OUR EYES AND OUR EARS.
DEAFNESS CURED. SIGHT RESTORED.
A NEW TREATMENT,

Without Operation, for Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears cured; Deafness from Influenza cured. Hundreds of letters in testimony of success. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer. Mr T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds. At Leeds every Tuesday and Alternate Saturdays, May 6th and 20th. Hours, 10 to 7.—Other days by appointment. Artificial Eyes, Spectacles, etc.

NOTICE. — Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends same hotels as for last eleven years. Sutties' New Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Wednesday, May 17th; Hours, 12 to 4·30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, May 31st; Hours, 10·30 to 4·30. Imperial Hotel, Hull, Friday, May 19th; Hours, 11 to 4·30.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER, AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

BRAIN FOOD.

HARBURN'S PHOSPHORISED TONIC
RENEWS BRAIN, NERVE AND BLOOD.

In Bottles 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, and 4s 6d.
From all Chemists or free by Post from,
A. HARBURN, M.P.S.,
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST,
BISHOP AUCKLAND & DARLINGTON.

No. 2020
{REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.}
FRIDAY, May 7th, 1899.
PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MORTGAGES from £100 to £50,000 can be obtained at a reasonable rate of interest. —For particulars apply J. G. Gardner & Co., Accountants, 48, Park Road, Consett.

MR. A. WOLFE, 29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND,
IS PREPARED TO ADVANCE FROM
£10 to £2,000
ON PROMISSORY NOTE TO ALL PROFESSIONS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS.
STRICTEST PRIVACY GUARANTEED.
LOW INTEREST. REPAYMENTS TO SUIT BORROWERS' CONVENIENCE; OR CAPITAL CAN REMAIN SO LONG AS THE INTEREST IS PAID.
NO FEES. DISTANCE NO OBJECT.
MORTGAGES ARRANGED. REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES PURCHASED.
Telegrams—'Safe' Sunderland. Nat. Telephone 565.

Contracts.

SOUTH BIRTLEY BRICK AND TILE WORKS, BIRTLEY.
ESTABLISHED, 1852.

J. E. SWINBURNE AND SONS, Manufacturers of best Machine made Common Bricks, Red Facing Bricks, Wall Coping, Pantiles, Drain Pipes of various sizes, Crushed Bricks for Concrete and also for Carriage Drives, and everything in the trade.

Tenders given for Goods delivered to any Railway Station. 261d

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS required for the ERECTION of Five Houses, South View, Tantobie, for Messrs. W. and R. Bulmer.

Plans, Specifications, and Particulars to be seen on and after May 4th.

T. ERNEST CROSSLING, F.I.A.S.,
67e Architect, Stanley, R.S.O.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

THE LEADGATE INDUSTRIAL and PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED, invite TENDERS for the ERECTION of a Strong ROOM, COMMITTEE ROOM, and OFFICE.

Plans and Specifications to be seen at the Society's Premises, Front Street, Leadgate.

Tenders received on or before May 19th, marked, "Tender for Building," and addressed to the Committee.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender. 88e

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE BENFIELDSIDE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL invite TENDERS for LEADING MATERIALS required by the Council, and also price per day for Team Work.

Specification to be seen, and all information to be obtained by applying to the Surveyor, who will receive Tenders, sealed and endorsed "Team Work," from the 4th May to the 16th day of May, 1899.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order of the Council,
140e JOHN DIXON, Surveyor.

Lost and Found.

FOUND, a Roan Geld COW.—Owner can have the same by applying at Mrs. Thompson's, Allansford, and paying expenses.

Wanted.

WANTED, a DAY GIRL.—Apply to Mrs. Phillipson, Wesley Terrace, Dipton.

WANTED, a MAID.—Apply, Mrs Dowson, 3, Derwent Street, Blackhill. 101e

GROCERY. — YOUTH WANTED, 17 or 18, to make himself useful and go with cart. —Almond, Consett. 124e

WANTED, a Strong YOUTH, to drive a horse and cart. — Apply, Guardian Office, Consett. 128e

WANTED, a Young Lady as MILLINER and SALESWOMAN.—Apply, Box E., Guardian Office, Consett. 138e

GROCERY.—WANTED, MAN for Cart and Warehouse.—Apply, Walter Willson, Consett. 134e

LODGINGS. WANTED at once for a Young Man (business employment.) — Apply (letter only) Box L, Guardian Office. 108e

WANTED, a BOY, to live in; Farm House; must be able to milk.—Apply to Mr. Haansbergen, Woodlands. 75e

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED, respectable middle-aged person; good references.—Address, Lubbock, 16, Thomas St., Blackhill.

APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking WANTED at once.—Mrs. Phipps, 37, Constance Street, Consett. 93e

WANTED, Strong, Useful Girl as GENERAL, must be able to milk.—Apply, Mrs. Harrison Thompson, Consett Road, Castleside. 77e

WANTED, an ORGANIST to play organ for the Wesleyan Church, Stanley.—Applications to be made to the Chapel Steward.

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at Mr Cockburn's, Stationer, &c., 13, Front St., Consett

AGENTS Wanted.—Highest commission, and no risk; experience unnecessary; specimens free.—Address, Newcastle Rubber Stamp Company, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle.

WANTED, PUPILS for Painting, Freehand Drawing, and Shading. Painting 1s per lesson, or 10s 6d quarter.—Apply, Miss M. A. Henderson, 22, Park Road, Consett.

WANTED, Steady Young MAN, with good Character to Groom, go with Cart, and be generally useful.—Apply, Mr. G. Hobson, Harperley Mill. 117e

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J. Oston, Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY to repair at reasonable prices. All repairs warranted for one year.—H. Wood, 30, Newmarket Street, Consett.

WANTED, all Classes of People, to see the Windows of CHAS. ARMSTRONG, the great Boot Provider, and Leather Cutter, Front Street, Stanley. Repairs done while you wait. Hand Sewn Work our speciality.

WANTED, the Public of Consett and District to know the BOMBAY TEA CO. are now supplying their numerous Customers with SPLENDID TEA and PRESENTS at 9, HARVEY STREET, CONSETT. Come and see the Presents, and give us a try. 96d

WANTED, the Public to know that HENRY HANSOM has NOW OPENED, the Shop lately occupied by Mrs Aynsley, Butcher, with a choice selection of Dairy Fed Pork, Dainties of every description, and hopes by strict attention to Business to merit a share of Public Patronage. — Note the address, No. 14, Shakespeare Street, Consett. 235d

WANTED, the Members of the Royal Liver Friendly Society to notice, that owing to the large increase in Business, the District Office has been removed to Larger and more Central Premises. Note the address, 20, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.—John Thos. Ashton, District Superintendent; Joseph Collinson, Frederick Mackie, Assistant Superintendents. Accumulated Funds, £2,000,000. Claims paid, over £5,000,000.

CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

WANTED, a STRONG GIRL, as Assistant in the Furnishing and Hardware Department.—Applicants to meet the Committee on Monday night, May 8th, at Seven o'clock. — By order, the Committee, Edw. Hurnley, Secretary. 98e

WANTED, by the West Stanley Co-operative Society, Ltd., a Sharp, Active Young Woman, as CASHIER and ASSISTANT in Refreshment Department, not to be under 16 years of age, wage to commence 7s per week.—To apply to the Committee on Monday evening, May 8th, 1899, at 7·15 o'clock, confined to members' families.—Thos. W. W. Ritson, Secretary. 90e

WANTED, for the Langley Park Branch of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, a YOUNG MAN to assist in the Warehouse and to make himself generally useful, must not be under 17 years of age, wage 18s per week, confined to members; also, an APPRENTICE to the Drapery at Dipton Branch, not under 14 nor over 16 years of age, confined to members of Dipton Branch.—Applications to be made to the Committee on Monday night first, at Seven o'clock. 102e

To Let.

MEDOMSLEY MARQUEE COMPANY.

TENTS TO LET, all sizes, also REFRESHMENT TABLES and BAR FITTINGS on reasonable terms. Carting done as required. Further particulars may be had on application. —R. Charlton, Secretary, Medomsley, R.S.O.

To Let.

TO LET, a STABLE to hold Pony and Trap. —Apply, 2, Medomsley Road, Consett.

TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP, Front Street, Shotley Bridge; immediate possession.—Apply, Leslie, Painter, Shotley Bridge.

TO LET, WAREHOUSES or WORKSHOPS in close proximity to Consett New Station. —Apply, N. Elsdon, Consett. 719d

APARTMENTS TO LET, for Young Gentleman, in very respectable locality, Consett.—Apply, Guardian Office. 95e

TO LET, LOCK-UP SHOP, 24, Victoria Street, Consett, used as Butter Shop.—Apply, W. Brand, Fishmonger. 76e

HOUSE TO LET at Allendale Farm.—Apply, J. Hunter, Grange, Medomsley. Worker out preferred. 91e

TO LET, the HOUSE No. 6, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill, containing Five Rooms. — Apply at Derwent View, St. Cuthbert's Terrace; or No. 1, Walton's Street, Blackhill. 27e

TYNEMOUTH. — FURNISHED APARTMENTS TO LET, large Sitting-room and one or two Bedrooms, with use of Bathroom. —Apply, Mrs. Jackson, 3, Birtley Avenue (late Sherburn Terrace, Consett). 13e

TO LET, to be entered on 13th May first, a FARM at East Butsfield, Parish of Lanchester, County of Durham, containing 136 acres or thereabouts, with Farm House and all the Out Buildings, 20 acres of Tillage Land, the rest in Meadow and Pasture Land, the Thrashing Machine is on the Premises.—Apply to John Suddes, East Butsfield, Satley. 31e

TENTS TO LET on Reasonable Terms, Size or Quantity no object. Tables and Bar Fittings kept on hand. All orders punctually attended to and carried out. Carting done if required by G. Hunter, Medomsley.

ANNFIELD PLAIN and DISTRICT MARQUEE COMPANY are prepared TO LET TENTS reasonable; 120 feet by 30, 100 feet by 30, and 80 feet by 30; tables free; refreshment tent 40 feet by 18.—For terms apply to Geo. Bullerwell, East Kyo, Annfield Plain.

TO LET, all that SHOP and DWELLING-HOUSE, at Elsdon Terrace, containing, Shop, Kitchen, 2 large Sitting-rooms, and 4 Bedrooms. Suitable for a Temperance Hotel; a good business can be done. —Apply, N. Elsdon, Consett. 718d

For Sale

FOR SALE, a LITTER of PIGS, 8 weeks old.—Apply, J. Hall, Castleside. 119e

FOR SALE, a Boot and Shoe REPAIRING BUSINESS.—Apply, Guardian Office, Consett. 125e

FOR SALE, a LITTER of PIGS, 8 weeks old; also, about 20 Tons of good HAY.—W. Proud, Woodbine House, Castleside.

ANCONA EGGS, 3s 6d per doz., from Bourlays Hens and Chances Cock, grand strain, well mottled. — Fenwick Maddison, Friarside, Lintz Green. 74e

BUFF Orpington and Plymouth Rock EGGS, Donkin's strain, 2s 6d per doz., unfertiles replaced.—Graham, Stanley Hall Farm, Stanley, Co. Durham. 89e

EGGS! EGGS! Pure Bred White Leghorn, best winter layers; splendid grass run; Guaranteed fertile; 2s 6d per dozen.—A. Richardson, Station Master, Rowley, Consett.

EGGS, EGGS, from grand, laced Golden Wyandottes, at 3s 6d per sitting, and Anconas Bourlays, champion strain, excellent layers, cannot be beaten, 3s 9d per sitting.—W. Armstrong, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain.

FOR SALE, a large Stock of UNREDEEMED PLEDGES, Selling off at HALF PRICE.—Repton, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 703a

IMPORTANT TO BUILDERS and others.—Preliminary announcement. Will shortly be SOLD, some Valuable BUILDING SITES, known as Bloom's Ground, near the Railway Station, Consett. 473d

SHOTLEY BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

FOR SALE, or TO LET, Four-roomed HOUSE, St. Cuthbert's Avenue, Benfieldside.—For particulars, apply to Manager or Secretary. 61e

FOR SALE or TO LET, 14, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill, a compact HOUSE in splendid condition, containing Seven Rooms, Scullery, large Bathroom, W.C. and Lavatory, with a good Garden well-stocked with Fruit Trees.—For particulars apply to Mrs Purvis.

FOR SALE, in the principal thoroughfare of Consett, Two SHOPS and One HOUSE, 13 and 14, Newmarket Street, Consett, frontage 30 feet; also, two well built HOUSES No. 3 and 4, Dobson Street, Blackhill.—Apply to Robert Hand, 13, Newmarket St. Consett.

BUSINESS FOR SALE, in the very best position in Derwent Street, Blackhill. Confectionery, Tobacco, and General Goods, with Stock and Fixtures. House attached. Established 16 years, owner retiring. — For reference apply Guardian Office, Consett. 25e

ADVANCES free of interest for the purchase of house property granted by ballot by old established Company with funds exceeding One Million; thirty ballots will be held during present quarter. The Company also makes liberal advances at interest.—For particulars write A.M., Guardian Office, Consett. 22e

SHOTLEY BRIDGE. — FOR SALE, all that desirable Copyhold PROPERTY, situate in Front Street, Shotley Bridge, and now in the occupation of the Co-operative Store (Butchering Department), and Mr. Wills, Tailor. — Apply, J. R. Siddle, Prudential Buildings, Mosley Street, Newcastle. 136e

FOR SALE, One Pony Gig, Two Whitechapels to suit 14 hands, and two full size Whitechapels; all second-hand and in first rate condition; also, New Harness and Conveyances of every description.—Cowen's, Carriage and Rolley Works, Taylor Street, Consett. 765d

GALVANISED WIRE NETTING, 50 yds., 3in. Mesh., 18 in. wide, 3s; 24 in., 4s 3d; 30 in., 5s; 36 in., 6s. 2 in. Mesh., 12 in. wide, 2s 6d; 18 in., 3s 9d; 24 in., 5s; 30 in., 6s 3d; 36 in., 7s 6d. ROOFING FELT, 3s 9d and 5s 6d per Roll of 25 yds.—F. Welch and Co., Annfield Plain and Stanley. 966d

EGGS from the following pens at 3s 6d per doz.—White Leghorns, Golden Wyandottes, Silver Spangles. All the above are well bred and handsome fowls with excellent laying qualities. Each pen contains prize winners. Unfertile eggs replaced. Inspection invited.—T. Shimby, Quaking Houses, South Moor. 987d

FOR SALE, by Private Treaty, a Valuable Block of BUSINESS PREMISES situated in one of the best positions in Derwent Street and Durham Road, Blackhill, with a frontage of about 200 feet, and consisting of Four Shops and Houses with Cellars and all necessary conveniences; also, a Large Shop or Warehouse at back of premises, can be sold in one Block or so to suit purchasers.—For particulars apply to S. Gradon, Builder, on the premises.

A WELL-KNOWN FACT—TURNER, Cycle Agent, Consett, has the best Agencies for CYCLES. The "Eldon," "Alberta," "Hobart," "Referee," "Palmer," "Humber," "Yankie Hammer," and "National Umpire Patent Spring Frame. Prices to suit all, from £7 7s. to £22 1s. Call and inspect before going elsewhere. 50 per cent. cheaper than other agents. Easy payment system. A good assortment of Accessories. — W. E. TURNER, Cycle Agent, Front Street, Consett. 845d

CYCLES! CYCLES! — Single Machines at wholesale prices. The very best Machine for £10 10s. is CLEMINSON'S Rosebery. You cannot have better than the best. He also supplies in his district the celebrated Rudge-Whitworth for £30 10s; also the Humber for £16 10s., and is sole agent for Swifts. Agents wanted in every town and village. Write for lists. About 150 Second-hand Machines, prices from 20s.—Cleminson, Bishop Auckland and Darlington. 499d

FOR SALE, Two HOUSES, in Belle Vue Terrace, Price £200 each. Four HOUSES in Seymour Street, Price £230 each. One Excellent Building Site (the only one to be had) in Middle Street, the central Business Place of Consett, price 51s per yard—For further particulars of purchase, apply N. Elsdon, Auctioneer and Estate Agent, Consett. 686b

BASIC SLAG.
Largest Productions.

THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER for Root Crops, Grain, and Grass; to produce best Feeding Quality and steady Natural growth. Wholesale Agents—Langdale Brothers, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 713d

TO INNKEEPERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, &c.—SPIRIT STOCK RECEIPT and DELIVERY BOOKS, with portions of the Act of Parliament affecting the same. Price 1/-, or 1/1 (post free), from Robert Jackson, Printer, Bookseller, and Wholesale Stationer, "Guardian" Office, Consett.

Business Announcements.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, SPRING, 1899.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
DRAPERS, AND SILK MERCERS,

HAVE pleasure in announcing the arrival of NEW GOODS in all Departments for the coming Spring Season, including the most Fashionable Materials in latest colours of Dress Materials and Costume Cloths, from British and Foreign Manufacturers; Plain and Fancy Silks for Dresses and Trimmings; New Season's Designs in Sateens, Prints, and other Washing Materials for indoor wear; Newest Patterns in Oxford and Grandrill Shirtings, Flannelettes, Wool Shirtings, Cretonnes and Chintzs. Well-assorted Stocks of Fancy Goods, Corsets, Umbrellas, Gloves and Hosiery.

INSPECTION CORDIALLY INVITED.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON, Dressmakers, Milliners, and Tailors. 391d

JACKSON'S ARTISTIC SERIES OF BEAUTIFUL NEW VIEWS
OF CONSETT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.
PRICE: ONE SHILLING (BY POST, 1s. 1½d.).
AN ELEGANT PRESENT!!
CONTAINING THE LATEST VIEWS OF

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.
WESLEYAN CHURCH, CONSETT.
CONSETT IRON CO.'s OFFICES.
CONSETT IRON WORKS (Angle Mills.
BLACKHILL (looking from the Park.)
ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
HOWEN'S GILL BRIDGE, (Consett.)
ALLANSFORD (Gill Bridge in distance.)

GIBSIDE HALL.
BLANCHLAND.
BURNOPFIELD & BYERMOOR.
TANFIELD CHURCH.
SNOWS GREEN, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
THE LODGE, SPA GROUNDS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
THE SPA WELL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

To be had at the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

THE CATCHGATE POSTING ESTABLISHMENT
CATCHGATE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR

HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.
MOURNING COACHES. CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS.
BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES.
SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23f
FURNITURE REMOVED. ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

FOR QUALITY AND REASONABLE PRICES GO TO
M. FAWELL
FOR TEAS, COFFEE, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, &c.,
LARD, 4d. to 5½d. FRUIT LOAVES, 5d. to 8d. per lb. TOMATOES, 5d.
Our DRAPERY DEPARTMENT, which is well stocked and carefully selected, includes SILK HANDKERCHIEFS and MUFFLERS, FANCY APRONS and PINAFORES, SHAWLS, GLOVES, TIES, FRONTS, &c, suitable for the Season.

ADDRESS:—
40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND 1, DELVES LANE, NEAR THE STATION.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.

F. WELCH & CO.,
IRONMONGERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY,

HAVE great pleasure in informing their Friends and Public generally that, after Re-building and Re-modelling their Business Establishment, have re-opened same with a New and Varied Stock. We have also added a

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT,
with Novelties in Bedsteads, Chairs, Mats, Rugs, Carpets, &c.

F. WELCH & Co., ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY. 606c

ANTHONY HALL'S
PRICE OF
BEST FLOUR
ONLY 1s. 2d. PER STONE.

FOR FLOUR, CHEESE, BACON, BUTTER, AND GROCERIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
OF BEST QUALITY AND AT LOWEST PRICES,
GO TO
FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

☞ Their Drapery, Millinery, and Clothing Stocks are second to none in the District. 976c

THE PROVISION SHOP,

MILD BREAKFAST SIDE BACON is an article that we have been noted for, for 29 years. It is most appetising.

CANADIAN PEA FED SMOKED is in good demand in Consett. We confidently recommend this Smoked Bacon; it is well fed, and of delicious flavour. Best Cuts or Sliced 8d.

EXTRA SPECIAL PRIZE DAIRY BUTTER. We receive the same Danish Dairy each week and it gives satisfaction to everyone who uses it. It is very choice and goes much further than Cheaper Butter.

DANISH BUTTER MIXTURE at 10d is a surprise to most people. It is equal in flavour to Danish Butter, and useful for all purposes.

New Laid Irish Eggs 16. Duck Eggs 12. Shoulders 4d. Rolls 4½d. Sausage 7d. Cooked Rolls 8d.
Be sure to give us a call on Saturday.

SWAINSTON BROTHERS, 12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

£4 000 000 HAVE NOW BEEN PAID IN RESPECT OF
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
ALL ACCIDENTS,
WORKMEN'S ACCIDENTS,
FIDELITY GUARANTEE,
BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. J. L. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.
Agents required in unrepresented Districts.

THE
NEW STANLEY HOTEL,
THE "QUEEN'S HOTEL,"
IS NOW OPEN

With a Stock of the finest
ALES,
WINES,
AND SPIRITS

PROPRIETRESS, MRS CHAYTOR.

TIME SAVED IS MONEY MADE.

The New D9 WHEELER and WILSON SEWING MACHINES are absolutely THE FASTEST, EASIEST, SIMPLEST, and MOST SILENT Machines in the world. ROTARY MOTION, BALL BEARINGS. Dressmakers and Tailors can double their Incomes.

No worry. Better work, and more of it. The IDEAL, handsome family machines. These combined advantages enable Live Agents to secure the most remunerative agency in Sewing Machines—and something GOOD to sell.

Lists and instruction free and free trial. Agents wanted where not represented. Sole Wholesale Representatives for Northumberland and Durham.

THE EGDELL CYCLE AND MANUFACTURING CO., LTD
10, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

J. MORGAN
Hardware Dealer, Victoria Street, Consett, the shop for Quality and Cheapness combined for all kinds of Hardware Goods, Glass, China, Earthenware, &c. Our Celebrated Electric Brand Lamp Oil, Lamps, Chimneys, and Wicks of all kinds.

Clubs are now being formed for all kinds of Goods. Particulars on application.

BEST VALUE
IN
FLOUR, PROVISIONS, &c.,
AT
W. WHITFIELD'S
FRONT STREET,
LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

WHITECHAPELS, DOG CARTS, PANEL CARTS, RUSTIC CARTS,

J. COWEN,
CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY BUILDER,
TAYLOR STREET,
CONSETT,
AND AT HEXHAM.

Being one of the largest Manufacturers in the North, and having recently enlarged his Showroom in Consett to hold upwards of 40 finished Conveyances, invites inspection of his large and varied Stock, which for quality of Material, Workmanship, and Finish, cannot be surpassed.

Also, a fine selection of Pony, Cob, and full size Harness at reasonable prices, Horse Clothing, Brushes of all kinds, Non-rustable Bits, Bridles, Saddles, Whips, and Special Harness Oil at 1s. per pint bottle. Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, and Driving Rugs. Conveyances repaired or done up promptly and economically. Sales effected on the Hire System or for Cash, and old Conveyances valued and taken in part payment. 126d

THE BEST HOUSE FOR WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATE, AND SPECTACLES.

DOBSON GRADON.
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

Best quality English Lever Watches at Manufacturers' prices £3 3s.
Price Lists on Application.
Splendid English Lever Watches, £2 8s.
Ladies' 18ct Gold Watches, splendid quality, £3 15s.
Ladies' Silver Watches, £1 10s.
The above Watches are of excellent quality, all warranted, Albert given with same. Other Watches at much lower prices.

9ct Gold Alberts	20/- to 60/-
Sterling Silver Alberts	4/- to 8/-
Gold Brooches,	5/- to 50/-
Silver "	1/6 to 3/9
Jet "	1/- to 2/6
Gold Dress Rings	3/6 to 50/-
Gold Wedding Rings	8/6 to 20/-

Spoons given with Wedding Rings.
A large assortment of other Jewellery, also Clocks at prices according to quality.

☞ Repairs a Speciality. Clocks Cleaned and Repaired in Town or Country.

CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES.
STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

T. MILNER, M.P.S.,
DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
CONSETT.

For Pure DRUGS and GENUINE CHEMICALS.
WINTER REMEDIES of every Description.
The CONSETT COUGH CURE, 1s. per bottle.
RESPERINE for Asthma, 1s. per box.
EXTRACT OF MALT and COD LIVER OIL, in bottles 9d., 1s. 6d., 2s., and 3s. 6d.
Finest COD LIVER OIL and PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.
EMULSION of COD LIVER OIL and HYPOPHOSPHITES, 7½d. and 1s. 3d. per bottle.
LEIBIG and GLENDINNING'S MEAT and MALT WINE, 2s. and 3s. 9d. per bottle.

Choice PORT and SHERRY WINES, 1s. 6d., 2s. 3s. 6d., 3s. 6d., and 4s. per bottle.
CHEST and LUNG PROTECTORS in great variety
A Choice Display of PERFUMES in bottles and boxes, suitable for Presents.
GLYCERINE and PAREGORIC JUJUBES. For Special Display see Windows.
ARMOUR'S EXTRACT of MEAT and VIGORAL, large and small jars.
HORSE, DOG, and CATTLE MEDICINES of every description.

Agent for Sheep Dips in Great Variety.
Milner's Special Farm Bottle and Lambing Oils, 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d. per Bottle.
Varnishes, Oils, Paints, and Colours, in Great Variety. 448d

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH.

FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.
CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM THREE TO SIX, AT
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13, FRONT STREET
(SIDE DOOR.)

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FOOTBALL

MATCHES.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.
CHARITY CUP COMPETITION.

FINAL TIE.

BYER MOOR v. HAMSTERLEY.

These teams met on the Stanley ground on Saturday to decide which should hold Mr. Turnbull's handsome cup for the next twelve months. The ground was in a bad state, and Hamsterley consequently lodged a protest before the game started. There was a fair attendance, most of whom accompanied the respective teams. The game was a well-contested one, but Byer Moor showed superior form to their opponents, and eventually ran out winners by four goals to two. The cup was afterwards presented to the Byer Moor captain by the donor. Mr. T. Amos, of the Hobson, refereed the match, Messrs Hogarth and Payne acting as linesmen.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.
LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. SOUTH TANFIELD.

These teams re-played their league fixture at Leadgate on Saturday before a moderate attendance. Neither side was fully represented. The home team were not long in assuming the upper hand, and at the interval they were leading by five goals to none. The second moiety was again in favour of the Park, who appeared able to pile on goals when they pleased. Eight more points were added ere Mr Hodgson sounded his final solo, the result being:—

Park Reserve .... 13 goals
South Tanfield .... Nil

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.
BIRTLEY v. SUNDERLAND NOMADS.

Played on Friday night last at Birtley, before a good number of spectators. Teams:—

Birtley—Goal, Danskin; backs, Mills and Martin; half-backs, Fish, Rutherford, and Dover; forwards, Dixon, Heppell, Doyle, Ford, and Miller.

Sunderland Nomads—Goal, Rush; backs, Lowes and Lambert; half-backs, Templeton, Jackson, and Shipley; forwards, O'Neil, Smith, Peterson, McArdle, and Jefferson.

The visitors having won the toss, Doyle started, and Birtley went off with a dash, and Ford gave Rush a splendid shot to stop. Directly after, Rush had to again save from the same player. After Miller had sent past, Jefferson got the leather, and swiftly took it down to Danskin's charge, where a corner was conceded, which, however, was cleared. So far the display of the Birtley men had been disappointing, the forwards being too selfish. They now, however, improved, but the visitors showed some good play. Jefferson and his partner made a grand run down, but Mills stopped them. From a free-kick against the Nomads, Miller got possession, and raced up the field, and play settled down in front of the Nomads' goal. From a splendid centre by Fish, Doyle banged the ball into the net, thus registering the first point for his side. Shortly after this Rush made a splendid save. Dixon shot in, and, from Rush, Doyle caught the ball and again tested Rush, who finished up by saving from Ford. As all these saves took place in the space of a minute, the performance of Rush was clever and creditable. Nothing further of interest took place up to the interval, and the score then was:—

Birtley .... One goal.
Nomads .... Nil.

The opening stages of the second period were very even, but the Birtley men apparently took things too easy, and the forwards mulled chance after chance, the only man worth his salt being Dixon, who played a sterling game. The Nomads left wing took the leather up the field, but the ball was sent past. After a lot of desultory play, in which the Nomads were decidedly the best team, the visitors right wing forced a corner, and the ball falling to the feet of Peterson, he shot straight in. The ball struck the referee in transit, and then went into the net, a goal being allowed. The visitors deserved this point, for so far they had proved themselves by far the best team. There was only about fifteen minutes to go now, and the home men at length stirred themselves. Dover made a grand opening for himself, and with only Rush to beat, he was just going to shoot when Heppell ran up and took the ball off Dover, and spoilt everything by shooting over the bar. A few minutes later Heppell shot into the hands of Rush. A corner fell to the homesters, but it was fruitless. About fifty seconds off time Doyle scored the winning point, to the relief of the home supporters, and Birtley thus gained an undeserved victory. Final score:—

Birtley .... Two goals.
Sunderland Nomads ...... One goal.

BIRTLEY v. WALLSEND PARK VILLA.

On Saturday, Birtley entertained Wallsend Park Villa, this being the last match of each club. Birtley played a weakened team, the most notable change being that versatile player, Mills, going in goal vice Danskin. If Birtley had shown poor form the night before, the same could certainly not be said of them now, for they completely "bottled up" the "Villans" in their own half. It was not long before Ford notched the first goal, and soon after Tommy Fish put on a couple of grand goals, the score at the interval being three to none in favour of Birtley. During the second half Birtley again held the upper hand, but could not again score, while Wallsend did the trick once, the result of the final match for the season at Birtley being:—

Birtley .... Three goals.
Wallsend Park Villa ...... One goal.

NORTHERN LEAGUE.
CROOK v. LEADGATE PARK.

This re-played game came off at Crook on Saturday, on a greasy ground, and before a moderate attendance. The home captain won the toss, and elected to play down the incline, with a stiffish wind at his men's backs. Joe Wilson, for the Park, started hostilities, and Allison placed up, Cook sending past. The homesters secured the upper hand for a moment, and Robson placed in a capital centre, Cartmell saving. Butterfield then passed across to Stainthorpe, but the latter slipped when in an excellent position. The home defence was afterwards called upon, and the halves transferring play, mainly through Dewhurst, Rippon spoiled a fairly good opening by giving a foul. Cook sent in a shot from the right wing, which Reed easily cleared, but the same player had a near shave a minute later from a shot by Allison. Thompson and Butterfield changed the venue of play, but in approaching the Park goal Daly effectively transferred. Everitt returned the compliment by a grand shot at goal, which Walton cleared. The visiting forwards then broke away from the centre line, where Allison placed well up the field, Whitfield effectively relieving. Butterfield at the low end tested Walton, but the latter cleared his charge, although the Park's position in the few minutes that followed was not an enviable one, shots being sent in by Wood and Butterfield. A momentary break was then seen on the part of the visitors, Allison testing Reed at the high end. Robson then got an opening, and got away down, but being tackled when close in his effort at goal was spoiled. A couple of free kicks fell to Leadgate, after which Stainthorpe secured, but spoiled his chances by dribbling. A capital centre by Robson followed, Rippon sending in a trier, which was effectively cleared by Laidler. Through Rippon being fouled, a penalty was awarded to the home team, Stainthorpe taking the kick. The effort, however, was poor, and went wide of the posts. Two or three minutes later Wood and Butterfield forced a corner, from which Rippon added the first point for Crook. Half-time—

Crook .... One goal.
Leadgate Park .... Nil.

Resuming, Crook faced a stiffish breeze, against which they played with commendable energy. Reed was called upon by J. Wilson, but cleared. Wood got away in grand style, but Robson unfortunately spoiled the effort. From a corner, forced by the Park, Ben Cook equalised with a fine header. The homesters returned to the attack, and Butterfield forced a corner, which was, however, cleared by the efforts of Daly and Laidler. Allison got away, and passing to Cook, the latter shot for goal, the effort being a little too full. Allison followed up with another, which passed the line, and fortunately for the home men was ruled offside. A really fine run was then seen by the homesters, Freddy Wood having hard lines when close into goal. The visitors transferred the play, and from a free kick Joe Wilson headed in No. 2 for the Park, after about 25 minutes play. Wood and Butterfield returned to the attack, but Walton ran out and saved. Butterfield again got an opening, passed to Wood, and Rippon equalised with the best obtained goal of the match. At this point Cartmell charged Butterfield, whereupon the home linesman (Dennison) rushed on to the field and struck the Park half. The latter wisely did not retaliate, but the referee ordered both men off the field. However, the visitors played up with only ten men, and within five minutes of time Cook put through the winning point for Leadgate, the ball striking the post and gliding into the net. Leadgate held their own to the finish, and the final result was—

Leadgate Park .... Three goals.
Crook .... Two goals.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "OFF-SIDE."]

Similarly to the previous year, the last Saturday of the season turned out a most miserable day, and the various matches which came off were played under very unpropitious conditions. Probably if it had not been the last playing day of the present season, several of the games which were brought off would have been postponed. The heavy downpour of rain that set in between one and two o'clock completely spoiled the different grounds, which in many places resembled skating rinks, with a few ponds thrown in to heighten the effect. The Hobson failed to turn up at Consett, wiring that they had been disappointed with respect to the brake. Unfortunately, what should have been the final for the championship of the Junior League ended in a "Fiasco," as no referee put in an appearance. Probably the latter gentleman thought the weather too bad for football, and really the ground was not in fit condition for such an important game. The Park Reserve made no mistake in their concluding fixture with South Tanfield, whom they routed by 13 goals to nil. As Byer Moor and the Park Reserve have finished level for the Derwent Valley League championship, they will have to play off at the beginning of next season. It would be a good plan for the committee to fix the game for the first Saturday of the season, and then it is not likely to upset the arrangements of either team.

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THE PARK AGAIN BEAT CROOK.

The Northern League committee having ordered this game to be re-played, the Park duly turned up at Crook on Saturday for the second time this season. Some people were under the impression that only the 20 minutes left when the previous game was stopped would have to be played, but, as a matter of fact, the whole 90 minutes had to be fought out again. This was undoubtedly a slice of luck for Crook, who were completely smothered in the first game nearly three weeks since. However, the Park boys faced the music with the utmost confidence, more especially as in the interim they had got a point out of South Bank, and thus only needed another to make their place secure. At the same time they were determined to win if possible, as this meant putting them up two or three places. Crook put a good team into the field, including Butterfield and Whitfield, whilst the visitors were also well represented. The field was in a shocking condition, and the heavy and greasy turf told upon the players. The home men were fortunate enough to win the toss and this was regarded by their supporters as a good omen. Naturally, with the wind and hill to aid them, Crook had the best of the play, but Leadgate defended grandly. All sorts of attacks were cleared, in addition to which Stainthorpe missed a penalty, and it only wanted about three minutes to the interval when Rippon scored a somewhat lucky goal, one of the Park men putting him on-side ere he shot.

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With but a goal against them at the half-way house the visitors were quietly confident that they would repeat their previous victory. About five minutes after resuming Forster planked in a nice corner, and Cook headed beautifully into the net completely out of the reach of Reed. Then the home men played up desperately, Robson being very conspicuous, and the Park defence had to do all they knew to keep their opponents out. However, the attack was cleared, and the Leadgate forwards coming down in a body, Allison secured and shot over the line, but the referee disallowed the point for off-side—an obviously wrong decision, as the scorer ran past both backs before he shot. Still keeping up the pressure, the Park came again, and from a free kick well placed by Laidler, Joe Wilson gave his side the lead. Crook plucked up splendidly after this, and amid loud cheers Nat Rippon put the teams level once more. Everything now pointed to a draw until Cook got possession about 20 yards out, just before the finish. The youngster fired hard and true, and Reed was quite deceived by the shot, which struck the upright and bounded into the net, the few Park supporters present meanwhile shouting for all they were worth. This concluded the scoring, and the visitors again demonstrated their superiority over Crook by the odd goal of five. There was not much to choose between the teams on the day's play, but the Park men kept their heads better in front of goal, and were always dangerous when an opening presented itself. It was to their readiness to snap up chances that they chiefly owed their success.

—o—

There was no particularly outstanding players on the winning side, every man doing his level best, and there was no selfishness evident. Joe Wilson was again in good form, and he set his men a rare example in the way of hard work. As usual, his heading was a feature. Allison and Cook were both good, Benny scoring two of the goals, and he should have had another on one occasion but for being rather over eager. Milburn and Forster did their share without being very conspicuous. At half Cartmell played a rattling good game, and was generally too much for Butterfield, whilst Tommy Wilson was always in the thick of the fight, and was a trier to the finish. Bowes has done better, but he had a rare handful to deal with in Robson, the Cockfield flier. Daly showed excellent form at back, kicking and tackling finely. Laidler was hardly fit to play, but considering the importance of the game pluckily turned out, and did well. "Walton" was all that could be desired in goal, and had not the ghost of a chance with either of the shots that passed him. He brought off several grand clearances. I did not think a great deal of Reed, who appeared to me to be none too safe when at all pressed. Whitfield and Thompson were a good pair of backs, the latter being often prominent. Dewhurst and Chatt did well at half, with Robson easily the best of the forwards, and the latter is really a capital player. Rippon made a good centre, and Wood also put in useful work at times. Mr. Buckton gave some rather curious decisions.

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An unusual incident occurred towards the close of the game. Butterfield was coming up with the ball when Cartmell charged him. No sooner had he done this than the Crook linesman—by name Dennison, and who had distinguished himself throughout by palpably unfair decisions—rushed on to the field and struck Cartmell. The latter, notwithstanding the provocation given him, kept his temper admirably, and, while not attempting to hit back—as many a player under the circumstances would have done—put up his hands to defend himself. However, to general surprise, the referee ordered Cartmell off as well as the linesman. Even the Crook spectators admitted that Cartmell had done nothing for which to be sent off, as he committed himself in no way, but, on the contrary, controlled his temper in a manner which few players would have done considering the provocation meted out to him. As for Mr. Dennison, one may naturally conclude that his services as a linesman will not be required again. He certainly makes an admirable twelfth man, and the Crook team will no doubt feel his loss. At the same time, their opponents will think much more of them if they put a fair man on the line instead of one of Mr. Dennison's calibre.

—o—

THE HOBSON FINISH IN GOOD TIME.

Saturday was to have finished football in the ordinary way of things, but the Hobson men (who were due at Consett to make their final display) evidently finished earlier as they did not turn up. One can scarcely blame them, however, as it is in general keeping with the apathy displayed by most teams towards the finish of the season. "Enough is as good as a feast," but a surfeit is worse, and there's no doubt that many of the local teams have had a surfeit of the leather-hunting art latterly. That all-powerful factor, the weather, also helped to hasten the demise of the game, Saturday last being a cold, wet, miserable day, and the pastime in consequence died a quiet death in many quarters. Meanwhile local committees will turn their attention towards organising and perfecting their teams during the next four months, ready for beginning the fray again on the 1st September.

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ALLENDALE WIN THE CUP.

By their victory over Consett Swifts (2-0) Allendale Park became the winners of the North-West Durham Alliance, and the holders of that splendid trophy—the Atherley-Jones Cup. It is rather strange that the club that was discarded at the formation of the Alliance, and were only invited into the charmed circle after refusals from Leadgate Park and Birtley, should be hailed the winners. Consett Swifts played their full cup-tie team, with the exception of Charlton, whose place was taken by Atkinson. The match was brimful of interest right through, and the issue was at stake right up to the last minute, when Robinson made matters safe by securing a second goal. Scott played his usual game in goal, and appeared to relish the hard work provided him by the Consett forwards. Mat Walton played splendidly at back, but Talbot seemed to be out of sorts. The trio of halves was splendid; the work of Hobday and M. Hunter could not be excelled. The home forwards combined well, but did not shoot often enough, nor hard enough. Morris scored from a penalty, but owing to some technical infringement this had to be retaken, with the result that the same player missed at the second attempt. Cook had Lynop for his partner, and together they formed a strong wing. Robinson and Truman played well, the former heading a lovely goal from Cook's corner. Turning to the visitors, Graham played well, and often saved the side when in difficulties. Finnigan was better than Wake at back, though both played well. Harrison was the shining light at half, and did not allow Morris much liberty. Rafferty and Atkinson were little behind. The forwards played splendidly during the first half, but the attention they received from the home halves caused them to fall away during the second period.

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Allendale Park have finished first in the North-West Durham Alliance, and fifth in the Tyneside League. No doubt they would have finished well in the running for the Tyneside bowl had they had Scott and Talbot during the earlier part of the season. Since the inclusion of these two players, the Park have never been beaten by more than a goal, and have only lost two games altogether. Their record is as follows:—Played, 37; won, 15; drawn, 9; lost, 13; goals for, 64; against, 65. Unfortunately, their cup-tie record was very poor, being beaten in the first round in both competitions. For three successive seasons the Park eleven have secured league trophies, and their genial president's face now beams with smiles.

—o—

A PLEA FOR THE JUNIORS.

To the Sporting Editor.

Sir,—Please allow me a small space in the "Consett Guardian" to see if we cannot get a league up for the sake of Consett and District lads, as there are a good few clubs about Consett who would willingly join—namely, Derwent Cottages Juniors, Allendale White Stars, Blackhill Athletic, Delves Lane Reserve, Templetown, Leadgate Athletic, Lintz Young Rovers, and Shotley United, all under 17 years of age. These would make a good league. A cup or a set of silver medals (perhaps both) would, I am sure, be put up by some gentleman in the district for the young lads to compete for. I hope that someone else may take my letter up, and try all they can to get the young lads a league made up. I for one am sure it would be a distinct success. Secretaries of the above clubs want to look to their interests, and get a meeting fixed to push the league on, and let the neighbourhood see what young boys can do with the ball. Hoping that you will insert my letter in the "Guardian," and thanking you for the space lent,—I remain,

A Supporter of the Boys.

—o—

THE NORTHERN LEAGUE.

The "North Star" gives some interesting particulars respecting the above league. After dealing with the opening stages of the competition, the writer goes on to say:—"But Auckland did not sustain defeat. They kept on their victorious path, and, by taking four points out of Stockton, landed themselves safely at the top, and now they hold in their possession the cup for which so many clubs have had a bid. Darlington's record is a worthy one. They have won one more match than the champions, but there are three they have lost. They have been the most prolific goal-getters, there being just 50 set down to them. Middlesbrough stand third, just beating South Bank on goal average. The Saints are at the centre, and Leadgate Park stand sixth. Stockton are seventh, and Tow Law eighth. Crook hold the wooden spoon—a very unenviable honour. The total number of matches played in the League was 72. During this competition 246 goals have been scored, of which number Darlington gained the greatest number. Darlington also won the largest number of matches, Tow Law winning the least—3. Crook have been defeated on more occasions than any other eleven, and Auckland have not been defeated once. The final averages and percentages of the various teams are:—Auckland, average points per match, 1.56, percentage of points gained on possible points, 78.12; Darlington, 1.43, and 71.87; Middlesbrough, 1.12, and 55.55; South Bank, 1.12, and 55.55; St. Augustines, .93, and 46.87; Leadgate, .81, and 40.62; Stockton, .75, and 37.5; Tow Law, .63, and 34.37; and Crook, .56, and 28.12.

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STANLEY'S LAST MATCH.

My Stanley correspondent writes:—To come home from Willington Quay with a point was not only desirable from a Stanley point of view, but it was creditable. It was all the more so seeing that the team was a disorganised one, and that the Rosehill ground is not a particularly happy one for strangers to play upon. Stanley needed the point. They were anxious to at least equal last season's record of 24, and, owing to the Blyth "fiasco" on Good Friday, they journeyed along the riverside one point less than the required number. I did not see the match. Very few did. Most of us, I imagine, put on summer attire and wended our way to cricket fields. So also, I imagine, most of us returned to put on Klondyke wraps and to wonder weather the football season really was at an end. Dark, damp, and dirty as the day was, I felt somewhat comforted when the telegraph boy told me that Stanley had effected a pointless draw with the Rosehill boys. It was a satisfactory wind up. My sympathies with Bell, who was absent owing to a family bereavement.

MEMS.

Willington Rovers lodged a rather trivial protest against the Swifts.

But the Challenge Cup Committee soon disposed of it.

