econiums of his audience, and justly so, as for over two hours he kept them spell-bound with wit and humour. The entertainment was considerably enlivened by selections on the pianoforte by Misses A. Lonsdale and E. M. Strong.

HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

THE POLLING DAY.

The triennial election of five members to act upon the Board came off on Tuesday, the polling station being the Board Schools at Castleside. Mr W. H. Ritson (Clerk to the Guardians, Lanchester), officiated as Returning Officer, being assisted by Messrs W. Brotherhood and W. Suddes. During the early part of the afternoon, voters turned up slowly to record their votes, but towards evening, business was somewhat animated, and a large crowd soon surrounded the school. There are 197 names in the rate-book, but deducting the duplicate votes the number is reduced to about 170. Nearly 150 persons recorded their votes, being about the same number as voted at the previous contest. Amongst those who came to the poll was Mr John Robson, of Healeyfield, who claims to be the oldest inhabitant of the three townships—Muggleswick, Rowley, and Healeyfield. He still keeps hale and hearty, and whilst enjoying a quiet smoke, offered to favour the company with a song; but owing to pressing emergencies after the close of the poll the fitting opportunity did not arrive for the old gentleman to display his vocal powers. The polling hours were from noon till eight p.m., and all the candidates (excepting the clergyman) worked steadfastly and perseveringly in bringing the voters up to the scratch. It is worthy of note that there is a preponderance of female voters in these townships. The large School-room was densely packed, and amidst great tumult and excitement and deafening cheers, the Returning Officer announced the result about nine o'clock, as follows:—

	Votes
aT. J. Muse, merchant	164
W. Pattinson, steelworker	113
aMatthew Lee, butcher	110
aElliott Leybourne, gentleman	90
aRobt. Walton, lead-mine owner	76
Samuel Ellison, steelworker	76
Rev C. J. Walker, vicar	63

Those marked (a) were the members of the old Board. Mr Ritson declared the first four to be elected, and on Wednesday, a ballot was conducted for the fifth seat, when the lot fell upon Mr Walton; but it is generally understood that, under the circumstances, he declines to stand as elected.

Mr Muse, addressing those gathered in the large school room, said he was much obliged to them for again electing him, the ratepayers having returned him for the third time in succession at the head of the poll. It looked as if he had done his duty in the past, and they were perfectly satisfied with his course of action. (Applause.) He was first elected in 1876, and for 12 years he had endeavoured to serve them to the best of his ability. They had got the major portion of his life, but still he had some energy left in him. (Laughter.) He dearly loved the children, and he could assure them that he had the interests of the township at heart. (Cheers.)

Mr Pattinson, in acknowledging the compliment paid to him for the high position in which he was placed, declared that at the next election he would head the poll. (Cheers and laughter.) The last occasion he sought their suffrages, he was defeated, but now he felt justified in saying that if he only "kept his pecker up"—(laughter)—and was only blessed with health and strength, he would head the poll at the ensuing contest. (Deafening cheers and derisive laughter.) Gentlemen and ladies—It must be a high tribute they had paid to him, and he felt convinced the ladies had cordially supported him in that great struggle; and with the fair sex on his side, he was bound to succeed. (Laughter and applause.) It had always been the sole ambition of his life to bring about a better state of things in the village, and to strive and elevate his fellow-men to a higher and purer sphere. (Applause.) He took it for granted, gentlemen and ladies, that they had great confidence in his ability, and now they had called upon him to put his shoulder to the wheel, he would look after the interests and welfare of the village. Although only a junior, so to speak, he was determined to replace the Chairman at the next election, and to figure at the head of the poll. (Much laughter and cheering.) He freely gave his services to them, and would do his duty to the best of his ability. His interests would be for the good of the children; what benefited themselves as working men also benefited him as a working man. (Applause.) This was an age of the democracy, when men of wealth and position were no longer to rule and dominate, and have the sway over their townspeople and villagers. (Cheers.) He took it for granted that education was doing something for the people of Castleside—in fact, that they were going to think and act independently for themselves, and they had placed implicit confidence in him in putting him second on the list of candidates. (Renewed cheers.) There was one gentleman who had helped them in this struggle, and they were much indebted to their worthy chairman for bringing that person to the polling booth that day. (Applause.) Such expressions of support towards him (the speaker) would encourage him to undertake further work on behalf of his neighbours. (Applause.) He had stood by them in the late political campaign, and was one of the few who had been called upon to "beard the lion in his hen." (Cheers and derisive laughter.) He was likewise a staunch and ardent advocate of the temperance cause, being a strict teetotaller himself. He again thanked them heartily for the noble support they had accorded him, and fervently hoped that, in the time to come, he would be able to supersede his friend, the chairman. (Cheers and counter-cheers.)

