Late Correspondence.

FREE MARRIAGES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The vicar of Tow Law I hear has offered to marry couples free in his own church, and his father too is seriously advocating free marriages in the church. It is all very well for the vicar of Tow Law and his father, who are in receipt of good suited incomes, amounting to the teens of hundreds of pounds besides good house, &c., to marry couples free. Now, I ask is this fair to other churches who are not so flush in money, and whose exchequer is not filled by state aid. Is it not a species of blacklegging to their nonconformist brethren, to say nothing of the district registrar. Would it not have looked as well when they were on to have made free burials as well, and include them in their programme, as a man who intends to marry can alway find cash for the fees, but in many cases the burial fees are difficult to raise. I am of opinion of a very wise and eminent minister that he would do for a man what he could not do for himself, *i.e.*, he would bury a man for nothing but he would never marry one at the same rate.—Yours &c., WEARDALIAN.

£100 The Proprietor of this Paper has Insured, in £100 "THE GENERAL ACCIDENT AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED," for £100 every Person who Purchases this Paper, as per Coupon below:—

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Signature...

If signed this Paper may be left at home, but if unsigned, it must be on the owner at the time of the accident.

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This Coupon is valid for eight days—from November 9th, to November 16th, 1889, inclusive.

1s. 1s.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CONSETT.—Delves Terrace, 6th inst., the wife of Wm. Dent, of a son.

BURNOPFIELD.—31st ult., the wife of P.C. Crabb, of a son.

RYTON.—Laurel Cottage, the wife of M. J. Rutter, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CONSETT.—Christ Church, 6th inst., Robert Scott, Buddle Street, Delves Lane, to Miss Spencer, Puddlers' Row, Consett.

LANCHESTER, REGISTER OFFICE.—28th ult., John Cottman, Oxhill, to Mary Hall, Kip Hill.—Same day, Henry Robinson, to Catherine Makepeace, Dipton.—Same day, William H. Seymour, Burnhope, to Eliza Peel, Dipton.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—St. John's Church, 4th inst., by the vicar, Henry Lamb, to Mrs. Jones both of Chester-le-Street.

NEWCASTLE.—The Cathedral, 5th inst., by Rev M. Lazenby, Rev Canon Lloyd, and Rev J. Golightly, John Booth Lazenby, to Eleanor Christine Marie, second daughter of Christopher Thompson Maling, of 14, Ellison Place, Newcastle.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Wesleyan Chapel, 28th ult., Thos. Wilkinson, of Crook (Associate of the Pharmaceutical Society, Assistant - Licentiate Apothecaries Hall Surgeons), to Eliza, fourth daughter of Mr Perceval Hall, surgeon, Holmside.

NEWCASTLE.—St. John's Church, 2nd inst., by Rev J. W. Milner, Thomas J. Southren, Flint Hill, to Mary J. daughter of the late William Scott, Burnopfield.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—Delves Lane, Forster Street, 6th inst., Margaret Mills. Bid for Two o'clock. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday first. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

WYLAM.—West House, 3rd inst., aged 24, Henry Atkinson.

PELTON.—Grange Villa, 1st inst., aged 67, Jane, widow of the late Robert Appleton.

WHICKHAM.—(At the house of her brother-in-law, Thomas A. Snaith) Maria Eichstaedt.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—30th ult., aged 55, Richard Dalkin.

30th ult., aged 81, Jane, daughter of the late Thos. King, C.E.

MICKLEY.—31st ult., aged 56, accidentally killed, George Oswald.

BURNHOPE.—White House Farm, 1st inst., aged 62, William Johnson.

DERWENTHAUGH.—Bridget McGurk, late of Blaydon.

GOSFORTH.—26, Lansdowne Terrace, 3rd inst., Constance Isabel Simpson, sixth daughter of late Rev. M. H. Simpson, Tow Law Vicarage.

EAST HEDLEYHOPE.—3rd inst., suddenly, aged 72, Ralph Dixon.

WITTON GILBERT.—29th ult., William John, son of John Stobbs, railway porter.

STREETGATE.—5th inst., aged 26, Robert Watson, police constable.

GEORGE AND J. HOPE,

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INSCRIPTIONS neatly executed in Town or Country. Special Designs and Estimates on application.

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T. BOSTON received the highest award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1882. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 5/b

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

£100 THE PROPRIETOR of this Paper has INSURED in "THE GENERAL ACCIDENT AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED," FOR £100, EVERY PERSON WHO PURCHASES THIS PAPER, AS PER COUPON ON PAGE 8.

No. 1,527. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, November 15th, 1889. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MONEY.

M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 54 Westgate Road, Newcastle, ADVANCES MONEY on Household Furniture, First or Second Mortgages on Property, Interests under Wills, Life Policies, Ordinary and Preference Building Society Shares, and on Goods deposited, &c., at reasonable interest and on easy terms of repayment as arranged.—Apply personally or by letter. Established 1860.

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LOST, between Newcastle and Annfield Plain, a HORSE RUG.—Anyone returning the same to J. HUMBLE, Annfield Plain, will be rewarded.

Found.

FOUND, CUR DOG, Black, White, and a Tan on Face; white neck and breast, four white feet, and white tip on tail.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett.

Wanted.

WANTED, a Good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, M. ALMOND, Front Street, Consett.

RESPECTABLE GIRL WANTED for a situation in town. Only two in family.—Apply at *Guardian* Office. 230b

WANTED, a WORKING HOUSEKEEPER, for a Working Man, with one son.—Apply personally to WATSON PEART, Castleside. 225b

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply to Mrs. J. F. SMITH, Front Street, Annfield Plain. 221b

WANTED, 8 or 10 Gallons of PURE NEW MILK daily.—Apply, J. ERWIN, 8, Bedford Lane, North Shields. 251b

GROCERY.—WANTED, a Steady MAN to drive a horse and cart, and occasionally attend the counter; testimonials.—Apply to C. WAUD, Leadgate. 218b

GROOM.—WANTED, a Steady MAN to Groom, Drive, and be otherwise generally useful; must be good character.—Apply, HOBSON, Harperley Mills. 222b

WANTED, in Shotley Bridge, respectable Woman to take in WASHING. 2s. 6d. per Stone. Sent, and called for, by Owner.—Send name and address to Box Y, *Consett Guardian* Office. 228b

QUIET, Comfortable LODGINGS WANTED immediately, by single Man; Blackhill preferred.—Apply promptly, stating terms and full particulars, to X, *Guardian* Office. 223b

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WANTED, by the Leadgate Co-operative Society, an experienced MAN to take charge of the Drapery Department; security required.—Apply personally on Monday Night first, at Seven o'clock. 229b

RESPECTABLE Men, with time at their disposal, who would like to increase their income by representing a well-conducted investment society. Apply to J. G. COOKE, 39, Durham Road, Blackhill.

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Large and Well-assorted Stock of MANTLES, JACKETS, and READY-MADE CLOTHING.

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All at Remarkably Low Prices.

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FOR PARTICULARS APPLY.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

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JOHN HUME & SON'S

CELEBRATED

"GERM MEAL."

SOUTH ACOMB, STOCKSFIELD-ON-TYNE,
June 7th, 1887.

Messrs. JOHN HUME & SON,

GENTLEMEN,

You may recollect that some time ago I purchased several tons of your Germ Meal, and as I keep an accurate account of the food used by our cows, its cost, quantity used, and the amount of milk produced per week, it may interest you to know the result.

During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7¾ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7½ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16½ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.

I am, yours faithfully,
W. TROTTER.

ESTABLISHED 1817.

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G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR. ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF FINES, SUPERFINES, EXTRA SUPERFINES, AND HUNGARIAN.

TRY G. H'S PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL, MANUFACTURED BY HIMSELF, AND CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE AND BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c.

Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all Kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices. Always in Stock.

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POSTAL ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

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ESTABLISHED 1824.

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INVESTED FUNDS - - - - - - - -	£3,500,000.

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W. RAMSAY, 2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,

OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

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

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Nothing is more common than to hear people say they are Bilious, and that their Liver is out of order. When your liver ceases to discharge its proper functions the whole system goes wrong. Your appetite is bad; you have a bitter taste in the mouth and your tongue is covered with a thick fur. You are oppressed with a feeling of weight or fulness in the chest or stomach and a rambling noise in the bowels. You are troubled with waterbrash, heartburn, flatulence or wind, acidity, headache, giddiness, pains in the knuckles, pains in the shoulder, aching pains in the limbs and lassitude coming on about an hour after meals, with a tendency to drowsiness. These are all symptoms of a disordered Liver, and may result in total prostration.

IS THERE NO CURE?

Happily there is. No one need suffer from such distressing ailments if they will but have recourse to the Sovereign Remedy TODD'S PILLS, which have absolutely no equal in restoring a disordered Liver, and are altogether unrivalled as a

SAFE, SURE, AND SPEEDY

means of curing a bad stomach. The first dose gives immediate relief. Manufactured only by JOE TODD, Chemist, Carlisle. Sold everywhere by Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers in boxes 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. Agent:—

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NOTICE TO THE INHABITANTS OF CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

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SINGLE TOOTH, 2s. 6d. GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS.

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Teeth fixed by Atmospheric Suction. No old teeth or stumps need be removed. Any set made by the London and Counties Dental Supply Co. and not giving absolute satisfaction in every detail, will be immediately corrected, or an entire new set made free of charge. Teeth scaled, filled and extracted upon all improved and advertised principles at moderate charges. Teeth also made and mounted on a silver dental alloy, platina, and gold, mineral and sectional gum work. One visit required from country patients.

LONDON AND COUNTIES DENTAL SUPPLY COMPANY.

From ISACC CAMERON, Addison Colliery, near Blaydon-on-Tyne.

"To THE LONDON AND COUNTIES DENTAL SUPPLY COMPANY, 105, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"Gentlemen,—I write to say the set of teeth you made me are a complete success. I am bandmaster, and felt the loss of my teeth very much in playing an instrument, but am now happy to say I can play the flute and other instruments equally as well as I formerly did with my own teeth. I recommend all who want teeth to place themselves under your care. I am willing to show teeth you made me to any one requiring some."—

From HENRY SMITH, Gallowgate Tannery, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

To MR HARRIS,

"Of The London and Counties Dental Supply Co.

"Dear Sir,—I write you this note to acquaint you that the teeth you made me THREE years ago are still good, and give the greatest satisfaction. I have recommended you to all I have come across who wanted teeth. I am a different man altogether now to what I was before I came to you. My sufferings from indigestion are now at an end. I wish you all the success you deserve.—July 1st, 1889.

"N.B.—You can use this letter in any way you think proper."

From J. W. LORRIMAN, Seaton Delavel.

"Dear Sir,—I hereby certify that we are satisfied with the teeth."—6th July, 1889.

From Mr. J. CARTER, Monkwearmouth Brass Band.

"The Dental Supply Co., having supplied me with a complete set of their £1 1s sets of teeth, I can with pleasure recommend the same to musicians who have lost their teeth. I can now play my instrument, and with the greatest ease."

From MRS HARDY, 1, [illegible] House, Grangetown, near Sunderland,

"To MR HARRIS,

"Manager of the London and Counties Dental Supply Co.,

"105, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

"Gentlemen,—I hereby inform you that the teeth you made for me about twelve months ago are giving me every satisfaction. I recommend all my friends to you."—August 14th, 1889.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS ON APPLICATION.

THE LONDON & COUNTIES DENTAL SUPPLY CO.,

OF 105, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE, and other Towns,

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No. 8, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

Correspondence.

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

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

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

MR MAX O'RELL ON "THE AMERICAN AT HOME."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—In my report of the above lecture in last week's issue by some unaccountable stroke of the pen I gave the title of the work by which the lecturer became famous as "John Bull and his daughters." This, of course, should be "John Bull and his Island."—Yours, &c., "Tattler."

THE NATIONAL FRUIT GROWERS' LEAGUE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—A branch of the above league is in process of formation at Newcastle-on-Tyne for the wide district of which it is the centre. The objects of this league are to encourage the increase of small holdings, give instruction as to the best methods of tillage, and the most suitable plants, vegetables, fruit trees, and other products to cultivate. Many influential gentlemen have joined the local committee, and all that is required is subscriptions in order to pay the expenses of instructors in petite cultive, who are supplied by the National Fruit Growers' League in London. Believers in better systems of gardening and small holdings should assist.—Yours, &c.,

W. C. Gibson, Local Secretary.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, 40, Dean Street,
12th November, 1889.

PASSENGER RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION FOR NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I am sorry I am called upon to refer to this matter again. On Saturday last, I booked at Newcastle to leave by the 7·30 p.m. for Rowlands Gill. As is usually the case, about 7.20 the platform was crowded with people waiting for the train for the Consett branch, and as soon as the train was shunted into the platform I should think that in a couple of minutes it was filled and off. People were crushing on all sides pressing for this train, which is a "relief" to the 7·30 proper, the later train leaving the Central close upon the heels of the former. The carriage I entered, along with a friend, was numbered 1,477; it was well lighted, and quite a decent compartment. There were four persons in when my mate and I entered. By the time we got seated others began to file in, and in less time than it takes me to mention it the train was on the move, and our compartment consisted of three ladies, one boy, and thirteen men, making a total of seventeen in place of five on each side. Passengers are in no way to blame in this matter. They are glad to get into any place. We made an attempt to call attention to our case at Elswick, but no, there was none to attend to us. At Scotswood two of the passengers got out to find a hole in another place. One returned unsuccessful, and the sixteen of us had to do the best we could until we arrived at Swalwell. Under these circumstances who can blame the people for carrying on agitations that the so-much-needed new lines should be delayed so long?—I am, &c., W. Bulmer.

Tanfield Lea, 11th November, 1889.

ARE THE CLERGY STATE-PAID?

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Your correspondent for "Church defence in the district" has told us only half the truth about what Mr Gladstone said in reference to support of the clergy. It is quite true Mr Gladstone made the statement your correspondent quotes, but when he was asked whether he meant that in the event of the church of England being disestablished, Parliament would not be justified in also disendowing it, he replied, "his general views in regard to church and corporate property are to be found and recorded in debates on the Irish Church in 1864, 1868, and 1869." Now, in these debates Mr Gladstone over and over again refers broadly to church property, so called whether that applied to the Established Church in Ireland or in England, as "public" or "national property," as "state-endowment," as "support from the state"; and in one passage he says emphatically "it was for the nation that the property was given." So much for Mr Gladstone's opinion and his conduct exactly corresponds with it. When he disestablished the Irish Church in 1869 he disendowed it also. All vested interests were scrupulously cared for, and the disestablished church had also a sum of £500,000 given to it in view of its recent endowments. Mr Gladstone took from the church the whole of the "public property" by which it had been previously supported and as the result of that transation some millions of money has been applied by Parliament to the benefit of the Irish people as a whole. It is very convenient for the church-defence secretary to send away to America, but let him stick to what Mr Gladstone has said and done, and he will then see that in his opinion the church is supported by "public property," and that when it is disestablished it must also be disendowed; thus setting free many millions of public money and giving it back to the people at large.—Yours &c., Water-level.

Dipton, Nov. 13th, 1889.

FUNERAL REFORM.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—It does seem strange that so little is being done in the way of reforming our present funeral customs. It is certainly high time, considering the age in which we live, that something more should be done in this direction. Salmon, in his old history, speaking of funeral absurdities says "There is nothing the world seems more generally agreed in than the making of pompous and expensive funerals." This was said many years ago, but we are surprised to find the world to-day still in the self-same error, wasting time and money over the dead. It is nothing to the dead how, when, or where they are buried, but it might be worthy of our thoughtful consideration how a reform would benefit the living in many important respects. Costly interments among the poorer classes in numerous instances mean contracted debt, and to honest and sensitive people there is nothing so burdensome and unpleasant as funeral debt. This, to a great extent, would be counteracted by a genuine reform. In the "Farmer of Inglewood Forest" there is mention of a poor widow who was confined in prison for the funeral expenses of her husband, and though she had the comforting influence of her bible, yet her condition was by no means desirable. Whether this tale be true or not, it is nevertheless certain that in consequence of money squandered through improvident burials, many widows and orphans have to suffer want. Without having any intention whatever of disturbing the trades of honest people, yet we have to deplore that there should be so many crafty dealers in funeral necessaries, or rather unnecessaries, in England who, like Ghoul, have more pleasure in the dead than in the living. We find trade in almost every branch corrupted. It is buy and sell, and get gain, and keep religion out of the question. Seneca has written somewhat on this matter. This famous author (whose body, it is said, was burnt without any funeral solemnity) in one of his chapters of "A happy Life," says, "A great plague makes work for the sexton, and, in one word, whosoever gains by the dead, has not much kindness for the living. Demades of Athens condemned a fellow that sold necessaries for funerals, upon proof that he wished to make himself a fortune by his trade, which could not be but by a great mortality. But perhaps he did not so much desire to have many customers, as to sell dear and buy cheap; besides that all of that trade might have been condemned as well as he." Leaving Seneca, I might briefly add, a reform is needed, rational, and possible, and would probably advance the temperance cause, and be a source of strength to the Christian Churches, besides proving a blessing to many a poor family. No doubt there will be a few difficulties or obstacles in the way of a reform at first. Old customs, always loth to die, superstitious notions, a fear of being called shabby, or blamed for want of respect to the dead, together with many other opposing influences, but for all these adverse circumstances we would prophesy an early grave. In conclusion, among the memorable directions left by Queen Adelaide for the conducting of her funeral, the following words occur:—"I die in peace, and wish to be carried to the tomb in peace, and free from the vanities and the pomp of this world." This is what every christian ought to desire, a plain funeral. The reader's co-operation in this matter is solicited. Work in your own district. An association is expected to be established very soon at St John's Chapel.—Yours, &c.,

N.M.E.

Weardale, November 13th, 1889.

STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN RAILWAY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I have been much amused at the deep interest the tradespeople of Consett have manfested in the welfare of the Stanley and Annfield Plain public in having a passenger line from Annfield Plain to Consett for their convenience. It has caused me and other observing persons to wonder the reason why this consideration for others. The reason is not far to seek. It is worthy of note that the people in this district have never solicited from the North-Eastern Railway Company for such a line, as it was never considered necessary. What has always been felt as greatly needed for this populous neighbourhood was a train service from Annfield Plain to Newcastle via Stanley, &c. As is generally known through the frequent demands of the people the Directors of the above Company promised that such accommodation should be granted. It is very noble of the Consett tradespeople their being so self-sacrificing (having had public meetings and getting-up of memorials), all to secure benefits for distant people. All this philanthropy is more apparent than real, for is not selfishness at the bottom of it all? A Consettonian about 12 months ago wrote in the *Guardian* saying that as the Annfield Plain people were pressing the Company for a line to Newcastle the Conset people ought to be up and doing, and urge on the Company to continue the line to Consett, as hundreds of persons went from this district (Annfield Plain) every week or Saturday to Consett to do their marketing. That is the secret of the interest for the Annfield Plain public, that the people from this district may go to Consett and spend their money. It is a gross exaggeration of truth to say that hundreds go from here at the week ends. There is no doubt some young people in fine weather have a walk as far just for a little change and outing. But would this pay the North-Eastern Railway Company for being at the immense cost of running a train service to Consett just because a few persons go on a Saturday night? I say no. If people want to go from home to do business, they would never think of going to Consett, but would turn themselves to Newcastle, where in conjunction with business they would see something to interest them, although goods of all descriptions can be bought equally as low in price at Annfield Plain as Newcastle or anywhere. It is also worthy of note that the memorial laid before the Lanchester Guardians recently for signature praying for the extension of the railway to Consett was from that place, and on it being proposed that it be signed, it was found that both proposer and seconder were from Consett or Blackhill. What does one of the representatives from this district say at that meeting, and he ought to know the requirements of the people he represents? Mr Curry is reported as having said: "That there was no particular anxiety in Annfield Plain, Catchgate, and Dipton for the suggested line. The agitation seemed to have sprung up at Consett, and was presumably for the benefit of the people of Consett." Consett has every accommodation necessary for travelling, and I don't see what more they want.—Yours, &c.,

Annfield Plain. Observer.

Trade Notes.

Weardale Quarrymen's Wages.—A meeting of quarry owners and representatives of the workmen was held at Messrs Pease and Partners' offices, Darlington, to consider the wages question, Mr D. Dale being in the chair. The men put in a claim for 25 per cent. advance, and an equal percentage for borers, datal men, and others employed about the quarries. The quarry owners offered all the men the same amount as had been agreed to by the Cleveland miners—viz., 15 per cent. The representatives of the men stated that they would have to consult the members of the Association before accepting the offer of the employers. They also pledged themselves to give an answer on Saturday.—At a meeting of Weardale quarrymen at Frosterley on Friday, it was decided to accept the masters' offer of an advance in wages of 15 per cent.

Durham Cokemen's Wages and Hours.—We understand that for some time past the cokemen of Durham county have been seeking a basis of work and wages. A meeting recently took place between the owners and the men at Newcastle, when the former declined to entertain the men's request. A ballot of the men has since been taken, with the result that 90 per cent. of them are in favour of a strike unless a basis is conceded. The significance of this will be appreciated when it is stated that only one large coke-yard in the county is now outside the association, and that the men were never better organised than at present. There is no danger of a strike just now, however, for the owners have since met the cokemen's committee, and a joint meeting of six of the owners' and six of the cokemen's representatives will shortly take place, when it is hoped a satisfactory basis will be arrived at.

The Durham Coal Trade.—A special council meeting of the Durham Miners' Association was held on Wednesday, in the Miners' Hall, Durham—Mr John Foreman presiding. There was a good attendance of delegates. The matter before the meeting was in reference to the 15 per cent. and the other demands made by the miners. On inquiry at the close of the meeting, the reporters were informed that a report would be prepared and given to the press at the Three Tuns Hotel at three o'clock. On applying there at the appointed time, no further information was given beyond that the matter had been referred back to the owners. We understand, however, that the general feeling of the delegates, according to their instructions from the lodges, was not to accept less than the 15 per cent. demanded. There was also some dissatisfaction expressed as to the manner in which some of the terms had been drawn up by the Federation Board.

The Wear Angling Association.—An adjourned meeting, largely and influentially attended, of the River Wear Angling Association was held at the Wear Valley Hotel, Bishop Auckland, on Wednesday night. Mr Addison Hoyle, chairman, and amongst those present were Mr J. Vickers (Stanhope Castle), Dr Wardle, and Messrs Devey, Snaith, Cummins, T. E. Townsend, T. Labron, Herburn, Pattison, J. Wilson (Crook), T. Wilkinson, H. Harburn, A. Foster (secretary).—The chief business was the revision of the rules, which were exhaustively discussed, with a view to putting the association on a permanent financial basis, the latter requiring, it seems, a liberal subscription list, in addition to the revenue from the sale of licenses.—The rule, fixing a guinea fee to make a member eligible for committee, was amended to include six additional committee-men irrespective of a special fee.—An amendment to commence the season in February instead of March was defeated by a large majority; and representation will be made to the Wear Conservators to make the season uniform.—Other motions make changes in the hours for fishing, size of fish, &c., Mr Labron pointing out that to permit fishing at four o'clock a.m., would result in the loss of much fishing ground. Riparian owners would object.—No change was made.—The general annual meeting was afterwards held.

Mass Meeting of Local Papermakers.—In response to a request from the general secretary of the Papermakers' Association, Messrs Hall and Keir, members of the executive of the National Labour Federation addressed a large gathering of the above body in the Drysdale Hall, Newcastle, on Sunday afternoon. Workmen from Shotley Bridge, Hendon, Ford, Felling, Tyne Mill, South Tyne Mill, Lintz Ford, Scotswood, and Jarrow were present, when it was unanimously resolved that they form themselves into a union. Mr McGregor, district delegate of the Federation from West Hartlepool, made a speech explaining how the Federation had materially assisted all classes of workers in his district. A committee was appointed, and the usual vote of thanks passed, and the meeting then terminated.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Benfieldside.—There was only a limited supply of stock forward at this mart on Monday, but trade was fairly good for all classes, sheep especially of any quality, making a little more money. Ewes up to 55s 6d, lambs to 39s, Scotch wedders to 37s, Scotch ewes to 31s 6d. Cows to £16; bacon pigs, £5 5s to £7 7s 6d; small pigs, 10s to 33s; pork pigs 52s; calves 10s to 61s. A number of poultry, &c., were also disposed of. Chickens to 2s, geese to 7s 9d. Turnips, 8s per load.

Tow Law.—There were forward, at the special sale on Saturday afternoon, 9 horses, ponies and foals, 300 head of store cattle, including a grand lot of shorthorns, polled cattle, Irish heifers, and West Highland kyloes. Also a number of black-faced draft ewes and other keeping sheep and lambs. Geld cows made up to £14 10s; heifers to £9 10; Highland kyloes to £11 2s 6d; mule gimmer lambs to 31s; Leicester gimmer lambs to 45s 6d; black-faced ewes to 28s.—On Monday, Mr Vickers had forward 53 cows calved and to calve, up to £25; 6 fat cattle up to £16 2s 6d; 4 store cattle up to £10 7s 6d; 6 calves, up to 25s; 165 fat sheep and lambs—fat mule ewes, to 47s—top, Mr Sanderson, Littlewhite Farm, Brancepeth; fat mule shearlings (wether), to 46s 6d—top, Mr Nelson, Rare Dene Farm; fat mule lambs, to 37s—top Mr Keenlyside, East Hedleyhope; fat black-faced wethers, to 37s; fat black-ewes, to 31s—top Mr Storey, Brandon.

THE RECTOR OF WOLSINGHAM AND FREE MARRIAGES.

The utterances of Rev Chancellor Thomas E. Espin, J.P., of Wolsingham, has evoked a commencement of a lively and generally antagonistic correspondence in relation to the abolition of fees for performing the wedding ceremony and other sacraments invention with the English Church. The following reply has been received from Chancellor Espin, of Wolsingham. Reply, Nov. 8th.

"Had your correspondent "Surrogate" heard what I said at Chester, he would probably have found no fault with it. But a few sentences only were reported in most newspapers. I stated, as I know to be the case, that there are churches, I fear there are churches, I fear there are many churches, in which as much as 12s is demanded for solemnisation of matrimony after banns. And I expressed the opinion that such a demand must drive people to the Registrar's Office, where contract of marriage can be entered into for half that amount.

"I further declared my belief that if fees for marriage and for all other "surplice duties"—(nothing was said about other fees),—were abolished, proper opportunity being given for free-will offerings, the clergy would find themselves no losers. In this opinion the Bishop of Chester occurred, and I have had some experience to fortify it. I may of course be mistaken, but your correspondent may see that I had no idea of asking the clergy to "get on without money."

"May I remark that, as regards solemnisation of matrimony, my suggestion would seem to be according to the intention of the rubric? It requires the man "to give unto the woman a ring, laying the same on the book, with the accustomed duty to the priest and clerk." This looks more like an offering than a fee. In the first English Prayer Book of 1549, the words ran: "Give unto the woman a ring, and other tokens of spousage, as gold or silver, laying the same upon the book"; and this represents the old English custom. The gold and silver were no doubt usually appropriated as the marriage fee, and hence the rubric was altered to its present wording in 1552."

"I venture now to make a similar suggestion as regards the fee often charged for "churching." Is it not rather hard that a poor woman cannot, in many churches, offer her thanks to Almighty God for deliverance from her "great pain and peril," without paying 1s to the minister and 6d to the clerk for the privilege? Surely when the rubric declares that "this woman that cometh to give her thanks must offer accustomed offerings" it is a free-will offering, to be placed on the Lord's table, that is referred to, not a demand for a fee."

"Your correspondent rebukes you for twice speaking of holy matrimony as "a sacrament." You err, if you err, in good company, for in the Homily on Swearing, Part 1, are these words, "By the like holy promise the sacrament of matrimony knitteth man and wife in perpetual love," &c.

"There can hardly be anything more vital than that the tie of matrimony should be strengthened and consecrated by the sanction of religion; and for this reason the increase of merely civil marriages is to be deplored, and anything we can do to check such increase ought to be done without grudging and without hesitation; and I firmly believe that the parochial clergy would find themselves rewarded in more ways than one by trusting in these matters to the goodwill and piety of their parishioners, and abolishing fixed fees for their sacred ministrations. Of course, however, there are the lay officers of the Church to be considered; and if anything is done, it should be done with general consent."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I have read your remarks of last week upon this subject, together with an extract from the *North Star* and a letter from "Weardalian."—With regard to the latter I quite concur and I go further and say I shall be glad to see the time when marriages can be celebrated, without the intervention of the Registrar, at all, Nonconformist places of worship having a recognised permanent minister. With regard to the extract from the *North Star*, it seems strange that the editor of this organ should be so ignorant of the Articles and Catechism of the Church of England as to call marriage a sacrament. But what surprised me greatly is that Chancellor Espin and his son—who can know but little of the habits and feelings of us north countrymen—should presume to dictate to the clergy of Durham and induce them to do an illegal act by confiscating the rightful dues of their benefices. There is no hardship in the payment of these trifling fees, which are about the same as those paid at the Registrar office—and if they are a consideration at such a time, it would surely be prudent for the parties to save before they undertake the responsibilities of matrimony. For nearly forty years I have had considerable experience, and on no occasion have I heard any complaint whatever upon the subject of fees. I can also say that my parishioners very rarely betake themselves to the Registrar's office, they prefer coming to a church where they can be quietly and respectably married, without being annoyed or molested when the ceremony is over. I know that I myself and many of the clergy, have remitted fees, where for obvious reasons it has been desirable that a marriage should take place. Baptism being a sacrament, I am not aware of any fee being paid for it at the present day, and as to churching a voluntary offering is made or not, No—let Chancellor Espin talk as he likes in Chester diocese—but neither he nor his son are entitled to any credit for the questionable liberality in the diocese, at the expense of their neighbours. We who have been bred in the north and have worked all our lives in the diocese are not to be dictated to by an alien clergy. The rich Rector of Wolsingham may care little about his surplice fees, so long as he has his tithes to fall back upon and a curate to help him in his work; but there is many a poor incumbent struggling on alone, and especially in our large towns, to whom these fees form no inconsiderable part of his income—the loss of which would be very serious. It is not the fees nor a disregard of religion which induces parties to go to the Registrar's office instead of a place of worship; but it is the greater privacy which the latter affords. It will be interesting to know the result of the Messrs Espins' experience after a fair trial.—Yours &c., Clericus.

Satley, Nov. 12th, 1889.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—As St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside, is mentioned in last week's *Guardian* as a Church where people can be married gratuitously, I beg leave to state that the fees are paid, but in most cases the vicar's share of the wedding fee is returned for the purpose of purchasing a prayer-book in memory of such an important turning point in the lives of the married couple. In order, however, to secure my successor from any obligation to continue this custom, I sometimes retain, without previous notice, the full fee, and some of your readers will remember that the fees have been so retained.

I should be sorry to diminish the income of my successor, as the gross income of St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside, is under £300 a year, and I know, by experience, not really better than a curacy of a much lower nominal value. None of the parishes in this district are over well endowed, and the clergy are certainly entitled to the legal fees for weddings, and I feel sure they are in most cases paid very cheerfully.—Yours, &c.,

The Vicar of Benfieldside.

November 11th, 1889.

Holloway's Pills.—Sudden transitions from heat to cold, or from raw inclement weather to oppressive climates, favour the development of manifold diseases, which may in most instances be checked and rendered abortive by an early resort to these purifying, regulating, and strengthening Pills. This well-known and highly esteemed medicine affords a safe and easy remedy for almost every constitutional wrong which unhealthy climates, rapid changes, or dietic errors, can engender, and effectually removes any weakness self-indulgent habits may have induced. In all conditions of the system bordering on disease such as are indicated by apathy, listlessness, and restlessness, Holloway's Pills will prove especially serviceable in begetting the vivacity of mind and body appreciated by both sound and sick.

Don't Die in the House.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers 7½d., and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

Printing of every Description at the *lowest* possible prices by Robert Jackson "Guardian Office, Consett Estimates furnished.

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

HEALTH RESTORED Remedy Free.—A late Sufferer from Nervousness, Weakness, &c., having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple self-cure which he will send free to his fellow-sufferers.—Address, W. Fox, 1, York Street, Southwark, London, S.E. 266a

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[By "Stanhope."]

Happy married life. A wag who lives not 100 miles from Stanhope, went to Newcastle fair to sell his horse the other day in company with another or two hale fellows, well met. Being a miraculous card, his better half durst not trust him in the canny toon, so she took another train unknown to him, and followed him to the metropolis of the north, leaving the kiddies at home with grandma. She dogged his footsteps all around Newcastle, keeping out of sight as well as she could, until towards evening, when she grew tired and went right for him. When he saw her he got a proper surprise. He could scarce believe the evidence of his senses. "What the divil's settin thoo here." "Hesta seld oot," said she. "Seld the divil, where hesta'd young 'uns." "They're at grandma's." "Wye then off thoo gans ti them as fast as thoo likes, aw's gan ti stop all neet, we heven't selt yit." "Ye heven't." "Nee, thoo had nae business ti cum, cud thoo not trust me frae heeme, things hes cum tiv a bonny pass, but a'wuvvor a'll tell thoo what, thoo'll hev te gan as thoo cum, aw's nut gannin heeme wi' thoo, aw's nut gannin heeme till aw sell, so git thi' ways heeme again, thoo feul thoo. If ivvor thoo plays sic another trick, a'll hammer thoo weel, so thoo knaws." So she had to leave her liege lord all night in canny Newcastle much against her will.

A west yiter in Butlers' village the other night, imbibed too freely of distilled mountain dew, and when in front of the Bank Room at Stanhope, measured his length in some mud-heaps on the road-side. He lay for some time, then got up, and made steps for his lodge. On his way home he had to cross the Wear, and walk up the side of it for a considerable distance. The road was too narrow for him, and he got off the turnpike into the river at a place where it was shallow. This was a sudden change for him, and he thought his last hour had come, so he prayed lustily to be saved from a watery grave. His prayers were answered for he was saved, and found himself on *terra firma* once more a saved man. In the cold river he soon came to his senses. He got a cooler sure enough. He had imbibed freely of mountain dew, but now he was among the teetotaller's beverage to his utter discomfiture, where his prayers ascended, and were answered. His escapade has got out in the Newlandside quarry where just now he is having a lively time of it.