Dipton preferred a similar protest the previous season, but it was over-ruled.

Congratulations to Allendale Park on having won Mr. Atherley-Jones' Cup.

They were not expected to have half a chance when the Alliance was started.

The cup was voted a good thing for Stanley.

But, as the old saying has it, "there's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip."

It was hardly sportsmanlike on Stanley's part to withdraw from the competition at the last moment.

I hope to see a larger number of clubs in the Alliance next season.

The following would provide capital sport:—Allendale, Annfield Plain, Consett Swifts, Leadgate Park and Exiles, Birtley, Stanley, Hobson, Bearpark, and Chester-le-Street.

Byer Moor, as expected, won the Charity Cup on Saturday.

The Mooritee have tried hard for a long time to annex a cup.

And at length their turn has come.

The team has certainly played admirably throughout the season.

And deserve something tangible for their efforts.

I can guess that there would be high jinks at the Pack Horse on Saturday night.

Messrs Bennett and Dawson would probably don their best 18-carat smiles for the occasion.

I am afraid that the charities will not benefit to any considerable extent.

Hamsterley tried their best, but were beaten by a superior team.

I offer my deepest sympathy to those Bishop Auckland, Darlington, and other writers who were so confident that Crook would beat the Park on Saturday.

It was certainly bad taste on the part of the Leadgate boys to go and upset the prophecies of these gentlemen.

So, greatly to the disappointment of several people at Darlington, Bishop Auckland, &c., the Park have maintained their place in the league.

Had the Park played as well all the season as they have done during the past few weeks, they might easily have finished in the first three.

Crook have a champion linesman, and I trust that they are duly proud of him.

He has never been known to intentionally give a throw-in against his team.

These are the sort of men we want—men that will always give the benefit of the doubt (and everything else) to their own side.

What are the good of half-measures?

Mr. Dennison, I salute you.

You are the most consistent linesman that I have ever had the pleasure of seeing perform.

However you will probably be called upon to take a long and much-needed rest.

Such is the reward of trying to do one's duty.

It is a most unappreciative world, Mr. Dennison.

The Northern League took a third of the gate on Saturday at Crook.

They must be hard up.

But their share would not pay for a trip to the Crystal Palace and back.

It was downright mean on the part of the league to make any such stipulation.

But they probably wanted to show their Authority—with a big A, please.

Leadgate Park would like to see Mr. Walker again take up the secretarial duties.

So would some of the other clubs.

Byer Moor and the Park Reserve finish on level terms at the head of the Derwent Valley League.

Both of them have excellent records.

They have only dropped four points each in 16 games.

And the goal average of the pair will take some beating.

The Park Reserve wound up in splendid fashion on Saturday.

South Tanfield were completely outclassed, and whacked by 13 goals to none.

Jack Calvert, much to his regret, was an absentee.

He was confined to bed owing to a sudden attack of illness.

Spry, the junior custodian, proved equal to the few calls made upon his services.

Aitkin has been playing some fine games of late.

Joe Birtley makes a good half-back.

The Swifts lost both their Alliance games last week.

Otherwise they would have had a look in for the cup.

However, they have got one cup, and are probably satisfied.

It was a pity that no referee turned up for the junior final on Saturday.

There was an excellent attendance.

But the ground was hardly suitable for a good game.

Luck would probably have played an important part in the game.

I hear that Callaghan has been keeping goal finely of late.

He is reckoned to be much superior to Cassidy by the Jarrow people.

Stanley did well to draw against Willington Athletic.

They were anxious for the point.

It gives them the same total—24—as last season.

This is not unsatisfactory

Considering their difficulties in the early part of the season.

Football was literally washed out on Saturday.

And cricket got an awful baptism.

Joe Allison has "signed on" for Birtley.

So I have heard.

Ditto Miller and Fish.

Tommy is not going to help the Blades back to the first division of the league.

Birtley expect to keep all their men for next season.

Therefore they'll take some beating.

And should get a long way up the Alliance table.

A correspondent writes:—"A contemporary asks how Stanley can beat Sunderland A, play a draw with Hebburn Argyle, and yet succumb to such teams as Allendale Park and Annfield Plain, is a thing 'no fellar can understand.'

"Perhaps it depends upon the 'fellar.'

"For a solution of the difficulty let him read the Alliance table.

"His omnipotent team can only score five goals in six engagements.

"The same writer also accuses the committee of listening to trivial protests (mark the plural.)

"Now, as a matter of fact, there has only been one protest, and owing to an admitted breach of rules the committee had no other choice but sustain the protest.

"The same applies to the Derwent Valley League, which has only had two protests, and both were over-ruled.

"Therefore, why this bickering? Is it because no trophy has gone —— way!"

I understand that Hamsterley lodged a protest against the state of the ground at Stanley.

However, the presentation of the cup was made all the same.

Mr. W. G. Turnbull (the donor) performed this ceremony.

Is it true that none of the losing team were invited to take part in the presentation?

Nor yet the league secretary.

Allendale are well off for goalkeepers.

They have about half-a-dozen—Scott, Hedley, Bailey, Lypop, Lovat, etc.

The Park Reserve have a splendid record for the season.

They have played 22 matches—won 23, drawn 2, lost 3, scoring 92 goals to 24.

This is a testimony alike to the smartness of the forwards, and the soundness of the defence.

The Reserve top the Derwent Valley League, but will have to play a deciding match with Byer Moor to settle the question of the championship.

There are many rumours in the air as to the intentions of various players next season.

Probably a lot of these will turn out, as usual, to be incorrect.

I hear that Mr. J. E. Parker and Mr. Geo. Lee are candidates from this district for seats on the Challenge Cup Committee.

There is a rumour afloat that Mr. Grundy is really going to resign this year.

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FINIS.

It once more becomes my duty to write the above word so far as the past football season is concerned. We have had a busy time, and hard-worked secretaries and players will in all probability welcome a few months' rest. The season just ended has not provided anything sensational locally, if we except the triumph of Consett Swifts in the Amateur Cup. Many clubs complain of a falling off in their gate receipts—a state of affairs undoubtedly due to the extra facilities offered by the Railway Company to those wishful to visit Newcastle or Sunderland on the occasion of league games. In my opinion, the best thing for the district would be a good local league, as this would considerably cut down the expenses, and also induce more people to attend the games than has been the case during the past campaign. There is a handsome cup already secured—viz., that given by Mr. Atherley-Jones, and, if he were asked, Mr. Jas. Joicey would most likely give gold medals to the winners, and the league could provide silver ones for the runners-up. I commend this suggestion to the attention of club secretaries. In the meantime, I beg to thank those who have assisted me in any way in the compilation of my weekly jottings, and to assure them that I heartily appreciate their kindness. To my many readers I bid "adieu" until September once again dawns upon us.

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NORTHERN LEAGUE.

DIVISION I.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Bishop Auckland	16	9	0	7	35	16	25
Darlington	16	10	3	3	50	20	23
Middlesbrough	16	7	5	4	29	27	18
South Bank	16	6	4	6	19	21	18
St. Augustine's	16	5	6	5	19	23	15
Leadgate Park	16	4	8	4	25	30	12
Stockton	16	4	8	4	25	31	12
Tow Law	16	3	7	6	19	27	12
Crook	16	4	11	1	15	44	9

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pt
Blackhill St Cthts	10	6	2	2	16	5	14
Consett Shamrocks	10	5	1	4	21	11	14
Medomsley W S	10	6	3	1	26	16	13
Delves Lane Untd	10	3	4	3	16	18	9
Leadgate Park Jr	10	2	5	3	16	20	7
Catchgate Lilwhts	10	1	8	1	11	33	3

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's play a deciding game with Consett Shamrocks for the championship.

J. W. KELSEY, Sec.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LEAGUE.

JOICEY CUP.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	Goals. D.	Pts
Bearpark	18	15	2	1	31
Washington	16	11	1	4	26
Pelton Fell	17	4	7	2	20
Chester-le-Street	16	9	6	1	19
*Waterhouses	18	8	5	5	19
Craghead	18	9	9	0	18
Waldridge	18	6	8	4	16
Newbottle	17	7	9	1	15
Fatfield	19	3	14	1	7
Bankhead	18	1	1	1	3

* Two points deducted for playing an ineligible player, and points awarded to Pelton Fell.

PETER HAY CUP.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts
Chester-le-Street	16	12	2	2	26
Waldridge	18	13	5	0	26
Springwell	16	9	5	2	20
Harraton	16	8	6	2	18
Tribley Star	16	8	8	0	16
Pelton Fell	16	6	9	1	13
Craghead	16	6	9	1	13
Bankhead	16	2	12	2	6
Chester Moor	16	2	12	2	6

R. BLANT, Sec.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Leadgate Prk Res	16	11	2	1	56	11	24
Byer Moor	16	12	4	0	51	13	28
South Moor	16	9	3	4	36	17	21
Lintz Rovers	16	6	3	7	33	36	15
South Tanfield	16	6	1	9	28	39	13
Lintzford	16	5	3	8	25	41	13
Tantobie	16	6	0	10	32	34	12
Hamsterley	16	5	0	11	21	47	10
Burnhope	16	1	3	12	18	51	5

A special meeting of the Derwent Valley League and Charity Committees will be held on Saturday, May 6th, at 8 p.m.

STANLEY.

POLICE CASES.—At Stanley Police Station on Monday morning, Mr Jonathan Green had before him Wm. Hutchinson, charged with being drunk at Stanley on Sunday night, and Patrick McCue, charged with being drunk at Stanley on Saturday night. P.C. Milliona proved the charges.—Hutchinson was fined 2/6 and costs, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment, and McCue was discharged on promising to leave the town.

KIP HILL WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Sunday last, the anniversary services in connection with the Kip Hill Wesleyan Sunday School were held, when sermons were preached by Miss E. Hillson, of Chester-le-Street. In the evening the cantata, "Calvary," was ably rendered by the Stanley Wesleyan Choir, assisted by a string band, Mr S. Hartley conducting, and Miss Govett presiding at the organ. There were large congregations, and collections were taken in aid of the school fund. On Monday evening Miss Hillson delivered a lecture on "Kingly men who conquered kings."

APIOL and STEEL PILLS for females, a French remedy for all irregularities and obstructions, superseding bitter apple, pill cochiae, pennyroyal, &c. Price 4/6 post free. Obtainable only from MARTIN Foreign Chemist, SOUTHAMPTON.

CRICKET.

Our weekly notes upon local cricket will commence next week, and "L.B.W." trusts that those correspondents who have favoured him with contributions in past seasons will continue to similarly oblige him. We shall always be pleased to receive the scores of the many games played every Saturday, together with a few comments thereon. Full analyses of good bowling performances will also be welcome, as well as anything else likely to prove of interest to our many cricket readers.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT v. MR. T. LAMBERT'S.

Mr Tom Lambert, the popular Durham county wicket-keeper, had got together a very powerful eleven to oppose Burnopfield, who had also a strong team for the occasion. The game was to have taken place at Burnopfield on Saturday, but the inclemency of the weather prevented a start been made. During the afternoon the visitors, together with several of the home men, sat down to an excellent tea, which was heartily enjoyed. The remaining portion of the evening was spent with "toast and song." Mr Lambert, in the course of a few remarks, intimated that ere the season terminated he would be quite willing to bring another team to Burnopfield, providing a suitable date could be arranged.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT C.C.

FIXTURES FOR 1899.

Mr Wm. Ramsay, the hon. secretary of the above club, has once again arranged a splendid list of fixtures for both the first and second teams, which we append:—

FIRST TEAM.

May 6th—*South Shields, away.
" 13th—Wallsend, home.
" 22nd (W.M.)—*Tudhoe, away.
" 23rd (W.T.)—*Eppleton, away
" 27th—Bishop Auckland, away.
June 3rd—West Stanley, home
" 10th—St. George's, away.
" 17th—*Burnmoor, home.
" 24th—*South Shields, home.
July 1st—*North Durham, away.
" 8th—*Chester-le-Street, away.
" 15th—Bishop Auckland, home (Tom Lambert's benefit.)
" 22nd—*North Durham, home.
" 29th—*Chester-le-Street, home.
Aug. 5th—*Burnmoor, away.
" 9th—Chester-le-Street Veterans, home.
" 12th—*Eppleton, home (H. Simpson's benefit.)
" 19th—*Tudhoe, home.
" 26th—Wallsend, away.
Sept. 2nd—Stanley, away.
" 9th—St. George's, home.
* Denotes Senior League engagements.

SECOND TEAM.

May 6th—South Shields, home.
" 13th—Wallsend, away.
" 20th—Ryton, home.
" 22nd (W.M.)—Tudhoe, home.
" 23rd (W.T.)—Shotley Bridge, away.
" 27th—Bishop Auckland, home.
June 3rd—West Stanley, away.
" 10th—Malton Colliery, away.
" 17th—Durham City, away.
" 24th—South Shields, away.
July 8th—Chester-le-Street, home.
" 15th—Bishop Auckland, away.
" 22nd—Craghead, away.
" 29th—Chester-le-Street, away.
Aug. 5th—Malton Colliery, home.
" 12th—Ryton, away.
" 19th—Tudhoe, away.
" 26th—Wallsend, home.
Sept. 2nd—Stanley, home.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

CONSETT 2ND v. CRAGHEAD 2ND.

This Junior League fixture should have been contested on the Blackfine enclosure on Saturday, but owing to the wretched condition of the weather the match was cancelled.

DURHAM SENIOR LEAGUE.

CHESTER-LE-STREET v. NORTH DURHAM.

The first meeting of these old opponents should have taken place at Chester-le-Street on Saturday, but rain put play out of the question. Both teams were strongly represented. Coyle, professional to the late Northumberland Club, and George Robson, late of Wallsend, were to have made their debut for Chester-le-Street. North Durham's team were all last season's players.

MATCHES WANTED.

Shotley Bridge P.M. Cricket Club have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible. Apply, J. Ridley, 28, Snow's Green, Shotley Bridge.

Highgate Baptist Blue and White Stars are in want of matches; average age, 14. Apply, W. Lamb, jun., secretary, 20, John Street, Blackhill.

Chopwell Juniors have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible. Apply, John Weatherley, jun., High Spen, Lintz Green.

Chopwell Cricket Club have several vacant dates, and would like them filled up with good seconds or moderate firsts. Apply, R. Harrison, Tyne Street, Chopwell, Lintz Green.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB.

A very successful smoking concert, promoted by the officials of the Stanley and District Cricket Club, was held in the Royal Hotel, West Stanley, on Wednesday week. In the absence of Mr Robinson, president of the club, the chair was taken by Mr Geo. Stewart, and the vice-chair by Mr Swallow. There was a large attendance of members and friends, about sixty gentlemen being present. The Chairman said one of their objects that night was to present the prizes to the successful bowlers and batsmen of last season, and the Secretary (Mr J. Bennett) having read the report and the names of the winners, which have already been published in the "Guardian," the prizes were formally handed over. The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman proposed "The trade of the district," to which Mr W. Forster, jun., responded, the rest of the evening being given up to harmony. Songs were given by the Chairman, Messrs Ivy, J. Larkman, Leighton, Geo. Lee, Booth, Garthwaite, Crute, Robertshaw, and J. Bennett, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The accompaniments were played on a piano kindly lent by Mr Garthwaite. One or two new players of repute have been negotiated with, and it is expected that, with the introduction of new blood, the club will be greatly strengthened in both attack and defence. Mr Bennett has been very active in the discharge of his secretarial duties, and it is to be hoped that his efforts may not be marred by a continuation of inclement weather.

AN IDEAL PAIR OF FOOTBALLERS.

Mr. C. B. Fry contributes to the April number of the "Windsor Magazine," an article which, so far as its point of view is concerned, might have been entitled "How to Choose an Ideal Team." In selecting his "backs," Mr. Fry says: "Oakley and Lodge are an ideal pair. Each has a style of his own. Oakley, lengthy of limb and sweeping of stride, is cool and calculating; he waits on his man and scarcely ever rushes. But his tackling is certain and brilliant; faster than most forwards, he is rarely passed and still more rarely beaten; out goes his long leg round ball and man and all, the man is swept aside, and the ball remains at Oakley's feet. Slam it anywhere? Not he; his steel-grey eye has picked the spot, and there the ball swings, straight and low. He never plays tricks, never dribbles, and is never showy. He uses his head ably; his stature gives him a happy advantage. In all circumstances he knows exactly what needs doing, exactly what he can do, and this he does. His decision and judgment are perfect."

"Lodge's methods are more summary and dashing. Neither so tall nor so heavy as his comrade, but almost as strong and fast, he hurtles at his man and through him. In spite of his rushing tactics, he seems never to miss his object; yet his pace enables him to correct an occasional error. His uncompromising dash renders him a most attractive player to watch and a fearsome player to meet. Few forwards can stand against his rush. He is a brilliant, loose-limbed kicker, strong and accurate as Oakley, less nice in height and flight, but neater. His head-work is a revelation; anywhere and everywhere his ruddy brow bounces out at the ball like a prizefighter's fist, banging it away some twenty yards or more. Oakley's calm forehead and Lodge's fiery pate clear the goal-mouth better than a score of feet. The goalkeeper has not much to fear from long, dropping shots; if short, these two poles will clear them; if near the bar he may punch in security, for no forward will get through to charge him."

THE TWO POPULAR Religious books of the day are undoubtedly "In His Steps" or "What would Jesus do?" by Chas. M. Sheldon; and "Philip Strong's Crucifixion," by Chas. M. Sheldon. They have had a truly wonderful sale both in America and England. Can be had at the "Guardian" Office, Consett. Ward Lock's Edition paper covers 6d. (by post 9d.) Cloth backs 1/- (by post 1/3).

LOCAL NOTES.

[By "Peeping Tom."]

I am always delighted when I notice improvements being carried out for the benefit of any particular district, but I must confess that I cannot congratulate our Urban Councils on the condition of some of our roads. During the recent rains many of the highway have been impassable. As soon as there has been a shower of rain then we have the clarts in an immeasurable degree. Now, this is a state of things we as ratepayers should not tolerate, and it is to be hoped our District Councils will take such steps as will improve the condition of our roads in wet weather.

By the way, I am given to understand that Consett Council at one of their meetings decided that another slop cart should be purchased so that the mud could be removed from the sides of the streets more expeditiously. I can only say that I have not yet seen such a cart out doing its work, but I have seen the workmen labouring under great difficulties in endeavouring to cope with the sloppy state of the roads. I am of the opinion that this gentle hint will do good, and will show to the new councillors that much is expected from them by the ratepayers in the way of raising their voices at the Council meetings to bring about a better state of things.

I should like to draw the attention of the Consett Urban District Council's surveyor to a nuisance that exists in Park Road. Immediately below the houses that are in course of erection a continual stream of water exudes from a wall by the side of footpath, and flows over the path into the channel, causing much inconvenience to the numerous foot passengers using this footpath. This nuisance, existing as it does on one of the principal thoroughfares of the district, has prevailed for some two or three weeks. Has our surveyor, in the course of his duties, not had occasion to visit Park Road? I earnestly hope that a remedy will be found to abate this nuisance.

Whilst referring to this question, I may say that I have received the following interesting communication, which, it is to be hoped, will catch the eyes of the Benfieldside Councillors:

A DISGRACEFUL FOOTPATH.

SIR,—I notice several improvements have been made in the state of the footpaths of late at Blackhill, and the same are very much appreciated by the public. I think, however, that it is a fitting opportunity to suggest to the Benfieldside Urban District Council that they should pay attention to a portion of the footpath in Cemetery Road—that part from the Manse to the Station Hotel. In wet weather this footpath (?) is in a most wretched and disgraceful condition, in many places pools of water obstructing the progress of the pedestrians. Ashes and the like are useless, as they are immediately trodden down by the foot passengers, and the footpath becomes as bad as ever. Why not make a permanent footpath of cement? Hoping that this improvement will be speedily and satisfactorily accomplished,—I am, yours &c.,

Blackhill. A PEDESTRIAN.

CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD.

On Tuesday afternoon, a monthly meeting of the members of the Chopwell School Board was held in the Board Schools, High Spen,—Mr. J. R. Gilchrist (chairman), presiding. There were also present Mr. W. Richardson (vice-chairman), the Rev. G. D'Eath, and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ord.)

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mr. W. Hunter (School Attendance Officer), reported that during the month he had made 241 absentee visits at the Spen, 36 at Hamsterley, and six at Victoria Garesfield. In nearly every case sickness was advanced as an excuse for non-attendance. He knew there was a good deal of sickness among children, which, with wet and unseasonable weather, went against a good attendance. Still, the attendance was anything but satisfactory. The average attendance at Chopwell was 243.5, at Victoria Garesfield Mixed, 102, and Infants, 44; at Hamsterley Mixed the average was 84.

TEACHERS' REPORTS.

Mr. Thomas Coulson, head teacher of Chopwell school, in his report, stated that work had been hindered through irregular attendance.—Mrs. M. Melhuish reported that the attendance had considerably improved, although there were still many absentees, thus making progress much slower than it should be.

THE NEW SCHOOLS.

The Clerk read a communication from the Education Department returning the plans and specifications for the new schools at Chopwell. The Department stated that the arrangement shown on the plans was satisfactory. There would be accommodation for 230 infants, and 320 mixed. The Department now requested the Board to obtain tenders for the execution of the work.

The Chairman said it seemed to him that the Education Department had paid a compliment to the architect (Mr. Oswald, Newcastle), by the prompt manner in which they had considered and accepted the plans. To send them up after one meeting and have them returned before the next was very satisfactory. The only thing they could do now was to instruct the Clerk to advertise for tenders. He moved accordingly.

Mr. Richardson seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

INSURANCE OF SCHOOLS.

A scheme for the insurance of the schools and furnishings, was laid before the Board by the Clerk, and approved of. The remaining business was not of public interest.

Ebchester Rowing Club.

Under the auspices of this club, an open boat handicap was decided on Saturday afternoon in very unfavourable weather. There was, nevertheless, a fairly large gathering of spectators. The course was on the river Derwent, just below the village of Ebchester; the distance being about half-a-mile with a turn. The first prize consisted of a silver teapot; the second a silver medal; and the third a scarf pin. Details:—Heat 1—A. Johnstone, 22secs., 1; T. Glendinning, 30, 2. Won by a length. Heat 2—R. Maughan, 17, r.o.; E. Irving, 24, absent. Heat 3—J. Swinburne, 24, r.o.; J. Simpson, 30, absent. Heat 4—J. Robinson, 10, 1; S. Tebb, 30, 2. Won by a length. Heat 5—T. Murray, 24, 1; J. Mulholland, 18, 2. Won by half a length. Heat 6—M. Maughan, 23, r.o.; T. Waggott, 24, absent. Heat 7—J. Wilson, 8, 1; J. Charlton, scratch, 2. Won easily. Second round—Heat 1—R. Maughan, 1; J. Robinson, 2. Won by a couple of feet. Heat 2—A. Johnstone, 1; M. Maughan, 2. Won by half-a-length. Heat 3—T. Murray, 1; J. Swinburne, 2. Won by 2 lengths. Heat 4—J. Wilson, a bye. Third round—Heat 1—Maughan, 1; T. Murray, 2. Won by half-a-length. Heat 2—A. Johnstone, 1; J. Wilson, 2. Won by 2 lengths. Final heat—A. Johnstone, 1; R. Maughan, 2. Won by a length and a half. Murray and Wilson rowed for the third prize, the former winning by half-a-length. Messrs Wm. Fairlamb and John Charlton were handicappers, Mr. Fairlamb also acting as starter and timekeeper. Mr. Oliver Downe was distance judge.

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.")

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

LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than TUESDAY morning.

PARENTS' DAY AT THE DIPTON BOARD SCHOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—I have read with great interest the article in your last issue headed "Parents' day at the Dipton Board School," by an "Old Boy," and was particularly struck with the following sentence, "That the idea was purely experimental and novel, as nowhere in the County of Durham has it to my knowledge ever been attempted." The idea, so far as Blackhill and Consett are concerned, is an old one, as the managers of the Blackhill and Consett Catholic Schools have for the last ten years, to my knowledge, repeatedly held entertainments and invited parents and friends to witness the efforts of the children under their charge, in their musical and drill exercises. I have on several occasions had the privilege of being present at those gatherings, and the thorough manner in which the children performed the different items allotted to them reflected the greatest credit on the teaching staffs of the Catholic Schools. Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools have, at different times, called the attention of teachers of other schools to the system used by the managers of the Blackhill and Consett Catholic Schools in the training of their children in the many drill and vocal lessons the scholars on many occasions delight parents and friends with.—Yours, etc.,

OUTSIDER.

WEST PELTON.

HOMES FOR AGED MINERS.—At the general meeting of the West Pelton Lodge of the Durham Miners' Association, held last week, it was unanimously decided to pay 1/- per man and 6d per boy towards the Aged Miners' Homes.

TANFIELD LEA NEW BOARD SCHOOLS.

On Saturday night there was a large gathering at Tanfield Lea on the occasion of the opening of the new Board Schools. At the last ordinary meeting of the Tanfield Board, it was resolved to have a public opening, short addresses to be given by the members, and a programme of harmony to be drawn up under the supervision of Mr. Wm. Bulmer, "the member for Tanfield Lea." Mr. Bulmer's arrangements were complete and satisfactory. Parents and others were invited to attend at six o'clock, in order that ample time might be afforded them of making an inspection. The new schools are built at the high end of the old schools, but are entirely detached, and face the road to Tantobie. The building is on the Central Hall system, with class rooms leading out of it. There are four class rooms 24 feet 8 inches by 24 feet 6 inches, to accommodate 60, each separated from the central hall by glazed screens. The central hall is 55 feet by 27 feet wide, and provides teaching places for 60, making the total accommodation 300. Separate cloak rooms and lavatories are provided at each end of the boys' and girls' entrances. The schools are built of local stone, and slated. The playgrounds are to be asphalted. They are heated throughout with hot-water pipes on the low pressure system, the boiler house being placed under the girls cloak room at the low end. The ventilation is by inlets in the walls, with all fanlights being made to open. There are also opening fanlights over the screens leading into each class room, and by opening these a complete cross current can be obtained, and the entire schools thoroughly ventilated in a few minutes. The central hall class rooms and cloak rooms are all cleaded to a height of six feet from the floor. Messrs Davis, of Burnopfield, are the contractors in mason, slater, plasterers work; Mr. Robinson, Burnopfield, the joiner; Mr. Leybourne Urwin, the plumber; and Mr. Leslie, Shotley Bridge, the painter and glazier. There is a teacher's residence being erected between the old school and this building, and the entire cost will be about £2,500. The buildings have been erected from plans, and under the superintendence of Mr. W. H. Bendle, architect, 33, Grainger Street, W., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. H. Curry Wood, Chairman of the Board presided, and was supported by the members of the Board, Mr. Bendle, and the teachers. A capital programme of songs, etc., was rendered by the children, and short addresses were delivered at intervals.—The Chairman expressed the pleasure it afforded the members of the Board to be present, and to assist at the opening of their splendid new schools. He called upon Mr. Bulmer, who said the new schools were as nice as any he had seen. He proceeded to refer to the progress made in the way of education, and went on to show that under the Tanfield Board they had now quite sufficient accommodation, and competent staffing.—

Mr. Armstrong said that the members of the School Board had been working together for nine years, and they had become possessed of the idea that the provision of education was a natural charge upon public funds. He believed that education should be carried on on compulsory lines. If they left education to voluntary subscriptions they would find that in certain districts they had children housed improperly, and that there was imperfect staffing. He congratulated them on the opening of that Board School. It was regarded as being one of the best under the Tanfield Board. He must admit that although there were more convenient schools it was considered to be equal to any under the Tanfield Board.

Mr. Severs next addressed the gathering and said he had been referred to as being the economist of the Board. While claiming to be the practical economist he, at the same time, claimed to have as large a share in the work of the Board as regarded forward education. He declined to regard himself as being in any way backward in that respect.

The Rev. T. H. Archdall also addressed the gathering, and referred to the auxiliary work carried on in connection with School Board work.

Mr. Jonathan Green, in the course of a few remarks, showed, by quoting figures, the rapid progress made by the School Board system in the Tanfield district. He quoted figures to show the average attendance, and also to show the small cost per head of the population which the School Board system involved.

Other addresses were delivered, and votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

In connection with the musical portion of the programme Mr. Wilkinson acted as conductor, and Miss Ramshaw presided at the piano. Great credit is due both to the conductor, the teachers generally, and the children of Tanfield Lea and Tantobie for their efficiency in both vocal and instrumental music.

Horse and Cart Parade at Birtley.

Some time ago a prominent gentleman connected with the Birtley Iron and Coal Co. expressed his pleasure at the excellent condition of the company's animals which came under his notice, and intimated that if the boys and men cared to take part in a public procession as near May Day as could be arranged he would see that good money prizes should be offered as an inducement. Such a kind expression, needless to say, was heartily taken up by the employees of the collieries, Ouston, Bewick Main, Ravensworth, Birtley Iron Works, and the railway hands, extending to the Tyne Staiths at Pelaw. Unfortunately the weather on Saturday was extremely wet, but such a fixture as the one programmed could not well be postponed. The company, we understand, give employment to some 5,000 men and boys, and it is generally acknowledged that Saturday's gathering was a record for Birtley; the people simply crowded in from the farms and villages around. There were over 70 entries in the five classes, the judges being Messrs G. Stephenson, G. Elphick, and E. Smith. Punctually at 1.30 p.m. the procession, headed by the Temperance Band, started from the works, and paraded the village to the judging field. Here had been considerately erected a large tent to shield the large number of ladies from the severe weather. Of the numerous gentlemen present were:—Col. C. Perkins, Capt. H. G. Fenwick, Rev. R. H. Yeld, M.A., Mr. W. Hedley, Mr A. P. Stoker, Mr E. H. Wilkinson, and Mr Fred Herbert. The gentlemen expressed their pleasure at the numerous turn-out; whilst the excellent condition of the animals won all-round admiration. The pit ponies did not look their best on account of the wet and shivering with cold after coming out of the pit; but they were thoroughly clean, and, as one gentleman remarked, they would be difficult to beat by any stock either at bank or underground in the county. The judging, too, gave satisfaction; neither the shape nor the value of the horse was considered, but the prize awarded to those whose carts and harness had been best best cared for and properly groomed, and whose carts and harness hda been best looked after.

Class I.—For single horses in carts, open to men at the works, collieries, and railway: 1, £2, J. Withnell; 2, 15/-, G. Slater; 3, 10/-, T. Fairbank; 4, 5/-, do.; h.c., A. Price.

Class II.—Open to men on the company's farms only, for pairs of horses in carts driven tandem: 1, £2, R. Wilkinson; 2, 15/-, J. Armstrong; 3, 10/-, Matt Ranson; 4, 5/-, G. Reah; h.c., Robt. Hindmarch.

Class III.—Open to men on farms, collieries, railway, and works, for single horse without carts in trace harness: 1, £1, J. Withnell; 2, 15/-, G. Reah; 3, 10/-, A. Place; h.c., T. Hodgson.

Class IV.—Open to all the company's employees, for the best decorated turn-out: 1, 10/-, G. Reah; 2, 7/6, W. Watson; 3, 5/-, R. Hindmarch.

Class V.—Special, for pit ponies: 1, Urpeth Busty; 2, Ouston E Pit; 3, Urpeth C Pit; 4, Bewick Main Pit; h.c., Urpeth C Pit.

From the enthusiastic manner which all have evinced in this the first turn-out of the kind at Birtley, and the satisfaction it has given to the promoters, there is no doubt the event will be an annual fixture.

CENTENARY OF A LOCAL FIRM.

Monday was the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the well-known firm of Messrs John Annandale and Sons (now a private limited company), at Haughton Castle, Northumberland. The founder was John Annandale, and the business has descended from father to son, the present owners being the grandsons and the great-grandsons of the aforesaid John Annandale. The firm have paper mills at Shotley Grove and Lintzford.

BIRTLEY.

CONCERT.—An interesting concert was given in the Co-operative Hall, Birtley, on Saturday night, by the Misses Cooke's Juvenile Choir, from Willington Quay. An excellent programme was gone through. They also gave two sacred concerts on Sunday, when recitations were given, and solos, duets, and anthems sung. Miss Cooke conducted the choir, which is composed of boys and girls. Great credit is due to Mr and Miss Cooke for the finished manner in which the children rendered the several pieces. Mr Cooke presided at the services, which were largely attended. The proceeds were in aid of an organ for the new Primitive Methodist Chapel at Birtley.

Blackhill Presbyterian Church.

On Sunday, the 23rd April, the anniversary services of this church were conducted by the Rev. John W. Ogden, F.R.G.S., of Tynemouth. At the morning service the rev. gentleman's text was taken from Rev. xxi., verse 16—"The length and breadth and the height of it are equal,"—a somewhat uncommon text, and one which on a cursory glance might be considered to contain nothing that could suggest thoughts for a profitable discourse. But there are bound up in it, as the preacher ultimately showed, the whole duty of a Christian, in relation to himself, in relation to his neighbour, and in relation to God. The preacher's enthusiasm at times was so contagious as to make those present almost regret that in courteous deference to Presbyterian sentiment they were restrained from giving audible expression to their feelings. The text at the evening service was taken from Matt. xvi., verse 26—"For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul, or what will a man give in exchange for his soul." Although from these words many eloquent sermons have been preached, we do not remember to have previously listened to one showing greater originality of thought and breadth of opinion, within evangelical limits. We may remark, in conclusion, that Mr Ogden preached quite extempore, a mode of preaching which is now considered old-fashioned; and this we think is much to be regretted, for there is no question, that a sermon is to a considerable extent robbed of what power it may otherwise possess when read from a manuscript. The services, which were attended by large congregations, were altogether most enjoyable and refreshing, and it is satisfactory to learn that from a financial point of view they were also successful.

Consett Wesleyan Guild.

On Monday evening, the "closing night" of the session took place, and the members were present in strong numbers. The president, Rev. Joseph Bacon, occupied the chair. There was the usual musical and social, which was thoroughly appreciated by all present.—The Chairman pointed out that they had arrived at the end of their programme for the winter session, and he had to state that arrangements were being made for the summer rambles, visits to other Guilds, and it was anticipated a great amount of useful open air work would be accomplished by the members during the summer months. The meetings in connection with the winter session had been a blessing to all of them.—A capital programme of music, etc., was rendered by Miss Hobday, Miss Swainston, Mrs. P. E. Surtees, Mr J. R. Swainston, and Mr R. Wray. The duties of accompanist were discharged by Miss Wilson.—Owing to the Rev. J. Bacon being called away from the meeting, Mr Geo. T. Broadbent was called upon to take the chair, and conducted the remainder of the business.—The General Secretary, (Mr P. E. Surtees) submitted his report, which was a very satisfactory one. He said they had had a very prosperous session. They started with a membership of 84, and they had made a rapid increase, inasmuch as they had now 121 members on the books. The average attendance at the meetings had been good. At the Bible meetings they found they had an average attendance of 51.9 while at the other meetings the attendance had been even better, there being no less than 60 present at some of their literary meetings. During the session they had held no less than 33 meetings, and 6 special meetings. The devotional and Bible meetings had proved a great blessing to all those who had attended them. He thought they could safely congratulate themselves upon the progress they had made. With regard to their financial position, he could only say that their income had been £28, and the expenditure £25. The purchase of the magic-lantern and other appliances for temperance work, etc., had proved a success. They had a substantial balance in hand, and he suggested that a portion of the money should be applied in wiping off the debt resting on the magic-lantern.—On the motion of Mr Bell, seconded by Mr Parsons, the report was adopted.—The customary votes of thanks were accorded to the officers for their services during the past session, and a warm tribute was paid to Mr Surtees for the way in which he had carried out the secretarial duties. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Rev. Joseph Bacon; vice-presidents—Devotional, Mr Wm Grainger or Mr N. Bell; literary, Mr Geo. T. Broadbent; Bible class, Mr Venice Dunn; musical and social, Mr J. H. Swainston; temperance, Mr R. Russell; treasurer, Mr Thos. Carr; roll secretary, Mr A. H. Dodd; look-out secretary, Mr N. Bell; general secretary, Mr. P. E. Surtees; and temperance secretary, Mr. J. Lowdon; general committee, Rev. J. Bacon, Messrs R. C. Forster, Wm. Grainger, John Lowes, V. Dunn, Overall, N. Bell, J. H. Swainston, Thos. Cockburn, T. Carr, T. Cook, and Mrs J. T. Dent; look-out committee, Mrs R. C. Foster, Mrs. Newton, Mrs. P. E. Surtees, Misses E. Carr, J. Murray, L. Hall, E. Parsons, and Messrs Geo. Parsons, R. Russell, D. Billeny, and A. H. Dodd.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding concluded a successful meeting.

FARM STOCK SALES.

HERDS' HOUSE.

Mr James Turnbull held a sale of farming stock at Herds' House on Tuesday. The weather was moderately fine, and a very large company of farmers and dealers was present. Being a grazing farm there was not a large lot of implements, but what there was brought good prices. Coup carts to £10; rolley, £13 15s; grass cutter, £3 5s; Whitechapel, £12. There was a lot of 71 H.B. gimmers, two crop ewes and lambs, which made up to 68s, with an average of 60s 9d; black faced ewes and lambs to 29s 6d; 40 grazing hoggs to 33s 6d. Cattle: Outlying shorthorn heifers made to £11 15s, averaging £10 17s 6d; shorthorn bullocks to £14 15s; stirks from £6 to £9 15s; fat cows to £11 15s. Draught horses to £20; three-parts bred mare to £13; and a Cleveland bay, £14. Bidding was very brisk throughout, and the sale concluded at an early hour.

COCKLAW.

Mr J. S. Murray conducted a sale of stock for Messrs Murray and Robson, who, after an uninterrupted tenancy of 37 years, are retiring from farming. There was a large company of farmers, dealers, and the general public. The sale was held in a downpour of rain, but this did not damp the ardour of buyers, everything of any merit making most satisfactory prices. The first horse sold, which the auctioneer said had been bred in the place 22 years ago, made £13; the next, a three years old colt, £40; a mare, £12 10s; and 2 yearling colts, £13 and £13 15s. Fat cattle, £17 15s to £21 15s; cows, £13 5s to £13 15s; 2 year old heifers to £13 7s 6d; steers to £12 15s; heifer and steer stirks, £6 10s to £9 2s 6d; ewes with twin lambs to 49s; singles to 42s; tups to 53s; hoggs to 37s each. Poultry, 2s 6d to 3s each. Implements also sold well. Towards the finish of the sale the rain came down in torrents, the oldest inhabitant scarcely remembering such a downpour.

NOTES FROM CHESTER-LE-STREET.

[By "THE LAMBTON WORM."]

MR. RIDLEY'S RE-ELECTION.

There may be many who will say that sentiment had a good deal to do with the re-election of Mr. Geo. Ridley as chairman of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, but knowing what I do know, I feel bound to say that the authority adopted a wise and a proper course. Mr. Ridley has unfortunately been a victim to ill-health, and, in consequence, has been unable to attend to his duties, but he is one of those men who "leave footprints on the sands of time," and strongly demonstrate that while there is life there is hope. The election of Mr. Ridley was an honour to the man, it was an admission of his ability as a ruler of men, and it was a further admission that his kindly yet firm guidance was needed in the future as it had been appreciated in the past. I sincerely trust the day is not far distant when he will be again in full working harness, and giving the benefit of his experience to

COMING MEN.

Mr. Ridley is not alone in age and experience. He has his peers in Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Oswald—both of them earnest and conscientious men, anxious for the welfare of those they represent, and desirous of doing their duty faithfully and well. There are free lances like Mr. Hay and Mr. Mitchell, whose duels, if at times amusing, are not altogether unproductive of good; there are the always sober, practical, and somewhat prosaic minds of Messrs Banks and Renwick, the hard-headed interpellations of Mr. Tom Richardson, the admixture of jocoseness and earnestness of Dr. Garson, Mr. J. W. Bolam and Mr. Brass, and last, but not least, there are the qualities of chairmanship innate in gentlemen like Col. Humble and Mr. W. C. Blackett. I might dwell further upon the qualities of these gentlemen, but my object is simply to show that while the authority had a wide selection they have done well for the time being to stick to older and greater experience.

CHESTER-LE-STREET GUARDIANS.

On Thursday last the annual meeting of the members of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians was held in the Board Room at the Workhouse. There were present:—Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J. Humble, P. Oswald, T. C. Renwick, J. Mitchell, C. J. Banks, R. H. English, M. J. Starford, C. Green, T. F. Brass, J. Todd, R. Fowler, M. Gilhespy, P. Hay, J. Smith, T. Richardson, R. H. Lonsdale, W. Morris, J. Emmerson, G. Middlemas, F. Harle, R. Bolam, W. R. Purves, J. W. Patterson, J. Sharp, F. Arnell, W. S. Harris, J. Anderson, M. H. Douglas, J. W. Bolam, W. C. Blackett, J. H. R. Gerson, H. E. Henderson, F. Herbert, R. B. Clark, G. H. Hornsby, and W. Hedley; the Clerk (Mr R. Dickinson), and the Assistant Clerk (Mr R. V. Dickinson.)

On the motion of Mr Mitchell, seconded by Mr Renwick, Mr J. Humble was temporarily voted to the chair.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr Humble said their first business was to elect a chairman, and he had great pleasure in proposing that Mr Geo. Ridley be re-elected. He was pleased to be able to state that Mr Ridley was very much improved in health, and from the report he had from his doctor he thought before long, if elected, they would have the pleasure of Mr Ridley's company there again. (Hear, hear.) He was quite sure that Mr Ridley would give them every satisfaction in the future as he had done in the past. He had great pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr Ridley. (Hear, hear.)

Mr P. Oswald had pleasure in seconding the nomination. They had in Mr Ridley an inimitable chairman, a man of cool, mental ability, kindly disposition, and one who was ever ready to help those who needed a helping hand and to show sympathy with anyone who came before that Board in any difficulty. He met a gentleman the other day who said that one thing that inspired him was that he was always quite sure of a cheering smile and a helping hand from the chairman. Mr Ridley had in the past placed his services, experience, talent, and information at their disposal, and had served them ably and well. He had, therefore, great pleasure in seconding that Mr Ridley be re-elected chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr Mitchell said there was to his mind nothing more unpleasant than to have to move the election of another member of the Board as chairman, and especially when their old friend Mr Ridley had been moved and seconded. However highly they might esteem Mr Ridley they must consider the state of his health. He quite agreed that they could not get a better chairman. They had a very kindly letter from him at the last meeting thanking the Board. He (Mr Mitchell) thought the Board ought rather to have thanked Mr Ridley. They had had a very good chairman, but he thought they ought to risk a change this time. Mr Hodgson had been a very effective vice-chairman for many years, and when their chairman had been unable to attend Mr Hodgson had never been wanting, so that they had always been well served either by the chairman or the vice-chairman. He was sorry to do so, but he moved that Mr. Hodgson be chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr Mitchell's motion was not seconded, and Mr Ridley was re-elected nem. con.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr Mitchell moved, and Mr Brass seconded, the re-election of Mr Hodgson as vice-chairman.

Mr Hay said he wished to move an amendment, not because of any incapacity or of any feeling against Mr Hodgson, but because there were others on the Board who were equally able to discharge the duties, and had sat longer on the Board. No one there would claim for Mr Hodgson more intelligence or greater knowledge of the duties of a Board like theirs than that possessed by some others on the Board. He objected to these places of honour going in one direction year after year, and he, therefore, moved that Mr Humble be elected vice-chairman. At a proper time he intended to bring forward a motion that these positions should be circulated. In a district like that with such a large population it seemed strange that they could not find others to fill the positions.

Mr Humble said he was very much obliged to Mr Hay, but his desire was to see Mr Hodgson in the vice-chair. He thanked Mr Hay for the kind way in which he had brought his name before the Board.

Mr Hodgson was thereupon unanimously elected vice-chairman.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES.

The Workhouse and Finance Committee having been re-elected,

Mr Hay drew attention to the composition of the Assessment Committee. He thought that in regard to the assessment of public-houses the committee merited a vote of censure. When he heard the figures read out he knew they could not stand. The Board made a pretence of trying to uphold the committee, but instead the ratepayers were put to an expenditure of some hundreds of pounds that there was no occasion for. The values they put on were ridiculous, and he found that they were modified to a great extent. He considered there was one party predominant on the Assessment Committee, and that the people were not sufficiently represented. There was a very great deal of dissatisfaction in Chester-le-Street. He thought that instead of taking the names of the Committee "en bloc," they should have a change. He moved that Mr. Harle be a member of the Committee.