Mr Lee, returning thanks, humorously remarked that he ought to have headed the poll, inasmuch as one of his supporters gave him 123 votes—(laughter)—and these figures, added to the votes he had received, would place him in the highest position on the poll. (Voice: "A big majority.") He could not make an elaborate speech like his friend Pattinson. (Laughter.) The contest had been conducted in a friendly and brotherly spirit. The ratepayers having approved of the action of the Board for the last 12 years, had spurred him on to continue in the same path for the next three years. He hoped the school would succeed in the future as it had done in the past, and that its general proficiency hitherto attained would be maintained. (Applause.) No one would gainsay the fact but that things had gone on very smoothly and pleasantly. (Voice: "Yes, some things that we don't hear tell about.") He would try to do his best for them in the future. (Cheers.)

Mr Leybourne followed, and expressed his obligations to the ratepayers for again returning him, and he presumed that would be the last contest he would ask for their suffrages. He was neither at the head nor at the bottom of the poll. Nevertheless he would always aim at doing his duty towards the inhabitants of Castleside. (Applause.)

Mr Ellison likewise tendered his thanks to those who had supported him. He expressed a hope that the Board would work considerably better in the future then it had done in the course of the past three years. (Applause.) For two years or more there had been a diversity of opinion amongst the inhabitants as to the policy pursued by the expiring Board. He could not understand why the ratepayers should express their opinions so strongly against the conduct of the members, and give vent to feelings of dissatisfaction, and then, when the opportunity arrived for remedying this state of affairs, they should elect the self-same men. (Cries of "Hear, hear," "No, no," &c.) If they were satisfied with the late Board, why were they constantly finding fault with the members outside? (Cheers.) If they had any complaint against the action of the Board, why not appeal direct to the fountain head. (Cheers.) Such bickering and back-biting he detested as much as he did the devil. (Laughter.) If they had any just grounds for grumbling—and he supposed that they had—why did they not give full expression to their dissatisfaction at the poll, or for ever afterwards hold their tongues? (Cheers and laughter.) Such "flim-flash" was pure fiction. He expected that they admit a reporter to the Board meetings in future. (Loud cheers.) A great deal had been said by the ratepayers—both men and women—at the exclusion of the press representative from the Board meetings, but why had not they protested against such a high-handed proceeding on the part of the Board at the ballot box? (Cheers and counter cheers.) He wished success to the School Board, trusting that they would have regular reports of their proceedings, and finally hoped the members would work harmoniously together during the forthcoming three years. (Cheers.)

Rev Mr Walker (who was suffering from a very bad cold) was the last gentleman to accord his thanks to the ratepayers, and he explained his reasons for coming forward. When the subject was first mentioned some weeks ago, he declined to entertain it. Since then, however, he had been personally induced to offer himself as a candidate on two grounds—first, because he was a most suitable person to look after the education of children; and, secondly, because there was a very general desire throughout the whole district that there should be a change in the composition of the Board. (Applause.) The only way to test such a feeling was by coming forward. They had elected some members of the old Board and substituted one or two new men. The electors had acted according to their own consciences, and best knew the persons capable of watching their interests. (Applause.) In conclusion he proposed a vote of thanks to the Returning Officer and his assistants, for the admirable manner in which they had discharged their duties. (Applause.)

This was seconded by Mr Muse, and carried by acclamation.

Mr Ritson briefly replied, and the noisy and enthusiastic proceedings closed about 10 o'clock at night.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[By "Stanhope."]

The marriage epidemic, prevalent at Stanhope, has spread to Tow Law, and several have fallen victims to it during the past week.

A party of seven emigrants left Wolsingham on Tuesday for California and the Western States of America.