Old Falstaff still lives, a gallant old stager who has nearly seen three score summers and ten, fell head over heels in love with a young lady preacher in Weardale, quite recently. He was all attention to the young charmer's wants, and she being of a social turn talked with him freely until the gallant old stager thought himself twenty-five again. He imagined himself the A1, and visions of love and beauty rose up before his disordered imagination like castles in the air. He pressed her to change her name, but she politely informed him that it would remain so and so. But it is the unexpected that happens. A rival turned up and wooed and won, and he was jilted. He went into trandrums over the affair and sought and ransacked Webster, Walker, Ogilvie, and others to ascertain the meaning of the word "remain." Women were deceivers ever, said he, and he felt ill about it, and had recourse to Compo to refresh his shattered frame. The banns were published in the village church, after which he cleared out of the chapel where the fair one unfurled the blood besprinkled banner, and took himself off to another church more congenial to his feelings.

Another quarry accident at Stanhope occurred on Tuesday. Joseph Lofthouse, once a policeman in Stanhope, now a quarryman, fell a height of some thirty feet or more over the quarry face. These accidents are sadly too frequent at the Weardale quarries. Many a fine fellow has lost his life at these quarries, and many a man has been crippled for life at them. Week after week these accidents occur, and from the hazardous and dangerous nature of the employment, it is really a wonder that more do not occur. The men run great risk day by day from blasting from falls of earth, and stone, and from falling over the edge, and from a thousand and other sources. As a class of men they ought to be well paid for their labour.

It is often said that a horse is of more value than a man's life at the quarries, but we hope this is only a saying not found to be true. Certainly there is this about it, a man can easily be replaced by another without cost, whereas a horse could not, without purchasing. Let us hope every precaution will be taken by both masters and men to ensure safety while working. In many cases the men are as much to blame as the masters.

Dr Arnison was placed in a rather ticklish position at the Local Board meeting on Monday evening, when he was called upon by the board to decide between two townsmen, which of them should be surveyor to the Stanhope Local Board. Both candidates were his intimate friends, and the poll placed them on an equal footing, 76 votes each. The genial old doctor asked if there was no other way out of the dilemma, and was answered in the negative. So he gave the casting vote in favour of Parker, who is now surveyor to the Stanhope Local Board. Out of the seven candidates, five were masons, one an auctioneer, and one a rate collector.

The weather of late has been splendid for the time of the year, in Weardale. Sunday was like a spring day, warm, genial, and nice. Bees were busy among the remaining flowers. The fish were rising in the river at the flies. Salmon were basking in the sun, in the shallow water in the river. Primroses, wallflowers, daisies, stocks, marygolds, annuals, roses, and various other flowers were expanding their petals to the genial warmth of the sun. Most of these flowers at this time of the year, are generally done.

Hay making still obtains in Weardale, only the other day there was a stacking and there are still pikes standing in some fields, and hay to win yet not 100 miles west of Stanhope, Weardale surely is a queer place.

I am not against marriage, as one would infer from Incedo's remarks in last week's issue. I believe in them—more the merrier. Marriage is a Divine Institution; a relic of Eden, a Divine arrangement. Why should I be against it. The evangelistic ladies have a perfect right to marry whom they like and when they like. The only thing is this when they first arrive they make you believe that they have made great sacrifies for the work. They have left all, home, friends, and everything, and are entirely devoted to the work, body and soul, and would not give it up for the world. But after being here awhile they slip off with some eligible young fellow to the altar, are "spliced," and toss up the higher life business in evangelizing the masses by planting themselves in a comfortable home. They secure a husband, and clear out of the other business which at one time was of paramount importance. Of course my remarks do not apply in any way to the present evangelist who is a universal favourite among all classes here

Another pig killing story reaches me from White Kirtle near Frosterley. Piggie had received the happy despatch and was ready for the scraping process when his murderers went to have their pipes leaving piggie *hors de combat* on the ground. On returning they found him missing. He had not quite given up the ghost as they expected, but had revived a little, and sought safety in flight. He had valented, run off even with his throat cut and they gave chase. He proved game and ran pursued by his tormentors and there was the usual chase. Capture and kill to the no small amusement of the inhabitants of the usually quiet little hamlet of White Kirkly or White Kettle as it is often called.

There is an old game watcher in Bollihope who has been watcher on the Pikestone moors close upon 40 years. A canny old fellow held in great respect and esteem by the inhabitants of Bollihope and Frosterley. He has seen over three score and ten Good Fridays, and is hale hearty and sound. A better like fellow than either his sons yet and he is likely enough for living for some to come. He is the husband of Old Betty an original Weardale character, one of the old school. Both are held in hight esteem by the Hillyard family of Horsley Hall, and by them are greatly respected.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

Monday evening se'nnight again saw a numerous attendance at the fortnightly meeting of this society, and the following interesting programme was well received. After the opening hymn and prayer, the chairman, in a short address, called attention to the two leading subjects discussed at the late Diocesan Conference of the C.E.T.S., viz., the importance and value of the benefit society now being established in connexion with the C.E.T.S.; and the absolute necessity of temperance to the formation of thrifty habits. Master J. Reay then recited "How a little girl emptied a jug," and was *encored*; Miss E. Ramshaw sang "The last rose of Summer," and Miss Adamson read "A venerable impostor"; "Kitty Wells" was then sung by Mr J. Benfold, and "What my father left me" was given as an *encore*. Rev. L. M. Chesters then read "The drunkard," and Miss Mann sang "Just as well," for which she received an *encore*. Miss Roxby recited "The toper," and was *encored*. Miss Williams finished the programme with "A sermon by a little girl." All were heartily applauded. Two pledges were taken at the close.

MR. JAMES JOICEY, M.P., AT SWALWELL.

The hon. member for the Chester-le-Street Division of Durham County, Mr Joicey, while taking part in the Liberal demonstration of the district, mindful of his stewardship, commenced on Tuesday night a customary visitation of his constituents, and opened in the Board School-room, Swalwell. Mr George R. Ramsay occupied the chair, and the hon. member, who was accompanied by Mrs Joicey, was accorded a very hearty greeting by his audience.

Mr Elliott, in a pithy and humorous speech, moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting expresses its gratification at the result of the recent elections—(cheers)—so condemnatory to the coercive policy of the Government in Ireland, and its unabated confidence in Mr Gladstone, the Liberal leaders, and their policy of conciliation. (Applause.) It also rejoices at the determined desire for other pressing social reforms which has been manifested by the rank and file of the Liberal party during the past Parliamentary session.

Mr Wm. Spiers had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr W. Burns moved:—"That this meeting gives its heartiest thanks to James Joicey, Esq., M.P., for the services he has rendered to the Liberal party."

Mr Joicey having spoken, the vote of confidence was unanimously carried.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

We have received a long epistle from Mr John Hillary, collector and surveyor to the Tow Law Board, wherein he draws attention to certain alleged inaccuracies in our report of the proceedings of the last meeting of the Board. We shall deal with the charges *seriatim*. In the first place, Mr Hillary forwards a clipping from a contemporary, where his monthly report is published *verbatim*, and he contrasts this with what he styles the "blundering hash" made of the same report in the *Consett Guardian*. We have compared the two accounts, and found that the only difference is that while one paper gives it in the first person, ours was altered to read in the third person. With the exception of one or two grammatical expressions, the report in effect is precisely the same as in the original document. Mr Garraway's report was treated in the same way, want of space being responsible for the alteration—a rule which is generally observed and adhered to by the editors of all newspapers. Probably Mr Hillary grumbles because his monthly statistics are not inserted *in extenso*; but, again, the exigencies of space compelled us to give only the total amount of the paybill, and the balance in hand. When it is considered that our report extended to nearly two columns of more important matter than the publication of these figures (generally somewhat dry reading), our readers will perhaps be thankful that the details were not fully inserted.

Mr Hillary next calls attention to the subjoined paragraph:—

The Surveyor said the cartman did not appear to care a straw whether he did his work or not. The man seemed to think that he (Mr Hillary) had nothing else to do but run about after him, and tell him when trucks of stone arrived at the station to be unloaded. Latterly he had taken no notice of the surveyor's commands, consequently the Board had a good deal of money to pay for demurrage, loss, &c.

He adds:—The Surveyor never said "the man seemed to think," &c., or that the Board had a good deal of money to pay, &c. What I said was that he did not consider it a part of his duty to run after the man to keep him at work. The Board has not paid a penny demurrage; the man has paid it.

On reference to the shorthand notes, we say emphatically that Mr Hillary used the expressions embodied in the first six lines. His latter remarks conveyed the impression that the Board had to pay for demurrage, for one member subsequently referred to the same matter.

The next point at variance between our report and the Surveyor's version is:—

The Surveyor said that this cartman loitered about the cattle mart, shifted furniture, or did other jobs, rather than carry out his contract with the Board. In fact, he absolutely refused to do the work at all.

Mr Hillary now says:—The cartman has never "absolutely refused to do his work." What I said was that he was very indifferent.

We must say that in the course of the discussion, Mr Hillary used a much stronger term than "indifference"; and we think if he only exercised a little more firmness in his dealings with those under his supervision, he would assuredly get on without further trouble in future.

The next item he takes exception to is the following:—

Mr Teasdale enquired what the roadman had been doing in the meantime?

The Surveyor: He has been guttering at Dans Castle.

Mr Hillary now writes:—The Surveyor replied that he was guttering in Bridge Street, &c., and not at Dans Castle, which is at the opposite end of the place.

We must plead guilty to this error; our reporter being under the impression that Bridge Steeet was a portion of Dans Castle. Still this mistake does not remove the sting from Mr Teasdale's rejoinder:—"That he was fiddling about spending a lot of time in doing nothing."

The last report of all is:—

The Lamp at the Mechanics' Institute.

The Surveyor stated that Kemp, the gasworks manager, had declined to assist him to alter the position of the lamp near the Mechanics' Institute, because his opinion did not coincide with the Board's idea. Of course, he could not do the work, unless the gasman was there to attend to the connections.

The Board directed that the Surveyor should see that their orders were obeyed, otherwise stringent measures will be adopted with regard to the high-handed conduct of the gasworks manager.

Mr Hillary writes:—What I said was that Kemp at first said he would not shift the lamp, then said he would do it at his leisure, but I never said he positively declined, &c.

If, as the Surveyor admits, Kemp said he would not shift the lamp, we think we are using a comparatively mild expression in stating that he *declined* (not "*positively*" declined) to remove it. Mr Hillary offered a long statement concerning this subject, and our report was condensed. We are not bound to give every word uttered by the Surveyor or any other member of the Board, so long as we publish the essence of what is said. If Mr Hillary only gave a straightforward answer to a plain question, instead of entering into long explanations, there would be a much better chance of publishing his observation *verbatim*.

Mr Hillary concludes as follows:—

I have frequently felt annoyed at the inaccuracies of the copies of my reports in your paper, and especially on this occasion, having even been called a liar by some of the parties concerned. I must request in justice to myself that you correct these errors next issue, and that in future more care be taken. Should your reporter not be able to get it down correctly *viva voce*, I will gladly leave him the sheet to copy after I have read it.

We can only add that this is the first complaint either personally or by letter, we have received from that gentleman.

ALLEGED WOUNDING AT MARLEY HILL.

At Gateshead County Petty Sessions on Tuesday, *Alexandra Cree* was charged with wounding Isaac Wilkinson with intent to do him grievous bodily harm at Marley Hill, on the night of 10th inst.—Supt. Harrison said defendant was married to the mother of prosecutor. Defendant and prosecutor had had some words, and the former, it was alleged drew a knife and wounded his step-son in the eye. Prosecutor was unable to attend the court that day.—The case was remanded for a week.

SERIOUS FIRE AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

About six o'clock on Saturday morning, some workmen proceeding to their work discovered that the premises of Mr Walter Wilson, grocer, Front-street, were on fire. An alarm was at once raised, and Inspector Maxwell and the local police were quickly on the spot. Some of the workmen ran to the co-operative store and brought their hose, as well as the hose belonging to the Workhouse. A good supply of water was obtained, and the fire was got under. A great amount of damage has been done to the building, and the stock was nearly all destroyed. The stock in the shop of Mr Telford, hatter, which is situate next door, was considerably damaged by water.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Chester-le-Street Liberal Association was held on Thursday se'nnight in the Lambton Arms Hotel, Chester-le-Street. The chair was occupied by Mr Robert Kell.—The secretary (Mr Thomas Storey) read the annual report, and Mr Clark remarked that in his opinion it was a disgrace that they should have such a small amount of subscriptions, considering the size of the town.—Mr James Joicey, M.P., was unanimously re-elected president.—On the election of vice-chairman, the Chairman in reply to Mr Clark, said one of their vice-presidents had voted for Mr Nicholas Wood, and if he did that he was a Tory.—Mr Myers said that Mr Nicholas Wood had himself said that he attributed his success to the Earl of Durham, and the vice-president in question had used his endeavours in that direction.—On the motion of Mr Turnbull the name was struck off the list.—The vice-presidents elected were:—Messrs James Annand, Thos. Burn, John Clark, James Dorman, Peter Hay, W. J. Joicey, H. T. Morton, and P. P. Short; chairman of committee, Mr R. Kell; treasurer, Mr G. B. Appleby; secretary, Mr Thomas Storey; committee, Messrs T. W. Birtley, Robert Clark, Charles Dingwall, Joseph Bruce, Robert Jobson, Matthew King, John Myers, Joseph Russell, Joseph McGee, G. O. Turnbull, J. Wilks, and J. Donnison, jun.; auditors, Messrs Henry Pringle and J. Allsop.

LEEK AND VEGETABLE SHOWS.

CONSETT.

On Saturday, an open leek and vegetable show was held at the house of Mr Moses Forster, Ox Inn, Ox Place, Consett. The club-room was set apart for the occasion, and was neatly decorated by the landlord. The show secured 36 entries, and the exhibits came from all parts of the district. The arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr Geo. Weedy, secretary, Blackhall Mill. The leeks and vegetables were a splendid show. The exhibition was very numerously patronised. The following were the prizetakers:—Leeks.—1, J. Reed, Blackhill; 2, W. Postle, Highgate; 3, J. Frodick, Consett.

Vegetables.—1, J. Diamond, Templetown; 2, G. Hobson, Catchgate; 3, J. Hall, Mosswood.

LEADGATE.

The annual leek show was held on Saturday at the house of Mrs Lumley, Golden Lion Inn, Leadgate, when splendid specimens were exhibited. Mr R. Charlton, Benfieldside, officiated as judge, and every credit is due to that gentlemen for the able way the prizes were awarded. There is also great praise due to the president (Mr Wheatley) and J. Wiseman (secretary), for the general arrangements and decorations of the room. The awards are hereunder annexed:—1, pair of blankets, T. Short; 2, set of china, W. Kerr; 3, timepiece, R. Heslop; 4, set of china, Mrs Lumley; 5, pair blankets, E. Charlton; 6, clock, M. Wheatley; 7, lady's dress, R. Berwick; 8, sheets and vases, W. Hardy; 9, dozen knives and forks, J. Anderson; 10, mat, J. Brown; 11, shawl, T. Bell; 12, carving knife and fork, and 5s worth of beef, given by Mr Parker, J. Wiseman; 13, down quilt, S. Bell; 14, looking-glass, R. Craig; 15, brass pan, R. Graham; 16, clock, J. Wheatley; 17, calico, J. Craig; 18, table-cloth, J. G. Brown; 19, copper kettle, J. Lumley; 20, pair sheets, J. Dowsey; 21, 5s worth of beef, J. Steele; 22, mat towels, J. Lumley; 23, tea-pot, G. Wiley; 24, shirt and silk scarf, J. Snaith; 25, ½doz knives and forks, W. Golden.

T. Brown was awarded 1st prize for the best stand of vegetables, while W. G. Moyle was awarded 2nd prize.

MEDOMSLEY.

One of the most successful of the many leek shows held in this district was that celebrated at Mr John Minto's, Miners' Arms, Medomsley, on Saturday. The leeks exhibited were a splendid collection, and outshone all previous shows at this house. In fact, we have not witnessed a finer assortment this season. Large crowds visited the show, and the general opinion expressed was that the exhibition had not been surpassed by any in the neighbourhood. Mr John Cawthorn, Fellside, acted as judge, and his awards gave universal satisfaction. The secretary was Mr Isaac Lonsdale, Medomsley Edge, who worked hard to make the show the great success it undoubtedly was. Appended are the results:—1, tea set, John Walker, Derwent Cottages; 2, chamber set, George Walton, Leadgate; 3, pair of blankets, William Carr, Leadgate; 4, dress piece, S. Jemmison, Croniwell; 5, tablecloth and dozen stout, William Milburn, Low Westwood; 6, hearth-rug, John Hardy, Leadgate; 7, tea set, Thomas Cookson, Medomsley; 8, breakfast set, Mrs Noble, Leadgate; 9, dinner set, Edward Graham, Medomsley; 10, woollen shawl, James Snaith, Allendale Cottages; 11, lady's work-box, Henry Barwick, Allendale Cottages; 12, writing desk, Isaac Lonsdale, Medomsley Edge; 13, shirt-piece and glass bowl, George Weedy, Croniwell; 14, bedroom fender and dozen stout, John Topham, Allendale Cottages; 15, writing desk and ½lb. tea, Thomas Jemmison, Croniwell; 16, tin trunk, Thos. Allen, Croniwell; 17, coal-box and lady's shawl, William Cookson, Allendale Cottages; 18, lamp, Samuel Ward, Allendale Cottages; 19, tea-caddy and 1lb. tea, Jos. Ball, Derwent Cottages; 20, pair of brass fireirons and ½lb. tea, Thos. Saunders, Medomsley Edge; 21, shirt-piece and ½lb. tea, John Cookson, Allendale Cottages; 22, pair of sheets and ½lb. tea, John Minto, Medomsley; 23, shirt-piece, Thos. Graham, Allendale Cottages; 24, water jug and dozen stout, John Wigham, Allendale Cottages; 25, meat, value 5s (given by Messrs Milburn, butchers, Medomsley), Robert Dryden, Allendale Cottages; 26, bag of potatoes, William Ward, Allendale Cottages.

DERWENT COTTAGES.

The annual leek show of Mr Wm. Armstrong, Hat and Feather Inn, came off on Saturday. The number of exhibits was not so large as in previous years, but the quality of the exhibits could not be beaten. In the collection were some of the best leeks we have seen this season. Mr Jos. Armstrong acted as secretary, and the show passed off most successfully. Results:—1, 10s 6d, Joseph Leach, Medomsley; 2, trouser piece, G. Weedy, Croniwell; 3, bed-rug, Frank Blair, Medomsley; 4, 6s, W. Milburn, Westwood; 5, teapot, W. Walker, Leadgate; 6, beef, value 5s, W. Kerr; 7, 4s 6d, Joseph Armstrong; Derwent Cottages; 8, pair of sheets, T. Edgar, Derwent Cottages; 9, shoulder of mutton, J. Brown, Medomsley; 10, 4s, Joseph Ball, Derwent Cottages; 11, 4s, Robert Fudge, Derwent Cottages; 12, 1lb of tea, R. Armstrong, Hat and Feather; 13, dozen of stout, J. Craig; 14, dozen of stout, William Golding; 15, teapot, W. Edgar, Derwent Cottages; 16, 2s, J. Thompson.

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

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

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

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About six o'clock on Saturday morning, some workmen proceeding to their work discovered that the premises of Mr Walter [illegible]llson, grocer, Front-street, were on fire. An alarm was at once raised, and Inspector Maxwell and the local police were quickly on the spot. Some of the workmen ran to the co-operative store and brought their hose, as well as the hose belonging to the Workhouse. A good supply of water was obtained, and the fire was got under. A great amount of damage has been done to the building, and the stock was nearly all destroyed. The stock in the shop of Mr Telford, hatter, which is situate next door, was considerably damaged by water.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Chester-le-Street Liberal Association was held on Thursday se'nnight in the Lambton Arms Hotel, Chester-le-Street. The chair was occupied by Mr Robert Kell.—The secretary (Mr Thomas Storey) read the annual report, and Mr Clark remarked that in his opinion it was a disgrace that they should have such a small amount of subscriptions, considering the size of the town.—Mr James Joicey, M.P., was unanimously re-elected president.—On the election of vice-chairman, the Chairman in reply to Mr Clark, said one of their vice-presidents had voted for Mr Nicholas Wood, and if he did that he was a Tory.—Mr Myers said that Mr Nicholas Wood had himself said that he attributed his success to the Earl of Durham, and the vice-president in question had used his endeavours in that direction.—On the motion of Mr Turnbull the name was struck off the list.—The vice-presidents elected were:—Messrs James Annand, Thos. Burn, John Clark, James Dorman, Peter Hay, W. J. Joicey, H. T. Morton, and P. P. Short; chairman of committee, Mr R. Kell; treasurer, Mr G. B. Appleby; secretary, Mr Thomas Storey; committee, Messrs T. W. Birtley, Robert Clark, Charles Dingwall, Joseph Bruce, Robert Jobson, Matthew King, John Myers, Joseph Russell, Joseph McGee, G. O. Turnbull, J. Wilks, and J. Donnison, jun.; auditors, Messrs Henry Pringle and J. Allsop.

LEEK AND VEGETABLE SHOWS.

CONSETT.

On Saturday, an open leek and vegetable show was held at the house of Mr Moses Forster, Ox Inn, Ox Place, Consett. The club-room was set apart for the occasion, and was neatly decorated by the landlord. The show secured 36 entries, and the exhibits came from all parts of the district. The arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr Geo. Weedy, secretary, Blackhall Mill. The leeks and vegetables were a splendid show. The exhibition was very numerously patronised. The following were the prizetakers:—Leeks.—1, J. Reed, Blackhill; 2, W. Postle, Highgate; 3, J. Frodick, Consett.

Vegetables.—1, J. Diamond, Templetown; 2, G. Hobson, Catchgate; 3, J. Hall, Mosswood.

LEADGATE.

The annual leek show was held on Saturday, at the house of Mrs Lumley, Golden Lion Inn, Leadgate, when splendid specimens were exhibited. Mr R. Charlton, Benfieldside, officiated as judge, and every credit is due to that gentlemen for the able way the prizes were awarded. There is also great praise due to the president (Mr Wheatley), and J. Wiseman (secretary), for the general arrangements and decorations of the room. The awards are hereunder annexed:—1, pair of blankets, T. Short; 2, set of china, W. Kerr; 3, timepiece, R. Heslop; 4, set of china, Mrs Lumley; 5, pair blankets, R. Charlton; 6, clock, M. Wheatley; 7, lady's dress, R. Berwick; 8, sheets and vases, W. Hardy; 9, dozen knives and forks, J. Anderson; 10, mat, J. Brown; 11, shawl, T. Bell; 12, carving knife and fork, and 5s worth of beef, given by Mr Parker, J. Wiseman; 13, down quilt, S. Bell; 14, looking-glass, R. Craig; 15, brass pan, R. Graham; 16, clock, J. Wheatley; 17, calico, J. Craig; 18, table-cloth, J. G. Brown; 19, copper kettle, J. Lumley; 20, pair sheets, J. Dowey; 21, 5s worth of beef, J. Steele; 22, mat towels, J. Lumley; 23, tea-pot, G. Willey; 24, shirt and silk scarf, J. Smith; 25, ½doz knives and forks, W. Golden.

T. Brown was awarded 1st prize for the best stand of vegetables, while W. G. Moyle was awarded 2nd prize.

MEDOMSLEY.

One of the most successful of the many leek shows held in this district was that celebrated at Mr John Minto's, Miners' Arms, Medomsley, on Saturday. The leeks exhibited were a splendid collection, and outshone all previous shows at this house. In fact, we have not witnessed a finer assortment this season. Large crowds visited the show, and the general opinion expressed was that the exhibition had not been surpassed by any in the neighbourhood. Mr John Cawthorn, Fellside, acted as judge, and his awards gave universal satisfaction. The secretary was Mr Isaac Lonsdale, Medomsley Edge, who worked hard to make the show the great success it undoubtedly was. Appended are the results:—1, tea set, John Walker, Derwent Cottages; 2, chamber set, George Walton, Leadgate; 3, pair of blankets, William Carr, Leadgate; 4, dress piece, S. Jemmison, Croniwell; 5, tablecloth and dozen stout, William Milburn, Low Westwood; 6, hearth-rug, John Hardy, Leadgate; 7, tea set, Thomas Cookson, Medomsley; 8, breakfast set, Mrs Noble, Leadgate; 9, dinner set, Edward Graham, Medomsley; 10, woollen shawl, James Smith, Allendale Cottages; 11, lady's work-box, Henry Barwick, Allendale Cottages; 12, writing desk, Isaac Lonsdale, Medomsley Edge; 13, shirt-piece and glass bowl, George Weedy, Croniwell; 14, bedroom fender and dozen stout, John Topham, Allendale Cottages; 15, writing desk and ½lb. tea, Thomas Jemmison, Croniwell; 16, tin trunk, Thos. Allen, Croniwell; 17, coal-box and lady's shawl, William Cookson, Allendale Cottages; 18, lamp, Samuel Ward, Allendale Cottages; 19, tea-caddy and 1lb. tea, Jos. Ball, Derwent Cottages; 20, pair of brass fireirons and ½lb. tea, Thos. Saunders, Medomsley Edge; 21, shirt-piece and ½lb. tea, John Cookson, Allendale Cottages; 22, pair of sheets and ½lb. tea, John Minto, Medomsley; 23, shirt-piece, Thos. Graham, Allendale Cottages; 24, water jug and dozen stout, John Wigham, Allendale Cottages; 25, meat, value 5s (given by Messrs Milburn, butchers, Medomsley), Robert Dryden, Allendale Cottages; 26, bag of potatoes, William Ward, Allendale Cottages.

DERWENT COTTAGES.

The annual leek show of Mr Wm. Armstrong, Hat and Feather Inn, came off on Saturday. The number of exhibits was not so large as in previous years, but the quality of the exhibits could not be beaten. In the collection were some of the best leeks we have seen this season. Mr Jos. Armstrong acted as secretary, and the show passed off most successfully. Results:—1, 10s 6d, Joseph Leach, Medomsley; 2, trouser piece, G. Weedy, Croniwell; 2, bed-rug, Frank Blair, Medomsley; 4, 6s, W. Milburn, Westwood; 5, teapot, W. Walker, Leadgate; 6, beef, value 5s, W. Kerr; 7, 4s 6d, Joseph Armstrong; Derwent Cottages; 8, pair of sheets, T. Edgar, Derwent Cottages; 9, shoulder of mutton, J. Brown, Medomsley; 10, 4s, Joseph Ball, Derwent Cottages; 11, 4s, Robert Fudge, Derwent Cottages; 12, 1lb of tea, R. Armstrong, Hat and Feather; 13, dozen of stout, J. Craig; 14, dozen of stout, William Golding; 15, teapot, W. Edgar, Derwent Cottages; 16, 2s, J. Thompson.

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

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

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

Original Poetry.

THE OLD CHURCH PEW (ST. MICHAEL'S, HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, AFTER 13 YEARS).

Ah me! how fondly loving memory lingers
Around this hallowed haunt of early days,
And traces fairly with her mystic fingers,
Forms long familiar in the cloistered ways;—
Long vanished forms, in lowly worship bending,
I seem to see them through the mist of years,
And still I hear familiar voices blending,
In strains that brought some well-remembered tears.

Here fell the sunlight through the painted windows,
And blotched in brilliant hues the peaceful aisle.
In that far time of boyhood's countless wonders,
'Ere life had seen the *ignis fatuus* smile.
Dream-voices through the organ-murmurs sounding,
Come now love-laden from the vanished days,
And old resolves the new desires surrounding,
Bring sweet new tremours to the lip that prays.

Through sunlit hours, and moments dark and lonely;
Through some keen griefs and much of wandering joy;—
Dear hearts grown cold till one was left me only—
One staunch and true whose sweets can never cloy:
Through much of beating at a world all hollow,
Where falsehood glittered and the real was dim;
Amused at baubles men delight to follow,
And shocked at virtue laughterless and grim.

Once from this peaceful seat the world was restful;
I come again and find it restful still;
Some phantom thing without may seem distrustful,
Where strife of factions haggles with the will.
But what is strife to me? The strife is over,
And all the war of thought was real and true,
Only the Great Unknown hath found a lover,
Who circled from and to the old church pew.

JOHN ROWELL WALLER.

QUEBEC DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY A "CORNSAYITE."]

According to the circumstances of life in which men are placed, or business in which they are engaged, their duties must be attended to during the darkness of the winter months, as well as in the height of summer. There is always a tendency impeded by the bleak winds, snow, and darkness, to hinder the traveller in his progress, that it is necessary to take precaution to prevent accidents taking place. "Prevention is much better than cure." Therefore, it is necessary to draw the attention of the road committee to the dangerous bit of road from the little bridge that spans the brook and connects the footpath with the burial ground of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Newhouses. There are no railings or wall to prevent foot passengers on a dark night from stepping over the bridge into the stream below, or protection to the driver of any vehicle who if unacquainted with the road from the dense darkness, were another trap to approach at the time, the road being narrow, and the fear of drawing too near, they would be precipitated into the midst of the water. In order to prevent such a misfortune, something ought to be done by way of improving it, and to give greater security to the general public. The money thus spent would be regarded as for the benfit of the general public, and could not fail to give satisfaction.

Science classes instituted for the advancement of the mining community have generally their drawbacks, though they are inaugurated for the purpose of giving to the pupil the instruction which is essentially necessary and beneficial, in order that he should become acquainted with the theoretical and practical mode of ventilation and the working of a colliery. The miner's physical powers and energy being exhausted by hard labour and impure atmosphere, is one great obstacle to overcome. Thus fatigued, his mental powers has to endure a heavy strain, and the study which would otherwise be a pleasure becomes in reality an arduous task, even to those who have been endowed with prominent powers of conception. Hence, relaxation instead of perseverance is the result, as they are not capable of enduring the stress required to continue their studies. It takes an iron will to pursue the studies and achieve their object. In due time, undoubtedly, the men selected to fill such positions will be the most competent, as they can only be judged by results, and the qualified man will always have a mighty influence in every situation in life. It ought, therefore, to be most encouraging to those who take an interest in the subject to persevere until they attain the acme of their ambition.

Already the owners have commenced to make improvements at the colliery, and the workmen's dwellings are the first on which Messrs Ferens and Love have authorised the officials to commence operations. The painters are now busily engaged in painting the doors and windows, which, when finished, a complete renovation of the houses is fully anticipated. That, at least, will have a tendency to promote the healthy condition of the inhabitants.

COLLIERY SCHOOL.—Mr Joshua W. Schofield, of Heywood, Lancashire, has been appointed out of 100 candidates head master of Pelton Fell Colliery School, in place of Mr Munro, who has resigned after 18 years' service.

LOCAL BOARD.—The monthly meeting was held on Thursday afternoon week, at Blaydon, Mr. W. Douglas presiding.—The Clerk (Mr Dalton) submitted accounts amounting to £222 16f 1d, which were ordered to be paid.—The Medical Officer of Health (Dr Brown) reported that sickness in the district was at a minimum.

CONCERT.—On Wednesday evening, the members of the Primitive Methodist choir and string band, at West Stanley, held their fifth annual concert of vocal and instrumental music, in the chapel. There was a crowded house. A good programme of solos, duets, quartets, trios, choruses, and anthems, was successfully rendered. Mr H. Pearson acted as accompanist, while Mr R. W. Pearson conducted.

LECTURE.—On Wednesday night, Rev H. J. Wale delivered a lecture in the boys' school-room, Pelton, on "India; its superstition and religion." Mr Wale formerly held a commission in a crack cavalry regiment, seeing service—and plenty of it—in the Crimea, India, some years ago. Mr Wale retired from the army and became an ordained minister of the Church of England. He is an old "Indian" having resided in that wonderful land so far back as 1845. Mr Wale seemed to get in touch with the audience at once. The lecturer dwelt upon the evil effects of child marriages. Sutteeism—which, it appears, is still practised in isolated parts—required stamping out altogether. Rev H. E. Birley occupied the chair, and at the conclusion of the lecture, which was illustrated, gave an address.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.—The harvest festival in connection with this church was celebrated on Friday evening. The Rev M. Greene, rector of Stella, Blaydon, preached an eloquent sermon to a good congregation. The church was neatly decorated, especially the chancel and the font, by the members.—On Sunday, the festival was continued. The pulpit was occupied by Rev E. Harrison, curate of Marley Hill. In the afternoon Rev. E. G. F. Macpherson, curate of Medomsley, gave an address to the children. In the evening a sermon was preached by Rev C. H. Newman, curate of St Helen's, Low Fell, Gateshead. All the services were well-attended, and collections were taken in aid of the church funds.

LOCAL BOARD.—An ordinary meeting of the Whickham Local Board was held on Thursday se'nnight, under the presidency of Mr H. Wallace.—The Clerk (Mr T. Lambert) presented the report of the Finance Committee for the past month, which shewed that the treasurer had in hand £103 16s 3d. The expenses, amounting to £549 10s 7d, were ordered to be paid, so that the banking account would be overdrawn to the amount of £445 14s 4d.—The Medical Officer (Dr Attwater) reported that the birth-rate was 20 per thousand per annum, and the death-rate was 13·27 per 1,000. After the transaction of formal business, the meeting concluded.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, Nov. 8th.—Before Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE (chairman), M. KEARNEY, Esq., GEO. G. TAYLOR SMITH, Esq., and W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Anthony Mains, Quebec, pleaded guilty to a charge, made against him by Sergt. Bain, of having been drunk and incapable at that place, 12th ult.—Fined 5s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment.

John Connor (represented by his nephew) was similarly fined for having been tipsy at Quebec, 12th ult.—Defendant had since removed to Broompark.

Joseph Granville, having been found intoxicated at Quebec, 12th October, was also mulcted in a fine of 5s and costs.