Mr. Harle said at once that he would not stand.

The Chairman said he thought Mr. Hay must move an amendment.

Mr. Hay then moved that they vote upon the names separately.

Mr. J. W. Bolam seconded Mr. Hay's proposal.

On a division, 12 voted for Mr. Hay's motion, and 19 against, and the Committee was thereupon re-appointed without change.

The School Attendance Committee was re-appointed, and on the motion to re-appoint the Workhouse Visiting Committee,

Mr. Blackett suggested that instead of having relays of members serving for certain periods, they should have a definite committee. There was a good deal of shuffling in the present arrangement.

Mr. Hay said the work of the Committees was so important that they could not afford to run through it, and yet they often did. Their services were taken away by the Relief Committees, one of the important purposes for which they were sent there. He thought the work of the Visiting Committee should be done at a different time of the day, if not on a different day from the Board meeting.

After further discussion it was resolved that the Committee should consist of ten members, and the following members were elected:—Messrs Hay, Garson, Brass, R. Bolam, J. W. Bolam, Banks, Oswald, Patterson, Green, and Smith.

PAUPER STATISTICS.

The Workhouse Master (Mr. Aikman) reported that the number of inmates in the Workhouse was 154, as against 157 in the corresponding fortnight of last year, showing a decrease of 3. The number of vagrants was 78, as against 57, showing an increase of 21.

RURAL COUNCIL.

The Board then sat as the Rural District Council, Mr. Humble again being elected to take the chair pro. tem.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Mitchell moved the re-election of Mr. Ridley as Chairman.

Mr. Oswald seconded, and said they did not want any better man. They all trusted he would soon be fully restored to a good state of health.

The motion was carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Mitchell moved, and Mr. Brass seconded the re-election of Mr. Hodgson as vice-chairman.

Mr. Hay moved the election of Mr. Oswald. He said if it had been settled by the Guardians that one particular person should go on, it did not follow that the Council should do so, or that it would be any anomoly to act differently. They had other men who, he thought, were able to fill the position, and were equally qualified and just as deserving as Mr. Hodgson. In saying that he was not saying anything against Mr. Hodgson. Mr. Oswald had been a member of that Board for a good many years, and had also filled the position of vice-chairman at a time prior to Mr. Hodgson being elected.

Mr. Renwick seconded Mr. Hay's motion.

Mr. Oswald said he would much rather they would allow his name to pass by. Mr. Hodgson was a personal friend of his, and he should not like to be placed in opposition to him. He quite sympathised with the idea that it would be a great benefit if they had fresh chairmen and vice-chairmen in both cases. It was too much for one man to sit there from two o'clock until six transacting the business of the whole Board and Council. Still he would rather stand aside.

Mr. Hay: Mr. Hodgson is a personal friend of mine, but I would not withdraw my motion on that account.

The Chairman asked Mr. Oswald if he refused to serve?

Mr. Oswald said he would not refuse to serve if it was the wish of the Council that he should take the office.

Mr. Banks said he believed there was a strong feeling that the Council meetings ought not to be held on the same day as the Guardians. If that were at any time decided upon, then the question of separate chairmanship would be raised. It would be a relief if on one Thursday Guardians business were taken, and on the other Thursday Council business only. (Hear, hear.) In that case it would be desirable to have a change of chairman, or, at any rate, of vice-chairman.

A vote was then taken, with the following result:—Mr. Oswald 17, Mr. Hodgson 14. Mr. Oswald was therefore elected, and presided over the remaining portion of the business, after thanking the Council.

APPOINTMENT OF SURVEYOR.

For the position of Inspector of Nuisances, and surveyor for the Harraton District, in succession to Mr. Symon, appointed Surveyor to Blaydon Council, there were 26 application. After taking each separately, a final vote was taken between Mr. John H. Mold, Clerk of Works, East Boldon; Mr. H. F. Jacques, assistant-surveyor, Manchester; and Mr. E. W. Scott, Sanitary Inspector, Newcastle. Mr. Mold was elected by a large majority, and on the motion of Mr. Renwick, the election was formally confirmed.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORT.

Dr. Taylor, Medical Officer of Health, reported that during the fortnight there had been 91 births, and 33 deaths, giving a birth-rate of 38.7 per thousand, and a death-rate of 14.3. Ten children had died under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 10.9 per thousand born. He had received 20 notifications of infectious diseases as compared with five in the previous fortnight, and nine in the corresponding period of last year. The notified cases consisted of 13 of scarlet fever, six of enteric fever, and one of erysipelas. At Middle Hold, West Pelton, there was a case of grossly overcrowding, there being 15 inmates in a house of two rooms. He recommended that notice be served. Measles were prevalent in the Washington district, and he recommended that the schools be closed for one month. Two cases of scarlet fever had been admitted into the Hospital, and one, recovered from scarlet fever, discharged. There were 25 patients under treatment, and the average number for the fortnight had been 25.

Dr. Taylor's recommendations were agreed to, and the report was adopted.

THE ALLEGED HOSPITAL SCANDAL.

In reference to a case recently heard before the Houghton-le-Spring Magistrates, and in which certain reflections were cast upon the management of the Isolation Hospital, the Local Government Board requested the views of the Council on the points complained of. The matter was referred to the Hospital Committee, and after an exhaustive enquiry, they submitted the following report:—(1) We call the attention of the Council to the fact that the late Medical Officer of Health was the principal person who conducted the case for the defence, and we think that but for his interference, the defendant would not have obstructed the Magistrates' order. (2) State of Roof and Wards.—Respecting the allegation made by Dr. Duncan that "the rain comes in floods through the ridges and parts of the roofs into the wards," we unhesitatingly give this a flat denial. We admit that at the time of our appointment as a Committee of Management, over four years ago, and during Dr. Duncan's tenure of office as Medical Officer of the hospital, we certainly found the buildings in an indifferent state of repair. We had the roof thoroughly repaired, and put into a perfectly watertight condition, and since that time there has not been any complaint or cause for complaint. The occasion when Dr. Duncan refers to the rain dripping "about a year since" was not into a ward, but was a drip down the surgery stove pipe, and certainly could not affect any of the patients. (3) Accommodation.—It is true that the hospital was built for 20 beds for adults, and at the time William Turner was ordered to be removed to the hospital, the number of patients resident in the hospital was equal to 13 adults only. The statement that the beds are not sufficient for two children, is not correct. We have seen the beds with the children in bed, and consider them amply sufficient.—(4) Disinfectants.—There is always a plentiful supply of disinfectants in the hospital, and a saturated solution of perchloride of mercury is kept in each typhoid locker. The matron's answer to Nurse Jacobson's allegation that the latter asked for disinfectants, and did not get them, is that Nurse Jacobson did ask for them, and was told that they were in the lavatory. With respect to Nurse Jacobson's uniform not being disinfected when she left the hospital, Nurse Jacobson had no change of clothes. She went to a case in Pelton Fell in a great hurry, at the termination of her engagement at the hospital, and she left the hospital on her own responsibility, and no one at the hospital is to blame for her action.—Respecting delirious typhoid patients, and patients with diarrhœa, the practice is to use cheap calico with cotton wool, and when this is taken from the patient, it, including the stool, etc., is burned.—If Nurse Jacobson did not disinfect the typhoid stools, she, as a nurse, grossly neglected her duty, as there was plenty of disinfectants at hand.—The allegation that the typhoid ward clothes lay on the ward floor in a dirty condition is denied by the matron.—Respecting Stark, Nurses Jacobson and Ranson (temporary nurses), allowed the ward in which he was to get below the temperature ordered by the late Medical Officer, and Nurse Ranson was discharged for her neglect. There is a fire in each ward. When the ambulance is sent for a patient, three large footwarmers are taken for a typhoid case, and two for a scarlet fever case. These are sufficient to keep the patient perfectly warm, even in the coldest weather.—The statement made by the matron, respecting the knowledge Nurses Jacobson and Ranson had about disinfectants, is fully corroborated by Nurse Dobbs, as is also the contradiction respecting typhoid bed clothes lying on the floors. The efficiency of the accommodation and the sanitary condition of the wards are proved by the fact that during 3½ years, 351 cases of infectious diseases—viz., scarlet fever, enteric fever, and diphtheria, with a few cases of measles, have been treated in the hospital with 12 deaths, or a death-rate of 3.41 per cent. During the same period, 1,454 cases of scarlet fever, enteric fever, and diphtheria have been treated in the patients' own homes, with a death-rate of 7.70 per cent.—We have very carefully examined each ward of the hospital, and find everything in them very clean, and the children comfortable. From the fact that the people, as a rule, are willing, and in many instances very glad to send their children to the hospital, we must conclude from that, and from our own observations, that the hospital is well managed in every way.

Mr. Blackett moved that the report of the Committee constitute the reply of the Council to the Local Government Board.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Sanitary Inspector's reports, which were of a formal character, were passed, as were several reports from local committees. —A letter was received from the Clerk of Peace, stating that an order had been granted, increasing the number of Rural District Councillors for Chester-le-Street township by one.

The meeting then terminated.

'TWAS HARD WORK FIFTEEN YEARS AGO.

TO-DAY DIAMOND DYES MAKE HOME DYEING EASY.

FIFTEEN years ago the work of home dyeing was just in its infancy. The old-fashioned, crude preparations were then in vogue, necessitating much time and great expense, while the results, even with the greatest amount of care, never gave satisfaction.

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If you have any difficulty in obtaining Diamond Dyes, we will send any colour post free on receipt of 3d in stamps. Address, "Diamond Dyes," 31 & 32, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

CONSETT.

FIRE.—About 9 o'clock on Thursday night of last week, a fire was observed on the premises of Mr R. Sedgewick, hairdresser, of Middle Street, Consett, the shop having been locked up an hour previously. The police were at once apprised. A large quantity of water was thrown upon the blaze, and the fire was eventually subdued. Extensive damage was done to the woodwork fittings, and floor and ceiling inside. The fire was fortunately confined to the lower rooms.

A DAY AT "'APPY 'AMPSTEAD" is thoroughly enjoyed by the East End poor, as is amply proved by the immense crowds who flock there every Bank Holiday. The pure air bracing atmosphere to be found on the breezy heights of Highgate and its neighbourhood cannot fail to benefit those who can only spend a few hours in their midst. Holidays, however, cannot be fully enjoyed by those persons who are suffering from disease. Holloway's Pills and Ointment can speedily remove this drawback to pleasure if a fair trial is only afforded them. As a cure for rheumatism, gout, fevers, diarrhœa, diseases of the skin, scrofula, ulcers, sores, or old wounds, they are beyond competition.

THE FATEFUL FUNERAL.

Funerals have a fatality about them. The exposure to bleak air, hatless, in a depressed frame of mind, is more apt to give a cold than any other form of risk. There are features in the following account however, of a cold caught at a funeral, that differ from some other similar experiences. Mr James Bainbridge, a brakesman at Tudhoe Colliery, told it to a special commissioner of the "Auckland Chronicle," who visited him at his residence, 48, Weardale Street, Mount Pleasant, near Spennymoor, in Durham.

"In November, 1897," said he, "I attended the funeral of a relative at Station Town, a colliery village in Northumberland. It was a cold, raw day, and unfortunately for myself I was clad in lighter material than was customary for me to wear. That act cost me a time of painful suffering, which is now as fresh as ever in my memory. I did not observe the effects at the time, but the morning after, when I was intending to go to work as usual, I found it to be utterly beyond me. I woke in the direst pain, unable to stand erect when I tried, whilst a pain that was insufferable cut me across the body. All thought of going to work was abandoned. I was obliged to return to bed, and for a week afterwards was unable to get downstairs. My legs swelled out of all proportion, and refused to carry me. I was suffering, the doctor said, from a severe form of gastric colic. I had little hope of ultimate recovery. Life was a drag, and take what medicines I might I was no better. It was then that my wife procured me a box of Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people. The very first box gave me relief, and before I had finished the second I was again able to get about. Altogether I had six boxes, and felt then an entirely new man. At the end of five weeks I was so far recovered as to be able to resume work, but the suffering of those five weeks told terribly upon me." Here Mr Bainbridge impressively conveyed to the writer—by describing how loosely his clothes hung about him—the extent to which his form had shrunken through the effects of the illness. "But now," he continued, "I feel as strong as a horse, enjoying the best of health, and I attribute it all to the wonderful qualities of Dr. Williams' pink pills."

"What led me first to give a trial to Dr. Williams' pink pills? Well, this was not the first instance in which I had used them. Two years ago when I was ill, my wife, who had tried them, urged me to take them. I had rheumatism and a complication of disease, brought on, I think, by years of constant work in connection with machines and fires. The attentions of the doctor had failed to improve my condition, and my wife pressed me to give a trial to Dr. Williams' pink pills. She had read of their curing a young man, who was such a sufferer from rheumatism that he was compelled to go about on crutches; but I still doubted them doing me any good. However, she bought a box of the pills, unknown to me, and prevailed upon me to try them; finally I accepted her persuasion. I tried the pills, found great relief in the first box, and in a very short time (I had been confined to the house about three weeks) I felt in fit condition to begin work again."

It is in cases that ordinary medicine fails to relieve, that Dr. Williams' pink pills effect their most sensational cures. But the reader must not suppose that they are only for severe cases. They are, on the contrary, a valuable household remedy, as, being entirely harmless, they can be taken even without medical supervision, when an attack of rheumatism, sciatica, or neuralgia comes on, or where the patient needs a tonic. They are also an invaluable help to the development of growing girls, especially when pale and breathless; and where consumption threatens, their timely use may save life. But it is only genuine pills that are of any use. Substitutes do harm, as they are not fit for general use as the true pills are. The genuine pills may be recognised by bearing on the pink wrapper the full name, Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people; in case of doubt it is better to send the price (two and ninepence for one box, thirteen and nine for six) by post to Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Holborn Viaduct, London, when the pills will be received, post free, next day.

LECTURE AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

In connection with the Annfield Plain Free Church Mission, a dioramic lecture was given on Saturday evening in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, by the Rev. John W. Ogden, F.R.G.S., of Tynemouth, to a goodly company of members and friends. The subject of the lecture was "Here and there, by land and sea, to the other side of the world," being part of an account of the lecturer's journey to Australia. It was illustrated by a large number of beautiful coloured photographs, together with many unique dioramic effects some of which are among the most elaborate and astonishing ever devised for optical projection. The lantern, which was ably manipulated by Mr. Ogden and Mr. A. Brown, was the most perfect and powerful of its class in the North of England, and one of the finest in every way that has yet been constructed. It was a triple lantern fitted with the finest lenses and the most powerful jets, and with every technical contrivance and adjustment for producing the most perfect results upon the screen. The chair was ably occupied by Mr. Geo. Sterling, of the School House, Annfield Plain, who was introduced to the meeting by Mr. Robson as a gentleman well-known, especially to the younger portion of the audience. The lecture opened with the singing of the hymn, "Praise ye the Lord," which was put on the screen verse by verse in dissolving views. The lecturer confined his remarks to "A cruise in the Mediterranean." The ship in which the cruise was taken, said the lecturer, had 520 passengers and 130 crew. The cause of the voyage was his impaired health, and the trip was generously offered by a liberal-hearted Yorkshire gentleman. After giving an account of the departure from England, the lecturer graphically explained what happened in the Bay of Biscay, which is noted for its stormy weather. Proceeding the lecturer described the beautiful scenery off the coast of Portugal, the rock of Gibraltar, in which there are guns with which Great Britain can blow all the navies and ships in the world out of the Straits. Then he touched upon the beauty spots in the Riviera, after which he explained that Monaco and Monte Carlo were the most beautiful spots on the face of the earth, but which were also the gambling hells of Europe. Views of the Casino and its gambling hall, with a gambling scene, were next placed upon the screen, the moral of which was enforced with strong language by the lecturer. Proceeding on the journey Mr. Ogden touched upon the island of Sardinia, Ischia and the late earthquakes, the island of Capris, on which was a cave called the "Blue Grotto of Capris," which could only be entered at low water. The next scene was that of the Bay of Naples, in which was St. Elmo, the great prison in which the most cruel and tyrannical enormities had been perpetrated, and which had, by the able pen of the late Wm. Ewart Gladstone, been exposed to Europe and forever stopped. After showing several nice views of the grand semi-circle of the Bay, the lecturer explained the life of the city, which, he said, was rotten to the core, in a commercial, social, civil, political, religious, and national aspect. The inhabitants were notorious for lying and knavery, and beat all he knew of. The streets were in a horrible condition, and pedestrians were obliged to walk ankle deep in liquid mud. It was no wonder epidemics were frequent, for the people courted and challenged them. After showing the mountain of Vesuvius at peace, the lecturer showed several scenes of the buildings in Naples, amongst which was a scene of public letter writers, the King's palace, and the church of St. Francis and St. Paul. At this stage of the meeting, Mr. J. Prinn and Miss E. Prinn sang the duet, "Larboard Watch." Then a visit was made to Herculaneum and Pompeii, the city which was buried in the year 79, and parts which have been excavated. Amongst these were the entrance to an underground theatre, the streets and houses, and other objects of tragic interest, which were signs of daily life suddenly suspended. The museums at Pompeii and Naples were of deep interest, as in the former were several pictures from which paintings had been made, which had been found in a house. Then several splendid views of the public buildings of Pompeii before and after destruction were shown. The lecture concluded with the singing of 'Rock of Ages,' illustrated by a series of superb dioramic effects.—On Sunday, Mr. Ogden preached in the hall morning and evening. The morning subject was, "The scepticism of prejudice refuted by the argument of experience," while the evening subject was "Babylon, the glory of its greatness, and the lesson we can learn from its fall." In the afternoon a musical service was given by the choir and other friends. The proceeds were in aid of the Free Church Mission.

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INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES.

DEMONSTRATION AT CONSETT.

On Saturday, in connection with the "Endeavour" Adult Tent, No. 2,334, and "Bethany" Juvenile Tent, No. 1,562, of the Independent Order of Rechabites, Salford Unity, at Consett, held a successful demonstration. The weather was anything but favourable for a gathering of this description; but nevertheless there was a strong turn out, and the procession, which was headed by the Consett Silver Model Temperance Band, created quite a stir in the town. The prize banner won by the "Bethany" Juvenile Tent for securing the largest number of members in the Durham District during the past year, was unfurled. The banner is of a pretty design. On the top scroll is the name of the order in gilt letters, with the words: "Juvenile section" underneath. The picture is a capital representation of a rough sea, and the life-boat going out to the assistance of a vessel in distress, while in the distance is to be seen the lighthouse, sending forth its beautiful rays of light. The motto is: "On to the rescue," and on the bottom scroll is the name: "Bethany Tent, Consett, No. 1,562." On the other side is splendidly pourtrayed the emblem of the Order, with the motto: "Peace and plenty are the reward of Temperance." The arrangements for the demonstration were successfully carried out, and the secretarial duties by Bro. J. W. Egglestone. The members of the junior tent were entertained to tea, after which there was a public tea in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, Consett, provided by Mr. Courtney, of the Cocoa Rooms, Consett. A large company partook of the excellent repast.

In the evening, there was a public meeting and concert, which was fairly well patronised. The chairman was Councillor George D. Powell, Consett, who was supported by Bro. W. F. Holmes, D.S.J.T., of Hetton-le-Hole; Bro. Geo. H. Lethery, D.C.R., Darlington, Bro. J. W. Egglestone, Consett; and Bro. Thomas Pattinson, Blackhill.

The Chairman said the reason why he presided over that gathering was because he was in sympathy with the Temperance cause. There was nothing that delighted him more than to see children taking part in proceedings of that description, and he considered it was their duty as parents to help them in every possible way. When they saw the traps and dangers that were set on every hand it behoved them to do all in their power to make safe paths for the children. If they could not do a great deal they could do a little for the work they were engaged in. (Applause). They as grown-up people had trod over the rough road, and it was their duty to make it a little easier for those that had to come after them. They ought to show a good example. People that left strong drink alone were the better for it in more ways than one. The drink traffic was becoming a most gigantic evil in their midst, and he urged them to sign the pledge, do all in their power to rescue the drunkards, and banish the drink out of their midst. (Applause).

Bro. Letherey followed with an interesting address. He said he wished to say a few words to those who were not members of their Order. He was desirous of giving a little advice to the working man, whose earnings were not large, in order to induce them to do something towards making provision in cases of sickness, not only for themselves but their families. Good health was the working man's capital, and he maintained it was the duty of every man to join some friendly society, and money laid out in this direction was a good investment. He was there to say if they intended to join a friendly society to identify themselves with the Rechabites. He was not going to say one word against the other friendly societies; but the reason he urged them to join their Order was because it was a temperance society. (Applause.) The speaker proceeded to deal with the advantages to be derived by becoming a Rechabite and these were many. He pointed out that their Order was doing a useful work amongst the children, and concluded by urging upon the members to be true to their pledge. (Applause).

Bro Holmes was the next speaker. He said this was his second visit to Consett, and he congratulated the members of the "Bethany" Tent on being successful in winning the banner. He remembered the struggle they had to get the Tent opened at Consett, as they had to send scouts out into the streets of the town to get hold of a number of children so that they might have the required number present to open the tent. It was pleasing to know that their work at Consett had been a success, inasmuch as they had now over 100 members on the books. (Applause.) He remembered on the opening night, one good brother saying that he would not rest till he got 100 members. He had to thank that brother for his perseverance, and he could only urge him to go on, and never weary in well-doing. (Applause.) In the Durham district they had 56 juvenile societies, and they offered a banner for the society that secured the largest increase during the year. A number of the Tents did not enter the competition; but four societies worked splendidly, with the result there was a very close contest. When the numbers were returned, it was found that the "Bethany" Tent had won the banner by three members. The Consett society reported an increase of 65 members, "Diamond Jubilee," Gateshead, 62; and the "Crystal Stream," Gateshead, 61. He trusted that the "Bethany" Tent would continue to grow, and prosper, as they had a splendid district to work in. They could not be engaged in more blessed work than inducing children to become Rechabites. The speaker proceeded to deal with the benefits that would accrue by joining the Rechabites Society, and showed its advantages in preference to the other friendly societies.

During the evening, a capital programme of music was rendered by Miss Matthews (soprano), Miss Egglestone and Miss F. Prinn, Mr. J. Siddle (tenor), and Master Bowe (cornet), all of Consett. Glees were also given by the Juveniles, under the leadership of Mr. H. Thompson, Consett. The duties of accompanist were carried out by Mr. Thomas Jones, Consett.

The customary votes of thanks concluded a successful gathering.

A Most Delicious Summer Beverage.

It is difficult sometimes to know what to drink during the spring and summer months. This long felt want has been met by the production of Eiffel Tower Lemonade.

Eiffel Tower Lemonade is made from the finest lemons, and the great advantage is that it is partly manufactured in Italy in the midst of the lemon orchards. The lemons are taken direct from the tree, to the factory to commence their transformation into Eiffel Tower Lemonade.

You can get thirty-two tumblers (or two gallons) for fourpence half-penny, but BE SURE THAT YOU GET EIFFEL TOWER LEMONADE when you ask for it, as its great success has brought out inferior imitations that only cause disappointment.

If you cannot get it from your Grocer, send 4½d. to the makers, G. Foster Clark & Co., 1019 Eiffel Tower Factory, Maidstone, they will send you a bottle post free by return.

300 BOTTLES GIVEN AWAY WEEKLY.

The firm have adopted the following novel method to induce everybody to try their Lemonade. The first fifty letters opened every day not only have the Lemonade sent by return post, but the stamps are also returned to the fortunate applicants.

A second bottle will not be supplied by the firm, but must be obtained of Grocers, Chemists, or Stores.

TRAIN ALTERATIONS FOR MAY.

NEWCASTLE, BLACKHILL & DURHAM, & NEWCASTLE, ANNFIELD PLAIN & CONSETT.

The 5.23 a.m. train from Rowlands Gill to Newcastle will leave at 5.15 a.m. The 7.25 a.m., 11.55 a.m., 2.35 p.m., and 8.35 p.m. trains from Durham to Blackhill will leave at 7.22 a.m., 12.0 noon, 2.38 p.m., and 8.38 p.m. respectively. The 7.30 a.m. train from Newcastle to Blackhill will be accelerated from Ebchester. Additional trains will leave Durham for Blackhill at 7.35 a.m. and 7.30 p.m., and Blackhill for Durham at 8.23 a.m. and 8.11 p.m. on Sundays. The 8.40 a.m. and 8.25 p.m. trains from Blackhill to Newcastle will leave at 8.22 a.m. and 8.13 p.m. respectively. Additional trains will, commencing 4th June, leave Newcastle for Blackhill, via Scotswood, at 2.30 p.m., and Blackhill for Newcastle at 7.40 p.m. on Sundays. The 7.0 p.m. train from Newcastle to Blackhill will leave at 7.15 p.m. The 8.12 p.m. train from Blackhill to Newcastle will leave at 8.18 p.m. An additional train will leave Newcastle for Consett via Scotswood, at 9.50 p.m. An additional train will leave Consett for Newcastle, via Birtley, at 10.52 p.m. on Saturdays. Other trains from Blackhill to Newcastle, via Scotswood, will be retimed. For particulars see time tables.

DARLINGTON AND BLACKHILL.

The 7.5 a.m. train from Darlington to Blackhill will leave at 7.3 a.m. The 8.15 a.m. train from Blackhill to Darlington will leave at 8.5 a.m. and be retimed. The 8.20 p.m. and 8.25 p.m. trains from Bishop Auckland to Crook will leave at 8.23 p.m. and 8.28 p.m. respectively. The 3.45 p.m. train from Crook to Tow Law will leave at 8.48 p.m.

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TO AVENGE GORDON!

OR,

THE LAST DASH FOR KHARTOUM.

A TALE OF LOVE AND WAR.

BY

JAMES S. BORLASE.

Author of "Darker than Death," "Riches to Ruin," "An Ocean Secret," "Recalled to Life," &c. &c.

CHAPTER XXV.

"SHE SHALL BE CUT INTO A THOUSAND PIECES."

EDITH FORRESTER knew full well that so soon as ever the marriage ceremony was over she would have to leave the palace, in her savage husband's company, for one or other of his many huts in Omdurman, wherefore, kind and gentle as was her real nature, she nevertheless glanced furtively around in search of some weapon that she could whip up and conceal inside her loose apparel, for, as a last means of escape from so degrading and loathsome a destiny she was resolved, did the opportunity but offer, to kill either herself or him, she did not care in the least which.

Meanwhile she strove her hardest to steady her nerves and to husband her strength against the time arrived when both might be sorely needed.

As for the fever which had laid its hold upon her, she now feared that it would not develop its worst symptoms quickly enough to preserve her from Yakub el Jaaisha, and she also felt that were she again to plead that she was stricken thereby, the Khalifa's head wife would give her the "lie direct," by declaring that such was not the case.

The great hall was lighted by many torches, and the air reeked with perfume; tables were also spread with refreshments, and the Khalifa, his son, and the bridegroom had donned their best apparel.

The latter gazed with an evidently gloating longing at Edith Forrester, to whose cheeks the fever had given a charming flush of colour, whereas he had always hitherto seen them as white as ivory.

He thought that the roseate hue added immensely to his victim's beauty, as did also the clean and very becoming garb that she now wore, and which, in reality, very much became her.

He accordingly advanced to meet her with as amiable a smile as that wherewith a hungry cannibal could have welcomed a nice fat missionary on whom he hoped to sup; and, after only a moment of hesitation, the bride on, observing that he was holding out both hands towards her, by way of greeting, laid her own therein, thinking to herself the while—"Though I may not get the chance of stabbing him to the heart, yet my very touch may seal his doom, and then my dear countrymen will have one doughty foe the less to contend with when they arrive before Omdurman, for this man is reported to be the boldest and most skilful of all the Dervish generals."

Yakub el Jaaisha gripped those little hands as in a vice, and led their owner up to where the Khalifa stood, with an open *Koran* in his hand, from which it became evident that of his triple rôle of Prophet, Priest and Monarch, he had cloaked himself, for the time being, with the second attribute, donning the while a fitting pose and expression.

On observing this, such of his wives as formed Edith Forrester's escort, at once ceased grinning and giggling, and looked as grave as so many owls, and for several minutes the unwilling bride, standing, overcome with speechless horror, at the bridegroom's side, listened as one in a dream to the sonorous stream of Arabic that flowed steadily and rythmically from the Khalifa's lips.

She did not awake to the full knowledge of her actual position until the voice suddenly ceased, and, closing and laying down the *Koran*, the tyrant loosened his sword in its scabbard, as though by the action he meant to imply that he had changed from a priest into a despotic ruler and a warrior once more, and with a perfectly altered tone of voice, for it was now as harsh, sharp and rasping as it had before been sonorous and mellifluo, exclaimed—

"Well, my brother, you have had your will, and, I must add, much against my own. By this act of yours you have probably curtailed the supply of blood for mixing my lime with by at least a gallon, so see that your good sword more than makes up the deficiency on the approaching day of battle, for there by alone can'st thou regain my full favour. And now away with thy new wife, and be sure that ere the day arrives on which Allah and the Prophet deliver her countrymen into our hands she has embraced the holy faith of Islam, for else, thy spouse though she be, her life will be required of her, since in my gratitude for our victory I shall suffer no foul and unclean thing—and all unbelievers are both foul and unclean—any longer to defile the holiness of our greatly favoured city."

"But the feast? The feast that is already spread!" gasped Yakub.

"The believer may not eat or drink with the unbeliever, so we will partake of it in thy honour, Yakub, directly thou art gone. So soon as thy new wife has embraced the true faith, we will do her a relative honour in turn, and I will then allow her to associate with my own wives on terms of perfect equality. For the present take her hence, and afterwards lose no time in setting about her conversion. Make her eat plenty of stick, for it will help her to digest the *Koran* as nothing else will. My French spouse, Marie, is a living testimony to its efficacy."

"After the first few hours she shall eat stick in abundance, my brother," answered Yakub el Jaaisha, somewhat sullenly, for, he was wrathful at being driven out of the palace with an empty stomach; wherefore he laid hold of his bride's arm somewhat roughly, uttering the single word:

"Come!"

But this action, and the harshly spoken word, awoke Edith Forrester from the dazed state into which she had fallen, to one of vehement and almost phrensied, desperation, and wrenching herself away from the Emir, she exclaimed, wildly:

"I shall not go with you, nor will you urge me to do so when I tell you that, as surely as you leave this place, dragging me by one arm, Death will cling even more tightly on to your other. Death!" she repeated, with an hysterical laugh, "why I am Death's bride, since he wedded me before you did, aye, long hours before, for the religious habit which I wore when you came to the prison to bear me away belonged to the good nun Ida Vitali. She had it on when she died of typhus fever the night before, and I donned it in turn in order to woo therein the same kindly deliverer. Ha! ha! ha! and I did not woo in vain, for, look, at my flushed face, my over-bright eyes, and the spots upon my neck, and you will see that Death has really won me and that I am his alone!"

Even the dullest comprehension present could perceive that the reckless and desperate woman was neither lying nor shamming now. A shudder of acute terror seemed to convulse everyone, and all the women, except Marie Lecompt, rushed away as though a venomous serpent had suddenly appeared in their midst, whilst even Yakub el Jaaisha started back, and, brave warrior though he was, seemed to be overcome by the horror of the situation.

But only for a minute did he stand thus appalled, for then, with a howl like unto that of a famished wolf whose hard-won supper is on the point of being seized upon and borne away by some stronger beast of prey, he foamed at the mouth with rage, and drawing his sword was, in the height of his ungovernable fury, on the point of slaying the woman who had given herself away to so formidable a rival, and one which it was beyond his power to strike down.

The younger Yakub, however, threw himself between his uncle and the bride, saying, half sternly and half contemptuously—

"Reserve your weapon for a doughtier opponent, unless you would have me cross it with mine."

But, hardly had he uttered the words, when he was roughly seized upon and swung aside by his father, the Khalifa, who exclaimed in harsh, strident tones—

"Do two true believers beard each other over such paltry spoil as a Feringhee woman? Curb your tongues and restrain your hands whilst I slice her fairly in half, and allot to each his share, so as to allay all cause of quarrel between you."

But the elder Emir's temper had by this time taken another turn, forcing him to growl out—

"The woman is my wife, wherefore, by the law of the Prophet, I, and I alone, am the arbiter of her destiny. She says that she has given herself to Death. Well, let Death have her, but only after I have done with her. He has not yet robbed her of her beauty, wherefore he shall not rob me of her person so long as I can defend it from him. If I am struck down in that defence I shall merely exchange her, that very instant, for the forty immortal houries who are given to every true believer as he enters the gardens of paradise, and whose youth and loveliness last for ever. For those reasons I shall take my bride home with me, whatever comes of it."

"Hold, madman!" roared the Khalifa, in a voice of thunder. "That woman speaks the truth when she says that if Death claims her he will also claim you. I know it is the truth, for I can see it for myself, having beheld and studied such symptoms of the dire disease before. Back—back I say, for in the day of slaughter, which is so near at hand, your strong arm and skilful generalship must not be wanting. Desert the cause of Allah and of his Holy Prophet at such a time as this, and Gehenna instead of Paradise shall be thy portion when thou dyest, and the misshapen, foul, and toothless hags of hell thy concubines in the world to come, in lieu of the radiant houries of heaven. Aye, hags all skin and bone, and every bone red hot, who shall embrace thee as the gridiron embraces the juicy meat that is laid thereon to broil, so that, like unto that meat, thy flesh shall burn and frizzle each time they touch thee. Aye, I—I—who am Allah's sole representative on earth, so read thy future."

Yakub el Jaaisha shrank back appalled at the Khalifa's words, who, as he spoke them, looked, to the very acme of perfection, that which, as the Mahdi's successor, he professed to be, prophet as well as monarch.

Taking advantage of his brother's temporary confusion and evident indecision, he, with his drawn sword struck a huge metal gong which hung near, and in prompt answer to the summons half-a-dozen Baggara Arabs, who had hitherto stood on guard in the palace portico, rushed into the hall, each grasping five javelins, or short spears, in his left hand.

"Guard this woman, two of you, back to the prison, and let her be thurst into an empty hut, there to recover or to die as Allah wills it. On the way thither, see that neither of you approach her within an arm and a javelin's length, for to touch even the hem of her garment might prove more deadly than a serpent's bite. Warn every whom you may counter on the way to keep at a safe distant, and even the wretches in the prison compound to give her a wide berth. Away with her, now, without any further delay."

"I appeal against this order. She is my wife," gasped out Yakubel Jaaisha, whilst making a desperate effort to reach Edith's side.

But, at a sign from the Khalifa, two of the Baggaras seized the Emir, each by an arm, and held him firm.

On perceiving that the temporarily madman had been reduced to a condition in which he could harm neither himself nor others, the Khalifa turned sharply round to watch his guards drive forth the plague-stricken bride; but uttered an exclamation of mingled grief and dismay upon discovering that Marie Lecompt had reached Edith's side, and was even holding one of her hands.

"Girl—girl!" he exclaimed, "why, oh why have you acted thus?"

"I have been lying on the same couch with her the whole afternoon, and for half the night as well. I am, therefore, as dangerous to come into contact with as she is herself, so that, for the welfare of everybody therein, I am going forth from the palace as her companion," answered the French girl, gently yet firmly.

The Khalifa could not help revealing, to some degree, how deeply he was affected by her words, for, blood-lustful tyrant though he was, he had, nevertheless, grown extremely fond of the merry little musician who had lightened and soothed some of his dullest hours with the charms of melody; whilst perhaps he loved her all the more because her beauty had failed to appeal to his animal passions in any way so soon as he had discovered how white her flesh was.

"But you have no symptoms of fever, have you, Marie?" asked the Khalifa, making a sign to the French girl the while to reply in the negative.

But she, filled with a spirit of *camaraderie* towards our hapless heroine, at once replied, rejoicing for the moment in making a martyr of herself for friendship's sake—

"Ah, but I think I have; indeed, I feel sure that I have, and therefore I ought to be expelled from the palace also."

"Of course you ought," echoed Yakub el Jaaisha, with a vindictive laugh. "The Khalifa is too just to show favouritism, and his brain should be as active and his arm as strong on the day of battle as my own; indeed, of what consequence am I in comparison with the successor of the mighty Mahdi, the Prophet and the leader of all the Faithful?"

The personage thus sneeringly referred to darted at the speaker a glance that would have slain him where he stood, had human eyes been as penetrative as swords' points, but he had the sense to perceive that in the character of an infallible judge, which was one of his special attributes, he must condemn his little favourite on the evidence of her own assertions to the same fate that he had just meted out to his brother's wife.

"Very well, Marie," he therefore said, "since you are firmly convinced that the fever has seized upon you, it is but right that you should do as you propose"; and then his eyes kindling with sudden fury for having been compelled to sacrifice, as it were, one whom he loved as much as though she was his own daughter, he longed to console himself by finding as many more victims as possible to bear her company.

He therefore glared scowlingly at the crowd of trembling females in the back ground, and roared out, "Who else has lain, beside, sat with, or touched the Feringhee woman?"

At these ominous words Ayesha, the head wife, fairly shook in her shoes; but Marie Lecompt, who liked the good-natured Nubian, and never hesitated about telling a fib if she could serve a friend thereby, answered with: "No one has touched her, or been anywhere near her but me," and so rendered the Khalifa's wrath impotent.

"Away with those two. Do you dare to dally with the Khalifa's orders?" Yakub el Jaaisha then almost shrieked, whilst Abdullah, gnashing his teeth with futile rage, stood grimly silent.

"The fever will not kill me. French people always take it mildly," then said Marie, wishful to comfort even the Khalifa, if it were but possible. "And," she added, as an after-thought, thinking that the assurance might save her companion, should the typhus not prove fatal, from being slain when the dread hour arrived in which all the Christians in the city were to be massacred, "I will spend my time at the prison hut in making this woman a good Moslem, and, with the help of Allah, I have no doubt but that, in the course of a very few hours, I shall succeed."

"Good," grunted Yakub el Jaaisha, "I believe that you will, and in token thereof a certain word from the Koran shall be painted red on the wall of your hut, so that in the day of God's wrath the swords that drip with the blood of the unbelievers shall pass it by."

"That is a matter which I alone can decide," roared the Khalifa, "and, by Allah and his prophet, should Marie die and the other woman live, the latter shall be cut into a thousand slices for what she has brought into my palace; aye, that shall she be, your wife though you have this night made her."

Then, after curtly commanding that his brother should be confined in the strongest chamber that the palace contained, with a guard of four men posted outside the door thereof, until he had recovered his proper senses and was willing to apologise for the passion he had shown and the violent words he had spoken, the Khalifa looked sadly towards the doorway out through which the two captives had jus been driven, and then withdrew in moody silence to his own special chamber.

• • • • •

Whilst he was shut up therein, with rage and grief gnawing at his very heart-strings, Edith Forrester and Marie Lecompt were being hurried on by their armed guards across the broad space of open ground which lay between the palace of the Hippopotami and the city of Omdurman.

The two Baggara Arabs took good care not to come into close contact with their prisoners, for these warriors of the desert dreaded disease a thousand times more than they did slash of sword or thrust of lance.

They swore at the two women right lustily, therefore, when they did not walk fast enough to please them; for they wanted to accomplish their highly unwelcome task as quickly as possible; wherefore they even sometimes prodded them with the points of their javelins to make them move the quicker.

As Edith Forrester felt much better, now that she was in the open air, she was able to get along almost as well as did her younger companion, so that the deep Khor was soon passed over by its wooden bridge, and the southern gate of the city reached.

Here, at the cry of "Make room for the plague-stricken," for the commoner class of Arabs call all serious epidemic diseases the plague, the guards scattered to right and left with the utmost alacrity, and a minute later Edith and Marie found themselves traversing an empty, dirty, and most evil-smelling street.

"Oh, Marie, what a terrible sacrifice you have made for my sake!" then exclaimed the English woman; "I don't believe that you can even imagine what an awful place the public prison is."

"Suppose we never go there, dear?" responded the French girl, oracularly.

"Not go there? Why, that is where we are being driven."

"By guards who would be afraid of their lives to lay their hands on us, and have received no orders to kill us, for I paid great heed to every word that was said to them. Now, I don't believe that you have the typhus fever at all, and I *do* believe that we could easily escape from the Arabs."

"But, if we did escape, where could we possibly hide?"

"In the Mahdi's Tomb!"

CHAPTER XXVI.

THE SINKING STEAMER.—THE PARTING MOMENT.

LEAVING Edith Forrester and Mary Lecompt in a truly desperate dilemma, and meditatng, if it were but possible, how to escape from their armed guards and find a place of concealment in the Mahdi's Tomb, we will revert to the equally perilous plight of Ethel Forrester and her companions aboard of the *Haven of Rest*.

It will be remembered that the carpenter had just reported to the captain that the struggling craft might be kept afloat for a quarter of an hour longer, but such an assurance was but cold comfort with cataract, storm and darkness all fighting against their escape, and absolutely nothing telling in their favour, for, neither could they see the shore nor be seen from it, since even the fitful glare of the lightning had by now wholly ceased, and the thick mist which enveloped every surrounding object in its now damp, impenetrable folds, wrapped the vessel close round as though with a wet blanket.

It was dreadful to think that thousands of their fellow-countrymen were, probably, within half a mile of them, both in front and on either side yet knew nothing of their danger, nor would be able to help them in any way even if they did, for they were at the complete mercy of sunken rock and of rushing water, whilst to be dashed upon the former or to founder in the latter would alike seal the doom of all on board.

Yet, not a single cry of terror or of despair found utterance on that puffing, snorting, onward-staggering vessel.

Herbert Baskerville had, at last, found Ethel Forrester, and, in cheerful tones, spoken to her a few words of hope, which each felt be fallacious.

"I am not afraid, dear," was the girl's smiling retort, "for I feel confident that the journey to heaven is just as near by water as it would be by land. Let us, therefore, both do our best to comfort those who need comfort, until the end comes," and so saying, she hurried to the side of one of her patients.

Turning round, Baskerville came full butt, as it were, against Percy Fotheringham, who was walking the deck fully dressed.

"What have you got up for?" asked the former, involuntarily.

"So that I may perish like a man, with sword at side and spur on heel," was the grim retort.

Then drawing that sword half out of its scabbard, and the next instant clashing it home again, the ex-Dragoon added, with increasing bitterness of tone—

"Good God! only to think that my goodsteel should be doomed to rust at the bottom of the Nile before it has struck a single blow to avenge the heroic Gordon, or to help rescue my beloved Edith, will drive me mad unless the end comes soon."

"The end *will* come soon, very soon, so do not let the brief delay distress you. The steamer sinks lower in the water every minute, and as for Gordon and Miss Forrester there will be more than twenty thousand gallant fellows left to avenge the one and rescue the other, and they will do both, long before the Nile crocodiles have eaten and digested your bones and mine," retorted Baskerville.

"Doubtless, yet I keenly regret that fate debars me from having a share in the good work; nor can I contemplate with equanimity being hurled into the water like a blind puppy, in lieu of meeting death amidst the rush and the turmoil of battle like a true soldier."

Baskerville patted the grumbler on the back, and, pointing towards Ethel Forrester, said very gravely—

"There stands one, compared with whose courage that of the soldier is but as the sounding brass and the tinkling cymbal. Don't you think that *she* feels the being cut off from all chance of ever seeing her sister again in this world as keenly as you can do; and yet, instead of complaining at the mysterious decrees of an all-wise Providence, she is praying with the sick, and combating their fears with smiles and gentle words of hope and encouragement; preferring to go down into the depths of this awful cataract whilst in the active discharge of her duty, rather than clasped in the arms of the man she loves."

"She and you have taught me a lesson between you, and I will complain no more Fotheringham made answer; and then he abruptly added: "Couldn't you and I do some good also, short though the time is left us to do it in? There are more sick to be comforted, you know, than Ethel can possibly attend to."

"Yes," answered Baskerville, "and thanks for the suggestion; but (with a sudden-start), doesn't it seem to you that the strength of the current has amazingly decreased, and also the roar of wind and waves? Why, we could not have heard a word we have just said to each other, unless we had shrieked or shouted them, a few minutes ago, but we are neither shrieking nor shouting now."