Mr and Mrs Wrestall, evangelists, who have conducted a three weeks' mission in the Wesleyan Chapel, Westgate, have removed to Hartlepool for mission work.

The Secretary (Mr J. Watson) has just issued a balance-sheet on behalf of the Weardale Agricultural Society, showing that there is a balance of upwards of £54 from 1887.

The Stanhope Castle furniture belonging to Mr Henry Fell Pease, M.P., was sold last week, an event which points to a regretted disconnection with Stanhope Castle, which has so long been associated with the Pease family. Weardale, however, is yet dear to that family, being represented by Sir Joseph, and the younger branches are taking great interest in the dale.

Frosterley and Wolsingham Stations on Tuesday morning presented an animated scene, as the nine o'clock train went down the valley. Parties of emigrants for America were leaving, and a host of friends and acquaintances were seeing them off, and bidding them adieu. There were affecting scenes. The social element is strong in Weardale, and the sturdy dalespeople feel a lively interest in each other's welfare, which is generally evinced at such a time.

Stanhope is the very hot-bed of Radicalism, and Tory lecturers seldom get a good hearing, unless they are pretty rationable. A Stanhope political audience in a general way is very discriminating, and a lecturer on either side, who is fairly moderate in his denunciations of the opposite party, is generally accorded a good hearing. The two gentlemen who last Friday evening lectured in the Conservative interest were well received, and were in no way obstructed, or heckled; and had they not invited discussion would have had a successful meeting. One of the speakers tried to show up how the Tory party helped to pass Mr Gladstone's Franchise Bill through the House of Commons. At the close, Mr Wm. Vickers, of Howl John, said he was in the House of Commons at the very time it was being discussed, and Sir Stafford Northcote and the Conservative party opposed it tooth and nail, and did their level best to prevent it becoming law. After this there was a smart passage of arms between the two Conservatives and the Stanhope Radical, out of which he came very creditably. Mr Vickers is an able exponent of Liberal principles, a champion of the people's rights, and can always indicate the cause of liberty and progress whenever opportunity for so doing presents itself.

The Stanhope Wesleyans have every reason to be justly proud of their recent effort. They are, with one or two exceptions, principally composed of the working class, and have few of the upper ten or wealthy classes to support them. The church party with all their big guns and long pursed upper ten thought they had done a splendid thing in raising £27 in one week's-end effort. But the Wesleyan party, at one week-end, raised over five times that amount—the handsome sum of £148 odd. They worked hard and successfully, and as a whole deserve the highest praise. Much of the success of the undertaking was due to the indefatigable exertions of Mr T. C. Brown and the kindness of the Stanhope House family, who placed at the disposal of the Committee all their handsome pictures, sufficient in themselves to constitute an Art Gallery of no small dimensions. Mr Walton gave a handsome donation, and Mrs Walton herself opened out the excellent Exhibition and Japanese Fair, while Miss Proud lent invaluable assistance in many ways. Mr Walton's generosity is proverbial in Stanhope. It is like the old doctor's. Many of the institutions of the place owe much of their success to the generosity and liberal, heartedness of these two gentlemen. The church party in Stanhope have in the genial old doctor a good stoop, and so have the dissenting bodies in Mr Walton. The splendid organ which now graces the Primitive Methodist Chapel would never have been there had it not been for Mr Walton, who repeatedly gave them handsome donations, and incited them to efforts to secure it. The Nonconformist party in Stanhope should be justly proud of their connection with the respectable family at Stanhope House, who are ever ready and ever willing to assist them in all their undertakings. Taking into consideration the hard times and the very unpropitious weather which prevailed during their Easter effort, the Wesleyans did remarkably well.

The financial results of the Stanhope Wesleyan Japanese fair and exhibition are as follows:—Sewing meetings, £36 17s 2d; catalogues, £3 14s 7½d; tea and supper, £4 16s 8d; bridescake stall, 19s; No. 1 stall, £17 11s 5d, presided over by Mrs R. Walton, Stanhope House, Mrs G. Waller, Mrs Teasdale, and Miss Proud; No. 2 stall, £13 13s 3d, presided over by Mrs Glover, Mrs C. Turnbull, Mrs Henderson, and Miss McKenzie; No. 3 stall, £14 10s 11½d, presided over by Mrs J. Ward, Mrs R. Ward, Miss Waller, and Miss Ridley; No. 4 stall, £6 17s, presided over by Misses Vickers, Vasey, Earl, Dalton, and Currey. Donations:—Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., £2; Mr R. Walton, £2 2s; Mr H. Stephenson, 10s; ticket money, £39 10s 4½d; total, £148 2s 5½d.