John Snowdon, of Lanchester, a thatcher of the roofs of houses, now employed by the Ushaw College authorities, failed to appear in answer to a charge instituted by Sergt. Bain, of being drunk and disorderly at Quebec, 12th ult., and was mulcted in a penalty of 10s and expenses, or fourteen days hard labour.

Francis Reynolds was found guilty of being inebriated at Quebec, 19th ult., and was fined in the sum of 5s and costs.

James Mason and *James Uncles*, miners, Burnhope, were prosecuted by P.C. Hadwin for drunkenness at South Moor, October 11th, and were each fined in like amounts.

John Forster, of Swalwell, who was accused of committing the same offence at South Moor, 12th ult., was ordered to pay 5s fine and expenses.

John Cassidy was found guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Newton, of being drunk and causing a disturbance at Cornsay Colliery, 19th Oct., and was fined in the same penalty.

John Coe pleaded guilty to drunkenness at Kyo, 19th ult., P.C. Robinson preferring the charge.—A fine of 5s and costs was inflicted.—Defendant: This is the first time I have ever been inside a public-house.—The Chairman: I hope it will be the last. (Laughter.)

Isaac Dixon, for having been obfuscated at Kyo, same date, was dealt with in a like manner.

Joseph Suddees, farmer, was summoned at the instance of P.C. Bradley, for being in a drunken state at the Nook, Lanchester, 19th ult.—Defendant denied the charge, affirming that he was merely smoking his pipe.—The officer averred that Suddees was sitting by the roadside, drinking out of a bottle of whiskey.—Fined 5s and expenses.

John Harrison was likewise fined 5s for being tipsy at the same time and place.

In the case of *Joseph Carr*, charged with drunkenness at Lanchester, 20th Oct., a penalty of 5s and costs was imposed.—Defendant is a miner, and caused much amusement in court by appearing with a dirty, grimy face. He repudiated the accusation, although he admitted that he was standing propping up a public-house corner. (Laughter).

John Wilson, also proceeded against by P.C. Bradley, for being drunk and incapable at Lanchester, 27th ult., was ordered to defray a fine of 10s, or go to goal for 14 days, for non-attendance at court.

A youth named *Patrick Tourney*, Malton Colliery, appeared upon his recognisances to answer a charge of being drunk and creating a disturbance at Lanchester, 28th ult.—Inspector Davison stated the facts, and defendant was fined 5s and costs.—The Chairman said the publicans at Lanchester did not seem to take much notice of the warning he gave a month or six weeks previously. He was sorry to say there was no improvement.

William Barron, for being intoxicated at Lanchester, Oct. 30th, was mulcted in a like penalty.

NEGLECTING TO SUPPORT HIS MOTHER.

Henry Wardle was charged by Sergt. Bain with being drunk and wanting to fight at Quebec, 13th ult., and was fined 5s and costs, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment.—The Chairman: We have an application from your mother, who wants a summons against you for refusing to maintain her. You had better give this money to your mother as pay it here.—Defendant: I'd rather pay it here than hand it to her. I'll not give it to her.—The Chairman: Why?—Defendant: Because she drinks.—The Chairman: Why don't you turn the money over to your brother who keeps her? We don't want to bring you here, but you will certainly have to pay.—Defendant: Well, I could do that.—The Chairman: It is a very serious charge to make against your mother. You had better make some arrangements before a summons is issued against you.—Defendant: Well, all the other brothers will have to contribute their share.—The Chairman: Of course.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Mr W. Ward, acting for the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee, took proceedings against *John Ross*, of Catchgate, and *Mary Jane Forster*, of West Stanley. The summonses were further adjourned for a fortnight, as the attendance of the children was much better.—The charges preferred by Mr John Gibson, against *Wm. Parker*, of Lanchester, and *Robert [illegible]*, Cornsay Colliery, were both dismissed.

THEFT AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Mary Ellensworth, wife of a hawker, living at Stoney Heap, near Iveston, was brought up accused of stealing a woollen shirt, valued at 6s 6d, from the establishment of Messrs Forster and Russell, grocers and drapers, Annfield Plain, on the preceding Monday afternoon.—P.C. Phillipson spoke to searching the woman and finding the shawl produced in her possession. Upon charging her with the theft she replied, "I wouldn't have done it if it had not been for the drink."—Prisoner stated that the prosecutor (Mr J. Russell) charged her with stealing two shirts. Ellensworth now confessed her guilt, and the Bench let her off on payment of a fine of 10s, including costs. She carried an infant of eight months in her arms, and the Justices told her that had it not been for the sake of the child, the woman would have been committed to prison.—Supt. Oliver said that prisoner's husband sometimes had as much as from £200 to £300 in hard cash in his possession.

A "CHEEKY" TRAMP.

Patrick Hughes, a vagrant, well-known in Consett, was charged with begging at Annfield Plain, on the previous (Wednesday) forenoon.—P.C. Phillipson said that prisoner was going from house to house, and whenever the parties refused to supply him with money or food, he gave utterance to disgraceful and abusive language. At one house, Hughes unmercifully thrashed a dog which was chained up in the yard.—Prisoner: I just kicked the dog because it begun to bark.—The Bench: But you have no business to beg.—Prisoner: I know that. I want to come into the Workhouse.—The Chairman: What Union do you belong to?—Prisoner: Gateshead.—The Magistrates: Well, you must go to prison for seven days, and then you can go to Gateshead when you come out.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, Nov. 11th.—Before Councillor JAMES ANNANDALE (in the chair), Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE, WM. GREEN, Esq., and FRANK PRIESTMAN, Esq.

THE DRUNKEN LIST: A BIG HAUL OF SINNERS.

Richard Middleton (represented by his wife) was found guilty, upon the evidence of Sergt. Thornton, of being incapably drunk at Dipton, 2nd inst.—A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.

James McCue, charged by P.C. Sanderson with perpetrating a like offence at the Wood Houses, Dipton, Oct. 26th, was similarly fined.

Thomas Hammil (for whom his brother attended) was put forward by Sergt. Tate for drunkenness in Chapel Street, Blackhill, 27th October. Defendant was ejected from a public-house for disorderly conduct.—Fined 5s and costs.

Letitia Scott, a married woman, whose husband appeared in court, was prosecuted by Sergt. Tate for being very intoxicated at Blackhill, 31st ult. She was so tipsy and uproarious that the woman had to be turned out of a public-house. She wanted to strike the landlord's daughter, and created a terrible noise.—The Bench let her off on payment of 2s 6d fine and costs.

John Ward pleaded guilty to a charge, made against him by P.C. Lindsay, of being drunk and causing a disturbance at Blackhill, on Saturday night, 2nd inst. Defendant went into a travelling circus and kicked down the lamp.—He was fined 5s and costs, with the option of seven days' hard labour.

Sergeant Minto summoned *Margaret Keenan* for being drunk and disorderly in Edith Street, Consett, 2nd inst., and was fined 2s 6d and costs.

Peter McGurk having been found drunk and wanting to fight in Middle Street, Consett, 26th ult., was mulcted in a penalty of 10s and expenses, or seven days' hard labour.

John Forster was placed in the dock, charged by P.C. Crisp with being "in his cups" at Iveston, Oct. 26th, and was mulcted in a fine of 5s and court expenses.

Miles Ellensworth, a youth of 19 years, was found guilty of being very drunk near Iveston, 27th last month.—Defendant, who was represented by his aged grandmother, had to pay a fine of 5s and expenses.

William Foreman was fined in a like sum, at the instance of P.C. Richardson, for being tipsy and disorderly at Tanfield Moor, 20th ult.

Owen Hewitson and *John McGraughan* were severally charged by P.C. Stubbs with drunkenness at Leadgate, 26th and 27th Oct. respectively.—Fined 5s each and expenses.

Thomas McDonald and *Michael Cunningham*, young men, appeared to answer charges, preferred against them by P.C. Robinson, of being helplessly inebriated at Medomsley and Blackhall Mill, 26th ult., and were each fined 5s and costs.—Cunningham said that was the first occasion he had attended the court.

Richard Clark, *Peter Malone*, and *Robert Bell* were summoned at the instigation of P.C. Crabb for being in a drunken condition at Burnopfield, 2nd Nov.—Malone repudiated the allegation, asserting that he was teetotal, and that he never tasted liquor. (Laughter).—The officer said that Malone and Bell were fighting near the Co-operative stores. Malone, he believed, picked a quarrel, and then they commenced to fight.—The Bench found all the offenders guilty, and imposed a penalty of 5s and costs in each instance.

John McNastrie, charged by P.C. Tomlinson with drunkenness and disorderly behaviour at Consett, on Saturday night, was mulcted in a like penalty.

A similar fine was imposed upon *George Edwards* for being the worse for liquor and wanting to fight in Harvey Street, Consett, last Saturday night.—P.C. Smith proved the case.

Michael Hynes, a builder, was fetched up by P.C. Tomlinson for being drunk and annoying people at the top of William Street, Consett, last Saturday evening, and was fined 10s and expenses.

A tramp, called *James Winkley*, was proceeded against by Sergt. Boiston, for being in an intoxicated state at Consett, on Saturday night. He was pitched out of Matthews's lodging-house for misdemeanour.—Defendant was ordered to pay 11s 10d, including costs; with the option of seven days' hard labour.—Inspector Benzies told the court that his landlord would not bail him out, although he was always willing to do so in many cases.

James Carroll, alias "The cuckoo," having been taken into custody by P.C. Tomlinson for being drunk and cursing and swearing in the streets of Consett, on Saturday night, was fined a penalty of 5s and expenses or seven days' imprisonment.

John Winter was convicted upon the evidence of P.C. Smith, of a like offence, at Consett on Saturday night, and was ordered to pay a similar fine.

Wm. Craigs was also fined 5s and costs for drunkenness at Consett, on Saturday night.—Sergt. Minto narrated the circumstances.

P.C. Smith having come across *Adam Jackson* staggering about Pasture Drift Road, Consett, while the worse for liquor, was fined 5s and costs for his indiscretion.

TRYING THE PATRIOTIC DODGE: AN OLD SOLDIER.

Wm. Frazer, a painter, was charged by P.C. Smith with being very drunk and disorderly in Queen Street, Consett, on the previous Saturday night.—Prisoner stated that he had been working for Mr Thirlwell, of Shotley Bridge, and this was his first offence. He had been in the army, having served at Gibralta in 1874. He had won some medals and badges.—Considering that he had been locked up since Saturday evening, the Bench let him off with a caution.

SORRY SHE WAS "FETCHED IN."

Ellen James, a hawker, was brought up by P.C. Tomlinson on a charge of being drunk and disorderly at Consett, on the previous Saturday evening, about 9·15. She was turned out of Matthews's lodging-house, and she indulged in some very filthy language in the street.—Defendant explained that she was not in the habit of taking strong drink, but she met some friends on Saturday night. She was very sorry that she had been "fetched in." (Laughter.) She belonged to Barnard Castle, and her husband informed their worships that he was a blacksmith, and had a job offered to him at Consett.—The justices extorting a promise from the husband that he and his wife would quit the neighbourhood, discharged the prisoner.

TOO DRUNK TO KNOW WHAT HE DID.

Richard Frankland, on tramp, was accused by Inspector Benzies of having been inebriated and guilty of disorderly conduct at Consett, at 11·30 on Saturday night. Defendant was beside McNally's lodging-house, his wife, two men, and the landlord endeavouring to get him inside. He was shouting and bawling at the top of his voice.—Defendant confessed that he was drunk, but denied that he was disorderly.—The chairman said that Frankland appeared to have been so drunk that he did not know what occurred.—In default of paying a fine of 5s and costs, defendant was sent to prison for a week.

SOMETHING STRONGER THAN MINT-WATER.

An old woman named *Ellen Trodden*, of Consett, whose husband works at Jarrow, was convicted of having been found in a beastly state of drunkenness, at Dipton, 2nd inst.—Sergt. Thornton, who preferred the charge, said the woman was travelling about selling mint-waters. (Laughter). She made a practice of getting tipsy.—The magistrates acquitted defendant, upon her promising not to indulge in intoxicating beverages to such an extent as she had been accustomed to heretofore.

A LANDLORD "AT SEA" ON HIS OWN PREMISES.

Patrick Brannighan, landlord of a beerhouse situate at the top of Walton's Row, Blackhill, pleaded guilty to a charge of being drunk in his own house, at 8.30 on Sunday night, 27th ult.—The offence was proven by P.C. Lawson.—The magistrates remarked that it was a more serious thing for a landlord to get drunk than any ordinary person, as he was placed in a position of trust. However, as this was his first appearance, he would only be fined 10s and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Stephen Parker and *George Herdman* appeared in response to summonses charging them with fighting at Dipton, 25th ult.—P.C. Sanderson preferred the charge.—Defendants were bound over for the space of six months, besides being directed to defray the court fees.

COWS ON THE FOOTPATH.

Robert Hall, farmer and cowkeeper, was summoned at the instance of Sergt. Tate, for driving cattle on the footpath in Benfieldside Edge Road, Shotley Bridge, 14th ult.—Mr Wm. Dickinson (Consett) defended.—The sergeant gave evidence of seeing defendant coming along Benfieldside Edge Road, and St Cuthbert's Terrace, in charge of five or six cows, one of the animals being on the footpath. He met defendant near Mr Brutton's house, and cautioned him against driving cattle upon the footpath. He advised him to keep the animals on the road, which was wide enough. Hall, however, persisted in driving the cow along the footpath as far as he (witness) could see—nearly to the Church Bank top. Defendant sometimes defied the police altogether, and the sergeant had received complaints, both from the Surveyor and the Clerk to the Local Board, regarding this particular nuisance.—Cross-questioned by Mr Dickinson, the officer admitted that he did not see defendant wilfully drive the cow on to the footway. Other people had taken their beasts off the footpath after being warned by the police. The cows might come up Baxton Burn Road, but they were not turned into Ritson's Road, as they were driven straight on beyond that point.—Mr Dickinson submitted that his client had not wilfully driven the cow along the footpath.—The Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): But it is still an offence under the Act.—Mr Dickinson stated that the cows were brought up Baxton Burn Bank, and taken to Ritson's Road. When the sergeant accosted Hall, he told him that he could not keep the cow off the footpath if he stood there talking to him. Defendant was 69 years of age and could not run after the cow, and keep it off the footpath.—The Magistrates said it was a "horrible nuisance" to the whole neighbourhood driving cows upon the footpath, and they must take steps to prevent the recurrence of that state of affairs. Defendant was summoned for a similar offence two years ago, and was then let off on paying the costs. He would now be fined 10s and the court expenses.

REMOVING PIGS WITHOUT A LICENSE.

George Penty, a cowkeeper and joiner, of Prudhoe, was summoned for removing 12 pigs from the county of Northumberland into the county of Durham without obtaining the requisite license from the local inspector, under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act.—The charge was proved by Sergt. Tate, who deposed to seeing defendant's cart containing twelve pigs at the Benfieldside Royal Auction Mart on Monday, 28th ult. He ordered Penty to take the animals back again before they were sold by auction.—The Bench: There is no allegation that the swine were suffering from any disease?—The sergeant: No, sir.—Defendant pleaded ignorance of the existing restrictions, and complained that Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., who signed the summons issued against him, advised him to send the pigs back to Prudhoe. He also drew attention to the fact that other persons brought their pigs from the adjoining county into Durham without any trouble; but the police stated that the parties named always procured the requisite certificates.—The magistrates having cautioned defendant, let him off on payment of a fine of 10s and costs.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS ACT.

Owen Quigley, an ironworker, of Consett, was, upon the application of Supt. Oliver, ordered by the Bench to pay 1s 6d weekly towards the maintenance of his son in the Chadwick Memorial School, Newcastle. Defendant's earnings are about 24s per week.

NON-PAYMENT OF RATES.

A distress warrant was issued against an ex-innkeeper lately living near Dipton, for non-payment of £3 0s 9d, poor rate and costs due to the overseers of Collierley township.

NEIGHBOURS' QUARRELS AT CONSETT.

Isabella Patterson, a stylishly-dressed married woman, was summoned by Mary Jane Redshaw for committing an assault upon her at Consett, 24th Oct.—Complainant's testimony was that defendant came to her house, opened the door, hit her upon the face, knocked her hat off, and discoloured her eye.—Mary Calligban was called to corroborate, but she professed that she did not know anything about the affair.—Questioned by the Bench: She saw the parties arguing in the street, but no blows were struck.—Complainant: But you came across the street and saw all that passed?—Witness: Yes, but I was watching my own business, and not yours. (Laughter).—The Chairman believed that Mrs Callighan knew more than she cared to tell.—Defendant's story was that when her cat went into complainant's house and sent her little girl to fetch it, Mrs Redshaw kicked it out of the place. When she went and expostulated with complainant, the latter struck Mrs Patterson a blow.—After hearing evidence in defence, the magistrates arrived at the conclusion that both parties were alike, and dismissed the summons, each to pay 8s 6d costs.

SECOND COURT.

Before W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq. (chairman), and H. W. WATSON, Esq.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Thomas Connolly, South Medomsley, was summoned by Mr D. Mole, attendance officer for the Collierley School Board, for the non-attendance of his children at school.—The officer stated that during the last two months the children had attended 17 times out of a possible 78.—The father pleaded that the eldest boy was 14, and in standard four, and he did all that was in his power to get the children to school.—Fined 2s 6d, including costs.

John Kelly, same place, was proceeded against by Mr Mole for not sending his son to school, 25th October.—The officer said the boy had not made a single attendance during the last month. The boy was over 13 years.—Kelly remarked that his son had left one school, and was now going to another.—An attendance order was made for the boy to attend Dipton School.

William Mason and *John Forster's* cases (which had been adjourned from a previous court) again came before the Bench, and the schoolwarden stated the Board were quite satisfied with the attendance of the children, and asked their worships to dismiss the summonses.—Agreed to.

Henry English, of Blackhill, was summoned by Mr A. McKean, schoolwarden under the Benfieldside School Board, to show cause for the absence of his daughter from school.—The officer said that during the last five weeks the child had not secured a single mark.—A fine of 5s, including costs, was imposed.

John Kirkus, of Blackhill, was charged by the same officer with not sending his boy regularly to school.—During September the boy only made fifteen attendances out of 80.—The Magistrates cautioned the father, and dismissed the case.

George Reynoldson, also of Blackhill, was prosecuted by Mr McKean, for not sending his boy to school.—The evidence was to the effect that during the last 12 weeks the boy had been absent 12 times, and this was the state of attendances that was going on.—Adjourned for a month.

Henry Hobday, living at Blackhill, was charged by the same officer for not sending his daughter to school.—The child had been absent eleven times during five weeks.—Adjourned for a month.

John Fitzpatrick, of Blackhill, was summoned by Mr McKean for not sending his daughter, 13 years of age, regularly to school.—The mother stated the child was kept at home to wait upon her when she was ill.—Adjourned for four weeks.

Geo. Reilley, of Blackhill, was summoned by Mr McKean for non-compliance with the bye-laws by not sending his daughter, Bridget, regularly to school.—The child's attendances within the last eight weeks only averaged 24 times.—This case was likewise postponed for a month.

Wm. Bradley, of Shotley Bridge, was similarly proceeded against by the Benfieldside Board.—The father stated that the boy played "truant."—Adjourned for a month.

USING OBSCENE LANGUAGE.

Mary Ann McGuighan, a young woman, was charged by P.C. Lindsay, with using obscene language in Middle Street, Blackhill, 2nd inst.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—The officer stated that on the night in question his attention was called to Middle Street, by the defendant causing a disturbance with a lodger, and using very bad language. In consequence of the uproar, several people had to get out of bed.—Defendant stated she was not causing a disturbance, and the language complained of was used in her own house.—The Magistrates said that they were of opinion that there was a doubt in the matter, and they would give her the benefit of the same by dismissing the case.

GRAND CONCERT AT CONSETT.

On Tuesday night, the members of St. Aidan's Church choir gave their fifth annual concert in the New Town Hall, Consett. There was a fairly good house. In preceding years the choir has rendered a "Cantata," but on this occasion it was decided to have a miscellaneous concert. An attractive programme was arranged, and a talented company of artistes engaged. There were Madame Hall-Atkin (Newcastle), Mr J. Nutton (Durham), Mr W. Bell (Newcastle), reciter, Master Robert Smith (Newcastle), the now famous boy clarionet soloist, with his sister, Miss Effie Smith, the youthful pianist, and a band.

Madame Hall-Atkin was in splendid voice and well deserved the applause with which her songs were greeted. Mr Nutton, who is an old favourite in this part, did his duty well.

The great event of the evening was the appearance of Master Robert Smith. This youthful performer, who is only 11 years old has already made his mark as one of the most wonderful of performers on the instrument which he plays. His appearance was greeted with applause, nor were the spectators of the audience disappointed. He played his pieces admirably, and his skill in the manipulation of his instrument was nothing short of wonderful. He was accompanied on the piano by his sister, Miss Effie Smith, a little girl of nine years of age, and who promises to be a brilliant performer on the pianoforte. Mr W. Bell, reciter, made his first appearance before a Consett audience and secured encores for both his recitations.

The programme opened with an overture, "Tancredi," and was well rendered by the band; the choir then sang the "Gipsy Chorus" from Balfe's "Bohemian Girl"; Madame Hall-Atkin sang "The lost chord," which was well received; then came a clarionet solo, "Grand concerts," by Master Robert Smith, which fairly took in the audience and an *encore* was demanded, and he complied by giving "The last rose of summer," with variations, which was also greeted with the applause it merited; "The sailor's dance," was sung by Mr Nutton with great expression, and after the chorus "Cough and crow," the solo parts of which were taken by Madame Hall-Atkin Mr Nutton and Miss M. Lumsden; Mr Wm. Bell gave "The charge of the Light Brigade," this was an imitation of the various styles of an Englishman, Scotsman, American, Irishman, the Modern Master, Frenchman, and Northumberland pitman. The able manner in which each supposed reciter was imitated by Mr Bell, caused great amusement to the audience, and he was enrapturously *encored*; he complied by giving "A summer idyll"; and the duet, "The singing lesson" by Madame Hall-Atkin and Mr Nutton finished the first part of the programme.—Miss Effie Smith opened the second part of the programme with a pianoforte solo, "Valse Brilliant," rendered in a very brilliant manner; the duet "Mikado" by Madame Hall-Atkin and Mr Nutton was received with applause; the band then followed with the overture "Guy Mannering"; Madame Hall-Atkin gave the song "St Bacio," for which an *encore* was demanded; the lady complied by singing "Caller herrin" in so charming a manner that the audience were delighted; Master Smith then played a clarionet solo, which received an *encore*; Mr Nutton then gave "I rage, I melt, I burn"; Mr Bell recited "The pitman's glass eye," for which an *encore* was demanded, and he gave "The Alarm," and the programme was brought to a close by the choir singing "Gloria." Mr E. J. Sloane acted as accompanist. The evening's entertainment was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

Volunteer Intelligence.

5TH V.B.D.L.I.

The shooting for marksmens' badges by the members of the headquarter companies of the above corps took place on the Buss Hills rifle range, Blaydon, on Saturday. The light was excellent, but there was a strong wind, which made long-range shooting very difficult. The "marksmen" at Gateshead for the present year are:—Private R. Robinson, 12, 16, 27—total, 55; Sergt. R. Hall, 16, 10, 21—47; Priv. T. Mole, 9, 11, 47—17; Lance-Corp. J. J. Tierney, 12, 10, 24—46; Lance-Corp. J. Robertson, 12, 6, 27—45; Serg. A. Y. Nicholson, 4, 8, 30—42; Priv. D. Haining, 7, 12, 24—46.

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A WALK ROUND THE MEDOMSLEY POLYTECHNIC.

[BY A CORRESPONDENT.]

"What polytechnics mean aw's sure
Aw nowther care or ken, sir;
Sic crack jaw words was nivvor meyd
For honest workin' men, sir;
But if ye'll hud yor lugs te me,
Aw'll tell what aw mawsell did see,
And aw winnat tell a word o' lee
About Medomsley polytechnic."

Will I? Of course I will. But I don't want you to believe all I tell you—nothing of the kind. I want you to go to the exhibition and see for yourself. Well, I suppose this event will be a "red letter" event in the annals of this quiet little village of Medomsley? So there is no reluctance on my part to "tell what aw mawsell did see." To the committee generally, headed by an enterprising secretary, Mr W. P. Morris, the greatest credit must be rendered by all. The exhibits comprise all kinds of interesting things from almost every country on the surface of the globe On entering the large and spacious hall the visitor is at once struck by the magnificent display of handsome paintings, engravings, &c., which literally cover the walls from bench to ceiling. On the east side of the hall are the stands of the Consett Iron Company. Their exhibits comprise iron ore, ironstone, pig-iron, iron and steel plates, various tests in hot and cold steel, coal, coke, and the usual requisites for iron and steel making. Higher up on the same side is a splendid display of working model steam and other engines in motion, the motive power being derived from a small tubular boiler kindly erected by Mr John Mewes, of Blackhill. This section of the hall seems to have the greatest attraction to both old and young.—An exceedingly fine model of a traction engine is exhibited by William Errington, of The Hobson. Two other fine models are exhibited by this gentleman, one being the old hauling engine lately used at the Lintz Colliery. Mr Christopher Oley, Shotley Bridge, exhibits a strong, substantial-looking engine, while an exquisite model of a steam pump is shown by Mr Stubbs, of Bearpark. A donkey-engine and boiler is shown by Mr Johnson, of Shotley Bridge. Two interesting models of inventions recently patented by Mr R. W. Mewes are also on this stand, and attracting considerable attention. Mr Mewes is quite a young fellow, and the fact that this is the second patent taken out by him within the last three years, speaks volumes for the abilities of this persevering young fellow. I wish him, with all my heart, a successful and prosperous career. Directly opposite to this is Mr Logan's collection of British coins, a collection of considerable value, and all in a splendid state of preservation. In front of the stage is arranged a very varied and beautiful collection of articles of ancient and modern warfare. Wm. Milburn, of the firm of Doughty and Milburn, electricians, Newcastle, have a stand of electrical exhibits, comprising coils, batteries, electro meters, electric light, &c. I must not forget to mention the entertainment room. This room (for admission thereto a small extra charge is made) is under the superintendence of Rev E. G. F. Macpherson, assisted by a well-known gentleman of Arctic region fame, popularly known under the not very elaborate cognomen of "Black Jack." A series of magic lantern entertainments have been given in this room by the above gentleman, and there are also some fine collections of minerals and other attractions. The concerts each evening are of a highly amusing and entertaining nature, in which Dr Bibby, Mr John Adamson, Mr Dales, Mrs Hedley, Mrs Morris, the Misses Dawson, Westwood, and other local ladies and gentlemen take a leading part. Mr Adamson's impersonation of "The little fat grey man" and "Geordie haud the bairn" was a genuine treat. Perhaps it would be difficult on the part of the writer to make special comment upon any of the artistes, suffice to say that both the vocal and instrumental music has been a thorough treat. The fancy stall for the sale of articles (ornamental and useful) has been well patronised, whilst the waiters at the refreshment stall are kept constantly employed in providing for the comforts of the inner man. Some fine paintings decorate the walls, many by local artists. A large central picture hung over the stage, "Highland cattle" cat. No. 294, by Miss F. Barker, Derwent Cote, after "Rosa Bonheur," is well inspected. "Craig-y-Imas," a beautiful piece of Welsh mountain scenery by Mr John Surtees, is kindly lent by the Hon. W. Vereker, Hamsterley Hall. Another fine picture "Swiss waterfall," is lent by Mr Peile, Greenwood, also several pretty little paintings of local scenery by the late John Leslie, of Shotley Bridge. Arrangements have, I believe, been made to admit school children to the exhibition at the rate of the universal penny per head. The financial success of the scheme has far exceeded the expectations of the committee, so that after all expenses are paid it is expected that a handsome balance will be handed over to the trustees, which will materially lessen their present responsibility. The greatest credit is due to Mr W. P. Morris, the genial and esteemed hon. secretary. The committee are to be congratulated upon securing the services of the above gentleman, and yet there may, after all, be nothing very extraordinary in that, for if anything is floated in the village for the public good, the brothers Morris are always to the front, and I certainly must not forget to add that great credit is also due to Mr J. H. Morris, who has also taken a leading part in the general arrangements. The decoration, hanging, planning the hall, erecting benches, &c., have been almost wholly under his direct supervision. In conclusion, I would urge upon all who are contemplating a visit to go as early as possible, provide themselves with a catalogue, and go early in the afternoon, so as to avoid the crush and inconvenience at night. The exhibition remains open a few days longer.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC JOTTINGS

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

May I ask those of my readers who from time to time request me to notice their concerts to let me have a copy of their programme as early as practicable? There is nothing gives me greater pleasure than to do the little that lies in my power to help the success of amateur efforts in this direction, when the object is a worthy one, as in the case of the concert given on Tuesday evening, to which, much against my wish, I could make but a scant reference owing to the fact that the promoters forwarded me the particulars after my notes had left my hands. For safety's sake I would like to have particulars of any entertainment to which reference may be desired in this column, not later than Monday evenings.

By the same post I got a letter from Mr Arthur Brogden bearing on my remarks of a fortnight ago in reference to his treatment of the "Geneva Choir" at Birtley. It too I was compelled to hold over the acknowledgement of till this week. I have not now space for his letter in this column. I am sorry to say he is mainly anxious to give me to understand that he regrets now not having gone "a step further" than he did in the matter to which I referred. It is perhaps better for himself that he did not take that step. And here I think I can afford to leave him.

—o—

I have another correspondent to satisfy and then I can proceed in the regular vein. "Roman" reminds me that I once spoke in this column to the effect that Rider Haggard's novel "She" was to be dramatised, and he asks me, as he has never seen or heard of the play, if I am not mistaken on the point. No, "Roman," I am *not* mistaken. I remember making the observation referred to, and I also distinctly recall the date of the play's production, which was the 10th of May, 1888, and the theatre was the Novelty, London.

—o—

Doris, the latest of Mr Alfred Collier's operas, was produced on Monday evening at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, for the first time. The period of which the opera treats is the Elizabethan—a very difficult one indeed to deal with. The music, as was only to be expected from the composer of *Dorothy* is very beautiful and full of charming melody, the instrumental portion being particularly good. The scenery and dresses are lovely in the extreme, the latter in the third act being simply regal. The chorus is very strong and effective, and the company, including such names as Effie Chapuy, Laura Maxwell, Sidney Tower, Chas. Ryley, and Percy Compton, an all-round strong one.

—o—

But the story told in *Doris* is a poor one poorly told, and the consequence is that the new opera fails to fasten the sympathies as did its predecessor, *Dorothy*, and I am afraid will never take a hold at all equal to it. The libretto is decidedly weak; what humour there is in it is for the most part of the "forced" order and out of keeping with the surroundings, and although the opening act of the opera is bright and fresh and gives promise of still brighter things to follow, the straggling construction of Act 2 at once destroys that hope, the 3rd act closing with an abruptness at once inartistic and disappointing. If *Doris* is to live long it will be entirely due to the charming musical numbers it contains.

—o—

Mr Osmond Tearle is at the Tyne this week appearing in a round of standard plays including *Hamlet, Othello, Richard the III, Virginius* and *King Lear*. Mr Tearle is a great favourite in Newcastle and he always succeeds in drawing capital houses. The company supporting is a good one and the staging of the various pieces in every way excellent.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Major W. J. Joicey, J.P., of Urpeth Lodge, has been nominated a sheriff for the county of Durham for the ensuing year.

Mr Matthew Kearney, J.P., late of The Ford, Lanchester, and ex-chairman of the Justices for the West Division of Chester Ward of the county of Durham, who is at present (along with his wife) on a visit to the North, again took his seat on Thursday on the Lanchester Bench, and was heartily welcomed by his old colleagues. Mr Kearney seem to be in the enjoyment of excellent health.

Stanhope Rectory gardens contain one of the finest collections of British botanical specimens to be found in the north. Lots of fine rare plants are to be seen growing there in luxuriant profusion. They were gathered principally by the late Rev W. N. Darnell, rector of Stanhope, and his gardner, Mr Thos. Kemp. It took years to gather them, and they were from all parts of Great Britain.

FROM THE LAND OF THE SUNNY SOUTH,

BEING THE DIARY OF SEVEN WEEKS' VOYAGE

FROM

QUEENSLAND TO ENGLAND,

BY

J. W. FAWCETT,

OF THE GRANGE, SATLEY.

(*Continued from our last issue*).

May 14th.—Rather cloudy all day. Passed Cape Comorin, the most southerly point of India, during the early morning. The sea was a little rough, several large waves breaking over the vessel drenching everything which came in their way, making it rather unpleasant on deck, whilst below there was very little comfort owing to the oppressive heat.

May 15th.—Heavy showers of rain fell at 5 a.m.; the sky overcast with clouds and atmosphere damp, but this eventually cleared off, the day becoming fine. Passed the island of Minicoy at noon—a small low islet lying like a sort of halfway house between the two groups of the Maldives and Laccadives, between the eight degree and nine degree channels. The Laccadives which lie to the north consist of a group of seventeen islands. They are of small size and trifling elevation above the sea level, of coral formation, protected by reefs on the windward side. The chief products are coir, for cables, cocoa-nuts from which the natives make the sugar known as jaggery, betelnut, with some rice, sweet potatoes, and small cattle. Only eight of them are inhabited; four of them were until 1875 owned by the Biby or native princess of Cananore. At that date they were annexed to the Madras Presidency. The Maldives which lie to south form a considerable archipelego stretching some 500 miles north and south. They are of coral formation and are arranged in seventeen round and oval groups, termed atolls. Each group is surrounded and protected by a wall of coral rock which rises very little above the sea level, in some cases scarcely reaching the level of high water. In the centre of each atoll is a lagoon of some 15 or 20 fathoms in depth. The total number of islands, islets, and atolls amounted to some 50,000. The larger islands are well crowded with palms, cocoanuts, &c., and produce millet, numerous excellent roots, fruits, and poultry. The smaller islands are mostly barren. Cowry fishing is an important pursuit. The chief products are coir, oil, salted fish, cowries, rope mats and tortoise-shell. The population is subject to a Sultan, who resides on the island of Mohl or Mohl and renders an annual tribute to the British Government. His official title is Sultan of the thirteen atolls and twelve thousand islands.