"True, yet what matters it?" rejoined Fotheringham, with a resigned shrug of the shoulders, "for we are certainly on the point of sinking. The water is within an inch of being level with the deck whereon we stand. Another minute and it will rush over it.'

"You are right, old fellow, so good-bye, for I intend to be as near my Ethel as I can when the vessel takes her final plunge;" and Baskerville held out to his comrade his hand.

"Good-bye, my boy, and—a long good-night to Marmion," responded Fotheringham, involuntarily quoting his favourite poet Scott.

A grip of hands, a mutual smile, and the two men parted, as they thought for ever, whilst at that moment the captain's hoarse voice shouted from somewhere forward—

"Look out! Look out everyone! It's each man for himself and God for us all now."

Ere the last warning word had rolled sonorously aft, Baskerville had reached Ethel Forrester's side.

"The time has come," he said, tenderly "Do you feel any fear?"

"No, why should I?" the fair girl responded, looking up into her lover's face with a bright smile. "My life has not been particularly bright since I left school, and I feel now as though I were at school, and just going home for the holidays, at a time when my dear father's kindness and my elder sister's sympathy made that home such a happy one. Perhaps I am going to those loved ones as is, for they may be in heaven instead of at Omdurman, and I pray God that it is so. But you, Herbert, *you!* Oh! how selfish I am to be thinking and talking only of myself."

"Not a bit selfish, my dear. I like to hear you talk so; for, wherever you go I think that we shall journey together; nay, I even feel sure of it," and as he concluded, the young lancer clasped his beloved in his arms and pressed her to his heart.

At that moment there was a violent concussion, the *Haven of Rest*, now a haven of rest no longer, trembled in every timber, as though she had been a human creature and just received her death wound; the water washed across her decks, though with no great violence, and Baskerville held Ethel in a yet firmer grip believing that, in an instant more, they would be swept overboard, whirled round and round by the force of the current, and then sink therein, locked in each other's arms, never to behold the bright world again until the last dread trump sounded to awake the dead to judgment.

Great heaven! Was *that* the last trumpet, sounding *already*, or was he going mad, the next instant he wondered himself. And that—that other sound?

He passed the back of his hand across his brow to try and collect his bewildered senses, if it were but possible, and then felt certain that the sound which had so sorely puzzled him was the skirl of bagpipes in the distance.

Thereat he felt, though he did not dare to confide the thought to Ethel, lest it should have no foundation in fact, that their position was not, after all, altogether hopeless.

His attention recalled from the contemplation of a future world to the anxieties of the present one, he observed that the hospital steamer, though it was rocking from side to side so violently that it was difficult for them to keep their footing on its wet and slippery deck seemed to have its bows embedded in something far softer than the rough, jagged, black rocks of mid Nile; whereat he wondered, with a thrill of yet stronger hope, whether the awful gorge had been successfully run through, and they had merely come into collision with the river's soft bank, above all points of extreme peril.

The steamer's syren was, by this time, skrieking and hooting by turns, as though she was asking, in an agony of impatience, where she was, and what were her chances of keeping afloat, and presently, to the relief and joy of everyone on board, an answer came in the sudden uplifting of the fog, when, (just as the curtain of a theatre is drawn up, revealing all the glories of the first scene of some great spectacular play), the vanishment of the hitherto impenetrable mist, disclosed a scene more grand, bright, and glorious than even the largest theatre in the world could present upon its stage.

For *The Haven of Rest* had found rest at last, with her bows thrust deep into one of the soft banks of the Nile, and her keel resting on a bottom of mingled sand and mud, in such a way, that, happily, she could sink no further.

Astern of her swirled and tore along the foam-crested waves of the cataract, and astern of her, also, rose, on either hand, the black precipitous cliffs of the Sabluka Gorge.

She had successfully run the Gauntlet of Death, but she had had the narrowest possible escape from destruction, nevertheless. However, calm, though somewhat rapidly flowing water, now lay half around her, whilst, a quarter of a mile ahead, rose from mid-Nile the island of Jebel Royan, hilly, picturesque, draped with mimosa and acacia bushes, and covered with feathery palms, whilst, anchored in the calm water under its lee, reposing "idly as painted ships upon a painted ocean," after their long and arduous struggle against the combined forces of cataract and of storm, lay the little flotilla of steamers, gyasses, and nuggars, not a single one of which had come to any serious harm during the late perilous voyage.

All this, however, formed but the setting of the spectacular scene, which, as the mist rolled away and the bright sunshine took its place, burst upon the glad vision of the, a few moments ago, despairing and apparently death-doomed occupants of the hospital steamer; for, a couple of miles along, and extending to as many miles back from, the river's bank which the *Haven of Rest* had run into, was the Anglo-Egyptian army, preparing to camp after their trying march across the sandy, stony desert that had flanked the Sabluka Gorge and cataract, and which, though the tramp had only been one of ten and a-half miles, had exhausted them more than a score of miles over tolerably good ground would have done.

The thousands of human ants, for such they seemed to be (ants of every size and colour, too), were all hard at work settling down in their new quarters.

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Whilst those on board of the hospital steamer were gazing with keen interest at the stirring scene, Baskerville gave vent to a sudden burst of excitement upon beholding his own gallant corps appear in the distance.

"Ah, my dear boys!" he exclaimed, rapturously, just as if it was possible for them to hear him, "I shall be riding along with you to-morrow, I thank my lucky stars."

(To be continued.)

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The following list is specially compiled by Mr A. Harvey, Patent Agent, 3, St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whom all information concerning Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained.

8,158.—April 19th, 1899. J. Marr, W. C. Laidler, and the Sunderland Forge and Engineering Company, Ltd., Sunderland. Improvements in rheostats or electric resistance switches.

8,194.—April 19th, 1899. C. G. Hewitt, Stockton-on-Tees. An improvement in attaching cuffs to shirts.

8,275.—April 20th, 1899. S. Robinson, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in machines for dating or otherwise marking tickets and the like.

8,350.—April 21st, 1899. E. Reilly, Stockton-on-Tees. A novel or improved packing for piston rods and the like.

8,434.—April 22nd, 1899. A. B. Lennox, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in the production of wort.

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A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF LADIES' SHIRT BLOUSES, PINAFORES, SKIRTS, UNDER-CLOTHING, FRILLINGS, VEILS NETS, &c.

WEST END HOUSE MILLINERY AND FANCY ESTABLISHMENT
2, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

VICTORIA DAIRY, CONSETT
with branches at Stanley and Annfield Plain.
FRESH MILK, Twice Daily.
FRESH CREAM and BUTTER always on hand.
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PROPRIETOR. 81t

JOSEPH IRWIN,
OXHILL,
JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, HORSE-SHOER, GENERAL SMITH, UNDERTAKER, FUNERAL FURNISHER, &c.
HEARSE ON HIRE.
ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

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Repairs to Property, in all its branches, with promptness and efficiency.
Estimates supplied for all classes of Work.

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SOUTHAMPTON—NEW YORK SERVICE.
SOUTHAMPTON to NEW YORK.
SATURDAY, at noon,
Highest Class of Accommodation for Saloon, Second Cabin, and Steerage Passengers.
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Every WEDNESDAY.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.

Passengers and goods are landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has the shortest and most Direct Route to all places in the Western States.—Apply to Richardson, Spence, and Co., Southampton or Liverpool; or to Local Agents, J. Crawford, Victoria Street, Consett; T. D. Dryden and Co., Front Street, Consett; Alfred Phillipson, Emigration Agent, Dipton; William Gray, 5, North Road, Durham; Geo. Leadbitter, Accountant, Catchgate; Thomas Storey, Auctioneer, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. Johnson, 95, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Wm. Anderson, Bridge Street, Tow Law; E. Sloane, Post Office Blackhill; or T. A. Brown, 3, Market Place, Crook. 725b.

RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.
MRS. HANSOM

BEGS respectfully to inform her Customers and the Public that she has recommenced Business at
14, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,
and hopes to have a continued share of their esteemed orders.
Refreshments of the best quality.
Confectionery and Cakes in great variety.
Splendid Cooked Ham, 1s. per lb.
Note the Address:
14, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

KOLACTICUM OINTMENT

ACHES and PAINS disappear speedily by use of the newly-discovered KOLACTICUM OINTMENT. Highly recommended for the permanent cure of RHEUMATISM, PILES, VARICOSE VEINS, STIFF JOINTS, SKIN DISEASES, ULCERS, ERUPTIONS, etc., etc. Every sufferer should give this Ointment a trial, and prove its wonderful healing powers. Sold in large boxes with full directions.

PRICE, 2s 9d POST FREE.
THE KOLACTICUM CO.,
585y. 54, Bow Lane, Cheapside, E.C.

FANCIERS! FANCIERS! FANCIERS!
CALL AT
DAWSON'S
FANCIERS' SUPPLY STORES,
RITSON'S ROAD, BLACKHILL,
And see a full selection of
DOBBIE'S FAMOUS SPECIALITIES.
☞ AGENT FOR COUNTY DURHAM.

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40 NEW LAID EGGS FOR 6D.

YOU CAN GET THEM if you only treat your birds rightly. The first essential to success is good, sound food. If you are already giving them the best of food and they are not laying as you would like, give them a sprinkling of
COVERDALE'S
EGG-PRODUCING
POULTRY POWDER
in their morning meal. The result will astound you. I have letters every day speaking of most wonderful results, such as these:—

FORTY EGGS FOR 6D. A WEEK.
Flaxton, near York, Nov., 1896.
Dear Sir,
My hens had not laid a single egg for more than a month, but the tin of Poultry Powder you sent me has worked wonders. They are already laying 40 eggs a week and increasing. I will certainly continue to use it and recommend it. J. H. LUND.

SEVEN TIMES AS MANY EGGS.
Swinton, March 25th, 1898.
Having many fowls and only getting one or two eggs a day, I was persuaded to try your egg-producing Poultry Powder, and got a 6d. tin. After a week the number of eggs rose to 12 and 14 eggs a day. T. PURDY.

Everyone who uses it is delighted.
To be obtained locally in 6d. and 1s. tins from W. NATTRASS, Medomsley; DAWSON'S Fanciers Supply Stores, Blackhill; or from the maker
COVERDALE, Rotherham

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

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MRS O'CONNOR
(Late Miss King,)
Of 25, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,
Has added to her Business at the above address a REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS.
Office Hours: 10 a.m. until 6-30 p.m.

M. J. CHORLEY,
CONFECTIONER,
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HAS opened the above premises as Refreshment, Dining, and Tea Rooms on the Cafe system, and trusts to receive a share of public support. Orders for Cakes, Pastry, Trifles, Creams, Plain and Fancy Jellies, &c., promptly attended to.

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CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,
HAVELOCK STREET.
DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.
ACCOMMODATION FOR CYCLISTS.
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ANNFIELD PLAIN,

THANKS the Public for the Support which has been accorded him in the past, and trusts to have a continuance of their favours during the year 1898.

The Latest Materials and Designs in OVERCOATINGS, SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS.

The Suits at 45s having given unbounded satisfaction in the past can be thoroughly recommended, and will receive special attention during the coming season.

PERFECT FIT AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

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DRAPER AND MEN'S OUTFITTER.
FOR THE SEASON.
Large Assortment of LACE, GLOVES, &c., &c., for Presents.
DECORATIVE PLANTS for Ornamentation.
UMBRELLAS, HABERDASHERY, AND HOSIERY.
New and Special Consignment.
To Spend Wisely STOP HERE

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Of any description, for wear and quality, go to
WILLIAM BIGGINS.
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CHURCH STREET, BLAYDON.
BRANCHES:—Busty Bank, Burnopfield, R.S.O.
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NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

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PAINTER, PAPER-HANGER, &c.
ESTIMATES GIVEN. 256d

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ALL ORDERS EXECUTED WITH DESPATCH.
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MR. R. S. BROWN,
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Of 40, ELSWICK ROAD, NEWCASTLE,
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MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
WEST STANLEY,
For the
NOTED LEMON SQUASH.
Try our
STONE GINGER BEER.
SODAS AND LIME JUICE a Speciality.
Goods delivered by our own Vans.
SPECIAL TERMS TO RETAILERS.
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Has been taken over by
GEORGE YOUNG,
Who will be glad to receive a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed upon his predecessor during the past years.
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A Good Stock of
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LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned, post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 921c

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FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
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GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED ... 2s 9d
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With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand.
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A Good Assortment of Fruits.
Choice Cheshire Cheese and Fruit Cakes.
TRY OUR SPECIAL BLENDED TEAS.

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This preparation is made from
PORT WINE,
EXTRACT OF MALT, AND
EXTRACT OF BEEF.
Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended
3s. 6d. per quart Bottle (usually sold at 4s 6d.)
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Apply District Office,
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JOHN THOMAS ASHTON,
890c District Superintendent

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On reasonable terms in most healthy situation. Successful preparation for all preliminary Examinations.
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Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Drawing and Music.
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TRAVELLERS in Burnopfield and District, will find all home comforts by calling at
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Funerals and Parties catered for in first-class Style by Mesdames Wilson and Moore.

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Goods delivered to all parts. 2d.

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WE STRIVE TO GIVE
HIGHEST VALUE for the
SMALLEST AMOUNT o MONEY
In all Branches of
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SPECIAL LINES IN
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RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.
JOHN R. WOOD

BEGS respectfully to inform his Customers and the Public generally, that he has recommenced Business as Tobacconist at the old address—
30, NEWMARKET STREET,
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and hopes to have a continued share of their patronage and support.

A large stock of Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Holders, Tobacco Pouches at all prices. Gent's Walking Sticks.
All the best Brands of Cigars, Cigarettes, and popular kinds of Tobaccos always in Stock.

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HIGHEST AWARDS!
1896 — 1897 — 1898.

DRINK ONLY
KERSHAW & SONS'
SUPERIOR
MINERAL WATERS
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KER'S ALE.
Can be had in Screw-stoppered Bottles, the CLEANEST, the BEST and PUREST.

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GOLD MEDALS AWARDED.

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SADDLERS, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKERS.
Horse Clippers (to cut over three teeth), warranted, 7s 6d each.
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Warranted Solid Nickel Stirrups, 6s 6s per pair. Best quality only.
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£1 TO £10

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Most up-to-date Wood-cutting Machiney in the District.
Timber cut any length.
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ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.
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BABY WON'T CRY IF YOU GIVE IT
MOTHER'S FRIEND
AND BABY'S COMFORT.
RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.
THE BEST AND SAFEST MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.
CONTAINS NO LAUDANUM, OPIUM, OR MORPHIA.
MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Wind, and Griping Pains in the Stomach or Bowels.
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MOTHER'S FRIEND removes Pain and produces Natural Sleep.
PREPARED ONLY BY
J. C. ROBINSON,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST.
STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN
AGENT FOR GLENDINNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE 83y

Business Announcements.

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JOINER, BUILDER, AND UNDERTAKER,
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ESTIMATES GIVEN. 106e

JOHN T. HESLOP,
PAWNBROKER,
THOMAS STREET, CONSETT.
Hours: From 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. Week Days; Pay Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. 107e

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5, VICTORIA TERRACE, BLACKHILL,
and will be glad to take all Orders in Coal leading as before from the Busty Pit or from Blackhill and Consett. Orders taken on Saturdays when around with the oil cart on easy terms.

WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION!
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HAS the Largest and Most Stylish Stock of Ladies', Gentlemen's, and Children's Second-hand Clothing, in the United Kingdom. Guns, Portmanteaus, Football Bags, Waterproofs. Dress Suits and Fancy Costumes a Speciality.

CALL AND INSPECT THE STOCK. 855d

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JOHNSON'S INKS
WRITING—COPYING—DUAL—FOUNTAIN PEN.
GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
A pleasure to write with.
BLUE-BLACK, BLACK, AND COLOURS.
Good Value.
Sold Wholesale and Retail by
ROBERT JACKSON,
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WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,
27, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,

WISHES it known that he has commenced Business at the above address.
Every description of WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY promptly and cheaply repaired.
Watch repairs a speciality.
Best Workmanship at moderate cost.
Electro-Plating and Gilding.

NOTE ADDRESS:
27, SHERBURN TERRACE,
CONSETT. 800d

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, (LIMITED.)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, LEEDS, LONDON, SCARBOROUGH, YORK, DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBOROUGH, DARLINGTON, WEST HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, MORECAMBE, AND HULL.

ANOTHER LIFE PAYMENT.
ANOTHER LIFE PAYMENT.
FIVE HUNDRED and SEVENTY POUNDS 15s. NOW PAID.
£570 15s. 0d. GROSS PAYMENT.
NINETEEN CLAIMS PAID.

SOME days ago ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN received notice of claim under his "Free Life Agreement Scheme" from the husband of Mrs. Adeline Lawrence, 50, Spring Street, Hull, who hired a piano a few months ago, and had only paid the sum of £3 (three pounds) towards the amount of £27. The conditions having been fulfilled, a cheque for £27 has been handed to Mr. Lawrence, and below is a copy of receipt:—

50, Spring Street, Hull, March 15th, 1899
Received from Archibald Ramsden (Limited) the sum of £27 (twenty-seven pounds) in accordance with the terms of the Archibald Ramsden Free Life Agreement Scheme, on account of the death of my wife, Adeline Lawrence.
(Signed) W. LAWRENCE.

Consider this Scheme; it may benefit you. It is a free gift to all purchasers on the three years' system.

"THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS."
"THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS."
"THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS."
WONDERFUL TONE.
WONDERFUL WEAR.
WONDERFUL VALUE.
OVERSTRUNG, VERTICAL, and OBLIQUE SYSTEMS.
From 20s. per Month Three Years System.
SOLELY IMPORTED BY ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.

THE ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN SPECIALITIES.
ONLY OBTAINABLE AT HIS ESTABLISHMENTS.
FAMOUS FOR THE QUALITIES WHICH GO TO MAKE A REAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT. EXTENSIVELY COPIED AND IMITATED, BUT THEY ARE ONLY IMITATIONS.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN MODEL PIANO.
£19 10s. cash, or 12s. 9d. per month three years.
SPLENDID TONE AND WONDERFUL VALUE

PEOPLE'S MODEL PIANO,
£23 cash, or 15s. per month for three years.
Many thousands have been sold, giving the greatest satisfaction and securing constant recommendations.

ECLIPSE PIANO.
£28 cash, or 18s. 4d. per month three years.
THE PIANO FOR HARD WEAR.

DRAWING-ROOM PIANO.
£33 cash, or 21s. monthly three years.
A MAGNIFICENT FULL ROUND TONE; SUSTAINING AND SATISFYING.
For singing purposes, its splendid quality of English tone compares with pianos at double its price.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LIMITED.)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Stud Notices.

SEASON, 1899.
The Celebrated Cleveland Bay Stallion
"LUCKY PRINCE,"
No. 1,405, C.B.S.B., Vol. IX, Foaled May, 1892.
Bred by and the property of W. Whittaker, Brompton, near Northallerton, Yorkshire, was introduced into this district by Dr. W. Allen. "Lucky Prince" will Stand every night at Wood Houses, Medomsley, and at the Railway Hotel, Middle Street, Consett, from 6 to 7 every Saturday night, and will Travel the surrounding District as per route on card.
For Terms and Particulars apply to Isaac Brown, Groom, Wood Houses, Medomsley.

Public Notices.

NEW THEATRE,
CONSETT.
Lessee and Manager - MR. HUGH ROBERTSON
(Also of the Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.)
Resident Manager - MR. LLOYD CLARANCE.

Last three nights of the successful Military Drama—
"DISHONOURED."

MONDAY NEXT
Important Engagement of MR. EADE MONTEFIORE'S CO., in the Great Musical Drama—
THE STREETS OF LONDON.
In the Trafalgar Square Scene will be presented the successful humourous and pathetic STREET URCHIN BALLET. 118e

Business Announcements.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE
Sum Insured in 1897 Exceeds £425,000,000.
For full particulars apply to
MR. THOMAS WM. WELFORD, JUNR., Agent for Consett and Neighbourhood.

PIANOS & ORGANS
FOR SALE,
8s., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., 22s. 6d., per Month.
Guaranteed 10 years. Liberal Discount for Cash
Old Pianos taken in exchange.
Tuning and Repairs promptly attended to.

CYCLES. CYCLES.
Sole Agent in District for the "Osmond," "Beanco," "Ariston," and other renowned makes.
ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND ENAMELLING done on the Premises.

ADDRESS:
E. SLOANE & SONS,
PIANO AND CYCLE WAREHOUSE,
BLACKHILL. 549d

Church Notices.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.
SPRING FLOWER FESTIVAL on Whit-Sunday Afternoon.
YOUNG PEOPLE'S FANCY FAIR AND BAZAAR on Whit-Monday and Tuesday, in Temperance Hall.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.
SUNDAY, MAY 7th, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 } MR. J. T. DAVIS.
Evening, 6 } MR. J. LEADBITTER.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.
SUNDAY, MAY 7th, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 } REV. J. A. DIXON.
Evening, 6 }
ALL SEATS FREE.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.
SUNDAY, MAY 7th, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 } MR. J. A. HUGHES,
Evening, 6. } Newcastle.
ALL SEATS FREE.

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHAPEL.
SUNDAY, MAY 7th.
ANNIVERSARY SERMONS BY
REV. WALTER FULLER.
Morning 10·30; Evening 6 o'clock.
ALL SEATS FREE.
Cantata: "SHERWOOD'S QUEEN," on Monday night at 7·30. Tickets, 6d. each

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHURCH CHOIR.
ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.
Sermons will be preached in the above place of Worship, by the REV. A. E. SALMON, of Newcastle, on Sunday, May 14th, 1899. Morning at 10·30, Evening at 6. At each service Anthems will be rendered by the Choir. Collections at each service in aid of Choir Funds.
On Sunday afternoon, a SERVICE of SONG, entitled "Jeremiah, the Prophet," will be given by the Choir in the Chapel at 2 o'clock. Reader, Mr. W. F. Lane; Organist, Mr. F. Harrison; Conductor, Mr. J. Davison. A Silver Collection will be taken during the service. Proceeds in aid of Choir Funds. 105e

Legal Notice.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
(38 AND 39 VICTORIA, C. 55.)
AND THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1894.
(56 AND 57 VICTORIA, C. 73.)
LEADGATE URBAN DISTRICT.
NOTICE OF AUDIT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Audit of the Accounts of the Leadgate Urban District Council and of the Officers thereof, for the year ended the 31st March, 1899, will be held on Thursday, the 18th day of May, 1899, at 10·15 o'clock in the forenoon at the Council Offices, Leadgate.

AND NOTICE is also given that a Copy of the Accounts made up and balanced, together with all rate books, account books, contracts, vouchers, and other documents referred to in such accounts will be deposited in the said Council Offices, and will be open during office hours to the inspection of all persons interested for seven clear days before the Audit.

Dated this 2nd day of May, 1899.
J. HEDWORTH COUPLAND,
84e Clerk to the Council.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
(38 AND 39 VICTORIA, C. 55.)
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1894.
(56 AND 57 VICTORIA, C. 73.)
CONSETT DISTRICT.
NOTICE OF AUDIT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the audit of the accounts of this Council for the year ended March 31st, 1899, will be held on Wednesday, the 17th day of May, 1899, at 10.45 o'clock in the forenoon at the Offices of the said Urban District Council, Parliament Street, Consett.

A copy of the accounts, together with all Rate Books and other matters mentioned or referred to in the accounts will be deposited in the Office of the said Council, and be open during Office hours to the inspection of all persons interested, for seven days before the Audit.

Dated this 26th day of April, 1899.
THOS. WM. WELFORD.
35e Clerk to the Council.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
(38 AND 39 VICTORIA, C. 55.)
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1894.
(56 AND 57 VICTORIA, C. 73.)
BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT.
NOTICE OF AUDIT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the audit of the accounts of this Council for the year ended March 31st, 1899, will be held on Thursday, the 11th day of May, 1899, at 10.45 o'clock in the forenoon at the Offices of the said Urban District Council, Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge.

A copy of the accounts, together with all Rate Books and other matters mentioned or referred to in the accounts will be deposited in the Office of the said Council, and be open during Office hours to the inspection of all persons interested, for seven days before the Audit.

Dated this 25th day of April, 1899.
J. B. LAZENBY,
14e Clerk to the Council.

Public Notices.

BROOMS SPORTS, BROOMS SPORTS, on Saturday, June 24th, 1899.
428d J. COSTELLO, Secretary.

DIPTON DIAMOND JUBILEE SPORTS, July 8th.
£25 120 Yards HANDICAP.
£5 QUOITING.
£5 WRESTLING.
Wanted Tenders from Bands to play through Village, in Field, and Ball by May 12th.
Tenders wanted for Amusements on Field.
Apply T. LAVERICK, Dipton, R.S.O.

LOOK OUT FOR THE
WESTWOOD
BAND CONTEST AND SPORTS
ON SATURDAY, MAY 13th,
At which the following Events will take place:
Brass Band Contest for Bands that have never won above £10 in cash during 1898-99.
Football Competition.—1st Prize, 12 Silver Medals, Gold centres; 2nd, £1 7s. 6d.; entrance 2s. 6d. per team.
11-st. Wrestling (open).—1st Prize, £1 5s.; 2nd, 15s.; 3rd, 10s.; entrance, 6d. each.
Quoiting (9 to 12 yds.).—1st Prize, £1 10s.; 2nd, 15s.; 3rd, 10s.; entrance 6d.
Skipping for Girls (under 14 years).—Prize, Silver Brooch presented by Surtees Armstrong, Jeweller, Medomsley Edge.
A Grand BALL will be held in the evening.
Applications for Swings, Roundabouts, &c., to be made to J. Evans, Junr., Blaydon.
R. BELL & THOS. STEPHENSON, Secretaries.
Westwood Colliery, Medomsley, R.S.O.

Announcements.

URANCE OFFICE
97 Exceeds £425,000,000.
rticulars apply to
VM. WELFORD, Junr.,
tt and Neighbourhood.

& ORGANS
R SALE,
6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s.,
, per Month.
Liberal Discount for Cash
taken in exchange.
rs promptly attended to.

. CYCLES.
District for the "Osmond,"
on," and other renowned
PAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND
done on the Premises.
ADDRESS:
ANE & SONS,
CYCLE WAREHOUSE,
LACKHILL. 549d

ch Notices.

INARY NOTICE.
BRIDGE PRIMITIVE
DIST CHURCH.
ER FESTIVAL on Whit-
day Afternoon.
LE'S FANCY FAIR AND
hit-Monday and Tuesday,
emperance Hall.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST
CHAPEL.
Y, MAY 7th, 1899.
MR. J. T. DAVIS.
MR. J. LEADBITTER.

WESLEYAN METHODIST
CHURCH.
AY, MAY 7th, 1899.
REV. J. A. DIXON.
SEATS FREE.

THODIST FREE CHURCH,
ROAD, BLACKHILL.
AY, MAY 7th, 1899.
MR. J. A. HUGHES,
Newcastle.
SEATS FREE.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.
NDAY, MAY 7th.
RSARY SERMONS BY
WALTER FULLER.
10-30; Evening 6 o'clock.
SEATS FREE.
SHERWOOD'S QUEEN," on
7-30. Tickets, 6d. each.

E WESLEYAN CHURCH
CHOIR.
ERSARY SERVICES.
e preached in the above place
he REV. A. E. SALMON, of
unday, May 14th, 1899. Morn-
ening at 6. At each service
rendered by the Choir. Col-
service in aid of Choir Funds.
ernoon, a SERVICE of SONG,
iah, the Prophet," will be given
the Chapel at 2 o'clock. Reader,
; Organist, Mr. F. Harrison;
J. Davison. A Silver Collection
ring the service Proceeds in
nds. 105e

egal Notice.

HEALTH ACT, 1875.
D 39 VICTORIA, C. 55.)
AND THE
OVERNMENT ACT, 1894.
57 VICTORIA, C. 73.)
E URBAN DISTRICT.
ICE OF AUDIT.
HEREBY GIVEN, that the
f the Accounts of the Leadgate
Council and of the Officers
year ended the 31st March,
d on Thursday, the 18th day of
0-15 o'clock in the forenoon at
ces, Leadgate.
E is also given that a Copy of
ade up and balanced, together
oks, account books, contracts,
other documents referred to in
will be deposited in the said
and will be open during office
pection of all persons interested
days before the Audit.
d day of May, 1899.
WORTH COUPLAND,
Clerk to the Council.

LIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.
D 39 VICTORIA, C. 55.)
OVERNMENT ACT, 1894.
57 VICTORIA, C. 73.)
NSETT DISTRICT.
TICE OF AUDIT.
HEREBY GIVEN that the
of the accounts of this
e year ended March 31st, 1899,
on Wednesday, the 17th day of
10.45 o'clock in the forenoon
of the said Urban District
liament Street, Consett.
the accounts, together with all
and other matters mentioned
to in the accounts will be
the Office of the said Council,
during Office hours to the
all persons interested, for seven
the Audit.
25th day of April, 1899.
THOS. WM. WELFORD.
Clerk to the Council.

BLIC HEALTH ACT, 18
D 39 VICTORIA, C. 55.)
GOVERNMENT ACT, 1894.
D 57 VICTORIA, C. 73.)
IELDSIDE DISTRICT.
TICE OF AUDIT.
HEREBY GIVEN that the
of the accounts of this
e year ended March 31st, 1899,
n Thursday, the 11th day of
10.45 o'clock in the forenoon
of the said Urban District
Buildings, Shotley Bridge.
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nd other matters mentioned
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he Office of the said Council,
during Office hours to the
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e Audit.
25th day of April, 1899.
J. B. LAZENBY,
Clerk to the Council.

ublic Notices.

ORTS, BROOMS SPORTS, on
June 24th, 1899.
J. COSTELLO, Secretary.
AMOND JUBILEE SPORTS,
20 Yards HANDICAP.
25 QUOITING.
25 WRESTLING.
ers from Bands to play through
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. LAVERICK, Dipton, R.S.O.

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CONTEST AND SPORTS
TURDAY, MAY 13th,
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in cash during 1898-99.
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entre; 2nd, £1 7s. 6d.; entrance
ling (open).—1st Prize, £1 5s.;
10s.; entrance, 6d. each.
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10s.; entrance 6d.
Girls (under 14 years).—Prize,
presented by Surtees Armstrong,
omsley Edge.
LL will be held in the evening.
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J. Evans, Junr., Blaydon.
LL & THOS. STEPHENSON,
Secretaries.
lliery, Medomsley, R.S.O.

Public Notices.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE BY THE BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 29TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1898.

RECEIPTS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance on 29th Sept. 1897 ..		11 3
Receipts:—		
Annual Grant from the Educational Department	722 18 0	
Annual Grant from the Science and Art Department ..	21 2 6	
Fee Grant from the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1891	367 2 6	
Additional Grant, Sec 97, Act, 1870, Amended by Act, 1897 ..	183 5 1	
Grants under Agricultural Rates Act	34 10 2	1328 18 3
From the Rating Authorities, being equivalent to a rate of 1/- per pound on £19,761, the Rateable Value of the District according to the Valuation Lists in force at the beginning of the year		1000 0 0
Other Receipts:—		
Sale of Needlework ..	4 0	
,, Cooked Food ..	17 11 5	
Donation to Library ..	10 0	18 5 5
Total Receipts and Balances		£2347 14 11

EXPENDITURE.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Expenditure:—		
Expenses of Administration:—		
Salaries of Officers of Board	79 18 8	
Legal Expenses	4 8 6	
Other Expenses of Administration	28 5 7	112 12 9
Expenses of Maintenance of Public Elementary Schools:—		
Salaries and Remuneration of Teachers ..	1543 13 11	
Books, Apparatus, and Stationery	57 3 1	
Fuel, Light, and Cleaning, and Replacement of Furniture, and Repairs to Buildings and Furniture	158 3 4	
Rents, Rates, Taxes, and Insurance	9 4 9	
Other Expenses of Maintenance	27 19 0	1795 4 1
In Respect of Industrial Schools:		
Contributions to Industrial Schools ..		9 14 7
Furnishing of School Buildings		14 18 9
In respect of Loans:—		
Principal re-paid:—	205 15 0	
Interest	186 10 8	392 5 8
Total Expenditure..		£2324 15 10
Balance on 29th Sept., 1898:—		22 19 1
Total Expenditure and Balances		£2347 14 11

OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES OF THE BOARD AT THE END OF THE YEAR.
Loans from Public Works Loan Commissioners outstanding 5148 19 0

12th Day of October, 1898.
R. G. BARCLAY, Clerk.

I CERTIFY that this Account has been examined and passed by the School Board as provided by Sec. 17 of the Act, 36 and 37 Vict., c. 86.

ALEXANDER BAILLIE, Chairman.

9th day of December, 1898.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the entries in the above Statement with the Vouchers and other Documents relating thereto, and that the regulations with respect to such Statement have been duly complied with.

I HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that I have ascertained by audit the correctness of such Statement, and that the Expenditure of the School Board during the year ended the 29th day of September, 1898, included in such Statement, and allowed by me at the audit, is Two thousand three hundred and twenty-four pounds fifteen shillings and tenpence.

As witness my hand this 16th day of February, 1899.
70e M. D. PROPERT, Assistant District Auditor.

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TRAINS will be run as under:
SATURDAY, MAY 13th.

From BLACKHILL at 12·50 p.m. (with bookings from Knitsley, Lanchester, &c.) to DURHAM, SUNDERLAND, and SOUTH SHIELDS; returning from South Shields at 8·10, Sunderland 8·40, and Durham at 9·15 p.m.

SPORTS AND BAND CONTEST AT BIRTLEY.

From CONSETT at 1·10 p.m. (with bookings from Leadgate) to BIRTLEY, GATESHEAD, NEWCASTLE, and TYNEMOUTH, returning from Tynemouth at 8·10, Newcastle 8·37, Gateshead 8·40 p.m., and Birtley at 8·55 p.m.

For further particulars see bills.
York, May, 1899. GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.

Public Notices.

A BRAKE will run from Allendale Farm by Ebchester to HEXHAM HIRINGS, leaving 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 13th, 1899; fare 2s 6d return.—Apply early for seats, R. ASHBY. 12e

ROBERT POTTS, Horse Shoer and General Smith, Newlands, wishes to inform his Customer, and the Public generally, that he has made arrangements to open a Shoeing Forge, at Blackhall Mill, in May, when all orders will be promptly attended to. 941d

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF DIPTON.

SHOULD any ASHPITS or PRIVIES be Overlooked or not properly Cleaned, please notify the Contractor at once when they will be attended to. Signed,
6e G. NICHOLSON, Contractor.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT HORSE PROCESSION.

TROTTING HANDICAP
(5 MILES RADIUS),
1st, £2. 2nd, £1. 3rd, 10s.

Entries must be sent to the Secretary, with a fee of 2s. 6d., by May 5th. 994d

CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

TO THE MEMBERS.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS of the above Society will be held in the Primitive Methodist School-room on Saturday, May 13th, 1899. Chair to be taken at 6·30 p.m.—Business. To receive a report from the Committee, regarding the New Buildings in course of erection in Newmarket Street, Consett.
By order the Committee,
97e EDW. HUNTLEY, Secretary.

BIRTLEY SPORTS AND BRASS BAND CONTEST, SATURDAY, MAY 13th, 1899.

Entries for Band Contest, close to Secretary, Saturday, May 6th, Monday morning's Post in time.

Entries for 120 yards Handicap, close (Monday, May 8th, Tuesday morning's Post in time) to Handicapper, Mr J. TULLY, Morpeth, or Secretary.

THOMAS FISH, Secretary,
Note change of address, 2, Daisy Cottages, Birtley.
No entry accepted without Fee. 86e

YES
THE HEALTH & SICKNESS BENEFIT SOCIETY

Is the Society that is making rapid headway. Over Four Thousand new members during the last ten months, with a premium income of over

EIGHT THOUSAND POUNDS.

Six hundred members have joined in this District.

Sickness Benefits! Lying-in Benefits! Funeral Benefits! Old Age Cash Bonus! Benefits for Juveniles, and Life Assurance.

Prospectus and all information obtained of MR. JOHN G. COOKE, District Superintendent, 61, Durham Road, Blackhill.

Additional Canvassers, Collectors, and Agents wanted in this District. 19e

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH HALL, BLACKHILL.

A GRAND
POLYTECHNIC & ART EXHIBITION
(to reduce the debt upon the Building),
Will be Opened in the above Hall, by
RICHARD MURRAY, Esq., J.P., Ford Hall, Sunderland,
On WHIT-TUESDAY, May 23rd, 1899, at 3 p.m. and continued until June 3rd, 1899.

Musical and other Entertainments.
Special Attractions.

ADMISSION:—

WHIT-TUESDAY, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 1s.; 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., 6d. Remaining Days, 6d each. Season Tickets, 2s. 6d. each. Family Tickets at Reduced Prices.

Season and Family Tickets may be obtained from
Rev. R. H. SMALLWOOD, Cemetery Road, Blackhill, } Hon.
THOS. C. CHARLTON, 30, Cort Street, Blackhill, } Secs.

SHOTLEY SPA
AND PLEASURE GROUNDS.
(Under New Management),
MONSTER WHITSUNTIDE ATTRACTIONS

Monday—

Grand Cricket Match.—Mr. Shaw's Newcastle XI. v. Shotley Bridge.

One Mile Local Bicycle Competition. Valuable Prizes given by the Licensed Victuallers of Shotley. Entries 1s., to be made to Mr. H. McNair, 5, West Victoria Street, Consett.

Comical Bicycle Parade. Open to all. Entrance fee, 6d.

Pony Hurdle Scamper, for Ponies not exceeding 13·2 h.h. 1st, £2; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s. Entrance, 2s.

£3 will be given for a Quoit Handicap. Entrance 6d per lot. To be made to the Handicapper, Mr Wigham, Westwood, or taken on the Ground.

Tuesday—

Driving Competition, Gelding or Mare any age. 1st, £3; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s. Entry fee 2s. each, to Mr J. Whitehead, Gibson Street, Consett.

Neatest Bicycle and Costume Parade (Lady or Gentlemen). Entrance 6d. each.

The Consett Iron Company's Prize Brass Band will be in attendance each day.

Admission: Gentlemen, 6d.; Ladies, 3d.; Children (under 12), 1d. Refreshments at popular prices. S. BOWE, Lessee.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE HIRINGS will be held on WEDNESDAY, MAY 10th, 1899. 7e

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	2263	14	6
W. M. Annandale, Esq., Lintzford	5	5	0
	£2268	19	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett; r further information from the Hon. Secretaries—Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Bryngiass, Consett; or Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

SPA WELL GROUNDS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

The Consett Iron Company's Workmen's Band

GALA AND SPORTS,
Will be held in the above Grounds, on
JULY 1ST, 1899.
Particulars later. 137e

ROYAL CO-OPERATIVE BENEFIT COLLECTING SOCIETY.
REGISTERED PURSUANT TO ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

NOTICE.

A PUBLIC MEETING in connection with the above Society will be held on Saturday, May 6th, 1899, in Hansom's Temperance Hotel, Middle Street, Consett. Addresses will be given by Mr Samuel Birtley, Sunderland; Mr Worthy Reed, Durham; and Mr W. Watson, Newcastle, on "Friendly Societies and Their Object." Chair to be taken by Mr John Barker, Durham, at 5 p.m. The above Society is unequalled for good benefits and prompt payment of Claims. Number of Members enrolled since September 5th, 1898, over 5,000. Sick Claims paid for the last six months, £844, Death Claims, £174 3s 1d. All persons from 12 to 45 years of age, are invited to join. Tea will be provided at 4 p.m., Tickets 6d each. 87e

Sales by Auction.

By Mr A. Phillipson

Great Auction Sale of Cycles at Bute Arms, Dipton, Saturday, May 13th, 1899.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON is favoured with instructions to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION at the above place and date, a large number of New and Second-hand LADY'S and GENT'S CYCLES and Accessories. The cycles are of excellent make and quality, and well deserving of the patronage of the lovers of the wheel. Sale to begin at 3·30 o'clock.

P.S.—Entries can be made by paying 1s to the Auctioneer which covers all expenses.

Royal Hotel, Front Street, Stanley.
Friday, May 5th, 1899.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION Under Distress of Rent, a large Quantity of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and Effects, removed for convenience of Sale. Comprising: Counters; Scales and Weights; Tester Bedstead; Mattresses; Desk Bedstead; Mahogany Cheffioneer; Bedstead, with plate glass back; Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase; Mahogany Drawers; Mahogany Table and Cover; Mahogany Hair-seated Couch; Ladies' and Gents' Hair-seated Rocking Chairs; Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs; Harmonium, in Walnut; Music Stool; Large Carpet and Hearth Rug; Fender and Irons; Kitchen Irons; Brass Ashpan; Mantel Board; Case of Fruit; Couch in Leather; Iron Chair and Cushions; Rocking Chair; Kitchen Chairs; Kitchen Table; Alarm Clock; Cornice Pole; Shades; Pictures and Ornaments; Cruet Stand; Crockery and Glass Ware; Fancy Brackets; Tidy; Stand Lamp; Tins; Pans; Brass Rolling Pins; Library of Useful Books, about 50 volumes; also, Useful Pony, Flat, and Harness; and other Articles too numerous to specify.
Sale to begin at One o'clock. 82e

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888 Office, Front Street, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station.

By Mr Jas. Turnbull

CHESTER-LE-STREET AUCTION MART.

THE THIRD SPECIAL SALE of Grazing Cattle and Sheep, Young Bulls, &c., will be held on Friday, May 19th. Early entries are respectfully invited.
997d JAMES TURNBULL, Auctioneer.

To Blacksmiths, Brokers, and Others.
Tanfield, 1½ miles from Shield Row Station.

MR. JAS. TURNBULL instructed by Mr J. Hunter, who is declining business, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Thursday, May 11th, 1899, the whole of his BLACKSMITH'S PLANT, MACHINERY, &c., comprising: Horizontal Engine, 4½in. Cylinder, with Vertical Boiler, 33in. diamater and 6 ft. high, 18in. Fan Blast; and the whole of his Stock-in-Trade; 6 Sets Stocks, Taps and Dies; 2 Anvils; 2 Bellows; Tyre Rolls; Bar Iron; Whitechapel Cart, and a portion of Household Furniture. Full particulars in Bills.
Sale at 1·30 p.m. 96e

By Mr. Wm. Robinson.

Shotley Lodge Estate.

MR. W. ROBINSON has the honour to announce that he will LET BY AUCTION, on Monday, May 15th, 1899, The GRASS PARKS, on this Estate. Meet at the Kennels, behind The Lodge, at 4 p.m. Let at 4·30, conditions at the time of Letting. Particulars in posters.
Sale Office—
3 and 4, New Fines, Medomsley, R.S.O.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

MR. JACKSON GREEN,
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.
Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.
All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms. SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 887a

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

AN EXTRA SPECIAL SALE for SHEEP only, on Thursday, May 11th, 1899.
Present entries comprise:—
500 Mule and B.F. Ewes and Lambs.
250 Mule and Twice Cross Grazing Hoggs.
30 Black-faced Wethers, 3 years old, very fresh.
50 B.F. Ewe and Wether Hoggs.
Also, the following Hill Stock, belonging to Mr Isaac Liddle, Edmondbyers, viz:
90 Black-faced Ewes and Lambs, by Leicester Tups.
40 Black-faced Wethers, 2 and 3 years old.
55 Black-faced Ewes and Wether Hoggs.
Additional entries expected. Ballot drawn Monday evening.
Sale at 10·30 a.m.
144e J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr John Crawford

Iveston, near Leadgate.

SALE of Copyhold Dwelling-house and Land at any early date.
114e JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer.