The Stanhope people have every reason to be proud of their new rector: eloquent, earnest, intellectual, and thoroughly evangelical. The Church party in Stanhope, with so excellent a pastor, will now look up. The congregations will improve, and the singing will become a special feature in the services, and the old Mother Church at Stanhope will see better days. Canon Pulleine will prove himself a worthy successor to the long roll of eminent and learned men who have been at Stanhope Rectory—Butler, Philpots, Harding, Darnell, Canon Clayton, and Bishop Ryan.

Two things are lacking in Stanhope Church to complete its efficiency—a peal of bells and a competent organist. There is abundant material for making a splendid choir. Already they have an able leader in the person of Mr T. Green, of the Castle Lodge. It would amply repay them to hire a thoroughly efficient organist. Now is a very fitting time, with the advent of a new rector, to launch out of the old rut.

If the Stanhope Evangelistic Mission could secure the services of Miss Carley and Miss Sloan for a year or so, they might recruit instead of dying the lingering death which at present they seem doing under the supervision of Miss Earl, who for some time past has been conspicuous by her absence. Evidently she is done in Stanhope, and the sooner she tosses up the sponge the better—at least for the mission.

I was in Wolsingham Churchyard on Tuesday, and was grieved to see about half-a-dozen idle lads jumping over the graves and doing all sorts of mischief peculiar to idle youths in the part of the churchyard now open to the public. I noticed a metalic flower, broken to pieces by them lying on a grave, and they were disarranging the boquets and crosses which were lying on the old doctor's newly-formed grave. If churchyards have to be open to the public, lads under 12 should be strictly prohibited, unless with some elderly person.

There were lying on Dr Devey's grave on Tuesday, in Wolsingham Churchyard, the beautiful wreaths and five exquisitely made crosses of the choicest flowers, showing the esteem and deep respect entertained for the genial old doctor in Wolsingham. His funeral was one of the largest seen in Wolsingham for some time past.

Great interest was manifested in the Weardale farm rating case from Aller Gill Farm, Stanhope, which was brought before the Wolsingham magistrates on Tuesday. A number of farmers from various parts of the valley were there. It was thought that the Messrs Waltons would lose their case, but it is the unexpected that often happens. They came off with flying colours, having defeated the Assessment Committee of the Weardale Union. Mr Thompson made an excellent defence—in fact, I have seldom ever heard him as well. He even exceeded himself, but the Bench could not see eye to eye with him. Mr Hay stood the severe cross-examination remarkably, without being in the slightest put out or flurried. He is a typical Englishman—cool, collected, and firm. His conclusions are based upon strict investigation and accuracy, and thus he can stand unruffled the crucial test of cross-examination by even so clever a solicitor as Mr Teale. Mr Thompson, the assistant-overseer of the Weardale Union, also stood the test remarkably well. Cool as a cucumber, he answered this cross-examiner short and sweet, and the curt, pithy way in which he answered his opponent's last interrogations elicited a slight applause in Court. "How long have you been assistant-overseer?" "Five months, sir," was the laconic reply. Had he been an older hand, Mr Teale was going for him evidently. Mr Teale is a most successful solicitor, and seldom loses his cases. He is an able successor to the late Mr Maw.

THE LANCHESTER AND CONSETT REGISTRATION OFFICES.

At yesterday's (Thursday) meeting of the Lanchester Guardians, correspondence was read from the Registrar-General sanctioning the appointment of Mr W. Ramsay as registrar of births and deaths for the Consett sub-district, conditionally that he resided in Consett; and also confirming the selection of Mr Geo. Buckham for the Lanchester sub-district.—The Board resolved to appeal to the Registrar-General and ask him to re-consider his determination, and allow Mr Ramsey to live at Blackhill, which was more centrally situated. An extended report of the Guardians' meeting will appear next week.

