The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 2048 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION THE UNITED KINGDOM. | FRIDAY, November 17th, 1899. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

THE EYE AND EAR

A NEW TREATMENT.

Without Operation, for Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears cured; Deafness from Influenza cured. Hundreds of letters in testimony of success. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer sent free. Mr T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds. At Leeds every Tuesday and Alternate Saturdays Nov. 18th and Dec. 2nd. Hours, 10 to 7.—Artificial Eyes, Spectacles, etc

NOTICE. — Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends same hotels as for last twelve years. Sutties' Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Monday, Nov 27th; Hours, 12 to 4·30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, Dec. 13th Hours, 10·30 to 4·30. Imperial Hotel, Hull, Friday, Dec. 1st; Hours, 11 to 4-30.

BRAIN FOOD

HARBURN'S PHOSPHORISED TONIC

RENEWS BRAIN, NERVE & BLOOD.

In Bottles 13½d. and 2s 9d, from Chemists or direct from A. HARBURN, M.P.S., Pharmaceutical Chemist, Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

Money.

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

Contracts.

BUILDERS desirous of TENDERING for the ERECTION and COMPLETION of Eight Dwelling-Houses at Chopwell, Co. Durham, for MR. SHIPLEY, can see Plans and Specifications at Mr. Shipley's Premises, Chopwell, or at Architect's Office, Ashmount, Shotley Bridge. Tenders to be sent in to Mr. Shipley, not later than Wednesday, Nov. 22nd.
DAVID M. SPENCE, Architect.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TOW LAW.

TO PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE above-named Council desire TENDERS for PRINTING and BINDING the Proposed NEW BYE-LAWS. Full particulars may be obtained on application to me. Dated this 14th day of November, 1899.
EDW. MILBURN, Clerk to the Council.
Park House, Crook. 842f

TO CONTRACTORS.

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE GUARDIANS of the above Union are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the ERECTION of a NEW LAUNDRY at Lanchester Workhouse.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract, may be seen, and Forms of Tender may be obtained at the Architect's Office, (Mr. Geo. Thos. Wilson's), 121, Durham Road, Blackhill, Co. Durham.

Quantities will be supplied on application.

Tenders to be sent in to the undersigned, endorsed "Tenders for New Laundry," on or before Wednesday, Nov. 29th, 1899.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.
W. H. RITSON, Clerk to the Guardians.
Nov. 15th, 1899.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

JOHN HEWITSON, SLATER AND SLATE MERCHANT, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.
Foreman's Residence: 64, WESLEY TERRACE.
Estimates for Slating Gratis.
Repairs a Speciality.
Agent for all the Leading Slate Quarries.
A large quantity of Old Slates for sale cheap.
HEAD OFFICE: LEAZES PARK ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
National Telephone, No. 1348. 98f

Lost and Found.

LOST, a Black SPRINGER BITCH, answers to the name of "Nell".—Anyone returning the same to 12, King Street, will be rewarded.

LOST, on November 8th, a Green CARRIAGE RUG, between Shotley Park and Shotley Bridge Station.—Finder rewarded on returning it to Shotley Park. 836f

LOST, Nov. 5th, between Consett and Crookhall, Gold Chain BRACELET and PENDANT.—Reward on returning it to *Guardian* Office, Consett. 878f

Wanted.

MESSAGE BOY WANTED, immediately.—J. HENRY, Chemist, Shotley Bridge.

WANTED, a COOK.—Apply, Shotley Villa, Shotley Bridge. 880f

WANTED, a Strong Respectable DAY GIRL.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 877f

WANTED, at once, a Strong GIRL for House work.—Apply to W. WATSON, Farmer, Spen, Lintz Green. 854f

GENERAL SERVANT WANTED, for small family; able to Wash.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 851f

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL, one that can Milk preferred.—Apply at once to W. ATKINSON, Farmer, Tantobie R.S.O. 832f

WANTED, a Strong, Active, Experienced GIRL.—Apply, 12, Bessemer Street, Blackhill 826f

WANTED, VIOLIN PUPILS, by a Young Lady, Certif. L.C.M.—For Terms apply, 7, Forster Street, Consett. 805f

WANTED, Every PITMAN to read the "PITMAN'S SOCIAL NEET". Bright, Humorous, Clever.—Ask your Newsagent for it.

WANTED, a Strong LAD, able to Milk, live in Farm.—Apply, Mr. HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 676f

TEA LEAD WANTED, in any quantity; (market price given), at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 345f

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

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to [illegible] Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

NEW REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS at Mrs. ROSE, 53, Towneley Street, West Stanley.—Servants and Mistresses can be suited by applying to above. 868f

GROCERY.—WANTED, a YOUNG MAN for Grocery and to go with Horse and Cart, must be well accustomed to horses.—Apply, Box "M", *Guardian* Office 881f

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

WANTED, PICTURES TO FRAME, in Oak, Gilt, or various kinds of Moulding, from 1s. upwards.—T. C. BELL, 37, Rosebery Terrace, Consett. 784e

WANTED, a HORSE about 16 hands, from 4 to 5 years old, suitable for going with Small Rolley or Butcher's Cart.—Price and particulars to be addressed to Box "X", *Guardian* Office, Consett. 787f

CANVASSER, GENTLEMANLY, WANTED, to interview Merchants, Tradesmen, &c. Permanent position. Good Salary and prospects to suitable man. Address, BOWYER, Imperial Buildings, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 837f

KYO U. D. SCHOOL BOARD.
ANNFIELD PLAIN MIXED BOARD SCHOOL.

WANTED, a CARETAKER for the above School. Particulars as to duties, remuneration, &c., can be had on application to Head Master.—Applications will be received by the undersigned up to November 27th. W. H. RITSON, Lanchester, Durham. 846f

WANTED, to be known everywhere, that the best Assortment of Cycles will be on view at the NEW SHOP PREMISES; Also, Accessories of all kinds; Repairs, Re-plating, and Enamelling done on the shortest notice; Also, that WRINGING MACHINE ROLLERS of very best quality are being Fitted and Guaranteed for 12 Months at 10s per pair, by J. DAWSON, Wringing Machine Roller Turner, &c., Front Street, West Stanley. 216e

WANTED, all Customers and the General Public to know that W. E. TURNER has REMOVED HIS STOCK to more Commodious Premises.—Note the address:—No. 6 FRONT STREET (next door to Mr. G. Pattrick, Chemist), where they will find a choice selection of Hats, Caps, Ties, Collars, Shirts, Suits, Cyclists' Outfits, and Accessories.—Monster CLEARANCE SALE of CYCLES. A large variety of Pipes, Tobaccos and Cigars. Try the noted "Supremacy," 7 for 1s. 982e

To Let.

TO LET, HOUSE, 30, Park Road, Consett.—Apply next door. 775f

TO LET, a Six-roomed HOUSE in Taylor Street—For particulars apply to 15, Palmerston Street, Consett. 860f

TO LET, a HOUSE and GARDEN at Stanniforham.—Apply on the premises or to J. E. WILLINGS, Eighton Banks, Gateshead 780f

To Let.

TO LET, the Commodious SHOP, known as "Luton House", Middle Street, Consett, immediate possession.—Apply to R. W. SHAW, Villa Real, Consett. 853f

TO LET, HARRATON HOUSE, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside, containing Six Rooms, Bath-room, and Scullery.—Apply, JAS. ELTRINGHAM, Grocer, Blackhill.

TO LET, HOUSE (five rooms), with Blacksmith's Shop (the only one in the town), in good position in Leadgate.—For particulars apply, T. SINCLAIR, Butcher, Leadgate. 750f

EXCELLENT HOUSE and SHOP TO LET in Consett; also, DWELLING HOUSE (5 rooms) in Blackhill.—Apply to W. RAMSAY, North-Eastern Bank, Blackhill. 396f

TO LET, Three-roomed COTTAGE and Garden at Knitsley; One-room Cottage at Sawmill Wood, woman worker-out preferred.—Apply to Mr. CRAGGS, Woodlands, Consett.

For Sale

FOR SALE, a Cleveland BAY MARE, 16·1 h.h.—Apply, THOS. HALL, Leadgate.

FOR SALE, a SOW and Litter of PIGS.—Apply, Mrs. RICHARDSON, Caithness Cottage, Castleside. 829f

FOR SALE, Black PONY, 12 h.h., quiet, and a good worker. GOVERNESS CAR and Silver-mounted HARNESS in capital order.—Apply, M. HENDERSON, Catchgate. 845f

FOR SALE, GOVERNESS CAR, Suitable for Pony, 13 to 14 hands; also, FLAT CART and PONY HARNESS.—JOSEPH IRWIN, Joiner and Cartwright, Oxhill. 769f

FOR SALE, HOUSE with SHOPS in Victoria Street, Consett. (No. 24), now rented to the River Plate Fresh Meat Co., and Kirkland, Hairdresser, at a Yearly Rental of about £55.—Apply, W. BRAND, Senr., on the premises.

MONEY LENT on Gold and Silver Watches, Plate, Jewellery, Pictures, Men's and Women's Clothes, Bed and Table Linen.—Large Stock of Unredeemed Pledges for Sale. Hand Quilted Quilts.—M. HEPTON, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 260f

FOR SALE, Frank Miller's Celebrated HARNESS DRESSINGS, nothing to equal it for preserving the Leather, and requires no brushing; also, a good stock of Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, Horse Sheets, and Clothing, Whips, Non-rustable Bits, Brushes, and other Sundries.—COWEN'S CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS, Taylor Street, Consett.

BASIC SLAG.
Largest and Best Productions.
Most Reliable, and Oldest Established.
THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER greatly increases Feeding Quality of Grass and Hay. Will pay Farmers well to use freely.
Wholesale Agents:—LANGDALE BROTHERS, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 200f

Musical Tuition.

MISS JACKS, GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

MISS M. WILSON, Certificated with Honours, gives LESSONS on Pianoforte, Organ, Harmonium, and Theory. Terms on application.—43, East Pentop, Annfield Plain.

LESSONS given on the Pianoforte and Organ. Pupils prepared for Incorporated Society of Musicians Examination. Terms on application.—JAS. H. COCKBURN, 51, Park Road, Consett. 983c.

MR. JAMES R. FOSTER, TEACHER of Music. Certificated with Honours. Gives LESSONS on Pianoforte, Organ, Harmonium, and Theory. Pupils attended at their own homes. Terms on application. DURHAM ROAD, LEADGATE.

MUSICAL TUITION.
LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 921c

Business Announcements.

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THE NOTED SHOP FOR CHEAP SUITS IS C. LUMLEY, 6, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT. 390x

SPECIAL NOTICE.

MRS. A. ROGERS, 13, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
Widow of the late Mr. M. Rogers, Tailor, (Coyle and Rogers), in returning thanks for the many kind expressions of sympathy during her recent bereavement, wishes to inform Customers and the Public generally, that the Business carried on so successfully for over 20 years by her late Husband, will be continued by her, under the direction of an experienced Cutter. Orders respectfully solicited to which prompt attention will be given. 483f

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130 YEARS' REPUTATION FOR WINES AND SPIRITS.
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SPECIALITY:— "NEB" MALT STOUT.

THE NEW STANLEY HOTEL, THE "QUEEN'S HOTEL," IS NOW OPEN
With a Stock of the finest ALES, WINES, AND SPIRITS
PROPRIETRESS, MRS CHAYTOR

Business Announcements.

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BEG respectfully to draw attention to their recent Purchases of NEW GOODS for Autumn and Winter Wear. Our Stock of Dress Goods is one of the largest in this district, and Ladies will find a Splendid Range of Goods to select from. New Black Surah, Morgurette, and Bengaline Silks. Dress Trimmings, Gloves, Corsets, Umbrellas, and Laces. Wool Shirtings, Flannels, Wool Mixtures, and Blankets of exceptional Value.

DRESSMAKERS, TAILORS, and MILLINERS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

AITCHISON & CO., (LATE R. HEWITT), NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MIDDLE ST., CONSETT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FRUITERERS, FLORISTS, AND CONFECTIONERS.

CHOICE FRESH CUT FLOWERS ALWAYS ON HAND. BALL SPRAYS, BOUQUETS, WREATHS, CROSSES, &c., MADE ON THE PREMISES.
LARGE ARRIVALS OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES DAILY.
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Splendid New Stock of WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY.
Gent.'s Silver Lever Watches from 25s.
Gent.'s Silver Geneva Watches from 18s. 6d.
Ladies' Gold Geneva Watches from 30s.
Ladies' Silver Geneva Watches from 10s. 6d.
H. WOOD'S Gent.'s SPECIAL LEVER WATCH, extra jewelled, dustproof cap, fine bold dial, crystal glass, with written guarantee for five years, sent to any address for 25s. 6d.
REPAIRS CAREFULLY AND PROMPLY ATTENDED TO.

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"EDNA LYALL" BIRTHDAY BOOK, CRO. 8vo., CLOTH, GILT EDGES.
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With choice extracts from "Autobiography of a Slander," "Doreen," "Wayfaring Men," "Hope the Hermit," "Autobiography of a Truth," "Won by Waiting," "Donovan," "We Two," "In the Golden Days," "Knight Errant," "A Hardy Norseman," "To Right the Wrong," "Derrick Vaughan," and "Their Happiest Christmas."
Edited by A. F. DORMAN.
PRICE, 4s. EACH, BY POST 4s. 4d.
TO BE HAD AT THE *GUARDIAN* OFFICE, CONSETT. 609e

WHEN YOU ARE MAKING YOUR MINCEMEAT & PLUM PUDDINGS BE SURE TO PROCURE YOUR INGREDIENTS FROM **SWAINSTON BROTHERS,** 12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
SPLENDID VALUE IN CURRANTS, VALENCIA RAISINS, SULTANAS, PEEL, DRIED APRICOTS, FRENCH PLUMS, &c. 864f

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Hats, Caps, Shirts, Ties, in endless variety.
Suits to measure, made on the premises, 42s. upwards.
A large stock of Overcoats.
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M. MACKENZIE & SONS Have acquired in addition to their Grocery and Provision Business, a WINE AND SPIRIT DEPARTMENT, And are prepared to supply some of the best Blends of Scotch and Irish Whiskies procurable; also, Wines of excellent vintages.
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For finest quality in GROCERIES, &c., try **GEO. J. ROBINSON,** TEA DEALER, FAMILY GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT, DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.
A large assortment of CHEESE, BUTTER, HAMS, BACON, LARD, &c., ALWAYS ON HAND.

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HAS the Largest and Most Stylish Stock of Ladies', Gentlemen's, and Children's Second-hand Clothing, in the United Kingdom. Guns, Portmanteaus, Football Bags, Waterproofs. Dress Suits and Fancy Costumes a Speciality.
CALL AND INSPECT THE STOCK. 865d

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GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
A pleasure to write with.
BLUE-BLACK, BLACK, AND COLOURS.
Good Value.
Sold Wholesale and Retail by ROBERT JACKSON, "Guardian" Office, Consett.
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TOBACCONIST.—Smokers' requisites. Try Kinleside's noted Specials.
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Choice selection of Stationery and Wedding Cards. Book of PRIVATE GREETING CARDS for 'Xmas and New Year, 1899-1900.
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S. A. FAIRLESS FOR Plain and Fancy Cakes, Confectionery and Bread. Parties supplied. Goods delivered to all parts. 2d.

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

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Hours: From 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. Week Days; Pay Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. 187e

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Funerals and Parties catered for in first-class Style by Mesdames Wilson and Moore.

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Orders executed for Oilskin Garments, guaranteed Waterproof; Leather Goods, &c. Inspection invited. 380e

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You require a Stylish, Well-Finished Trap, and a Handsome Set of Harness.
YOU CAN GET THESE EITHER FOR CASH OR ON THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM AT **COWEN'S** CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS, TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.
To keep your Harness in Tip-top Condition you must use FRANK MILLER'S CELEBRATED HARNESS DRESSINGS for which we are the Sole Agents in this District.
Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, Rubber and Wool Mats, Horse Sheets and Clothing, Whips, Non-rustable Bits, and other sundries always on hand.
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Best quality English Lever Watches at Manufacturers' prices £3 3s.
Price Lists on Application.
Splendid English Lever Watches, £2 8s.
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The above Watches are of excellent quality, all warranted, Albert given with same. Other Watches at much lower prices.
Repairs a Speciality.

9ct Gold Alberts	20/- to 60/-
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Gold Dress Rings	3/6 to 50/-
Gold Wedding Rings	8/6 to 20/-

Spoons given with Wedding Rings.
A large assortment of other Jewellery, also Clocks at prices according to quality.
Clocks Cleaned and Repaired in Town or Country.

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The Favourite IVORY FLOATING SOAP for Children, 3d and 4d per Tablet.
HAIR, TOOTH, and NAIL BRUSHES.
Choice PERFUMES and TOILET REQUISITES
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OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, and VARNISHES in great variety.
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FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
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ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM THREE TO SIX, AT MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13, FRONT STREET (SIDE DOOR.)

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.
THE TEETH supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes. Every set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.
COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s to £4 10s.
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HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.
MR. T. C. CAMPBELL, SURGEON DENTIST, No. 8, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.
All Charges Strictly Moderate.
CONSULTATION FREE.
Attendance from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Appointments may be made with Mr. Dobinson, Cooke's Buildings, Annfield Plain. 772b

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HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.
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SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23y
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The cheapest house, the largest premises, and the largest and best selected Stock can be seen at **W. E. WARDILL'S,** The COUNTY MUSIC WAREHOUSE, 1, WEST STREET, GATESHEAD, and Branch at 4, ST. ANDREW'S BUILDINGS, GALLOWGATE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Wardill's Genuine International Gold Medal PIANOS are admired by all the leading Musicians of the Country. His Stock comprises Pianos by all the leading makers such as Collard and Collard, Haake, Scheidmayer, Justin Browne, Sames, Neiber, Challin and Sons, Chappell and Co., &c., &c. Organs by Mason and Hamlin, Packard, Estey, Sames, and many others too numerous to mention.
Call and hear the celebrated Haake Piano for which W. E. Wardill holds the sole agency.
Please note our easy payment system is by far the most equitable. He has never been known to take undue advantage of any of his numerous customers.
Being a large Importer of Foreign Musical Instruments, he is able to offer such bargains as cannot be equalled in England; also, being a Wholesale Dealer, Cash Customers have exceptional advantages. All who are thinking of buying a Piano or Organ will do well to look through his Stock before purchasing. No pressure will be put upon you to buy.
PLEASE NOTE THE ADDRESSES—
1, WEST STREET, GATESHEAD, & ST. ANDREW'S BUILDINGS, GALLOWGATE, NEWCASTLE.