May 16th.—Fine morning, with a calm sea. Several sharp showers of rain fell during the afternoon. Life these days, when away from the sight of any land which takes one attention, and leads to pleasant intercourses, is much of a quietude. Only the throb of the engines, the never failing revolutions of the screw and the clang of the bells as they strike the hour, break the silence. Time at sea is divided into portions called watches, and in the twenty-four hours there are five watches of four hours each, and two watches of two hours each. At 12 o'clock noon 8 bells are struck; 12·30 p.m. one bell; 1 p.m. 2 bells; 1·30 p.m. 3 bells; 2 p.m. 4 bells; and so on until 4 p.m. when 8 bells are struck. This watch is now relieved and the dog watches follow, the bells of which are regulated as follows:—At 4·30 one bell; 5 two bells; 5·30 three bell; 6 four bells. Watch is now relieved, 6·30 one bell; 7 two bells; 7·30 three bells; 8 p.m. eight bells. The reason that these should be two watches of only two hours each is that were all to be four hour watches the men would be on duty the same hours each day and night, which in the case of these on night duty would be unfair.

May 17th.—Fine morning with a much calmer sea than yesterday. At 3·30 p.m. it commenced to rain and continued to pour down almost incessantly for the space of an hour. In the evening there was a concert on the saloon deck, commencing at 8·30, which passed off very well. The programme consisted of glees, pianoforte solos, quartettes, songs, reading, and recitation.

(*To be continued*).

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes 7½d., tins 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases" says "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."

The Editor of "Great Thoughts" has made arrangements with Dr Joseph Parker, of the City Temple, London, to contribute a serial story, entitled, "The History of a Soul; or, Robert Elsmere's Contrast," to commence with the New Volume, January 4th, 1890.

"GREAT THOUGHTS" Christmas Number, price 6d, will be published early in September, and contains 56 pages, bound in a coloured wrapper. With each copy will be given a beautifully executed, coloured plate, size 23in. by 18in., entitled, "Ascanius, a famous Trojan Boy," from a painting by Hermann Schmiechen. Ascanius was one of the most noted heroes of classical literature. His prowess forms the subject of Virgil's great epic poem, "The Æneid." A story illustrative of this will appear in the Christmas Number.

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Business Announcements.

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Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY, 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95z

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MUSIC LESSONS.

MISS HARKER,
BLACKHILL,

HAVING obtained Certificates (with Honours) from the Musical International College London, begs to intimate that she is prepared to give LESSONS IN MUSIC (Practical and Theoretical). PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM "THEORY" thoroughly taught.

Pupils prepared for Examinations.

VIOLIN.

MISS A. HARKER will commence a TERM OF VIOLIN LESSONS to a limited number of Pupils. Terms on application.

ADDRESS: BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM.

ROTHERHAM'S, LARGEST MANUFACTURERS OF ENGLISH LEVER WATCHES HAVE BEEN AWARDED A

GOLD MEDAL

AT THE
PARIS EXHIBITION.

SOLE AGENT FOR THIS DISTRICT:—

DOBSON GRADON, Watch and Clockmaker, Jeweller, Silversmith and Optician,

DERWENT ST., BLACKHILL, CO. DURHAM.

D.G. Has removed to his New Premises, Three Doors higher up the Street on the same side, where he hopes to have a continuance of Public patronage. 45b

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NATHAN ELSDON

ALE AND PORTER MERCHANT,
MANUFACTURER OF
MINERAL WATERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
DELVES LANE, CONSETT,

HAS PLEASURE IN SUBMITTING THE FOLLOWING
CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Samples of the undermentioned kinds of Aerated Waters, received from Mr N. Elsdon, Consett, have been very carefully analysed in this Laboratory, viz:—Potash and Soda Waters, Lemonade, Raspberryade, Champagne Cider, and "Pick-me-up."

The Potash and Soda Waters constitute valuable anti-acid drinks, have been carefully manufacted, and are perfectly bright and clear. The Lemonade and Raspberryade are thoroughly wholesome and palatable, and contain, in an agreeable form, the dietetic principles characteristic of the natural lemon and raspberry fruits. The Champagne Cider is a deliciously compounded preparation, delicately flavoured and acidulated, and deserves to be much appreciated and patronised. The drink designated "Pick-me-up" possesses important dietetic qualities, and is a gentle tonic and stimulant. The results of my analysis demonstrate that all these beverages are pure in composition and entirely free from contamination by lead, and all other injurious mineral constituents.

At the same time I have submitted to careful analysis the essences, alkaline salts, &c, used in the manufacture of the above preparations, and have found them to be of good flavour, aroma, and quality. I am decidedly of opinion that the utmost care has been exercised on the part of Mr Elsdon in the preparation of his goods.

GRANVILLE H. SHARP, D.C.S., Analyst.
Principal of the "Liverpool College Chemistry".

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER & VALUER, Land, House, Insurance, and Emigration Agent, Share Broker, &c. Intending Emigrants can be Booked in the finest Ships to America and all our Colonies. Valuations and Auction Sales of Agricultural Stock, Contractors' Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

MUSICAL TUITION.

LESSONS IN PIANO, HARMONIUM, ORGAN PLAYING, &c., given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist of Christ Church, Consett, at his own or pupil's homes. Good references from former pupils. Moderate terms. Pianos carefully Tuned.—Address 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill.

At the July Examination of the National Society of Musicians Six Pupils passed in Piano Playing, including Three First, and Three Second Class Honours.

WOOL! WOOL.

TO FARMERS, SHEEP OWNERS, AND OTHERS.

Have your Wool manufactured into Blankets, Flannels, Tweeds, Rugs, Yarns, or any other description of Woollen Goods by

HORSLEY BROS.,
WOOLLEN MANUFACTURERS,
WOLSINGHAM.

The well-known durability of these Goods is a sufficient inducement to those who have already tried them; to those who have not, we respectfully solicit a trial, and have no fear of their verdict Carriage Paid one way. Samples and Prices on application. 886z

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SWEEP! SWEEP! SWEEP!

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

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

NOTICE.

THE Householders in this District are requested to apply at the Local Board Offices, Consett, for a (Free) SUPPLY OF CLOT LIME for cleansing purposes. All Contracted Spaces, Yards, Out-Offices, &c., must be White-washed and Thoroughly Cleansed, in order to preserve the Public Health. Otherwise, the Penalty will be enforced.

WM. RIPPON, Inspector.
Local Board Offices, June 27th, 1889.

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST, CONSETT.

Agent for McDougall's, Bell and Riddle's, Cooper's, Ness's, Wilson and Kitchen's, Jeyes', and Liddell's

SHEEP DIPS.

ALTERNATE CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES.

HORSE BALLS of every description.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

Horse, Dog, and Cattle Medicines in great variety.

SARSAPARILLA BLOOD PURIFYING MIXTURE.

Finest New Season's Cod Liver Oil.

PARISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.

BLUE RIBBON WINE MIXTURES, 6d. Bottle.

QUININE AND IRON TONIC.

QUININE WINE PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒA.

MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle

Agent for Mr LAMONT'S Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c., &c.

TRUSSES AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Milner's Crystal Dyes, in Packets.

AGENT FOR MAWSON & SWAN'S NEW FILTERS.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES.

SEQUAH INDIAN OIL AND PRAIRIE FLOWER, 2s PER BOTTLE.

Moonseed Bitters, 2s 9d and 4s 6d per Bottle.

New Remedies and Medicines of every description

Business Announcements

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

MUSIC EMPORIUM.

T. JONES is now prepared to supply direct from the Manufacturers, PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS at the Lowest Possible Prices.

A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.

BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.

MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.

PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

Note the Address:—

T. JONES,

5, CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office), CONSETT. 902a

CONSETT & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

A GRAND

EVENING CONCERT

Will be given by the Members of the above Society,

ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1889.
IN
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLOWER SHOW
AND
INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION
(41st Annual),
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16th, 1890.
W. RAMSAY, Secretary.

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48 AND 90 are the WINNING NUMBERS of the 4 Ducks, raffled at Raglan Street, Consett. 236b

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ON SUNDAY, the Rev. AARON MATTHEWS (Eminent Jewish Christian, and Travelling Secretary to the Society for the Conversion of the Jews), will (D.V.) PREACH at the Baptist Church, Highgate, Blackhill, at 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. A Collection at the close of each Service. 224b

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EDWARD BRADY,
CHIMNEY SWEEP,
22, HARVEY STREET, CONSETT.

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT

NOVEMBER 17th and 18th, 1889.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES ON SUNDAY. Preacher, Rev. J. McINTOSH. PUBLIC TEA on Monday, at 4-30. ENTERTAINMENT at 7. 217b

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COMING OF AGE OF COURT NO. 5,285, A. O. F.

GRAND EVENING CONCERT, ON DECEMBER 14th, 1889, IN THE CO-OPERATIVE HALL, CONSETT.

WEST STANLEY CRICKET CLUB.

A GRAND EVENING CONCERT will be given in Mr. FORSTER'S Long Room, on Saturday, November 23rd, 1889, by the Members of the Blackhill Dramatic Club, in aid of the Funds of the above Club. Singing, Dancing, and Short Sketches will be given. Come early and secure a seat. A rare treat. Tickets may be had from the Members of the Club.

219b G. SANDERSON, Secretary.

BLACKHILL, CONSETT, AND DISTRICT "MODEL" BUILDING SOCIETY.

THE THIRD APPROPRIATION (SALE) of the above Society will take place in the CO-OPERATIVE HALL, Consett, on THURSDAY EVENING, NOV. 21ST, 1889. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock. All invited.

Members joining on Monday Night next may participate, on payment of One Week's Subscription and Entrance Fees.

For Prospectuses apply to
W. RAMSAY, Secretary.
Office: 2, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

RE-PRINTED FROM "THE SHIELDS DAILY NEWS," SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1889

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE,

AND BLOOD PURIFIER, NEWCASTLE.

FREE DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICINES.

REMARKABLE TESTIMONIALS FROM PATIENTS.

For several months past Mr Handyside, the proprietor of a well known consumptive and blood purifying medicine, has been paying periodical visits to South Shields, where numerous poor people, suffering from all kinds of disease, have met him from time to time, and received medical treatment and advice at his hands. A few days ago our own reporter attended one of these gatherings and witnessed the free and liberal distribution of medicine, and heard the grateful testimony of the patients as to the efficacy of it. About a hundred of these poor sufferers were collected in the large room when our representative entered it, but these by no means represented the full compliment of Mr Handyside's free patients as fully an equal number had been already treated and sent off with their [illegible] supply of medicine. Of the number remaining [illegible] very small portion belonged to those under treatment; the others in attendance were there for the first time on the recommendation of their friends, who had been successfully treated. Among the former the patients had been in receipt of medicine for from a week to a month—not longer—and in every instance the recipients spoke in grateful terms of the marvellous benefit they had derived from Mr Handyside's wonderful specific. In many cases the testimony had reference to a perfect cure of a disease of many years standing, and not a few were anxious to relate how the medical faculty outside had told them they were incurables, and how since they came under Mr Handyside's treatment they had been almost fully restored to health again. Below we give a few of the testimonials which came under the notice of our representative:—

DOCTORS DID HER NO GOOD.

Mrs Sadler, 20, Bedford Street, North Shields, said: "Since I commenced taking Mr Handyside's blood purifier, I have been a great deal better, and I believe I will soon be cured. I have been bad for 16 months with a weak heart and nervous debility. I have been under three different doctors, but they did me little or no good. This medicine has done me more good than all the doctors put together."

GETTING BETTER NOW.

Mary Ann Sillet, 14, Simpson Street, Chirton, said: "I am much better and have been gradually improving in my health since I took Mr Handyside's blood purifier. I was under a doctor for 15 months, but he did me no good. I have taken this medicine only a few weeks, and it has done me much good. I suffered at one time from a broken leg, which left rheumatics, and until I commenced with this medicine nothing did me any good."

GOOD FOR RHEUMATISM.

Another applicant said: "My uncle, James Todd, of 58, South Palmerston Street, South Shields, is deriving a great deal of benefit from Mr Handyside's blood purifier. He has been bad for ten years with rheumatics, and he is now beginning to get better. He has only had one bottle, and it has done him more good than anything else."

FOURTEEN YEARS' RHEUMATISM CURED

John Urwin, 5, East Campbell Street, South Shields, said: "I have been bad 14 years with the pains, and I am now getting better. Since I took Handyside's consumption cure, my legs have got completely better. I have only been taking the medicine for a fortnight and besides mending my pains it has taken the water out of my system, cured me of a noise in the head, and improved my general health. I never could get any other medicine to do me good.

TRIED EVERYTHING, BUT GOT NO BETTER.

Mrs James Smith, 13, Mill Street, North Shields, said: "My husband is taking Handyside's blood purifier and he is getting a great deal better. He has been bad for six years from a weak action of the heart and nervous debility, and he has tried everything, but nothing has done him any good excepting this medicine. He has been under several doctors both here and at other places, but none of them were able to cure him like this medicine."

DOCTORS TOLD HIM HE WOULD NEVER GET BETTER.

Bruce Goodee, 22, Woodbine Street, South Shields, said: "I was off work three years for my complaint before I took your medicine. I was in the Newcastle Infirmary and the South Shields Infirmary, but they couldn't cure me. I have got more good from Handyside's blood purifier than from any other. Since I commenced with it I have been able to start work again, and I am working at the present time. The doctors told me I would never get better, but I feel I am getting better fast.

DOCTORS COULD DO NOTHING FOR ME.

Mrs Wood, 57, Princes Street, North Shields, said: "I am a long way better after taking your medicine. I have been ailing about 15 years—troubled with water about the system, causing the flesh to swell, I have been to several doctors, but none of them could do me any good; they all told me they could do nothing for me. I have taken Handyside's consumption cure for some time, and it has taken all the water away. My general health is also a great deal improved. I was fearfully troubled with night sweats, but they have also disappeared. Sometimes I could not lie in bed for severe night flushings which came over me, and fainting fits, but I am quite strong now, and have felt none of these complaints lately."

ONLY ONCE TAKEN AND YET A GREAT DEAL BETTER.

William Smith, Chirton, said: "I was never able to stick to my work until I took Handyside's blood purifier. I am working now and feel I am getting stronger and healthier. I am only troubled with a cough now. I have only taken the medicine once."

GETTING STRONGER THAN EVER.

Elizabeth Nichol, 78, Victoria Road, said: "I feel a little better since I commenced to take Handyside's consumption cure a few weeks ago. A fortnight ago I could not get out of bed to come here, but I feel very much stronger than I have felt for a long time."

NEVER ABLE TO LEAVE HER BED UNTIL SHE TOOK IT.

Another applicant said: "Mrs A. Smith, 78, Victoria Road, South Shields, has been taking Mr Handyside's blood purifier, and has been a good deal better since she started with it. She has been bad for three years of consumption, and feels much stronger since last fortnight, and not so much pain. She was never able to leave her bed, but since taking this medicine she has been able to go about on foot. She has been in the Infirmary, and under lots of doctors, but they never did her any good. Her rheumatics are getting better."

A MOTHER'S TESTIMONY.

Mrs Malcolm said: "My daughter, Isabella Malcolm, 11, Elsdon Street, North Shields, has been suffering for two years. The doctor told her she had intermittent fever. She was very bad, and had to leave her place, and since then has been mostly confined to bed. After taking Handyside's Consumption Cure she got gradually better, and she is able to go about quite easy now, and without pain. If it was not for a sore ankle she would be quite herself again. I believe it is this medicine that has done her all the good."

INDIGESTION AND BRONCHITIS CURED.

Mary Ann Wright, 130, East Lumsden Street, South Shields, said: "She had suffered 20 years from bronchitis and indigestion. She had been all over to see doctors, but Handyside's Cure had done her more good than anything she had ever taken. She was in better health now than at any part of her life."

INDIGESTION FOR TEN YEARS AND CURED.

Ann Graham, 1, Gowland Street, South Shields, said: "I am very much better since I took Handyside's blood purifier. I have been bad ten years from indigestion, and I have suffered greatly from pains in the ear and noise in the head. I always had a poor appetite, but since I took the medicine I have eaten a great deal better. My pains are going away, and I do not suffer half so much from indigestion now. I believe this medicine has done me more good than all the doctors put together."

NO OTHER MEDICINE DID HER GOOD.

Another applicant said: "Rebecca Mitchell, 111, Baring St. who stays with me, has taken the blood purifier with very great relief. She is troubled with rheumatism, and could not move about until she took this medicine. She looks better, and is more cheerful than she has ever been since she took bad twelve months ago. No other medicine seemed to do her any good."

A REMARKABLE CURE: WALKING 17 MILES PER DAY.

Thomas Stewart, 2, Spencer Street, North Shields, said: "I have been bad for 7 years and tried several and their medicines, but they never did me any good. I was troubled with rheumatics, and could hardly get about, and I had in consequence to give many a good job away. I wasn't able to go to work until I commenced to take your blood purifier and now I am able to walk 17 miles a day, I can walk all the way from Newcastle without feelings the pains, but before I took this medicine I could hardly get out of the house. It has also improved my general health."

CONFIDENT HE WILL GET BETTER.

Another applicant said: "Her father had taken the medicine for four weeks, and was now doing well. He had been confined to bed for almost two years, and had several doctors, but he was never able to get up and walk as he is doing now. He was confident he would get perfectly cured by the medicine.

It was very kind of the reporter of the *Daily News* to call in and report what "Handyside's Consumption Cure" was doing. There was 164 applicants for medicine, and it was really delightful to see all, except one person, travelling through the aid of the medicine into the sweet haven of health, a place as many of them had long since known. If reporters were to do this more extensively, it would prevent a great deal of imposition upon suffering people who are ready to try anything to restore them to health, or even relieve their sufferings. I have put £1,000 in a gentleman's hand, and challenge Sequah, St. Jacob's Oil, or the best physician in the world, but no one dare accept the challenge, it is still open, and I am anxious that the *bona-fide* character of this medicine should be attested by unimpeachable testimony. I beg to offer £20 each to ten ministers of the gospel who will come to one of the meetings and publicly report upon the efficacy of this medicine. If it is not proved to be the best medicine that has ever been discovered, I shall cease to make another bottle. It has only been before the public 13 months, and 1,300 people have already been cured with it, and a great many have been rescued from the grave. It has been a subject of comment how one medicine should cure nearly everything, but when it cures runnings of the body and the worst forms of skin disease, after every other medicine has failed, purify the blood, and as everything is fed from the blood, surely, with good blood every part of the system must be strengthened.

On presentation of a note from any minister of religion stating that they are unable to pay for the medicine, it will be cheerfully supplied free, and on all purchases a note will be given to the effect that if the medicine does not do what the purchaser expects, the money will be returned any time within a month after being purchased.

Handyside's "Consumption Cure," 5s 6d for two bottles, will be sent carriage paid, on receipt of a postal order. The "Blood Purifier," at 2s 6d per bottle, is nearly as good as the "Consumption Cure," except where the vitality is very low. The "Rheumatic Cure," 1s per bottle, if the disease is in the blood "Handyside's Blood Purifier" should also be taken. "Handyside's Pills," 1s per box is a grand thing for costiveness and bilious complaints, and are worth a guinea a box compared with calomel pills which are working such havoc upon the health of the people.

Everyone should read the pamphlet containing the wonderful testimonials. They are already so numerous that it would be impossible to publish all of them, but enough is published to show that it is the greatest and most valuable discovery in the world.

Beware of imitations none is genuine unless bearing a bunch of grapes below the Government Stamp, and to protect it from fraudulent imitation the Government have printed *Handyside, Bentinck, Newcastle*, on the stamp. See that the Government Stamp is whole.

Agent for Consett—Messrs. HUGHES & CO., Chemists, Front Street, and Mr T. MILNER, Chemist, Shakespeare Street, 10b

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Public Notices.

DR. ROSSVALLY.

ON account of the Wesleyan Chapel being too small to exhibit Paraphernalia, DR. ROSSVALLY will hold his Services in the NEW TOWN HALL, on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 1st day of January next, application will be made to Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace assembled at Quarter Sessions in and for the County of Durham, at the City of Durham, for an Order for STOPPING UP and DIVERTING so much of the PUBLIC ROAD leading from Consett to Blackhill, in the said County, as is situate between the junction of the said Road with another Road leading to Consett Hall, and a point on the said Road where the same is crossed on the level by a Railway of the Consett Iron Company, Limited, near the Joiners' Shop adjoining the Tin Mill of the said Company, and that the Certificate of Two Justices of the Peace (having viewed the same with the Plan of the Old, and Proposed New Highway) will be lodged with the Clerk of the Peace for the said County, on the 9th day of December next.

Dated this 14th day of November, 1889.

THOMAS WM. WELFORD,
Clerk to the Consett Local Board.

PRIESTMAN MEMORIAL FUND.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS Paid and Promised to the above Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged... ...	323	12	9
Mr Thos. Green, Hunnshaugh	2	2	0
Mr Calvert, Consett	2	2	0
Mr J. T. Potts, Consett	1	1	0
London and Newcastle Tea Company, Consett Branch...	1	1	0
Messrs Davison & Sons, Consett...	1	0	0
Mr C. Stephenson, Consett...	0	10	6
Mr N. Elsdon, Consett	0	10	6
Mr W. Hutchinson, Consett	0	10	6
Mr Jos. Milburn, Consett	0	10	6
Mr Routledge, Consett	0	10	0
Mr J. Dent, Consett	0	10	0
Mr W. H. Ritson, Lanchester	0	10	0
Mr J. Cockburn, Consett	0	5	0
Mr T. Carey, Consett...	0	5	0
Mr C. Lumley, Consett	0	5	0
Mr Wilson, Consett	0	5	0
Mr J. Lynn, Consett...	0	5	0
Rev C. S. Wilson, Consett	0	5	0
Mr G. D. Powell, Consett	0	5	0
Mr Siddle, Consett	0	5	0
Mr Milner, Consett	0	5	0
Mr T. Swainston, Consett	0	5	0
Mr J. Oliver, Consett...	0	5	0
Mrs Oliver, Consett	0	5	0
Mr C. W. Almond, Consett...	0	5	0
Mr Nicholson, Consett	0	5	0
Mr J. Collinson, Consett	0	5	0
Mr Thompson, Consett	0	5	0
Mr T. D. Dryden, Consett	0	5	0
Mr J. Wilson, Westwood	0	5	0
Mr P. Brown, Medomsley	0	5	0
Mr Thos. Simpson, Medomsley	0	5	0
Mr W. Robinson, Medomsley	0	5	0
Other Smaller Sums	8	16	1
47b Total	£348	11	10

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

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

JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law.

Tow Law Auction Mart.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAT STOCK SHOW and SALE, Wednesday, December 18th, 1889.

£30 IN PRIZES, in Eight Classes, given by the Auctioneer. Prize Schedules now ready. Entries close December 11th.

Mart Office, Tow Law. 216b

Healeyfield Farm, near Rowley Station.

MR. JOSEPH VICKERS, instructed by the Executors of the late Mr John Robson, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, November 27th, 1889, the whole of the FARMING STOCK, &c., including 230 Grand Young Black faced Ewes and Wethers, 4 S.H. Cows, 2 Steer Stirks, 2 Draught Horses, 2 Pigs, 20 Head of Poultry, Implements, Harness, Dairy Utensils, &c.

Particulars next week and in Posters.

Mart Office, Tow Law.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Raw.

Black Bull Inn, Leadgate.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, instructed by Mr THOS. FORSTER, who is retiring from business, and about to leave this neighbourhood, will SELL BY AUCTION a part of his Household FURNITURE, on Saturday, November 23rd, 1889, comprising—Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Centre Table; Mantle Mirror; American Smoking Chair; 18 Club Room Chairs; 6 Kitchen Chairs; 3 Cane-bottomed Chairs; 4 Mahogany Chairs, in Leather; Mahogany Butler's Tray; 2 Taproom Tables; Round Clock; Clock, in High Oak Case; Delf Rack; Four-poled Bedstead and Mattress; Fenders and Fire-irons; 50 Pictures; Wringing and Mangling Machine; Sewing Machine, and several other Lots.

Sale to commence at One o'clock, prompt.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 213b

Leazes, Friarside, near Burnopfield.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having been instructed, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. CARRICK'S, Traveller's Rest, Leazes, near Burnopfield, on Wednesday, 27th November, 1889, at 7 o'clock, subject to the conditions which will be read at the time of sale, the following valuable, newly, and substantially STONE BUILT BLOCK OF LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, with Gardens in Front, situate at the Leazes, Friarside, near Burnopfield, on the main road to Newcastle.

LOT 1.—All that DWELLING HOUSE, containing Large Front Kitchen, Pantry, &c., on the Ground Floor, and Two Good Rooms on the First Floor, and all necessary Conveniences and Yard thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mrs MOORE, as tenant thereof. Rent, £11 14s a year.

LOT 2.—All that DWELLING HOUSE adjoining Lot 1, and similar to it, with an Additional Room at Back, now in the occupation of Mr WILLIAM HOGARTH, as tenant thereof. Rent, £15 a year.

LOT 3.—All that DWELLING HOUSE adjoining Lot 2, containing Two Good Rooms on the Ground Floor, and Three Good Rooms on the First Floor, with all necessary Conveniences thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. Henry Appleby.

The Property is held for the unexpired term of 1,000 years, granted by an Indenture of Lease of the 3rd of January, 1872. Lot 1 being subject to the apportioned yearly rent of 12s. 2d.; Lot 2 to the apportioned yearly rent of 19s. 8d.; and Lot 3 to the apportioned yearly rent of 17s. 6d.

The Property is well built, well finished, and is a very desirable investment.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. CHARTERS and YOULL, Solicitors, 18, Grainger Street, West, or to Messrs. BUSH and WILSON, Solicitors, 33, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; or to the Auctioneer.

Sale to commence at 7 o'clock p.m. prompt.

Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill.

In Equity R403.

In the County Court of Durham, holden at Consett,
HALL AND BAINBRIDGE v. IRWIN.

BURNOPFIELD.

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr CARRICK'S, Traveller's Rest, The Leazes, Burnopfield, on Wednesday, the 27th day of November instant, at 7 o'clock in the Evening (subject to such conditions of Sale as will then be read), the undermentioned

FREEHOLD PROPERTIES,

Situate at Busty Bank, Burnopfield, pursuant to the Order made in the above action by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL, by

MR. WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer.

All that FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE and PREMISES, containing Four Good Rooms (one used as a Shop), a Pantry, and all usual appurtenances, as the same are now in the occupation of Mrs Elizabeth Irwin.

All those TWO FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSES, one adjoining the above, and one behind, each containing Two Rooms and a Pantry, and having a Large Yard and all usual Conveniences, as the same are now in the respective occupations of Messrs. Richard Henderson and Daniel Spink, at the yearly Rental of £18 4s.

The whole of the Properties is in good repair, and in the occupation of respectable Tenants, and is estimated to produce the yearly Rental of £29 18s.

The Tenants will show the Properties.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, Blackhill; and to Mr. F. E. FORSTER, Solicitor, Union Chambers, Newcastle-on-Tyne; and for conditions of Sale, to

J. McCARTAN,
Solicitor,
Consett and Durham.

November 12th, 1889. 215b

JOSEPH [illegible]

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER

10, WOOD STREET SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

TESTIMONY OF THE REV. THOMAS CLIFTON, CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER, BLYTH.

Having accepted an invitation to attend the fortnightly meeting of Mr Handyside with his patients at South Shields, Wednesday evening found us at the appointed time at the door of Lockhart's Cocoa Rooms, Mill Dam. It was a wet, dirty, and disagreeable night, but as we drew near we found a goodly company of people already waiting for admission. The patients, as we gathered from their own statements, were from South Shields, North Shields, Jarrow, Westoe, Boldon Colliery, and numerous other localities. Persons of all ages were present either in person or by their representatives—even children and old people, having derived wonderful advantage from the use of the medicines; and the periods of illness varied from a few weeks in some cases, to an "all my life" illness in others. When we entered the room we found it full of men, women, and children. It was a very strange assembly—a veritable pool of Bethesda—of blind, halt, withered, "waiting for the moving of the water." They were, evidently, however, all in need, all seeking advice, and had all come to learn how they might be cured of their manifold diseases.

Mr Handyside had no sooner arrived than he off with his overcoat, on with his scarf, and proceeded to business. This consisted mainly in examining each patient, asking each one questions and receiving their answers, tendering advice and then handing them over to his assistant, who supplied them gratuitously with the medicines they each needed. In this manner in the course of between two or three hours from one hundred and fifty to two hundred persons must have passed through his hands. His diagnosis of disease was truly wonderful, and the hygienic and common-sense advice he gave was remarkably good. He did not flatter his patients nor did he promise them impossible things, but told them faithfully what he could do and what he could not do. His bearing towards them was hearty and cheerful, and his counsel and conversation, being mixed with a good deal of characteristic and dry humour, produced a very hopeful and pleasant sensation. Mr Handyside particularly instructed all patients in the method of "rubbing out" all pains, and generally told them, if they could not rub themselves, or had nobody to do it for them effectually, all they had to do was to send him word, and a rubber would be sent down from Newcastle—"for," said he, "I care nothing about expense; only we must have you better."

A considerable portion of those present had evidently been under his treatment for a longer or a shorter period, but many also had attended now for the first time. All, however, were treated in the same kindly manner, and none were sent empty away. There was a wonderful unanimity about their testimony. It was absolute and unbroken. All testified what great good they had received from the treatment and the remedies. There were a few specially interesting cases, which I would like to name. All sorts of complaints appear to yield implicitly to his mode of treatment and the silent potency of his preparations. For example, there were present on Wednesday night persons suffering from noises in the head, chronic rheumatism, disease of heart, a person who had taken fits every month for 14 years, weakness and poorness of blood, life-long delicate health, consumption, shortness of breath, bronchitis, night-sweatings, asthma, indigestion, spasms, pains in the back, inflamation of the lungs brought on by lead-poisoning, hereditary consumption, general debility, lumbago, neuralgia and pains in the head, chronic disease of kidneys, skin disease, liver complaint, and even a case of paralysis, the effect of a fall down a ship's hold. Patients suffering from all these diseases were present on Wednesday, and uniformly proclaimed the great good the preparations had done them. Others again had been under one or several doctors; in hospitals, infirmaries, under physicians; had also taken the most extensively advertised patent medicine, but had derived no benefit to be compared with the benefits they had got from the use of these medicines. The first was that of a respectable woman, wife of a working man. She had been ill for a long time, and had been under the care of many doctors, but none had done her any good. She came the fortnight before to visit Mr Handyside, and was then in a miserable and deplorable state; but now she had come with cheerful countenance, and eyes with joy, to tell him how greatly she had improved under his treatment, and that she had now good hopes of being restored to perfect health. Her gratitude was very refreshing to witness. Another was that of a poor young man, who had come to the meeting before on crutches; but now had thrown away his crutches, and had been able to walk to the place of meeting to testify of the good he had received. Another was the case of a poor woman so dreadfully affected with a skin disease that to look upon her, as she exposed her arm, gave one an idea that the limb was in a state of putrefaction. She had, however, only taken the medicine a fortnight, and now she declared her case a great deal better, and from the diseased arm scales were dropping off indicating a healing process at work. Another remarkable case was that of a man named Saddler, who, two years ago, had fallen down a ship's hold in a foreign port, and so injured himself as to result in paralysis. He had been in the hospital abroad, and got some relief; but on returning home his worst symptoms had come again. He had taken the medicine for a short time, and was now on the way to mending. This testimony honestly took Mr Handyside himself by surprise, for he had repeatedly declared that the medicine would not cure valveral heart disease nor paralysis, nor put a new lung in if the lung was gone with disease. "But," said he, "if it will cure paralysis, it will cure anything. And mind," added he, "nobody has been promised half-a-crown to come here to tell a lie; the fact is I don't know one of you in the room." Mrs Sadler, the wife of this man, had also been ill for a year, and was now a great deal better from the use of the medicines. Another interesting case was that of a person named Ann Burchall and her sister. The sister had been low, desponding, and dispirited; could do no work; sat and cried nearly all day long. Now, after a brief course of the medicines, all lowness of spirits had disappeared. She could work all day, and constantly sang like a lark. If I were to particularise, which I could do from notes, taken in at least 60 or 70 cases, it would make this communication too long, and I must content myself with those I have already adduced.

Mr Handyside's remedies are specially intended for the cure of rheumatism and consumption, but they seem also, from what we saw and heard, to reach all sorts of complaints. What they consist of is a secret, I suppose. Mr Handyside reminded all present that he had deposited £1,000 as a challenge against the world to produce a more efficient remedial agent, and no one had come forward. The challenge is still open, and he added, "I am independent of making a living by a patent medicine, and the moment it is proved that this is not the best universal remedy I don't make another bottle, nor will I stoop to push it by deception." I took the liberty of asking Mr Handyside, after the meeting was over, in a facetious manner, what they were composed of, and he humorously replied that he had not told anybody yet, but that if I only knew I should be surprised how simple they were. Yes! No doubt so it even is; that which is most simple is ever most effective.

Before we left Mr Handyside informed his patients that he would continue his visits to South Shields for three months, and then leave them, as he intended doing the same in other localities. He also said he would have a night in the market-place, when any who could not afford to buy the medicines would be supplied with them gratis, as indeed he was doing on the occasion of our visit, and would continue to do for a space of three months, as he had announced.

Well, we certainly passed a most pleasant and interesting evening with our friend and his patients, and hope that his humane and benevolent mission will go on extending and widening, and that he will have the joy of relieving the suffering and of ameliorating the condition of thousands of the victims of the manifold maladies of modern society.

THOMAS CLIFTON,
Congregational Minister.

Blyth, October 29th, 1889.

Business Announcements.

THE

PICTURE OF THE SEASON

ENTITLED

THE PEACEMAKER

BY JOHN BURR, A.R.W.S., &c.