East Butsfield Farm.—2 miles from Knitsley, 2½ miles from Cold Rowley, and 3 miles from Lanchester.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is favoured with instructions from the owner, Mr JOHN SUDDES, who is retiring, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Friday, May 12th, the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, HORSES, IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c., consisting: Grey Mare, 16 h.h., in foal to "Young Wellington"; Black Mare, 15-3 h.h.; Brown Yearling Colt, by "Golden Light," out of Grey Mare; Black Yearling Colt, by "Look Forward," out of Black Mare; 5 Cows, one due to calve day of sale; Geld Heifer; 9 Heifers and Stirks, from 9 months up to 2 years old; Blue Heifer and Calf; Combined Reaper by Samuelson; Single Horse Corn Cutter; Coup Carts and Shelvings; Hay Bogie, no worse than new; Hay Rake by Nicholson; Turnip Drill; Wheel Plough; D.M.B. Ploughs; Fourbolt Harrow; Clod Crusher; Grubber; Roller; Chaff Cutter; Turnip Chopper; Ladders; Forks; Rakes; 20 Sacks; Shovels, &c. Harness—4 Sets of Cart Harness; Plough Gear; 2 Sets of Breaking Gear; Chains, &c. Stamp of Wellwon Hay, about 8 Tons; 2 Stacks of Wheat; 1 Stack of Barley, can be taken off the premises; Poultry; Old Iron. The horses are good workers. Stock and Implements in good order. Hay and straw can be removed off the premises. There is no reserve, the owner is retiring.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Full particulars see bills. 115e

100 SHOULDERS OF BACON, SCALES, WEIGHTS, and GROCERIES will be SOLD BY AUCTION at Crawford's Sale Rooms, Victoria Street, Consett, on Monday, May 15th. 116e

AT an early Date, SPECIAL SALE of a Horse, Vehicles, &c., at Gibson Street, Consett. Entries sent on to J. CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Consett. 51e

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street Consett.

By Mr John T. Weston, Junr

Important Sale of Valuable and High-Class Furniture.
Dene View, Burnopfield.

MR. JOHN T. WESTON, Jun., Auctioneer, honoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late Mrs M. Hodgson, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Wednesday, May 10th, 1899, the Valuable FURNITURE and EFFECTS, comprising:—Hearthrugs (new), Oilcloth, Mahogany Centre Table, Desk Bed, Kitchen Fender, Fire Irons, Night Chair and Commode, Splendid Kitchen Table, 2leaf, 7ft. by 3ft. 6in., Brass Candlesticks, Brass Line and Brackets, Brass Ornaments, Cushioned Chairs, 2 Hair-seated Sofas (Mahogany), Pictures, 4 Splendid Oil Paintings, "Singer" Sewing Machine, working order, Mahogany Table, double leaf; Carpeting, Table Lamp, 2 Large Table Trays, Small Trays, Splendid Press and Drawers, practically new, 1 Dressing Table, 1 Washstand, Mahogany Swing Mirror (oval), 4-Poled Bed and Hangings, 3 Cornice Poles and Fittings, Door Mats, Patent Window Curtain, Alarum Clock, Part Dinner Set, Splendid Wringing Machine, nearly new, Clothes Horse, Wood Baths, Poss-tub and 2 Staffs, 6 Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs, new, 1 Lady's Mahogany Hair-seated Chair, 2 Gents' Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs, Kitchen Chairs, Splendid Small Round Table, suitable for a Drawing Room or Sitting Room, Blinds, 3-Drop Leaf Mahogany Table, Night Commode, complete, new Whatnot, Chest of Solid Mahogany Drawers, over 100 years of age, in splendid condition; also, Chest Mahogany Drawers, practically new, Mantel Mirror, quite new, Ornaments of every Pattern and Superior Quality, Splendid Sitting Room Carpet (new), Kidderminster Carpet, Stair Carpets, Splendid Sitting Room Hearthrug, new.

Spendid Oak Sideboard, nearly new, with Mirrors, 6 feet high, finest piece of Furniture of its kind; Splendid New Coal Box, 1 Tall Grandfather's Clock, 24 hours, Oak Case, 100 years of age; ½-chest Mahogany Drawers, new, these drawers have been a very short time in use Towel Rail. Splendid French Bedstead, brass mounted, not three months in use, cost £13 13s. Splendid Lot of Glass Decanters, Wine Glasses, China, &c.

SILVER.—Splendid Silver Tea Service, antique Pattern, 3 pieces, Cruet Stands. Complete Set of Bottles, Decanters, &c. Glass Cake Plates. Beautiful Case of Artificial Basket Fruit, glass globe on base, Stair Rods, and numerous other lots.

The Auctioneer wishes particularly to draw the attention of the public to the above lot of furniture and effects as they are all comparatively new, and only a very short time in use, and by the best makers that could possibly be had. No pains or money has been spared in selecting the best class of goods possible.

An early attendance is necessary as the lots are numerous.

Sale at 12 for 1 o'clock prompt.
Sale Office—Cornwall House, Annfield Plain, R.S.O. 68e

MR. JOHN T. WESTON, Jun., Auctioneer, is instructed to offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr Joseph Lumley's, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain, on May 24th, 1899, at 7 o'clock in the evening, Freehold LAND and PROPERTY. Valuable Freehold DWELLING-HOUSE (self-contained), containing:—3 Bedrooms, 2 Sitting Rooms, large Attic, Kitchen, Scullery, Pantry, Garden in front, with Yard and necessary Out-offices; also, a piece of LAND at the rear of the house, belonging to the same estate, containing 20? square yards or thereabouts, situated and being 4, Victoria Terrace, Catchgate, near Annfield Plain. The above Land is drained.

N.B.—The above lots are well worth the attention of intending purchasers, and is a sound investment. The Property has only been built a short time.

For further particulars apply to Mr Joseph Foggin, White-le-head, Tantobie, R.S.O., or the Auctioneer

Sale Office—Cornwall House, Annfield Plain, R.S.O. 141e

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,
AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.
SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.
Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

By Messrs. R. March and Son

Important and Extensive Sale of Farming Stock and Furnishings.

MESSRS R. MARCH and SON, appreciating the confidence of Mr Wm. Thompson, who is retiring from farming, will SELL BY AUCTION, without reserve, on Monday, May 8th, 1899, at Reeley Mires, Greenside, Ryton-on-Tyne, the whole of his Valuable FARMING STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, &c.

CATALOGUE.

SHEEP.—30 B.L. and H.B. Young Ewes and Lambs, 2 B.L. Tup Hoggs, 100 B.L. and Three-quarter-bred Fat Hoggs.

CATTLE.—6 S.H. Young Cows, in calf or newly calved; 2 S.H. Pedigree Bulls, 14 and 18 months old; 3 S.H. Fat Heifers; 16 S.H. Steers and Heifers, 2 years old, approaching beef; 6 S.H. Steers and Heifers, 12 months old; 4 S.H. Calves.

HORSES.—4 Powerful Draught Horses, 5, 6, 7, and 9 years old; 1 Draught Colt, rising 2 years old, 16·2 h.h., broken to chains.

POULTRY.—50 Barn Door Fowls. 5 Young Ducks.

IMPLEMENTS, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS.

Two Double-barrel Guns, in first-class order. Sale with the Farm Stock at 12 noon, Furniture about 3 o'clock. Refreshments.

Reeley Mires is 2½ miles from Blaydon, Ryton, and Wylam Stations. Brakes will meet the morning trains at Blaydon and Wylam.

Houghton-by-Wylam, April 18th, 1899.

By Mr. Nathan Elsdon

13, Taylor Street, Consett.

MR. NATHAN ELSDON will SELL on Monday, May 8th, 1899, the whole of the Household FURNITURE belonging to Mr. Wm. Bell, who is emigrating to Canada An excellent Sewing Machine, cost £10 10s. last year. For full particulars see bills.
Sale at One o'clock.
Offices—Delves Lane. 126e

NATHAN ELSDON.
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

N. ELSDON wishes his friends and customers to know that he has the LARGEST AND BEST SALE ROOMS in the district and that he is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and all classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Sell on Commission according to arrangement.

All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction.

Sales by Auction

By Mr John S. Murray.

J. S. MURRAY'S PRESENT SALE APPOINTMENTS.
Friday, May 5th—Farm Stock, Low Ewehurst.
Saturday, May 6th—Special at the Mart, Store Stock.
May 8th.—Weekly Sale at the Mart.
,, 10th—Grass Parks, Consett Sewerage Farm
,, 11th.—Implements, Hay, Furniture, &c., Manor House.
,, 17th—Greencroft Grass Parks.
On or about 22nd—Viewfield Villa and Grounds

Low Ewehurst, near Lintz Green Station.
Friday, May 5th.—For Mr Jas. Patterson.

THE whole of his FARM STOCK, Implements, Poultry, Dairy Utensils, Harness, &c. Sale at One o'clock.
128e J. S. MURRAY.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

Special for Store Stock, Saturday, May 6th. Including: Geld Cows, S.H. Steers and Heifers, Outlying Irish Heifers, Blue Grey Stirk, H.B. Mule and Scotch Ewes and Lambs, Mule Hoggs and other Keeping Sheep.
Sale at One o'clock.
129e J. S. MURRAY.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.
MONDAY, MAY 8th, 1899.
10 to 15 Fat Cattle.
70 to 100 Fat Sheep.
Calves, Pigs, and Poultry.
Dairy Cows and Heifers.
Wood Shed, 14ft by 12 x 8 to eaves, with Loft.
Harness, Rakes, &c., &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
130e J. S. MURRAY.

CONSETT SEWERAGE FARM GRASS LETTING.
Wednesday, May 10th, 1899.

LOT.	A.	R.	P.
1—Stand Pike Field..........	5	0	0
2—Meadow Field............	3	2	0
3—Middle Field..............	6	0	0
4—Road and Newland Field..	8	2	0

To hay or pasture to December.
Conditions at time of let, at Six o'clock p.m.
131e J. S. MURRAY.

VIEWFIELD.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION shortly, the Pleasant Family VILLA Residence, Stable, Coach-house, and Grounds, over 1½ acres. Particulars and date next issue.
133e J. S. MURRAY.

Saturday, May 6th.

GREAT SPECIAL SPRING SALE of Store Cattle and Sheep at the Royal Auction Mart. 59e

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

T. D. DRYDEN,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
65, FRONT STREET, CONSET

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.

SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, May 7th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

PREACHING IN THE Consett Primitive Methodist Church on Sunday morning, that popular divine, the Rev. J. S. Nightingale, previous to the sermon, touched upon Sunday journalism, and moved a resolution strongly condemnatory of the practice, which was endorsed by the whole congregation. Whilst we disapprove of Sunday journalism, we do not feel inclined to endorse the whole of the resolution, which to us appears something after the nature of a boycott.

AN IMPORTANT TRAIN alteration—which came into force on Monday last—is notified in the Blackhill and Darlington train service. This consists in the train which formerly started from Blackhill at 8.15 leaving at 8.5 a.m., ten minutes earlier. It is reported that the result to passengers "not in the know" was anything but pleasing. To those who had consulted the usual notice of train alterations it, of course, mattered nothing. Writing to a Darlington contemporary, a correspondent says it was extremely amusing to observe two church dignitaries miss the train at Crook, together with five other passengers. But it did not end there. The postal authorities at Rowley, Blackhill, and Crook each missed the morning train. It behoves those people who are particularly concerned in the train service to carefully notice the various alterations made from month to month. For the benefit of those who may wish to take advantage of the Sunday service between Blackhill and Durham, we would point out that trains will leave Blackhill at 8.23 a.m. and 8.11 p.m., and Durham at 7.35 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. The late train for Consett, via Scotswood, starts from Newcastle at 9.50 p.m. An additional train will leave Consett for Newcastle, via Birtley, at 10.52 p.m. on Saturdays only. There are several other important alterations notified locally, full particulars of which will be found in our news columns.

THAT WAS A VERY interesting and unique gathering which took place at the Dipton Board Schools last week, and it cannot fail to have a good effect upon all concerned. It appears that the gathering was the outcome of a suggestion by Mr Ward, one of Her Majesty's Inspectors, to the effect that Mr W. McQuillen, the popular head-master of the schools, should invite the parents of the children attending the schools to visit them, with a view of bringing parents in closer touch with the work of the schools. The Board heartily approved of the idea, and in consequence the event duly came off on Wednesday of last week. A large company responded to Mr McQuillen's invitation, and seemed to take very great interest in what was shown them. One noticeable feature was the happy and contented manner in which the children went about their work, which latter seemed in no way irksome to them. The drilling in the open air was capitally done, the Flute Band rendering evaluable service in this performance. Then in the school-room the children treated their visitors to an excellent little concert, the singing being very good. A number of specimens of the work executed by the scholars were on view, and these were much admired, evincing in many cases more than average ability. Altogether a couple of hours passed rapidly and pleasantly away, at the close of which Mr McQuillen thanked his guests for their attendance, and hoped that, with the permission of the Board, they might have similar gatherings in the future. In our opinion, the suggestion of Mr Ward was a capital one, and we hope to see other schools in the district follow in the wake of Dipton with regard to having a "parents' day."

THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME of the Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club has just been issued, and it seems in every way likely that the members will have an enjoyable and profitable season. It is satisfactory to note that a number of new members have been enrolled, mainly, we believe, as the result of the formation of a branch society at Blackhill. The first field meeting is fixed for Saturday, May 13th, when the ancient city of Durham will be visited, and this should be an interesting outing. A fortnight later (May 27th) will see the members at Lanchester, whilst on Wednesday, June 7th, a visit will be paid to Ripon and beautiful Studley Royal, the residence of the Earl of Zetland. Edmundbyers and Hexham are the selected places for Saturdays, June 17th and July 15th respectively, whilst there will be a brake trip from Blackhill to that favourite village, Blanchland, on Wednesday, July 26th. After a visit to Whitley on Saturday, August 19th, the members will no doubt gather in good numbers at Stanhope—one of the prettiest spots in the county—on August 26th, the journey being made by road. One of the most popular outings of the season will be that on September 2nd, when the beauties of Hamsterley Park will be explored. The last field meeting of the year will take place on September 9th, Woodlands being chosen for the final gathering, and the journey will be made via Howen's Gill, and Knitsley. Thus it will be seen that a most attractive programme has been arranged, and it only requires favourable weather to make the season of 1899 one to be long remembered by the members of the club.

THE MANY FRIENDS OF Mr. George Ord, F.R.H.S., in the Tanfield district, will learn with pleasure of the high esteem in which he is held as a teacher in the Rutherford College, Newcastle. Mr Ord, who is quite a young man, some months since wrote a book on "Biology," which has been well received. On Saturday afternoon last, at the College, Mr Ord—who acts as science master of the Biological Department—was presented with a handsome travelling bag by the elementary schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, together with the students attending the Saturday lectures and taking part in the practical work on "Biology and Human Physiology." The presentation was made to Mr Ord as a mark of esteem and goodwill. Our young friend has been a keen student in the branch of work he has chosen for himself, and it appears in every way likely that the honours he has already gained are only the forerunners of many more to come. In common with his numerous friends, we wish Mr Ord still further success.

HURRAH! THE VILLAGE GREEN question at Lanchester has been settled at last, and the lease with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners duly signed and sealed. However, it would not be wise to be too jubilant at present, as the opposition may not sit down too kindly under their defeat, and perhaps some more "petitions" may be forthcoming. It is the easiest thing in the world to get up petitions against anything or everything, and therefore we should not be at all surprised to hear that several of these precious documents were in course of preparation. Of course, it is all a farce, but what matter—it provides amusement for a few people who have nothing else to do. And then, again, it imposes upon no one. We were pleased to observe that Coun. Champney has seen the error of his ways. At one time he was an out-and-out opponent of the lease, and strongly objected to it being signed, but the disgraceful condition in which some showpeople left the green during the present week has completely converted him—as it should convert all who possess an ounce of common-sense. It is ridiculous that such a state of affairs should be tolerated as has been the case lately. Here we have a number of show-people using the village green as long as ever they like, paying not a single penny for the privilege, and when they depart leaving the place in an abominable condition without being called upon to hand over a copper in order to put the green into a decent state again. Yet, by signing the lease with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the Parish Council will obtain full control over the green, can levy what charges they think reasonable upon those who use it, and compel the latter to leave the green so that it shall not be an eyesore to the inhabitants. Much of the so-called opposition by the people, together with the claptrap about "giving the rights of the people away," has been proved to be mere bluff. We commend the Council upon the action they have taken—an action which any other Council would not have hesitated about five minutes.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

BY "ROSICRUCIAN."

A HOST OF CANDIDATES.

As far as I can learn, there is likely to be a prolific supply of candidates for the approaching School Board election. With some the object is less to gain a seat than to keep someone else out. The cumulative method of voting is to be worked for all it is worth—that is, if the electors allow themselves to be duped—and possibly it may turn out to be worth a good deal more than some people bargain for. My advice to the electors is to promise no one, but to exercise a wisely divided discretion on the polling-day.

WHAT IS A PLACE?

This very much vexed question has been raised once more, the Stanley Bench having to decide the point in a case brought by P.C. Crisp on Wednesday. The officer was in every way justified in bringing the charge forward, but the law, or rather the bye-law, was against him, and he lost the day. This is sufficient to make one reflect that a vast amount of time has been spent, money wasted, and forensic ability thrown to the winds in the "Courts above." It has been left to the Magistrates sitting in Petty Sessions at Stanley, to decide offhand a knotty point, and to give "My Luds" a very considerable wrinkle. They have decided that the place where the defendant was in the habit of betting is not a place at all, and therefore there could be no conviction. When a place is not a place, what is it? A committee of fourth form boys could settle the matter in a few minutes.

STRANGE AFFAIR NEAR CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Early on Tuesday morning while a man named Ellison was crossing a field close to Ryles' Farm, High Flatts, Chester-le-Street, he came across the semi-naked body of a woman lying on the grass. He at once got help, and the woman, who was in an unconscious condition, was put into a cart, and driven to the infirmary at Chester-le-Street Workhouse; but, despite all efforts, she died shortly after being admitted. From what can be gathered, it appears that on Monday night, the woman, who was named Warburton, had evidently been in an unconscious state, and when in the field in which she was found, she had partly undressed herself, and thinking she was at home, laid down on the grass to sleep, and the cold being intense, it affected her so much that she died from its effects.

What we do upon some great occasion will probably depend on what we already are; and what we are will be the result of previous years of self-discipline.—H. P. LIDDON.

It is not the truth that a man possesses, or believes that he possesses, but the honest pains he has taken to get at truth, which makes a man's worth; for it is not by the possession of truth, but by the search after it, that his powers are extended, in which alone his perfection consists.—LESSING.

The soul contains world upon world of the most real of realities, of which it has no consciousness until it is awakened to their existence by some parable or metaphor, some strain or rhythm of music, some combination of form or colour, some scene of beauty or sublimity, which suddenly expresses the inexpressible by a lower likeness.

In the path of duty, character is invulnerable. A man may lose his life while facing duty, but he shall not lose one whit of his manhood. It is not until a man begins to shrink from duty that he begins to shrink in manhood. He who never hesitates to do right will never be troubled with the humiliating thought that he is not quite the man he once was.

KEEP YOUR GRIP ON THE BEST THINGS.

Don't lose courage, spirit brave;
Carry it with you to the grave.

Don't lose time in vain distress!
Work, not worry, brings success.

Don't lose hope! Who lets her stray
Goes forlornly all the way.

Don't lose patience, come what will!
Patience oftimes outruns skill.

Don't lose gladness! Every hour
Blooms for you some happy flower.

Though be foiled your dearest plan,
Don't lose faith in God and man.

Lanchester Common Property Owners' Association.

Meeting at Stanley.

On Tuesday evening, a full meeting of the property owners of the Lanchester Common was held in the West Stanley Board Schools. The object of the meeting was to put before the inhabitants of Stanley the position of the association in relation to the case recently tried at Durham, and to endorse the action of the executive to bring the case on again at Durham. Mr Jas. Oliver, Consett, was appointed chairman, and there was a fair attendance of property-owners from the Blackhill and Consett districts.

The Chairman, in addressing the meeting, said they had meet for the purpose of taking into consideration the action of the Executive Committee. In the first place the committee took a test case to the last Durham Quarter Session, with a view of ascertaining whether it was the duty of the association to prove the area and valuation of the Lanchester Common, and after some considerable consideration it was decided that it was the duty of the person complaining to supply the Justices with the full particulars. After this information they were advised by Mr Mundahl, the barrister, that it was no use attempting to proceed further. Mr Mundahl based his opinion upon the stand the Justices proposed taking having regard to the opinion of Tindal Atkinson, Esq., Q.C., which the Justices had taken. It did not follow that any member who had given a guaranttee would be called upon to pay the full amount of the guarantee, but the amount which was guaranteed would be the maximum amount for which he would, if things came to the worst, be called upon to pay, until they had got the information required, viz., the survey of the Common and the amount of rate paid by each person on the Common. He caused a meeting of the Executive Committee to be called on the 13th inst., at which a full meeting took place. Their solicitor being ill the duty devolved on him to express and explain what had taken place with respect to the case which was taken before the Quarter Sessions. After giving a full explanation of what had taken place, the committee decided that the ratable value and area should be obtained, and instructions given to the secretaries to make arrangements with the surveyor to do all the work with as little delay as possible, and that the remuneration should not be more than the amount agreed upon at the Annfield Plain. That had been done, and the work was being proceeded with, and they hoped to have all ready for the June Sessions. The amount of costs in preparing the survey and obtaining the amount of rateable value would cost about £70 or £80. It was decided to open a guarantee fund for the purpose of meeting the expenses incurred, and a subscription list was opened by the committee, to which over £150 was promised to defray expenses in taking the necessary proceedings with a view to obtaining compensation for the damage done by the colliery workings. It was unanimously decided that all members of the Association should be asked to become guarantors to the fund, and anyone refusing to do so be prohibited from having the use of the information without the consent of a majority of the Executive Committee. It was hoped that the plan would not cost the members one penny, as any person who wished to have the plan for the purpose of proving surface damage would have to pay to the committee such sum as they thought proper. They would hold the plan as their own private property, and no one would have access to it without authority from the committee. The course they were taking was for the benefit of all under the Common, and if that was so it was the duty of every member to join those who had already become guarantors in order that the thing might be fought out to the bitter end. (Applause.) It would be unfair of the people living in other districts to ask the twenty or thirty gentlemen who had guaranteed £150 or so to bear the whole of the expenses in fighting the case, seeing that every owner of property who might sustain damage by colliery workings would at once benefit from the action they had already taken. He thought that every man who was an Englishman, and wanted to do that which was just and right, should join them. If they thought the thing a myth, and of no benefit to them, they had a perfect right to say they would throw nothing away. But what he wished to draw more particularly to their attention was the fact that the Executive Committee would have a meeting on Friday evening first at Consett, at which it would be most seriously discussed as to the closing of the association. He was very much in favour of not allowing it to run further than this month. People had had ample opportunity of joining the association, and if they neglected to join the association, and had their property let down, they would be treated as persons unknown. It was only a straightforward and honest course, and if a man wanted to participate in the benefits he should be willing to take the responsibility and stand by the association.

Mr Joseph Eltringham, of Blackhill, said that after the explanation given of the position of the association there was little left for him to say. The object of the association had been plainly put before them on previous occasions. The necessity of property owners joining as quickly as possible had also been put before them that night. It was only right that the membership of the association should close before action was taken at the next Quarter Sessions, because they wanted the meeting to understand that there would be a considerable amount of expense incurred previous to going into court, which was now agreed to by the Executive Committee. At the last meeting the question was discussed, and after having a guarantee fund sunk to meet the expense by a certain number of gentlemen who had put their hands into their pocket to the tune of £140, they were in a fair way to test the case to know whether property-owners could have their property destroyed without receiving compensation for damages sustained. The members who subscribed the money would be looked after, and outside people could not expect to derive any benefit from the action which the association would take unless they joined now. The association was formed for the purpose of bearing jointly the expenses what would necessarily be incurred in the preparation of plans and survey of the district. They had found out that they could get an order. In Mr Oliver's case the Justices granted the order, but did not collect the money. Their excuse was that it was the duty of the plaintiff to provide the information which the Executive Committee was now taking steps to provide. Members joining the Association would participate in the benefits derived from the action taken. If they succeeded there would be no difficulty in any future case, but now members could not expect that the solicitors and surveyor of the Association would be allowed to give the information to them, nor the plans prepared by the Association given to them free of costs. The Chairman was perfectly justified in saying that the Association, as far as taking in members was concerned, would be closed in a short time, although they did not want to exclude anybody, but they would all be aware of the necessity of joining the Association.

Conn. J. Green, in addressing the meeting, said he was in hearty sympathy with the objects of the association, and was one of the guarantors. He wanted to point out to those present the importance of the question before them. He took it for granted if they found that Mr Oliver had won his case, any other members suffering damage would have to obtain a further order from the Quarter Sessions, although the machinery for its being carried out would be in operation. It was a day of associations, and it was important for them to protect their property from disastrous consequences. The day would come, whether they won or lost, that a large amount of property would be set down, and when some 30 feet of coal had been worked out a good deal of property would be wrecked, and seriously wrecked. If parties would not become guarantors for £1 the day would come when they might lose hundred times that amount. It would only be necessary to pay the actual amount of expense incurred in the trial It was understood that each guarantor should sign his name for an amount. It was a question which would have to be faced in some form or other, and as unity was strength, the sooner the thing was gone into the better. (Applause.)

After Mr J. M. Aynsley, the solicitor to the association, had explained the legal aspect and position of the case.

Mr J. Eltringham moved, and it wasseconded, that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Mr Oliver for his presidency in the chair. In moving the motion Mr Eltringham refuted and denied the false rumour which had gained circulation that Mr Oliver was only interesting himself in the question for selfish purposes and ends.

Mr Oliver, in responding, said he did not expect to receive one penny from the action of the association, in as much as he was getting up in years, but he hoped he would be spared to see the matter fought to the bitter end, and would do everything which lay in his power to make himself thoroughly satisfied that all had been done that could be done to prevent the unpleasant existing state of affairs. (Applause.)

The meeting then terminated.

BURNOPFIELD.

HORSE PROCESSION.—This popular event is fixed to take place at Burnopfield, on Wednesday first. Excellent entries have been received, and the affair promises to be a great success.

BLACKHILL.

U.M. FREE CHURCH.—From our advertising columns it will be seen that Mr J. A. Hughes, of Newcastle, is to preach in the above church on Sunday first, morning and evening.

"What are you crying for, Bobbie?" "Boo-hoo—Willie's broke his arm, an' if I lick him all the fellers will say I'm a coward." "Why don't you wait till he's well?" "Boo-hoo—I—I can't lick him then."

Billings: "A man never learns to really know his wife until after they are married, no matter how long they have been engaged." Darrow: "You're wrong there. Sometimes the girls have little brothers."

"What did you think of that cigar I gave you yesterday?" "Not much. It cost me ten shillings." "How so?" "Why, it gave my wife the idea that the gas was leaking somewhere, and she sent for a plumber."

Local and District News.

Consett.

ROYAL CO-OPERATIVE BENEFIT COLLECTING SOCIETY.—On Saturday evening, a public meeting in connection with the above society will be held in Hansom's Temperance Hotel, Middle Street, Consett, when addresses will be delivered by Mr. Samuel Birtley, of Sunderland; Mr. Worthy Reed, of Durham; and Mr. W. Watson, of Newcastle, on the subject of "Friendly Societies and their object." A general invitation is given to those who wish to avail themselves of the benefits offered by the society to attend the meeting.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.—Mr C. W. Poole's No. 1 Show is paying a visit to Consett this week after having concluded the most brilliantly successful season in Newcastle, Sunderland, and South Shields ever known. The New Town Hall has been well patronised each night, and certainly the "bill of fare" provided has been of the best character. The pictures presented are very realistic, and caused much enthusiasm. Especially was this the case in Sir Herbert Kitchener's splendid march from Cairo to Fashoda, the great Battle of Omdurman, the magnificent charge of the 21st Lancers, the Fall of Khartoum, and the death of Gordon. The variety business introduced is of a high class. The Zaccara Troupe (five in number) are a very clever combination, while La Petite Rolla is well described as "the achme of grace and skill on the silver wire." McCart's dogs perform some wonderful tricks, and are very intelligent animals. There are also several other turns, all of which cannot fail to interest and amuse the onlooker. Mr. Poole's visit will extend over Saturday, and we can safely say that those who have not already patronised the myriorama have missed a treat. There will be a day performance on Saturday at three o'clock, and this should suit the juveniles. We can recommend the entertainment as being one of the best we have ever witnessed.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SONS' (LIMITED) CIRCUS.—We beg to remind our readers of the visit to Consett of Lord John Sanger and Sons (Limited), amalgamated English show, which includes Scotch, Irish, and French Touring Companies, forming without doubt the most stupendous and colossal exhibition ever presented in England. The day of the visit is Wednesday next, and Lord Sanger and Sons will pitch their tents in a field at Number One belonging to Mr Nathan Elsdon, when two performances will be given. Everbody should see this wonderful world-celebrated circus and hippo-drome. For this season this limited liability company have secured the finest talent and the best of everything that can be obtained in the world of amusement and entertainment. The result has been that they have now one of the best organised shows, and is well worth the price charged for admission. There is a stud of 300 horses and ponies all in perfect condition. The cavalcade will entirely surpass all previous efforts in the way of street processions, and will include many novelties.—A noticable feature being Dick Marsh, the famous whip, who will drive the longest team of horses ever driven by one man. The programme for each performance will include many interesting items. There will be a football match between elephants v. clowns, and also the competition between "elephant v. man" for the very massive goblet which is now on view at Mr Joseph Murray's grocer, Middle Street, Consett. Mr T. Walton, of the Allendale Park Football Club, has arranged to compete against Sanger's centre forward elephant, as to who can kick the most goals out of five tries. Mr Walton and the elephant to keep goal in turn. This show also visits Dipton on Thursday, May 11th, and on the following day will be at West Stanley.

Blackhill.

WESLEYAN CHURCH.—On Sunday morning and evening, the Rev. Walter Fuller, of Bishop Auckland, will preach the anniversary sermons. As the preacher is well known in the district from his past labours in the circuit, there should be successful services. On Monday evening, the cantata, "Sherwood's Queen," will be given by the choir.

LANCHESTER DEANERY.—There was a meeting of the Conference of Lanchester Deanery on Thursday, in St. Cuthbert's Parochial Room, Benfieldside. There was a good attendance of both clerical and lay representatives. The Chairman, Canon Ross-Lewin, said that they had not had a meeting for some time, and therefore had given no opinion about the so called crisis in the Church. Probably many in other places would wish that they too had said nothing about an agitation which had little real foundation. It would be better for the Church's best interests. Four clerical and eight lay representatives were elected as members of the Diocesan Conference, and Ruri-decanal, representatives on the various committees were also elected. Attention was also paid to the subject of "Lay work" and of "Church defence."

Chester-le-Street

RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO CHESTER-LE-STREET should not fail to call at PETER HAY'S and inspect his enormous Stock of Drapery, Ready-mades, Millinery, Mantles, and Fancy Goods. His display is a great attraction and ought to be seen by all.

Dipton

SOCIAL TEA.—On Wednesday afternoon and evening, the young people of the Dipton Wesleyan Society, at the suggestion of the Band of Hope Committee, held a social tea in the School-room, the tables being ably presided over by Misses Frances Wood and Mary Jane Weightman. During intervals songs were rendered by Misses M. Hunter and E. Browell, while Mr. G. Brown, of Wardley, recited. In the vestry there was an art gallery, which was well patronized. In addition there were confectionery and fruit stalls, all of which received their share of patronage and support. The effort was made in aid of a pianoforte for the school-room.

Iveston

FARM STOCK SALE AT CASTLE LENE.—On Wednesday last, Mr. J. Murray conducted the sale for Mrs. Hudson, who is retiring, at which surplus stock were entered the whole stock being 29 cattle, 7 horses, 57 head of poultry, 3 stampe hay, 2 of straw, a fair field of implements, and part furniture. There was a good attendance, and satisfactory prices realized, the whole of the stock, with two exceptions, being sold. Bull, £15 17s 6d; bull stirks, £5 10s to £7 15s; cows to £13 7s 6d; calving heifers to £11; heifer stirks, £5 17s to £8 7s 2d; bullock stirks, £4 to £8 10s; horses, £8 to 17½ gs.; implements also made satisfactory prices as follows:—Hay rake, £6 12s 6d; reaper, £8; harness, £3 10s; dog cart, £7 12s 6d; other traps, £4 to £14; poultry, 2/- to 2/9 each. The day was fine but cold.

Rowley

SALE AT DENE HOUSE.—Mr. Jackson Green held the spring half-yearly sale on Friday last, when there was forward 6 cows and heifers, 32 stirks, 34 mule ewes and lambs, 2 Leicester tups, 3 hoggs, 8 B.F. ewes and mule lambs. The day being fine a fair company of buyers turned up, the principal buyers amongst the sheep being Messrs A. Morallee and A. Rutherford, Blackhill. The sheep met a good sale, all being sold through the ring. Appended are prices:—Mule ewes from Hollingside, to 48/-; Burnhill, to 47/-; Butsfield, mule hoggs, 27/6; B.F. ewes, from Satley Grange, 27/-; J. Ross, Butsfield, 24/6; Hermitage, 21/-; Dene House, ch. g. hoggs, 13/6; stirks, top steers, £9 15s; top heifers, M. Bewley, Tunstall, £8 2s 6d; the remainder making fair prices.

Stanhope.

PRETTY WEDDING.—A pretty wedding took place at Stanhope Church on Saturday afternoon, between Mr Robert Stobbs and Miss Nattrass, of Weatherhill. The Rev. E. W. Yew tied the nuptial knot. Mr J. Bell played the "Wedding March" on the organ. A merry peal of bells announced the joyous event. The bride was given away by her brother, and Mr J. Brown was "best man." The bridesmaids were Miss Stobbs and Miss Nattrass, sisters of the bridegroom and bride respectively. The bride was dressed in fawn, and the bridesmaids in blue. A reception took place at the bride's home. The cake was supplied by the Misses Littlefair, of the Restaurant. Presents were numerous, and the auspicous event was celebrated with much "eclat."

Stanley.

MR. WM. HOLMES, J.P.—Mr Holmes, by virtue of his office as Chairman of Tanfield District Council, attended the Police Court, at West Stanley, on Wednesday, and was sworn in as a magistrate. He then took his seat for the first time.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer wound up a most successful week at the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, on Saturday night, by giving a powerful and dramatic impersonation of "Hamlet." The engagement, though costly, was profitable to all concerned, and not least to the audiences, who had full and ample return for their small outlay. During the present week, Miss Ethel Arden, assisted by Mr Robert Castleton and a strong company, are appearing in "Daggers Drawn," and are meeting with good receptions. Next week the Wonderful Steens will occupy the boards.

TANFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Tanfield District Council was held on Wednesday night at the Board-room, Tanfield,—Mr W. Holmes, J.P. (chairman) presiding. There were also present the Rev. T. H. Archdall, Messrs B. Mason, J. Rodham, W. Braidford, sen., W. Braidford, jun., T. Pringle, Gilliland Davis, H. C. Wood, J. Harrison, W. Bulmer, W. G. Turnbull, the Clerk (Mr. T. Armstrong), and the Surveyor (Mr. R. Heslop.)

THE TANFIELD LEA FATALITY.

The Rev. T. H. Archdall moved "that the members of this Council, having heard with very great regret, of the sad loss sustained by their late much esteemed colleague, Mr. John Warwick, through the lamentable death of his son, wish to convey to him and to Mrs. Warwick and family, their deep and sincere sympathy with them in their great sorrow."

Mr. Davis seconded the motion, which was approved of, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

PLANS AND SEWERAGE.

The Plans and Sewerage Committee recommended that a plan for a wooden erection at Burnopfield for a club be rejected. They also recommended that the entire cost of the scavenging be paid out of the General District Rate; that the Surveyor be instructed to get tenders for the management and use of the sewage area at Tanfield; that six weeks notice be given to the owner of the houses occupied by Forster Hall and Stephen Starrs, at Toft Gate Farm, to put them into a proper state of repair.

On the motion of Mr. Bulmer, the report was adopted.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Highways Committee recommended that the Surveyor be instructed to purchase a roller for the footpaths; that the estimated quantity of road material for the different roads, as given by the Surveyor, be approved except Syke Lane, and that 150 tons of limestone, and 50 tons of slag be put upon that road. They recommended that Messrs Wm. Barker and Co.'s tender to supply slag, be accepted, subject to the material being supplied by January next. The Committee further recommended that the tender of the Weardale Iron Company for the supply of hand broken lime tone, be accepted on a similar condition. It was further recommended that an agreement be entered into with Burnopfield Co-operative Society to supply electricity for 50 extra street lamps. It was also recommended that the postmaster at Newcastle be requested to put in a letter-box at East Tanfield. Respecting Wigham's gas account appeal case, it was recommended that the matter be put into the hands of a special committee, with powers to deal with all matters affecting the question.

Mr. Turnbull moved the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor reported that during the month, the workmen had been employed making a new roadway at Lintz, asphalting, and water tabling. The work of asphalting footpaths was proceeding slowly, owing to the difficulty of obtaining material. With permission he could find a suitable site, and would have it prepared at a cost of not more than £5. During the month the County Surveyor had paid a visit, respecting the road leading from Burnopfield Church to the bottom of Priestfield Bank. Last year he deducted £120 from their account, owing to this road not being properly maintained, and he would now grant his certificate for the balance. The estimates for road materials wre 1,140 tons of limestone, and 360 tons of slag.

Is Inspector, Mr. Heslop reported that all the contractors had entered intoo new agreements for the more efficient performance of the work of scavenging. In June 1898, he voluntarily undertook the collecting of the fee of 1/3 per house, charged for scavenging for one quarter, and he had collected over £180. He sugested the appointment of a collector, as it took up a considerable amount of time.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT: A RECORD.

Dr. Benson reported as follows:—The condition of the district as regards infectious diseases was most satisfactory during the past month, only three cases of mild scarlatina, and one of erysipelas, were notified. The latter was practically of no importance infectively. The initial case of the former, caught the infection outside the district. All the above resided in Tantobie. The death-rate for the month of April was a record one, only four deaths were returned, being equal to slightly over five per 1,000 per annum on the estimated population.

Mr. Davis moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. Turnbull and agreed to.

OVERCROWDING.

Mr. H. Cg. Wood moved "That the Surveyor have instructions to get what assistance he requires and report as to the number of one-roomed houses in the district and the number of occupants; also two roomed houses, and number of occupants, and all cases where more than one tenant occupies one house, and report as early as possible with particulars of all rent paid." He said this matter went to the very root of the work the Council wanted to do in promoting sanitary reform. He believed there was a great want of house accommodation in the district. There were two and three families living in one house and he regarded that as being very objectionable. People had to pay excessive rents in order to get a covering over their heads. There were many houses, in his judgment, which were totally unfitted for habitation. It simply meant that the Council must take action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and provide such accommodation as the district required. He was not prepared at the present time to go further than to ask their Inspector to report. On receipt of his report it might be necessary to proceed to a greater length.

Mr. Davis seconded the motion, and expressed the opinion that such an enquiry was very much needed. He knew that in some cases very high rents were charged for very small houses, and people were living in a cramped condition. If they had proper report they would be in a position of knowing what was required in the district.

Mr. Archdall supported the motion, and Mr. Turnbull expressed an opinion that the Surveyor had quite sufficient work on hand at present.

Mr. Pringle objected to assistance being given. He thought the Surveyor was the proper and only person to do the work.

Mr. Braidford jun., while favouring the resolution, agreed that it would be improper to depute the work to any Jack, Tom, or Harry. The Surveyor had a lot of work on hand at present, and when he had got through it then he thought the resolution might be agreed to.

Mr. Wood replied that the longer they went on the greater became the work of the Surveyor. One of their first duties was to see to the proper housing of the people in their district.

On a division seven voted for the motion—Messrs Wood, Archdall, Harrison, Gilliland Davis, Rodham, and Bulmer,—and six against—the Chairman, Messrs Pringle, Braidford Senr., Braidford Junr., and Turnbull.

The motion was therefore carried.

SHIELD ROW STATION.

Mr. Bulmer moved "that the North Eastern Railway Company be requested (1) to provide a booking office on the North platform of Shield Row Station, (2) more warehouse accommodation, (3) a sub-way, and (4) more shelter for passengers in stormy weather.

After discussion, the motion was carried, and the meeting ended.

GREENCROFT.

ACCIDENT TO P.C. JAMES.—We regret to state that P.C. James has been laid up with a sprained ankle for over a fortnight. It is, however, gratifying to know that he is recovering.

BURNOPFIELD.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Saturday evening a miscellaneous concert was given in the Wesleyan Chapel by several friends, in aid of the new school funds.

MEDOMSLEY.

INTERESTING PRESENTATION.—An interesting presentation took place on Friday afternoon last in the National Schools, Medomsley, before a large gathering of teachers, scholars, and friends, to Mrs. Thompson, assistant-mistress in the Infants' Department, who is leaving, after being there for thirteen years. The presentation, which had been ably managed by Miss L. Moffitt and Miss A. Simpson, took the form of a solid silver afternoon tea service, and bore the inscription:—"Presented to Mrs. Thompson by the managers, teachers, scholars, and other friends, on leaving Medomsley National Schools after 13 years' successful service." The head-master, Mr. T. D. Dales, referred to the valuable help Mrs. Thompson had given him as a teacher, and the Rev. W. Cockin, on behalf of the managers, spoke of the excellent reports and results earned by the school, in which Mrs. Thompson shared, by her careful and successful work during the long period she had been assistant-mistress. Mrs. Cockin then gracefully made the presentation, in well-chosen terms, and the interesting proceedings concluded amidst the applause of all present. Mrs. Thompson is succeeded by Miss Helen Potts, of Consett, and late of Guisbro' Board Schools.

15 & 16, Middle Street, Consett.

Yes ! It is a Fact
That English's
Is the
Best and Cheapest Place for
CORSETS,
GLOVES,
And
DRESS MATERIALS.
It is also the Right Place for New Dress Trimmings.

ROBERT ENGLISH.

BURNS' ANNIVERSARY.

When this lengthy discussion was briefly commenced, one purpose alone did bound it—
Just attention to call to a programme much deficient in what should have crowned it.
Too, in a friendly spirit I did begin it, saying nothing could justly offend,
But merely what might with our friends have weight, their anniversary programmes to amend.
And my first opponent was fair on the whole, though he did of the word "so-called" complain,
But its using I afterwards justified, and them, from questioning further, did good "Robbie" refrain.
And there the matter might well've been dropped, as men of good sense could observe,
That to carry the controversy furthest, would no other good purpose serve.
But meddling "M" all arrayed in queer rhyme, sallied out, as he thought, with more force;
Though instead of matters improving at all, has gone surely from bad on to worse.
He proclaimed he came forth as a "go-between," and would "Robbie" back, too, for to win."
But he's sorely in need now of someone himself in pity to save his thin skin.
Now his boastful professions he'd do well to remember, and them view in their right connections.
Then see whether they do not himself contradict, before venturing to make vain corrections.
But his low vain purpose it much better suits, from the question to stray on any pretence,
For he's found the position too strong for him, and realised his utter impotence.
And so we find this week he forsakes it quite, though reaching at last his true level,
But if what he actually says be true, then surely he must be the devil.
And this fair inference he seems again to confirm, when claiming descent of a certain degree,
And where the astounding statement he makes, that he descended from "Eden's tree."
That his course of descent he must long have continued, it ending at length in a region below,
From his latest effusion is evident, for from what other quarter could such vile stuff flow?
But whatever his origin and condition may be, it is quite clear enough forsooth,
That he sorely now is suffering from the piercing stings of truth.
Things from the first he's assumed and suggested in sense, invidious and low,
While phrases well hackneyed and spiteful he's continued to choose and bestow.
And though with denials I might have met all, and shown they do not to me appertain,
Yet from his own words I preferred to draw, and back in this way to pay him again.
Then to write of horns and fads and bees (the latter of "M" the special dread.)
As well as of a man whose feet he'd singed, and thought he might be dead;
For a man to write of these like "M," and with no good grounds to begin it,
Yet moreover complain when touched back again, argues a soul with little good in it;
The truth which "M" quotes, that men reap what they sow, must to him be practically known,
Seeing its force, so much as he has, realised and reaping justly what he has sown.
Having then exhausted his Pitt Street phrases, as well as the wrath so much he'd been nursing,
"M" turns next to a subject quite new, and to blessing instead of to cursing.
And here he makes another mistake (and for the making of which he does surely surpass all.)
For in preaching to me of the late Liberal Whip he is carrying coals to Newcastle,
But while I agree with the words he quotes, and would not in due appreciation be found in the rear.
Yet for the worthy man's name I've too much respect, to think of discussing it here.
And from very bad grace proceed "M.'s" allusions to one he would say was an agent of Gladstone.
When we remember how of such he detractingly spoke at the time, "W.B." he dubbed one.
And from the life he so highly commends, he'd do well to take a good hint.
And see that he's furnished with good sense and feeling, before presuming to rush into print.
I return to our well-worn subject again, because asked what it is I would seek
More from the sons of Scotland than knowing where, when and how to speak?
Well, as far as concerns the question here, nothing more I say would I ask.
And it never would've come forward at all if they had performed this very task.
But having announced in a public way that a Poet's anniversary they were going to observe—
Putting his name over a programme, drawn a money-making purpose to serve,
Yet they failed when the occasion had come to pay the Poet's memory any proper regard,
But declared they had realised something greater than the celebration of the Bard,
And so it will be remembered, yes, long after this controversy,
That we had this year at Consett a Bawbee anniversary .
And who would ever have thought a Burns' day would come,
When his countrymen on a platform o'er his memory would be dumb.