JOHN HUME AND SON. MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS
MAKERS OF HIGH-CLASS BRIDES' CAKES, BIRTHDAY CAKES, &c.
CATERERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL SOIREES AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.
ALSO, MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF FEEDING STUFFS OF THE BEST QUALITY.
PRICES ON APPLICATION.

FARMERS BEFORE ORDERING THEIR SEEDS will do well to examine **HOBSON'S** LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF THE VERY BEST CLOVERS, GRASS, & TURNIP SEEDS. SEED OATS, &c. AT HARPERLEY MILLS, TANTOBIE, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

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FOOTBALL.

MATCHES.

SPEN BOERS v. ALLENDALE PUTTERS.

These teams met at Allendale, the visitors being victorious by four goals to one. The following did duty for the Boers on Saturday:—Goal, R. Farrage; backs, T. Blythe and E. Axam; half-backs, J. Watson, T. Elliott, and R. Best; forwards, J. Dobie, Edward Gibbon, J. Peddie, J. Stafford, and R. Hood.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

BURNHOPE v. TANFIELD LEA.

These teams met on the latter's ground, and after a poor game the result was a draw of two goals each, the field being in a wretched condition. Bob Wallace and P. Talbot scored for Burnhope. Referee, Mr Cruddas.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE v. TANTOBIE.

This fixture was down for decision on the Vicarage Field, Consett, on Saturday last, but the referee stopped the game after about four minutes' play on account of the extreme character of the weather.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

LEADGATE PARK v. ST. PETER'S ALBION.

These teams met on the Park ground on Saturday in miserable weather, and before only a moderate attendance. Mr J. R. Douglass, of Gateshead, was in charge of the teams, which toed the mark as under:—

Leadgate Park—Goal, M. Hedley; backs, G. Temple and Joe Wilson; half-backs, T. Cartmell, T. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, B. Cook, J. Birtley, W. Crowther, S. Thompson, and G. Forster.

St. Peter's Albion—Goal, H. Thompson; backs, Robson and Harwood; half-backs, Knox, Cathey, and Nattrass; forwards, Lackenby, Carson, Adamson, Gollen, and J. Thompson.

The visiting captain won the toss, and decided to attack the entrance goal, thus having the wind and sun at the back of his men. Crowther set the ball in motion, and the home men quickly pressed, Bowes sending just over from a free kick. Harwood put in a good return, but the Park cleared their lines. The Saints came again, and Adamson shot by. T. Wilson and Cartmell were prominent for clever work, with the result that Cook centred finely, and a corner resulted, which gave Forster a nice opening, but he missed. Gollen and J. Thompson put in a useful run, and Hedley made a grand save from a free kick. Foster and Thompson got away, but Knox sent back, and T. Wilson shot over the bar. The visitors forced a corner, from which J. Thompson scored, the wind assisting the ball into the net. Leadgate assumed the aggressive, and Sammy Thompson receiving from the right equalised with a fine shot that gave H. Thompson no earthly chance. Continuing to press, Cartmell hit the cross-bar with a stinger, and S. Thompson, who was lying handy, pounced on the ball and gave the Park the lead. Crowther put in a fine run and sent across to Forster, who easily did the trick. Forster and Crowther worked the ball down and sent over to Cook, who steadied himself about 20 yards out of goal, and scored the third goal with a hard drive. Leadgate were now having nearly all the game, and another goal should have come with the custodian out of his place, but Forster hit the upright. Shortly before the interval a scrimmage took place in the Saints' goal-mouth, and Birtley drove the leather home again. Half-time was signalled directly afterwards with the score standing—

Leadgate Park	Four goals
St. Peter's	One goal

There was a considerable amount of delay ere the game was resumed. The Saints left the field, and were away some 15 or 20 minues. On coming back they seemed inclined to play no more, but Mr Douglass ordered them to turn out. The second half does not require much description, as it consisted of a continual bombardment of the Albion goal. The visitors scarcely ever got over the centre line, and Hedley came up amongst the home players and joined in the fun. However, the Saints defended splendidly, staving off all kinds of attacks. Forster once got through, but the point was disallowed. At the end of 20 minutes' play, however, Tommy Wilson beat Thompson, and his brother followed with a sixth. The leather we again netted ere the close, but the referee struck it off. The result of a very one-sided game was—

Leadgate Park	Six goals
St. Peter's Albion	One goal

BIRTLEY v. STANLEY.

The meeting of these teams at Birtley did not attract, as usual, a large attendance, but this was undoubtedly owing to the stormy state of the weather. Previous to the playing of the match Birtley stood sixth on the Alliance table with seven points for seven games, while Stanley occupied the penultimate position with one point for five games. There were a few changes on each side. For Birtley Doyle went centre, Dixon taking the right outside position owing to Peterson not putting in an appearance and "Clem" Lawson filled the vacancy at inside right. A trial was also given to a left half-back in the person of Peter Banks, who hails from the Washington club. On the Stanley side Robbins was an absentee and Ellis took charge of the "sticks." Thompson Robson was also off, McGarry coming on to the team for the first time and playing on the wing with Masterman. Teams:—

Birtley.—Goal, Biggars; backs, Greene and Martin; half-backs, Hills, Dover, and Banks; forwards, Dixon, Lawson, Doyle, Spence, and McGowan.

Stanley.—Goal, Ellis; backs, Saunders and Bell; half-backs, Coates, Allison, and Redpath; forwards, Crute, Douglass, O'Connor, McGarry, and Masterman.

Dover beat Masterman for choice of ends and set the Stanleyites to defend the village goal. Play opened with a smart attack by the Stanley left wing but it caused no danger whatever and by some clever play the Birtley forwards got down. After each side had been penalised Banks put in a good centre across the Stanley goal, but Bell cleared. About this time the players found it difficult to keep their feet and marvellous acrobatic feats were shown to the spectators present. Doyle had a very good chance of scoring, but he unfortunately fell and the opportunity was lost. From a corner conceded by Ellis to McGowan, Martin sent past. The visitors' right then got up and for a short period the Birtley defence had a very anxious time, but eventually the efforts of Martin, Greene, and Dover had effect, and Spence was set going. After passing several players he just had Ellis in front of him. He shot and Ellis saved. Masterman then showed his sprinting powers flying up the field with the ball but, by putting it too far in front of him, he lost it and play again returned to the Stanley half. After one or two free kicks Crute got away, and taking the ball up, centred and Allison shot into Biggars' hands. For the next few minutes free kicks were the order, and at length one of these useful commodities was awarded to Birtley close to the Stanley goal. Greene took the kick, and from it Ellis got a high shot to deal with, and not being able to hold it, he let the ball go into the net and score. On re-starting, Spence tricked round several forwards and sent past, and at the other end, where Stanley had taken the ball, Douglass sent past. Greene and Dover then indulged in some big kicks and the result was that Saunders mis-kicked a shot from Lawson, and Ellis being taken unawares, the ball found its way into the net, placing Birtley two ahead. Soon after Doyle missed a grand opportunity and then Ellis saved in miraculous fashion from Spence, when the ball was all but through. It could not be called a very clever save for it was only by the greatest of luck that the custodian got the ball out. A little later Spence again was in evidence sending the ball over. Play travelled to mid-field, and the Stanley halves were in evidence. Just before the interval Ellis ran out and kicked away from Spence. Half-time:—

Birtley	Two goals
Stanley	Nil

On resuming, O'Connor got away with the ball and a goal kick fell to Biggars. Masterman next forced a corner, but it was without avail, and a similar fate awaited a corner conceded by Biggars to Coates. Following this, Birtley got up for a moment and then after getting in mid-field Masterman tried a long shot which glanced off Greene's foot on to the upright, and the ball then rolled slowly into the net, giving Biggars quite a surprise. This roused Birtley and they made things hum. McGowan tried Ellis with a long shot with plenty of force behind it, but the Stanley goalkeeper saved. Play became even, but once Doyle went through the whole lot of players, and when he tried a shot he had the mortification of seeing the ball flounder in a pool of water, and although he ran up he had not time to steady himself, and sent past. Stanley got down and after Biggars had saved from Allison, Masterman missed a grand chance. For a short time after this play was of the end-to-end order, until Birtley assumed the aggressive when Dixon sent past from a pass by Spence. Douglass ran down the field but when close to the Birtley goal Martin robbed him. The ball went to the Birtley right wing. Hills got possession and after running up he kicked the ball too far in front and Bell received. The Birtley half-back charged Bell and both players fell. Hills was first up and whether he had hurt Bell in getting up or Bell was simply "put out" because Hills had "floored" him, is not clear, at any rate he ran up behind Hills and the pair got to fisticuffs. The spectators had now rushed upon the field and the men were separated and after about five minutes delay order was restored, and the game resumed minus the two combatants, to whom Mr Smith had given marching orders. On resuming, play settled down in mid-field, and nothing more of interest taking place, the game ended:—

Birtley	Two goals
Stanley	One goal

DURHAM SENIOR CUP COMPETITION.

RE-PLAYED TIE.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. ALLENDALE PARK.

On Saturday afternoon this match was played on the ground of the Tantobie Co-operators in miserable weather. When Mr A. Little, of Leadgate, called the teams together they were represented as follows:—

Tantobie.—Goal, J. Lishman; backs, I. Adamson and J. Gladders; half-backs, T. Hanover, J. McKeag, and W. Thompson; forwards, R. Weightman, W. Adamson, J. Jardine, T. Seath, and D. Atkinson.

Allendale Park.—Goal, Scott; backs, Talbot and Angus; half-backs, Brown, T. Walton, and Hanley; forwards, J. Robinson, Hedworth, Wright, Yates, and Williams.

Tantobie winning the toss took full advantage of their good luck by attacking the low goal with a very strong wind in their favour. Allendale opened hostilities very nicely, but the homesters pressing got within range of Scott's citadel, when Weightman banged in a sharp shot, but was ruled off-side. Following a throw-in Robinson got possession and was making his way up the field when Gladders met him and returned the ball. After some quiet play McKevor opened the score for Tantobie by banging a nice shot clean past Scott. Shortly afterwards I. Adamson gave that custodian a hot shot to deal with, which he saved in fine style, but W. Adamson, from a corner, soon after added a second point to the Tantobie score, to the great glee of their supporters. Tantobie on two or three occasions had hard lines in not scoring, the ball just grazing the cross-bar on its way out of play. Seath, who played a dashing game, got possession on the centre line and slipping past all his opponents landed No 3 past Scott after a fine run, half-time arriving shortly afterwards—

Tantobie	Three goals
Allendale Park	Nil

Soon after the resumption of hostilities in the second half Tantobie rushed up bodily, when Seath attacked Scott's charge but lost to the custodian, who averted the danger. The visitors broke away down the field, within the penalty line, where one of the Co-ops handled the ball, the result being that a penalty was awarded, which Lishman saved amid an outburst of applause from his supporters. After some desultory play Seath ran up and added the fourth and final score of the game, which was stopped 15 minutes before time owing to darkness.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

By "OFF-SIDE."

THE PARK'S FIRST ALLIANCE WIN.

The Leadgate men have been a long time in booking their first victory in the Alliance tournament, but they made no mistake on Saturday with St. Peter's Albion, who retired a badly beaten team. Consequent upon the heavy rains of last week the ground was naturally on the soft side, and I must say that I was surprised to see the players keep their feet so well on the greasy and heavy turf. Joe Wilson was unsuccessful in the tossing business, and this enabled the Saints to start with a good breeze at their backs, and also a fairly dazzling sun. The Albion had rather the best of it to commence with, their forwards indulging in some pretty passing, but the Park defence was too good for the visitors. Twenty minutes had sped ere there was any scoring, and then the Saints got a rather lucky goal. The ball had been put in from a corner, and J. Thompson just touched it, the result being that a sudden gust of wind carried it into the net. The Albion were jubilant at their success, but their joy was short-lived, for their did not retain the lead long.

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The last quarter-of-an-hour or so of the first half furnished the spectators with the most lively football of the day. The Park forwards came out in dashing form, and undoubtedly gave the best exhibition that they have displayed this season. Sammy Thompson equalised with a grand shot, and the same player put Leadgate in front after Cartmell had hit the cross-bar with a beauty. Then Cook weighed in with a third, and Forster should have added a fourth as he had an open goal, but hit the upright. However, Birtley did the trick just before lemon time, and thus the Park, to the surprise of their supporters, turned round with a lead of three goals. The home men had now the wind to assist them, and they pressed repeatedly, never allowing the Albion to get far out of their quarters. As a matter of fact, I don't think that Hedley handled the ball once during this half. For the most part he was up over the centre line getting in a kick when possible in order to keep himself warm. The visitors set up a very fine defence, the goalkeeper and backs working hard and effectively. However, the brothers Wilson added further points, whilst two more were disallowed and at the finish the Park had the substantial margin of five goals in their favour.

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Perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the game so far as the home men were concerned was the improvement amongst the forwards, who scored more goals on Saturday than they had done in their previous six games under Alliance auspices. A continuance of the same dash and go, combined with fairly accurate shooting, will soon result in the Park considerably improving their position. Forster played a clever and tricky game at outside left, and for a wonder failed to register his usual goal. He had a good partner in Sammy Thompson, who, if not so fast as formerly, uses excellent judgment. Crowther promises to develope into a fine centre forward and is very clever with the ball. On the right Cook and Birtley did well, but they would do better were they to combine more, and not trust so much to individual efforts. Cartmell played a fine game at half, and put in some wonderfully well-judged shots, two or three of which came near scoring. Tommy Wilson also showed good form, but Bowes has hardly yet recovered from his recent severe illness. However, he is picking up nicely. Temple and Joe Wilson were very safe at back, whilst Hedley, on the few occasions that he was called upon, did all that was required of him, and is a goalkeeper much above the average.

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After the Park had scored their second goal the Saints seemed to go all to pieces up to the end of the first half. However, they appeared to recover after partaking of something hot, and their defence against the wind was excellent. True the home men did not appear to over exert themselves, but nevertheless they made some dangerous attacks. H. Thompson made some grand saves after the cross-over, and cleared on two or three occasions when a goal seemed a certainty. Robson and Harwood played a useful game at back, but I did not think much of the halves, of whom Knox was perhaps the pick. In the forward line Lackenby put in some effective work, and a tremendous drive from his foot in the opening moiety deserved a goal, but Hedley saved miraculously. Gollen and J. Thompson also showed up prominently at times. It is almost needless to add that the victory gave great satisfaction to the Park supporters. For over two months they have been looking for a win, and even in their most sanguine moments I don't suppose that they anticipated such a run-away affair on Saturday. It should do the team a lot of good.

STANLEY DISAPPOINTED.

Stanley are to be commiserated. Just when they are beginning to show a bit of form, the poachers hover around, and begin their nefarious work. Hebburn Argyle have already got Howe and Pearson, but they got them legitimately in the close season. Now, however, at a critical period for Stanley, they are endeavouring to "sneak" Saunders, in order probably to play him in minor matches, but certainly to prevent Stanley retaining him. In this matter, however, they will not get all their own way. It is all very well for Hebburn to get men in order to sell them at a profit to other clubs, but in this instance the deal is not likely to come off. Saunders wants to go, but if he does, it will be at a price costly to all parties concerned, except perhaps, Stanley. Birtley have already got Alex. Douglass, and now I hear they are hankering after William of that ilk. Robbins has refused leave of absence on Saturdays, and must be "added to the list." Is it surprising, therefore, that Stanley have re-captured the wooden spoon from Shankhouse! Troubles of this kind are enough to break down the strongest constitution.

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Yet the Committee "bob up serenely," and from all I hear they are likely to deal firmly with mal-contents, and to prove to them that the man is not yet born who cannot be done without. In their match at Birtley on Saturday, McGarry was given his first trial at left inside, Douglas going on to the other wing. It was not a good arrangement, for nearly all the work was kept on the right wing, and Captain Masterman had to bear the cold as best he could. Owing to the stormy weather the field was in a soaked condition, and really good football was out of the question. A few more chances to a speedy man like Masterman would have been an advantage under the circumstances. Ellis, for the second time this season, took charge of the goal mouth, and was distinctly lucky in several of his saves. With two or three Stanley men showing poor form Birtley ought to have won by a greater margin than two to one. Last year Bell of Birtley, was suspended for striking at Graham in the match at Oakey's, and I regret to say that on Saturday, an unfortunate quarrel arose between Bell of Stanley, and Hills, one of the Birtley forwards, which necessitated their being ordered off the field.

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TANTOBIE BEAT ALLENDALE.

It was a very moderate team that Allendale sent to Tantobie on Saturday to meet the Co-ops. in a re-played cup-tie. I understand that some of the players were wishful to scratch to Tantobie and bring off the league game with Mickley, but this is a question, I think, which should be left to the committee. In any case it was a pity, as it was practically only a second team which visited Tantobie. There was considerable difficulty experienced in getting a team together at all, and this was only accomplished by calling in the services of some of the juniors. Under these circumstances it was not surprising that the Co-ops., on their own ground, had much the best of the play, seeing that they had held their own at Medomsley the previous week against a much stronger team. Owing to a late start the referee had to stop the game with over twenty minutes to go, on account of darkness. At this point the home men were leading by four goals to none and I hear that it is probable that Allendale will concede the game to the Co-ops. It would be better to do this than to send away another eleven like that which did duty for the Park last week.

—.—

THE DURHAM CUP.