IS A PERFECTLY PLEASING

PICTORIAL PRESENTATION,

AND A DARINGLY DISTINCT DEPARTURE FROM ANYTHING YET ATTEMPTED,

In the treatment of humorous subjects Mr Burr is admitted to be one of the leading artists of the day, and in this work he has surpassed himself in depicting homely humour, with a gentle touch of childish pathos, which is

SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE.

EACH FIGURE IS A STUDY IN ITSELF.

SEE WINDOWS.

The threatening attitude of the old lady, with a firm grip of her all-powerful umbrella, bode ill for the future comfort of the young combatant on the left, in whose bosom a fierce contest is raging between baffled wrath and wholesome fear, as shown by the defiant posture, but withal quivering lip.

The little fellow to the right, on his way to the village school, has evidently escaped (for the present) the vengeance of the enemy by the timely intervention of the old woman. He is, of course, "more frightened than hurt," while the little maiden beside him is expressing her sympathy by the truly feminine method of a "guid greet."

SEE WINDOWS.

A Copy of this Beautiful Picture will be

GIVEN AWAY to every TEA PURCHASER

on the following conditions :—

Each week for 5 weeks we will give out to every customer a "Picture Ticket," these tickets will bear different dates and be of different colours, and only those who bring these 5 TICKETS to any one of our shops during Christmas week will be entitled to one of these beautiful Pictures.

We trust all customers will bear with us in asking them to carry out these simple conditions, as we are compelled to adopt some plan to make sure that none but our customers may demand this Picture from us. It costs us about

£1,500 EVERY XMAS,

and is too expensive to give away to all comers, and having thousands of customers, it is impossible that even our managers can know all personally.

We are giving out the first Picture Ticket this week. Be sure to call for one.

IN TEAS

WE BEAT ALL COMPETITORS,

GREAT AND SMALL.

600 TONS PER YEAR

SOLD BY US.

This heads the list of Tea Sales by any single Firm, and is proof enough as to quality.

PRICES :—

2s., 2s. 4d., 2s. 8d., and 3s. PER LB.

OUR 2s. PURE INDIAN IS A TREAT FOR STRENGTH AND FLAVOUR.

1LB. OF THIS TEA WILL GO NEARLY AS FAR AS 2LBS. OF ANY OTHER.

USUAL CHECKS OR PRESENTS TO ALL PURCHASERS.

WE KNOW HOW TO BUY SO THAT WE CAN COMMAND SALES.

GOOD SOAP	1d. per lb.
BEST PALE SOAP in the Kingdom	2½d. per lb.
GINGER SNAPS & MIXED BISCUITS	2½d. per lb.
2lb. JAR of JAM	Only 4½d.
LOZENGES all kinds and MIXED SWEETS	3½d. per lb.

IN SUGAR no one offers such value as we do.

Of Shilling Coffee We Sell Tons.
We Sell 12 Tons Of Sweets Every Month.
We Sell 30 Tons Of Biscuits Every Month.
We Sell 30 Tons Of Soap Every Month.
We Sell 250 Tons Of Jam Every Year.
We Sell nearly 2,000 Tons of Sugar Every Year.

We can prove these figures by our Books at any time.

Surely such Sales are a guarantee of both quality and cheapness.

Therefore our Goods need no puffing.

SEE OUR WINDOWS FOR PICTURE AND PRICES.

BRANCHES IN THIS DISTRICT.

BERWICK—Institute Buildings.
BISHOP AUCKLAND—108, Newgate Street.
CONSETT—20, Newmarket Street.
DARLINGTON—21, High Row.
DURHAM—102, Claypath.
GATESHEAD—100, High Street.
HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING—Newbottle Street.
JARROW—43 Ormonde Street.
MONKWEARMOUTH—3, Church Street.
NEWCASTE—17, West Grainger Street.
Do. 416, Scotswood Road.
Do. 46, Clayton Street.
Do. 8, New Bridge Street.
Do. 30, Sandhill.
Do. Byker, 171, Shields Road.
NORTH SHIELDS—15, Saville Street East.
SOUTH SHIELDS—69, King Street.
Do. 31 and 32, Green Street.
SUNDERLAND—232, High Street West.
Do. 41, Hendon Road.
SEAHAM HARBOUR—1, North Terrace.
SPENNYMOOR—50, High Street.

LONDON & NEWCASTLE TEA COMPANY.

Sales by Auction.

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

Monday, November 25th, 1889.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture, Brass-mounted and other Bedsteads, Feather and Down Beds, Superior Cottage Pianoforte, Trichord, and in perfect order, 3 Domestic Sewing Machines, Wringing and Mangling Machine, 5 Oil Paintings, in good Gold Frames, Fire irons, and 100lbs. best Indian Tea, together with other Effects.

MESSRS A. AND R. J. BRODIE are instructed to SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, on Monday, November 25th, the Superior FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, as above.

Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock.

Important Notice.

THE following FREEHOLD PROPERTY not having been SOLD at the Auction at Mr COYLE'S, on the 7th November instant, may be Treated for Privately :—

FREEHOLD HOUSE of Five Rooms, with Wash house, and every Convenience, being No. 3, Rose Mount, Consett, as occupied by Mrs MAXWELL.

FREEHOLD TENEMENTED HOUSE of Five Rooms, for two tenants, with Wash-house, Pantries, and other Convenience, occupied by Mr WALTON and another, at a gross annual rental of £22.

Apply, ADAM BRODIE, F.A.I., 17, Sherburn Terrace and Town Hall, Consett.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ADAM BRODIE and ROBERT J. BRODIE, Members of the Institute of Auctioneers and Surveyors, and of the Institute of Estate Agents, are prepared to execute all Orders for the SALE of FARMING STOCKS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCKS-IN-TRADE, and other Property, in the Best Style, and on Reasonable Terms. Being professionally associated with the above-named Institutions, they are unable to *tout* for commissions as many others do, but they will be glad to execute those with which they may be favoured on Reasonable Terms. Distress for Rent, under the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1883, and also under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888, duly carried out.

NOTE THE ADDRESS :—A. and R. J. BRODIE, Certificated Auctioneers, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Front Street, Leadgate.

MR. JOS. OLEY, instructed by Mr. THOMAS WILSON, Stationer, &c., who is declining business and housekeeping, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Front Street, Leadgate, on Friday, the 22nd day of November, 1889, the whole of his Household FURNITURE, STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c. For particulars see Bills.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock in the Afternoon

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY FIRST, NOVEMBER 18TH, 1889.

10 Fat Cattle.
90 Fat Sheep.
12 to 20 Cows.
Pork and Store Pigs, Calves, Poultry, &c.
Turnips, Carrots, &c.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

XMAS PRIZE SHOW and SALE of FAT STOCK will be held on Monday, December 16th. Prize List now ready. Early Entries solicited.

J. S. MURRAY.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,

Appointed by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888,

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

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

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

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

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

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC. 653y

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY

TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. Interest, repayable at Three Months' notice.

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Secretary.

E. BROOKS
FOR
HIGH-CLASS HATS,
57, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE.

MOST MONEY LENT

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

J. & E. WILSON'S,

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

12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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

SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.

OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739y

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

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete, permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. 9d. and 1s. bottles.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL & STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES, quickly correct all irregularities, remove all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes, 1s 1½d. and 2s 9d. of all Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps by the Maker, E. T. Towle, Chemist, [illegible]gham.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1889.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

THE TELEPHONE FOR POLICE PURPOSES.

Should the project for connecting by telephone the principle towns in the county of Durham for police purposes be carried into effect, it may be assumed that the growing town of Consett will be at length put upon a level with similar centres of industry in that respect. I know right well that the people of Consett are very proud of their town with its banks and other building ; but so long as it remains outside the radius of telephonic communication my good friends must take a back seat. A town without the telephone is nowhere in these days when life is measured—not by the years men live, but by the amount of work they perform. I remember several months ago of having drawn public attention to an advertisement in the *Guardian* in which it was set forth that the Northern District Telephone Company was on the eve of opening a branch office at Shotley Bridge, and having some little idea of the usefulness of the telephone I referred to the proposed change, congratulating the company on the strength of their enterprising spirit, and the public on the prospective privelege. I heard no more of the matter, and expecting that the wires were vibrating hourly by the sound of the voices that were anything but still, I thought no more about the Consett telephone until I learned by experience that the project had vanished like a vision of the night. I had been at Consett on business, and having occasion to communicate with my friends I bent my steps in the direction of Shotley Bridge with the intention of chatting for a few moments through the telephone. I need hardly say that the journey down the mountain side was a fruitless one. The quite easy-going folks who hang out down in the depth of the valley stared at me, just as if I had been another Rip Van Winkle, when I asked then to show me the public telephone office. Nobody had heard of the existence of such an establishment, and let me say that I have not yet forgiven certain of them who regarded me with an air of curiosity, just as if I ought to be relegated within the walls of another institution which shall here be nameless.

THE USES OF THE TELEPHONE.

There is no comparison whatever between the telegraph and telephone. The former is a mere cold mechanical contrivance, clever no doubt, but in no respect equal to an instrument by which the living sound of the human voice are transmitted for many miles through space, the familiar accents being quite as distinct as if only a few yards distant. I have occasion very frequently to use the telephone, and not a few gentlemen are known to me by sound—not by sight. I am not skilled enough in that particular line of science to determine exactly to what distance conversation can be conveniently maintained, but I know that the matter of fifty miles away I can hear and am heard quite distinctly. I was talking the other morning from the foot of the Cleveland hills to a gentleman near the mouth of the Tyne, when the conversation was brought to an abrupt termination by a voice from Newcastle—more than forty miles distant—piped in my ear : "Be quick, please, you have spoken for twelve minutes, and we want the instrument." In commercial matters the telephone is invaluable, and that is the chief use to which it is turned. Of course, all the Newcastle papers have telephone communication to the principal towns and districts in the North, Consett alone standing out in the cold on the bleak uplands fringing the horizon skyward in North-Western Durham.

A DISTINGUISHED STRANGER.

I sometimes think that the Rev E. W. Jenkins, the energetic pastor of Highgate, must have a very large circle of friends. His fellow ministers in the immediate neighbourhood are continually rallying around him, and numerous strangers from a distance never seem to weary favouring him with periodical visits. I understand that in keeping with the terms of an old engagement a gentleman who is sure meet with a cordial reception, not by the Baptists only, but by many whose views are in no sense circumscribed by sects and creeds, is announced to preach at Highgate on Sunday first. I refer to the Rev Aaron Matthews, a Russian by birth, but belonging originally to that strangely favoured race—the Jews. Mr Matthews is well-known in religious circles by his zeal in the faith of his adoption, and his extensive knowledge of the nations of the East, having acted for many years as travelling secretary for a society which has for it's object the conversion of the Jews. There can be no doubt but the rev. gentleman will be well worth listening to, and it needs no reminder from me to induce the people of Consett and Blackhill to honour him in a way that every public instructor desires to be honoured—by packed pews or benches.

KILLED BY KINDNESS.

One would think that it must needs be a pleasant sort of death to be killed by kindness ; but it appears to be the old and oft-told tale of evil being wrought for want of thought. In a recent report issued by Dr Renton, that gentleman states without reservation that the chief cause of the high death-rate among infants is due to improper feeding, and it thus falls out that mistaken kindness is in reality the direct cause of death. It is very strange no doubt, but truth is always strange—stranger than fiction. It cannot be that mothers err on the ground of ignorance, because there is not a newspaper in the country in which the foolishness, even danger, of feeding infants is not drawn attention to day by day, or week by week But if people read it is pretty evident that they don't think, and it is at that point where the mischief creeps in. I have a sort of dreamy recollection of the worthy doctor having once expressed his intention to lecture or to instruct classes on the subject of rearing the innocents, but if I am in error on that score, I fancy that the subject might almost come under the scope of the Lady's Ambulance Association, conducted under the personal direction of the doctor. How to prevent death is quite as worthy a subject for study as how to bind and dress a wound ; besides, the subject-matter comes immediately within the scope of woman's particular sphere.

ROUNDABOUT NOTES.

[BY "RAMBLER."]

I was glad to notice that the pupils of Mr J. Surtees, of Blackhill, were very successful in the late musical examination. In the Preliminary Grade there were only six who passed with first-class honours, and three of the six were pupils of Mr Surtees. This speaks eloquently of Mr Surtees' teaching ability.

⁂

I cannot tell what is the intention of the temperance party in this district just at present, but might I suggest that a lecture on Temperance by Dr Rutherford would help to strengthen the party. He is a man of acknowledged authority on the subject, and one who can make whatever he is dealing with interesting. If they were able to secure his services, I am sure the lecture would be well attended, and good would result from it.

⁂

By the way, does the title "Temperance Party" really apply to those who use the word in this district. They advocate *total abstinence*, which seems to me to be an extreme policy, rather than a temperate one.

⁂

Many of the cricketers in our neighbourhood will be sorry to hear of the sad bereavement which has overtaken one who used to play occasionally for Tanfield—Mr W. H. Farmer. It does not seem long since many of us were congratulating him on his marriage, which death has now dissolved, as his wife died very suddenly at the end of last week. I feel sure Mr Farmer has the sympathy of all local cricketers in his sorrow.

⁂

I understand that there will be an appeal against the Consett Magistrates' decision in fining Robert Hall 10s and costs for driving cattle on the footpath on Benfieldside Edge Road. At an informal meeting held at the Benfieldside Auction Mart on Monday afternoon, strong indignation was expressed at the conduct of the Justices, and Hall was regarded as the "hero of the day."

⁂

The contracts for carrying out Improvements at Consett and Blackhill Railway Station has been let to Mr Elliott, of South Shields. Operations will be begun next week.

⁂

I was glad to see that the people of Consett and district were willing to support a concert got up for so worthy an object as was held in the Co-operative Hall, on Monday night. The audience was very enthusiastic, and Madame Hall-Atkin appeared no less than ten times. Is this not something like hard work ? This lady has been before the public as a singer for about fifteen years, yet people still throng in large numbers to hear her ; and the reception accorded her on Monday night shows what a great favourite she is here. All the artistes gave their services free on this occasion.

⁂

On Sunday morning, the vicar of Consett preached a powerful sermon against gambling, and made some very strong remarks about the evils attending rabbit coursings in Consett. On the previous Sunday the rev gentleman made war on Ritualism, and said that as long as he was vicar, there would be no innovations allowed in the service of the parish church.

⁂

The very word high-churchman seems to act on some people just as the waving of a red rag act on a bull. They consider those gentlemen almost akin to the power of darkness, yet if they would look well into the matter they would find that the men who have done most good in the Church of England in late years have been, with few exceptions, high churchmen ; and also that the leading men in the church at the present belong to that section. Surely they do not want to drive out the greater part of the learned and good men that are now in the church.

Last week there were 20 roses in full bloom on a rose tree in the locality of Oliverford, near Rowley.

SPECIAL SERVICES.—On Sunday, Miss Parker, of Manchester, commenced a series of special services at Kyo. The services were held in the Board Schools, and were well attended, and during the week the services have been held in the Mission Room with much success.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Thursday week, Mr J. A. Issott, of Moorthorpe, Doncaster, delivered a lecture in the Wesleyan Chapel, Tantobie, before a good company. The lecture was illustrated with a magic-lantern with moving views and chromotropes. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

John William Nicholson, Urpeth West House, Chester-le-Street, pupil of Mr Robert Wilson, Sandyford Academy, Nixon Street, has successfully passed the Preliminary Examinations of the Incorporated Law Society of Great Britian, held in Newcastle on 23rd and 24th ult.

POLICE COURT.—At Chester-le-Street Court House, on Monday, Margaret Elizabeth Smith was charged with stealing a pair of boots from the shop door of Alsop Wilson, Front Street, Chester-le-Street, on Saturday night.—Ambrose Burnside, a youth, was charged with stealing a quantity of brass and lead, the property of James Bradford, at Vigo, on the 7th inst.—Jas. Anderson and Michael Belton were charged with stealing pigeons, the property of Robert W. Richardson, at Pelton East House, 10th inst.—Joe. Cooney was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and assaulting P.C. Casson, at Birtley, 9th inst.—The whole of the cases were remanded until the 20th inst.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.—The annual show was held on Friday at Mr John Middleton's, Miner's Arms Inn, Chester-le-Street. In previous years there has been an open class for blooms of chrysanthemums, but this year all the classes were confined to a limited area. Notwithstanding this drawback the show may be considered a success, the room being crowded with exhibits of a very meritorious description ; vegetables especially being a most wonderful show. Mr Dodds, Chester-le-Street, was judge, and his awards were made in the order given below :—Best six blooms of chrysanthemums—J. Thompson, E. Ridley, G. Gilder, F. Summers, M. Summers, J. Stephenson, J. Summers, S. Miller, J. R. Middleton, W. Miller. Specimen plant (chrysanthemum)—S. Miller, G. Gilder. Collection of vegetables, six sorts—M. Summers. J. Summers. J. Temple, J. Graham, T. Rogerson, W. Miller, S. Miller, E. Ridley, F. Summers, F. Cooke, M. Stephenson, J. R. Middleton, R. Storey, J. Bewick, H. Soulsby, W. Stephenson. A special prize was also awarded to Mrs Middleton for a unique collection of vegetables exhibited by her.

COLLIERLEY BURIAL BOARD.—The ordinary meeting of this Board was held on Thursday week, in the Hare Law Board Schools. The members present were:—Messrs W. Rutherford, J. Swallow, J. Sasbury, P. Reay, and the clerk (Mr W. S. Telford). Mr Wm. Rutherford acted as chairman *pro. tem.*—Rev J. Gornall was elected chairman, and Mr Wm. Rutherford vice-chairman.—A rate of 2d in the £ was ordered to be made on the ecclesiastical parish of Collierley.—The Board accepted the offer of £1,600 from the vestry meeting, and it was resolved to pay back the same, with interest thereon, in 15 years.—The remainder of the business was of a formal character.

"WAGGON INN" YEARLY FUND.—The sixth annual reunion of the above fund was celebrated on Saturday night, when the members turned up in strong force to participate in the annual dinner, provided by Mrs Atkinson, the worthy hostess of the Waggon Inn. Upwards of 70 sat down to the rich viands temptingly placed before them, ample justice being done, and every one delighted with the *menu*. After the removal of the cloths, Mr A. Atkinson, Causey, was voted to the chair, and Mr J. Kirkley to the vice-chair. It is needless to say that in a locality where both are highly respected, everything passed off with the greatest enthusiasm and decorum. The usual patriotic toasts having been disposed of, the subjoined gentlemen, by their musical talents, contributed to the convivialty of the evening. The song list was began with Mr W. M'Crum artistically giving the comical song, "Wor Nanney's a maiser," which frequently brought into play the stentorian voice of Old Piley. Mr M'Crum almost terrified all with "Bunty's ghost," but subsequently produced roars of laughter with the "Shiel Raw Flood," in which Dick Elstob was very conspicuous. Mr John Pyle, a descendant of one of the heroes of Trafalgar, gave in melodious strains the "Gallant poacher." Mr Peter Lennon thoroughly aroused the political ardour of the company with songs showing our National situation. Mr Geo. Crisp gave every satisfaction when he characteristically described the fortune of the possessor of "The old arm chair." Mr Thos. Houghton amused all by describing how bashful he was while courting, being only able to say "By gox, I don't care if I do." Mr Jas. Nicholson, by perfect rendering of the "Union Jack" and the "Death of Nelson," stirred up the patriotic feelings of the guests. Mr D. Offert, in giving "John Malone," amusingly and graphically described the procession to the New Town Hall. Mr W. Armstrong in proper minstrel style gave "Little brown jug." The recitation part was filled up by Mr J. Offert, who to the delight of the audience showed that a parson knew more about a sermon than barley, while Mr R Atkinson detailed the comical misfortunes of married life. Great credit is due to the indatigable labours of Messrs R. Gladders, W. Herron, and C. Miller, the highly respected officers of the club, who besides earnestly striving for its welfare, were most assiduous in their endeavours to satisfy nature's cravings. The society begs to tender to the lady attendants and the donors towards their night's enjoyment their sincere thanks and appreciation. The success of the society is everything that can be wished for. The toast of the host and hostess with "Auld Lang Syne," finished the most enjoyable evening that the society has ever held.—The club started on December 18th, 1883, with 24 members, and was again re-formed on November 2nd, this year, with 90 member, which is very encouraging alike to officers and members.

QUARRY ACCIDENT.—Joseph Tofthouse, quarryman at Newlandside limestone quarries, Stanhope, while following his avocation on Tuesday at the above quarries, fell over the quarry face, a distance of 30 feet. He was conveyed home on an ambulance stretcher, and was found to be much shaken and bruised.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight—Mr T. Robson presiding. There were also present Messrs J. Kirk[illegible], Geo. Ridley, John Crawford, J. Chrystal, R. W[illegible] Jackson, Peter [illegible] Oswald, D. W. Robson, J. Snowball, [illegible], Joseph[illegible]son, W. Gascoigne, J. Hodgson, P. [illegible] Mr R. Witherspoon, T. Wilson, and the clerk [illegible] Dickinson).

INEBRIATES.

A circular letter from the British Medical Association was read asking that the Guardians should support the detention of incurable inebriates. This was the third circular letter addressed by the Association to the Board of Guardians, and the replies had so far been satisfactory.

Mr OSWALD : Were there any statistics given in the letter as to the number of those characters who came to them ?

The CHAIRMAN : It did not apply to them.

Mr HODGSON : They had one that day waiting at the door—one whom he had known all his life. There could be no harm in expressing the opinion of the Board on the matter. It did not follow that what they said was right, but it might be tried.

At the request of the CHAIRMAN, the Clerk read a report of the proceedings of a meeting of the Newark Guardians, where the circular had been discussed. A motion that the circular be supported secured five votes, and an amendment that the letter lie on the table was supported by 13 votes.

Mr ROBSON : They could do little in the matter, except to support the principle of local opinion, which would do more than what the circular proposed. I move that the letter lie on the table.

Mr SNOWBALL seconded.

Mr OSWALD moved that the Board support the circular.

Mr HODGSON seconded, and asked that the number might be taken.

On the motion and amendment being put, it was found that eight voted for the motion and two for the amendment.

RELIEF REPORTS.

Mr Joseph Armstrong reported that he had paid away during the fortnight in the Chester-le-Street sub-district for out-door and non-settled relief, school fees, and asylum expenses, £74 7s 8d. Mr Robert Turnbull, for the Harraton sub-district, reported that he had expended in the same time and for the same purposes, £68 12s.

Cheques for the amounts were ordered accordingly.

A GUARDIAN FOR WASHINGTON.

A letter from the Local Government Board was read respecting an application from the Guardians for leave to appoint a Guardian for the township of Washington in the place of Mr James Lisle, who had gone to Africa. Their lordships asked to be informed as to whether Mr Lisle had ceased to be rated to the relief of the poor in the township or not.

The Clerk said that he had examined the rate-books for the township, and found that Mr Lisle's name had been struck off. He had forwarded the information to the Local Government Board.

MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The Master (Mr A. Aikman) reported that the number of inmates in the House that day was 97, as against 122 at the same date last year, decrease 25. During the fortnight 42 vagrants had been relieved, as compared with 110 during the corresponding period of last year, showing a decrease of 66. The Countess of Scarborough and the Hon. Mrs Yorke had visited the House and had distributed tea, tobacco, and other luxuries to the inmates. The thanks of the Board were accorded to the Countess and Mrs Yorke.

THE VISITING COMMITTEE

Reported that they had that day visited the House and found everything in good order, and the inmates were happy and contended.

PUBLIC VACCINATION STATIONS.

The Clerk replied that in accordance with an intimation from the Local Government Board, he had made arrangements for removal of the public vaccination stations from public-houses where they had been held, and had secured schools, reading-rooms, chapels, and private houses instead. There was practically no alteration in the rents for the various places, and without further discussion the places which the Clerk had arranged for were unanimously adopted.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

BIRTLEY ASHPITS.

On the motion of Mr KIRKUP, seconded by Mr RIDLEY, it was agreed that the cost for cleansing the Birtley ashpits be a special expense.

WASHINGTON WATER MAINS INSPECTOR.

A letter from Mr Robinson, inspector of water mains at Washington, was read, tendering his resignation.

The CHAIRMAN : Why does he resign?

Mr WILSON : Because he finds he cannot do it for the money. We only pay him £30 a year My idea is that you should give £50 and get a good man. I held the appointment for four or five years, and know that it cannot be done for £30 a year. There was also another point. Would they require Robinson to put the pipes and other things in order before he left?

The CHAIRMAN : After what he had heard from the other side, he would not like to let it to a man for £30.

After some further remarks respecting the duties it was resolved that the resignation be accepted ; that Mr Robinson be called upon to put the place in thorough repair, in accordance with the terms of his contract, and that the Clerk be instructed to advertise for another inspector, applicants to state the sum they would accept.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr Duncan reported that during the fortnight there had been 38 deaths and 58 births, giving a death-rate of 19·76 and a birth-rate of 30·16 per 1,000.

USWORTH WATER SUPPLY.

The sanitary inspector (Mr T. Barras) reported that he had received several complaints about the deficiency of the water supply at Usworth Colliery and Waterloo ; the quality of the water was also complained of.

A letter from Mr Palmer on the same subject was also read, stating that the workmen had refused to pay twopence a week for the water.

The CHAIRMAN said the workmen were scarcely treating Mr Palmer fairly in the matter. There had been a considerable outlay to put in the supply, and there would be more to keep it going ; the owners should be paid for their outlay. If that Authority had put in the water, the rate would have been more than 2d a week, and the workmen would have been compelled to pay the rate, or be taken before the magistrates.

Mr GASCOIGNE (Usworth) said he was one of the first deputation who waited upon Mr Palmer, and at that meeting it was understood that the workmen should pay the same rate as was paid at the neighbouring colliery (Washington), which was stated to be one penny a week. The supply was not good, and if the Authority had put in the Sunderland water the workmen would willingly have paid the rate, whatever it was.

Mr WILSON (Usworth) remarked that he was also one of the first depuation, and as far as he could remember, the rate was not then decided upon.

The CHAIRMAN : But the analyses we had of the Usworth water were better than those of Sunderland. Why did they refuse to pay the twopence?

Mr GASCOIGNE : Because they can get it for nothing.

The CHAIRMAN : A very bad reason.

Mr GASCOIGNE : The workmen were quite willing to pay one penny a week, but they would not pay twopence.

The CHAIRMAN : Could the matter not be got over by another meeting of the joint deputation of this Authority and the workmen, with Mr Palmer ? That appeared to be the best way out of it.

The CHAIRMAN'S suggestion was agreed to and the deputation appointed.

MR PALMER AND THE AUTHORITY.

The CHAIRMAN said he had received a letter from Mr Palmer asking that that gentleman might be allowed to come before the Authority, and make a statement with respect to the recent magisterial proceedings taken by the Authority against the owners of Usworth Colliery. It was for the members to say whether they would hear Mr Palmer or not.

Mr HAY : It is too late now. He should have said what he had to say at the Police-court. I move that we do not hear him.

Mr KIRKUP seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

A letter from Mr John Mitchell, waywarden for the township of Chester-le-Street, was received and read. The letter asked the Authority to support a memorial to the Local Government Board, asking that body to confer upon the Authority the powers contained in clauses 39 and 42 of the Public Health Act, 1875. It was further explained that the [illegible]moters of the memorial need only have had the pr[illegible] representing one-tenth of the rateable signatures [illegible]nship. The present memorial bore value of the to[illegible]ting half the rateable value of signatures repr[illegible] clauses referred to related of the township. Th[illegible] the streets, and the con- to sweeping and watering [illegible] of public conveni- struction and erection of [illegible] ence in the township.

The CHAIRMAN said it was no doubt [illegible]ry necessary, and it appeared to be wished for. He noticed that the memorial was signed by Mr Wm. Armstrong on behalf of the owners of Pelton Fell Colliery, and by Mr Wm. Morris on behalf of the owners of Waldridge Fell Colliery. But before they entered into the point, they would do well to adjourn the matter for fourteen days, so that it might have due consideration.

Mr HAY enquired if they did not think that the ratepayers should have been consulted ? It was some time since he asked the Authority to take similar steps to that now proposed, but was then referred to the ratepayers. He went to the ratepayers, but was defeated. It did not take him five minutes to consider it.

Mr OSWALD moved, Mr HODGSON seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the memorial lie on the table fourteen days.

The Authority then adjourned.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held yesterday (Thursday), under the presidency of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. Present : Canon F. Kearney, Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Father P. C. Fortin, Rev C. F. D. Hodge, Messrs W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., G. Hobson, W. H. Hedley, J. Lax, T. J. Muse, Councillor J. A. Curry, Wm. Rutherford, W. Brown, W. Grey, R. Robson, T. Nichol, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

THE POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

The Clerk stated that the annual Poor Law Conference was fixed to take place in London on December 11th.

The CHAIRMAN : We have never entertained this question. Of course, any Guardian is at liberty to attend, providing he pays his own expenses.

Mr HOBSON thought that was a good chance for the chairman and himself going to London to see Barnum's great show. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN : Well, I'm not so fond of London as all that. (More laughter.)

AMENDING THE POOR LAW ACT.

The Clerk read a communication from Mr A. Thomas, M.P. for Glamorgan, intimating that he was preparing a bill for presentation to Parliament for the amendment of the Poor Law Act. A series of about 40 questions accompanied the letter, bearing on every phase of the subject. He also asked for any suggestions the Guardians might have to make.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the only suggestion he could make was to diminish the number of paupers.

Mr MUSE stated that they were mostly troubled with American widows.

Mr CURRY said that it was contemplated to amend the Poor Law Act, and he thought there would be no harm in referring the questions to a committee to consider and report at the next meeting.

The CHAIRMAN accordingly proposed that Messrs Curry, Brown, and Nichol should form such committee.

This was seconded by Mr GRAY.

The CHAIRMAN having read the various questions, Mr HOBSON considered them quite frivolous and unnecessary. They were just a "lot of bosh." (Laughter.) He moved that the documents lie upon the table.

Mr GRAY seconded the proposal, which was agreed to *nem. con.*

Mr CURRY stated that there was one or two matters worthy of consideration—the prevention of illegitimate births and the proposed abolition of *ex-officio* Guardians.

The CHAIRMAN : I certainly object to that, as *ex-officio* Guardians are very useful.

Mr HOBSON (sarcastically) : That is a very important matter, is it not ? (Laughter.)

IMPROVED RAILWAY FACILITIES.

The Clerk stated that he had not received any reply from the North-Eastern Railway Company with reference to the Board's petition *re* the extension of the passenger railway facilities in West Durham, and the improvement of the train service on the Consett Branch. The Directors did not meet to-day (Friday) to consider the Board's memorials.

This was all the business of interest.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "ANNFIELDITE."]

There is a good deal of talk about marriages free of charge. But if free marriages are as bad to bring about as free education, we will have a number of bachelors and old maids if they put off the question until they can be united in holy matrimony free of charge. I hear of a couple whose names have been "called" for the first time in one of our churches, and during the week the minister in holy orders, feeling anxious to know more about it, made his way to the house of the young lady's parents, gently knocked at the door, and when opened he asked "Is your daughter at home that's away at present ?" The old lady was somewhat taken by surprise by the gentleman of the cloth, and answered, "Oh yes, sir, she is at home." "All right. Good-bye." Of course, he was looking after buiness, just as it should be.

It surely would be a fine thing if there was to be a strike on this question, and there is no telling what it might come to if there is not a reduction—even down to nothing.

The Y.M.C.A. mission brass band did good service on Sunday morning in connection with the services held at West Kyo by the Wesleyan Methodists. The band has attained great efficiency, under their able leader (Mr Armstrong Forster) for the mission work in the district. Miss Parker, Manchester, who has charge of the services seems very earnest in the work, and will no doubt feel more at home as she goes forward. There is a great deal in adapting oneself to the people, and thus trying to win them to Christ.

Lady evangelists are of great repute in this district at present, and have been for some time past, and if they are all as well able for the position as the lady I heard on Saturday and Sunday, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, there is no mistake but that good will be done. There is no doubt about her abilities as a public speaker. She speaks most correctly, and her subjects give strong evidence of her intellectual power. She has been labouring most earnestly during the week.

I hear that the Burnhope people have been favoured with a visit by Mr Jonathan Southern, of Crook. He has pleased and instructed them very much, and does his work in his own homely way. He lectured on Saturday night to a large company, his subject being "Samson." He quite entranced his audience, and made his subject so simple that all could understand the great lesson he wished them to receive. The lecture was followed by a public supper.—On Sunday, sermons were preached, morning and evening, by Mr Southern, and in the afternoon by Mr J. Haswell, of Langley Park, to good congregation. The proceeds were in aid of the Primitive Methodist Chapel and amount to about £10. This shows at once the earnest spirit at work to reduce the debt upon the place, and it is to be hoped that the debt will be soon removed.

We have been having a succession of fine days for a while now. The weather seems to remind one of spring-time, and not autumn or winter. For in this bleak place there may be found flowers of various kinds in bloom. One man told me that he had several kinds of flowers in bloom in his garden, and the beautiful wallflower with its rich fragrance can now be enjoyed at this late period of the year.

[NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.]

JEZEBEL'S FRIENDS.

A NOVEL,
BY
DORA RUSSELL,
Author of "Footprints in the Snow," "The Broken Seal," "The Track of the Storm," &c., &c.

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CHAPTER XII.—A Sad Letter.

Ruth Forth was very ill for two days after she had written her miserable letter to Major Audley, to tell him she accepted his terms, so ill, that Frances Forth grew seriously uneasy about her, and had to answer Seaforth's eager, anxious inquiries with a very troubled heart.

"Do have some advice, Miss Forth," urged the young man, when he had wrung from Frances' unwilling lips that Ruth was confined to bed, and totally unfit to see him. But the elder sister dare not send for a doctor, knowing well that any practised eye would at once perceive that it was some acute mental shock which had totally prostrated Ruth.

It was indeed pitiable to see her. The poor girl lay with white clammy face, and wide open hopeless eyes, and neither spoke nor noticed anything around her. In vain Frances tried to rouse her; in vain told her anything she thought would interest or soothe her.

"Don't talk to me, please," was all her answer.