"W.B."

WEARDALE.

Burning Fatality.—On Thursday morning, between six and seven, Mrs Gardiner (63), wife of Mr John Gardiner, Side Foot, St. John's Chapel, was burnt to death under the following curious circumstances. Deceased's daughter had gone for the milk, and on returning found her mother lying shockingly scorched and seemingly dead on the floor in front of the fire. It is conjectured that Mrs Gardiner was doing something about the fire when her nightdress got alight and she succumbed to sudden shock from the fearful burns all over the body, as on Dr. Easton's arrival he pronounced life extinct. Singularly the deceased's husband and two sons, Tom and George (who are on a visit from South Africa), were in bed upstairs and heard nothing until aroused by their sister's voice. At the inquest held at St. John's Chapel, Weardale, on Friday, by Coroner Proud, touching the death of Mrs Gardiner, a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

GREENCROFT SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Greencroft Board Schools, Catchgate, on Thursday evening, under the presidency of Mr. H. Greener. There were also present—Messrs T. U. Ord, J. Mason, together with Mr. W. H. Ritson (Clerk), Mr. W. W. Thompson (Deputy Clerk), and Mr. A. Tindale (Attendance Officer.)

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. R. Tindale, Attendance Officer, reported that the attendance had been well maintained, and with the exception of a little fever, there was nothing to prevent the children from attending school.

The report was adopted.

TEACHERS' REPORTS.

Mr. W. I. Mackay, head-master of the Mixed School, reported that the average attendance was 281 for the month, against 340, the average attendance for the preceding month. Mr. H. Brown, H.M. Inspector, visited the school on the 29th ult. Sixty-three children had been admitted from the Infants' School. In the interests of the candidates for pupil-teachership, he respectfully suggested that they should be sent to the centre as early as possible. They sat the Government examination on Saturday, April 21st.—Miss C. Knifton, head-mistress of the Infant School, reported that the average attendance for the month was 129.6. There were 70 children transferred to the Mixed School on April 5th, and since then they had admitted 24 children, making a very good commencement for the first month of the school year, but the attendance was very low in Easter week.

The reports were adopted.

THE USE OF SCHOOLS.

The Rev. J. Gornall, Hare Law, applied for the use of the schools for an old folks' tea.

The request was granted.

A CHANGE ADVOCATED.

Mr. W. I. Mackay recommended that the present privies be substituted by water-closets, and asked for a small closet above his back bed-room.

It was ordered that an estimate of the cost be procured.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH.

Cheques were ordered to be signed for £70 4s 3d.

THE PRECEPTS.

A precept at the rate of 4d in the £ was ordered to be served upon the Overseers for the next half-year, ending the Michaelmas.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

The Whitsuntide holidays were ordered to be given as usual, and the teachers receive their salaries on the Friday before the holidays.

THE COOKERY MISTRESS.

Mr. Ord asked what was to be done with respect to the appointment of a cookery mistress, owing to the resignation of Miss Curry. If he had his way he would have none at all.

Mr. Mason thought some grant was earned by the subject.

The matter was ordered to lie over.

THE SAD COLLIERY FATALITY AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

INQUEST AND VERDICT.

On Thursday afternoon of last week, an inquest was held at the Railway Hotel, Annfield Plain, to inquire into the circumstances of the death of a youth named Guy Champney, aged 13 years. Mr W. Rutherford, manager, represented the Dickinson Coal Company, and Mr. Hedley, H.M. Inspector of Mines, was also present.

Mr. Rutherford explained the plan.

John Champney, onsetter, father of deceased said he was following his employment when the accident happened. The endless rope was running empty tubs. It was parts of Guy's business to get hold of the empty tubs. About a minute after, Nelson, his elder brother, shouted, "There's Guy fast," upon which he ran forward, and found the boy crushed between the tub and the middle slide or guide of the shaft. Witness pulled the tub off him, and made him as comfortable as he could, but he expired before he reached his home. He died at Lawson's Cottage, about 100 yards from the Stewart Pit. Witness examined the tub, and found it half full of stones, and his (witness's) opinion was that the tub had got the better of deceased. The boy could manage an empty tub, but not a full one.

Mr. Hedley (to witness): Did the tub pass you?

Witness: Decidedly it did. When I heard my elder son call out I went in bye to see what was the matter. The colour of the stones was such that it had deceived him. There was an understanding amongst us that when a tub was full, the boy hanging on should shout out, when a full tub came to hand. He had been deceived with the tub being half full of stone.

Mr. Hedley: If you had seen the full tub you would have looked after it, I suppose?

Witness: Yes, I would have taken it myself.

A juryman: What age was the boy?

Witness: He was 13 years of age.

A juryman: Was he at age to pull out at the shaft?

Witness: Yes.

The foreman: Can you not have some distinguishing chalk mark for full tubs?

Mr. Rutherford: There was a gas light above the boy's head, and they could not make it any better than it was. If they chalked the full tubs the probability was that boys would do so habitually, and thus make matters worse instead of better.

The Coroner said the case had been rendered easier through the father being in charge, and as all reasonable precautions had been taken, there was not the slightest blame attached to either the father or the elder brother, Nelson, for calling out, because he had been deceived.

Mr. Champney remarked that he had been at the same work for 18 years, during which time he had had several boys under him, none of whom had ever received so much as a scratch, while at the same work that his deceased son had been engaged in.

A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

The Unemployed in East London.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year, more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches that firm would be enabled to pay £1,000 a week more in wages, and large numbers of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism.

Don't Die in the House.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed bugs, fleas, ants, moles, shipmunks, gophers. 6d and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

PARDON ME !

HAVE YOU TRIED THE POPULAR KYTE TEA? Sold at 1/6, 1/10, 2/-, 2/4, 2/6, 2/10, & 3/2. Aroma and Quality Delicious.
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Wholesale from ANTHONY OATES,
ST. MARTIN'S COURT, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

LOCAL POLICE COURTS.

Lanchester Petty Sessions.

FIRST COURT.

THURSDAY, April 27th.—Before Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen (presiding), Mr E. W. E. Balleny, and Rev. T. J. L. Warneford.

WILFUL DAMAGE TO A FENCE.

Joseph Brown, farm servant, of Hurbuck, near Knitsley, was charged with doing wilful damage to a fence at Little Greencroft, the property of Mr E. W. E. Balleny, J.P., on the 7th March, to the amount of 10/-.—Defendant pleaded guilty.—Thomas Whitfield, farm servant in the employment of Mr Balleny, said 40 yards of a fence was totally destroyed by fire. Defendant set fire to a whin bush by the roadside, and the flames spread and caught the wick hedge.—The Chairman said to destroy 40 yards of a fence was very serious.—Supt. Benzies stated that he saw the fence referred to, and the damage was very serious indeed. The fence was totally destroyed.—The Chairman said by people setting fire to whin bushes they caused no end of trouble and damage. To destroy a hedge of this description was practically spoiling the work of half a life-time.—Mr Balleny said he did not wish to press the case. He only brought the case to Court to let people see they could not do this wilful destruction to people's property. There were 91 yards of the fence destroyed on one side, and 40 yards on the north side. The fence had been destroyed four times in three years.—Defendant said he set fire to a whin bush, and he could not put it out. He never intended to destroy the fence.—The Chairman said seeing the prosecutor had intimated that he did not wish to press the case, the fine would be less than it otherwise would have been. The Bench had decided to impose a fine of 2/6, the damage, and costs.

IGNORANT OF THE REGULATIONS.

John Martin, miner, was charged with a breach of the Contagious Diseases (Animals') Act, by removing two pigs without the necessary permit having been obtained, on the 17th April.—Sergt. Vickers averred that when at Maiden Law he found the defendant with two pigs in a trap. Witness asked defendant for his permit, and he replied that he had not got one. On asking defendant his name he gave John Martin, which he (the Officer) afterwards found out to be false.—Defendant: I am John Martin's agent.—The Chairman: I see.—Defendant said it was true there were a number of bills posted up in the district regarding the regulations; but he must confess that he had not seen one, and therefore he pleaded ignorance of the regulations.—The Chairman stated there were a great many complaints about the regulations owing to the fact that sufficient publicity were not given to the same. He maintained they ought to be published through the public papers.—Defendant further pointed out that he was not aware that a permit was necessary seeing there was no buying or selling transaction. He never had the pigs out of the trap.—The officer said defendant was bound to know that a permit was necessary seeing that he bought the pigs at Greencroft.—Defendant said he was taking the pigs to the train, and was perfectly ignorant of the regulations.—The Chairman said he was not aware of the restrictions, and, therefore, considered better publicity should be given to the same.—The Magistrates dismissed the case.

A DISTURBANCE AT ESH WINNING.

Annie Raine, married woman was charged with assaulting Mary Raine, married woman, and Hannah Wilson, a young child, at Esh Winning, on the 14th April. There was a cross-summons charging Mary Wilson with assaulting Annie Raine, and an infant named Cecilia Raine, at Esh Winning, on the 14th April. Mr W. Dickinson (Consett) appeared for Annie Raine who pleaded not guilty to both charges.—Complainant attested that on the 14th April, she was in a neighbour's house when Mrs Raine followed her child into the doorway, and struck it a blow on the head. She interfered, and defendant dealt her a blow. They closed, and both fell to the ground. On the complainant gathering herself up defendant struck her several blows, and knocked her down, her head coming in contact with a long settle in Mrs Scott's kitchen. She remembered nothing more till the arrival of the doctor.—By the Chairman: There had been no previous quarrel.—In answer to Mr Dickinson, complainant said she did not interfere with Mrs Raine until she knocked her child down on the door-step. She did not use bad language.—Isabella Cooke said she remembered the complainant coming into her house on the day in question. Mrs Raine struck the child over the head with a towel. The two women got hold of each other by the hair of the head. In the struggle Mrs Raine gave the complainant a push, and she fell against a piece of furniture.—By Mr Dickinson: The defendant was her sister-in-law, who had not spoken to her for some months. Witness was friendly towards her brother. The defendant would not speak to her. The child was on the door-step when attacked by the defendant.—Jane Bennett tendered similar evidence.—The Magistrates wished the parties to compromise the case; but Mr Dickinson said it was no use, as his client was prepared to fight out the case.—Defendant stated that the quarrel arose through the children. It was true she went after the complainant's child, but she did not touch her. When the complainant saw her she jumped up and attacked her. Complainant struck her on the head with a piece of coal, and the disturbance proper commenced.—At this stage the Bench said they had heard sufficient evidence. Both parties were at fault, and they would be bound over to keep the peace for six months, and pay the costs.—The cases against the two children were dismissed.

ASSAULT AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

John Broad, miner, was charged with assaulting Joseph Gardner, at Annfield Plain, on the 18th April.—Complainant said he had occasion to enter a public-house, known as the Coach and Horses, at Annfield Plain. He partook of a glass of beer, and went into the back yard. Defendant followed him into the water-closet, fastened the door, and then commenced to kick him. He had to obtain the assistance of a gentleman to stop the defendant from assaulting him, and he was afraid that Broad would take his life.—Thos. Wright, miner, said he saw the two men playing tug-of-war. (Laughter.)—The Magistrates' Clerk: Were they fighting?—Witness: I don't call it fighting. It was simply tug-of-war. (Loud laughter.) The men were pulling each other about.—Defendant said he was in the bar of the public-house when the complainant entered, who called for a glass of beer, and then told him to sup off. Complainant played a dirty trick on him, and when near the door he took Gardner to task about what he had done. Complainant placed himself in a fighting attitude. Defendant left the complainant, and the latter followed him into the water-closet, and gave him a blow on he back of the head. They then commenced to strike and kick one another. A man entered the place, took hold of the complainant, and he (defendant) then proceeded home.—Robert Temperley, miner, bore out the defendant's statement.—By the Chairman: Complainant kicked him four times on the legs.—The Bench invited the parties into an adjoining room, and on returning into Court the Chairman said there were no marks of violence on the limbs of either party. They would be bound over to keep the peace for three months, and they would have to defray the costs between them.

STEALING COALS AT BURNHOPE.

An elderly woman, named Sarah McKenzie, was charged with stealing coals from the Burnhope Depot, the property of Mrs Hedley, of Burnhopeside Hall, on the 22nd April.—The evidence of William Laidler, farm labourer, was that on this particular day he was leading coals from the Burnhope Depot to Burnhopeside Hall. He was engaged in filling the cart, when the defendant came up and filled a pail with coals. He valued the coals at 4d, and they were the property of Mrs Hedley. He had spoken to the defendant about the offence several times.—Another farm servant adduced similar testimony.—P.C. Haw said when he served the summons on the defendant she replied that she only got a few pieces.—Defendant, in answer to the charge, said she merely gathered the coals up off the road which had fallen off the carts.—The Magistrates took a lenient view of the case, and bound the defendant over to come up for judgment when called upon.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. E. W. E. Balleny.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following were proceeded against for this offence, the usual fine, in each case being imposed:—Peter Knox, Cornsay; Hy. Boston, Lanchester; John Richardson, Catchgate; Henry Canby, Catchgate; Thomas O'Donnell, Oxhill; Robert Stobart, Annfield Plain; Robert Thompson, Annfield Plain; and Charles Fairless, Satley.

PITCH AND TOSS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Robert Pace, Henry Glasson, Henry McGowan, William Thompson, George Lewins, and Thomas Carr, were charged with playing pitch and toss at Annfield Plain, on the 16th April.—Sergt. Vickers proved the case.—McGowan and Thompson were fined 5/- each and costs, and the other defendants 2/6 and costs.

ANOTHER BIG "SCHOOL" FROM BURNHOPE.

William McKenzie, Matthew Savage, John Murray, Jonathan McKenzie, Thomas Dawson, and James McKenzie, miners, were proceeded against for playing pitch and toss at Burnhope, on the 15th April.—P.C. Haw adduced evidence to the effect that he saw the whole of the defendants gambling.—A warrant was issued against Jonathan McKenzie, and the other defendants were fined 5/- each and costs.

Williams Briens, George Dawson, William Curry, William Juice, George Bell, Robert Doolan, Richard Dawson, Edward Milburn, George Routledge, Henry Clark, Thomas Cox, and William Dawson, were charged with playing pitch and toss at Burnhope, on the 16th inst.—P.C. Haw stated the facts.—George, Richard, and William Dawson were fined 2/6 each and costs; and the other defendants 5/- each and costs.

Consett Petty Sessions.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, May 1st.—Before Mr. J. Annandale, (chairman), Mr. F. Priestman, Mr. W. Aynsley, and Mr. J. Green.

AN EX-POLICEMAN AND AN EX-PUBLICAN FALL OUT AT BURNOPFIELD.

Richard Pace, an ex-publican, was charged with assaulting John Rogerson, an ex-policeman, at Burnopfield, on the 22nd April. Mr. T. W. Welford (Consett), defended, and pleaded not guilty.—Complainant averred that on the night in question, about 9.30, he went into the Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, and was standing talking to a young man. After being in the public-house a short time, defendant asked him to stand him a drink. Prosecutor said he had no objections, and then Pace requested him to come and sit down beside him. He declined to do so, and defendant left his seat, came to where he was standing, and commenced to call him all the bad names he could think of. Prosecutor requested defendant to go away as he did not wish to fight, and Pace sat down. Presently defendant returned, and repeated the bad language, and then took hold of him by the hair of the head. Defendant pulled his cap off, and threw it on the ground. He called the landlord's attention to the conduct of the defendant, who was requested to leave the house. Pace went out, and said he would lay wait for the complainant outside.—By Mr. Welford: They lived neighbours. There was not an old grudge between them about a water tap. The only explanation he required was the reason the water had been turned off. It was true they had some words over the water tap. He never threatened to drown Mrs. Pace. They had a few words in the public-house, and defendant took hold of him by the hair of the head, and hurt him very much.—In answer to the Chairman, prosecutor said he would be in the house 10 minutes before he was attacked. This was not the first time he had been assaulted by the defendant.—John Fenwick said the prosecutor was talking quietly in the public-house when Pace asked him for a drink. Rogerson complied with the request, and defendant then commenced to use bad language. The landlord interfered, and for a time Pace was quiet. Presently Pace started again, and after a few more words defendant got hold of Rogerson by the hair of the head, and pulled his cap off.—Mr Welford: Was it a hard pull?—Witness: I don't know, I did not feel it. (Laughter.)—Mr Welford: I did not ask you if you felt it.—Mr Welford asked the Bench if they considered there was any case, seeing the defendant only pulled the complainant's cap off.—The Chairman: What the defendant did constitute an assault.—Mr Welford submitted it was a very trivial affair. There was a summons taken out by Mrs Pace against the complainant, but he refused to allow it to be served seeing he considered what the complainant alleged was an assault upon him was of such a paltry character.—James Scott, deputy-overman, of South Garesfield Colliery, said he was in the public-house when the prosecutor and the defendant got to very high words. There were no blows struck. Pace never attempted to strike Rogerson, and when the latter called the attention of the landlord defendant walked out of the house.—Robert Ions said no blows were struck by either party.—In answer to the prosecutor, witness admitted that he was employed by the South Garesfield Coal Company, and sometimes worked with the defendant.—By the Chairman: The parties were arguing about the water, when Rogerson stood the drink.—The Chairman said the Bench were of the opinion that an assault of a technical nature had been committed, and fined defendant 6d, and £1 2s costs.

PICK-POCKETING AT BLACKHILL.

MOTHER AND SON IN THE DOCK.

A youth, named John Kelly, aged seven years, was brought up and charged with stealing a purse, containing £2, from the dress pocket of Mary Ann McGough, married woman, at Blackhill, on the 28th ult. Alice Kelly, mother of the last defendant, was also charged with receiving the money well-knowing the same to have been stolen.—Prosecutrix averred that she resided at 29, West Row, Blackhill. About nine o'clock on the night in question she was in the Blackhill Branch of the Consett Co-operative Stores. She took her purse which contained £6 from her dress pocket to pay an account of £4. After paying the account she put the purse back into her pocket, and it then contained one sovereign, one half-sovereign, two half-crowns, two florins, and one shilling. A few minutes after she had occasion to require her purse, but she found it was missing. About 12 o'clock the following day from information received she went and saw the defendants at 14, Walton's Row, Blackhill. She accused the boy of stealing her purse, containing £2, from her pocket in the Co-operative Stores at Blackhill, the previous night. The boy commenced to cry, and said he gave it all to his mother. The other defendant was present, and said, "You young villian, you only gave me 8/- of it." Complainant asked the mother to return the money, and she offered her 8/-. She refused to take it, and gave information to Sergt. Tones. Complainant was present at the Consett Police Office when the boy was charged. She heard him tell Sergt. Tones that he gave the whole of the money to his mother. She also saw Alice Kelly take from her breast a purse containing 9/2, and hand it to Sergt. Tones, at the same time stating, "That's all I got from him." The boy afterwards stated that he took the money out of the purse, and threw the latter away.—James Moore said he was 13 years of age, and lived with his parents at 32, Derwent Street, Blackhill. About nine o'clock on the night in question he was in the Co-operative Stores, at Blackhill, when the defendant, John Kelly, came to him, and said, "You have to hurry home, your mother wants you." Witness left John Kelly in the shop.—Sergt. Tones said from information he received about two o'clock on the afternoon of the 29th of April, he arrested the defendants. He brought them to Consett Police Station where he charged the boy with stealing a purse containing £2 from the dress pocket of Mary Ann McGough, whilst in the Co-operative Stores, at Blackhill, about nine o'clock on Friday night last. The boy replied, "Yes, I took it, and gave it all to my mother, but threw the purse away." Witness next charged the mother with receiving the money which she knew well to have been stolen. The mother took the purse (produced) from her breast, which contained 9/2, and handed it to him and said, "That is all I got."—On being charged in Court, the mother pleaded guilty to receiving 8/3½, while the boy commenced to cry, and in answer to the Chairman he said nobody induced him to take the money.—After a lengthy consideration, the Chairman said it was quite evident to the Magistrates that the mother encouraged the poor boy to steal. The mother owned herself to having received 8/3½. It was no use the mother making excuses. The Magistrates had just been considering whether they should send the mother to prison for such a bare-faced robbery. However, they had decided to give her one more chance, and they would impose a fine of £1, including costs. With regard to the boy he was only at the Court in February last for larceny, and was bound over to come up for judgment when called on.—The only lesson they could give him that he had not to commit these offences was to order him to receive six strokes with the birch-rod.

THEFT OF MONEY AT CONSETT.

Two youths named Gordon William Dimmick (13), and James Henry Ellis (10), of Consett, were charged with stealing 1/6 from the shop of Mary Jane Pescod, confectioner, Albert Road, Consett, on April 26th. Mr J. M. Aynsley (Consett) defended Dimmick.—Complainant said she was the wife of John Pescod, and resided at 1, of Edith Street, and saw a boy, named fectioner's shop at the back of the house in Albert Road. Between 5.30 and 6 p.m. on April 26th, the box (produced) which contained 1/6 in copper, was all right in a cupboard in the shop. From what she was told by her daughter, she examined the cupboard and missed the box and money. Complainant went down the back of Edith Street, and saw a boy, named Dodds, who got the box out of an ashpit. She then gave information to the police.—Hannah Pescod said she was 15 years of age, and resided with her parents at 1, Edith Street, Consett. At 6 p.m. on the night in question, while sitting in the kitchen she heard a noise, and on going into the shop, she noticed the cupboard door standing open, and the box and money were missing. She ran outside and saw the defendants running down the back of Edith Street. Witness shouted at them, and Dimmick threw the box (produced) into an ashpit. Witness then told her mother what had taken place.—Edward Dodds said he was 12 years of age, and lived with his parents at 14, Constance Street, Consett. At 6 p.m. on April 26th, he met the defendants running down the back of Edith Street. Miss Pescod shouted at the defendants, and Dimmick threw a box into an ashpit. Witness found the box (produced) in the ashpit, and handed it to the complainant.—P.C. Thomas Carrothers said he was stationed at Consett. From information received, he apprehended the defendants at their homes on April 26th. He brought them to the Police Station, and charged them with stealing a box containing one shilling and sixpence from the shop of Mary Jane Pescod, in Albert Road. Ellis replied, "No, there was 1/3. Dimmick asked me to watch for him. When he came out he gave me sevenpence, and kept the rest himself." Dimmick said, "Yes, that's true."—In answer to Mr Aynsley, complainant said the entrance from the shop lead into the kitchen of their house.—P.C. Carruthers, in answer to Supt. Benzies, said that the condition of Dimmick was anything but clean, and he appeared to be neglected. The boy was continually smoking cigarettes, and declared to him that he could not do without them.—Mr Aynsley said it was perfectly true that his client had twice been convicted, but in spite of this he was informed that Dimmick was an exceedingly good boy at home, and his parents had very little trouble with him. It was only when he got into company of other boys that he was led astray. The boy had left school, and he had to ask the Bench not to send the boy to a Reformatory School, and if he was given another chance the parents would undertake to see that he was sent out of the district, and proper care would be taken of him. The boy had received a good thrashing for what he had done. If the boy was sent to a Reformatory it only meant additional expense for the parents, and he would once more ask them to deal leniently with Dimmick who was guilty of the offence.—Ellis said he was guilty of watching till Dimmick went into the shop to get the money.—Ellis' father entered the witness-box, and asked his son if it was his intention to go to school regularly. The boy answered him in the affirmative. The father stated that his son had not been out of the house ten minutes till he got into the company of Dimmick.—Mr John Gibson, Attendance Officer, said that Ellis was a very bad boy. He had been turned out of the National Schools for his conduct there. The headmaster had a clear case against the boy for taking something that did not belong to him.—Ellis stated that he had a house-keeper looking after the house, the boy's mother being dead.—The Chairman said the Magistrates considered this a very sad case, and some steps would have to be taken to put a stop to this sort of larceny. Dimmick, who had previously been convicted, would be sent to a Reformatory School for a period of four years. They had also decided to deal with Ellis by commiting him to an Industrial School for a term of years under section 15 of the Industrial Schools' Act. In the meantime defendants would be remanded to Lanchester Workhouse till enquiries were made.

Theft From the Witton Gilbert Hotel.

Frank McKenna, miner, was brought up and charged with stealing a parcel containing a pair of leggings and an umbrella, the property of John James Grieves, on the 29th April.—Prosecutor said he was a grocer's assistant, and resided at Underhand Farm, Esh. On the night in question he arrived at Witton Gilbert Station with the last train from Durham. He went into the Station Hotel, and placed his parcel and an umbrella on a sofa, while he called for a glass of beer. He remained in the public-house about ten minutes, and when he went to look for his articles he found they were missing. He made enquiries, but as no one had seen them he gave information to the police.—He valued the umbrella and the leggings at one sovereign.—William Raine, putter, stated that he lived at Esh. On the night in question he was in the Station Hotel at Witton Gilbert. When the defendant left the public-house she was carrying the parcel and the umbrella (produced), and he handed them to witness to carry as he (McKenna) was the worse for liquor.—In answer to the Chairman witness said he was in the company of McKenna.—P.C. Iceton adduced that on Saturday night, about 10 o'clock, he received information about the umbrella and the leggings having been stolen. He proceeded to Esh, and about 1.15 the following (Sunday) morning he met the defendant and the last witness near to Hill Top, Esh. Witness stopped them, and questioned them about the leggings and the umbrella. They admitted having been at Durham and travelled to Witton Gilbert by the last train, and called at the Station Hotel, from thence they came on to Hill Top, Esh. Witness requested the men to go with him to Quebec Police Station. On the road Raine said that McKenna took the umbrella and leggings. He charged McKenna with stealing the articles, and he replied that he did not get them. Defendant was under the influence of liquor. It appeared that McKenna, Raine, and McKenna's brother-in-law had been together, as the articles were left at the defendant's brother-in-law's house.—Defendant said he was that drunk he could not remember taking the articles.—The Magistrates fined defendant 20/-, including costs.

Education Act.

Thos Brown, Consett, was summoned by Mr. John Gibson, Attendance Officer, for failing to send his boy, Gordon, to school. The officer stated that the boy was 10 years of age, and was absent on April 18th. During the ten weeks preceding, he had made 45 attendances out of a possible 95.—A fine of 5/- and the usual order was imposed.

John Kelly was proceeded against on a similar charge.—After hearing evidence, the case was adjourned for a month, to see how the boy attended.

Michael McBride was summoned for a similar offence. The girl, Rose Ann McBride was about 11 years of age, and on April 16th, she had made 29 out of 51 attendances.—The father said the child had been unwell.—The case was adjourned for a month.

Henry Whitworth, for failing to send his children regularly to school, was fined 5/-, including costs, in two cases.

Alleged Wife Desertion.

Sarah Graham proceeded against Daniel Graham, her husband, for unlawfully deserting her. Mr. W. Dickinson (Consett) defended.—It appeared that in July last the defendant left her while she was living at Byker. On account of his action she had been compelled to withdraw from business. He went out one day, and returned and threatened to kill her. He then took her things out of the house, and went away, saying he was going to work. She heard nothing of him for six weeks. About three months after, he visited her. She was staying with her daughter at Stanley. The second time he called to see her he gave her 10/-. When this was given she was living at Miller's Hill, Ouseburn.—The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr Ornsby) informed complainant that their Worships had no jurisdiction in the case. She ought to have applied to the Magistrates for the division, where she was residing when the defendant left her.

Alleged Larceny From a Till.

Jas. Brown, Dipton, was summoned by Nicholas Carrick, Burnopfield, for having stolen half-a-crown from a till. Mr. T. W. Welford, Consett, defended.—Margaret Carrick, wife of the complainant, said they lived at the Traveller's Rest, Burnopfield. About 5 p.m. on April 22nd, prisoner went into the bar, in company with some other men, and called for drinks. She refused to fill him any liquor, but served the other men, and then left the bar and went into the kitchen. Shortly after, a man named Anthony Kay called her to the door, and from what he told her she examined the till, and found the money missing. She then sent for the police. She had examined the till before, and saw that there was only one half-crown in the till.—Anthony Kay said he was a miner, and resided at Long Row, Lints Green. About 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 22nd, he was in the bar, when the prisoner went in and called for a drink. The landlady refused him. Brown then lay over the counter, drew the money drawer out, and on standing up again put his hand into a small side pocket of his jacket. Defendant then made towards the door. Witness called the landlady to the door, and told her to look at her till, as there had been a man at it.—Cross-examined by Mr. Welford: Defendant got a whiskey and soda. He didn't see the defendant show the men what he had taken out of the till. Defendant took it before the drink was refused.—Peter Maughan, miner, Lints Colliery, said he was in the bar. Defendant was there when he called for a drink. He heard the landlady refuse defendant the drink, and saw defendant put his hand over the counter, pulled silver out, and showed it to the men, and put it into his pocket, and went outside. Defendant was the worse for liquor.—P.C. Pemberton said he went to the Plough Inn, and apprehended defendant. He searched him, and found several silver and copper coins in his pockets. He charged him with having stolen half-a-crown, when he replied, "All right."—Mr Welford, for the defence, said the man had, as a lark, taken the half-crown out of the till, and showed it to the people in the bar. He had borne a good character. There was no intention of running away with the money. He had been entrusted with £30 a week by a previous employer, Mr. Armstrong. He pleaded on account of his good character, to deal leniently with defendant. It was only done in a drunken spree.—The Chairman said the Magistrates considered it a dangerous lark, but they had decided to bind defendant over to come up for judgment when called upon.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. F. Priestman (presiding), and Mr. W. Aynsley.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following were proceeded against for this offence:—James Cairns, Hamsterley Colliery, 15th ult., 5/- and costs; John Harrison, Tanfield Moor, April 23rd, 5/- and costs; Joseph Blakey, Tanfield Moor, April 22nd, 5/- and costs; Anthony Gladders, Tanfield Moor, 22nd ult., 5/- and costs; Simon Rounsley, Tanfield Moor, April 22nd, 5/- and costs; J. Clarance, Tanfield Moor, 23rd ult., 5/- and costs; Catherine Breen, Consett, April 17th, 2/6 and costs; John Hagan, Blackhill, 26th ult., 5/- and costs; William Harris, Blackhill, 15th ult., 5/- and costs; Robert Mathew Oswell, Shotley Bridge, 22nd ult., 5/- and costs; John Davison, Shotley Bridge, April 15th., 5/- and costs; Michael Quinn, Shotley Bridge, 16th ult., 5/- and costs; Robert Gedling, Leadgate, 14th ult., 5/- and costs; Thomas Herron, Leadgate, April 14th, 5/- and costs; Samuel Curry, Leadgate, April 15th, 5/- and costs; Robert Lamb, Westwood, April 16th, 5/- and costs; Robert Lamb, Medomsley, April 15th, 2/6 and costs; William Pickering, Dipton, April 15th, 6/- and costs; John Calvert, Dipton, April 15th, 2/6 and costs; Anthony Hayes, Dipton, 16th ult., 3/- and costs; Edward Murray, Burnopfield, April 11th, 5/- and costs; James Hamilton, Burnopfield, 21st ult., 5/- and costs; George Nicholson, Burnopfield, 22nd ult., 5/- and costs; Elisabeth Cowie, Consett, April 10th, 2/6 and costs; Robert Matthew Oswell, Blackhill, April 28th, 5/- and costs; Edward Kelly, Consett, 29th ult., 5/- and costs; Joseph Conroy, Consett, April 29th., 5/- and costs; and William Robson, Consett, 29th ult., 5/- and costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

William Lardue, John Westoe, Thomas Simpson, James Davison, Robert Harper, John Irwin, Thomas Oates, and Ralph Nevins, were charged with playing pitch and toss at Burnopfield, on the 9th April.—The charge against Nevins was withdrawn.—P.C. Pemberton stated the facts.—As there was a doubt respecting Simpson, the charge against him was dismissed. Lardue and Irwin were fined 10/- and costs; and the other defendants 7/6 and costs.

Obstructing a Footpath at Consett.

Thomas Lewis, William Davis, Thomas Brown, Richard Savage, Joseph Dimmick, William Miller, and Bernard McCullagh were charged with a breach of the Towns' Police Clauses' Act, by obstructing a footpath at Consett, on the 16th ult.—P.C. Carruthers proved the case.—Defendants were each fined 1/- and costs.

DAMAGE TO WINDOWS.

Cornelius McColl and Patrick Welsh, youths were charged with doing damage to windows to the amount of 12/-, at Consett, the property of the Consett Iron Company, on the 14th April.—P.C. Jameson stated the facts of the case.—The damage was assessed by Mr. Luke Brown, agent.—It transpired that there were five boys together when the damage was done, and only two had been brought to the Court.—The Magistrates took a lenient view of the case, and fined the defendants 6d each, 1/- damage, and 7/. costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Charlton Nevins and John Nolan were charged with a breach of the peace by fighting at Dipton, on the 21st ult—P.C. Dobinson proved the case.—Defendants were bound over to keep the peace for three months, and ordered to pay the costs.

William Bell and Joseph Walker were proceeded against by P.C. Pringle for committing a similar offence at Consett, on the 22nd ult.—Defendants were bound over.

William Curtis was likewise charged with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Dipton on the 1st April.—Defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and ordered to defray the costs.

WATER RATES.

The following were proceeded against by the Consett Waterworks Company for the non-payment of water rates, and in each case the usual order was made:—Michael Gallagher, Blackhill; William Cox, Blackhill; Patrick Morris, Dipton; Joseph Henderson, Dipton, and William Jones, Dipton.

HIGHWAY ACT.

Matthew Coltman was charged with a breach of the Highway Act by allowing his horse to stand on the highway without anyone in charge. The offence was committed at Leadgate, on the 19th April.—Sergt. Newton stated the facts.—Defendant was fined 1/- and costs.

LECTURE AT VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

A very interesting lecture was that given by the Rev. R. M. Nason, Vicar of Greenside, to the St. Patrick's Church Committee, on Thursday, the 27th ult., on "The Papacy." At the present time, when mad Kensit and his followers are imitating the foolish, uncharitable example of teirh intolerant, unchristian, puritanical forefathers, with their abominable, misleading war-cry of "No Popery," such a lecture as this must be intensely interesting to all thinking people. Mr. Nason at the outset of his remarks, said that the question of the Papacy was one which ought to be thoroughly understood by every christian. All students of early Church history must be struck with the tremendous difference there is between the Roman Church of the first centuries and the Roman Church of to-day. Probably no christian would have found it difficult to concede to Gregory the Great all he claimed, whereas to-day two great branches of the Catholic Church, the Greek and English, refused to submit in the slightest degree to the claims of Leo XIII. The Roman Church was a great fact, and so must be accounted for by some reasonable explanation. The founders of the Roman Church had a great ideal, and saw a grand dream which, alas! had never been fulfilled. They saw the tremendous greatness of the Roman Empire and dreamt of a similar greatness for the Roman Church. But as their ideal had not been realised, neither had their dream been fulfilled. This great Roman Church was to know no nationality, to be non-political, to be entirely spiritual and pure, instead of which she became intensely national, political, and worldly. Her claim for supremacy was founded upon what was not strictly true, and so she had never realised her claim. The claim for the supremacy of the Bishop of Rome was laid upon the words spoken to Peter, but Peter was never Bishop of Rome, and if Peter thought our Lord meant that he was to be head of the Church, why did he not act accordingly, and preside at the first christian council, instead of which we know St. James presided. Mr. Nason proved all the points he brought forward, and concluded by saying that the Roman supremacy was based upon three assumptions, namely:—

1. That this gift meant what they say it does.
2. That it was given to St. Peter and his successors.
3. That only Roman Bishops are his successors.

The Hon. Mrs. Vereker, of Hamsterley Hall, was present at this lecture, and said a few words impressing upon the committee the necessity of their work.

The Rev. George D Eath occupied the chair, and in his opening address said the secretary hoped to be able to arrange some out-door meetings and also an excursion for the committee during the coming summer.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Mr Arthur St. John and a good company are paying a return visit this week with the popular military drama, "Dishonoured," and in spite of big opposition are doing good business. The piece is staged quite as well as in former visits, and the acting is quite up to the average. Mr Arthur St. John, in the part of "Philip Cunningham," gives a soldierly and impressive rendering of a character which, when it receives full justice—as it does in this instance—appeals to the hearts of any audience. That he makes the part a success was quite evident on Monday night, as his appearance in each scene was the signal for hearty and prolonged applause. Miss Ida St. John, as "Leslie Maynard," also takes a big share of the signs of approval, her acting of the part of the faithful sweetheart and loving wife being all that could be desired. Mr Eric Armitage in the part of the villain, "Cecil Peyntland," wins the approval of the audience. "Captain Cholmondley" has an able representative in Mr H. A. Templeton, his acting being very good. He also proves himself to be a singer of no mean order. Mr Sydney H. Barrett makes an admirable "Sir William Cunningham," an old martinet who would sacrifice his affections to his sense of duty. Mr W. Hindson, as "Jem Stokes," is quite at home in the character of the lowly friend of Philip, while the part of the rascal "Mike Farthing" is ably given by Mr H. Roberts. Miss B. Graham, as "Ann Maria," is very good, and Miss Kelvey is a success as "Lady Cunningham." Songs are well rendered by Mr H. A. Templeton, Mr W. Hindson, and Miss B. Graham. The last-mentioned also gives a very neat dance. Taking the production right through it is equally as good—in some things perhaps better—as it was on its last visit to the town, and deserves the patronage it is getting this week.—Next week, Mr Eade Montefiore's "Streets of London" Company will provide the fare for the week.

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IF IT BE ONLY
WHITBREAD'S
Is not only a stimulating and refreshing beverage, but a highly nutritious and sustaining drink.
IT WINS GOLDEN OPINIONS
Wherever tried, and when once used is preferred to any other kind of brown beer in the market.

WHITBREAD'S INDIA PALE ALE

Is rapidly growing in favour with those who like a light, yet really brisk and exhilarating dinner or supper ale. It is of consistent and unvarying standard quality, and never fails to please the most fastidious.

Give these Drinks a Trial. You will find them fulfil every requirement for daily consumption.

In HALF-PINTS - 1s. 6d. per Doz.
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AT
William Aynsley, Ltd.
FAMILY GROCERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
CONSETT and Branches.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

At a special meeting of this body, on Saturday night, it was decided to admit Birtley A, Ouston, and South Moor Athletic into the Senior Division, and Langley Park Wanderers, Birtley Rising Rovers, Blackhorse Rangers, and Waterhouses 2nd into the Junior Division.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

A meeting of this body was held at the headquarters, Mr. F. Collingwood's, Queen Victoria Hotel, Leadgate, on Monday night. Mr. J. Ross presided, and representatives were present from Annfield Plain Celtic, Consett Swifts, Allendale Park, and Leadgate Exiles, together with the treasurer (Mr. J. Allison.)

STANLEY'S WITHDRAWAL.

The Secretary (Mr. E Batey) reported that, as instructed by the committee, he wrote the Stanley secretary, stating that their resignation was not accepted, and informing them that their two unplayed fixtures had been fixed by the committee to take place on Thursday and Friday nights of last week. He received a post-card in reply last Thursday, stating that Stanley had played all their games, and that they did not intend to play any more.—After a short discussion, it was resolved that the Secretary write the Stanley club requesting them to pay £2 10s—£1 for each unplayed game, according to rule, and 10/- unpaid deposit fee—within seven days, and, failing this, that the club be reported to the Durham Association.

AWARDING OF POINTS.

Some discussion arose as to whether Stanley's record should be expunged altogether, and the points deducted; but it was pointed out that Stanley were still members of the Alliance, their resignation not having been accepted, and, further, that the deduction of points would still leave Allendale winners of the cup.—Ultimately it was agreed to let the table stand according to games played.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Mr. Thompson moved, and Mr. Allison seconded, that the annual meeting of the Alliance should be held at Annfield Plain on the Saturday after the annual meeting of the Durham Association.—Carried.

ADDITIONAL CLUBS.

It was agreed that the Secretary should invite the Hobson, Bearpark, Lovigate Park, Pelton Fell, Birtley, and Chester-le-Street clubs to send representatives to the annual meeting.

THE QUESTION OF MEDALS.

According to rule, the champions of the Alliance should receive gold medals; but the Treasurer pointed out that, owing to no benefit matches having been played, the funds would not admit of this being done.—Mr. Coyle said that his team would be willing to play a game with any other club in the Alliance at the beginning of the season, in order to try and raise funds to provide medals for the winners, as they thought that Allendale were entitled to medals.—The Chairman said that this was an extremely generous offer on the part of Annfield Plain.—Mr. Thompson thanked Mr. Coyle for his kindly offer, but thought it would be best to let any money raised by benefit matches next season, go to next season's account.—After further discussion, it was resolved that a deputation consisting of the Chairman, Secretary, and Mr. Thompson, should wait upon Mr. Jas. Joicey on Saturday first, and ask him to present medals to the Alliance.—It was further decided to leave the question of benefit games over until the annual meeting.

THE PRESENTATION.

The meeting agreed to postpone the question of the date of the presentation of the cup and medals to Allendale Park until a reply was forthcoming from Mr. Joicey. The event will probably take place in two or three weeks' time, at Medomsley.

This concluded the business.

"Rough on Corns."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. 6d and 1s bottles.

VENO A REVELATION.

THIS REMARKABLE MAN IS THE LATEST REVELATION TO THE MEDICAL WORLD.

NO MAN WORKS HARDER FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SICK, AND AS A HEALER HE HAS NEVER BEEN EXCELLED.

TESTIMONIALS ARE POURING IN DAILY, PAYING THE HIGHEST TRIBUTE TO HIS MEDICINES. THEIR VALUE CANNOT BE ESTIMATED WHEN COMPARED WITH THE STRONG, POISONOUS, AND UNCERTAIN DRUGS USUALLY DEALT OUT TO THE SICK.

The extraordinary cures performed by VENO far EXCEED ANYTHING EVER ATTEMPTED in the healing art. His medicines are prepared according to the principle of "Specific Medication," which is so extensively taught in all the Electic Medical Colleges in America.

EDWARD PUGH 156, STEPHENSON STREET, NORTH SHIELDS, reports as follows:—"I was six weeks in an infirmary, and was given up by eight doctors, who said I had Chronic Bronchitis and Asthma, and that I could not be cured. I could not lie straight down in bed; I had to use a bed-rest. I coughed incessantly; was very weak, and had attacks of suffocation at night, that is the reason I could not lie straight down in bed. I have been off work for two years. Since commencing Veno's Lightning Cough Cure and Seaweed Tonic I don't need the bed-rest. I lie straight down in bed, and I have not had the bad attacks at night. I am a deal stronger, and can walk about, and feel as though I shall soon be able to work."

The above is a sample of scores of testimonials received from this neighbourhood from persons suffering from various diseases, and which will be published from time to time in these columns.

VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC, 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per bottle, is the safest and best cure for ailments arising from a diseased condition of the Stomach, Liver Kidneys, and Blood, such as Indigestion, Wind, Biliousness, Sick Dull Headaches, Costiveness, and Weakness. It is the best medicine for weak females. It is a God-send to suffering people.

VENO'S LIGHTING COUGH CURE, price 1s 1½d will stop an ordinary Cough in one night, and cure Bronchitis, Shortness of Breath, Catarrh, and Influenza quickly. There is nothing so good or so beneficial in its action. It has saved many lives.