Although there are yet several unfinished games in the second round of the Senior Cup, the draw for the third round has been completed. Tantobie are to be condoled with, as on every occasion they have been drawn to play away. Supposing that Allendale scratch to them, the Co-ops. have to visit Annfield Plain. This is the third occasion upon which they have been drawn against a Tyneside League team. The Celts are bad to beat on their own ground, but nevertheless I shall expect to see Tantobie make them go all the way. The winner of the re-played tie between Stanley and Leadgate Park will have the pleasure of entertaining Bearpark, and, improved team as the latter are, I shall expect to see them go down in the next round, whether they have to play at Stanley or Leadgate. At the same time I am quite prepared to see them anything but disgraced. As West Auckland did not turn up at Tow Law last Saturday, I presume the latter club will be awarded the tie. In that case they will have to visit Butterknowle, and they should have but little difficulty in fighting their way into the fourth round.

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MEMS.

Birtley are still without a press-box.

There were some high class colds contracted on Saturday.

When they met Stanley.

On a sodden field the homesters won by two to one.

Stanley did not play much better than against Leadgate Park.

Saunders wants a free transfer to Hebburn Argyle.

That would be pie for Hebburn.

Robbins, Stanley's goal-keeper, has been refused leave of absence on Saturdays.

Which is unfortunate for Stanley.

Especially as Watson is fighting for his country in South Africa.

Bell and Hills got at loggerheads at Birtley.

And were given an opportunity of getting an early cup of tea.

Birtley are occupying a comfortable position on the Alliance table.

Shankhouse have returned the spoon to Oakey's.

Saturday was a beastly day for football.

It is curious how we always seem to get the worst weather at the week-ends.

To the disappointment of club treasurers.

Allendale took a very weak team to Tantobie.

And suffered the usual penalty.

A correspondent writes me suggesting that the Co-ops. should be called "Tantobie and District."

Tom Seath is playing a very smart game for his new club.

Tantobie seem to be fully up to Tyneside League form.

They will find a stiff job to tackle at the Plain.

But might create another surprise.

Burnhope dropped a point at Tanfield Lea.

The field was like a duckpond.

The Rovers were without T. Talbot, who was playing for Allendale against Tantobie.

Which caused Murray to have to go full back.

The Rovers failed to improve upon several corners.

The result of a poor game was a draw.

Burnhope are doing very well in the league.

The Park did not forget to rub it in to St. Peter's.

The Saints made a very poor show.

And were hopelessly outclassed.

It staggered the Park supporters to see the forwards piling on goals as if they were used to it.

Four goals against the wind was good business.

In their six previous Alliance games the Park had only scored five goals.

Yet they managed half-a-dozen on Saturday.

And had two or three disallowed.

Cartmell played a capital game at half.

He put in some splendid shots.

And deserved to score once with a shot that struck the cross-bar with tremendous force.

However, Sammy Thompson made no mistake from the re-bound.

Forster was in rare form.

He seems to shine on a heavy ground.

The forwards all round showed marked improvement.

Hedley had a cold time in the second half.

But came up over the centre line and got a kick in now and again.

Temple and Joe Wilson were as per usual at back.

The Park are lucky in having brought out Temple as a back.

"Teck" is playing a wonderfully good game.

The Park travel to Stanley on Saturday to re-play their cup-tie.

It is expected that there will be a good attendance.

The last "gate" was somewhat disappointing.

There was a short game on the Vicarage Field.

The Swifts' Reserve and South Tanfield only had had four minutes' play when the game was abandoned.

The game at Shotley Spa between Blackhill St. Cuthbert's and the Park Reserve was also left unfinished.

With the Saints leading by a goal to nil.

It is rather a coincidence that both Stanley and Leadgate have been drawn against the same team in the two Wednesday cup competitions.

This is East End Harriers.

And both our local teams have to go to Newcastle.

I believe that each of them intend to die hard.

There should be some excitement knocking around when Stanley and Leadgate meet in the league.

I hear that it is probable that Hobson United will be admitted to the second division of the Consett Junior League.

And that they will take up the fixtures of the Shamrock's Reserve, who have withdrawn.

Hobson United are almost entirely composed of the lads who did such doughty deeds for Pickering Nook School.

And they are a very smart set of players.

I am pleased to hear that my old friend, Jim Weedy, still takes an interest in the lads.

Although my friend himself, I am told, has got the "golf fever."

Several referees of long standing have complained to me of the manner in which the Durham Association make their appointments.

They allege that new-comers are immediately appointed to ties, whilst old and experienced hands have to take a back seat.

I expect that the appointment of referees by the association is like kissing—it goes by favour.

Some of those I have seen officiating in the cup-ties have certainly been rank duffers.

MATCHES WANTED.

Spen Red and White Rovers are greatly in want of fixtures, and would like to have them filled up as soon as possible; ages, 12 to 14 years.—Apply, Wm. Cooper, Ramsey's Buildings, High Spen, Lintz Green, R.S.O.

South Moor Starwell Rovers still have a few vacant dates and would like them filled up as soon as possible; average age, 13 years.—Apply, A. Waites, 41, Elm Street, South Moor, via Chester-le-Street.

Esh Village United have all dates vacant and would like them filled as soon as possible with good minor teams.—Apply Charles Tighe, Esh Village, near Durham.

Allendale Rangers are in want of matches; ages 10 to 11 years.—Apply, Thos. Minks, 15 Allendale Cottages, Medomsley, R.S.O.

Dipton Villa have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages from 16 to 19 years.—Apply, John Urwin, jun., Delight House, Dipton, R.S.O.

West Pelton Young Rovers have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages 9 to 11 years.—Apply, J. Staines, 9, West Street, West Pelton, Pit Hill, R.S.O.

Spen Boers are in want of dates, ages 15 to 16 years, and would like to have them filled up.—Apply, Geo. Dobson, High Spen, Ramsey's Houses, near Lintz Green.

Blackhill United have a few vacant dates, and would like them filled up as soon as possible; average age 14 to 17 years.—Apply C. Harris, 4, William Street, Blackhill.

Consett Swifts Wednesday have a few vacant dates, and would like them filled up as soon as possible.—Apply R. Rutherford, Secretary.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

REFEREES FOR DECEMBER.

December 2nd.

Hebburn Argyle v. Birtley—R. Glass.
Middlesbro' A. v. Sunderland A—J. R. Douglass.
Newcastle United A v. Jarrow—A. P. Little.
Stanley v. Leadgate Park—H. Smith.

December 9th.

Gateshead N.E.R. v. Stanley—A. H. White.
St. Peter's Albion v. Wallsend Park Villa—R. Glass.
Shankhouse v. South Shields—James Wardropper.
Willington Athletic v. Newcastle United A—A. P. Little.

December 16th.

Gateshead N.E.R. v. Shankhouse—G. Young.
Middlesbro' A v. Birtley—A. Jane.
Newcastle United A. v. St. Peter's Albion—H. Smith.
South Shields v. Jarrow—R. Glass.
Wallsend Park Villa v. Leadgate Park—G. W. Greener.
Willington Athletic v. Sunderland A—W. H. Bewley.

December 23rd.

Birtley v. Gateshead N.E.R.—H. Mackin.
St. Peter's Albion v. Newcastle United A—H. Smith.
Shankhouse v. Leadgate Park—A. H. White.
South Shields v. Stanley—G. Young.
Wallsend Park Villa v. Jarrow—G. W. Greener.

December 25th.

Gateshead N.E.R. v. St. Peter's Albion—H. Mackin.
South Shields v. Sunderland A—R. Glass.
Stanley v. Newcastle United A—W. H. Bewley.
Willington Athletic v. Wallsend Park Villa—A. P. Little.

December 26th.

Newcastle United A. v. Middlesbro' A—A. P. Little.
Sunderland A. v. Hebburn Argyle—Jas. Wardropper.
Wallsend Park Villa v. Shankhouse—H. Smith.

December 30th.

Birtley v. Willington Athletic—J. R. Douglass.
Hebburn Argyle v. Middlesbro' A—A. P. Little.
Jarrow v. St. Peter's Albion—H. Mackin.
South Shields v. Gateshead N.E.R.—T. Pyfe.
Stanley v. Shankhouse—G. Petrie.
Sunderland A. v. Newcastle United A—H. Boldison.

FEARLESS LONDON LADY

In the Kingsland district of London, the home of thousands of working-class people, a representative (says the "News of the World") got wind of an interesting affair the other day, and set out to investigate.

The reporter made his way through the rain and slush of a horribly wet day to 93, De Beauvoir-road, London, N., where he found a buxom ruddy lady, with good-humoured energy in every line of her face. Mrs. Allan, though grandmother to six, bears her fifty-two years bravely. She has been a hard worker all her life, and told the reporter she had "no fear" of the prevalent rheumatism and sciatica which the weather naturally suggested.

"And yet," said she "I was a martyr to rheumatism and sciatica for ten years. I used to dread going to bed, to face another night of misery. The sciatica would come on all of a sudden and quite cripple me, so that I wasn't able to get about. I have been laid up with sciatica for a week at a time."

"I suppose you tried the usual remedies?"

"Tried! I tried everything, medicines and embrocations but obtained only slight relief for a short time. Many a time I have crawled about when I ought to have been in bed. It seemed as if I had just to go on suffering, there was no help for it."

"But, Mrs. Allan," interposed the reporter "on a wet day like this, I should have thought your rheumatism would be troubling you. Yet you say that you now fear nothing!"

"Nor do I," came her quick reply, "for I'm a different woman lately. And it's all owing to these," and walking alertly across the room, she held up a box of Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people.

"I always keep these pills handy, you see," she resumed, "though it was only by accident I tried them. A young friend of mine, who had been taking the pills for anæmia and had found them do her a lot of good, begged me to take some. She left me six pills. That was about four months ago. I took them, and already began to feel easier. Then I bought a box of Dr. Williams' pink pills and I have had about seven boxes altogether."

"The result is wonderful. I have nothing now to hinder me getting about in all weathers. Lately I stopped taking the pills for a little time. You know how quickly sciatica pains come on. Well, all of a sudden I was taken with those pains in my legs, and was scarcely able to get across the room. I said to the girl who helps me, 'This means a day or two upstairs for me,' and I had actually to go up the stairs backwards. However I took two of Dr. Williams' pink pills after eating my supper, and was well and able to walk with ease next morning. You see they are a safeguard. I have never felt better or had such ease and good health as I have done since taking Dr. Williams' pink pills. I recommend them to all my friends, who know the good they have done me. All my own people will tell you the same. I only speak the honest facts; and everybody ought to testify to what is honest."

Mrs. Allan's married daughter, who had been present at the interview said in corroboration that Dr. Williams' pills had done her mother a world of good. In fact, she had been one of the first to recommend them to her mother, having tried them for asthma, and derived great benefit from them.

Asthma indeed, though apparently one of the least likely disorders to be cured by internal medicine, is, like bronchitis and other chest complaints, amenable to treatment by the scientific action of Dr. Williams' pink pills which, by enriching and purifying the blood, enable the system to resist the effects of cold and damp. This, Mrs. Allan's experience—cured after ten years' suffering of rheumatism and sciatica, and able to stave off the effects of damp afterwards by a single dose—shows what the pills do for rheumatic sufferers. They have similarly cured cases of influenza and its after-effects, anæmia, nervous prostration, St. Vitus' dance, paralysis, consumption of the bowels and lungs and indigestion. They increase the weight of emaciated or thin people by enabling them to derive benefit from their food. Only genuine pills cure, and these can be distinguished by bearing the full title—Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people—(seven words.) Price two shillings and ninepence, of all chemists.

ORIGINAL POETRY

"SHARPENING THE SWORDS."

"Sharpening the swords for the Boers,"
Was the picture I saw in a book;
A workman with big brawny arms,
On his face a far-away look.
"Sharpening the swords for the Boers."
Don't you think we are late to begin?
When our soldiers are dying in scores
On the veldt 'neath the rain and the sun
"Sharpening the swords for the Boers."
Who can fight from a kopje or hill;
But remember from former wars
That the sword and the bayonet kill.
"Sharpening the swords for the Boers,"
Who swear by their Creusot guns;
That the Rooinek shall lie in his gore
Or flee from the conquering sons.
"Sharpening the swords for the Boers."
We have need to sharpen them keen;
Though the cannons may rattle and roar,
The swords are the "boys" that sting.
"Sharpening the swords for the Boers."
Oh! workman, hasten, be quick,
Ere we must once more deplore
A disaster like Nicholson's Nek.

W. M.

Catchgate, 1899.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.—At the ordinary meeting of the directors of the above company, held at Shotley Bridge, a letter was read from Mr. George Peile, of Greenwood, Shotley Bridge, resigning his position as chairman of directors, and also his seat on the Board, in consequence of ill-health.—The resignation was received with regret, the directors placing on record the valuable services Mr. Peile had rendered to the company—as a director for nearly forty years, and as the chairman of the company during the past fifteen years he having succeeded the late Mr. Robert Dickinson in that office.—On the motion of Mr. George Richardson, vice-chairman Mr. Wm. Aynsley, J.P., Consett, was unanimously elected chairman of the company. Mr. Aynsley has been a director for almost twenty years.—Mr. Wm. Ritson of Jesmond (eldest son of the High Sheriff of Durham), was selected to fill the vacancy on the Board.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed bugs, fleas, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 6d and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

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. It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth. Price 3s 6d. per bottle.

HALLO, OLD MAN, WALKING without your stick! I thought you were crippled with rheumatic pains? So I was, until I went to PATRICK, CHEMIST, Front Street, Consett, who gave me some Liniment and Medicine, and soon sent me to work again. 370a.

DURHAM MINERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr John Wilson, in his Monthly Circular to the members of the above Association, makes some interesting remarks anent

COMPENSATION CASES IN COURT.

He says:—During this month we have had a second group of cases before the County Court. Our first was in June, but were of a different class from these. On the former occasion we tested four distinct points in the Act. First, we asked for a ruling as to whether "beat-hands" were accidents; and, therefore, ought to entitle the sufferer to receive compensation? The judge decided they were not. Then we had a case by which we sought to test the divisor, in the case where the person had been killed, had not been working in the employ for the full three years. We held that the actual time employed was the proper divisor. The owners held that the time should be reckoned from the day when he was engaged on the colliery. The difference in the two cases in money to the relatives might be very great, as you will perceive. The decision was in favour of the contention of the owners. There was, too, the case of a cartman, who was killed away from the pit, although he was in the employment of the mine-owner, and had gone from the pit with the horse and cart. The judge, in that case, held that the deceased was not in or about a mine; and, therefore, not entitled to compensation. The fourth class of case was, where a son had been killed, and in the family there were other workers left. The employers held that such cases came under the "no dependants" portion of the Act, and that their liability would be met by the payment of funeral expenses. Our contention was that such cases were within the scope of the "partial dependency" section of the Act, and that the relatives were entitled to receive an amount of compensation equal to the monetary loss which they had suffered by the death. In this case the judge sustained us, and on the strength of that ruling, we have been enabled to settle a number of cases, and shall, we hope, arrange all the cases of the same kind in the future. The summary of these decisions is, that beat-hands are not accidents within the meaning of the Act. That if a man has not been for the full three years employed on the colliery, then the money he has earned must be divided by the number of weeks which have elapsed since he commenced work, although he may have been sick, off work through injury, or the pit may have been off owing to an accident or slack trade, and the result per week, multiplied by 156, which will be the compensation his friends will receive if more than £150. Then it is laid down that, except a man be killed within the strict confines of the mine, as defined by the Coal Mines Regulation Act, there is no claim for compensation, even although he may have been sent about the business of his employer, which compelled him to go that distance from the mine; and, further, we see that all lives are not equal in value, but must be measured by the monetary loss which the family have sustained. If you will please note these, the knowledge will prepare you for future cases as they arise.

Let me review the cases which were tried on the 31st inst. These were related to a different portion of the Act—that of serious and wilful misconduct. I have quoted the section before, but I think it will be useful to do so again. It reads as follows:—

"If it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury, shall be disallowed."

Now, the three cases we had before the Court, were all objected to under those provisions. The first was that of M. McGowan, of Langley Park. The allegation against him was, that he, whilst working under the top coal, had neglected to put in spraggs; and, therefore, had violated the rules of the colliery, and was thus guilty of serious and wilful misconduct. McGowan and his marrow stated, there was no suitable timber in the place, even if it had been necessary to put in the spraggs, which McGowan said, in his opinion, it was not. It would be of little utility to go through the whole of the evidence for and against the claim. The ground of the objection is the main object at present, in order that you may see to what use the Act may be put. Let it suffice for me to say, that before the whole of the witnesses were examined on the employers' side, the case was broken down, and the judgment was given in McGowan's favour.

The second case was a fatal claim. A shifter named N. Dobbin was killed at Trimdon Grange. His work on the day when he was killed was in the stow board. At "bait-time" when the young man came in with the kibble, Dobbin asked him to let him ride out in it. Consent was given, and he sat down with his back out-bye. When he came to a low place, he was struck on the back of his head, and from the effects of it he died. There were two grounds of objection in this case. First, that he (Dobbin) was guilty of serious and wilful misconduct, inasmuch as he had broken the special rules, which reads as follows:—"No workman or boy shall ride upon any animal, tub, or tram, or on any incline, engine-way, horse-way or tram-way, without permission." And second, because what he was doing at the time of the accident did not arise out of, and was not in the course of his employment. The case could not have been presented better than it was done by Mr Isaacs. No pains had been spared to strengthen the claim, but in spite of all the endeavours and research, the judge ruled that "the deceased met with his accident in the kibble, in which he was riding, for his own pleasure, and not in the course of his employment."

The third of these cases was pretty much on all fours with McGowan's, only the accident was much more serious to the injured man, as in consequence he had lost one of his arms. The facts are as follows:—Mr J. Redhead was a hewer at Page Bank Colliery. While working on the 11th of February, some of the top coal fell upon him, with the result as I have stated. The objection here again was, that of serious and wilful misconduct. It being asserted that he ought to have put props under the top coal. Redhead said there was no need to put any more props in than there were. In this case, as in McGowan's, the evidence broke down, and the judgment was in his favour.