"My heart is broken," she told herself many and many a time, moaning and turning on her pillow, which was often wet with tears.

Yet she made no complaint, nor protest in words. It was her silent sufferings which moved Frances' hardened worldly heart; and yet she always reiterated to herself that there was no help for it, that the only thing now to be done was for Ruth to marry Major Audley.

She did not tell Ruth that the drawing-room downstairs was filled with flowers that Seaforth had sent; Colonel Kenyon also sent Ruth flowers, and was very grieved to hear of the illness of the pretty girl, he hoped soon to call his young sister. He, too, urged Frances to send for the doctor, but Frances said it was nothing and that it would soon pass away.

"You are looking ill and anxious, too, my dearest," Kenyon said to Frances, the second day of Ruth's illness. In truth, Frances had been not a little shocked and horrified to hear of the "accident" which had happened to young Beaton at the Fort. Her father had rushed in full of it, the day after it occurred, and had gone down at once to inquire particulars. Frances turned a little sick and faint, for the colonel had brought in a somewhat exaggerated account, which was current in the village. But, after his visit to the Fort, her mind was somewhat relieved. Colonel Forth had seen Audley, who told him "the stupid boy" had had a very narrow escape, through his own carelessness. Frances did not quite believe this, but she breathed a sigh of relief, and was thankful poor Beaton was not very much injured. In her heart she was more than half convinced that Beaton had tried to kill himself for her sake, and this idea was not without a subtle charm to her.

"Poor dear boy," she thought many a time, and sent her father down every morning to inquire how he was. He did not get on very well; he had lost a great deal of blood, and was very low and desponding.

"I believe the poor fellow has something on his mind," at last Dr. Murray said to Major Audley and Seaforth.

"Perhaps he's in debt or in love," answered Audley grimly; but Seaforth did not speak. He spent many hours daily by Beaton's bedside, and felt the sincerest and kindliest pity for him. Beaton never spoke of his "accident," and gradually Seaforth drew his own conclusions. He had been cut to the heart by Frances Forth's engagement, and in his first bitter anguish had tried to shoot himself.

He noticed also that Beaton was never left alone. If he went to his room he was sure to find the doctor there or his servant Wilson. Major Audley had given orders to this effect, and they were fully carried out; and, though he never spoke of it, Seaforth saw very plainly that poor Beaton was closely watched.

Frances Forth asked Seaforth about him with unmistakable interest the next time she saw him after Beaton's "accident." Seaforth had called to inquire after Ruth, and almost the first words Frances said to him were about Beaton.

"How is he?" she said.

"Very weak and low," answered Seaforth, gravely, for he felt not a little angry with Frances, whom he believed had trifled with poor Beaton's feelings for her own amusement.

"Will you tell him from me," said Frances, "how dreadfully sorry I am—more than sorry! I would write to him, only one never knows into whose hands a letter may fall; unless you would promise to give it to him yourself?"

"I think you had better not write, Miss Forth," said Seaforth, still more gravely; "it would only disturb him, and Dr. Murray says he is to be kept perfectly quiet."

Frances took the hint, which she quite understood, but she thought it rather forward of Seaforth to give it. She also felt rather afraid of this young man, and shrank somewhat from the gaze of his honest eyes. She was playing him false, too, she knew, for she had kept back two letters which he had written to Ruth, thinking their receipt would but add to the pain of their enforced parting. But, strange to say, it was the thought of these letters which first roused Ruth from her apathy. It had occurred to her grief-shadowed mind that Kenard Seaforth was almost sure to have written to her, and she asked Frances if this were so, and saw by her manner that Frances was keeping something back.

"He has written, and you have not given me his letters!" she said, indignantly. "Do you think this just and right?"

"I thought perhaps they might worry you," answered Frances, with a blush.

"How could his letters worry me?" cried poor Ruth, with a despairing ring in her voice. "Give them to me, Frances—nothing can make any difference to me now."

So Frances was obliged to produce the two letters, which she fain would have kept back. She did not understand that they could do Ruth any good, and yet they did. It was something to the poor girl to feel them lying against her breast; to know that his hand had penned the tender words. She had to part from him, but she would always love him, she told herself, and she prayed God that he also would not quite forget her.

She had a loyal, faithful heart, and she knew, or at least thought she knew, that her love could never change. But she saw lying there, looking blankly into the future, that there was no hope for them. For Frances' sake, nay for her own, and even for Kenard's, she *must* fulfil her promise to Major Audley now. And even if he set her free, she felt it would be dishonourable to marry Kenard. No, she must give him up, but she could not cease to love him. All the old happy dreams of a long life-time together, of the fond handclasp in weal and woe, were now ended. But she had his memory left to her; the memory of a brave, true, honest love, and this no new tie could take away. Major Audley might force her to marry him, for Ruth knew she was powerless in his hands; but he could not force her to give to him what she had given Kenard.

"I love him so dearly," she would whisper to herself; "only my heart knows how well."

But another letter reached her as well as Kenard's, when she still lay sick and ill, and this letter Frances thought it wise to deliver at once. It was from Major Audley, who wrote to say he regretted to hear of her illness, of which he had been informed by Seaforth. But perhaps it were well to give his letter in full.

"Dear Ruth,

"I was very sorry to hear from *Seaforth* that you are not well, and are unable to see anyone. I should have written to you before in reply to your note, in which you accept my proposition, but we have had great trouble here at the Fort. By some accident Beaton has shot himself in the face and ear; but no doubt you have heard the particulars from Colonel Forth. He is not dangerously ill, but very weak and low, and requires constant care. However, I hope soon to get him away from this place, and then I expect he will be all right. And now, regarding ourselves, I have obeyed your request, and said nothing of our engagement, so I think I have now a right to ask you to fulfil your promise, and break off entirely with Seaforth. When a woman is going to marry one man the sooner she is done with the other the better; and you must of course make Seaforth understand that *everything* is at an end between you. I shall keep my part of our agreement faithfully, and I shall expect you to do the same. When you get this, therefore, will you write to Seaforth, and then let me hear from you? I shall be very pleased to see you as soon as you are well enough to receive me, and believe me to remain,

"Faithfully yours,
"R. Audley."

This letter was, of course, not unexpected, and yet to Ruth it seemed a fresh blow. Its cold, hard, [illegible] filled her breast with unutterable shrinking from the fate from which there was no escape. She had told herself this often enough, but to see it, to read it, made it all so terribly plain. She had to give up Seaforth, whom she loved so dearly, and marry a man who had taken a cruel advantage of a miserable secret; who had wrung a promise from her to save her sister from disgrace. And what could she give such a one? No respect, no love. Cold duty at the best, and to this wretched life she had now to look forward.

But she had still to bid her love good-bye, to write the words that she knew would give great pain to a generous, honourable heart. It was a bitter task to nerve herself to do this, yet it had to be done. Frances came into the room looking quite bright and handsome (for Colonel Kenyon had just left her), about an hour after Ruth had received Audley's letter, and her appearance jarred on the poor girl's shattered nerves and miserable heart.

"How are you now, my dear?" asked Frances, quite in a lively tone.

"As ill as I can be, I think," answered Ruth bitterly; "but you don't care what I suffer."

Her tone instantly sobered Frances' mood.

"You know that is not true," she said. "I am forced to appear to have a light heart, though in truth [illegible] that wretch Audley, I suppose, has been writing to you to remind you of your promise?"

"The wretch with whom I am to spend my life," said Ruth moodily.

"We can't help ourselves, Ruth."

"Don't I know that? I should rather be dead than do what I am going to do to-day—far, far rather be dead."

"But, dear child, if you were dead it would not save us," said Frances soothingly, laying her hand caressingly on her young sister's shoulder; "this man is in love with you——"

"Oh! don't, don't speak of it!" interrupted Ruth with a shudder.

"All the same it is so, and men have two strong passions—love and money—for either of which they will do almost anything. But there is this difference between these two absorbing sentiments," and Frances gave a bitter laugh, "when they get what they love they soon tire of it, but they never tire of money; the love of that grows on them with years, just as the other sort of love cools. Audley is in love with you at present, and he has taken an unmanly advantage of your generous heart;" and Frances kissed her sister's sweet sad face.

She quite understood that "generous heart." She knew well enough that it was for her sake and not her own that Ruth was going to make this, to her, most bitter sacrifice. To do Frances justice she thought that in Ruth's youth and innocence she over-estimated this sacrifice. Kenard Seaforth was a nice young man, self-argued Frances, but there are many such, so poor Ruth need not break her heart about one. "She will get over it," Frances told herself, "and her marriage will bind to us the one person that can do us any harm."

"There is no help for it," Frances repeated, and Ruth knew it, so what more was to be said.

"I will write to him if you will leave me alone," said Ruth gently, and again Frances kissed her; and then feeling as those must do whom death is staring in the face, for whom there is left no hope in this world, Ruth sat down to tell Seaforth, that it must be all ended between them, that their lives must lie apart.

She sat with her pen in her hand, not knowing in what words to tell the bitter truth. "Dear Kenard," she began; and then with a sudden wave of tenderness, a sudden gush of tears, she added: "My dear, dear Kenard.

"I have got your letters, but I have no heart to answer them. I have something to tell you which I know you will not understand, and which gives, and has given me, the deepest pain. Dear Kenard, it is hard to write it—far harder on me than you—but I cannot be your wife. There has something come between us that I cannot help, and that will not alter. There is no help for us, none on earth! I have been very ill thinking of this, and oh, so miserable, for I would gladly give my life if my death would change it, but that would do no good. It is just one of those things which must be done, though it breaks my heart to do it. Will you go away for a while, because that would perhaps make it a little easier to us? If you will, I should like to see you once before you go, and will you kiss me and forgive me, Kenard, for any pain I have given you? Believe me, it is nothing to mine, which is almost too great to bear. And do not quite forget me; think of me sometimes as one who is dead, but who loved you very dearly, for I did, dear Kenard, and I do; nothing can change this.

"Ruth."

When he received this sad letter, Kenard Seaforth's surprise, nay, utter astonishment, was very great. He read and re-read it, with a blank face, and then it suddenly struck him that his parents had privately written to Ruth to tell her they objected to her marrying him, and that the poor girl in her wounded pride had determined to give him up.

He acted on this supposition, and wrote at once to Ruth to ask her to see him.

"I must see you, my dearest Ruth, because I am quite sure you have written the letter, which I have just read with such pain and surprise, under influence which should never have been brought to bear upon you. Have my father and mother written to you? If so, my dear Ruth, do be candid and open with me on the subject. They have no right, no one has any right, to do such a thing. My mother wrote to tell me she had heard some gossip about your sister in Simla, but, of course, I did not mention this to you, as it had no influence on me, and had nothing to do with our engagement. You tell me you love me dearly, and I love you so dearly that neither father, mother nor sister shall part us. Do not be foolish, my dear one, and let others come between us. I can understand that your pride has been hurt, but pride is a small thing to love, and when my people know you they will like you, I am quite certain. But even if they did not, their opinion would not change mine. I shall soon get my company, and I can then exchange into some regiment out in India, and we can be married at once. I do not think that my father will withdraw my present allowance, and on that and my pay we shall be able to get along. Write me a line, dear Ruth, to tell me when I can see you, for I want this business cleared up at once. I am not going to lose my own darling little wife for anyone, and remain with love, affectionately your own,

"Kenard Seaforth."

Ah, what tears were shed over those words; "heart wrung tears," as the poor girl laid her white face against them, and moaned aloud in her bitter pain.

"There is no hope, dear," she murmured, "none, none!" and again and again she repeated the grievous words

(To be continued.)

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VALE OF DERWENT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

INTERESTING ARTICLE ON COAL.

Most of us are so familiar with coal that it rarely occurs to us to enquire what it is or how it became coal. Yet it has a history more interesting than any fairy tale that was ever told. It would be a curious though vain speculation to enquire who was the first person who discovered that coal would burn? Whoever he may have been he would doubtless be surprised at the fact. It might be instructive if we were to imagine ourselves to be put into his place. Suppose we had never seen a piece of coal, but that by some chance we found ourselves landed in some place where there were large pieces of coal lying about. We would doubtless look upon them as large stones. We might particularly notice that they were much darker in colour than most of the stones we had seen before. Probably we might note that they were also softer than most of the stones we had hitherto come across. But beyond this there would likely be not much more that arrested our attention. We might not be long at the place before we gathered up some pieces of wood that were lying about in order to make a fire to warm ourselves. Having built up a fire with this wood it might occur to us to take some of the larger pieces of the black stones to lay round our fire until we gathered some more wood. We would probably be considerably surprised when we returned and found that the materials of our fireplace were burning as bright and fiercely as the wood they were intended to support. Here is a startling phenomenon. We had never known stones burn before. We wonder if the other stones which are lying about will do the same. After trying them all we find that they not only get hot, but remain exactly as we put them, and in every respect behave just the same as all other stones we have seen. Of all the stones we have ever seen we have seen none take fire and burn like these black stones. All the substances that we have seen that would burn have only been such as have grown, as wood or grass, or things made of wood or grass. If we are of an enquiring turn of mind we may possibly begin to ask ourselves whether there can be anything in common between these black stones and vegetable matter? We perceive at any rate that they both burn. Why do they both burn, or why does anything burn? We have all been so accustomed to see things burn, that we never think of what it means to burn. Were we not so familiar with things burning, we might perhaps be as much astonished at anything burning as we were supposed to be to see the black stones burn. Millions of apples had been seen to drop from trees before that one dropped that took Newton's attention, and no more was thought about the matter than that they were sure to drop if they lost their hold of the tree. So also millions of fires are seen to burn without a thought being bestowed on why they burn, or what takes place when a fire burns. We may be told they are sure to burn if fire be applied to them. But why does not everything burn when fire is applied to it? There must be a reason: let us see what it is. Chemists recognise a substance what they call an elementary substance, and to which they give the name of carbon. What then is carbon, and how is it made or produced? Carbon is only made by a process into which carbonic acid gas enters as a constituent, through the chemical action of the sun's rays promoting vegetation. All carbon then is of vegetable origin. Whence does this carbon come? It is contained in the air we breathe Atmospheric air is composed of 21 parts in a hundred of oxygen, and about 79 parts of nitrogen—mixed with these being about four parts in 10,000 of carbonic acid gas. What has this to do with the matter? Simply this. When carbon, which enters into the composition of wood or coal, is heated to a certain temperature, it has the property of individually seizing hold of all the oxygen of the atmosphere it can lay hold on and combining it with itself, and when they are combined this becomes carbonic acid gas, which flows into the air or up the chimney, giving off in the process of combination light and heat, though not always light, which cannot be given off until the particles become red or white hot.

Now, we must try to remember that whenever we see a fire burning you see a chemical operation taking place. We see carbon seizing on oxygen, and the two being converted into carbonic acid gas. We would naturally imagine that when we see a shovelful of coals burning away, leaving nothing but a few ashes, or a stick consumed, that these coals or that stick is gone for ever. As coals or a stick for the present at least they are. But they are still as much in existence as ever they were, only by the chemical operation of burning their form has been changed. The sun's action acting through vegetation will gather them up again and make them into sticks, or possibly at some future time into coals again. Now we can see with what interest science can come in so familiar an occurrence as a common fire. But we will have to go back to our coals. We have shown that they are similiar to wood or sticks in that they both burn. We will now see if there is any other resemblance between them to help to strengthen an idea that coal may be wood. I do not know whether any of us may have seen peat, or as some call it, turf, burnt Of all things which are not coal this is the most similar to coal. It is found in deep bogs on certain moors, and consists of decaying vegetable matter, which becomes, the deeper it is dug into, the more dense and dark coloured, and is also mixed with decayed trunks and branches of trees. Many will have noticed on the roofs of the coal-seams very distinct impressions of leaves and ferns, so true to nature that there can have been no mistake, but that they were ferns once. In the peat bogs of the present day ferns are also most abundant—a peaty soil suiting ferns. It seems unnecessary to enter into any arguments to show that coal is of vegetable origin, as if it had not been so these impressions of leaves, ferns, and trees could not have been there. The more important question is how came they there, and how do we account for their present position.

Long, long ago, how long no one can tell, the climate of the world or at least this part of it where we now live was extremely moist and warm. At that time great trees grew, of a kind we know nothing of now, at least growing now. Our fur trees are the most like them. These trees grew in great swamps, so dense that the suns rays could hardly pierce them. These trees grew very fast. Perhaps some of our great hemlocks which we see grown up every year and die may enable us to form some idea of them. Whether these trees died every year and fresh ones came up the next year or not, it would be difficult to conjecture, at any rate they grew very fast and had a fleshy soft wood. They are known by various names which it is not necessary to mention here. These swamps were for the most part situated in the lowlands not much elevated above the sea. This growth of peat-moss, giant hemlock, and ferns would keep on accumulating perhaps for thousands of years until it became of great depth and density. Now, there took place one of these changes in the height of the land and sea which are ever taken place yet. The sea level either began to rise or the land level to fall, and this great swamp became covered with sea, and gradually from the mud which was washed from the land by the rains became silted over, the silting-over process continuing until the mud or silt became of the thickness of several yards. Another change took place, the sea level again came to the surface, the climate continuing warm and moist. Another layer of peat grew up, perhaps taking some thousands of years to increase in thickness, until at length this layer sunk beneath the sea level to be succeeded in time by another and another. In the course of time a great change took place in which the climate was not so favourable for the growth of these alternate layers of peat. Yet some were formed, but these do not as a rule yield such good coals.

We have thus, as it were, covered up layer upon layer of peat bog. What was this peat bog material doing after it was covered up, or what has it been doing since that time? It has been gradually undergoing a chemical change. That is, it has been decomposing and in doing this it has become resolved into some of its component parts. It has been giving off gas which it gathered as plants, such gas is mainly composed of hydrogen, from the water it contained, and mixed or impregnated with carbon and it is known as carburette hydrogen gas or fire-damp. This carburette hydrogen gas like carbon only requires to be heated to a sufficient intensity to make it seize on all the oxygen it can lay hold of, and it then forms a combination resulting in carbonic acid gas on the choke damp left after an explosion, which explosion is always in danger of occurring if there be more than five per cent of atmospheric air mixed with the carburette hydrogen or less than 14 per cent.

Many things have happened, to use a phrase of the late Lord Beaconsfield, since then. Strata after strata have been deposited either over or alongside the top of these peat seams. Earthquakes have taken place, levels have been altered, steps or faults have occurred, by which the strata have been twisted into all shapes and forms until at last man has come upon the scene and is engaged in digging out these deposits of carbon, heating them to a sufficient heat to enable them to appropriate the oxygen of the atmosphere, and so restore the carbonic acid gas to the laboratory of nature to be again used up and appropriated by the vegetation of this and some future ages.

George Stephenson, on being asked what coal was, said it was "bottled sunshine." The sun shone these millions of years ago, causing these plants of which we have spoken to grow. These plants died down, the sun lifted the water out of sea and poured it on the land. The water washed the soil from the land and covered up the plants, thus bottling up its own sunshine. The sun is now shining, and causing plants to grow to sustain the men who are digging out this bottled sunshine, so that the same sun which made it at first and bottled it up is now drawing it forth, and will bottle it up again for some future time.

How very wonderful are the processes of nature, as shown in the operations of chemistry. Every time we draw our breath we inhale a portion of air containing oxygen. What comes of this? The very same that comes of the oxygen that is used up in making a fire burn. It enters into combination with the carbon of our body, which carbon of our body is only supplied or produced from the carbon of the vegetables we eat, or of the animal food which the animal converted into carbon from the vegetable it ate. What was it we said was the product of the oxygen of the atmosphere when it combined with the carbon of the burning stick or coal? We will remember we found that it was carbonic acid gas. The same thing has happened again. The oxygen we have inhaled has been burnt, so to speak; it has entered into combination with carbon, and has produced carbonic acid gas, and when we breathe we exhale or give out carbonic acid gas.

Now, we have destroyed, in a sense only, some portion of oxygen, but it is still somewhere. We have produced carbonic acid gas which is poisonous. The oxygen which we inhaled is also with this carbonic acid gas, but being combined with it is of no use to us to support life with. How, then, is it to be recovered? Nature has provided a chemical laboratory when the operation is performed. In just the same way as animals do not want carbonic acid gas, but do want oxygen, so there are things in the world which do want carbonic acid gas, but which do not want oxygen. What are these things? These things are plants of every description. Just as animals inhale oxygen and give out carbonic acid gas, so plants inhale carbonic acid gas and give out oxygen. The foul air which animals have breathed, and which is deficient of pure oxygen is laid hold of by plants, and used in building themselves up, and in doing this they again separate the oxygen from the carbonic acid gas, and send it abroad to be again breathed by animals into the shape of carbonic acid, and again laid hold of by plants and again transformed, and thus the process goes on forever How very wonderful this is, to think that the air we are now breathing, and the smoke which is now going up the chimney, may in a short time become converted into a walking stick, a cauli flower, a French marigold, a railway sleeper, a lucifer match, a lame man's crutch, or a wooden leg. We thus see how necessary plants are to animals to enable them to live and breathe, and how necessary animals are to plants to enable them to breathe, and to separate the oxygen for the animals to breathe and to grow the material that they need in order to live before they can breathe.

Many centuries ago, before the science of chemistry was so well known as it is now, a latin poet said "*Omnia mucantui, nil iuterit,*" "All things are changed, nothing perishes." Here is one of the most wonderful truths in the universe. Modern chemistry endorses the saying. It teaches us that there is a universal compensation taking place. That when we appear to have lost sight of something, we fancy it is gone forever. Not so, it is only altered. The principle of chemical combination will reproduce it in some other form. It may for a short time be only mechanically mixed with some other substances, but by and bye it will chemically combine, and in doing so will reproduce itself in another form, which reproduction will probably assist in again forming it into its original shape. How very wonderful is all this, and how very interesting. No tale ever imagined in the fertile brain of an Oriental story-teller was ever half as interesting, or even half so marvellous. And yet how many thousands there are who are living in the midst af all these wonders, and yet never perceive them, but spend their lives in gossip or in the perusal of stories about the affairs of some two or three average specimens of humanity. Certainly we are not by any means to neglect altogether the affairs of the world. The old philosopher Terence when he said, "*Homo sum el nihil humahi allenum a me puto,*" "I am a man, and I do not consider anything that relates to humanity to be foreign tome," by no means meant that the affairs of mankind were to be the only things worthy of attention. By all means let them have their place, but do not let them entirely occupy the attention of intelligent beings. There is much in the world worth knowing for its own sake, and while the perusal of stories about the doings of our neighbours may not be without its benefits and pleasures, the experience of many who have given themselves to the pursuit of the knowledge of the operations of nature and science has been, that while the one pursuit may have its pleasure, the other also has of them, and far more enduring and enjoyable. And there is this to be said, that in the one case, we know that what we learn is fact, in the other we are left at the finish in very considerable doubt as to what portion of what we have read is fact and what portion is fiction.

EVENING CONCERT AT LANCHESTER

A most successful concert was given on Thursday se'nnight, in the schoolroom, Lanchester, a first-rate programme being provided, which was well received by the company present. The soloists, who included Miss Cochrane, of Aldin Grange, the Rev W. Hermitage, Benfieldside, the Rev F. Glyn, vicar, and Mr Thos. Dunn, of Lanchester, all obtained hearty *encores*, their songs of various kinds being received with evident appreciation by an enthusiastic audience. The glees were very creditably rendered by a glee party, being sung with spirit and precision. One of the features of the concert was the performance of McLaurence's string band of juvenile performers, one of whom played with great energy upon a "double bass," the instrument appearing of great size by the side of the boy who handled it so well. Miss A. Dunn, in a violin solo also won great praise by the manner in which she dealt with "The Blue Bells of Scotland." The playing of Miss Starky and Mr Edwards was much admired, and as accompanists they left nothing to be desired. Among the distinguished company who were present we noticed Mr and Mrs Edward Hedley, and Mr George Hedley, of Burnhopeside Hall, Mrs Taylor Smith, of Park House, Mrs Kearney, of the Ford, Mrs Glyn, of the Vicarage, Miss Taylor, of Colpike Hall, Miss Saunderson, of Sunderland, Mr and Miss Balleny, of Greencroft, Mr T. T. Forster, and others. Subjoined is the programme.—Part 1:—pianoforte duet, "Husarenritt," Miss Cochrane and Miss Starky; old English song, "Simon, the Cellarer," Rev W. Hermitage; glee, "Men of Harlech,"; song, "Old and New," Miss Cochrane; quadrilles, string band; song, "Dearer than life," Mr Dunn; violin solo, "Blue bells of Scotland," Miss A. Dunn; glee, "The fairest flower." Part 2:—pianoforte solo, "Il Corricolo," Mr Edwards; song, "Rose-Marie," Rev F. Glyn; glee, "The hardy Norseman,"; violin selection, Mr Lawrence; song, "Golden love," Miss Cochrane; song, "John Peel," Rev W. Hermitage; selections, string band; song (serio-comic,) "Deary me," Mr Dunn; glee, "Good-night, beloved,"; "God save the Queen."

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held at the Benfieldside Edge Schools, on Friday afternoon, Rev A. Baillie (chairman) presiding. The members present comprised:—Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, Father J. Foran, Rev E. W. Jenkins, Mr H. Carss, and Mr W. Raw, also Mr R. Kirsopp (deputy clerk).

THE ATTENDANCE: SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Gentlemen,—Owing to the Roman Catholic Schools being closed to-day, I have not got the returns for their school. The numbers on the books and the average attendance at the other schools show a decrease with the corresponding month of last year. The percentage is about the same—86 per cent. I have entered eight cases in the "Book of Proceedings" to be dealt with to-day.—Yours, &c.,

A. McKean.

School Returns for the month of October:—

Inspected Schools.	No. on books	Average Attendance	Admitted.	Left.	Sick.
Board Schools—Boys	235	206	—	—	2
" —Girls	227	185	36	10	23
" —Infants	103	98	—	—	6
Derwent St.— "	124	105	12	48	37
Shotley Grove	96	87	2	—	—
St. Mary's Roman Catholic—	—	—	—	—	—
" —Infants	—	—	—	—	—
Total	285	681	40	58	78
October, 1888	813	700			
Decrease	28	19			

MR RAW AND THE PRESS.

SMITH THREATENS THE SCHOOLWARDEN.

In reference to the case of John Smith, contractor, Blackfine—which has occupied the attention of the Board for some time past—the attendance officer (Mr A. McKean) reported that two of his children were irregular in their attendance at school.

Smith personally attended the Board, and explained that the children were ailing, and could not attend every day.

The Chairman advised Smith to procure a medical certificate in such cases, thereby removing the liability from his shoulders, as well as relieving the Board from responsibility.

Smith promised to get a doctor's certificate, and said that McKean had brought him there out of spite. He came and tormented him, and he (Smith) had to order McKean away.

The Chairman stated that McKean was bound to do his duty, and they could not enter into the question of personalities.

Smith then appealed to the Board to appoint a fresh school attendance officer. He added: McKean is not a fit man for the situation. I must tell you that. I think you should appoint a more honourable man than him.

Mr McKean: I ask to be protected by this Board from the remarks of Smith.

The Chairman: We cannot go into that question.

Smith: I could tell you something to-day, if you will only listen to me.

The Chairman: If you get the doctor's certificate you will not be troubled by an officer in future. Mr McKean must do his duty, you know.

Smith: Well, I don't want you to send him any more to my door. If he comes I shall know what to do with him. I should do something more than I did last time—take him by the "scruff" of the neck and push him off my premises. I should "murder him like a dog!"

The Chairman: We cannot listen to you now. If you only obtain a doctor's certificate, it will protect yourself and keep this Board straight.

Smith: Very well, if you don't listen I shall have to take some other course. I can fetch proof and facts that he is a—(the rest of the expression was of a libellous nature).

The Chairman: We have nothing to do with that just now. Good day.

After Smith had departed, Mr Raw informed the reporters that they must not take any notice of that discussion; but no heed was apparently taken of the request.

Mr Raw: I appeal to the chairman that this discussion must not be published.

Mr W. Eales (a reporter): I object to Mr Raw or any individual member of the Board continually dictating to the reporters what has to be published by the press and what has to be kept out. This is a public body.

Mr Raw (considerably astonished): What's that you say?

Mr Eales (warmly): That I refuse to be dictated to by you or any other individual member of the Board. If there's anything to be kept out of the papers, then pass a motion to that effect.

Mr Raw: You will be getting yourself into trouble if you go on in this way. You know very well that the *Guardian* had to pay heavy damages some years ago for libel.

Mr Eales said he was not going to have an argument with Mr Raw.

Mr Raw: You stick things in the paper that you ought not to do.

Mr Eales: There was no report in the *Guardian* of last month's proceedings, so you cannot have much fault to find.

Mr Raw: No, but there ought to have been a report.

Mr Eales: And so there would if you had not prevailed upon the proprietor not to publish it.

Father Foran said they could not enter into a discussion on that point that day.

The Chairman stated that now the matter had been mentioned he might say that they were not obliged to have reporters at that Board.—(Mr Eales: Then expel them publicly.)—When they were told not to publish anything it was their duty to comply with the request. If any member thought that it was not proper or right in the interest of the public that anything should not be published, then that portion should be omitted from the report. He did not wish to say anything discreditable to the reporters, but he would advise them to obey such instructions in future.

Later on Mr McKean said he would be obliged to visit Smith on some future occasion. The Board had heard the threats used by Smith. What was he to do?

The Chairman: You must speak to him gently, and not do anything to aggravate the man.

Mr Carss (who had just previously entered the room, and was ignorant of what had already transpired) said the Board were not such dunces as to allow the school officer to suffer in the discharge of his duties.

Mr McKean: But he has threatened me.

Mr Carss: Has Smith been here to-day?

The Chairman explained that Smith had been summoned by Mr McKean, because of the irregular attendance of his two children at school. The man had used strong language, and even threatened to murder McKean if he goes near his place again.

Mr Carss: We must protect our officer in the discharge of his duties. Smith should have been given into custody for using such language. I wish I had been here then. We ought to get him bound over to keep the peace. (To Mr McKean): You needn't be afraid of Smith. We shall certainly stick up for you, whatever may happen.

Subsequently, Mr Carss explained that after the rest of the members (except Mr Jenkins and himself) had gone at the last meeting, Mr Thomas Hall appeared before the Board, and having seen the whole proceedings completely corroborated the statement of their officer (McKean) that he never struck the boy of Smith's with a walking-stick, as alleged in the hearing of the proceedings at Consett Police Court. The boy ran off as soon as he saw McKean approaching—that statement was even confirmed by Mr Snowdon last month. Therefore, if the lad made out of the road, McKean could not possibly touch the lad, as he was never near hand him. Hall also attested to Smith coming down off the scaffold and taking hold of McKean, thrust him off the premises. The evidence given by their officer, therefore before the magistrates, was substantially true.

Mr Raw replied that Snowdon told them that McKean exceeded his duty.

Mr Carss: That was only a matter of opinion. How is Snowdon to know what McKean's duties are?

Mr Raw: McKean took out a summons against Smith, and Smith simply defended himself before the court. Both cases were dismissed, and there is an end to the matter.

Mr Carss: It is not ended till it is published in the newspapers that the Board entirely exonerates McKean from any blame. This is what I want inserted in the local papers.

Mr Eales: We will have to get Mr Raw's permission before we can publish it. (Laughter).

Mr Carss: If a case is dismissed, it is not proved. It was merely Mr Snowdon's opinion that the officer acted imprudently, and that has no material bearing upon the case.

Mr Raw: But the cases are settled now.

Mr Carss: I tell you they are not settled till it goes before the public that we are unanimously of opinion, from further evidence which has come to our knowledge, that our officer did not strike the boy, and that we exonerate him from all blame.

The Chairman: Yes I think something like that ought to be published.

The discussion then ceased.

THE TEACHING STAFF.

On the motion of Mr Carss, seconded by Mr Raw, Arthur Mckay is to be employed as a monitor, in the Board Schools, providing his parents are willing.

Mr Carss proposed, and it was seconded by Father Foran, that the services of Mr J. H. Walton as ex-P.T. be retained until Christmas at a salary of £40 per annum.

Both propositions were accepted.

COMPLAINT FROM THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR.

A communication was read from Mr A. E. Bernays, H.M. Inspector, intimating that it had come to his knowledge that two girls named Strachan, of Blackhill, had been obliged to leave the Board schools, and go to the Shotley Grove School, for the alleged reason that the teachers kept them in school till six o'clock at night. He wished the Board to inquire into the matter, and forward him the result. The letter was, on the proposal of Mr Carss, relegated to the School Committee for investigation.

[The case of alleged excessive keeping in at the Benfieldside Board School was investigated by the School Management Committee on Wednesday and satisfactorially explained.]

FINANCIAL.

Cheques, amounting to about £66, were ordered to be paid; the balance in the bank standing at £63 8s 6d.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The Board approved, upon the proposal of Mr Carss, seconded by Mr Raw, of the draft mortgage for powers to borrow the sum of £5,179 from the Public Works Loan Commissioners, for a period of 30 years, consequent upon the additions to the Board and Derwent Street Schools.

Mr Raw said the interest would amount to £22 15s per annum.

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Nov. 9, 1889.

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THE TEACHING STAFF.

On the motion of Mr CARSS, seconded by Mr RAW, Arthur Mckay is to be employed as a monitor, in the Board Schools, providing his parents are willing.

Mr CA[illegible] proposed, and it was seconded by Father FORAN, that the services of Mr J. H. Walton as ex-P.T. be retained until Christmas at a salary of £40 per annum.

Both propositions were accepted.

COMPLAINT FROM THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR.

A communication was read from Mr A. E. Bernays, H.M. Inspector, intimating that it had come to his knowledge that two girls named Strachan, of Blackhill, had been obliged to leave the Board schools, and go to the Shotley Grove School, for the alleged reason that the teachers kept them in school till six o'clock at night. He wished the Board to inquire into the matter, and forward him the result. The letter was, on the proposal of Mr CARSS, relegated to the School Committee for investigation.

[The case of alleged excessive keeping in at the Benfieldside Board School was investigated by the School Management Committee on Wednesday and satisfactorially explained.]

FINANCIAL.