Sold by the following chemists:—T. Milner, Consett; Jabez Swindale, Blackhill and Leadgate; T. Wilkinson, Crook; Sanderson and Co., Willington; T. A. Burdon, Spennymoor; H. Hunter, West Cornforth; Robinson and Co., Chester-le-Street; Rowell, Hetton-le-Hole. 519d.

BAZAAR AT PELTON FELL.

On Saturday and Monday last, a bazaar in aid of the Mission Funds of Saint Andrew's Mission Church, Pelton Fell, was held in the school-room adjoining the church. The room was very prettily designed with flags, banners, etc., and the stalls looked particularly enticing. The stalls were five in number, and were in charge of the following ladies:—Fancy needlework, Misses English; sweets, Misses Granger; St. Andrew's Working Party Stall—Mrs. Young and Miss Smith; Children's Guild Stall—Mrs. Lawson, Miss Clark, and Miss Lellieman; Toy Stall—Miss Purvis and Miss Black. The opportunity was also chosen of holding the annual tea, and tables were given by Mrs. H. Henderson, Mrs. H. Stout and the Vicar (the Rev. C. C. Ledger.) The following ladies presided at the tables:—Mrs. Waugh, Mrs. Black, Mrs. Raine, Mrs. Maddison, Mrs. Lowery, Mrs. Young, and Miss Ledger. During the evening a grand miscellaneous concert was held, consisting of a musical sketch entitled, "Old friends with new faces," in which the following took part—Misses H. Marshall, A. Holland, Stewart, Wallis, M. Lodge, M. Robson, and Masters T. Raine, W. Young, J. G. Lodge, and A. Raine, assisted by a chorus of children, followed by an interesting sketch by the "Upd" A.D.S., entitled, "Paul Pry." The same entertainments were repeated on Monday night, the bazaar being in every way successful.

LOCAL STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Benfieldside.—On Monday, Mr J. S. Murray had forward 19 fat cattle, 3 store cattle, 163 fat sheep, 2 horses, and a large quantity of sundries. Fat cattle met a very sharp demand, sheep selling at extreme rates, the whole being sold through the ring. Fat cattle, from Mr Fenwick, Bradley, bullocks, £18 17s 6d, £16 7s 6d; Messrs Annandale, Lintzford, B £17 10s, H £14 10s; J. Graham, Whittonstall, B £17 15s, H £15 7s 6d; J. Anderson, Black Hedley, £17 2s 6d, B £15 17s 6d; T. Anderson, Law, £11 17s 6d; E. Dodd, Newbiggen, B £10; E. Nicholson, Butsfield Burn, C £14 2s 6d. Sheep: Graham, hoggs, 44s 6d; W. Ridley, 49s, 51s; J. Potts, 39s 6s; Messrs Annandale, 54s 6d; T. Surtees, 61s; A. Fewster, 43s 6d; R. Dixon, 44s 6d. From the north: HB, 40s 6d; mule, 36s; calves, 30s; stirks, £6 10s. Horse from the Consett Iron Company, 32gs. Ropes and sundries made fair prices. Next sale on Saturday, special for store cattle. Usual sale on Monday. [illegible]

Tow Law.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday 50 dairy cows and heifers, 25 fat cattle, 12 calves, and 50 fat sheep and hoggs. Dairy cows made up to £17; fat cattle to £18 17s 6d, from Mr F. Sanderson, Littlewhite; £18, from Mr J. Thompson, Edgeknowle; £16 from Mr J. Forrest, Shittlehope Burn; £15 from Mr J. Suddes, Cornsay; calves to 35s; veal calf to 77s 6d; fat hoggs to 42s 6d, from Mr T. Nesbitt, Macneil; 42s from Mr F. Sanderson; fat ewes to 49s, from Mr R. Brown, South Park. Slow trade for cows, and several passed through the ring unsold. Beef and mutton good; quite up to recent prices.

BILLIARDS.

Opening of a New Billiard Room and Table at Shotley Bridge.

The new amusement, in connection with the Reading and Recreative Institute, in Messenger Lane, Shotley Bridge, along with a new billiard table was formally opened on Monday evening, the ceremony being performed by Mr F. Priestman, J.P., of Shotley Bridge. For a considerable time there has been a general desire on the part of the members of the Institute to have a billiard table added to their rooms, and the matter having come to the knowledge of the Priestman family, they generously offered to provide a table free of cost. Mr James Annandale, J.P., president of the Institute, occupied the chair at the inaugural ceremony, and was supported by Mr F. Priestman, J.P., Rev. Canon G. H. Ross-Lewin, Messrs R. G. Barclay, J.P., J. R. Cole, M. Richley, J. Collinson (treasurer), Wm. Houliston, R. Hall, R. Heymer, T. Willis, Jas. Douglas (hon. secretary), &c., nearly 100 persons being present.—They were, the Chairman said, assembled that night to do honour to the Priestman family, to whom that district had been greatly indebted in the past. (Applause.) They need not be told of the way in which their late respected friend, Mr J. Priestman, liberally supported all movements for the social, moral, and educational improvement of mankind, and it was gratifying to know that his sons and daughters were following in their revered father's footsteps. (Applause.) They owed it to the members of the Priestman family for the gift of such a magnificent table as they saw before them. (Applause.)—Mr F. Priestman, who received a cordial welcome, then uncovered the table, and remarked that he felt very grateful for the kind way in which they had received the efforts on their part to do something towards helping the Institute. He saw in the *Chronicle* that Mrs Priestman was a patron of the game of billiards. Well, she had given five tables to the Institutes at Ashington, but he questioned very much whether his mother ever saw one of them. It gave the family very much pleasure to be able to present a billiard table to an Institute nearer home, and to show their interest in the welfare of Shotley Bridge in some practical way. The table, he concluded, had been transferred absolutely to the trustees, the only condition attached being that if there was any alteration in the constitution of the Institute, or it was deemed necessary to dissolve it—he did not think it would ever come to that state of things—the table would revert to the Priestman family, and they would probably find some other place in the village to fix it. (Applause.)

STANLEY.

U.M.F.C. Band.—On Saturday afternoon a knife and fork tea was held in the United Methodist Free Church, West Stanley, to clear off a debt of £17, upon the instruments used by the band. A large company attended, and were looked after by Mrs. Woodley, Mrs. Curry, Mrs. Knott, Mrs. Hodge, Miss Turner, Miss Crosby, Miss Stephenson, Miss Knott, Mr. Woodley, Mr. Rodham, and the Rev. G. Harris.

East Stanley Y.P.S. of Christian Endeavour.—On Saturday afternoon and evening the members of the East Stanley Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, celebrated their first anniversary by holding a knife and fork tea in the chapel, followed by a miscellaneous concert. A large company sat down to tea, and among those who took part in the proceedings were, Mr. Slater (president of of the Society, Mr. Wm. Collins (leader), Miss Summerbell (organist), Miss Turnbull, Miss Slater, Miss Watt, Miss Shield, Miss Dickinson, Miss Dixon, Miss Burns, Miss Johnson, Master Harry Hall, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Brown, and Mr. Watt. A collection was taken in aid of the Endeavour fund.

STANHOPE.

Quarry Accident.—On Friday a workman named Edward Wilkinson, quarryman at Newlandside limestone quarry, Stanhope, had his leg badly broken just below the knee, by a falling stone.

WEARDALE.

Winter on the Weardale Hills.—The Weardale hills were all covered with snow on Saturday night and Sunday morning, which, however, melted away during the day.

FOR BEST VALUE IN
MEN'S, YOUTHS', AND BOYS' CLOTHING,
GO TO
J. W. WOOD'S
Noted Cheap Warehouse, Front Street, West Stanley.

Cuticura SOAP FOR BABY'S SKIN

Nothing so pure, so sweet, so wholesome, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying baby's skin, scalp, and hair, as warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, followed by occasional anointings with CUTICURA, purest and sweetest of emollients.

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HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Board Schools, Castleside, on Tuesday evening last. There were present—Councillors Anderson (in the chair), Johnson, Richardson, Elliott, and the Clerk (Mr W. J. Scott.)

THE MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, on the proposition of Coun. Richardson, seconded by Coun. Johnson.

TRAIN SERVICE.

Mr Scott stated that the train service had been considerably altered, and that the alterations in some cases were to their disadvantage. The ten o'clock train on Monday mornings had been abandoned. This was particularly a loss to the farmers, a good many of whom travelled by it. He understood that the train did not pay.

MUADVILLE LETTER-BOX.

A letter was read from the Newcastle Postmaster stating that this was now in order, and asking for arrangements to be made for the box to be put in.

Mr Scott stated that the box was now fixed and being used.

WATERGATE QUARRY.

Mr Scott stated that his letter to the Rural District Council with regard to nuisances and footpaths had not as yet been replied to, but that the "middings" had been cleared away.

It was stated that the Rural Council would meet this week.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

A statement of accounts shewed that the receipts for the first year had been £16 12s 6d, leaving a deficit of £8 7s 6d on the guarantee of £25. The Council's half of the deficiency was therefore £4 3s 9d, which Mr Scott said was a splendid result for the first year.

Coun. Johnson: It is very satisfactory for the first year.

Mr Scott stated that upwards of a thousand telegrams had been received and sent.

Coun. Johnson moved that a cheque be drawn for the £4 3s 9d.

Coun Richardson seconded, and the motion was carried.

MORE CHAIRS WANTED.

Mr Scott stated that two new chairs were required, as when the full Council was present, together with the reporters, there was a shortage.

Coun. Richardson moved that two new chairs be got for the reporters.

Coun. Elliott seconded the motion, which was carried.

This concluded the business.

LEADGATE NOTES

[BY "GEORDIE."]

MR PALMER RE-ELECTED.

As I fully expected would be the case, M Palmer was unanimously re-elected chairman of the Council at the annual meeting last week. As a matter of fact, no one else's name was mentioned for the position. It was certainly a wise action on the Council's part. For instance, Mr Palmer, of course, was absent from the last meeting. Result—a regular row, in which at times the fun waxed fast and furious. I think that no one desires a return to the old state of affairs, and for that reason I am extremely pleased that the Council again placed their old chairman at the top of the table. Mr Lane—a very able member—was chosen for the vice-chairmanship.

A CROWDED HOUSE.

Rarely have I seen such a large company present at a sale as was the case last week at the house of Mr F. Collingwood. And, when you come to think of it, it was not such a very important sale either. But, there—you can generally reckon upon a few supporters when it is a case of free drinks. Not that I mean to insinuate that anyone present came with the sole idea of getting a drink on the cheap. Certainly not—probably every member of the company was prepared to buy the property—if he got it at his own price. Mr John Murray was in great form, and gave us an "oration worthy of a District Councillor.

A SUCCESSFUL CONCERT.

One of the most enjoyable concerts ever held in Leadgate was that given on Monday evening of last week in the Wesleyan School-room. An excellent array of talent had been secured, and the well-arranged progamme afforded unbounded delight to a very large audience. The entertainment was held under the auspices of the Leadgate Wesleyan Band of Hope Choir, which is fortunate in possessing such a capable conductor as Mr C. S. Morgan.

COUN. W. J. FOREMAN.

As many of my readers will probably be aware, a few weeks since the above gentleman met with rather a serious accident, being thrown from his horse and sustaining severe injuries about the head, necessitating, I believe, the insertion of several stitches. Under the able care of his medical attendant, Dr Henley, Coun. Foreman has had a rapid recovery, and his many friends will be pleased to learn that he is now all right again.

EGG STEALERS.

By the way, I have heard several complaints from people who have had their hen-crees robbed of eggs during the past few weeks. This is a most contemptible form of theft, and it is the prevalent opinion that it is not the work of not youngsters, but that it has been carried out by those of more mature years. Should any of these gentry be nabbed, they will probably receive an invitation to appear at Consett, and it it to be hoped that the magistrates will make an example of them as a warning to others who may have tendencies in the same direction.

THE TOURING CLUB.

The following letter speaks for itself:—Dear Sir,—I have for the last week or two looked over your notes in the expectation of seeing some record of the celebrated Leadgate Touring Club, but have been disappointed. May I ask has the treatment they received at the Spen been too much for their robust constitutions, or, better still, have they been re-visiting some renowned city like Durham, and been incapable of tearing themselves away from the good things provided by the inhabitants? Many, like myself, are wondering what has become of this remarkable club—some are under the impression that the energetic vice-president must have forsaken "Shank's mare" in favour of a horse or bicycle, while others seem confident that the distances have proved too great for the lethargic president, and that he has been reluctantly compelled to re-visit some remote holiday haunt to recruit his shattered health. If the last supposition be correct, you would confer a favour on your many interested readers if you could possibly persuade the somewhat enthusiastic president to recount his experiences while sojourning there, as so distinguished a personage would, I feel sure, be received with exceptional honours, and accorded that hospitality which so brilliant and intellectual a position fully merits:—Yours &c., ADMIRER.

CAN IT BE THE PRESIDENT?

I am sorry that I cannot afford my correspondent much information on the subject. The vice-president has, I regret to say, become a cyclist, and is now wondering whatever possessed him to walk such long distances, when it is so much easier to ride. Of course, that little affair at the Spen also learnt him a lesson. As for the president, although left alone, he seems loth to give up his favourite sport, and I have heard that, in the cold, silent watches of the night, when most respectable people were sound asleep, a solitary figure has been descried making its way along from the direction of Newcastle, Durham, and other places. Who this personage is, I am, of course, unable to say, but those who have seen it say it bears a strong resemblance to the president.

DO NOT FORCE A CHILD TO EAT.

A child should neither be coaxed nor tempted to eat when he refuses his food. Food eaten without an appetite does more harm than good. It may produce sickness or fever. There is always a cause for a want of appetite. The stomach may have been overworked, and need repose. There may be fever lurking in the system. Nature stops the supplies, and thus endeavours, by not giving it food to work with, to nip it in the bud. Or it may be inflammation, in which case food would be improper, as it only adds fuel to the fire. Nature, if we will only listen to her voice, will tell us when to eat and when to refrain.

WITHOUT THE FORTUNE.

Mr. Thomas Kenton and Miss Edith Bradlaugh were both persons of excellent taste. One proof of this was the regard they entertained for each other. But even stronger testimony to their irreproachable judgment was to be found in the desire both of them had for possessions beyond their income. Miss Bradlaugh, who added to the income derived from a slender legacy by giving a few music lessons, was fond of silk-lined garments, of dainty china, of luxurious travel and general ease. Mr. Kenton, who subsisted on a salary earned in a great architect's office, liked all things expensive from cigars to rare editions, and from London clothes to horses. However, Mr. Kenton and Miss Bradlaugh also liked each other.

Being a man and therefore a trifle reckless at times, Mr. Kenton occasionally proposed to marry Miss Bradlaugh. But she always restored him to reason at once.

"Have a fortune left to you, Tom," was her invariable reply, "and I'll marry you without delay. Oh, yes! I know I'm heartless. But, delightful and companionable as you are. I know you'd be very miserable and consequently very unendurable if you had to make fires and shovel snow. I don't want to be responsible for the ruin of your position."

"But see what good times we have now, Edith," Tom Kenton would protest. "We haven't any money and we're as happy as claims—except when you're in the dumps. Why can't we marry and have it so for ever!"

"Tom, dear," Edith would answer, in a friendly way, "you don't have to make the fire now; you would then. And I'd have to do numerous unpleasant things. I hate poverty—even Bohemian poverty. I hate packing-box bookcases and cretonne furniture, and that's what we'd have to have. No. Get your fortune and I'll marry you then."

Then Tom would groan, submit to the inevitable and send her flowers and read with her.

One day he came earlier than usual. He looked excited.

"Edith," he began, "I think fortune is on its way at last."

"Yes!" said Edith, cynically. "At any rate we can be quite sure that if there is the slightest movement toward a meeting between you and fortune, it's fortune that's making advances. You are so lazy, Tom."

"You'd better listen to me instead of indulging your own bad humour," advised Tom.

"Well, tell me about the meeting between you and fortune," said Edith smilingly.

"You know old Mr. Sedley?" asked Tom.

Edith nodded.

"Well, he has taken a fancy to me, it seems. He told Gray at the office about it. Wants Gray to advance me and all that. Has invited me to dine in that funereal old family mansion of his, you know, and I've gone. He likes me a lot, and he's an old duffer."

Tom paused. Edith eyed him with critical eyes.

"Well," she said at last, "you are building your expectations of becoming Mr. Sedley's heir on the fact that he has invited you to dinner?"

"Don't be disagreeable, Edith," said Tom. "Of course not. But to-day he came to see me. He asked me if I was engaged, and I was obliged to say no, owing to your mercenary disposition. He said he was glad because he wished to make a proposition which he wouldn't feel at liberty to make if I had ties,' as he called them. He is an honest old chap. He wants me to travel with him for two years in out of the way places—Asia, Australia and Africa. 'You will never need to regret it financially,' he said, 'and you will gratify my life-long wish.' Edith, shall I go?"

Edith looked at him stupidly. She saw ahead long, dreary, companionless weeks. She also saw that Tom had his opportunity at last.

"I suppose he'll adopt you," she said, dryly.

"Perhaps," said Tom. "Shall I go on the chance that it may lead to something, or will you marry me now?"

Edith recovered herself.

"Go where glory awaits thee," she laughed outright. "And when you come back with a fortune I may be engaged to you."

* * * * * *

"Eighteen months later there came a letter to Edith. It read:

"When I come back, Edith, with a fortune, you will not be engaged to me. For Mr. Sedley's stepbrother's daughter—an English girl—goes with the fortune. He has just been talking to me about it all. Shall I come back fortuneless or rich? Will you marry me, or won't you?"

It took Edith just the length of time necessary to reach the cable office to send the message: "Come back poor." Then she retraced her steps and thought how she disliked home-made bookcases and cretonne furnishings, and how she had pledged herself to them for evermore.

BUSINESS HINTS.

Get good sense, and you will not want good luck.

Always keep your credit a little better than your clothes.

Place your work high, always work with a will, and never be satisfied with mediocrity.

Every profession and business enterprise has a premium list open for the competitive acceptance of young men.

We have too many young men who, like Josh Billings, are determined to live within their incomes even if they have to borrow money to do it.

Narrow-mindedness in business and in living is a very short-sighted policy. The penny soul, it is said, never came to twopence.

GENIUS AND IMAGINATION.

"The most peculiar and characteristic mark of genius is insight into subjects which are dark to ordinary vision and for which ordinary language has no adequate expression. Imagination is rather the language of genius; the power which traverses at a single glance the whole external universe, and seizes on the likenesses and images, and their combinations, which are best able to embody ideas and feelings otherwise inexpressible; so that "the things which are unseen are known by the things which are seen."

SUCCESS IDEALS.

To believe in the heroic makes heroes.—DISRAELI.

The youth who does not look up will look down; and the spirit that does not soar is destined, perhaps, to grovel.

> Unless above himself he can
> Erect himself, how poor a thing is man.
> —DANIEL.

Our only greatness is that we aspire.—JEAN INGELOW.

> And oh, for a man to arise in me,
> That the man I am may cease to be!
> —TENNYSON.

Thou must be that thou oughtest to be, or else thou shalt be nothing.—LAMARTINE.

Let your aim be high. Let some great object fire your whole being. Our country holds out a thousand situations which you might fill honourably. Seek to be such that the present generation and all posterity will hold you in the sweetest remembrance.

Do not serve money, but use money as a lever to help you serve something greater than yourself.

THE USES OF ADVERSITY.

Adversity exasperates fools, dejects cowards, draws out the faculties of the wise and industrious, puts the modest to the necessity of trying their skill, awes the opulent, and makes the idle industrious. Nor do uninterrupted success and prosperity qualify men for usefulness and happiness. The storms of adversity, like those of the ocean, rouse the faculties, and excite the invention, prudence, skill, and fortitude of the voyager. The martyrs of ancient times, in bracing their minds to outward calamities, acquired a loftiness of purpose and a moral heroism worth a lifetime of softness and security. The best tools receive their temper from fire, their edge from grinding; the noblest characters are developed in a similar way. The harder the diamond, the more brilliant the lustre, and the greater the friction necessary to bring it out. Only its own dust is hard enough to make this most precious stone reveal its full beauty.

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HINTS FOR THE HOME.

MARRIED LOVERS.

The love of married life should be continuous, and the ring is symbolic of this because it is round, and has no beginning and no ending. The ring is of gold, and this suggests permanence. On the wedding-day, says a writer on matrimony, the gold ring is bright and untarnished, suggestive of the love that exists on that auspicious day, but just as the fine gold of the ring becomes dimmed, too often has this been the case with the love of which the ring is the pledge and token. Imperfections are magnified; there is a spirit of fault-finding and irritability of temper; there is a want of a spirit of forgiveness; and in these and other ways the fine gold of married love too often becomes dimmed, if not actually destroyed. Much may be done on the part of a woman to prevent the tarnishing of the love. Wives can meet their husbands with a smile when they come home in the evening, for the power of a smile is very great. Men are won and influenced far better by smiles than by frowns.

BEAUTY SLEEP.

The wise woman who wants to rise from sleep rested and with her face cast in the lines of beauty should sleep on a narrow bed, so that there will be no room for her to distort her limbs by throwing them into grotesque positions. On this bed there should be a good mattress and one small, rather hard pillow. The bed-clothing should be of light weight, but warm, and the room well ventilated, but comfortably cool. On this couch the would-be beauty should lie flat on her back, arms and legs straight. To make a change from the back, she should learn to sleep first on one side and then on the other.

Perhaps you are young, but hints of wrinkles suddenly appear, apparently without any cause. Find out if you do not squeeze your eyes tightly together when going to sleep, as a child does when it makes believe to sleep. Many women draw the corners of their mouth down, and so produce furrows from the nose to the corner of the mouth, and down the side of the chin.

To get beauty sleep, go to bed thinking of the pleasantest thing that will befall you. The eyelids should rest lightly over the eyes, as if a fluttering breeze sweeping across the face would blow them wide open. The lips should meet easily, the mouth should never be open.

A FEW DONT'S.

Don't forget that although it is not easy to win a man's love, it is far more difficult to keep it, and requires some slight knowledge of men and their ways.

Don't when he comes home tired and hungry, spring on him a multitude of little household worries, which, after his graver business cares, will appear to him as trivial in the extreme.

Don't ignore the substantial comforts of a well-cooked dinner; it is said that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, consequently the latter should be humoured.

Don't be dull and solemn as the grave, but be cheerful and enliven him occasionally; no man is such a bear as to cavil at a bit of fun, and the chances are he will thoroughly appreciate it.

Don't be constantly asking for money to pay bills; have a regular allowance, and keep within it, either settling accounts weekly or monthly.

Don't, above all, aggravate him or argue with him. Very few women realise how valuable silence sometimes is, and many a quarrel would be averted if she could but forego the pleasure of having the last word.

HERB MIXTURE.

A compound prepared according to the directions given below will be found very useful for flavouring forcemeats, pies, braised meats, &c. Pound together in a mortar half an ounce of powdered mace, a quarter of an ounce of ground cloves, one ounce of whole black pepper, a quarter of an ounce of nutmeg, half an ounce of cayenne, and one and a half ounces each of dried bay leaves, basil, lemon-thyme, and sweet marjoram. When the herbs and spices are reduced to a powder, pass through a fine sieve, and put at once into a bottle. Cork tightly.

NICE DISHES.

DUTCH EGGS.—Boil as many eggs hard as are required, and remove the shells; then cut them in halves lengthways, take out the yolks, and pound in a mortar with an equal quantity of *pâte-de-foie gras*, and a piece of butter, and season with celery, salt, and cayenne. Cut a little slice from the underpart of each piece of white so that it will stand, and fill the whites with the egg-mixture, smoothing the tops evenly with a knife. Pass the pieces of egg twice through some beaten raw egg and dry crumbs, and after letting them stand for about half-an-hour fry them in sufficient boiling fat to cover them; drain on blotting-paper before putting them away to get cold.

DEVILLED MUSHROOMS.—Chop some lean ham, flavour it highly with Indian chutnee, oiled butter, chilli vinegar, and salt. Lay some mushrooms on toast, the stalks uppermost, put some of this mixture on each, cover closely, and cook quickly in a hot oven for about twenty minutes.

POTATO DUMPLINGS.—Grate or press through a potato press some cold boiled potatoes, then measure them; to one quart potatoes add half tablespoonful butter, one whole egg and two yolks, two heaping tablespoonfuls flour, and salt to taste. Mix all together and form it into twelve round balls; roll them in flour and put them in a large saucepan of boiling salted water. Cook twelve minutes, remove them carefully with a skimmer, and serve with the meat. This is nice to use up cold boiled potatoes.

A PRIME MINISTER SHIPPED AS A COMMON SAILOR.

The April number of the "Windsor Magazine" contains an interview by John Foster Fraser with the Marquis Ito, Prime Minister of Japan. The story of the great Statesman's first visit to Europe, in search of those Western ideas which he has since instilled into his fellow-countrymen, is of more than ordinary interest. "'You know,' said Marquis Ito, in telling the story, 'Inouye and I have been linked together from early life. We both belonged to the Choshu clan, one of the two great clans—the other was the Satsuma—concerned in the restoration of the Mikado. We Choshu men take the credit of having the brains, while the Satsumas have the muscle. Well, our chief decided that Inouye and myself should go to England to learn navigation, so that on our return our knowledge would be useful in ousting the foreigners from Japan. We two young fellows accordingly went to Negasaki for the purpose of getting a passage to England. The only word of English we knew was "navigation." We went into the office of the Company, and when the man in charge asked what we wanted, all we could say was "navigation." Everything seemed all right, and away on board the vessel we went. But what was our surprise on finding that instead of being passengers we had been shipped as common sailors. All through the voyage we had to scrub the decks and work just the same as the others. The English sailors found out we had money, and it was soon gambled away from us. Not all, for we kept two dollars carefully stowed away in an old stocking for emergencies. Well, at last we got to London, but nobody was there to meet us. The ship was tied up, everybody cleared off, and we were left alone. We got very hungry, but as we knew no English we didn't know what to do if we went on shore. However, hunger made us decide that one of us must go any buy something somehow, so we tossed up who it should be. The lot fell on Inouye.'

"'Yes,' said Count Inouye; 'I was never more frightened in my life than on that dirty, wet night I set foot in London and started off with one of the dollars in my hand to buy food. I had to be very careful so as to know my way back. I found a baker's shop, so I went and pointed to a loaf of bread. Of course I could not speak, but I held out the dollar to show my willingness to pay, and do you know that Englishman kept the dollar and gave me no change. Anyway, I got back to Ito all right, and we ate that bread like wolves. Next day some of our friends came to look for us and away we went. We were in London about a year.'"

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

WEDNESDAY, May 3rd, 1899.—Before His Honour, Edgar John Meynell, Judge.

A RENT CASE.

Thos. Weston, sen., grocer, of Annfield Plain, sued Adam Thornton, miner, Marshall's Buildings, Dipten, for two months' rent, amounting to 13s 6d, and work done.—Plaintiff said defendant had been the tenant of one of his cottages, and left it on October 18th, 1898, without giving due notice.—Defendant denied the liability, and said he asked leave to remove of plaintiff, which was granted.—The case was adjourned for the production of the plaintiff's rent book.

A CASE FOR ARBITRATION.

John Gallagher, working plasterer, Stanley, sued Turner Bros, builders, Bensham, Gateshead, for £47 18s 4d for plastering work done to houses in Abbott Street, Gateshead, Broad Chare, Newcastle, Bryson Terrace, Shieldfield, Newcastle, and South Moor Lane, Stanley, from September 18th, 1898, to January, 1899. There was a counter claim against Gallagher for £2 18s 1d for the re-cementing of Bryson Terrace, Newcastle, improperly laid by defendant. Mr J. McCartan, Consett, represented the plaintiff, and Mr G. J. Miller, of the firm of Dickinson, Miller, and J. Dickinson, Newcastle, appeared for the defendants.

Mr McCartan, in his opening statements, said plaintiff was a working plasterer, and had taken contracts from the defendants, who found the material. There was no question about the prices, but it was a question of some part of the measurements, and also the basis on which the measurements ought to have been made. The defendants admitted liability to the extent of something like £30.

Mr Miller: I admit we have paid too much into court. He would prove that his clients had rather overpaid the money. He asked His Honour to decide their claim with respect to Abbott Street.

His Honour: The thing is whether there was a measurement binding upon both parties. Why not refer the whole matter to arbitration? If the arbitrator is a practical man he will know better than I what they should claim. It is a question of the usual mode of measurement, which must be settled by an arbitrator, who can also easily decide the charges.

Mr Miller: We have paid [illegible] 7s 10d into court and admit our liability to that extent.

The whole case was referred to arbitration.

A DESCENDING ORDER.

Bernard Breen, furnaceman, of John Street, Consett, sued Jas. Smith, furnaceman, of Consett, for £1 for rent. The plaintiff's wife, who appeared to plead her husband's cause, asked the Judge to grant her an order for the payment of the money at once.—His Honour: But you can't have it all at once. I'll make an order for 4s a month.—Mrs Breen: I'm robbed, I'm robbed.—His Honour: If you don't hold your tongue I'll make it 3s a month.—Mrs Breen left the witness box grumbling, when His Honour recalled her and said he would reduce it to 3s a month.—Mrs Breen: I don't care what you reduce it to, I'm robbed. You can make it what you like, and was proceeding out of court when His Honour said: Come back, I'll make it 2s a month, to which Mrs Breen replied that she didn't care if he made it nothing at all, and left the court in anything but an enviable frame of mind. So much for too much tongue.

LEADGATE.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this association will be held in the Redwell Hills Schools, Leadgate, on Saturday afternoon. Afterwards the delegates will be entertained to tea by the local association, and a smoking concert will follow in the evening.

LINTZ GREEN.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH COMMITTEE.—The above committee held a meeting last week, when the Rev. R. M. Nason, vicar of Greenside, delivered an able and instructive address on "The Papacy." In the course of his remarks, Mr Nason dealt with the causes of the greatness and the failure of the Roman supremacy, and said its great ideal was to have no nationality, to be non-political, and to be entirely spiritual and pure. The Papacy had failed to reach its ideal, and so had failed to gain supremacy. The Hon. Mrs Vereker, of Hamsterley Hall, was present, and said a few words, impressing upon the committee the importance of their work. The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting. The chairman was the Rev. G. D'Eath.

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NO ONE CAN BELIEVE,
therefore he has opened
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and all are invited to come and see for themselves. It is another proof of the invigorating power of his medicine. They will hear from

MRS. CARTER, 35, LOW STREET, SUNDERLAND,

that she could not see her finger before her eyes. Her sight is now restored by taking Handyside's Consumption Cure, and is now able to walk about the streets nursing her child. I asked the lady when she came for the medicine how much she would give to be cured. She replied she would give £10,000 if she had it. I beg to ask ministers of religion, tradesmen, newspaper reporters, and all classes of people to come and investigate the wonderful powers of Handyside's Consumption Cure. Although Handyside's Consumption Cure has restored a good many blind people to perfect sight it must be clearly understood that if the organs of the eye are damaged or any part destroyed this medicine will not cure, but to the thousands of people who have weak sight from debility this medicine is a great boon. This dispensary at Sunderland will only be open for eight weeks, and I would recommend everyone who is troubled with consumption, cancer, indigestion, weak hearts, costiveness, looseness of the bowels, and sleeplessness, who have not the means to pay for the medicine, not to delay, for when the dispensaries are closed the lamentations are loud and general. One person, ill of cancer, who had not the means to purchase the medicine, her wailings were so great that the neighbours subscribed money to purchase her a lot of Handyside's Consumption Cure to allay her unbearable pains. Let me advise everyone not to dally with consumption, for although this medicine has cured thousands of consumptive people, yet they dally on with other things until their lungs are eat away, then nothing will cure them. The Consumption Cure only has cured 80 per cent. of cancer cases. If the Pills prepared by G. Handyside, were regularly taken, and the directions strictly attended to, they would not only add five years to their lives, but to a great extent prevent those acute diseases which make life unbearable and send them to an early grave. They contain no medicine therefore cannot ruin the constitution, as most medicines do. The great good they do is by strengthening the stomach and enriching the blood. If you cannot get the medicine from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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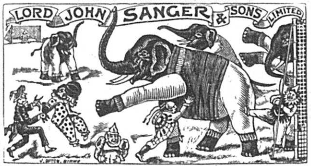
For a very MASSIVE GOBLET, which will be on view at Mr. Joseph Murray's, Grocer, Middle Street.

MR. T. WALTON, ALLENDALE PARK FOOTBALL CLUB, has arranged to compete against SANGER'S CENTRE FORWARD ELEPHANT, which can kick the most goals out of five tries. MR. WALTON and the ELEPHANT to keep goal in turn.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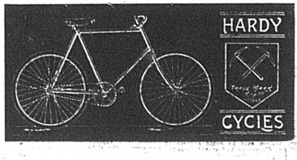

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CONSETT DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE PUBLIC LIGHTING OF THE TOWN.

On Wednesday evening, the monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Council Chambers, Parliament Street, under the presidency of Coun. Wm. Aynsley, J.P. (Chairman.) The other members present were:—Councillors George D. Powell, J. Lowes, W. Rippon, Edwin Holliday, N. Elsdon, Thomas Dunne, George T. Hyden, R. C. Foster; the Clerk (Mr. T. W. Welford), the Deputy-Clerk (Mr H. R. Foggan), and the Surveyor (Mr W. S. Shell.)

A CONGRATULATION.

Coun. R. C. Foster having taken his seat for the first time, he was congratulated by the Chairman on being returned as one of the four successful candidates at the recent election. He said he was pleased to see Coun. Foster amongst them once more.

Coun. Foster thanked the Chairman, and said he had already signed the declaration.

BUILDING AND SANITARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This report was read as follows:—Mrs. Yaager's plan of house proposed to be built in Aynsley Terrace, Consett, having been considered, it was returned for certain alterations to meet the requirements of the bye-laws. Mr J. Pearson's plan was passed for alterations to his premises in Green Street, Consett. Mr. W. Mcir's plan for alterations to his house in Aynsley Terrace, Consett, was also recommended to be passed. A letter from Mrs M. J. Elliott as to the leading of ashes, etc., into a field below Delves Terrace having been read, the committee recommended that the matter be left in the hands of the Surveyor.

On the proposition of Coun. Lowes, seconded by Coun. Hyden, the report was adopted.

MR. HAND'S PLANS.

The Chairman reported that owing to a certain difficulty having cropped up, he had not stamped Mr Hand's plans. As there was a likelihood of a back street being provided for this property he had deferred the matter.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION: AN IMPORTANT STEP.

Coun. Hyden said they would remember that what took place at the last meeting regarding the attendance of children at the schools in their district. He, therefore, gave notice of motion that the Council apply to the Education Department, asking them to authorise by Order, a School Attendance Committee for the Urban Sanitary District of Consett. This question would come up for discussion at the next meeting, and he thought he would be in a position to prove to them that they had the power to do this, and that it would be to their advantage to have such a Committee.

FINANCE AND GAS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee reported as follows:—The Clerk was instructed further to write the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company as to forwarding their draft agreement for the ensuing lighting season for their (the committee's) consideration. The treasurer's book was produced showing a balance of £110 13s 1d in favour of the Council. The Clerk was instructed to note that the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company do not charge more than 3/- per 1,000 feet for the supply to the Church Clock in future. A circular letter from Mr Thomas Lambert, Gateshead, as to the "Rating of Machinery Bill, 1899," dated the 5th April, having been read, the Clerk was instructed to procure a copy of the Bill for the consideration of the Council. Cheques to the amount of £395 were recommended to be signed.

The report was adopted, and the cheques were ordered to be signed.

THE PUBLIC LIGHTING OF THE TOWN.

INCANDESCENT LIGHT VERSUS ELECTRICITY.

Coun. Powell pointed out that the lamp with the incandescent burner in Parliament Street, during the time it had been erected had burned 230 hours, and had given a splendid light. It had stood the test of the high winds, and he thought it had proved very satisfactory. He had ascertained that it only consumed three feet of gas in an hour, while one of the ordinary lamps consumed five feet per hour. They would see that if they adopted the incandescent light throughout the town it would mean a considerable saving of money. For one lamp alone it meant a saving of 8/- for the season. Of course there was the expense of providing mantles, as they did not naturally expect one mantle per lamp would serve them throughout the season; but according to what they had seen from the present experiment, it was not going to cost them 8/- per lamp for mantles. He would suggest that the Gas Committee should try a few more of the lamps with the incandescent light for next season, with a view to its general adoption.

Coun. Hyden said the committee had in view the adoption of the light in a larger measure for next lighting season. As far as they had tried the experiment they found that they got a better light at a much less cost. They were asking for the agreement from the Gas Company with a view of making proper arrangements for the next lighting season. With regard to the lighting of the church clock he found there were 12 jets burning throughout the whole of the night. He was going to suggest that the incandescent light might be tried there.

The Chairman: Where do you want the new lights?

Coun. Hyden: In connection with the clock. I am not prepared to move a motion, I have only thrown out the suggestion for consideration.

Coun. Dunne said the Council ought to do something in the way of having the road lighted up to the Consett Works for the benefit of the workmen who had to go and leave the works at all hours during the night. To those men who had occasion to work in front of the glare of the furnaces was it known how difficult it was to travel from the works in the dark.

Coun. Hyden: We have that question under consideration.

Coun. Dunne said that two or three of the lamps on the road to the Consett works should be left burning, and especially was this needed for the benefit of the workmen engaged at the blastfurnaces.

Coun. Powell: Do you mean the Council to light up a private roadway?

Coun. Dunne: On both private and public land.

Coun. Lowes: We cannot light up a private road.

Coun. Dunne: We have power to do it if it is for the benefit of the public.

The Chairman: What are you advocating? Is it for more light?

Coun. Dunne said he was advocating for more light, and to have it better distributed than at present.

Coun. Hyden: That is the object of the Gas Committee in asking for prices and the agreement.

Coun. Holliday said that what Coun. Dunne had mentioned required attention. The road to Consett Works might be lighted up to better advantage than at the present time, as the light from the existing lamps was really very little use. When the workmen left the glare of the furnaces, and were making their way homeward they very often collided with the workmen going to the works owing to the insufficient light that was provided. He could only say that when the lamps were left burning, and just prior to the workmen leaving their work they were very often turned out, and they were left to travel the road in darkness. He trusted the Gas Committee would give this matter their consideration. There was another question he wished to draw attention to. Most of them, perhaps, saw the programme that he issued to the ratepayers. On that programme one of the chief questions was that of electric light. In some places gas was becoming almost extinct. In municipal districts they found that the electric light was taking the place of gas and other forms of lighting. This was also done and proved to be more economical. At Manchester, by the adoption of the electric light, they had made a profit of £20,000. What had been worked as a profit at one place, he had no hesitation in saying, could be done at Consett by the adoption of the electric light. This was a question the Gas Committee might turn their attention to. When they found a large concern like the Consett Iron Company doing away with gas and oil lamps and lighting up their works by electricity, they could rest assured they would not have done so if they had not seen it was going to pay them. He thought they should have something of the kind for the town. Just when the workmen required the light from the lamps it was turned out. If they had electricity they could have it turned off for so many hours during the night, and put on again when it was really required for the benefit of the workmen coming from the works. They all believed in efficiency and economy, and he was convinced if they introduced electricity it would mean a saving to the ratepayers.

Coun. Lowes said the question of providing the town with electricity had been before the Lighting Committee and was deferred. They were now waiting for certain plans coming to hand. When they arrived the Committee would again consider the question.

Coun. Elsdon said the question of the lighting of the road to the Consett Works had been previously discussed, and he was under the impression that the horse-keeper at the stables had to be asked to light the lamps at the turn in Berryedge Road, so as to give the workmen the benefit of the same at this particular point of the road.

The Chairman: There was no motion passed to that effect. It was only suggested that this should be done.

Coun. Dunne said he was advocating for the lamps to be lighted for the men going to the blastfurnaces. When the lamps were out it was exceedingly dangerous for those men when coming home.

Coun. Hyden stated that with regard to the electric light they did not go into the question. They obtained a return from a number of municipal bodies, and they were now waiting for a plan coming to hand to solve a certain point, and to provide them with information that was really necessary.

Coun. Powell said the electric light was twelve times the cost of gas, but it was decidedly the much better light.

Coun. Hyden: I may say the committee are determined to go into the question.

Coun. Powell said the electric light would have one decided advantage. It could be turned off when not required.

Coun. Holliday said they were living in a day of municipal enterprise. They had in their district thousands of tons of combustible material, and they could not find a resource for it. If the refuse at Shoreditch could be applied in providing electric light, he contended they had a better resource at Consett.

After further discussion the question was deferred for the present.

THE SEWAGE FARM.

The balance-sheet shewing the income and expenditure in connection with the sewage farm was read. A balance of £54 13s 6d on the year's working was reported.

The members considered this very satisfactory, and Coun. Foster said he was glad to learn there was such a handsome profit. No doubt this would encourage the Farm Committee to try and increase it by the end of another year.

THE SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS. THE COUNCIL RATHER INDIGNANT.

The Clerk reported that the Local Government Board's Medical Inspector paid his visit to the district, and he was met at the Council Chamber by the Surveyor, the Medical Officer of Health, and himself.

Coun. Hyden: Was the Council represented by any of the members?

The Chairman stated that Coun. Ainsworth and himself were present. The Inspector had a list of questions which he asked, and were answered. He asked for information regarding the population, and the number of houses in the district.

Coun. Hyden: Did he ask for the population of the town or per house?

The Chairman: He asked for both. I think we cannot do anything till we get the report from the Local Government Board.

Coun. Hyden: I take it we will be able to give our side of the question when the report comes to hand?

The Chairman: Yes.

Coun. Hyden: That will do for me.

The Chairman: I think it is a great shame that we have to be troubled with visits from these gentlemen from London. However, I can only say that when the Inspector got home he would find that Consett was as clean as any other town. (Hear, hear.)

Coun. Hyden said he did not like to say it; but it seemed to him that it was like sneaking to get hold of exact facts.

Coun. Rippon: Was the Medical Officer present?

The Chairman: Yes.

Coun. Rippon: And the late Medical Officer?

The Chairman: Oh, no.

Coun. Rippon: It was rather strange that Dr. Allen was not present, seeing that the Inspector's visit was through what he had stated in his report. I think Dr. Allen should have been present so as to defend himself.

The Clerk: The Inspector had Dr. Allen's report.

Coun. Elsdon said that Dr. Allen had made certain charges, and the Inspector was present to investigate them.

Coun. Hyden stated that the whole thing had arisen through Dr. Allen, stating that the Infectious (Diseases) Notification Act was a dead letter. That was the sole reason why the Inspector was present.

Coun. Dunne said he thought it would be better to let the question drop till they got the report from the Local Government Board. They were not doing any good by discussing the question now.

The Chairman: Let us get to the next business.

THE RATE.

The new rate of 1/4 in the £ was ordered to be sealed.

THE TRAIN SERVICE FOR CONSETT.

The following letter was read from Mr. Watson, passenger superintendent Newcastle:—"With further reference to your letter of the 9th of January I beg to inform you that it has been decided, commencing on the 1st of May, to run an additional train from Newcastle to Blackhill at 9.50 p.m. daily, except Sundays, and for Sunday trains to be run between Blackhill and Durham, leaving the former station at 8.23 a.m., and 8.11 p.m., and the latter at 7.35 a.m., and 7.30 p.m. I regret that we cannot agree to the suggestions which were made by the deputation which waited upon me, as owing to the congested state of the single line, we shall be unable to run additional trains until the line has been doubled; but I may say instructions have been given for this to be done as early as possible."

Coun. Dunne moved that a Committee be appointed with full power to take such steps as was desirable to secure a better train service for Consett.

This was seconded by Coun. Hyden.

Coun. Dunne made a long speech regarding the inadequate train service for Consett. He said as far as the deputation from the Council was concerned they asked for Consett to made the terminus. They had failed in bringing this about; but this should not prevent them from agitating for an increased train service on the Consett Branch. He shewed the disadvantages that arose through the postmen having to travel to Blackhill Station to secure the mail bags for the afternoon delivering of letters. Very often this caused a long delay, and inconvenienced tradespeople. If they could induce the Railway Company to run an afternoon train to Consett, this delay would be avoided, and it would be conferring a great boon on the people of the district. He would also go in for having a station at Consett Junction, and having trains run from Consett to Tow Law.