I have no remark to make, anent these cases, nor to find the least fault with their being taken into the Court. The Act is with us. It contains the vague and undefinable and confusing clause on the conduct of a man. The line between that which may be called serious and wilful misconduct, is so very thin, that the employers are quite within their right, wherever they are of opinion that a man has broken a rule, or seriously and wilfully misconducted himself, to challenge the claim of compensation. That is their side of it. Ours (as I have said before) is to see that we do not place ourselves on the wrong side of the line, and give them the advantage. I have pointed out in previous circulars the reason why the rules of the colliery may be broken, and that they had been broken before the Act, and no fault had been found with the violator. The eagerness of the workman to make money, or the triviality of the action, has been the excuse, but the new order of things has induced a closer scrutiny; and, therefore, must induce us to carry out the rules, even if our eagerness to do more work suffers by the process. Let me take the case of Dobbin as an illustration. I venture to remark, what he did has been done often enough. He is an elderly man. In a stow board, away from any one, except when the putters comes into him. It is "bait-time," when desiring to eat his meagre plain meal in the company of the man for whom he is stowing the stones, he must travel a hundred yards or so. What more natural than he would say to the putter, "let me have a ride in the kibble," never thinking of any danger arising from it.

So much for the first part of the objection to pay, viz., the serious and wilful misconduct. Let me ask you to consider for a moment the reason the judge gave for deciding against the claim. The accident, the judge ruled, did not arise out of the course of his employment, but was by riding for his own pleasure. I want you to see the force of that ruling, and its application to other cases. If any one rides on a set, on a tram, or in a kibble, where there is not an understanding that he may do so; and should he be injured or killed, you will see how that will be a bar to any claim for compensation. It is not merely getting on to a set of tubs in the engine-plane, but other kinds of vehicles.

If we look at the other two cases in which the verdicts were given in our favour, we can read a lesson of caution. In asking you to observe that lesson, there is no desire to even insinuate, that either Mr McGowan or Mr Redhead violated any special rule. That would be entirely against our evidence, and the decision of the judge. Neither do I say that the employers are wrong in using the Act, if they believe a violation of rule has been the cause of the accident, and if they are of the opinion that the words "serious and wilful misconduct" include an omission to carry out to the letter the special rules, whether the omission arises from carelessness or eagerness to do work. I should say they were wrong if while they believed the legal interpretation of the words in the Act, did not mean a violation of rule arising from an error in judgment, they still took the case into court, to try and snatch a decision. I have no such belief. In my opinion, they act from the conviction that a violation of the special rules or colliery rules, is serious and wilful misconduct. I, however, think, their reading of the section is too wide; but, at the same time, urge upon you a realisation of the new order, in which we are living, and as great a regard as possible for the requirements of these rules.

THE AGED MINERS' HOMES.

If the words of praise and eulogy could make men proud, we, the workers in and about the mines of Durham, and those who have so freely helped us by their council, have large reason for being proud, for the colony at Haswell Moor, the attention it has attracted, the high commendation, which from many quarters, has been bestowed upon it, and the great and generous support which from those outside ourselves we have received and been promised, are sufficient to raise us to a very high altitude of conceit, if we were weak about ordinary men on that side. We being human like praise, but we do not work for it alone. To find our work receives the approval of men is pleasing to the ear; but how much more pleasant to the eye, and inspiring to the heart, is it to see the number of happy old people, who are already in the houses, and to look upon the houses which are ready to receive others, now the formal opening is over. Many of you were witnesses of the opening. You would see with your eyes a sight, which although it was not decked out in any of the ornaments of life, had an halo peculiarly its own, and you would take part in a movement, which in this age of progress, has few equals, and no superiors, in the endeavours to help the aged and worn-out worker. What man was there at Haswell Moor, who being eye witness of the beautiful village, and the comfortably-housed people, did not feel elevated and blessed at the sight? And where is the man in the whole county, who has by his contribution of 1s towards the object, assisted it, who does not feel, when he reads the account of the opening, that even now he has received full value for his money, and as the years roll round, when he thinks of the help he has given to the present occupiers, and the longer benefit to their successors, will not realise the added and ever-increasing value to his outlay? It is said of one of our men, who, while inspecting the houses, and seeing how happy the inmates were, he exclaimed, "that is the best shilling I ever spent in my life." That impression is due of every shilling that has been spent, for all who have given, will have felt, and will feel with greater force the luxury there is in doing good.

I should like to have reviewed in detail the whole of the proceedings, but the desire is limited by space. I will, therefore, rest satisfied, by placing on record the generous help which some of our friends have sent us, which is, I firmly believe, but a mere foretaste of the more numerous and equally as generous gifts which will assuredly follow, for in this matter the solicitation comes in many cases, not from us but from those who are the givers of the money. It is true we are now sending out a statement to the employers; but before we have done so, we had received the sums mentioned below, and other two gentlemen had asked me (as others will have spoken to my colleagues) whether £100 as a contribution would do:—

	£	s	d
J. B. Simpson, Esq.	100	0	0
U. A. Ritson, Esq.	50	0	0
J. Richardson, Esq., M.P.	50	0	0
Mr and Mrs Graham	25	0	0
Mrs Gibson Youll	25	0	0
The Lord Bishop of Durham	21	0	0
Mr G. J. Welsh	21	0	0
Mr J. J. Cavendish	20	0	0
Canon and Mrs Moore Ede	20	0	0
Mrs Isaacs	20	0	0
Mr W. W. Cooper	20	0	0
Crofton Maynard, Esq.	10	0	0
R. Simey, Esq.	5	0	0
W. Glass, Esq.	5	0	0
Messrs Squance	3	3	0
George Parkinson, Esq.	2	2	0

You will see the ladies are very much with us; and, therefore, we are assured of success. In relation to the contribution by Mr Maynard (Coroner), and by Messrs Squance, in addition to the £10, Mr Maynard, in his letter, promises £2 2s yearly; and Messrs Squance makes theirs an annual payment. These are very useful as there will be expenses in connection with the Homes, which the yearly contributions will enable us to meet.

Let me add a word or two in relation to the masterly speech delivered to us by the Bishop. It was a great occasion, and the address was worthy of it. There was a very large company to listen to the eloquent remarks, but there is a larger audience outside. May I urge upon you to secure, if possible, a press report of the proceedings, and especially the speech, and read it carefully, for it will certainly repay the effort. I should like to refer at great length to portions of it but two must suffice. To the men of mature years, there was the suggested rejoicing coming from the past, an exhortation to act in unity, and to not be simply receivers, but givers of strength to the common cause. "They were not alone, not isolated separate units, but members of the great body, strong with the strength of all, and glad with the service which they could render to their fellows. A man who received all, and gave nothing, was like the Dead Sea. However rich the floods might be that flow into it, it retained no life-giving, no glad force—all was lost." In addition, there was the urging to avoid despair. Nothing could be more fatal than to declare that because we were not moving with greater rapidity, the goal is unattainable. "Do not listen to such a vision of despair, cherish the full vigour of hope."

Let me finish with the words to the young men. I wish all of them could have heard the words of wisdom, as they fell from the lips of our respected and honoured Bishop. As they could not, let me quote them. "They had received a splendid inheritance—splendid with noble achievements, and noble traditions, and they as men who have mastered themselves, and realised their obligations—they would use it well, guard it well, and hand it down to those who came after, enriched by the fulfilment of hopes, cherished long ago, and illuminated by the brightness of hopes, which those who came after them would perhaps be allowed to fulfil."

Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

Appeal from Sir David Dale.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

Sir,—I ask the favour of being enabled through your columns to afford information which I think may be of use to those who are desirous of subscribing to some organisation for rendering assistance to the wives and families of men who are serving with the colours in South Africa.

There is, I believe, a very general desire to subscribe liberally and promptly, but also a very general uncertainty as to which of the many funds designed to afford assistance to the "services" in some form or another lays itself out for that kind of assistance which is at the present moment most needful, viz., aid to the wives and families left behind.

Without in any way undervaluing the forms of "service" assistance rendered by the Patriotic Fund, the Red Cross Society, the Soldiers' Help Society, and Lloyd's Patriotic Fund, all of which I do not doubt deserve public confidence and assistance, the society which best lends immediate help to the women and children left behind is the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association. That association, of which Her Majesty is patron, and H.R.H. the Princess of Wales is president has been established since 1885. Its objects are: "To aid the wives and families of men of all branches of the land and sea forces serving with the colours, by giving temporary help and finding employment through the personal interest of its local office bearers and representatives throughout the kingdom."

Its scheme of administration is to have a branch in each county, and to sub-divide the county into divisions, usually co-extensive with petty sessional districts, leaving each division to sub-divide itself into convenient smaller areas.

A considerable part of the county of Durham has for some time been organised on these lines, and within the last few days the remainder of the county has been similarly organised. The president of the Durham County Organisation is the Marchioness of Londonderry, and each of the following 16 petty sessional divisions, covering the whole county, has now a president whose name will be found in Lady Londonderry's letter appearing in the local Press of to-day, viz.—Barnard Castle and Staindrop, Lanchester and Consett, Bishop Auckland, Seaham Harbour, Castle Eden, South Shields, Chester-le-Street, Stanhope, Darlington, Stockton-on-Tees, Durham, Sunderland, Gateshead, West Hartlepool, Houghton-le-Spring, and Wolsingham.

It seems desirable that meetings should promptly be called by the president of each division and and that appointments should then be made of representatives of the association at the headquarters of the division, and in each convenient sub-area, to whom full instructions should be afforded as to their duties by providing them with the clear information and directions which are obtainable in the form of printed leaflets from the head offices of the association at 23, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W.

Divisional associations should then notify that donations will be received by all banks and by the office bearers in each division. According to the constitution of the association each division will apply it own funds in relief to those within such division to whom the funds are by the association's constitution properly applicable. Any division having more claims than funds may apply to its county association for aid, and any county may in like manner apply to the Central Fund in London.

It will probably not have escaped attention that Lord Durham speaking as Lord Lieutenant of the county, strongly commended to those whom he addressed on Thursday last, a course of action correspondent in main outline with the above.

I remain, yours faithfully,

DAVID DALE.

West Lodge, Darlington, Nov. 11th, 1899.

The Drink for the Season.

Absolutely a New Drink.

Awarded 8 Gold Medals.

LEMO.

LEMO CHAMPAGNE.

LEMO.

Try it. An Ideal Summer Drink.

MADE ONLY BY

J. KERSHAW and SONS,

LEADGATE and GATESHEAD.

THE WAR.

PROPOSED LOCAL RESERVISTS' FUND.

MEETING AT CONSETT.

On Thursday evening, a public meeting was held in the Small Hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, to consider the best means of raising a fund for the wives and families of the reservists from this district who have been called upon to rejoin the colours, and likewise the widows and orphans of the men who may fall during the war. Mr. Jas. Oliver presided over a fair attendance. Mr. T. D. Dryden (upon whose initiative the meeting had been called) acting as secretary.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he thought it was not necessary for him to say much as they would all have read the news, and seen that funds were being started in other places. He thought the wives and families of the reservists were deserving of the strongest sympathy they could give them. (Hear, hear.) But this would not go far with those who had nothing in the cupboard. He thought that they ought to assist these to the best of their ability. (Applause.) These men had been taken away to protect their interests, and he thought anyone refusing to contribute to a fund of this kind was hardly worthy of being called an Englishman. (Applause.) So far as he was concerned he would do his best to assist the movement. (Hear, hear.) He thought the people in Consett were making money equal to any place in the county. They were well employed and had good wages, and every workman employed in the district ought to throw in his mite. (Applause.) Even if they only gave sixpence it was equal in proportion to another man's pound who was placed in better circumstances. What the meeting ought to do was to try and induce the whole of the people to assist in this movement. (Applause.) It ought to meet with the approval and support of everyone in the locality, and he had no doubt but what it would. (Applause.)

Mr. J. E. Parker quite agreed with what had been said by the chairman, that it was high time something was done to assist the dependents of the reservists, who, as they all knew, were going out to defend the empire and it behoved them to assist those dependent upon these men. (Applause.) In South Africa they had a large number of people who were really their brethren—many in the district having relatives amongst the troops—therefore it behoved them to do all they possibly could to keep those left behind by the gallant men who were upholding their honour in the Transvaal, and bringing home to President Kruger the fact that the English nation was not going "to be sat upon." (Applause.) Mr. Parker referred to the fact that on a recent journey from London to the North, he saw a large number of women and children bidding good-bye to relatives at King's Cross Station. On inquiring he was told that the men were reservists, and one of the latter said to him that he was glad to know that the country was going to look after his wife and children during the time that he was away. (Applause.) He (Mr. Parker) thought it behoved them in that district to start the movement for a fund, and he hoped that they would organise a committee without clashing with any other scheme. If it was taken up by the different districts it would be a proper thing to join with them in order to provide for those whom it was intended to benefit. It was not only for the dependents of reservists, but for the widows and orphans of those who might fall in defence of their country. (Applause.)

Mr. J. M. Aynsley said he was sorry that his father was not able to be present as he intended, but he (the speaker) was gratified to see that they had got a very worthy chairman—one able to preside over meetings second to none. (Applause.) His father had instructed him to say that informal information had been received to the effect that the Lord Lieutenant of the County (Lord Durham) had a scheme under consideration with a view to promoting the worthy object they had in view. It was understood that the scheme was to be for the benefit of the wives and families of the reservists in the county of Durham alone. The idea was to work the scheme by mean of local centres, and he believed it was intended to hold a meeting in Durham that day to send out invitations to the chairmen of the several Urban, Rural, and Parish Councils, asking them to call meetings and collect subscriptions, and hand these over to the general fund and that fund would be for the benefit of the dependents of the reservists generally throughout the county. If that be the case, he would suggest that a recommendation go to the chairman of the Council requesting that, as soon as he received an intimation from the Lord Lieutenant, he should immediately take steps for the purpose of collecting subscriptions, and carrying out the intentions of the promoters of that meeting. He understood that it was the intention to appoint local committees for the purpose of collecting subscriptions. If that was so, if the meeting that night appointed a committee they would be in a somewhat awkward position, as another meeting would probably shortly be held under the Lord Lieutenant's scheme, at which a committee would have to be chosen. As far as the object was concerned, no one could deny that it was an object worthy of everyone's support. (Applause.) Whether the policy of the Government was right or wrong, no one could deny that after receiving the ultimatum from Mr. Kruger [illegible] (Applause.)

Mr. Parker thought it best to have an amalgamation of the different districts, so as to avoid any clashing. He thought one central committee would be most desirable to be worked by sub-committees in different districts. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman thought they ought to include the Lanchester Union, but it would be rather a strong order for them to attempt it.

Mr. Aynsley said as far as he understood it the chairmen of the District and Parish Councils would receive intimation of the matter from the Lord Lieutenant, and would call a public meeting, and all be represented. The meeting that night, he took it was not for Consett alone, but for the district generally. If they appointed a committee that night and then a meeting was called after hearing from the Lord Lieutenant at which another committee was formed, the two would clash.

The Chairman thought their meeting that night rather premature, but they were not aware of the Lord Lieutenant's scheme when it was called. If it covered each district it would be doing what they wanted. (Hear, hear.) He thought that they would be only too glad to amalgamate with a view to doing the best they could for those they wanted to assist. (Applause.) It was a duty incumbent upon them to do, and to do as best they could. It would do no harm by joining with any other scheme that might be started. He thought the chairmen of the District Councils the proper men to call a meeting.

Mr. Dryden said the first idea was to hold a public meeting with a view to getting the authorities to do something. Someone had to make a start in the matter.

The Chairman said the report of their proceedings would appear in the local papers—he didn't care much about the daily papers—and would show that there was a feeling to do something for these people. He suggested now they had heard the information from Mr. Aynsley, he thought the proper thing was to adjourn the meeting for a fortnight.

Some of those present thought a fortnight too long.

Mr. Aynsley said if they adjourned that meeting they might send an intimation to the Lord Lieutenant from that meeting showing that they were disposed to assist the people in the district who were in need of help. When they saw the Lord Lieutenant taking this step he thought they ought to fall in with any scheme likely to benefit the people they were there to support. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Parker said he thought they wanted a resolution something to the effect that that meeting was of the opinion that some urgent steps should be taken in that district towards a fund for the benefit of the wives and families of the reservists and also of the widows and orphans of the sodiers who might fall during the war, and that the Lord Lieutenant be written to, stating that it had just been intimated to the meeting that he was going to start a scheme and that they were anxious to get it under weigh as soon as possible. They wanted to strike while the iron was hot. (Applause.) He suggested that they adjourn the meeting for a week.

The Chairman agreed with Mr. Parker, as a fortnight might perhaps be too long. They might receive intimation the next day as to what the Lord Lieutenant proposed.

Mr. Parker then moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that urgent steps should be taken to raise a fund in the Consett district for the purpose of relieving the distress which may occur to the wives and families of the Reservists in the County of Durham, and to the widows and orphans of those who may fall during the present war; but having just heard that some steps having in view the same object are now being taken by the Lord Lieutenant of the County, it is desirable to adjourn the subject for another week so that any local arrangements made may not clash."

Mr. F. A. Coltman seconded the motion, and thought it would meet the case. A few of them on the spur of the moment had decided to call a meeting as no one was moving in it. They had got several subscriptions.

The motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. Aynsley, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, and those gentlemen who had called the meeting which stood adjourned till to-night (Thursday), at 7.30, at the same place.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to the advantages offered by the Scholarships of the Royal College of Music, South Kensington, London, of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., is the Founder and President.

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LOCAL POLICE COURTS

Lanchester Petty Sessions.

THURSDAY, Nov. 9th, 1899.—Before Mr. W. B. Van Haansbergen (chairman), Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, Dr. J. Wilson, and Mr. W. Holmes.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Thos. Palmer sen., and Thos. Palmer, jun., were summoned by P.C. Pemberton for fighting at Annfield Plain on Oct. 28th.—Defendants were bound over to keep the peace.

PITCH AND TOSS.

P.C. Crabb summoned Wm. Clark, John Richardson, Geo. Clark, Wm. Handy, Jos. Granville, Thos. Grayson, Albert Cook, and Jos. Bright for "schooling" at Hedleyhope on Oct. 22nd.—The officer stated that while lying amongst some whins he saw the whole of the defendants schooling.—Defendants were all fined 2/6 and costs.

TRESPASSING IN SEARCH OF GAME.