Messrs Ramsay and Buckham have this week commenced their new duties. We may state that Mr Ramsay is authorised to receive notices of marriages to take place at the Register Office, but all parties to be wedded must proceed to Lanchester and be tied by the "Bishop-Suffragan" there.

The annual missionary meeting was held in the Free Methodist Chapel, Kilnpit Hill. Mr J. Dickinson, Shotley Field, presided, and addresses were given by Rev F. Raine and the chairman. On Sunday, sermons were preached in the afternoon and evening by Rev F. Raine. Messrs Pearson and Oliver presided at the harmonium.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

Blackhill.—30th ult., the wife of G. R. Deeley, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Waterhouses.—At St Paul's Church, 28th ult., by Rev C. H. Barton, Thomas Taylor to Dorothy Jefferson.

Stanhope.—Primitive Methodist Chapel, 25th ult., by Rev E. Philipson, John George Wales, master builder, Stanhope, to Elizabeth Harrison, daughter of John Harrison, Crawleyside.

West Pelton.—St Paul's Church, 1st inst., by Rev J. Mathwin, James Robinson, eldest son of W. Howden, farmer, Pockerley, to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Charles Adamson, butcher, Beamish.

Crook.—Primitive Methodist Chapel, on the 23rd ult., Henry Whitfield, Hunwick, to Ellen Anderson, Sunniside.

DEATHS

Consett.—9, Puddler's Row, 2nd inst., aged 62, James Patterson.

Blackhill.—No. 3, Thomas Street, on the 1st inst., aged 62, Robert, the beloved husband of Mary Forster. To be interred on Saturday, 5th inst., at Benfieldside Cemetery, at Three o'clock. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

Cutlers Hall Road, on the 28th ult., aged 50 years, William, eldest son of the late Jon. Richley, of Corbridge.

27, Cort Street, 29th ult., aged 64, George, husband of Margaret Dibley.

29, Roger Street, 30th ult., aged 57 years, Walter Fiddes.

Shotley Grove.—On the 27th inst., Isabella, dearly beloved and only daughter of William and Ann Campbell, aged 21 years.

Medomsley Edge.—3rd inst., aged 81 years, James Emery.

Annfield Plain.—25th ult., aged 25, Thos. son of the late Richard Hodgson.

Hare Law.—2nd inst., aged 24, Isabella, second daughter of Thomas and Mary Wenington.

Hamsterley Colliery.—1st inst., Mary Allan, late of Barlow.

Rowlands Gill.—Lillie Drift, aged 47, Elizabeth, wife of Burdess Gray.

Blanchland.—On the 1st inst., aged 49, Matthew Temperley.

West Pelton.—1st inst., aged 72, Jane, wife of T. Carr.

Chester-le-Street.—30th ult., aged 71, Joseph Harland.

John Street, 26th ult., aged 66, Joanna, widow of John Fenwick.

25th ult., aged 72, Mary, wife of J. Wright.

Stanhope.—26th ult., Michael Brown, retired merchant tailor.

Tow Law.—Prospect House, 28th ult., aged 66, Mary Palphramand.

Wolsingham.—On the 29th ult., aged 72, Dorothy Jackson.

Prudhoe.—30th ult., aged 13, Eleanor Jane, only daughter of Benjamin Wilson.

Ryton.—Railway Cottages, 3rd inst., John Smith, builder.

Durham.—Marvin Street, 29th ult., James R., son of James Hazelgreaves.

County Hospital, 28th ult., aged 53, John Thos. Garbet.

Swalwell.—30th ult., aged 32 years, James Robinson Bagnall, eldest son of the late R. S. Bagnall, of Winlaton.

Manchester.—52, Rial Street, 14th ult., aged 28, Mary Ann Smailes, wife of Mr Robt. Smailes, grocer, late of Dipton, third daughter of W. R. Teasdale, saddler and ironmonger, Tow Law.

MOURNING GOODS.—HUGH MORTON and CO., 55, Grainger Street, Newcastle, directs attention to their Immense Stock for Men, Youths' and Boys, ready for immediate wear, in all the Newest Materials and Latest Styles. Men's Black Worsted Suits, from 21s. to 49s. 6d.; Youths' Suits from 16s. 11d.; Boys' Suits, from 6s. 11d. Single Garments at proportionate prices. Suits made to order in a few hours. 94w

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