Coun. Hyden said he thought the Committee would be able to make out a very good case to lay before the Company.

Coun. Elsdon stated that they ought to insist upon facilities being provided for bringing the people into the district.

The motion was agreed to.

On the proposition of Coun. Elsdon, the committee appointed consisted of the Chairman, Messrs Hyden, Dunne, and Holliday.

THE RATING OF MACHINERY BILL.

With regard to the circular from Mr. Thos. Lambert, Gateshead, on behalf of the Rating and Assessing Authorities' Defence Association, asking the Council to take action in opposing this Bill, a long discussion ensued. It was pointed out that if the Bill became law it would seriously affect the rateable value of the Consett district.

Eventually, it was resolved, on the motion of Coun. Lowes, seconded by Coun. Foster, that Mr. L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P., for the division, should be asked to oppose the Bill; also for the Clerk to write Mr. Lambert stating that the Council was not in favour of the Bill.

THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

The Clerk was instructed to inform the medical practitioners in the district that all notices under the Infectious (Diseases) Notification Act had to be forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health, (Dr. A. D. M. Macintyre.)

APPOINTMENT OF A CARETAKER.

The Recreation Ground Committee recommended that Mr. James Mulholland be appointed caretaker of the Recreation Ground at a salary of 15/- per week.

The report was adopted, and it was agreed that the caretaker should take his instructions from the Surveyor.

This was all the business.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

At the Dog Show being held this week at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, Mrs Faber, of Derwent Dene, Shotley Bridge, secured the following prizes for her chow chows:—Champion Premier Chow VIII., first in open class, championship, and twenty guinea challenge cup; Pride of Hong Kong (bred by Mrs Faber), reserve in open, second in limit, but first and special in novice class; Singapore Boy, first and silver medal for stud dogs; further, two firsts and two large silver medals for brace and team.

TANFIELD.

A Tanfield Gentleman in Windsor.—"Whist" writes in the "Daily Journal":—I have before me the "Windsor Chronicle," telling me of the election of Mr Andrew Robinson to the chair of the Windsor Rural District Council, which distinction gives him a seat also on the magisterial bench. Mr Robinson is also an active member of the Windsor Board of Guardians. The editor of the "Windsor Chronicle" speaks in high terms of the new chairman of the Council. What I now tell will, I take it, be read with gladness in Tanfield, of which Mr Robinson is a native, and where, from his childhood, he has had everybody's good-will. Since he accompanied Major Joicey to Sunningdale Park, his intelligence and uprightness have won for him the respect of all his neighbours. Those of us who know all about Mr Andrew Robinson will not be surprised at this.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL.

THE VILLAGE GREEN.

THE LEASE TO BE SIGNED AT LAST.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Burnhope Schools, on Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Coun. J. R. Ritson (chairman). The other Councillors present were.—Messrs A. Hartley, (vice-chairman), U. A. Ritson, J. Chapman, Geo. Thornton, Geo. W. Wilson, J. Johnson, G. W. Bowman, David Champney, W. Payne, R. Summerbell, W. Jewitt, James Gibson, George Neasham, and the Clerk (Mr. Henry Knowles.)

A LETTER-BOX FOR BURNHOPE.

A letter was read from Mr. J. Bennett, Postmaster at Durham, and it was as follows:—"In regard to your letter of the 21st inst., I have to inform you there is no letter-box in use by the Department known as automatic. A small box for affixing to a lamp-post is being tried in some places, when there is a suitable lamp-post."

The Chairman said it was a very vague reply, as the Postmaster did not say whether he approved of the letter-box being affixed in the wall of the cabin at the Burnhope railway crossing or otherwise.

Coun. Gibson moved that the Postal Authorities be asked to erect a letter-box at the cabin.

Coun. Payne seconded the motion.

The Chairman pointed out that the Postal Authorities had already promised to erect a letter-box.

Coun. Payne said if that was the case the motion could be altered so as to urge the Postal Authorities to erect the letter-box as early as possible.

Eventually, the Clerk was instructed to write the Postal Authorities, asking them to affix the letter-box in the wall of the cabin.

THE LANCHESTER NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

The Chairman said a motion was required to be passed, instructing the Clerk to inform the Rev. G. Jepson, vicar of Lanchester, that the Council would take the National Schools, Lanchester, for the purpose of holding their meetings, at the usual rate of 2/- per meeting. He would move this be done.

Coun. Chapman seconded the motion.

Coun. Neasham pointed out that he considered 2/- per meeting was quite sufficient to pay for the use of the schools.

Coun. Thornton: What if the vicar does not accept the terms?

The Chairman: If the vicar refuses, we will have to again consider the question.

The motion was agreed to.

THE LANCHESTER VILLAGE GREEN.

A WARM DISCUSSION.

The Chairman said the next question on the agenda was the Lanchester Village Green.

Coun. Chapman said he sent in the notice of motion with respect to the Village Green. They were all familiar with his views on the question, and without any further comments, he would move that the lease from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the 5/- per so that they might obtain full control of the Village Green.

Coun. Champney said this had been a vexed question for a considerable time. The question of obtaining full possession of the Village Green had occupied the attention of the Council for some months. He had fought all along against paying the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the 5/- per annum, as he was under the impression they had nothing whatever to do with the Village Green. However, after he had seen what took place last week on the green he was now convinced it was time somebody had control of it, or they would very soon have no green. There had been a number of shows on the green, and the dirt and filth they had left behind them was abominable. The green had been left in a disgraceful state, and people had even gone and removed the manure and refuse for their gardens. When he had passed up the village he had been held up to ridicule by the inhabitants for allowing these show-people to come on to the green, and just do as they liked. The people were crying out, "Why don't you make some provision for having control over the green." The inhabitants had even asked him to send his men to clean up the green, and make it look respectable. After carefully considering the matter he had come to the conclusion that it would be policy on their part to have the lease signed, get control of the green, and they would be able to deal with those people who used it. It was on these grounds that he seconded the motion.

Coun. Wilson said he could endorse all that Coun. Champney had stated regarding the filth and the disgraceful state of the green, after being used by the show-people. He did make up his mind after the indignation of the last meeting, and hearing about the petition that was supposed to have been signed by the inhabitants as a protest against the action of the Council in asking for a lease from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to have nothing more to do with the green. However, since the last meeting, they had heard nothing more about the petition, and from what had transpired it was pretty evident that the inhabitants were not going to do anything in the matter. The disgraceful state of the green, as left by the show-people, had caused the villagers to express themselves pretty freely on the question, and the majority agreed that it was time something was done. He had no hesitation in saying that they did not wish to prevent the shows from coming into the village. They were desirous of preserving the green, and he maintained if it was used by show-people they had a perfect right to pay something to restore it to the condition it was in when they took possession of it. If the show people would not do this they should be compelled to remove off the green. He noticed there were other shows due that week, and if the present weather continued, the green would practically be ploughed up.

Coun. Neasham: Will the Clerk read me the minute that was passed at the last meeting, bearing on this question?

Coun. Chapman: I object to the Clerk doing anything of the kind. The minutes of the last meeting have already been read, and confirmed.

Coun. Hartley: May I ask if Coun. Chapman's objection is in order?

Coun. Neasham: Any member has a right to see the minutes.

Coun. Chapman: I have no objection to any member seeing the minutes, but I have a decided objection to the Clerk complying with your request. The motion by Mr. Champney, that is recorded on the minutes, is to the effect "that the question of the Village Green be adjourned for one month." Now, it was a month that night since the motion was passed. Mr. Chairman, is this correct?

The Chairman: You are perfectly in order. The motion is just what you have stated.

Coun. Champney said they would remember that at the last meeting of the old Council, there was a deputation from the villagers, with a petition, protesting against the Council, giving over the rights of the people to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners ——?

Coun. Neasham: This is quite out of order, and I protest.

The Chairman: I don't care whether you protest or not. You must give order at these meetings. It is not right to interrupt when a member is speaking.

Coun. Neasham was about to speak again, when he met with interruption

The Chairman had to appeal for order, and

Coun. Neasham said he would bow to the Chairman's decision.

Coun. Champney, continuing, said the Council had given the villagers a month to do something in the matter, and they had neither moved one way or another. He considered it was time someone was moving. The villagers had remained silent on the question as to whether they were in favour of paying the 5/- per annum or otherwise, but at the same time they were crying out and saying it was time someone had control of the green. He was now perfectly satisfied that if the Council wanted control of the green they would have to sign the lease. Some people had got an idea into their heads that they were desirous of putting a stop to the shows coming on to the green, and that they would put an end to the green being used as a recreation ground for the children. They did not wish to do anything of the kind. They only wanted to do something that would preserve the people's rights, and not allow the green to be destroyed.

Coun. Chapman: Mr. Chairman, you have got my motion which has been seconded, and supported.

Coun. Bowman said he rose to move an amendment to the effect that they do not sign the lease. If they signed the lease, they were handing over their rights to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. He maintained they had already control over the green, and they had just as much power now as they would have if they signed the lease. They had an order from the Local Government Board informing them that they had power to prosecute all those who damaged the green, and that was all that was required. Many of the ratepayers were opposed to the signing of the lease, and they had no right whatever to go against public opinion.

Coun. Chapman: Can I speak again?

Coun. Hartley: May I ask if Coun. Chapman is in order.

The Chairman: He is in order.

Coun. Hartley: Beg pardon, Coun. Chapman has no right to reply till the other members have had a say.

Coun. Chapman: I wish to reply to Coun. Bowman.

The Chairman: I will give you an opportunity shortly, Coun. Hartley wishes to address the chair.

Coun. Hartley stated that he wished to second the amendment. Since the last meeting he had been in conversation with several gentlemen, who were looked upon as an authority with regard to this question, and he was informed that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had nothing whatever to do with the green. It had been a green for a long time now, and the Commissioners had never made anything to do about it. In the face of this, he for one could not go in for signing the lease, which practically meant handing over the rights to a body who had no claim on them. He urged the Council not to sign the lease, but on the other hand to take possession of the green, and look after it as they had done in the past. In fact, he could safely say they had possession of the green ——

Coun. Chapman (interposing): Question.

The Chairman: Order.

Coun. Hartley, continuing, said there could be no question in the matter. They had repaired the seats on the village green, the accounts for the work had been passed by the auditor, and seeing they had not been surcharged, they could come to no other conclusion but that the auditor was satisfied that it was a legitimate expenditure. If that was the case they must have had possession. He called upon them to use their present powers, and control the green.

Coun. Neasham said they should try to settle this question without giving away the people's rights. He had heard the Chairman repeatedly say at their meetings that he did not think the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had any legal right to the green, but as a matter of policy it would be better to sign the lease so as to enable them to get control of the green. He claimed this was a question that required their most serious consideration. Why should they sign the lease, and hand the green over to a body like the Ecclesiastical Commissioners whom, he contended, had no claim to it whatever. If the Burnhope villagers had a green they would be very chary in giving it up to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. It had occurred to him that they might get out of the difficulty by adopting the Allotments Act. This Act stated that no village green need be enclosed under the Alloments Act, but where an enclosure of land was made in the Parish in which the village green was situate, the Board of Agriculture might direct that such village green be allotted to the churchwardens and overseers of the Parish in trust, to be used for the purposes of exercise and recreation. The same Act contained provisions as to the fencing, draining, and levelling of the village green, and preservation of the surface of the same. They would see by the adoption of this Act they would place the green in the hands of the Overseers preserving in trust for the Council, and in trust for the villagers generally. That would be a simple way of getting out of the vexed question. He hoped that Coun. Chapman was following him.

The Chairman: Do not let us have any singling out of individual members.

Coun. Chapman: I hope I have sufficient commonsense to follow you.

The Chairman: Order, order.

Coun. Neasham said he only wished for the Councillor to understand what he was driving at. The green belonged to the Copyholders of the Manor. He had in his possession, and, in fact, in the book that he now held in his hands, evidence relating to the Helmote Court, which went to prove what he was now saying. Coun. Hartley had said that the Commissioners had no jurisdiction over the green. Well, that was perfectly true. If the Commissioners had had any jurisdiction over the green they would have exercised such prerogative before now. If the Commissioners had possessed the slightest right, would they not have taken steps and prevented Mr. Joseph Davison from erecting a fence across the Haughs? He maintained they would have done so. He desired them to leave the matter of feeling out of the question altogether. The commissioners had declined to give them any guarantee that the lease would be renewed at the end of 99 years, and he asked was it right to give away the rights of the villagers to a body who would not say that the lease would be renewed after a certain period? If they did not wish to give away the green he would ask them to consider what he had placed before them, and support the amendment, thus preserving the rights of the green for ever.

Coun. Chapman said it had been stated that they could prosecute anyone for doing damage to the green. He would like to ask would the Chairman sign a cheque for a solicitor to prosecute?

The Chairman: No, certainly not.

Coun. Chapman, continuing, said when the Helmote Court, was held at Lanchester, a grieve was appointed to collect the tolls from those who used the village green. If that was the case the green most certainly belonged to someone. When they took everything into consideration they could not come to any other conclusion but that the Commissioners had some claim to the green. Coun. Neasham had stated that the green belonged to the villagers. All he could say to that was they did not appoint the grieve.—

Coun. Neasham (interposing): Oh, yes they did.

The Chairman: We cannot have these interruptions.

Coun. Chapman, continuing, said he was told that Mr. Davison simply rode down the fields when there were floods which prevented him using the roadway.

Coun. Neasham: Nothing of the kind. He did it so as to assert the rights of the people.

The Chairman said he had been twitted by Coun. Neasham that he was not in favour of the Commissioners claiming the green; but as a matter of policy they had better sign the lease. He admitted that at first he did not think the Commissioners had any claim, but after giving the question careful consideration he found that under the Act of 1854 the Commissioners got possession not only of the Lanchester green, but all other village greens, subject to certain rights, which led him to change his opinion. Now the Commissioners were willing to hand over those rights to the Council for the sum of 5/- per annum. Before they could adopt the Allotments' Act they would have to convene a Parish meeting; but let him point out that they could not really apply the Act to land which did not belong to them. They must, in the first place, have possession of the land. Coun. Bowman had stated that they had power to prosecute. That was perfectly correct as far as the ratepayer was concerned. He would ask where was the ratepayer that would lose a day's work in attending the Court to prosecute anyone doing damage to the green, besides paying the cost of a solicitor? He did not know of anyone that would be prepared to do this. If they signed the lease they would have the power to appoint someone to look after the green. He wished to point out to the new Councillors that the Council took legal advice on the question and they were advised to take this course to get full control of the green.

Coun. Bowman said seeing the Parish Council had power to prosecute what other power would they have if they signed the lease? They would have no more power than they had at present, and perhaps not as much.

The Chairman: I did not say that the Parish Council had power to prosecute. I said that any ratepayer could prosecute

Coun. Bowman said he understood from the communication they received from the local Government Board that the Parish Council had the power to prosecute anyone for damage. He for one would go to the Court and gave evidence if he saw anyone doing damage to the green. If he did not do so he would at once come to the conclusion that he was not doing his duty.

Coun. Neasham pointed out that there was no great hurry about this question. It could easily be put off for another month, and the Parish meeting might be held in the meantime and have the Allotments Act adopted, which would give them full control of the green. This could be done by applying to the Board of Agriculture.

Coun. Chapman said Mr. Neasham had stated that they were giving away the rights of the villagers. He maintained they were going to protect their rights by signing the lease.

Coun. Neasham: I say you are giving away the villagers' rights, as you have no guarantee what the Commissioners will do after 99 years. ——

The Chairman (interposing): I must call Coun. Neasham to order.

Coun. Neasham: Very well, I will sit down, if I am not in order.

Coun. Hartley asked if it was not a fact that they had spent money over the green which proved they already had possession of it? The auditor had not yet surcharged them for repairing the seats.

Coun. Chapman: It does not follow that you will not be surcharged.

After further discussion a vote was taken, and resulted as follows:—For the amendment—Messrs. Bowman, Johnson, Hartley, and Neasham—4. For the motion:—Messrs U. A. Ritson, Thornton, Chapman, Summerbell, Wilson, Payne, Champney, and Gibson—8. Coun. Jewitt remained neutral.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Coun. Neasham said he wished the following to be entered on the minutes:—"I, George Neasham, as a member of the Council, protests against the green being handed over to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England." (Laughter.)

The Chairman: We cannot put that on the minutes. It is already recorded that you have voted in favour of the amendment.

Coun. Chapman: We cannot do anything of the kind.

Coun. Bowman said he questioned the voting. There were 14 Councillors present, and only 12 had voted. Someone else besides Coun. Jewitt had remained neutral.

The Chairman said he had not voted. He could have exercised the privilege if it had been necessary.

Coun. Bowman stated it was only fair that it should be placed on the minutes that the Chairman did not vote.

The Chairman: It is not necessary.

Coun. Neasham: Will you enter my protest?

The Chairman: No; I cannot do so.

LETTER-BOX FOR WEST BUTSFIELD.

Coun. Thorton brought forward the question of a letter-box for West Butsfield, owing to the delay that was caused in people getting their letters posted through having to travel to Satley.

It was agreed that the Postal Authorities should be asked to provide a letter-box.

THE FOOTPATH THROUGH THE LANCHESTER CHURCHYARD.

Coun. Chapman moved a motion for the repairing of the footpath through the Lanchester Churchyard, and the erection of an additional lamp.

This was seconded by Coun. Wilson, and supported by Coun. Champney.

A long discussion ensued. Several of the Councillors contended that the Parish Church had no right to repair the footpath, and the additional lamp was not required.

Coun. Neasham asked if it was right that the Parish Council should repair a footpath that was on the vicar's freehold. It was the duty of the vicar and his churchwardens to attend to this matter.

A vote was taken, which resulted in the motion being carried by eight votes to five.

ANOTHER FOOTPATH.

It was agreed to ask Miss Allgood if she would hand over the land for making a cartroad from the Burnhope Vicarage to Burnhope Flatts, a distance of 400 yards. If the application was refused to ask Miss Allgood to repair the present footpath.

This was all the business.

THE REV. J. S. NIGHTINGALE AND SUNDAY JOURNALISM.

On Sunday morning, Rev J. S. Nightingale preached in the Methodist Church, Consett. In making the ordinary pulpit announcements previous to his sermon, the reverend gentleman intimated that he had a matter to bring before them as a congregation before preaching, namely, the question of what was known as, "The seven days journalism." As most of them would be aware there was being issued a Sunday Edition of the "London Daily Mail" and also "Daily Telegraph." Apart from their religious connections, they believed that there should be one day's rest in the seven. Their attitude should be pronounced on the matter, and the protest of all the Christian Churches would have to be emphatic, if the battle, which would be severe, was to be won. He would therefore move the following resolution: "That we, the members of the Primitive Methodist Church, Consett, and members of the congregation, do offer our most solemn protest against the issue of the Daily Mail and Telegraph newspapers on the Sabbath day. We are strongly convinced that such makes for the destruction of the Sabbath as a day of rest, is an inroad upon the sanctity of such a day, and injurious to the community generally, and the working classes particularly. We not only offer our protest against the practice, but by our example in every possible way will urge all with whom we are associated to cease to purchase any paper, Sunday or week day, published by such firms unless the Sunday edition is discontinued." Mr George Lowes, who seconded the resolution, said he heartily concurred with the attitude they were asked to take up on this question. They had heard or read of what was known as a Continental Sabbath, and they earnestly prayed that such in any form might never be introduced into this country. This was a question which should be taken up by the Churches, and they should by every means in their power resist anything which would affect the sacredness of the Sabbath day.—The congregation showed their approval by rising in a body from their seats. The resolution has taken the form of a petition, which has been numerously signed by officials, members, teachers, and senior scholars, and will be duly forwarded to the proper quarter.

CYCLING NOTES.

[By "Wheeler."]

Since I penned by last notes the weather has been simply wretched, and as a consequence cyclists have not had much chance of indulging in their favourite pastime. The Medomsley boys were greatly disappointed on Saturday, as they had been looking forward to their run to Newcastle, but just about the time fixed for starting the rain came down in torrents, and put cycling altogether out of the question. It is to be hoped that the clerk of the weather will be more kindly disposed to wheelmen in the future, and especially on Sunday, the date of the great Church Parade at Arcot Hall.

On Wednesday week the members of the Dipton Cycling Club had a fine run to Saltwell Park. On arriving a few of the more ambitious riders would go aboating, being anxious to follow the example of a lot of strangers who were amusing themselves on the lake. So they launched out full of hope and in high spirits, but before they had been long on the lake they found themselves masters of the situation, the stranger friends having retired to what they considered a safer spot. After a short time our gallant party was glad to follow suit, and I am told it required a couple of fires to dry their costumes, after which they all partook of a rattling good tea.

At a committee meeting of the Dipton club on Monday night, it was arranged to have a run to Ponteland on Whit-Monday. It was further agreed to hold a pic-nic at Shotley Bridge, on June 17th. Evening runs were arranged for Thursday, May 4th; Monday, 8th; and Thursday, 11th, and every Tuesday and Thursday following, to meet at headquarters at 6-30 p.m.

Half-a-dozen members of the Leadgate "Hardy" Club had a pleasant spin to Stanley and back last Thursday night. They looked in at the Stanley Victoria Club, but were disappointed at not meeting the genial president (Coun. A. Swinburn.) The "Hardy" boys intend to be present at the Church Parade on Sunday at Arcot Hall, and will leave headquarters at eight o'clock on Sunday morning. The various clubs will assemble at Barras Bridge at 9-30.

Since my last notes I am told that there has been a great improvement in the road at Dipton. There was certainly plenty of room for it.

The fixture of the Leadgate Ladies' C.C. for Saturday is Lintzford, whilst on the Wednesday following the "dear ones" will honour Swalwell with their presence. Lucky Swalwell!

On Wednesday evening of last week a meeting was held at Annfield Plain to consider the question of forming a cycling club. After discussion, it was decided to form a club under the name of "Annfield and District Cycling Club." Mr M. Hobson, of Catchgate, was elected president and captain; vice-captain and bugler, Mr R. Cooke; treasurer, Mr Haud; and hon. secretary, Mr J. Russell, jun., Front Street, Annfield Plain. A committee of ten members was elected to draw up rules and submit them to a future meeting. Up to the present 27 ladies and gentlemen have given in their names as members, and the prospects of the club seem very bright and encouraging. The club colours are navy blue caps with the gold monogram, "A D C C." for the gentlemen, and white sailor hats trimmed with navy blue ribbon and gold monogram, for the ladies. The first run, will be to Durham next Wednesday afternoon, and several other good fixtures have been arranged, so that the new club should experience an enjoyable season.

BLACKHILL.

Blackhill and District Poultry Pigeon, and Rabbit Society.—The annual meeting of the above society was held at Blackhill, on Saturday last, Mr W. Nattrass, of Medomsley, in the unavoidable absence of Councillor Jos. Eltringham (president), presiding. The balance-sheet, as presented by the Secretaries, was considered fairly satisfactory. A considerable falling-off in subscriptions was announced, which the committee hope to augment during the present year. County Councillor Jos. Eltringham was unanimously re-elected president, with subscribers of 5/- and upwards as vice-presidents; Mr W. Ramsay, treasurer; Mr J. S. Murray, hon. auctioneer; Messrs Eltringham and Nichols were re-elected secretaries.

BYER MOOR.

The Late Father Matthews.—The congregation of the Byer Moor Catholic Church have decided to perpetuate the memory of Father Matthews, late of Gateshead, who died recently at Cheeseburn Grange, Northumberland, by the insertion of a stained glass window in the above church. Father Matthews was instrumental in the establishment of the mission at Byer Moor, and also took a prominent part in the foundation of the missions at Chester-le-Street, Sacriston, and Stanley.

SALE OF WORK AT LEADGATE

OPENED BY THE REV. J. W. NAPIER-CLAVERING.

For some time now active efforts have been put forth with a view to raising funds for the erection of a Church Institute and Parish Room for Leadgate. That such a building is urgently needed there can be no question, as the present Men's Guild is quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the parish. As our readers will perhaps be aware, an excellent site has been secured at the entrance to the park, but a good deal of money is yet required to make up the sum proposed to be spent on the new building. With a view to giving a fillip to the scheme it was decided to hold a sale of work, and for many months past the ladies of the congregation have been working hard in order to make the affair a success. The Co-operative Hall was engaged for the occasion, and the event was fixed to take place on Wednesday and Thursday of the present week. The opening ceremony came off on Wednesday afternoon. The hall presented quite a gay appearance, and the ladies are certainly to be congratulated upon the brave show they made. The stalls were all effectively arranged, and on these were displayed to the best advantage a large and beautiful collection of useful and ornamental articles, pictures, books, toys, flowers, provisions, &c. Decorations were also used with good effect, the whole being very pleasing to the eye. The stalls were in charge of the following ladies:—

Stall No. 1.—Mrs. Varley, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. Brears, Mrs. Bonnar, and the Misses Compton, Nicholson, Robinson and Turnbull.

Stall No. 2.—Mrs Clegg, Mrs. Calvert, Mrs. Wharton, Mrs. Lowes, Mrs. Murrie, and the Misses Clegg and Wharton.

Children's Stall—Mrs. George Walton, and the Misses Almond, McIver, M. Turnbull, and Brears.

Flower Stall—The Misses Parker.

Provision Stall—Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Shipper, and Miss K. Winter.

Refreshments—Mrs. A. Graham, and the Misses Armstrong, Clegg, M. Turnbull, Black, and Heward.

In addition to the sale of work proper, there were entertainments of an amusing and attractive nature each afternoon and evening, comprising the gramophone (kindly lent by Mr. Faber), magic-lantern views, Maypole dances by children of the Infants' School, songs with pianoforte accompaniments, and a programme of music by the celebrated Consett Amateur Orchestra, under the able leadership of Mr. G. A. Williams. Prizes were also offered for cake, doll, and washing competitions, and these caused much amusement.

OPENING CEREMONY.

There was a large and influential company present on Wednesday afternoon to take part in the opening ceremony, which was announced to be performed by the Rev. J. W. and Mrs Napier-Clavering, of Axwell Park, but, owing to illness, Mrs Napier-Clavering was unfortunately unable to be present. Amongst those in the hall we noticed:—The Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering, Rev. Thos. and Mrs Varley, Leadgate; Rev. W. D. and Mrs. Croudace, Consett; Rev. J. W. Mitchell, South Hetton; Rev. J. Wallis, Castleside; Rev. R. Tuson, Dipton; Rev. C. S. Wilson, Gateshead; Rev. W. Brown, Benfieldside; Rev. Canon Ross-Lewin, and the Misses Ross-Lewin, Benfieldside; Hon. Mrs. Vereker, Hamsterley Hall; Dr and Mrs Grainger, Consett; Dr. and Mrs Moore, South Hetton; Mr H. Holliday, Beech Grove, Consett; Mrs Cockin, Medomsley; Mrs Palmer, Medomsley; Miss Eva Collinson, Shotley Bridge; Mr. and Mrs. G. Nicholson, Leadgate; Mr. and Mrs. W. Brears, Leadgate; Miss Smith, Shotley Bridge; Mr and Mrs Wharton, Leadgate; Mr. and Mrs. C. Clegg, Leadgate; Mr and Mrs Ed. Todd, Leadgate; Miss Steggall, Summerhill, Shotley Bridge; Mr and Mrs T. Foreman, Leadgate; Miss Scott, Newbell; Mr J. Stephenson, Prospect House, Leadgate; Miss Stephenson, Prospect House; Mrs H. Nicholson, Consett; Mr W. J. Foreman, Leadgate; Miss Robinson, South Medomsley; Mrs R. Calvert, Leadgate; Mr and Mrs Winter, Leadgate; Miss D. Burnhope, Leadgate; Mrs Lock, Leadgate; Nurse Hughes, Leadgate; Miss Todd, Leadgate; Misses McIver, Crookhall; Misses Clegg, Leadgate; Mr and Mrs A. Graham, Leadgate; Miss K. Winter, Leadgate; etc., etc.

The Rev. T. Varley, in opening the proceedings, said they had met together to undertake one of those important duties which occurred from time to time. It was sometimes called a sale of work, and sometimes a bazaar. They had called theirs a sale of work because they did not think that it would be very large. However, it had gone on increasing and growing that much that he thought that might designate it a bazaar. (Hear, hear.) Some people abominated bazaars, but in a place like Leadgate, where they had to depend entirely upon the working classes, these things were necessary. It was the only way by which they could hope to raise money. The object of their sale of work would commend itself to all of them. (Hear, hear.) Though they had good schools in Leadgate, thanks to his predecessor, Mr Mitchell—(applause)—still they were nearly always in use as day schools or for technical classes, etc. They wanted a place apart from the schools. There was in London what was called a Church House, and they were going to try and get a Church House in Leadgate—(applause)—where the ladies could meet, and where suitable accommodation would be provided for the men. The cost of the Parish Room and Church Institute would likely run up to about £1,000, which was no doubt a big figure. They had in hand and promised something like £350, and he hoped with the grand display they had before them that they would reach half the amount required. He trusted that the day was not far distant when they would be able to lay the foundation-stone. (Applause.) He had pleasure in welcoming their old friend, Mr Mitchell, whose heart, he believed, was in Leadgate still. (Applause.) He thanked all who had contributed so generously to bring about the grand display they had in that room. They had received help from people who perhaps had never seen Leadgate. That morning he had received a large box containing flowers from the Marquis of Londonderry, of Wynyard Park. (Applause.) Contributions had reached them from all parts. The event had entailed a vast deal of labour on the part of the ladies, who had toiled unceasingly for the success which he hoped would smile upon their efforts. (Applause.) He could well believe that they had aching eyes and aching fingers many a time. They had one particular friend there for the first time in Mr Napier-Clavering, who stood in the position of Lord of the Manor, or Squire of Iveston. (Applause.) Mr Napier-Clavering had kindly offered to help them in opening the proceedings. When he first approached Mr Napier-Clavering respecting their sale of work, that gentleman sent him a cheque for £20. (Applause.) He was sorry that, owing to illness, Mrs Napier-Clavering could not be with them, and he felt sure that they would all sympathise with her. (Hear, hear.) He would now call upon Mr Napier-Clavering. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering, who was well received, said that their Vicar had asked him to take part in those proceedings, but he could not help wishing that he had asked somebody else to take his place. These were functions of which he had had very little experience. He was never at a sale of work until he came into that part of the country. When there was anything of this kind to be done they always found the ladies hard at work. The object for which that sale had been organised seemed to be an important one, and one worthy the sympathy of them all. (Applause.) A Parish Room was absolutely necessary in a parish like theirs. He was sure that they all felt that it was of the greatest importance that this work should be carried out, and that it should be carried out as soon as possible. (Applause.) The sum of money required was large, no doubt, but he thought considering the workers Mr Varley might take encouragement. He thought it best not to start until they had got the money. As far as he was concerned, when people wrote and said they had built a church, and that there was a great debt upon it, he gave nothing, as he thought they ought to cut their coat according to the cloth. He hoped that all interested in the scheme would strive their best to raise the money, so that there might be no difficulties and debts left behind, which caused anxiety and care. From what he saw before him that day the people of Leadgate were quite aware of the work to be done, and were determined to do it. (Applause.) Those beautiful articles on the stalls must have meant a lot of self-denial. He was sure that they might hope from what they saw that day that the necessary funds would be raised, and a good, useful building put up, which would be a great comfort and a great blessing to the parish. (Applause.) In conclusion, he wished them the utmost success in their laudable endeavours. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. J. W. Mitchell next said a few words, and expressed the happiness he felt in coming back amongst them and seeing so many old familiar faces. He was greatly in sympathy with the object of their gathering. It would perhaps be known to many of them that he desired when at Leadgate to get that old gas house in Durham Road for an Institute, but failed. Then they got the present Guild, which had served its purpose well. (Applause.) It had kept the men and lads together, and done a good deal of good. The building they proposed to erect was one of their greatest needs, a place where the people might meet for social and other purposes. Of course, they had the schools, but they could not always use the schools, which were required for various purposes. He believed that Mr Varley's scheme would be crowned with abundant success. (Applause.) Mr Napier-Clavering had given them some sound advice about not going into debt, but he thought they had so many good hearts in the place that if they started they would get through all right. (Applause.) It was a good cause—a thing he was longing for at South Hetton. He hoped they would be successful. (Applause.)

Mr G. Nicholson, in proposing that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering for his presence there that afternoon and for performing the opening ceremony, said that the name of Clavering in that locality was a household name, and he felt that in the present Lord of the Manor and Squire of Iveston they had a gentleman who would hand down the name to posterity untarnished. (Applause.)

Mr C. Clegg seconded, and said they were told that "All's well that ends well." However, he believed in having a good beginning. (Laughter and applause.)

The motion was carried by acclamation, and Mr Napier-Clavering briefly responded, and then declared the sale of work open. The various stall-holders now got to work, and appeared to drive a brisk trade. The hall was well filled in the evening, and the entertainments provided seemed to be much appreciated.

FOOTBALL.

PRIZE COMPETITION.

We inadvertently omitted to give the prize-winners for last week. The consolation prize is divided between

John Wilson,
2, John Street Square, Consett; and
John Winter,
Bradley Square, Leadgate.

There have been but few good coupons sent in this week. The consolation prize goes to

Joe Wilson,
Park Terrace, Leadgate.

CRICKET.

Fixtures for Saturday, May 6th.

LEADGATE PARK C.C.

MARRIED v. SINGLE.

The above club will open their season on Saturday with a match between the married and single members.

DIPTON v. SOUTH TANFIELD.

This game will be play at Dipton.

Dipton—Jim Allen (capt.), W. Thompson, J. Allen, R. Gardner, R. Coates, J. Bowes, E. Bowes, J. Spunks, T. Simpson, F. Embleton, and J. Peel. Reserves, W. Ellis and P. Graham. Umpire, Mr R. Freek.

SENIOR LEAGUE.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v. SOUTH SHIELDS.

Consett journey to South Shields on Saturday to play their opening game. A strong eleven has been selected, and it is to be expected that they will render a good account of themselves. The undermentioned will play for

Consett—J. Siddell (capt.), T. Lindsay, T. D. Dales, F. Richardson, A. D. Wood, S. Barrass, A. Hurst, M. H. Williamson, T. C. Charlton, with H. Simpson, and T. Lambert. Reserves, R. H. Watson, and W. Walton.

Leave Blackhill Station at 12-48.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 2ND v. SOUTH SHIELDS 2ND.

The above Junior League game will be decided on the Blackfine enclosure on Saturday, and should prove a great attraction.

Consett (chosen from)—J. J. Raw (capt.), Geo. Hamilton, W. Walton, R. H. Watson, J. H. Turnbull, J. Eltringham, W. Richardson, W. Leybourne, D. Davies, J. Hall, T. T. Gray, J. Hamilton, and T. Hall.

Wickets pitched at 2.

Fatal Accident at Tanfield Lea.

On Monday afternoon, a sad and fatal accident occurred on the railway, near the screens, at Tanfield Lea, by which Thomas Henry Warwick son of ex-Councillor Warwick, checkweighman, met with his death.

Young Warwick was employed on the screens, and owing to the greasy condition of the rails, the pointsman was unable to control the brakes of some waggons, with the result that Warwick was knocked down, and the trucks passed over his body, killing him instantaneously. Mr. Warwick was himself present at the time, and although he succeeded in saving one youth, he had no opportunity of saving the life of his own son.

THE INQUEST.

On Tuesday, Mr. Coroner Graham held an inquest at the reading Room, Tanfield Lea, on the body of Thomas Henry Warwick. Mr. Swallow represented the owners of the colliery, and Mr. Bell Government Inspector was also present.

John Warwick, 6, William Street, Tanfield Lea, said he was checkweighman at East Tanfield, and the deceased was his son. The deceased was employed as a "whaler," and had been so employed for about four years. He was 16 years of age.

William Tait, 30 years of age, said that he was employed at the screens at East Tanfield, and he worked at the same screen as deceased, namely, No. 6. It would be between 3.30 and four o'clock when the accident occurred. At the time there were three trucks in the screen, and they were busy with the middle one. A plank crossed over the top of the truck for the lad to stand upon, and when the trucks were empty, they cleared this plank, but when they were full, the plank had to be lifted up at one end, to allow the trucks to pass underneath, clear of the plank. When the accident occurred the truck was not quite full. He was on the plank, and Warwick was in the truck, on the coals, picking off the stones. He heard a shout to "Look out," and he got on to the gangway. He did not see what Warwick did, but the trucks joined, and commenced moving. He next saw the deceased falling between the trucks on the opposite side of the screens. He could not say whether the rails were greasy, but the morning was very wet.

William Simpson, Shop Square, Tanfield Lea, and employed as a keeker at East Tanfield, was next called. He said that he had been employed as a keeker for about four years. The plank which the screeners stood upon rested on batons at the gangway side and on the screen side. There were about six or seven inches between the edge of the truck and the plank. When quite full, the truck would clear the plank, as the coals were not heaped up, but were level with the edge of the truck. At the time of the accident, which was about 3.30, he was standing on the heap. He heard the waggon-man, Edward Thompson, shout "Look out," and after hearing the trucks join he saw them moving. Tait had then got on to the gangway. Warwick was trying to get on the gangway, but the truck caught him. The deceased had put himself in a sitting position on the gangway, but when the trucks joined up he lost his balance, and fell on the trucks, and finally fell over the corner of the truck. When he fell over he fell on the railway and must have been stunned. The first wheel of the truck did not touch him, but the last wheel was on the top of him when they got up, and Warwick was then dead.

By a Juror: The plank was not moved when the trucks were set in motion.

Edward Thompson, 9, William Street, Tanfield Lea, employed to bring waggons to the screens at East Tanfield, was next called. He had, he said, been employed at East Tanfield for about eight years. There was a very steep gradient towards the screens, and three trucks were usually run down at a time. The trucks were always "braked" down the gradient, and were usually started at about 80 yards from the screens. It was an easy thing to take the trucks to the screens under ordinary circumstances. He always walked at the side of the waggons. The rails, wheels, brakes, and brake-breasts were in a wet state on the day of the accident, and were consequently greasy. Soon after starting the waggons he found that they were going to get the better of him, and he pinned down the brakes. Finding this had no effect, he tried to insert a plug in the wheel of the middle waggon, but it missed. Then he ran round the fore-end of the set, and put the other brake on, and he then ran down to the screens, and shouted to the others. He thought that the greasy state of the rails was the cause of the accident.

A juror suggested that a "shock" should be placed some distance from the screens to stop the trucks, and this meeting with the approval of Messrs Bell and Swallow, the recommendation will be followed up.

The Coroner remarked that it was a very plucky thing of Thompson to run round the front of the trucks, as he ran the risk of losing his own life.

The foreman of the jury (Mr. Bell) then announced that the jury had arrived at a verdict of "Accidental Death."

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SHALL THERE BE A DOCTOR AT TANTOBIE?

An adjourned meeting on the above question was held in the Co-operative Hall at Tantobie, on Tuesday night last, Mr. John Harrison in the chair. The Chairman, introducing the business of the meeting, said there had been a careful canvass of the village, with the result that a strong feeling was expressed that there ought to be a medical gentleman stationed at Tantobie. The gentlemen who had acted as canvassers gave a detailed statement of their canvass, from which it was gathered that there was a large majority favourable to retaining the services of the local medical gentlemen on condition that they complied with the residential request, rather than import a new doctor into the district. Ultimately, a deputation was chosen from the meeting, consisting of the Chairman, Messrs Wm. Hardy, and James Ferguson, to wait upon Drs. Benson and Charles to ascertain their feeling on the question, and report to a future meeting.

SALE OF WORK AT SOUTH MOOR.

On Wednesday, a sale of work and fancy fair was held in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, South Moor, in aid of the building fund of that church. The school-room, in which the sale of work was held, looked very attractive, the articles for sale being tastefully designed, and giving the room a very pretty aspect. The proceedings opened with hymn and prayer, after which the Rev. J. A. Dixon addressed a few words, and showed how the South Moor Wesleyan Church had grown since its beginning. He said he remembered how, two years ago, they had been £1,000 in debt, but Providence had come to their rescue, and showed them the way to clear off the debt.

Mr. Parkinson, who, in the absence of Mr. Foster Smith, opened the sale, said as Mr. Dixon had made such a nice speech he would not detain them and he had great pleasure in declaring the sale open.

The stall-holders were—Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. Swinhoe, Mrs. Shields, Mrs. Noble, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Trotter, Misses Swinhoe, Knox, Cook, and Siddle; and Messrs Hardy and Brown. Tea was served throughout the afternoon and evening, and the guests were ably looked after by Miss Barrass, Miss Bell, Miss McNeal, Miss Dixon, Miss Bowes, Miss Noble, Miss Selway, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Soulsby, and Mrs. Redmond. The proceeds were in aid of the church building fund.

DIPTON.

Stock Sale at The Butts Arms.—Mr. A. Phillipson and Mr Geo. Brown have made a good start to establish an annual sale of stock, etc. Entries were made till further orders, and the field was well filled. The people filed up in goodly numbers. Horses made up to 31½ guineas; heifers, 12½ guineas; trap, of which coachbuilder could not produce a better display, made up to 18½ guineas. A lot of implements and small goods were also disposed of. We observe that the next great sale at Dipton is a cycle sale by auction. See advertisement.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Births.

COXON.—Medomsley Road, Consett, on 25th ult., the wife of John Coxon, shoemaker, of a son.

OLIVER.—Consett, 3, Steel Street, on 2nd inst., the wife of John Oliver, of a daughter.

Marriages.

STOBBS—NATTRASS.—Stanhope Church, on 29th ult., by Rev E. W. Tew, Robert Stobbs, of Stanhope, to Mary Jane Nattrass, of Weatheshill, near Stanhope.

Deaths.

BLACKBURN.—Chester-le-Street, on 28th ult., aged 45, John Blackburn.

CHAMPNEY.—Annfield Place, on 25th ult., aged 13, Guy Champney.

CARRUTHERS.—At 26, Green Street, Consett, on 2nd inst., aged 26 years, Mary Adelaide, beloved wife of William Carruthers. Interment on Friday, at Benfieldside Cemetery. To leave at Three p.m. Friends please accept this intimation. Also, on 25th ult., aged 4 days, William Norman Ian Carruthers, infant son of the above.

DOBSON.—Chopwell Hotel, on 2nd inst., aged 1 year and 1 month, Hassell Annie Rutter Dobson.

FLETCHER.—Low Prudhoe, on 25th ult., aged 16 years, Arthur Fletcher.

HAVELOCK.—Ryton, on 2nd inst., aged 51, Thomas Havelock, of Westward House.

HULL.—Mickley Square, on 29th ult., in his 78th year, John Hull.

JEWITT.—Rowland's Gill, aged 41, Hannah Nicholson Jewitt.

KIRKUP.—West Pelton, Grange Villa, on 29th ult., aged 57, John Wilson Kirkup.

McCLURE.—Pelton Fell, on 29th ult., aged 72, James McClure.

PALLISTER.—Pontop Rows, Annfield Plain, on 1st inst., aged 61, Ann Pallister.

PIGG.—Hamsterley Colliery, on 28th ult., aged 17 years, Frances Ann, dearly beloved daughter of Thomas and Frances Ann Pigg.

RENWICK.—Winlaton, 10, Back Street, near Old Well, on 27th ult., aged 63, William Renwick.

SPOOR.—Whickham, on 1st inst., aged 80, Mary Spoor.

WALTON.—Victoria Garesfield, Lintz Green (at the residence of his sister, Mrs Anderson), on 27th ult., aged 30, William Taylor Walton.

WARWICK.—Tanfield Lea, 6, William Street, on 1st inst., aged 16 years, Thomas Henry Warwick.

WIGHAM.—Allendale Cottages, Elizabeth Wigham.

In loving memory of Eliza Golightly, the beloved wife of Henry Golightly, who died at East Pontop, on May 3rd, 1898, aged 34 years.

Her toils are o'er, her work is done,
And she is fully blest;
She fought the fight, the victory won,
And entered into rest.

A twelve month now has rolled away,
Since she from us did part;
We miss her presence every day,
And tender loving heart.

From her affectionate husband and children.

Mr Bland and family, 14, Cement Houses, Annfield Plain, wish to express their sincere thanks to their friends, and the surface workmen of the Morrison Colliery, for their generous aid and assistance, and for the many kind expressions of sympathy shown during their recent bereavement.

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