Christopher Ross and Wm. Bartlett were summoned by P. C. Crisp for having trespassed on land belonging to Messrs Hedley and Bros. at Holmside, in search of game, on Nov. 5th.—The officer said while on duty at Holmside Hall he saw the defendants go past the house, and go to a conduit. Ross got through the railings and ran the conduit with the dog, while the other defendant got on to the railings and "ticed" the dog to hunt them. They were both doing their best.—A fine of 10/- and costs was imposed.

STEALING TOKENS.

Mr. James Bainbridge, under-manager, at the instance of the East Pontop Coal Company Limited, summoned John William Mason, aged 14 years, of Delight Bank, Dipton, for having feloniously stolen, taken and carried away eighty-three tokens of the value of 6/11, of the goods and chattels of the East Pontop Coal Company. Mr. Leybourne, Bishop Auckland, prosecuted on behalf of the Coal Company.

Geo. Arkless, weighman Hare Law, said he worked for the East Pontop Coal Company, Ltd. Mason was a putter working at the South Pontop Colliery, which belonged to Messrs Ritson. Some little time ago defendant had worked for the East Pontop Coal Company. He had for some time missed certain putters' tokens and on receiving instructions from the manager he visited a few of the neighbouring collieries. On visiting South Pontop Colliery he found ten of the missing tokens, numbered "13." The tokens were kept in sets and were numbered from 1 to 27. A set consisted of from 50 to 80 tokens. He first missed 53 tokens on Oct. 3rd and on a subsequent date missed other 20 tokens of the same number. At East Pontop Colliery the men were all supplied with tokens by the Coal Company. He made inquiry at a neighbouring colliery to see if he could ascertain anything about the missing tokens. He went to South Pontop Colliery on Oct. 25th and examined the token cabin there, where he found ten of the missing tokens. Since that time he had not visited South Pontop, but had received other 54 of the tokens from that colliery. The tokens (produced) were the missing ones. He ascertained from the South Pontop Colliery that the tokens had been used by Mason. On finding the tokens the present proceedings were instituted. They were valued at 6/11.

Wm. Lightburn, rolleyweighman at East Pontop Colliery, said on Oct. 17th he saw Mason standing on the heap at East Pontop. Defendant had no business there, as he was not employed at that colliery. Defendant was standing a few yards from the place where the tokens were kept.

John Hetherington, weighman at East Pontop Colliery, said on Oct. 25th he took Mr. Arkless to the token cabin, where the latter identified certain tokens belonging to the East Pontop Colliery Company. They were standing to the credit of J. W. Mason. The next day 54 similar tokens came to bank.

P.C. Hildreth, stationed at Catchgate, said from information received he charged the defendant with stealing 83 tokens, when he replied "I have not half that many." Defendant stated that a boy named Curry had given him the tokens.

Mr. Arkless (re-called) said, in answer to Dr. Wilson, that he could not say what object the defendant could have in taking the tokens.

The Officer (re-called) said he had made inquiries at Annfield Place respecting Curry, and could not find a lad in the place of that name.

Mr. Leybourne said the Company did not wish to press the case unduly, upon which Mr. Haansbergen stated that on those conditions they would not go to an extremity. The defendant had given his evidence in a very unsatisfactory manner. He had told them a very "cock and bull" story about taking the tokens to clear himself. They would inflict a fine of £1 and costs.

STRAY COWS.

Ann Little was summoned by P.C. Waterson for having allowed her cows to stray on the highway at Butsfield Bottoms, on Oct. 13th.—The case was adjourned from last court to allow the defendant time to bring a witness to prove that the policeman drove the cows on to the highway, and left them there.—Mr. Gascoigne said he passed the cows near to the Bottoms leading to West Butsfield.—Geo. Parker, called for the defendant, said all he knew about the case was that he saw the officer drive the cows out of the Bottoms, and drove them on to the highway, and leave them there. He drove the cows in the opposite direction from Mrs. Little's home.—The Bench dismissed the case on payment of the expenses.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. E. W. E. Balleny (chairman), and Mr. Holmes.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following is a list of the cases of drunkenness and the fines imposed:—Geo. Barron 2/6 and costs; L. Wilson, Wm. Fairless, 5/- and costs; J. Mason, 5/- and costs; Hy. Fairless, (2 cases), 5/- and costs: in each case; Chas. Fairless, 10/- and costs; John Gibson 10/- and costs; J. Chapman, 2/6 and costs; J. Lumley, 2/6 and costs; P. Carpenter, 2/6 and costs; J. Eccleston, 2/6 and costs; J. Foy, 2/6 and costs; P. Jeffries, 2/6 and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Hy. Fairless and Jas. Mason were fined 5/- and costs each for doing wilful damage to the property of John Snaith, Lanchester, on Nov. 4th.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

The same defendants were also fined 5/- and costs, for refusing to quit the licensed premises of John Snaith, Lanchester, on Nov. 4th.

Wm. Briers was fined 10/- and costs for a similar offence committed on Geo. Wake's licensed premises, Lanchester, on Nov. 4th. Defendant was also fined £2 for assaulting Geo. Wake.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Three large batches of men were fined 2/6 and costs for playing at pitch and toss on Oct. 20th 23rd, and 30th.

STRAY PIGS.

Wm. Wilson, farmer, Maiden Hall Farm, was summoned by Inspector Waller for allowing two pigs to stray on the highway, on Oct. 25th.—Defendant was fined 1/- and costs.

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MAIDEN LAW MEN.

Robt. Thompson, farmer, Maiden Law, summoned Jonathan, John, and William Wright, of Maiden Law, near Annfield Plain, for having on the evening of Oct. 27th assaulted and robbed him of 17/6 while on his way home from Annfield Plain. Mr. T. W. Welford, Consett, prosecuted, and Mr. J. Turnbull, Chester-le-Street, defended.

Mr. Welford in opening the case, said the facts were that on the evening in question the complainant was on business in Annfield Plain. At about 10.30 p.m. he was in the Queen's Head Hotel, Annfield Plain, where he had two glasses of beer. He saw the three defendants in the bar while there. On leaving shortly after 10.30 p.m., he met a man named John Wilson, with whom he had some conversation, after which he made away home. When he had reached the Morrison Pit pond he saw the three defendants standing about 200 yards from the big lamp at the Three Lane Ends. Jonathan went up to him and hit him in the mouth while John dealt him a blow on the neck and knocked him on his back, whereupon the three defendants rushed on top of him. While lying on the ground he felt one of them put his hand into his pocket and take 17/6 therefrom, which was made up of half-a-sovereign and three half-crowns. He got up and ran away just as his brother arrived on the scene. Complainant said to his brother in the hearing of the defendants "Come on John" whereupon the defendants chased him to the top of Langley Bank, shouting "If you summon us again we will kick your guts out." While following him they also shouted "Stop the b——, Stop the b——." Complainant stopped running when he got to the road ends and found his mouth was swollen and his clothes covered with mud. On the following morning he gave information to the sergeant of police at Annfield Plain.

The complainant, sworn, bore out Counsel's statement, adding that he had found it necessary some two years ago to summon two of the defendants for an assault.

For the defence Mr. Turnbull said he would prove that the complainant had brought the case out of pure spite and malice. He would prove that the defendants never laid a hand on complainant that night, and after the Bench had heard his evidence he would ask them to say that there was not sufficient evidence to warrant them in sending the defendants for their trial at the Assizes.

Cross-examined by Mr. Turnbull complainant said he had one glass of beer in the "Jerry" at Annfield Plain, one at Aitchinson's and two at Lazenby's, where he saw the defendant. He last saw his money at the road ends at the big lamp. He left home with £1 in his pocket, he spent 6d and gave 2/- to a man at their shed of Annfield Plain. He was not lying in a helpless state of drunkenness close to the lamp with his face downwards. Middlemas and Goodchild never picked him up off the road. It was absolutely untrue. As soon as the defendants saw him Jonathan hit him in the mouth. The nearest house would be 400 yards off. It was not a quarter-of-a-mile from Annfield Plain where the assault took place.

John Wilson, clerk, in the employ of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, said he saw Robt. Thompson about 10.45 p.m. on the evening in question and talked with him for not more than five minutes. When he left witness he (complainant) was making away in the direction of Maiden Law. There was nothing the matter with complainant then. He did not converse with him for twenty minutes. He could not say that complainant had not had liquor for the simple reason that he had a drink with him in the Democratic Club at Annfield Plain. Thompson paid for the drink. His (witness's) "top storey" was all right that night.

Robt. Burn, manager of the Queen's Head, Annfield Plain, said on Oct. 27th he saw the complainant have some drink in the bar about 10.30 p.m. Complainant was then sober. In answer to Mr. Turnbull witness could not say what kind of drink the complainant had, as he was attending to other customers.

John Thompson, miner, Maiden Law, brother of complainant, said on Oct. 27th he was returning home from Stanley, and reached the Morrison Pit about 11.20 p.m., where he heard some shouts and saw the three defendants on top of his brother on the road. There was nobody else present then. When his brother rose to his feet, they ran away, and after running about 20 yards his brother told him they had taken some money out of his pocket. They were chased for about half-a-mile. The defendants said if complainant summoned them again they would "kick his puddings out." On arriving home witness saw that his brother's clothes were covered with clarts, and his mouth was swollen. His brother was "solid and sober" after the alleged assault had taken place. Defendants lived 300 yards from complainant. He did not see anybody on the road besides the three Wrights, and would swear that he saw them on top of his brother that night.

Sergt. McDonald, stationed at Annfield Plain, said about 11.20 p.m. on Oct. 27th he was on duty at Annfield Plain near the "Three Lane Ends." While there he heard an unusual noise in the direction of the Morrison Pit. He hurried up to the big lamp at the Three Lane Ends, and listening heard sounds as of several persons running in the direction of Maiden Law. When the persons had receded for about half-a-mile he heard some shouting, followed immediately by great laughter. He proceeded as far as the Morrison Pit but saw nothing. On the next morning the complainant complained to him and showed his clothes. When he served the summonses on the defendants one said "It is nothing but lies"; the others made no reply.

Mr. Turnbull, in reviewing the evidence, said there had been ill-feeling between the complainant and defendants for years. The complainant had previously preferred a serious charge against the defendants, which was dismissed by the Court, and if he would do it once he would do it again. He would prove that complainant was helplessly drunk that night and that he was picked up by two men. Complainant had said nothing about being in the Democratic Club on the night of the supposed assault, and one of his (complainant's) witnesses, with whom he had conversed, said in his evidence that he only talked for not more than five minutes, whereas complainant said they chatted for at least twenty minutes. He would satisfy the Bench that his clients had had nothing whatever to do with the complainant on that night, and if he did so he would ask their Worships to say that they were not guilty.

Albert Goodchild, miner, South Moor, said on October 27th, he saw the defendants at the Pork Shop Annfield Plain, at about 11 p.m. Hodgson and Trotter were with them, and Middlemass with him. They all proceeded towards the Morrison Pit, on their way home. When they had got 30 yards past the lamp they found Thompson lying across the road with his face downwards. He heard a cart on the road at the time, and if they had not picked him up he would have been run over. Middlemas and he picked him up, but the defendants never touched him, they walked straight past. When they had picked complainant up he asked where his money was, when Middlemas replied, "If you are going to talk that way you had better get home," and they left loose of him, when he fell right on his face. Complainant was "Mortalious drunk." Witness never heard any shouting at all. All the drink he had had that night was three or four lemon dashes. They were in Lazenby's, and left about 10.45 p.m., but never saw the complainant there. He did not see the defendants either in Aitchinson's or Lazenby's house that night. He did not meet a living soul on the road that night.

Geo. Middlemas, deputy, South Moor, corroborated, and said he was at the Pork Shop at about 10.50 p.m. On the way home in company with the defendants and Goodchild they found Thompson beside the Morrison Pit lying with his face downwards. He and Goodchild picked the "gentleman" up, and found him drunk. On complainant asking where his money was they left loose of him, and he fell over on his face.

Mr. Turnbull: And you left him alone in his glory?—Witness: Yes.

Thos. Trotter, miner, Maiden Law, said he lodged with Jonathan Wright. He was with the defendants at Annfield Plain on October 27th. The defendants never touched complainant. He went home with them and went to bed with one of them. (Laughter.)

The Bench, after a short consultation were of the opinion that there was no case, and dismissed it for want of sufficient evidence.

THE CONSETT WOUNDING CASE.

Joseph Haley, labourer, of Consett, summoned Thos. McTernay, of Consett, for unlawfully wounding him on October 28th. This case it will be remembered was twice adjourned at Consett because of the inability of the complainant to appear at Court.

Complainant said on October 28th, about 11.30 p.m. he saw the prisoner in Middle Street, Consett, and after speaking to him in a friendly way, left him. In the evening he went to prisoner's lodgings, when the latter struck him in the face, on the chest and ribs, knocked him down, and kicked him. They had parted good friends in the morning, and he could not give any reason for prisoner's conduct towards him. After the assault McTernay took him to Duffy's lodging-house, and rubbed his face with a cloth in Duffy's yard, after which he went to bed. The next day he felt that he could not move in bed, and the doctor, who was sent for, bandaged him up, and sent him to the Lanchester Workhouse in a cab. Since the assault he had suffered great pain, and still had a bad breast. Defendant must have been drunk when he struck him, as they were the best of friends in an ordinary way. Nobody saw the assault.

Pat. Duffy, lodging-house keeper, Green Street, Consett, said on October 28th McTernay took complainant to his house, and asked for lodgings for him. Complainant was taken in, and went to bed. On the next morning he was told that Haley was bad and he went upstairs to see him. On asking complainant what was the matter he replied that his breast was broken in. He (witness) went for the doctor immediately. Both McTernay and Haley were the worse of liquor on the previous day.

Pat. Connelly, mason's labourer, Consett, said on October 29th McTernay went to his lodge and asked for Haley. When McTernay was told Haley's condition he said it served him right, he would let him see how to insult his landlady. Defendant admitted to witness that he had done it with his hands and feet. While there the policeman arrested defendant.

John Hutchinson, labourer at the Shears in the Consett Iron Works, corroborated.

Dr. Thos. Grainger, Consett, said that on Sunday, October 29th, he found Haley in bed, and looked as if he had been badly treated. He was breathing heavily, and was suffering from a fractured rib, and bore signs of pleurisy. He took complainant's temperature, and found it one-half a degree above normal, from which he concluded that his condition was not so serious. His eye was discoloured as if he had fallen against some hard substance.

Sergt. Dryden said he saw the prosecutor in bed on Sunday, who complained of McTernay having kicked him. He arrested the defendant, and took him to Haley, who identified him as the man who had badly used him. On taking defendant to the Police Station and charging him with the assault he replied "No no."

Defendant pleaded not guilty, and called Mrs. Mary McKenna, his landlady, to prove his innocence. Witness said she lived in Shakespeare Street, Consett, and kept two lodgers. On October 28th, Haley went to her house, and asked if she had any room, when she replied "No, I only keep two lodgers on account of my health." After staying about 20 minutes he went away, and returned again about 4.30 p.m. with a young man, and insisted upon having a bed, but she again declined, saying that she would have no more than the two she had. Between six and 6.30 p.m., he went back drunk and fell twice in the yard. She told McTernay, who was in the house, what had happened, and asked him to lift Haley up. He did so, but she never saw McTernay kick him. After McTernay picked him up he told him to go to Duffy's lodging house. The yard was covered with small stones. Haley's face was bleeding when McTernay lifted him up. McTernay was the worse for drink, but Haley was worse still, and could not walk at all. On the Sunday night Mr. Duffy went to her house, and said Haley wanted to see McTernay, who was not in at the time. When he returned she delivered the message, and McTernay went to see Haley. She heard nothing more of hid until Monday, when she was informed that he was locked up.—The Bench reduced the charge to one of common assault, and on the same evidence, sentenced defendant to one month's imprisonment, with hard labour.

Consett Petty Sessions.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, November 13th, 1899.—Before Mr. J. Annandale (Chairman), Mr. F. Priestman, Mr. W. Aynsley, Mr. J. Green, Mr. H. Palmer, and Mr. W. Holmes.

POACHING PREVENTION ACT.

P. C. Johnson summoned James Levison and Peter Smith, of Shotley Bridge, for poaching on Mr. Murray's land on Sunday, Oct. 29th.—The officer said on the evening in question he was on duty at Snow's Green Road, Shotley Bridge, when he saw the defendants coming from the land in question, and suspected them of having been poaching. He searched them and found each defendant had a young live rabbit in his possession.—Defendants were each fined 10/- and costs.

HIS "HARMLESS DIVERSION."

Joshua Turnent, miner, of Burnopfield, was brought up on remand charged with having had in his possession a quantity of explosives without having obtained a police certificate authorising him to keep the explosives.

Supt. Benzies, of Consett, said P.C. Robson took the defendant to the Consett Station and charged him with setting off explosives at Burnopfield, on Nov 4th. Witness asked defendant if he had a certificate to keep explosives, when he replied in the negative. He would call P.C. Robson to prove that the defendant had the quantity of gelatine produced in his possession. It was a custom for miners to set off that kind of explosive at weddings at Burnopfield. Defendant had no right to take it from the Colliery, where there was a proper place to keep it.

Mr. Annandale: Is it dangerous stuff?

Mr. Benzies: Yes, if you let it fall.

Mr. Annandale: Don't let it fall then. (Laughter.)

Mr. Benzies: I will hand it up to Mr. Palmer, who knows more about it than me.

Mr. Palmer: Keep it there, thank you. (Laughter.)

P.C. Robson stated that on Nov. 4th he was on duty at Burnopfield, and heard a terrible report of an explosion. On making his way to the scene of the explosion he found defendant had broken twenty-eight panes of glass. On searching the defendant's lodgings he found eight bobbins of compressed powder, and the quantity of gelatine produced.

The Prisoner: I had it in a caddy.

The Officer, in answer to the Bench, said the defendant set the gelatine off in about the middle of the street, four yards from the houses. It blew a hole in the ground some six or eight inches deep. Defendant told him he had set it off with some fuse. The report was heard two miles off.

Defendant contended that the ground was no worse. He stood within four feet of the explosion. The stuff would hurt nothing. When the policeman enquired who had done it he (the defendant) said he had done it for a bit simple harmless diversion to cause a bit jollification. (Laughter.) He had had similar stuff in his possession for 15 years, and had never been asked for a certificate. He got the cap from a gentleman at Swalwell.