Cheques, amounting to about £66, were ordered to be paid; the balance in the bank standing at £63 8s 6d.

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Football.

ASSOCIATION.

Tantobie Juniors beat Stanley Juniors by five goals to nil.

CORNSAY ROVERS v USHAW MOOR.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a draw—one goal each.

ST. HELEN'S ROVERS v LANGLEY PARK I.O.G.T.—Played at Bishop Auckland, and ended in a draw—one goal each.

Whickham Dockendale Foxes beat Whickham West End, on the ground of the former, by fourteen goals to none.

Chester-le-Street Red Rose Juniors beat Pelton Fell Juniors, on the ground of the former, by three goals to two.

MICKLEY V VEN. BEDE.—These teams met at Mickley, when a very interesting game resulted in a decisive win for the home team by five goals to one. J. Best (2), Charlton (2), and J. Crowe (1) were the scorers for the winners.

LINTZFORD V GATESHEAD RESERVE.—Played at Lintzford. The visitors played with the wind in the first half, and pressed, but could only score once, the point being got by Garrett. Gateshead still had the best of the game during the second half, and put the ball through the posts again, but it was disallowed. The game ended:—Gateshead, one goal; Lintzford, nil.

WEST WYLAM JUNIORS V MICKLEY JUNIORS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for West Wylam Juniors by two goals to one.

WOODSIDE ROVERS V CHESTER-LE-STREET WANDERERS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the Rovers by three goals and one disputed goal to one goal and one disputed goal.

HEDLEY HILL TERRACE V WATERHOUSES COLLIERY DRIVERS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by two goals to one.

TANFIELD LEA 2ND V EDMONDSLEY STRANGERS 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former in fine weather, before a good company of spectators. The game was well contested throughout, Tanfield Lea being victorious by two goals to one. The visitors were afterwards entertained to tea, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

MEDOMSLEY JUNIORS V LEADGATE ROYAL OAKS.—Played at Leadgate, and after a hard and evenly-contested game resulted in a draw—two goals each. The following composed the Medomsley Juniors' team—Goal, M. Hunter; backs, J. T. Page and J. Campbell; half-backs, R. Bramley, J. Bramley, and J. T. Thompson; forwards, W. Walton and R. Wilson, right wing; G. Gillender, centre; T. Snowdon and J. Davison, left wing.

DURHAM ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP.

SECOND ROUND.

LEADGATE PARK V LEADGATE EXILES.—These teams met on the ground of the former in the second round of the Durham Cup. The Exiles were the first to make their appearance, and were quickly followed by the Park team. The captains soon got to business, and the Park winning the toss, elected to play with the wind. J. Costello kicked off for the Exiles. Snowdon quickly returned, and the home forwards gaining possession began to attack the Exiles' goal. Monaghan relieved, but the Park's halves returned, and the right wing taking the leather in charge made a shot for goal, but Callaghan was equal to the occasion and relieved by throwing over the bar, thus conceding the Park a corner, from which Burnhope sent in a beauty which proved fruitless. Shot after shot now went in, and the Park forwards peppered away at their opponents' goal, but still Callaghan proved too much, although the green-and-white jerseys were properly hemmed in. At length a corner was conceded to the Park, and another beauty by Burnhope ended in the ball being put through, making No. 1 for the home team. Costello again kicked off, and the Park forwards had the ball nearly to themselves, and by a bit of good combination they managed to score again. No further scoring was done in the first half, the whistle sounding with the score at half-time—

Park ....Two goals
Exiles ....Nil

The Park now took their turn against the wind, and at once began to press, but the wind and the strong halves kept them at bay, although they did sometimes get as far as Callaghan, but when in the act of shooting something seemed to catch their feet and bring them down on to their faces. This happened often, and thus prevented them from scoring during the second half. From a free-kick Monaghan sent the ball well into the Park goal, and from a sort of scrimmage J. McGee scored the first and only goal for the Exiles. From now until the call of time the Park defended, and at the close of the game the score stood—

Park ....Two goals
Exiles ....One goal

The game, which was a very pleasant one, was played in two forty-fives, and was witnessed by a very large number of spectators. The following were the teams: Park—Goal, J. Coulter; backs, J. Walker and F. Jackson (capt.); half-backs, J. Snowdon, J. Wilson, and T. Makepeace; forwards, A. Tuson and J. Robson, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; J. Hunter and J. Brown, left wing. Umpire, Mr W. Tomlinson. Exiles—Goal, H. Callaghan; backs, J. Monaghan and P. Hughes; half-backs, P. Quinn, Wm Costello (capt.), and T. Forrest; forwards, Geo. Walton and C. Quinn, right wing; J. Costello, centre; J. Argyle and J. McGee, left wing. Umpire, Mr Thos. Kennedy. Referee, Mr T. Bryson, Bishop Auckland.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY ROVERS (DARLINGTON) v WOLSINGHAM MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Played on Westmoreland Street ground, Darlington. Result:—North-Eastern Rovers, three goals; Wolsingham, one goal.

GATESHEAD N.E.R. v PELTON FELL.—Played at Gateshead, before a good attendance. Pelton Fell won the toss, and G. King scored the first two goals for N.E.R. J. Cramb succeeded in scoring two more for N.E.R., and W. Brown scored a fifth. In the second half Pelton Fell scored one goal, the N.E.R. having it all their own way, but failed to score, the game ending:—N.E.R., five goals; Pelton Fell, one goal. Teams:—Pelton Fell—W. Lashly, goalkeeper; W. Lowther and J. Robson (captain), backs; J. Emery, J. Weatherley, and R. Emery, half-backs; M. Dunn, J. Porter, W. Evans, W. Stanger, and W. Laverick, forwards. Gateshead N.E.R.—H. Thompson, goalkeeper; W. Davison and J. Elsby (capt.), backs; W. Knight, G. Meakin, and W. Duncan, half-backs; J. Cramb, Brown, G. King, J. Boswell, and T. Dean, forwards.

OUSTON MEDALS COMPETITION.

OUSTON INSTITUTE v NEWCASTLE ALBION.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a very fast game, resulted in a win for the Albion by three goals to one.

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

BIRTLEY v BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Played at Birtley. The visitors scored in a few minutes, assisted by the wind, but failed to again get the ball through. Birtley scored twice in the first half and once in the second. Result:—Birtley, three goals; Bishop Auckland, one goal.

RUGBY.

RYTON JUNIORS v SHIPCOTE.—Played on Ryton Willows, and after a hard game resulted in a victory for the Juniors by one goal and four minors to a try and two minors.

DURHAM ST. CUTHBERT'S v HAMSTEELS.—Played at Durham, and ended in a victory for the home team by two tries and five minors to nothing. Hamsteels played one short.

GREENSIDE ST. JOHN'S v SHIPCOTE.—Played at Greenside, resulting in a victory for the home team. Score:—St. John's, two tries, two minors; Shipcote, one try.

Blaydon West End Rovers beat Blaydon Pioneer Juniors by one goal, two tries, and five minors to one try.

ST. PETER'S INSTITUTE (JARROW) v BLAYDON STARS.—Played at Jarrow, and resulted in a draw in favour of the home team. Score:—St. Peter's Institute, three minors; Blaydon Star, one minor.

TUDHOE 2ND v CONSETT 2ND.—Played at Spennymoor. Owing to the late arrival of the visitors the game was confined to two twenties. Tudhoe were trying several new men, and Consett played several who were quite strangers to the Rugby game, consequently the match was rather poor, and after a one-sided game the score stood:—Tudhoe, two goals, two tries; Consett, nothing.

CONSETT v TUDHOE.—Played at Bentfieldside in two forty-fives, Consett played four men short. A well-contested game ensued, wherein Tudhoe displayed the best form, their forwards doing some capital work, which was neutralised by the quick collaring of the Consett team. Wainford kicked the goal for the visitors. Irwin and W. Wainford played in admirable style for the visitors; while for Consett, Williamson, Wilson, and Ward did some sw[illegible] running, while J. Anderson tackled excellently. Score:—Tudhoe one goal and one try; Consett, nothing. Umpires: Mr R. Heymer (Consett) and Mr J. Pickering (Tudhoe). Referee, Mr T. Jameson, Consett R.F.C.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE ST. CUTHBERT'S v GILESGATE ROVERS (DURHAM).—This match was played on the ground of the latter, in periods of two thirties, before a good number of spectators. The Rovers, winning the toss, chose to play with the wind in their favour. The game being started, the Rovers seemed to be going to have all their own way for the first half, as the visitors being the lighter team had to give way somewhat to their opponents; but the Shotley backs defended grandly and kept the home team from scoring anything but minor points, and when the whistle blew for half-time the score stood—

Rovers ....Five minors
Shotley Bridge ....Nil

On the game being re-commenced the visitors played in much better form, and would have scored several times but for the admirable defence of the Rovers' back division, and play continued in midfield for some time. About five minutes before the close the Shotley forwards got possession, and after a good run scored the only try of the match, which was converted into a splendid goal by Hardy. Time was called shortly afterwards, leaving the score—

Shotley Bridge ......One goal, one minor
Rovers ....Five minors

Teams:—Shotley Bridge—Back, J. Lister; three-quarter backs, J. Bell, Hardy (capt.), and Baggot; half-backs, E. Bell and Chisholm; forwards, Hutchinson, Chatt, Laverton, Postle, Urwin, Hornsby, Stokoe, and another. Rovers—Back, T. Thwaites; three-quarter backs, Bagnall, Dixon, and Bradley; half-backs, Burnip and Smith; forwards, Coleman, Durkin, Higgins, Thompson, Deighton, Donaldson, Lockerbie, Lumsden, and Milburn.

JOTTINGS.

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

A new Junior Association club has been formed at Langley Park, under the title of the Langley Park Young Rovers. M. Maddison is captain; George Reeves, treasurer; and Jos. Monsey, Langley Park, secretary.

A newly-formed club having been established at Tanfield, under the name of Tanfield Excelsior, they would like to arrange a few home-and-home matches with moderate teams.—Address J. Burdon, secretary, Tanfield, *via* Burnopfield, Durham.

Col. F. F. Sheppee is chairman of the Chester-le-Street bench of magistrates and vice-president of Birtley Football Club. In the former capacity he had before him the other day a man for committing an assault on a youth in the Birtley football field on the occasion of West End and Birtley playing their English Cup tie. After hearing evidence, the gallant colonel gave some salutary advice to spectators attending football matches. "Spectators," he said, "had nothing whatever to do with the game. If they would go to football matches they should learn to keep their tempers. Instead of that, they got excited, lost their tempers, and committed acts for which they should feel ashamed. Football was a most excellent game when properly played, but, if it had to be disgraced by such conduct as that of the defendant, the sooner there was no football the better—for its own sake."

CONSETT *V.* TANFIELD LEA.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Would you allow me a small space in your valuable paper to say a few words respecting the conduct of the Consett A.F.C. secretary? I would like, in the first place, to ask the secretary of the above club the reason for having disappointed us on Saturday last, when he knew that communications had passed between us and home-and-home matches were arranged, Saturday last being by his own arrangement the fixture for Tanfield Lea ground. I wrote at the commencement of the week to know the time we might expect them, and received no answer. I would like to know if this is the way our worthy Consett secretary does his business; if it is, I term it a poor way—allowing other people to guess at the way he intends to do. But I rather think that the disappointment to the Tanfield Lea team, after having provided for them and even stripped and gone on the field, expecting them coming, was not of so much importance as being deprived from witnessing the contest between the two well-known clubs in the second round of the Durham Cup at Leadgate. Or was it because they did not want to play Tanfield Lea as they were afraid of being defeated or disgraced? If the Consett team did not want to play us, the secretary should not have arranged the two matches; but I think, after all, he has made a mistake in not arranging for us to go to their ground first, so as they might have had one point to their credit. Let me in conclusion say it would be better if the Consett secretary would follow the old adage—"Do unto others as you would they should do unto you."—Yours, &c.,

WILLIAM PACE,
Hon. sec. Tanfield Lea A.F.C.

STANHOPE LOCAL BOARD.

A special meeting of the Stanhope Local Board was held in the Board-room, Stanhope, on Monday evening—Dr Arnison, J.P., presiding. Its object was the appointment of a surveyor, inspector of nuisances, and rate collector for the Stanhope Local Board district, in the place of Mr Wm. Herdman, of Westgate, who was recently appointed to the office, but who, on account of illness, could not attend to the duties devolving upon him. There were 12 members present—Messrs G. Pattinson, J. W. Roddam, J. Crawhall, R. Mewes, J. Wears, L. Atkinson, J. Elliott, W. Rippon, J. Tinkler, W. Tweddle, Dr Livingstone, and the chairman.—There were seven candidates for the vacant office, at a salary of £10 and poundage in rate collecting, bringing the salary up to £17 or £18 per annum. The candidates were—Messrs Jos. Henderson (late surveyor); J. Parker, builder; R. Robinson, builder; Thos. Egglestone, builder; John G. Wales, builder; Harrison Walton, auctioneer; and Robert Thompson, rate collector. The voting was by ballot, and resulted in Mr Parker receiving six votes, Mr Henderson five, and Mr Egglestone one. It was then decided that, as none of the candidates had received a majority of the members' votes, the two highest should again be put to the meeting, with the following result:—Parker, 6; Henderson, 6. The result produced some merriment amongst the members. The Chairman was then called upon to give his casting vote, and decided in favour of Mr Parker, who was declared duly elected, his bondsmen being satisfactory

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A POSTMAN AT WATERHOUSES.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OF THE PRISONER.

Some sensation was created in Durham on Wednesday morning, on it becoming known that a young rural postman named Farron, residing in Claypath, Durham, and who is respectably connected, had been arrested on the serious charge of stealing a number of postal letters containing jewellery and a large number of circulars. In the course of Wednesday morning, the prisoner was brought up at the City Police Court, before Mr T. Scawin (chairman), and was charged with stealing a registered letter, which had been placed in his charge, and had been directed to Mr C. Bannister, 42, Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, containing half a sovereign and a gold watch ring, the property of Her Majesty's Postmaster General.—The Head Constable (Mr Smith) said that in this case, in consequence of certain irregularities that have occurred in the non-delivery of letters and circulars posted to and from the Waterhouses district of Durham, inquiries were made, and the London postal authorities sent down to Mr Houston of the Confidental Department of the General Post Office, London, and the result of this was that Detective Moore was told off to watch the movements of prisoner, who is the rural postman for the Waterhouses district. The usual method of marking certain letters and other parcels, which were given to the prisoner for delivery, led to his arrest on Tuesday night. The premises of the accused were searched, and in a stable (where he kept his horse) amongst some straw, and in a hayloft in a bag, were found 143 letters and 43 circulars, amongst the former being the letter above alluded to as addressed to Mr Bannister, and which contained jewellery.—The Head Constable having stated that there were other two cases of a similar character to be preferred against the prisoner, and as they would take some getting up he asked that the prisoner be remanded until Thursday, which was granted.

Head Constable Smith informed the Bench that after his arrest, on Tuesday night, prisoner attempted to commit suicide, by taking a quantity of laudanum. The prisoner poured the contents of a 2oz bottle down his throat, and had drunk fully three-parts of the drug. Remedies were at once applied, and the prisoner was brought round. He had been closely watched during the whole of the night to prevent any further consequences, which might occur.

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Sporting Items.

GROUSE SHOOTING.—Mr Roddam and party bagged 34 brace of grouse on the Pikestone Moors, on Tuesday. The day was unfavourable, there being a thick fog prevalent.

ANGLING.—The record was beaten during the fishing season, which has just closed in Weardale. A salmon was killed in the Wear in Upper Weardale, which weighed 14lbs.

SHOOTING AT BLACKHALL MILL.—A pigeon shooting match was brought off on Saturday afternoon in a field near the Ship Inn, Blackhall Mill, for £10, between John Whittle, of Milkwell Burn, and Wm. Bragg, of Blackhall Mill. Some wagering took place at 5 to 4 on Bragg, who shot four birds out of five, while Whittle missed the first four, and killed the fifth only.

QUOIT MATCH AT BROOMHILL.—A quoit match for £5 a-side was played off on Saturday afternoon in a field adjoining the hostelry of Mr Ralph Calvert, at Broomhill, near Ebchester, between Joseph Wright, of Milkwell Burn, and John Topping, of Allendale Cottages. The conditions were: 31 points game, 4lb. quoits, distance 10 yards on the sward. There was a good attendance of spectators. Wright won by five points, the scores being—Wright, 00003001220220000 111001022301002202; total, 31. Topping, 122101011 0002002120002101000102200100; total, 26. Geo. Gibbons, of Milkwell Burn, was stakeholder and referee.

RABBIT COURSING AT DIPTON.—On Saturday, a rabbit sweep, promoted by Mr Francis McKinley, at Hill Top, Dipton, was brought to a successful conclusion in a field kindly granted for the occasion by Mr Kirkup, of Upper Lintz. The weather was beautifully fine, and consequently a large number of spectators assembled to witness the sport. Mr Barnes was judge, and Mr Burdon acted as pistol-firer. Results:—First round—Elliott's Still Expense beat Atchinson's Waggon Inn, Hughes's Mickey the Prig beat Atchison's Wandering Girl, Ledger's Tip the Button beat Elliott's Still Expense, Lowes's Let her Alone beat Best's Miss Kitten, Hughes's Mickey the Prig beat Elliott's Often Broken, Burdon's John Bull beat Leadbitter's Phœbe, Elliott's Often Broken beat Lillie's Fancy, Leadbitter's Phœbe beat Chambers's Little Pot, Ledger's Tip the Button beat Chambers's Little Pot, Best's Miss Kitten beat Chambers's Silver King. Second round—Still Expense beat Mickey the Prig, Tip the Button beat Let her Alone, Phœbe beat Often Broken, Tip the Button beat Miss Kitten, John Bull beat Miss Kitten. Third round—Tip the Button beat John Bull, Tip the Button beat Phœbe, Still Expense a bye. Fourth round—Tip the Button beat Still Expense, and secured first and second money.

QUOITING AT LEADGATE.—On Saturday, on the ground connected with Mrs Noble's, Commercial Inn, Watling Street, Leadgate, a match at quoits was played off between William Steele and Hugh McGee, both of Leadgate, for £20, 61 points game. There was a numerous attendance of spectators, and some little speculation was done at evens. Steele won, after an evenly-contested game, by 4 points, the scores being—Steele 61, McGee 57. N. Lamb, of Consett, stood as referee.

QUOIT MATCH AT QUEBEC.—On Saturday, a good muster of spectators assembled at the quoit ground adjoining Mr Richard Wall's, Hamsteels Colliery Inn, to witness a match between Luke Newton and J. Duggan, both of Quebec, for £5 a-side, at a distance of 13 yards, the former receiving 5 start in a game of 51 up. Score:—Newton, 54; Duggan 39. J. Jobling, Hamsteels, stakeholder and referee. The parties are again matched, and will play a level game of 41 up.—A match was also decided on Saturday afternoon, in a field near Richard Wall's, Hamsteels Colliery Inn, between Samuel Laverick, Castle Eden, and George Camel, Boyne, for a stake of £40, distance 11 yards, on the sward. The game resulted in a victory for Samel by 7 chalks.

NEWFIELD INN CLUB.—The annual prize shooting of the above club was held on Saturday in a field adjoining the inn, kindly lent by Mrs Emerson, of Newfield Inn. The principal prizes were two gold medals. Conditions:—Seven birds each, handicap terms. Appended are the scores:—First round—John Sinclair, 22 yds, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0—6; W. Purvis, 20, 1 0 1 1 1 0 1—5; B. Everitt, 20, 1 1 1 0 1 0 1—5; M. Tiplady, 20, 1 0 1 0 1 0 1—4; R. Gloyne, 19, 0 1 1 1 1 0 1—5; J. Wilcock, 18, 0 1 0 1 1 0 1—4; F. Brown, 18, 1 0 0 0 0 1 0—2; S. King, 18, 0 1 0 1 0 0 1—3; Pamela, 22, 1 0 0 0 0 0 1—2; Purvis, 0; Everitt 1 1 1; Gloyne, 1 1 0. Three competitors having tied for second place they will have to shoot off for second, third, and fourth prizes. W. Smith was referee, and T. Nodden scorekeeper.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FOOT HARRIERS.—This popular pack of beagles, of which Mr J. A. K. Falconar is master, had a splendid run on Saturday. They met at Burnhill Station (on the Stockton and Darlington section) at 8·45 a.m., there being a large assemblage of spectators. The day was a capital one for following the scent. A grand hare was found near the Moorcock Inn, and pussy immediately made tracks for Coombe Lodge, and started across the Healeyfield Road Ends. After twice traversing the same route in the vicinity of the bridge there, the scent was lost, the run having lasted 45 minutes. Later on, another hare was disturbed on the Gold's Hill Farm, near Muggleswick, and she ran off towards the Fell Edge and past the Moorcock Inn in the direction of Healeyfield Dene, then round by Horsley Hope, and down into the Coombe Wood. After making two circuits of the locality the hare was killed after a run of nearly 55 minutes. The third hare was set on foot nearly about the same place as the previous one, and strange to say, pussy travelled in much the same direction as her predecessor. After a keen and exciting chase of nearly 65 minutes duration, she was run down and killed. A capital day's outing terminated about 1·30 in the afternoon.

CONSETT ROYAL GROUNDS.—On Saturday afternoon, the trial heats of the £7 10s 120 yards' footrace handicap, which was promoted by Mr Edward Wylam, landlord of the Freemasons' Arms Hotel, was decided at the Consett Royal grounds, the beautiful open weather attracting a great number of spectators. The racing track was in splendid condition. There were over 60 entries. Details:—Heat 1—W. Ollver, Consett, 22½ yards, w.o. Heat 2—M. Callighan, Blackhill, 21½, w.o. Heat 3—R. Smith, Crook, 21½, 1; G. Dyson, Consett, 21½, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 4—Swinburne, Blackhill, 22½, w.o. Heat 5—J. Bell, Consett, 21, 1; A. Coulthard, Byer Moor, 21½, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 6—J. Winter, Consett, 25, 1; W. Carr, Blaydon, 22, 2; T. Brown, Dipton, 21½, 3. Won easily. Heat 7—W. Elliott, Consett, 22½, 1; R. Hilton, Crook, 18½, 2; J. Bowman, Dipton, 16, 3; G. Watson, Blackhill, 18½, 4. Won by two yards. Heat 8—J. Murray, Crook, 21½, 1; B. Collinson, Hedley Hill, 23½, 2; G. Elliker, Blackhill, 24, 3; W. Arkless, Whickham, 20, 4. Won by one yard. Heat 9—M. Wilkinson, Blackhill, 24½, 1; R. Reed, Durham, 15½, 2; J. Farrage, The Spen, 24½, 3. Won by a yard and a half. Heat 10—G. Crawford, Oxhill, 22, w.o. Heat 11—W. Morrallee, Hedley Hill, 22, w.o. Heat 12—J. Crawford, Consett, 17, 1; W. McKenna, Westwood, 19½, 2; C. Moses, Tow Law, 21, 3; J. Archer, Blackhill, 23½, 4. Won by a foot. Heat 13—E. J. Crane, Newcastle, 12½, 1; F. Hinchley, South Moor, 20, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 14—E. Liddle, Stella, 21½, 1; T. Thompson, Consett, 19½, 2. Won after a dead heat by half a yard. Heat 15—C. Weaver, Consett, 24, w.o. Heat 16—G. Irwin, The Spen, 22, w.o. The draw for the final heats, resulted as follows:—Heat 1—G. Crawford, Smith, Liddle, Murray. Heat 2—Elliott, Swinburne, J. Grawford, Callighan. Heat 3—Crane, Morrallee, Weaver, Evans. Heat 5—Irwin, Wilkinson, Winter, Bell. The officials were:—Judge, Mr J. McDonald; handicapper, Mr J. Walton; and starter, Mr N. Lamb, all of Consett.—A match was made on Saturday night, between M. Wilkinson, Blackhill, and Jas. Farrage, Spen, to run in sacks a distance of 100 yards, for £5 a-side, the event to take place at the Royal grounds prior to the concluding heats of the big handicap.

FOOT HANDICAP AT LANGLEY PARK.—The final heats of the 120 yards footrace, promoted by J. Maddison, at Mr E. White's, Langley Park Hotel, were run off on Saturday afternoon in a field near the house, and before a good company of spectators. Results:—Heat 1—W. Batey, Carrville, 14½, 1; W. Pickering, Langley Park, 26½, 2. Won easily. Heat 2—T. Elwick, Witton Gilbert, 25, w.o. Heat 3—J. Jordon, Witton Gilbert, 24½, 1; R. Craddock, Witton Gilbert, 17½, 2. Won by half a yard. Heat 4—H. Mousey, Langley Park, 23, 1; H. Nicholson, Langley Park, 15, 2. Won by half a yard. Final heat—Monsey 1, Batey 2, Elwick 3. Won by a foot. Handicapper, J. Maddison; referee, J. Agar; and pistol-firer, J. James.

SHOOTING MATCH AT CASTLESIDE.—On Saturday afternoon a pigeon shooting match, for £5 a-side, came off in a field adjourning Mrs Davison's Smelters' Arms, between Yankee Jim, of Blackhill, and Farmer Bob, of Castleside. The conditions were 18 yards rise at five birds each. Yankee Jim injured one bird, while his opponent did not kill a single one. There was a good attendance of spectators, betting ruling on Jim.—Afterwards, a match, to be shot off under similiar conditions, at Consett, about the New Year, was made between Yankee Jim and Jos. Dodds, of Consett, for £10 a-side.

BRAES OF DERWENT HOUNDS.

Wednesday week was the opening meet of the season in connection with the gallant Braes of Derwent pack. A perfect autumn day ushered in Col. Cowen's 18th anniversary as master, and a capital run of an hour and a quarter, with a kill into the bargain, repaid a goodly company of pursuers. Hospitality of the best sort was extended to all visitors to the master's residence at Blaydon Burn. Amongst the company were Mr G. Blayney, Mr J. Bagnall, Capt. T. W. Bagnall, Capt. Martin, Mr T. Bell, Mr J. Ramsay, Mr H. H. Emmerson, Mr H. Grace, Mr T. Pearson, Mr R. Murray, Mr W. Wilkinson, Mr J. Gillespie, Mr M. Adamson, Mr R. Birrell, Mr D. Hill, Mr J. Humble, and Dr Simpson. An inspection of the hounds led to but one opinion—that they were as level and handsome a lot as the most exacting critic could desire. It is not generally known that the Braes of Derwent pack has a history of 150 years. It was established by the Humbles, of Eltringham, whose love of sport has been transmitted to succeeding generations. Mr J. J. Humble, Prudhoe, Mr F. Lamb, and Mr W. N. Cowen, will be remembered as past masters of the pack. For some time after it was upheld by a committee consisting of Mr F. Lamb, Mr W. N. Cowen, Mr J. and T. Ramsay. After their joint mastership, the hounds came into the hands of the late Mr. W. Cowen, on whose retirement, 18 years ago, they came under the guidance of the present master, who practically speaking, has hunted the country out of his pocket. The kennels adjoin the master's residence at Blaydon Burn, and under his own eyes and personal supervision they have been developed into their present high state of excellence. Some years ago a few of the hounds were crossed with the bloodhound, giving a beautiful dark black and tan colour, which even to this day is noticeable in the coats of several of the hounds. The bloodhound cross had the result of making the hounds stick closer to a cold scent, while in nowise has it impaired their speed or stamina, the only trace of the bloodhound now remaining being the deep black and tan colour afore-mentioned. It was well on towards mid-day before the company mounted, the master having as his support the veteran Siddell Dixon as huntsman. The equipment and appearance of men, horses, and hounds alike was most creditable. Speedily a fox was found in the hedge at the south end of Brockwell Wood. He got a long start, and took a line across the pastures to Chicken's Wood, thence to Reely Miers. He turned east past Burn Hills, over Blaydon Burn, and through Brockwell, on past Barlow Letch, nearly to Winlaton Board Schools, where for a time he was hard pressed. Thence he took a course down Thornley Burn, past Lily Crook Hill to Barlow, and back into Brockwell, where he was rattled about merrily before he got his quietus. Although a circling run there were no checks, the entire duration being one hour and a quarter. The brush was presented to Mr T. Bell, and the head to Mr R. Wilkinson. Well up at the finish, in addition to the master, were Mr Geo. Blayney and Mr D. Hill. Thornley Burn cover was afterwards visited, and though more than one fox was afoot, the remainder of the day was blank.

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ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d per bottle.

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

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The Converted Jew.—Dr Rosvally, the converted Jew from Jerusalem, will visit Consett on Sunday and three following days. Our readers will note that in consequence of the Wesleyan Chapel being too small to exhibit the doctor's extensive paraphernalia, the New Town Hall has been secured for the occasion.

Blackhill, Consett, and District "Model" Building Society.—The third appropriation sale will take place in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, next Thursday night. Members joining on Monday night first, and paying a week's subscription and entrance fee, may participate in the ballot.

Tripe Supper.—On Thursday se'nnight, a tripe supper was held at the house of Mrs G. Brown, Railway Hotel, Consett. A good company sat down to an excellent repast. After the cloths had been removed, the remainder of the evening was spent in an enjoyable manner.

Explosion.—On Saturday night, a customer in the bar of the Turf Hotel, Front Street, Consett, happened to drop a lighted match into the bunghole of a large beer-barrel standing against the counter. It seems that a quantity of gaseous air had accumulated in the barrel. The result was a loud explosion, which caused the people assembled in the bar to make a rapid exit. Happily no damage was done.

Sheep Worrying.—Sheep worrying on an extensive scale has been going on near Consett, within the past few days. On Friday morning between six and seven o'clock Mr J. Towns, of Carribees Farm, and Mr S. Rowe, confectioner, Consett, had fifteen ewes worried by dogs, alleged to belong to Messrs E. Farnsworth, greengrocer, and R. Walker, contractor, Consett. Three of the carcases have been condemned by Mr T. Foreman, veterinary surgeon, Leadgate; two animals are missing altogether; while the rest will be disposed of by public auction at Mr Tindall's auction mart.

Fire at the Theatre.—On Friday night, the curtain which protects the scene drop at the Theatre Royal, Consett, caught fire from the footlights, a little before eight o'clock, just previous to the commencement of the performance of *No Escape* by a travelling Dramatic Co. The curtain was soon ablaze; but happily the lessee (Mr R. J. Brodie), and the acting manager (Mr R. Brown), were speedily on the spot, and tearing the curtain down, managed to extinguish the flames. Mr Brodie had his hand badly burnt. There were not more than 30 people in the place at the time of the occurrence.

Consett and District Permanent Building Society.—It will be seen on reference to our advertising columns, that the directors of this flourishing society have decided to receive money on loan, subject to three months notice, at the rate of 4½ per cent interest, and as we have reason to know that the securities held by the society are large, and of the best class, we have every confidence in recommending this as a good opportunity for investing money advantageously. The directors being men of sound commercial standing and experience, there is no doubt that the concern is managed in such a manner as to secure the interests of all persons having dealings therewith. Permanent Building Societies are universally admitted to be conducted on equitable principles, and persons doing business with this society may, we feel assured, rely on every transaction being treated in a fair and equitable manner. We have no doubt that Mr Adam Brodie, who acts as secretary, will be glad to furnish such of our readers as desire it with every information respecting the way in which the business is conducted.

BLACKHILL.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Sunday afternoon the members of the Castleside Primitive Methodist choir gave the service of song, "Little Minnie," in the Blackhill Primitive Methodist Chapel. Both chapel and school-room were filled with an attentive and delighted audience. The connective reading was done by Mr J. Kirke. In the evening, the Blackhill choir rendered the sequel to the above service of song, "The roll call." Long before six o'clock both chapel and school-room were crowded and many had to turn away from the door unable to get standing room. The connective reading was done by Mr Walker, who finishes his evangelical services there this week.

A Mishap on the Line.—An accident, which might have resulted somewhat seriously, occurred at Consett and Blackhill Station on Tuesday night. It seems that a train of cattle comes from Newcastle about five o'clock p.m. The train had passed through the station, and gone partly beyond the signal box, when the rear van and some of the trucks became detatched from the forepart of the train. The van and trucks moved backwards down the incline, the van brake being powerless to bring the runaway trucks to a standstill. Fortunately, Mr Hugill, foreman porter, with commendable alacrity put a couple of sprags in the vehicles, and succeeded in arresting the downward career of the trucks before they reached the off-line points.

Highgate Baptist Sunday School Band of Hope.—The monthly meeting in connection with the above was held on Friday night. The meeting opened with hymn and prayer, after which came an address by the chairman (Mr Hy. Peacock), who gave a stirring speech on temperance. The next on the programme was a recitation, "The two daughters," given by Polly Urwin in excellent style; then followed another ricitation "I'm a little temperance girl, by Flora Jones, a little girl, which was contributed in good style; a song, "Love at home," by Miss M. Armstrong, was heartily received. The choir then sang a hymn, "Stand up for Jesus, ; recitation, "The wicked cruel spider" by Annie Aitken; recitation "Bishop Halton, by Jno. Jones; reading, Mr M. Hall; song, "Hark my soul," by Mr Henry Ridley, which was sung in excellent style. Votes of thanks concluded the meeting. Mr J. E. Thompson presided at the harmonium. Several pledges were taken.

It will be seen by advertisement in the *Guardian*, that on Sunday next, the Rev Aaron Matthews, the eminent Jewish Christian, and travelling secretary of the society for the conversion of the Jews, will (D.V.) preach at the Baptist Church, Highgate, Blackhill, on Sunday next, at 10 30 a.m., and 6 p.m.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

At the Shotley Bridge Occasional Court, on Saturday—before Councillor Jas. Annandale—John Rogers, a tramp, was accused of vagrancy at Blackhill, on Friday afternoon. He had inadvertently called at the house of P.C. Lindsay, in Foundry Row, and because the wife refused to supply him with either food or money, he began to indule in strong language.—Prisoner was committed to 14 days hard labour.

LANCHESTER.

At the Lanchester Police Court yesterday (Thursday)—before Rev J. P. De Pledge, and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.—John Williams was brought up charged with vagrancy.—P.C. Lindsay spoke to seeing prisoner going about Blackhill, on Wednesday afternoon, hawking boot laces without a pedlar's license.—Williams was acquitted.