Mr. Annandale: If the case had been taken under another act the defendant would have been liable to two years imprisonment. It is a most dangerous thing, and the case is made worse a good deal by your having kept it all these years without a certificate. Defendant was liable to a penalty of £100.

The Bench considered the defendant had placed himself in a very serious position, but on account of his having repaired the damage done to the windows would only impose a fine of 10/- and costs, the chairman warning him to take care for the future to have none of the stuff in his possession, as he might have blown the whole place to pieces.

A BETTING MAN HEAVILY FINED.

P.C. Rispin, of Westwood, summoned Edward Jewitt, of Allendale Cottages, under the County Bye-laws, for betting on the pubic highway between Oct. 11th and 25th at Allendale Cottages. Mr. T. W. Welford, Consett, defended.

The Officer said between the dates in question he concealed himself near the Allendale Cottages Wesleyan Chapel, when he saw the defendant, Ed. Jewitt, go from Allendale Cottages and make bets with three men, and make entries in his book. Defendant had a "Sporting Chronicle," which he showed the men before they made the bets. On Oct. 24th, being concealed in the same place, he saw a repitition of what occurred on the previous date. On Oct. 25th he saw the defendant make bets with men on the highway. When defendant began to move away witness called out "Ned," when the latter turning round to one of the men shouted, "Is that the police?" and was in the act of going off when witness called a second time. He then charged the defendant with the offence, when he replied "This is the first time I have been down here." Witness told him he had more dates than that one, when defendant replied, "Be careful; I am away sometimes." He knew the defendant to be a bookmaker; he did nothing else.

In answer to Mr. Welford, witness said the bets were not made on land belonging to the Consett Iron Company: they were made on the public highway leading from Westwood to Lintz Green, called "Cut Throat Lonnin." On the first date the bets were made with Wm. Tebb, David Barron, and Wm. Jewitt. On the second date with David Barron. Witness was positive the defendant was on the highway; he had watched him several times.

Mr. Welford, for the defence, said that his client admitted being a bookmaker, but he had never made a bet on the public highway.

P.C. Hunter corroborated P.C. Rispin's evidence, and said the defendant refused to give up his book.

The Bench inflicted the full penalty of £5 and costs.

WATER RATES.

Wm. Jones and John Toward were ordered to pay the Consett Water Company the water rate owing by them to the amount of 5/- and costs.

ASSAULT.

Christopher Scott summoned John Hagan for assaulting him on Oct. 28th, at Blackhill.—Complainant said the defendant, who was represented by his wife, struck him twice in the eye, knocked him down, and put his thumb and two fingers out of joint, causing him to lose seven days' work. He had given no provocation. Defendant was drunk.—A fine of 10/- and costs was imposed.

WANTING TO FIGHT.

P.C. Warwick summoned Peter and Michael Finnigan, brothers, of Consett, for being drunk and disorderly on Sunday and wanting to fight.—P.C. Elwood said he saw the defendants all fighting; they had the place "raised," and were all stripped off. One of the defendants tripped him up.—One of the defendants said the constable had badly used him after taking him into custody and had knocked his teeth out.—P.C. Fraser said the defendant told him his teeth had been knocked loose in fighting with another man.—Defendants were each fined 5/- and costs.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. F. Priestman (presiding) and Mr. J. Green.

THE TOPERS' LIST.

Thomas Johnson and John Murphy, of Hamsterley, were found lying on the road intoxicated by P.C. Johnson, and Johnson was fined 5/- and costs, and Murphy 2/6 and costs.

Alfred Southwick, of Shotley Bridge, charged by the same officer with being drunk and disorderly, was ordered to pay 5/ and costs.

Peter Agnew, for being drunk and disorderly at Consett on Oct. 28th, was ordered to pay 10/- and costs.—P.C. Elwood prosecuted.

P.C. Warwick charged Robert Harris with a similar offence at Consett, on Nov. 14th.—Defendant, who was represented by his wife, was fined 5/- and costs, and was allowed seven days in which to pay it.

John McGee was similarly charged by P.C. Warwick, the penalty being 5/- and costs.

William Summerson and Joseph Armstrong were accused of a like offence by P.C. McGee, at Blackhill, and they had each to pay 2/6 and costs.

John Clark, charged by Sergt. Lawson with being drunk and disorderly at Dipton, was mulcted in a fine of 5/- and costs.

Sergt. Lawson preferred a similar charge against John Stoker, at Dipton, and he got off by paying 2/6 and costs.

P.C. Curtis charged John Morton with a like offence at Dipton on Oct. 28th, and defendant had to pay 2/6 and costs.

Thomas Allen had to answer a similar accusation brought against him by P.C. Curtis, and was ordered to pay 5/- and costs.

William Edwards, stated to belong to Craghead, was charged by P.C. Curtis with being drunk and disorderly at Dipton, on Nov. 5th.—Defendant did not appear, and was fined 10/- and costs.

Robert Oswald, who did not appear, was accused by P.C. Dobinson of a like charge at Flint Hill, the penalty being 5/- and costs.

P.C. Tomlinson brought a charge against Edward English of a similar nature, defendant getting off with a fine of 2/6 and costs.

The same officer proceeded against John Burns for a like offence.—Burns did not turn up, and was ordered to pay 5/- and costs.

DAMAGE AT CONSETT PARK.

George Hammond and Samuel Fuller, of Blackhill, two very respectably attired youths were charged with doing wilful damage in Consett Park, on Oct. 29th. Mr. Charles E. Oliver prosecuted on behalf of the Consett Iron Company.—Sergt. Tones stated that on the day in question, from what he heard he examined the seats in the tennis pavilion, and found on the back of one of them 13 newly-cut letters. He got hold of these two boys, and confronted them with two little girls who saw them commit the damage. He also asked them whether they had any knives, and they delivered up the two new knives produced.—Mr. Oliver said he estimated the damage at 5/-.—Defendants declared that there were some letters on the back of the seat when they started, and they had been made much worse since.—Mr. Oliver said that there was a lot of damage done in the Park but as it was generally by children of tender years they did not prosecute. However, defendants were big enough and old enough to know better. This was only the third case the company had brought in 10 years.—Defendants were each fined 5/- and ordered to pay 2/6 each damage, and the costs.

A DISPUTED RIGHT OF WAY.

John Herron and Thomas Kinley were summoned by P.C. Dobinson for doing wilful damage at Bushblades Farm, on Oct. 28th. Defendants pleaded not guilty.—P.C. Dobinson said he was on duty at Bushblades Farm, on the day in question, and saw the defendants trespassing on a grass field.—Herron said he was on the footpath. He had travelled this road for three years, and the farmer had never interfered with him.—Complainant admitted defendant was on the footpath, but said it was not a public footpath. It was a near cut for the men going to and from the North Pit. There were notice-boards up.—Herron denied this, and said a similar case at that Court not long since was dismissed.—Mr. Jamieson (the farmer) said that defendants had no right there, as there was no road. He estimated the damage at 1d.—Witness, in reply to Mr. Green, said there were no notice-boards up, as they were not required, the men knowing that they were doing wrong.—Kinley asserted that it was a public road, and said the last case brought there in connection with it was dismissed.—Mr. Jamieson then sketched a plan of the place on a piece of paper.—Kinley, in reply to Mr. Green, said this was a public road before the North Pit was opened.—Mr. Jamieson declared that there had never been a public road there. It had been made by the men since the pit was opened.—A witness called for the defence said it had been a public footpath ever since he could mind.—The Magistrates fined defendants 6d each, 1d damage, and the costs.

HE WAS IMPUDENT.

Peter Ford, of Leadgate, was accused of playing pitch and toss near Plantation Street, Leadgate, on October 28th.—P.C. Dixon said he saw defendant playing pitch and toss behind Plantation Street. There were other five or six playing, but he only got hold of Ford. The latter was very impudent, or else he would not have summoned him.—Defendant was fined 5/- and costs.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

James Crozier and James Conville, charged by Inspector Best with fighting at Consett, on November 4th, were bound over to keep the peace for three months and pay the costs.

Frank Hogan and Robert Gedling, of Leadgate, were similarly dealt with for a like offence.—Sergt. Newton proved the case.

Robert Barker, proceeded against by P.C. Hunter for fighting at Allendale Cottages, was dealt with in the same manner.

THREATENING HIS MOTHER.

John O'Neil was charged with a breach of the peace on November 4th.—Margaret O'Neil, mother of the defendant, stated that on the day named her son said he would kill her and used threatening language. Not long since she had him there for the same offence, and he was bound over. She was frightened of her life. Defendant was working at Burnopfield, but he came to Leadgate every week-end and annoyed the whole place. He never came to her house except when he was drunk.—It was ordered that a warrant be issued for the apprehension of O'Neil, who did not appear.

NO DOG LICENSE.

Charles Aker Watson (who did not appear) was charged by P.C. Pringle for having kept a dog without a license.—After the officer had stated the facts of the case, the Bench fined defendant 7/6 and costs.

WINES AND SPIRITS.—Messrs J. R. Parkington and Co., of 24, Crutched Friars, London, state:—Although it may be confidently asserted that our branch of trade has manifested symptoms of revival during the last few weeks, yet there still exists a lack of animation which should speedily disappear if we are to be favoured with a prosperous winter season. The demand for champaigne of the leading brands has been fairly brisk; the small stock of 1889's still remaining command good prices, and both 1892's and 1893's are readily dealt in. The large majority of shippers are now submitting samples of the 1895 vintage wines, which appear to be recieved with considerable favour, both quality and style being generally approved; the quantity offered, however is but small. The depression in the claret trade still continues, and the fact has been sharply accentuated by the deplorable prices recently secured at public auction for a large parcel of Bordeaux wines, including some well-known growths consigned to the market for realisation. The shipments of port for October amount to 8,577 pipes (Great Britain 4213 pipes), making 82,715 pipes for 10 months against 87,127 pipes in 1898. The sherry shipments were 3,169 butts making 36,356 butts for 10 months as compared with 45,041 butts for the corresponding period of last year. There is but little to add to, or modify in, the reports already published respecting the recent vintage; growers of France, Spain, Portugal, and Italy have cause to be reasonably satisfied with the result of their labour, and it is a matter of congratulation that the cognac districts have produced a more prolific yield than was originally anticipated, more particularly as the quality is expected to be good. It was hoped that the financial troubles which have for so many weeks past overshadowed the whiskey market were gradually dispersing, but as another heavy failure has been recorded, it it feared that the difficulties of the position are as yet by no means surmounted. The crisis, of course, affects more particularly the speculative dealers and distillers, if indeed it be not entirely confined to that branch of traders; there does not appear to be any appreciable decrease in public consumption, and the stability of well-established firms is in no sense endangered. The considerable advance in prices of rum, and the exceptional mildness of the season, have failed to check the demand; stocks of both Jamaica and Demerara descriptions held on this side continue at a singularly low ebb, and a further hardening of quotations may be looked for, especially in view of a brisk export trade.

EPPS'S COCOA ESSENCE.—A THIN COCOA.—The choicest roasted nibs of the natural Cocoa, on being subjected to powerful hydraulic pressure, give forth their excess of oil, leaving for use a finely flavoured powder—a product which, when prepared with boiling water, has the consistence of tea, of which it is now with many, beneficially taking the place. Its active principle being a gentle nerve stimulant, supplies the needed energy without unduly exciting the system. Sold only in labelled tins. If unable to obtain it of your tradesmen, a tin will be sent post free for 9 stamps.—James Epps and Co., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD

A PROTRACTED MEETING.

THE "REMARKABLE CASE."

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held on Monday evening in the Board Offices, Whickham, Mr. T. Brabban presiding. The other members present were—Messrs R. H. Swinburn, Wm. Walls, Wm. Fletcher, W. R. Handyside, Wm. Fenton, the Rev. Wm. Dryburgh, and the Clerk (Mr. W. Willis.)

A WELCOME.

The Chairman, on behalf of the members of the Board, extended a hearty welcome to Mr. Wm. Fenton, the newly-elected member from Lamesley parish. He felt pretty certain he was voicing the opinion of the other members of the Board when he told Mr. Fenton that they were pleased to see him, and hoped that he would just feel as comfortable at that table as if he was sitting around the table at Chester-le-Street. There was one question he would like to ask, which the Clerk, or Mr. Fenton, might be able to answer, and that was in regard to the duties of Mr. Fenton. Would that gentleman take part in the work of the Board in regard to all the schools, or only in relation to Marley Hill Schools? If they had that settled at the commencement, it would perhaps guide them in the future.

The Clerk: I have no official information, but I think it will only be with regard to the Marley Hill schools.

Mr. Fenton said he had made enquiries, but he had been unable to ascertain what his position was on the Board. However, if that was the verdict he was quite willing to abide by it.

The Clerk remarked that he had had a conversation with Mr. Harding, Clerk to the Gateshead School Board, and that gentleman thought Mr. Fenton would only deliberate upon questions affecting the Marley Hill Schools.

Mr. Fletcher and the Chairman questioned this.

Mr. Walls thought from the fact that Mr. Fenton had been elected a member of that Board he had a perfect right to enter into all the discussions of the Board, or he would be a nonentity.

The Clerk said if the Board desired he would make inquiries into the matter.

The Chairman: Perhaps it would be better to write the Department.

Mr. Fenton said he came to the conclusion that the Clerk would be sure to know, or he should have made further inquiries.

The Clerk remarked that there was a communication from the Education Department, but it did not say anything about the duties of Mr. Fenton.

Mr. Walls said the people whom Mr. Fenton represented had become ratepayers of the district, and therefore Mr. Fenton had a perfect right to direct representation.

After further discussion it was decided that Mr. Fenton should take part in all the Board's deliberations.

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD MISTRESS AT SWALWELL.

The Clerk read the following communication from Miss Lizzie Pugmyre:—14, Athol Street, Dunston.—Gentlemen.—With reference to vacancy for head-mistress in Swalwell infants' school, I beg most respectfully to make application for the same, my result at the certificate examination having fully qualified me to superintend a school, and to take charge of pupil teachers. I would also wish to draw your attention to my successes in former examinations, and to the results of my past services in the Dunston school. For nine years I have served the Board as a teacher—years of unceasing study, with the object of qualifying myself, and with results which have always been creditable to the Board and school. It is unnecessary to say that my special aim would be the upholding of the good results of Swalwell school in the past, and to assist the pupil teachers to pass through their apprenticeship with the same satisfaction I have had. I trust that my candidature may receive your favourable consideration.

A stirling testimonial was also read from Miss Taylor, head-mistress at Dunston.

Mr. Fletcher said that in regard to the teaching staff at Swalwell schools the managers had had a meeting, and they had decided to ask that the question of salaries be adjourned for one month. Not that they had not gone into the question, but not sufficiently to place before the Board a clear and definite report upon the matter. They wished to have some more figures for comparison, and that was why they wished the matter adjourned for one month. In regard to the Infant Department the managers requested the Board to advertise for a head-mistress for that department. They had aways had a trained infant mistress at Swalwell and the managers would like to see the Board appoint another one on similar lines. This had always been a success.

Mr. Walls: Might I ask what Mr. Fletcher means by a trained infant mistress?

Mr. Fletcher: One having gone through college.

Mr. Walls: Is not the best training to be found amongst the children she has got to teach?

Mr. Swinburn said he was pleased the question of what a trained mistress was had been asked, because he was going to ask the same question. He wanted to know how far the Board had power to appoint anyone other than a trained mistress?

The Chairman: When she is a certificated one I take it we have power to appoint.

Mr. Dryburgh said he had no doubt but that the Board had power to appoint anyone if she was qualified to do the work. There was one thing in regard to the Board's previous actions—he did not know its history—all the appointments that had been made as regards head teachers in the infants' school had been given to mistresses who had passed through college. He did not know whether that practice had been uniform from the beginning. If they followed precedent they would try to do the same again.

Mr. Fletcher: Might I ask one question? What would be the position at Dunston now that that young lady has passed, in the shape of salary? Is she entitled to an increase of salary at Dunston through having passed her examination?

The Clerk: There is no rule to that effect. The teachers seem to be under the impression that that is so. It only applies to pupil teachers. It's a question for the Board, as we have only a scale that applies to P.T.'s.

Mr. Fletcher said he did not know what the recommendations of the managers at Swalwell would have been had they had Miss Pugmyre's letter before them. They simply went on lines which they had adopted before, by recommending a trained teacher.

The Chairman: Are we bound to make this appointment to-night?

The Clerk: It should be made as soon as possible.

Mr. Dryburgh said the Inspector had been at Swalwell the pevious week, and he had taken special heed of the fact. He had explained to the Inspector that the appointment was under consideration.

Mr. Walls said he had known Miss Pugmyre for a number of years and could speak as to her determized efforts to qualify herself for the position.

After further discussion, Miss Pugmyre was appointed head-mistress at Swalwell infants' schools, on the motion of Mr. Walls. The salary to commence at £80, rising £5 per year to £90.

AN APPLICATION.

The Clerk read a communication from Miss E. M. Kerrigan, Swalwell Board Schools, which stated that having passed the certificate examination which now qualified her as certificated teacher, she respectfully asked for an increase of salary according to scale.

Mr. Fletcher said that had not a vacancy taken place at Dunston, he should have asked for that letter to have been referred to the Swalwell managers, together with any other proposed applications. That letter placed them in this position—this young lady had now passed her examination, and they had not a class for her to teach, and, so far as they had gone with the question of dealing with the staff at Swalwell, it had placed them in the position that they had one teacher more than they wanted. The fact of her having passed her examination placed her in that position. The feeling of the managers would be that Miss Kerrigan should be transferred and not dismissed.

The Chairman said if they had not a class for her to teach it would be wise to transfer her, and he thought that she might take Miss Pugmyre's place. Would anyone move that Miss Kerrigan be transferred to Dunston?

Mr. Swinburn thought it was not necessary to move a resolution as it was left with the managers.

The Chairman: Will you refer it to the managers?

The Clerk: To the Dunston managers?

Mr. Fletcher: I think it ought to go to the Dunston managers.

The Chairman: I think it is a case we could transfer.

Mr. Swinburn: She might prefer to stay where she is.

Mr. Walls and Mr. Swinburn thought the question was one for the Swalwell managers to decide, and not the Dunston managers.

Mr. Dryburgh: Is there an opening for her at Dunston?

Mr. Walls: There will be—there must be.

Mr. Swinburn moved, "That the matter be left in the hands of the Swalwell managers to see the teacher and to give her the offer of the appointment at Dunston."

Mr. Handyside said she would probably ask what salary would she receive should she go to Dunston.

The Clerk: £55, and rise the next year to £60.

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

THE LAMESLEY QUESTION.

The Clerk read a communication from the Education Department stating that Mr. Walter Fenton, market gardener, Sunniside, had been duly elected by the contributory district of Lamesley a member of that Board. The letter went on to say that as soon as that member had taken his seat on the Board, they would be glad to have the opinion of the Board as to the form in which contribution should be made towards meeting any deficiency in the school fund of the Board. They therefore inquired whether the contributory district was to contribute out of its rate a fixed sum in respect of each child of that district for whom the Board provided or maintained school accommodation; or, whether the payments to be made towards meeting the deficiency in the school fund were to be apportioned between the school-owning and contributory school districts in proportion to the number of children resident in each school district for whom the Board provided or maintained school accommodation. If there should be any difference of opinion between the member elected by the contributory district, and the rest of the Board, they requested to be informed as to the nature of that difference, and the grounds thereof.

The Clerk said there were only two questions. One was the fixed rate per child, or the balance whatever it might be.

Mr. Swinburn said he would like to ask through the Chairman if the Clerk could give, for the information of the Board, the actual cost to the Whickham ratepayers out of the rates for the provision and maintenance of the Marley Hill Schools, say for the last financial year ending September, 1899? He knew it would have been something like 12/- per head less had the claim been made two years ago. He believed that during the last two years they had received an aid grant which had not been previously received.

The Clerk replied that the cost was £155 17s 6d to Whickham, after crediting 11/6 per child for the aid grant received.

Mr. Handyside: How many children?

The Clerk: One hundred.

Mr. Walls: Do you think it will be legal to deduct the aid grant?

The Clerk: The Department will keep us right there.

Mr. Fenton asked the cost per head?

The Clerk: Old school, 22/4; new school, 35/10d.

The Clerk said the question for the Board to decide was whether they should deduct the actual balance, or so much per head?

Mr. Swinburn remarked that he took it the parish of Whickham was entitled to the actual cost. So far as he was personally concerned he did not care whether it was a rate per head so long as they recovered what it had cost the ratepayers of Whickham. He thought that anything less than that would be unfair to Whickham, and it would be unfair for Lamesley to offer anything less than what was due to Whickham. If he were to move a resolution he should move for a fixed rate per head, which would secure for Whickham parish what it was actually costing to educate the Lamesley children.

The Chairman: Do you move that the question be answered in that way?

Mr. Swinburn: I should like to have the opinion of the Board. He thought they should inform the Education Department that they preferred to have a fixed payment per head, or such a fixed payment per head as would secure to the ratepayers of Whickham the actual cost in regard to these 100 children for whom Lamesley had now become contributory.

Mr. Swinburn subsequently moved, "That the statement formerly prepared by the Clerk showing the actual cost for maintenance, etc., be forwarded to the Department."

The Chairman: That would meet it.

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

"THE REMARKABLE CASE."

MR. WALLS AND MR. McINTYRE.

The Clerk read the following letter from Mr. McIntyre:—"Board Schools, Dunston, 15th November, 1899.—Dear Sir.—Your letter of the 12th October last referred:—(1st) to Louis Gilchrist playing truant for a month unknown to his mother: (2nd) his name being struck off the register; (3rd) the use of printed slip in this case, so as to assist the officer in looking him up. 1. This lad, who is over 13 years of age, has missed 24 times before the August holidays. He attended after them half-days on the 28th and 29th August. That week he was sent for by messenger from his teacher, who received news he had left. No slip was sent. 2. The new quarter fell due, and his name was omitted from the new list. A few days later, in early September, I myself found the lad with a baby in a perambulator, and I then spoke to him, and asked if he intended coming back. He informed me he did not know. 3. September passed, and on the 2nd October the mother brought the boy, and was aware his name was omitted, but blamed me for neglecting him. I explained what had been done, and that the officer came two or three times weekly, and she must have known. 4. At our managers' meeting—two present—Mr. Walls casually spoke of Mrs. Gilchrist's complaint. He was informed the boy was playing truant, how I had spoken to the lad in the street with the baby carriage, and that the officer called two or three times a week. 5. Your letter came on the 12th, and the next day a newspaper report of "a remarkable case," in which it seems I was reported for neglecting to use a "printed slip." To this report of the matter I beg to say Mr. Walls might have made a proper inquiry from the boy's teacher, the class itself, the officer, with myself, and the parents and scholar concerned; but he took the "case" to the Board, where the whole report was circulated in the press, from his position where no one could offer a remark against his version of the case. In my view he has attempted to make a mountain out of a mole-heap. I send a return of my scholars' attendance for the past four months, and ask any gentleman who has the least interest or knowedge of schools to say whether I can be classed as a "delinquent schoolmaster." He further accuses me of wanting to be "master of the Board." Surely not a single member of all the Boards during the past 18 years can say honestly that I ever ventured beyond the bounds of my position. 7. But not very long ago I was accused anonymously before the Board, and circulated through the press, that I was taking pay for duties I did not perform. My answer was said to be satisfactory, yet no explanation of regret was offered. I cannot think these motions are given for any educational purposes, or to correct any faults in my duties. I am advised by many that election matters are to blame. 8. I do not wish to enter upon any contest with the Board, but to confine myself to my duties and maintain the schools in the best style of efficiency while under my charge. Yet when libellous accusations are circulated about me on groundless data, I may be forced to take action and ask my Union to assist me in clearing myself from objectionable accusations. 9. I regret our members darken our doors so seldom during the school hours, as that is the proper time to see our work and gain a correct idea of our school life amongst the children. 10. Time after time the side of the reprobate boys has been championed against the schoolmaster; and our village has some of the most vexatious young scamps that may be found anywhere who curse their parents, defy every authority, and insult persons with an audacity that is simply galling. I do not object in the slightest to the fullest enquiry into any part of my duties, but certainly I cannot be held to advertisement to meet the electioneering need of anyone." (Signed), C. MCINTYRE.

The Clerk intimated that he had received the following letter from the Attendance Officer:—"In reply to your letter respecting the boy Louis Gilchrist of Dunston, who was reported, at the last meeting of the School Board, to have been playing truant a month without the parents being apprised of it. The facts are:—The boy is not 11 years of age; he is 13. The boy was absent from school three weeks, and not a month as stated in the report—(Mr. Walls: Oh!)—and the first week of the three he was reported by the mother to be unwell, and unfit to attend school. At the beginning of the week I found the lad along with two others seeking coals at the side of the railway near to the Catholic Schools. On the following morning I called upon the mother and told her where I had seen the boy the previous day. On the second occasion that I called upon the mother she informed me that she had sent the boy to the Church School. I found on visiting the school that he was not there. I immediately wrote a note to the mother informing her of his absence. On my next visit to Dunston the mother informed me that she had sent him to the Gateshead Victoria School, which he has since attended. It is incorrect to say that the mother was unaware of the boy playing truant until after the managers' meeting at Dunston, and the Board meeting at Whickham, as on the morning after the managers' meeting I informed Mr. McIntyre that the boy had been sent to the Church School on the Monday preceding, which was previous to both meetings. This the master can verify." (Signed), WILLIAM BOURN.

The Clerk said he had also received a communication from Mr. Brunswick, of Dunston, enclosing copy of a letter written by Mr. McIntyre. Mr. Brunswick's letter was as follows:—"Dear Sir,—I beg to enclose copy of letter I have received from the Dunston schoolmaster, which I shall be glad if you will bring before your Board at its first meeting, as I consider that Mr. McIntyre has overstepped his duty in sending such a letter to me and I think I am entitled to some redress for his very insulting remarks. I should say you are the proper channel from whom I should receive any complaint and not Mr. McIntyre. I have had the boy he refers to for week-ends for over 18 months, and this is the first occasion I have kept him off, and it is owing to my lad being off that I did so. I hope the Board will not fail to teach Mr. McIntyre his duty, and try, if possible, to make him remember he is only a public servant, although a schoolmaster." (Signed), ARTHUR T. BRUNSWICK.

The letter enclosed was as follows:—"Mr. Brunswick,—Sir— I am told you are keeping a boy—Cowen—from school. This is very illegal, and as it is the way several business people here do with children who are not exempt from school. I will put the matter before the School Board, so as to stop if possible this unprincipled act of shopkeepers here. I cannot disguise my feelings in this matter, as it is only greed that prompts people to employ people to employ children to do the duties of the properly qualified work-people. Our schools suffer loss of grant; the scholar gets broken away from his lessons, learns objectionable ways, and very often drifts into most unsatisfactory work as a labourer. As a business man you are perfectly able to provide proper assistance, and carry on your work without trespassing upon ours." (Signed), C. MCINTYRE.

Mr. Handyside: He has got his back up, surely. (Laughter.)

Mr. Walls asked the Clerk to read over again that portion of Mr. McIntyre's former letter regarding some electioneering purposes, which was complied with.

Mr. Walls said he happened to mention the matter as regards the lad's non-attendance, over the table at the last meeting, and the report got into the papers. He was interviewed by the Board's Attendance Officer and charged with having charged him with neglecting his duties. The school master evidently took up the same theme in the press—that he had charged him with neglecting his duty. Now he submitted to the Board that he charged nobody definitely with any neglect of duty; but that there had been neglect had been proved that evening beyond all doubt. First of all, Mr. McIntyre admitted that the "slip" was not used. Those slips were what the teacher sent with any of the scholars to the parents to inquire the reason of absence. Now, evidently that slip had not been sent. Now, in order to put himself into a right position that evening and he was now speaking of a woman for whom he had profound respect, the same as he had for the schoolmaster notwithstanding all that had happened, and also the Attendance Officer. A report like this came to him: that the lad was off school one month, and his mother had not been aware of the fact until a difference took place between this lad and another lad in the back street, and as a retaliation the other youth went into the lad's house and told his mother that her son was playing truant. As soon as ever she got to know that, she gave the lad a good thrashing and took him down to the school, and was quickly informed that he had been taken off the register. He did not know what Mr. McIntyre conceived by "stepping beyond his bounds." Surely, it must be "stepping beyond his bounds" to take a lad off the register, to say nothing about informing the mother, or the managers, and without stating the reason why the lad was taken off the register. Now he thought that probably the woman might have made a mistake, so he had seen the woman, and said to her, "Look you here, you have put me into an absolute fix; you never told me that you had sent your boy to the Church school; you never told me that the officer did come to see you, and that when the officer went your boy was not at the Church School, and he sent you a letter to that effect. You never told me that you had sent your boy to the Victoria School, and here I am in this awkward position." The woman said, "Mr. Walls, didn't you know that the whole of that happened after I took my boy down and was informed that his name was taken off the register?" He replied that he was not aware of this, but he wanted to know, and she told him that the statement was correct. He said to the woman, "Are you sure the Board's officer did not come to you prior to that," and she replied, "I am sure that the Board officer didn't come to me; I went to him," and the woman added that if he desired she would attend at the managers' meeting. He now felt that the little bit of reputation he had at stake, as well as the claims of the Board, and its officer, had become a question as to which of the three statements were correct. He submitted that the Board officer had admitted that the lad had been off school for three weeks. Where was his (the officer's) report to the managers of the Dunston school? Where was the law that could be brought into operation for such cases? What had he done to inform the Board of the fact that this lad was off? As a matter of fact either Mr. McIntyre's memory was at fault or his own, or he would have known this: that when he asked Mr. McIntyre if he had had any trouble with this boy prior to this case he said, "No, nothing beyond that he was a dull boy"—he could not help that; he was born that way. (Laughter.) Now, all Mr McIntyre had said to him was—he did not even admit he had sent the slip—that he had seen the lad wheeling a perambulator. Well now from the fact that this lad was the only child at home only went to prove that he was not wheeling the perambulator for his mother and if he had been kept off school for any such purpose, he had been kept off by some other authority. Now with regard to the "electioneering business," that was to his mind the sorest point. He did not wish Mr. McIntyre to move a finger on his behalf, so far as elections were concerned—he would do that himself, and in his own way, but he thought it was beneath the dignity of Mr. McIntyre's office and certainly it was a deliberate attempt to set the Board at defiance. The Board did nothing more than mention the case, and they only asked for a report upon the business. If he had been in Mr. McIntyre's position he would have felt it his duty to report upon the case, and to report to the Board, and not to the "Consett Guardian," but to the Board, under whom, however despicable they might be, he was employed. Mr. McIntyre had not done that, yet he said he never stepped beyond his bounds. On the face of this they had a letter explaining the thing under certain conditions by Mr. McIntyre, and he would play second to nobody in saying that Mr. McIntyre was in his opinion, one of the best schoolmasters they could hope to have, but it was possible with the best claims to fail to give that respect which was due, and he submitted that Mr. McIntyre had failed to do that in the case under notice. He had failed to do it in the letter he had sent to Mr. Brunswick; it was a matter he had nothing to do with—(hear, hear.)—a matter entirely out of his hands. It was a matter which he ought to have reported to the attendance officer in the first instance, and then the attendance officer ought to have taken the matter up and brought the man to justice upon the case if it was necessary, but in his opinion it was a trivial case. If he could imagine a more trivial case than the one which that letter referred to, and calling for such insult and abuse upon a respectable business man who had a right to live, and a right to live as much as Mr. McIntyre. He did not know what the Board's opinion was; but his opinion was that this case should be settled once and for all. He was perfectly free to say that he was willing that the matter should be settled in the presence of the persons connected with the case—that was, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Bourn, himself, and the woman who, in the first instance, gave the report. He had taken the trouble that evening to call at the lad's house, and Mr. Gilchrist had informed him that the lad had been off school for one month. The first week the lad was off through diarrhœa, which had nothing to do with the case. Mr. Gilchrist had informed him to the effect that he was off three weeks playing truant and he was taken off the register. He was prepared to say that wherever the neglect came in it had appeared in the very case as it now stood seeing that the lad had been off for three weeks and they had no report.

Mr. Swinburn said he believed he was the member who moved for a report to be given by their two responsible officials, in connection with the matter, and he would therefore like to make one or two remarks. First of all he certainly did object as one member of the Board to a servant of the Board going to the newspaper and giving his version of any matter which was at that time under the consideration of the Board. (Hear, hear.) He thought that the Board should condemn a step of that kind. He was sorry that his friend Mr. Walls should have gone to the press like the master. He would rather that Mr. Walls had waited until that evening and gone thoroughly into the matter; however, there were certainly reasons why he should go at the time. Mr. Walls would naturally feel very much the letter which was written. What were the facts of the case so far as the Board was concerned? He was not going to deal with the matter as between the school master and Mr. Walls. They received a report from a colleague of theirs, which if true was a very serious reflection not only upon the servant, but upon the Board itself—(hear, hear)—who were responsible for that servant. The Board received a report that pointed to looseness in their system at Dunston and the Board simply asked for a report from their two responsible officials. He had read the letter which had appeared in the "Consett Guardian," and really there were two words, "delinquent schoolmaster," that came with bad grace indeed, because so far as that Board was concerned, there never was a charge made against any official at all. (Hear, hear.) He did object to this sort of thing being introduced into the public press. No charges were made against any official; it was only stated that their process had not been properly carried out.

The Chairman: Just so.

Mr. Swinburn (continuing) said no servant ought to have taken the step which Mr. McIntyre had in going to the press, as he had done in this case. He felt now when they had these cross-statements—should he call them?—that it really was necessary that the Board should take the matter up. It was for the dignity of the Board to know something more about the case. He did not know the feelings of his colleagues. He thought the course which had been taken was one that the Board should not be slow to condemn as a public body.

Mr. Dryburgh said he quite agreed with the course proposed generally. The statements which had been made from the three different quarters did not at all harmonise. It was impossible for the Board to come to any conclusion upon the subject without having those who made the statements before them, so that the Board could verify for themselves the facts of the case. The matter could not be left as it was, and it could not be settled without having the parties before them. Whether the matter should be settled there or at Dunston might be a matter for consideration. It might probably be better to have the meeting there rather than at Dunston, simply because of the fact that it might have pointed public feeling in Dunston, and if it was known that there was to be an investigation into certain matters it might raise a considerable amount of curiosity. So far as he could see he thought the Board-room would be the best place of the two in which to hold the inquiry.

Mr. Fletcher: I shall move a resolution, "That a special meeting of the Board be held here, and Mr. McIntyre and Bourn be summonsed to the meeting, and Mrs. Gilchrist be requested to come also, with a view of settling this question, if possible, satisfactory to all parties concerned, and that the truth of the matter be got at by the Board." Really he was in a position to only say that he had never seen the letters in the paper.

Mr. Dryburgh: Ditto.

Mr. Fletcher (continuing) said he did not know what those letters contained, but they had a letter that evening from Mr. McIntyre which was altogether very unsatisfactory indeed, and one he was sure that everyone of them did not expect would have come from their schoolmaster at Dunston. It appeared to him on the surface of what had been said that there was a desire on the part of the Dunston schoolmaster to "boss the Board"—he hoped that that was not the case and he even hoped that the Board would not adopt the principle of "bossing the schools," but that they would work harmoniously together, and pull together with the object of benefitting the education of the district. (Hear, hear.) By adopting his resolution he thought they would get at the truth of the matter. He felt confident that there was not a colleague of his sitting around the table that would hesitate one moment in bringing any question before the Board which they considered was not right, and in the interests of the work they had to perform—(hear hear)—let it affect master or mistress, school or schools.

Mr. Fenton seconded the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to, and it was decided to hold the enquiry on Friday, November 24th in the Board offices.

Mr. Walls asked what reply the Board would send to Mr. Brunswick?

The Clerk: Yes, we must reply.