WEARDALE.

November Fair.—On Saturday the St John's November fair was held. There was only a thin show of stock, small cattle sold well; but for geld cows or larger cattle there was a much less demand.

The Weather.—The weather in Weardale these last two weeks has been splendid for the season. Sunday was like a spring day; the bees were busy among the flowers still. Growing pansies, roses, stocks, primroses, wall-flowers, and many others are still blooming. There has been a remarkable absence of frost, and the fodder in the fields has been plentiful.

BIRTLEY.

Vegetable Show.—A vegetable show was held on Saturday, at Mr Geo. Levett's, Station Hotel, Birtley. Mr Thos. Fish, Birtley, was judge. Awards:—Smith Potts, George Whitmore, R. Makepiece, H. Hutchinson, Wm. Turnbull, Wm. Whitmoor, Thos. Colling, Jos. Potter, Mrs Whitmoor, H. Chapman, M. Colling, Wm. Goodfellow, Jos. Stoker, Thos. Makepiece, R. Sharp, Wm. Harle, Wm. Peel, Geo. Levett, R. Stephenson, Thos. Young, Ed. Stubbs, Wm. Adamson, Wm. Falconer.

WOLSINGHAM.

Mr John Cragg, Scotch Isle, Wolsingham, found in his field a turnip which measured 35 inches round it, and weighed 18 lbs.

SWALWELL.

Y. M. C. A.—In connection with the above society at Swalwell, Mr Morris, of Elswick, delivered his popular lecture last Saturday night on the subject of "Habits." There was a very fair company present, who paid great attention to the lecturer's excellent and instructive discourse. Songs were also rendered at intervals by Messrs Greaves, Nicholson, Jobling, and Jas. Forster. Councillor Paxton presided and opened the meeting with an appropriate address to the young men. The proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer and the chairman.

The usual weekly meeting was held at Swalwell, on Monday night, in the Board School. The programme was supplied by five members of the "Newcastle Help-Myself Society." Mr Palmer sung "Who'd have thought it;" for which he was *encored*, and gave "I'll stay with Mamma"; Mr Geo. Summer in a very effective style sang "Lay it down"; Mr Bailey rendered very pathetically "Little Nell"; Mr Palmer sang "What will the nibers say," and for a recall he gave "Martha Gray"; Mr Bailey next sang "Before I had taken the pledge"; Mr Baker sang "Woman keep your houses clean," he was enthusiastically *encored*, and rendered in a charming manner "Geordie take the bairn"; Mr Calvert rendered the martial song "We have swept the seas before, boys, and so we can again," and also sang "Tom Bowling." Mr Lander delivered a most telling and instructive address. Mr W. R. Lumley presided at the piano, and Mr Speers presided over the meeting. At the close of the meeting pledges were taken.

TANFIELD LEA.

Death of Mrs Farmer.—We regret to announce the awfully sudden death of the wife of Mr W. H. Farmer, of Newcastle, of county cricket fame, who expired on Sunday, after giving birth to a daughter. Mr Farmer will have the sincere sympathy of hosts of cricketing friends in his sad bereavment. Mrs Farmer is the second daughter of Mr James Wilson, of Tanfield Lea Colliery. They were married amid great rejoicing on the 7th of August, 1888, and their union has been favoured with a fine little baby girl. Mr Farmer is well-known in Consett, having played on the successful side N.E.R, when the big cricket demonstration was held in what is now called the Park, conspicuously for the Tanfield club. The same gentleman has also figured at many of their matches at Tanfield and Burnopfield. We are sure that every one in North-West Durham will sympathise with Mr Wilson in his sad bereavement. The interment took place on Wednesday.

MEDOMSLEY.

Presentation to Dr Spencer.—Mr Close, of Medomsley, has received from Dr Spencer, the following reply as an acknowledgment of the presentation made to him a few days ago by the inhabitants of Medomsley district:—185, Albert Road, Farnsworth, near Bolton, Nov., 7th 1888.—Dear Mr Close,—I have been extraordinary busy during the last day or two or should have written immediately on receipt of the address and chain which you so kindly forwarded. Will you please accept my warmest and most heartfelt thanks, and convey the same to the committee and subscribers for the exceedingly kind and handsome recognition of my services, with which you have so generously favoured me. My appreciation of the choice gold albert chain and chaste medallion is only equalled by the gratification I felt at receiving your expression of friendship in the beautiful address so handsomely framed and artistically finished, and I can assure you I shall always preserve them most highly in remembrance of the kind friends from whom I have been so suddenly severed—not without many regrets on my part. The habitual courtesy and good nature I met with made my life amongst you a very happy one, and I shall ever look back upon my stay in the County of Durham as a pleasing and very happy epoch in my life. With my kindest regards, and again thanking you and the committee most heartily—Believe me, ever your sincere friend, E. H. Spencer."—It may be mentioned also that Dr Spencer sent a telegram the same day on which he received the presents apprising Mr Close of their safe arrival.

LEADGATE.

Club Supper.—The yearly fund held at the house of Mr Thos. Longstaff, Masons' Arms Inn, Leadgate, was broken up and re-commenced on Saturday night. A splendid supper was served up by the host and hostess in grand style, when about 30 sat down. The club finished in a very prosperous state.

OXHILL.

Sudden Death of an Old Man.—On Saturday forenoon, Mr Coroner Graham held an inquest at the house of Mr Geo. Bullerwell, Kyo, relative to the death of John McAvoy, aged 62 years, living at Kyo Lane, Oxhill, who was found dead on Thursday se'nnight. There were no marks of violence on the body, but the death was a very sudden one.—A verdict that McAvoy had died from heart disease was returned.

WESTWOOD.

United Methodist Free Church.—On Saturday and Sunday last, the Rev A. Bromley conducted special services in the above place of worship; on the Sunday preaching in the morning to the young people, on the "Enticements of Sin," and in the evening to a large and interested congregation on the "Greatness of Man." In the afternoon a children's responsive service was held, when the scholars sang several pleasing melodies, and recited in response to each other portions of scripture. Mr James Turnbull and Mr M. Pearson had the training and conducting of the children, and Mr B. Hunter accompanied on the harmonium. On Saturday evening, the Rev A. Bromley lectured to a large and appreciative audience on "England's heroes and heroines." In telling phrases, with a liberal mixture of wit and humour, the lecturer told the story of England's rise as a nation, and described her as peculiarly the home of heroic spirits. In sentences characterised by a sustained and lofty eloquence, he showed that whilst ancient Greece claimed to be the birth-place of genius, whilst ancient Rome boasted of having taught the world the art of government, and whilst ancient Judea could maintain that from her proceeded the grandest ethics and the Divinist spiritual teachings, England had, by the combination of the three powers of art, government, and religion, risen higher in the scale of national greatness than any other nation either ancient or modern. In an exceedingly humorous style, the lecturer exposed, with vivid word pictures, the many mistaken notions which extensively prevail in relation to the subject of heroism, and with scathing sarcasm held them up to the ridicule and contempt of his audience. Defining hero as "a God created some which was true to its origin," and heroism as devotion to duty at all costs and hazards, the rev gentlemen proceeded to cite instances of the exhibition of true heroism. From the days of the British Queen Boadicea down to modern times, English history was laid under contribution, and the selections rendered gave evidence of wide and extensive reading, and of a highly cultured mind. In a graphic manner, the lecturer described the ever-memorable Balaclava charge, concluding the story with an impressively dramatic recital of Tennyson's soul-stirring "Charge of the Light Brigade." The audience, unable to contain its enthusiasm until the close of the recital, somewhat marred the effect of this piece by loudly applauding whilst the lecturer had his heroes in the thick of the fight. The Crimean War naturall, suggested the heroisms of ladies such as Florence Nightingale, "the lady of the lamp," Miss Stanley, and others. In conclusion the lecturer appealed to his audience to recognise the fact that the days of cavalry were not yet past, and urging his hearers to prove themselves in the sphere in which their several callings lay to prove themselves worthy successors of "England's heroes and heroines." A vote of thanks to the lecturer was carried with much enthusiasm, and with a simular compliment to the chairman, Mr James Clarke, the meeting was concluded by singing the Doxology.

RIDING MILL.

Band of Hope.—A tea and entertainment was held in the Baptist Chapel, Broomhaugh, on Wednesday evening. The chair was taken by Mr C Marshall, and an address was delivered by Mr Troupe, agent for the Band of Hope Union for Newcastle and Gateshead, on "Our two friends, good health and good character." Temperance songs were sung by the choir, and readings, recitations, and solos were given by members and friends. Miss Dent presided at the harmonium.

RYTON.

Literary and Debating Society.—On Friday night, the inaugural meeting of Ryton Literary and Debating Society, session 1889-90, was held in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, Lane Head. Canon Chester, rector, presided, and there was a crowded attendance. Rev J. F. Tarleton, B.A., president, delivered an address on "Machiavelli."

Liberal Association.—Although some of the leading liberals of the district have gone over to the Unionists, the energy of the Ryton Gladstonian Liberals has not been impaired. Under the active superintendance of the secretary, Mr Henry Wilson, a new association was formed last spring, and a programme of work has been arranged for the winter. This will consist in part of a series of lectures, the first of which was given last week by Mr H. B. Holding, entitled "A Radical View of the Land Question." Mr R. Spence Watson delivered the second of the series, entitled "An Irish Social Reform of Fifty Years." Amongst other lecturers who have promised are Mr John Havelock, Mr T. N. Brown, Mr Percy Corder, and others.

Local Board.—The usual meeting was held on Monday, in the Board Room, Ryton, Coun. Simpson J.P., presiding. The Clerk (Mr Dalton) submitted accounts amounting to £192 7s 9d, which were ordered to be paid. The balance in the hands of the treasurer was reported to be £235 7s 5d. The Medical Officer of Health (Dr P. Brown) reported that some little uneasiness had been caused by the presence of two cases of scarlatina. Both patients are convalescent, and he believed he was safe in saying that so far no fresh cases had occurred. In all other respects the health of the district was in a satisfactory state. After some discussion, it was decided to petition the County Council of Durham in favour of the proposal brought before that Council by the Blaydon Local Board, with regard to the purchase and making free of the Scotswood Bridge and road.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Lecture.—On Wednesday evening, Mr Frank Healey, of the National Conservative Union, delivered an address on "Three years of Unionist work," in Mr Taylor's long-room, Annfield Plain. There was a fair company present.

Benefit Concert.—On Saturday evening, a grand evening concert was given in the Annfield Plain Co-operative Hall, in aid of Thos. Whitfield, the armless boy, of Consett, by several talented artistes from Consett and Blackhill district. There was only a moderate company present.

Visit of Rev Danzy Sheen.—On Wednesday, the members of the Annfield Plain Primitive Methodist Society were honoured with a visit from Rev Danzy Sheen, of Scarbrough. In the afternoon, the rev. gentleman preached in the above chapel to a good congregation. The text was taken from I. Cor., chap. i., 30th verse—"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus," &c. A collection was taken at the close. In the evening, Mr Danzy Sheen delivered one of his interesting and popular lectures, entitled "George Whitfield: the prince of preachers." There was a good company present, and the chair was taken by Mr H. Greener, of South Pontop. The lecturer in the course of his address, traced the life of Whitfield from his birth in Gloucester, in 1714, to his death in America, in 1770. The proceeds were in aid of the evangelistic fund.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—The anniversary services in connection with the above place were celebrated on Saturday and Sunday.—On the former day a public meeting was held, when addresses were delivered by Mr J. Sasbury, Mr T. Cowey (Wesleyan), Annfield Plain, and Miss I. Johnstone, Lanchester. Mr I. Johnstone "The Happy Pilgrim," occupied the chair in his usual happy manner. A vote of thanks was moved by Mr P. Reay, seconded by Mr R. Clish, to the chairman and speakers, brought the meeting to a close. It was followed by a knife-and-fork supper, which was well attended by the public. The tables were gracefully presided over by Misses Carr, Bidgood, Gibson, and Charlton, while the making of the tea and coffee was attended to by Mrs Smith and Mrs Mordue in a very efficient manner. A vote of thanks was heartily moved by Mr P. Reay, seconded by Mr J. Mordue, supported by Mr A. Forster, and carried by acclamation.—On Sunday, sermons were preached in the morning and evening by Miss Johnstone, and in the afternoon by Mr C. Graham. Collections were taken on behalf of the trust fund. The services throughout have been a success.

HEDLEY HILL COLLIERY.

Concert.—On Saturday evening, a concert was given by Waterhouses choral society in the Hedley Hill Schoolroom, which was exceedingly well attended. Mr M. Davison, Hedley Hill Terrace, ably occupied the chair, while Mr W. Harrison officiated at the harmonium. The following programme was rendered in a fairly creditable manner, and was well received by the audience:—Chorus, "We rock away," by society; quartette, "Laugh and grow fat," Messrs Ward and party; part song, "Tap of the drum," by society; solo on the English concertina, Mr J. M. Roberts; song, "Footsteps on the stairs," Miss H. Morton; reading, "The barrel-organ," part 1st, Mr G. E. Ward; part song, "The contest," society; duet, "The pilot brave," Messrs Robertson and Ward; song, "It always comes," Mr W. Harrison; part song, "Come o'er the stream," Messrs Ward and party; trio, "A little farm," Messrs Ward, Robinson, and Harrison; part song, "Ringing cheerily," society; song, "It's English," Mr T. M. Roberts; recitation, "The stowaway," Miss J. Johnson; duet, "Crookit bawbee," Mr G. E Ward and Miss H. Morton; instrumental selection, Messrs Roberts and party; reading, "The barrel-organ," part 2nd, Mr G. E. Ward; glee, "Away to the West," society. Having spent an enjoyable evening, and a vote of thanks to the chairman and members of the band being carried, the proceedings were brought to a close.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

Yearly Fund Supper.—On Saturday evening, the work men employed by Messrs Ferns and Love, in their pipe and brick works, held their annual club supper in connection with their yearly fund, at Mr J. Coates', Royal Oak Inn, Cornsay Colliery. The worthy host and hostess cannot be too highly commended for the business-like manner they adopt for the accommodation and comfort of the members, of whom 30 partook of the excellent repast. Mr A. Love was appointed to the chair, and Mr J. Starford to the vice-chair. After the cloth was removed, the chairman proposed "Success to the Brickyard Yearly Fund." This was seconded by Mr Ford, honorary secretary, and carried amidst musical honours.—The following local artistes took part in the proceedings:—Messrs A. Love, Ford, Hardy, Joyce, Coates, Clark, Anderson, Scott, Myers, and others; while Mr E. Minto officiated at the piano. Mr Hardy accompanied on the piccolo. The secretary's report having been submitted, showed the financial condition of the club was of a highly satisfactory character, notwithstanding the heavy expenditure during the past year. The fund would allow of no dividend.—The healths of the officials were then disposed of, and the usual toasts followed, among them being the host and hostess, for whom the company entertained the highest respect, was carried amidst musical honours. A very pleasant evening being spent by the company, the proceedings were brought to a conclusion with a vote of thanks to the host and hostess, who had kindly provided a splendid supper for them, and to the chairman and gentlemen who had proffered their services. The company dispersed by singing, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot."

WYLAM.

Sanitary Condition.—On Tuesday, at a meeting of the Hexham Sanitary Authority, Dr Foulis presented a report on the sanitary condition of Wylam. During the last three months 15 cases of enteric fever, two cases of scarlet fever, and one case of puerperal fever have occurred in that part of the village known as Cold Wylam. The matter was referred to a special committee.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Ham and Coffee Supper.—On Monday night, a ham and coffee supper was given in the Primitive Methodist school-room, Allendale Cottages. The supper was provided by two members of the Wesleyan Society. There was a large company present, who partook of the good things provided. After the tables had been cleared, various games were indulged in. A vote of thanks was given to the providers of the supper, coupled with those who assisted in the making of it ready. The proceeds, which amounted to upwards of £2 5s, are to be devoted to the trust fund.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, Mr W. H. Hedley (chairman) being in the chair. Present: Councillor Geo. Nicholson, Messrs W. Brown, H. Keenleyside, T. Lammonby, J. Davison, Luke Nicholson, J. H. Hudson, J. J. Hedley, the clerk (Mr M. Coupland), and the surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff).

THE PAYMENT OF OFFICERS' SALARIES.

An intimation has been received from the Local Government Board that they would not pay any proportion of the salaries of either the sanitary inspector, medical officer, and other officers, in future such payments having to be made by the County Council.

On the proposal of Coun. Nicholson, seconded by Mr Lammonby, the Clerk was instructed to forward a copy of the circular from the Local Government Board to the County Council.

THE MAINTENANCE OF MAIN ROADS.

Councillor Nicholson proposed that the Clerk prepare a formal notice, to be sealed by the Board, notifying the County Council that the Board wished to retain the management and maintenance of their main roads as heretofore.

Mr Hudson seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

THE BRAY'S LAMP.

The Surveyor presented a list of the four lamps which had been extinguished by reason of the erection of a Bray's lamp at the west end of Leadgate, and it was suggested that another lamp should be put out.

Mr Hudson said the best thing was to erect four more Bray's lamps in Front Street, and do away with the whole of the small lamps.

The Chairman thought the lamps should be re-arranged next winter.

Mr Hudson said the time would come when the lamps would have to be re-arranged. He considered that they had a far better pressure at Consett than at Leadgate.

Mr Davison concurred, and said that Leadgate would never be properly lighted till they were joined with the connection from Consett.

The Surveyor: And not from Number One.

Mr Lammonby averred that there never was the same pressure at Leadgate that there was at Consett.

Mr Hudson stated that the lamps were badly set at Leadgate.

Mr Nicholson rejoined that the lamps were placed where they were most convenient, and would be of the greatest use. They could not be better arranged than they were at present.

The Chairman: I suppose they are placed in the dark places and nasty corners.

Mr Nicholson: Yes.

Mr Hudson still adhered that some of the lamps were too close together. At Consett they were about 60 yards apart.

Mr Lammonby: And at Redwell Hills the lamps are placed at about 40 yards distance. There are few houses and little else but the public highway to light up.

The Chairman: They are closer than necessary.

Coun. Nicholson thought it would be a good thing to light Front Street with Bray's lamps.

Mr Lammonby said the season was so far past, or he would have proposed that a Bray's lamp be erected at the east end of Leadgate.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Shotley Bridge Gas Company calling attention to some defective burners, which have been pointed out by the Surveyor.

THE SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The Surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—Accounts will be laid before you for the following manual and team labour:—

Durham Main Road—The whole scraped twice over, and some parts thrice. Thirty tons of limestone put on, also 50 yards of slag carted and laid on.

Other Roads—Redwell Hills Road: Part scraping done, and the same carted off; and 32 yards of slag, also 27 tons of limestone broken for this road. Brooms Lane: 20 yards of slag laid on, same quantity put on to Broomhouse Lane. Iveston Village: 32 yards of slag broken; likewise getting 60 yards of small slag for footpaths in Leadgate, besides general repairs attended to.

Annexed are the monthly paybills:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Durham Main Road—						
Manual labour	3	2	4			
Team labour	2	1	8			
				5	4	0
Other Roads—						
Manual labour	10	14	2			
Team labour	0	6	9			
Tradesmen's bills	1	10	10			
				12	11	9
Total				£17	15	9

The Park—Accounts will be presented to you for painting and putting up a notice board as to damage, &c., also for a woman putting in and fixing stakes and trees, and generally dressing-up the Park, £1 2s 6d.

T. Longstaff.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—Since your last meeting, I have repeatedly inspected your district, and am afraid we still have a few (two) fever cases in Leadgate, but I expect the medical officer will report to you thereon. Gas burnt in October, 151 hours. The Bray's lamp was put up and lighted on Friday, 25th October, and is burning well, and gives a good light; but I believe your Lighting Committee will report to you. The bill for the stone for the Bray's lamp will be presented for payment to-day. The Iveston oil lamps are giving general satisfaction since we procured the new burners. An account for six casks of oil from Mr Wm. Shield will come up for payment.

T. Longstaff.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

Gentlemen,—I have collected and paid to the treasurer on account of general district rate the sum of £258 16s 4d.

T. Longstaff.

The Clerk was authorised to write to the agents stating that the Board thought the price for the oil lamp burners too high.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The medical officer (Dr Geo. Renton) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

Gentlemen,—I beg to submit to you the vital statistics of your district for the quarter ending Sept. 30th, 1889. During that period 37 births (18 males and 19 females) and 15 deaths (11 males and four females) were registered. Calculated up to date these returns give a birth-rate equal to 30 2 and a death-rate equal to 12 2 per 1,000 per annum. It will be observed that whilst the death-rate maintains its agreeably low standard, the birth-rate has received a considerable fillip. Of infantile deaths only three were recorded, so that there is nothing to complain of under this head. The zymotic death-rate has also kept within bounds, as but two deaths from these diseases were registered. Zymotic diseases have been observed in two forms—viz., scarlet fever and enteric fever.

Scarlet fever—In the month of August two cases cropped up in a house in Plantation Street and in the following month four cases arose in the same street. One of the latter ended in death. This was one of those mysterious outbreaks which are so difficult to fathom, and for which no probable cause has as yet been suggested.

Enteric fever—Since July and up to the present date 11 cases of enteric fever have occurred. The first was in Green Street, and was removed to the hospital, where it made a good recovery. The next six cases all arose in one house in Plantation Street. One case ended fatally, and subsequently three were removed to the hospital and have done well. Two cases then cropped up in a house in Bottle Bank and were removed to the hospital, where one of them died. Since the above, two fresh cases have come under observation in Durham Road, and are progressing favourably. With regard to the cause of this outbreak, generally a difficult matter to determine, it is my opinion that the case in Green Street and those in Bottle Bank were the result of germs being let loose during the operations in Green Street, when an old stone drain was taken up. The cases in Plantation Street may have had a similar origin to the foregoing, but, as the first two cases were taken ill away from home, it is possible they may have contracted the disease outside the district. With respect to the cases in Durham Road, no possible or probable cause as to their origin has as yet been suggested.

On the whole, notwithstanding the outbreaks above-mentioned, the district is in a fair sanitary condition, a statement fully borne out by the low rate of mortality.—Yours, &c.,

Geo. Renton, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Blackhill, Nov. 12th, 1889.

The report was received as satisfactory.

STONEY HEAP WATER SUPPLY.

The Chairman read the opinion of the *Justice of the Peace* newspaper concerning the powers of the Urban Sanitary Authority with regard to providing Stoney Heap with water. The reply was put by the Clerk and Mr L. Nicholson, however, was stated to be defective.

The Chairman pointed out that the main point—could the Board appropriate any portion of the rates towards the provision of a water service—had been annulled.

Mr L. Nicholson said that that point might be inferred from the general scope of the question.

Mr J. J. Hedley remarked that the subject was left in the hands of the Committee.

Mr L. Nicholson replied that the clerk and himself as convener were deputed to prepare a query to be sent to the *Justice of the Peace*.

Mr J. J. Hedley held a contrary opinion. Why should the convener take it upon himself, any more than any other member of the Committee, to draft a question?

The Clerk stated that he merely acted upon the instructions of the convener.

The Chairman understood that the matter was left in the hands of the Committee.

On the motion of Mr Lammonby, and seconded by Coun. Nicholson, the matter was referred back to the Committee for further enquiry and consideration.

THE DOCTOR'S ~~AND HIS~~ REPORTS.

Dr Renton wrote, in reply to the request of the Board to furnish monthly instead of quarterly reports, that while quite willing to do so, he considered the remuneration paid him entirely inadequate for the extra work to be performed. He must therefore ask the Board to re-consider the question of the salary paid him.

The Chairman thought they simply asked the doctor to do what he had done previously.

Coun. Nicholson: What is the doctor's salary?

The Clerk: £15 a-year.

Mr Brown thought that, as they were going to increase the doctor's work, they must also advance his salary.

The Chairman: We are not increasing his work; but simply asking the doctor to revert to the old system of monthly reports, in lieu of the quarterly ones. Dr Renton used to submit reports every month when his salary was only £10 per annum.

Mr Brown understood that it was only when an epidemic was raging that the doctor favoured the Board with a report every month.

The Chairman: Oh, no. We get a report regularly every month, but we thought it would be better to have them sent in once a quarter.

The Inspector said the doctor would experience some difficulty in getting the returns from the Registrar of births and deaths.

The Chairman: Oh, he could still have given the figures once a quarter. We only wanted to keep before us the sanitary condition of the district.

On the proposition of Coun. Nicholson, the letter was referred to the Finance Committee to consider and report.

ACCOUNTS.

The monthly payments represented a total of £48 18s 6d, paid to treasurer on account of general district rate £258 16s 4d, so that there was a good balance in hand.

RAILWAY FACILITIES IN WEST DURHAM.

A letter was read from Mr Adam Brodie asking the Board to support the petition to be presented to the directors of the North-Eastern Railway, in favour of the extension of passenger railway facilities from Annfield Plain District to Consett and Blackhill.

Coun. Nicholson said the Board had always heartily supported this proposal, and three years ago they even sent a deputation to York to urge the desirability of Leadgate and surrounding district being provided with passenger railway communication. He moved that the memorial should be signed.

Mr Hudson, in seconding, said they ought to assist their neighbours in acquiring further railway facilities, inasmuch as Leadgate was very badly off in that respect. They were led to believe that they would get a passenger line before long.

Mr L. Nicholson was afraid that the Railway Company would not do anything.

Coun. Nicholson observed that if the railway was extended to Leadgate it would be of the utmost advantage.

Mr Hudson: There is a large population surrounding Leadgate, South Medomsley, Iveston, East Castle, &c.

Mr Keenleyside: And have a station at Boggle Hole. (Laughter).

The resolution was carried, Messrs Brown and L. Nicholson opposing.

The Chairman: Are you against it, Mr Brown? (Laughter).

Mr Brown said that the Consett Iron Company were at present memorialising the directors of the Railway Company to have a portion of the new line already constructed taken down, so that the company might be enabled to get their immense traffic into the Iron and Steel Works. At present, they had not sufficient sidings running to and from the works. It was no use signing this petition, because the company won't grant it.

Mr Hudson: But people want to go away from here.

Mr Brown retorted that the Railway Company arranged their own affairs. There's far too much of this meddlesome business. The Railway Company will do as they like, in spite of what you do.

Mr Hudson: And they just do as they like. They charge what they have a mind, and treat people just as they choose. It is far different in the South of England, where two or three different Railway Companies are competing with each other.

Mr L. Nicholson said that the inhabitants of Annfield Plain and Stanley only wanted to get to Newcastle via Birtley.

Mr Hudson: But they may want to come round by Consett to get to Durham.

Mr L. Nicholson: Well, they can travel to Durham *via* the Team Valley Railway.

Mr Brown explained that the Consett Iron Company were negotiating with the Railway Company to excavate the ground between the two buildings, and span the distance with an extensive arch, having the railways and sidings running underneath.

The Chairman, Councillor Nicholson, and the Clerk were empowered to sign the memorial on behalf of the Board.

The members afterwards separated.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

To-morrow's Fixtures (Saturday, Nov. 16th).

Leadgate Park v Dipton Wanderers, at Dipton.
Tanfield Lea v Hebburn Argyle, at Hebburn.
Dipton Wanderers 2nd v Heaton Wanderers 2nd, at Heaton.
Hamsteels v Tudhoe 2nd, at Hamsteels.
Tow Law v Bishop Auckland Reserve, at Tow Law.
Married v Single, at Tanfield.
Langley Park Rovers v Cornsay Rovers, at Langley Park.
Langley Park I.O.G.T. v Usworth Jolly Lads, at Langley Park.
Pelton Fell Harriers v Bearpark Rovers, at Pelton Fell.
Pelton Fell Harriers 2nd v Sunniside, at Pelton Fell.
Edmondsley Strangers v Canney Hill Black Watch, at Edmondsley.

WOLSINGHAM CHARITY CUP:

FIRST ROUND.

Consett v Leadgate Exiles, at Leadgate.

Leadgate Exiles v Consett.—These teams will meet to-morrow (Saturday), on the Exiles ground in the first round of the Wolsingham Charity Cup. Both teams intend to put their full strength in the field, and a good game will certainly be the result of the meeting. The following have been chosen to do duty for the Exiles:—Goal, H. Callaghan; backs, J. Monaghan and J. McGuire (late of West End Reserve); half-backs, J. Costello, T. Forrest, and Wm. Costello (capt.); forwards, G. Walton and C. Quinn, right wing; Tim Campbell, centre; J. Argyle and P. Quinn, left wing. Reserves, J. McGee, P. Hughes, and J. O'Neale. Umpire, Mr T. Kennedy. Consett—Goal, T. Pratt; backs, J. Swan (capt.) and J. Brown; half-backs, J. Griffin, C. O'Neil, and G. Davies; forwards, P. McKie and A. Winter, right wing; J. McCarthy, centre; J. Telford and J. Batey, left wing. Umpire, Mr R. Christopher. Kick-off at 3-15.

Leadgate Park v Dipton Wanderers.—These teams meet at Dipton to-morrow (Saturday). Leadgate Park team—Goal, G. Beadling; backs, F. Jackson (capt.) and A. Graham; half-backs, T. Makepeace, J. Wilson, and J. Anderson; forwards, J. Haggerstone and J. Snowdon, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; J. Hunter and J. Brown, left wing. Umpire, Mr R. Birtley.

At Durham Bankruptcy Court, on Tuesday, the examination of David Logan, greengrocer, Burnhope, was closed.

Lecture.—On Monday evening, Mr Frank Healey, of the National Union of Conservative Association, delivered an address on "Three years of Unionist work," in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield. There was a fair company present.

Tea and Concert.—On Saturday, the members of the Burnopfield Co-operative Society held a tea and concert. In the afternoon, a public tea was provided in the Co-operative Hall, and was partaken of by a large influx of the members. In the evening, the building was packed. Mr Watson Bell, Hobson Colliery, presided. An excellent programme was given by the following artistes from Newcastle:—Miss Sneath, Miss Bell, Mr J. B. Bowes, and Mr W. T. Merritt. Miss Parker presided at the piano.

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The workmen of Burnhope Colliery have contributed £42 9s 8d to the Hospital Fund this year: £21 for the Whitley Convalescent Home, and £21 9s 8d for Newcastle Infirmary, and the workmen of South Pontop Colliery have contributed £8 15s to the Hospital Fund: £4 4s to the Convalescent Home, and £4 11s for Newcastle Infirmary.

Special Services.—Mr J. Southren, of Crook, delivered a very interesting lecture on "Samson" on Saturday evening, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Burnhope. Afterwards a coffee supper was held, which was prepared and attended to by Mesdames G. Turton, J. Tyson, M. H. Guy, T. Teasdale, J. Battensby, and W. Ridley, assisted by Miss Heslop, Miss Fenwick, and Miss Pattison. On Sunday, the sermons were preached in the chapel, in the morning and evening by Mr J. Southren, and in the afternoon by Mr J. Haswell, Langley Park. Each service was attended by a large audience, and the amount realised was upwards of £9, and was devoted to the trust funds. Such was the success of the services that Mr Southren was asked to pay a future visit to to Burnhope and deliver another of his popular lectures.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

Beamish.—Beamish Church, 6th inst., by Rev John Crennell, M.A., vicar, Osborne Henderson Hudson, M.R.C.S., &c., Sheffield, to Wilhelmina, daughter of the late Dr Pearson, Hexham.

Stanhope.—St. Thomas's Church, 14th inst., James Palmerley to Miss J. P. Earle.

Newcastle.—St. Stephen's, 6th inst., by Rev A. Dawson, J. Watson, of Blaydon, to Alice daughter of the late Taylor Foster, Swalwell.

Bishop Auckland.—Register Office, 2nd inst., M. M. Manners, Roddymoor, to Selina Johnson, Stanley.

Sydney.—16th Sept., Thomas Best, of Shoalhaven, N.S.W., to Isabella, only daughter of the late James Bolton, butcher, Greenside.

DEATHS.

Lanchester.—Union Workhouse, 5th inst., aged 61, Jane Postgate.

10th inst., aged 52, George, son of John Siddle, Blackhill.

Dipton.—10th inst., aged 75, Agnes, wife of Robert McPherson.

West Stanley.—7th inst., aged 6 years, Sarah Jane, eldest daughter of Joseph Brown.

Quebec.—11th inst., aged 14, Pamela, daughter of George and Pamela Ather.

Marley Hill.—12th inst., in his 73rd year, John Todd, colliery manager, over 40 years with John Bowes and Partners.

Winlaton.—5, Commercial Square, after a long illness, John Hinds.

Chester-le-Street.—27th ult., aged 75, Jane, wife of Peter Shaw.

22nd ult., aged 24, Beatrice Burton, daughter of Dennis Wragg.

17th ult., aged 3 years, Mary, and on the 23rd ult., aged 1 year, Frances, daughters of Thomas Summers.

Whickham.—9th inst., aged 19, George Ellison, son of John Copeland.

Prudhoe.—(At the residence of her son, Mark Henderson), 10th inst., aged 77, Elizabeth, widow of the late Joseph Henderson.

Edmondsley.—24th ult., aged 28, Jane Ann, wife of John Tait.

26th ult., aged 48, William Scott, colliery overman.

29th ult., aged 9 years, Maria, daughter of Wm. Cook.

Sunniside.—10th inst., aged 38, Barbara Bewick.

Blaydon.—10th inst., aged 4 years, Martha, only child of the late Wm. Eden.

Birtley.—Warwick Square, 8th inst., aged 66, Jane Greenwell, for 44 years servant to the Birtley Iron Company.

West Pelton.—Handen Hold, 24th ult., aged Emma, widow of Richard Anderson.

Grangeville, 25th ult., aged 24, Meggie, wife Robert Dickinson.

Grangeville, 1st inst., aged 66, Jane, widow Robert Appleton.

Washington.—3rd inst., aged 80, Mary, widow of Matthew Hall, Sunniside, Marley Hill.

Newcastle.—108, George Road, 11th inst., aged 3 months, Lucy H. Charlton, infant daughter of James and Lucy A. Charlton.

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