Mr. Walls: There ought to be a resolution. I would have moved one if I had not been so directly concerned in this case. In a case like that when a boy does absent himself from the schools, in the first instance the officer gets his report, or takes his report from the register.

The Clerk: Yes.

Mr. Walls: And he deals with the case.

The Clerk: The master reports that the boy is absent from school to the officer, then it is out of the hands of the master after that.

Mr. Walls assumed that Mr. McIntyre had over-stepped his bounds in sending the letter to Mr. Brunswick.

The Clerk: Oh yes.

Mr. Walls: To say nothing of the spirit in which the letter is written.

The Clerk: He has not to prosecute; it is the Board to prosecute.

The Chairman asked if anyone would move a resolution?

Mr. Fletcher subsequently moved the following resolution:—"That the Board strongly disapproves of the action of Mr. McIntyre in writing the letter to Mr. Brunswick, which has been submitted to the Board to-night and suggested that Mr. McIntyre should withdraw that letter and apologise to Mr. Brunswick, and that any complaints he might have as regards the non-attendance of scholars, in future should be made through the proper channel."

Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which was carried.

It was decided that a copy of this resolution should be sent to Mr. Brunswick.

The meeting soon afterwards terminated, having lasted three hours.

MARRIAGE AT BLACKHILL

On Monday last, a pretty wedding took place at the Blackhill Baptist Church, the contracting parties being Miss Elizabeth Lillian (Lillie) Heslington, and Mr. James Patterson, both of Blackhill. The bride was handsomely dressed in white, trimmed with silk and lace. She wore a black velvet picture hat trimmed with white tips and chrysanthenum, and carried a beautiful shower bouquet. She was attended by four bridesmaids, the two chief ones being Miss Mildred H. Jones (sister of the bride), and Miss Fanny Patterson (sister of the bridegroom.) Miss Mildred Jones was attired in a dress of pink lustre, trimmed with white silk and hat to match, whilst Miss F. Patterson wore a dress of electric blue, trimmed with white chiffon, and hat to match. The other bridesmaids were Miss Alice Mary and Miss Tilly Jones (sisters of the bride), who were attired in cream with white velvet hats. Mr John Heslington (brother of the bride) was "best man," whilst Mr Thomas Patterson (brother of the bridegroom) acted in the capacity of groomsman. The officiating minister was the Rev. R. W. Jenkins, pastor of the above church. After the ceremony a large company of friends partook of the wedding breakfast at the house of the parents of the bride, Mr and Mrs Jones, Queen Street, Blackhill, several congratulatory remarks being received by the newly-married pair. Hearty congratulations were expressed by several speakers for their future welfare and happiness. Another large company were entertained again in the evening, amid similar expressions of good wishes, the festivities being carried on until an early hour in the morning. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson were the recipients of numerous and valuable presents.

FOOTBALL

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

ANNFIELD PLAIN RESERVE v. HAMSTERLEY.

The above teams played a draw of fibe goals each in a Derwent Valley League fixture.

ALLENDALE PUTTERS v. DIPTON UNITED.

This game terminated in a win for the former by four goals to three.

DIPTON UNITED RESERVE v. DIPTON ALBIONS.

This game was played on the Dipton ground, and resulted in a win for the homesters by four goals to one. The following did duty for Dipton—Goal, T. Willie; backs, Trodden and Anderson; half-backs, Chipchase, Cook, and Carr; forwards W. Carr, Robson, Layton, T. Storey, and Wears.

BRADLEY WHITE STARS v. BLACKHILL ALBIONS.

Played at Blackhill. The Albions won the toss, and selected to play with the wind. Bradley kicked off with a strong wind in their faces, and rushed up, but Jacks relieved. The Albions rushed down and forced a corner, but it was of no use. After the goal kick was taken the Stars rushed down, but Richardson cleared. The Albions again took up the attack, and Porteous scored with a fast shot. Nothing more ensued until half-time arrived with the score—

Blackhill Albions	One goal
Bradley White Stars	Nil

Oliver set the ball in motion for the Albions. The Stars rushed down, but Richardson cleared brilliantly. Oliver put in a grand shot which was disposed of by Nevin. After some smart play by the Albions, G. Oliver put in a good shot which beat Nevin. Play ensued in neutral territory until the whistle sounded for the final, the score being—

Blackhill Albions	Two goals
Bradley White Stars	Nil

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ANNUAL CONCERT in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on MONDAY EVENING, 27th Nov., 1899. MR. DUNCANSON'S CONCERT PARTY. Comprising the best Talent in the North of England. Splendid programme. Admission: Reserved Seats (numbered), 2s; Second Seats, 1s. Plan of Hall at J. W. FORSTER'S Ironmonger. 840f

BYELAWS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Urban District Council for the Urban District of TOW LAW, in the County of Durham, intend to apply to the Local Government Board, after the expiration of one calendar month from the date of the first publication of this notice, for confirmation of certain Byelaws as to Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, Nuisances, Common Lodging-houses, New Streets and Buildings, Slaughter-houses, and Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

The said Byelaws will be deposited at the Urban District Council Office, situate in High Street, Tow Law, the Office of the District Council, for one calendar month after the publication of this notice, and before application for confirmation is made as aforesaid, and will be open during office hours thereat to the inspection of the ratepayers of the district to which such Byelaws relate, without fee or reward.

I, the undersigned, will, on the application of any such ratepayer, furnish him with a copy of such proposed Byelaws, or any part thereof, on payment of sixpence for every hundred words contained in such copy.

EDW. MILBURN.

843f Clerk to the District Council.

Sales by Auction

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20th, 1899.

The usual and last of the Weekly SALES under the present Proprietorship, of Fat Cattle, Fat Sheep and Lambs, Calves, Diary Cows and Heifers, Store Cattle, Horses, Harness, &c., a large Grindstone, Turnip Slicer, Frame and Water Box, Counter 5 feet with Drawers, 10 Bags Carrots, 1 dozen New Gripes, 2 dozen New Shovels, 4 Ladders, 2 Desks, Poultry, and other miscellaneous lots which must be cleared out, the New Mart Co. taking the Premises over the next Monday.

After the Sale of the above the following lots of FURNITURE will be SOLD, Kitchen Press, Drawers, Sofa, Chairs, Cupboard, Desk-bed, Tables, and sundries.

Sale at One o'clock with Sheep.

875f J. S. MURRAY.

FOR SALE, in Consett and District, several HOUSES of Two, Three, and Four Rooms, one in St. Cuthbert's Avenue of Six Rooms.— J. S. MURRAY. 876f

JOHN SWINBURNE MURRAY,

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT, ROYAL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE, BENFIELDSIDE.

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

By Mr John Crawford

Short Notice. Short Notice. 14, Park View, Burnopfield.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, is instructed to SELL BY AUCTION, on Monday, Nov. 20th, at One o'clock, the whole of the Valuable Household FURNITURE, belonging to Mr. George Weedy, who is declining Housekeeping. Full particulars see posters 872f

FIRE-PROOF SAFES FOR SALE, cheap, 28 inches by 22 inches, 28 inches by 20 inches. — JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Victoria Street, Consett. 871f

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

By Mr. Joseph Vickers.

Frosterley Vicarage.

Highly Important Sale of Furniture, &c.

MR. JOSEPH VICKERS favoured with instructions from the Rev. F. C. Jagg, who is leaving the above Benefice, for the South of England, will SELL BY AUCTION on Wednesday, November 29th, 1899, a large quantity of Valuable MAHOGANY, WALNUT, and other FURNITURE, Grand Piano, in Black and Gold, by "Hoelling and Spangenberg"; Oil Paintings; Steel Engravings; Brussels and other Carpets; Brass and Iron Bedsteads; Feather Beds, Spring and Wool Mattresses; Electro Plate Goods; Library of about 450 Volumes, including some choice works; Kitchen Utensils; Garden Tools; and a host of sundries. Full particulars in Posters.

Sale to commence at 11-30 a.m.

Mart Offices: Tow Law. 869f

By Mr A. Phillipson

Superior Dwelling-House Property For Sale.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON is instructed to offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the House of Mr. Jos. Lumley, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain, on Wednesday, 29th November, 1899, at 7 o'clock p.m., the following Lots of Freehold Cottage Property, subject to such conditions as will then be read.

Lot 1.—Four Freehold DWELLING-HOUSES, Stone Built, 3 Rooms each, with Scullery, Pantry, Yard, and all Conveniences, being situate in Jubilee Terrace, No's. 3, 4, 5, and 6, near Annfield Plain. Those Houses will be ready for occupation at time of Sale, and will be offered separately to suit buyers if considered desirable.

Lot 2.—Excellent Freehold DWELLING-HOUSE, Stone Built, of 5 Rooms, Wash-house, Pantry, Yard, and other appointments, being No. 21, Jubilee Terrace, near Annfield Plain, and occupied by Mr. Robt. Watt, who will show the property to intending purchasers.

Lot 3.—Superior Freehold DWELLING-HOUSE, Stone Built, of 4 good sized Rooms, with Pantry, capital Yard, and all conveniences, situate in Providence Terrace, Annfield Plain. The Tenant will show the Property.

This is a rare opportunity for a sound investment, as the Houses are of exceptional merit and value in regard to workmanship and situation.

For further particulars apply to Mr Jos. Dunn, Contractor, Hare Law as to Lot 1; and Mr. Robt. Watt on the premises as to Lot 2; and Mr. J. Lumley, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain as to Lot 3, or to the Auctioneer in regard to the whole. 879f

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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

By Mr John T. Weston, Junr

Short Notice.

MR. JOHN T. WESTON, Jun., is instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. W. Laws, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday first, Nov. 20th, 1899, at Clough Dene, near Tantobie, Valuable FURNITURE and HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS, at Two o'clock p.m.

N.B.—It is well worthy the attention of intending buyers. Goods can be included in this Sale.

Also, splendid Double-Barrelled Breech loading Gun, by Marrison, Oxford, Norwich.

Sale Office: Cornwall House, Annfield Plain 863f

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,

AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.

SALE OFFICE—

CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

MR. JACKSON GREEN

AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.

Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.

All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.

SALE OFFICE—

SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 307a

T. D. DRYDEN,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, 55, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

NATHAN ELSDON.

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

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

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

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.

Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

Public Notices.
...EY BRIDGE CRICKET CLUB.
...L CONCERT in the Temperance... Shotley Bridge, on MONDAY EVENING, ... 1899. MR. DUNCANSON'S CON... ...RTY. Comprising the best Talent in ... of England. Splendid programme. ...: Reserved Seats (numbered), 2s; ... 1s. Plan of Hall at J. W. FORSTER'S ... 840f

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...undersigned, will, on the application ...h ratepayer, furnish him with a copy ...posed Byelaws, or any part thereof, ...payment of sixpence for every hundred ...ntained in such copy.
EDW. MILBURN.
Clerk to the District Council.

Sales by Auction
By Mr John S. Murray.
...L AUCTION MART, BENFIELD-SIDE.
...NDAY, NOVEMBER 20th, 1899. ... and last of the Weekly SALES ... present Proprietorship, of Fat ... Sheep and Lambs, Calves, Diary ... Heifers, Store Cattle, Horses, ...a large Grindstone, Turnip Slicer, ... and Water Box, Counter 5 feet with ... 10 Bags Carrots, 1 dozen New Gripes, ... New Shovels, 4 Ladders, 2 Desks, ...and other miscellaneous lots which ...cleared out, the New Mart Co. taking ...over the next Monday.
...Sale of the above the following lots ...NITURE will be SOLD, Kitchen Press, ... Sofa, Chairs, Cupboard, Desk-bed, ...and sundries.
...Sale at One o'clock with Sheep.
J. S. MURRAY.
...SALE, in Consett and District, several ...USES of Two, Three, and Four Rooms, ...t. Cuthbert's Avenue of Six Rooms.— ...URRAY. 876f

...HN SWINBURNE MURRAY, THE ...ULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT, ...AL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE, BENFIELDSIDE.
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JOHN T. WESTON, JUN., ...UCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT. SALE OFFICE— ...ORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O. ...ales conducted with care, efficiency, and on ...most reasonable terms. Correspondence ...ud inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

MR. JACKSON GREEN ...UCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT. ...gricultural and Probate Valuations care-...fully made. ...All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable ...ms. ...ATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

T. D. DRYDEN, AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, 56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

NATHAN ELSDON. AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, ...FFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT. ...ELSDON wishes his friends and customers ...know that he has the LARGEST AND ...EST SALE ROOMS in the district and that ... is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and ...classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and ...on Commission according to arrange-... ...All Classes of Furniture or Property pur-... ...ased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction.

WILLIAM ROBINSON, AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT, NEW PINES, MEDOMSLEY.

Public Notices.

TOW LAW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE by the Urban District Council of the above-named Urban District for the year ended the 31st day of March, 1899.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
From General District Rates ..	547	18	6½	Sewerage Works	46	18	5
" Gas Rents	491	15	8	Sewage Disposal Works	10	0	0
" Sales of Residual Products..	33	16	10	Street Works and Improvements..	31	11	2
" Rent of Purifying House ..	2	10	0	Scavenging by Contract	6	13	4
" *The County Council—*				Repairs to Highways: Main Roads	267	6	0
In respect of Salary of Medical Officer of Health	10	0	0	" " Other Roads	48	9	11
In respect of Salary of Inspector	20	0	0	Other Payments in respect of Roads			
In respect of Main Roads under Sec. 11 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1888	160	12	0	Scavenging..	0	11	8
" Private Works	9	13	2	Street Watering	37	3	5
" Water Co.: Repairs to Roads	0	3	6	Gas Revenue	390	8	9
" Richardson: For Water ..	0	4	0	Public Lighting	173	11	10
" Cemetery: Fees, &c ..	50	17	6	Cemetery	36	12	7
" Rent of Office, &c. ..	2	2	8	Election Expenses	12	13	0
				Salaries	128	7	5
				Establishment Charges	54	9	6
				In respect of Loan:—			
				Principal re-paid	122	19	4
				Interest	77	0	3
Total Receipts ..	1329	13	8½	Total Expenditure ..	1474	16	7
Balances in hand at commencement of the year	274	3	2½	Balances in hand at end of year ..	129	0	4½
	£1603	16	11½		£1603	16	11½

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

I HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I have ascertained by Audit the correctness of such Statement, and that the Expenditure of the Urban District Council during the year ended the 31st day of March, 1899, included in such Statement and allowed by me at the Audit is One thousand four hundred and seventy-four pounds sixteen shillings and sevenpence.

As WITNESS my hand this 9th day of November, 1899.

844f (Signed), H. WARD OLIVER, District Auditor.

Business Announcement.

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

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

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, November 17th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

WE ARE PLEASED TO SEE that a move has at length been made in Consett with a view to falling in line with those who have in almost every part of the country started a fund for the benefit of the wives and families of the reservists, and also of the widows and orphans of those soldiers who have already, and will continue to sacrifice their lives in the interests of the empire. Certainly the meeting held last Thursday evening was not very well attended; but we ascribe this almost entirely to the fact that it was not generally known that such a gathering was going to take place. There were doubtless numbers of people who would have been pleased to be present had they been aware that a meeting of the kind had been called. We do not wish to blame the promoters for this—they doubtless did their best in the limited time at their command—but we merely mention it in order to dispose of any charge of lukewarmness that might be urged against the people of this locality consequent upon the meagre attendance. We firmly believe North-West Durham to be as loyal as any other portion of Her Most Gracious Majesty's dominions.

WHEN THOSE PRESENT had got to business they found themselves in a rather awkward position. Mr. J. M. Aynsley—who attended the meeting owing to the unavoidable absence of his father, Coun. W. Aynsley, J.P.—explained that the Lord Lieutenant of the county (Lord Durham) was inaugurating a fund for the county of Durham alone, and that invitations would probably be issued to the chairmen of the various District and Parish Councils, asking them to call meetings and to appoint committees, with a view to collecting subscriptions, to be forwarded to the central fund at Durham. Under these circumstances the meeting thought it would be somewhat premature to take any decided steps that evening, as, supposing they elected a committee, this would clash with one that would be appointed at the meeting to be called by the chairmen of the District and Parish Councils. Therefore those present deemed it advisable to adjourn the meeting for a week, in order to see what transpired in the meantime. Whilst agreeing with the decision come to we trust that there will be as little delay as possible in bringing matters to a head. We quite agree with Mr. J. E. Parker, "that they should strike while the iron was hot." It is an urgent question, and something definite should be decided upon at once. In saying this we are not giving expression merely to our own opinion, but are voicing the sentiments of the large bulk of the people in the district.

ONE OFTEN HEARS people asking, "Who and what are the Boers?" The following explanation from the pen of a local gentleman well versed in the question, should therefore prove interesting:—"The name Boers is the appelation commonly applied to the Dutch colonists and their descendants in South Africa. The word "boer" is Dutch for a farmer, a husbandman, a peasant, or a rustic, and is akin to the German "bauer," a countryman, and our own English word "boor," which has the same meaning. As the most of the earliest colonists of the Cape of Good Hope were Dutch farmers and husbandmen, their name for such occupations eventually became applicable to all settlers, and gradually grew in use until it became the general name for every colonist, whether farmer or not. Whatever they might have been before they left the Homeland, on settling in South Africa they developed a character of their own. Their ideas of things were changed, and they adapted beliefs and habits peculiar to themselves. They became people whose primitive characteristics are a love of solitude coupled with a fervent religious belief that all the black races were expressly created by God as slaves for the white races and that the South African Kaffirs were made to provide their farms with labour and other economic comforts. Their treatment of the natives in the past is inhuman and atrocious in the last degree. Even their brutality to women, and the native women especially, is a byword throughout the South of Africa. Judged by the standard of the nineteenth century Christianity, the Boers are but a half-civilized, semi-savage people. They are very distrustful of foreigners, and especially of the British. It was because they were not allowed the luxury to them, of slave keeping, that they left the Cape, and settled down in a less crowded part of South Africa, where raiding the natives, and seizing their lands was their greatest work. It is said that the Boer farmer as soon as he can see the smoke of a neighbour's chimney across the veldt, or plain, considers it is time to make tracks and appropriate another slice of native territory. This kind of work has, however, greatly been put a stop to by the British suzerain, which has for some years guaranteed the natives against these successive intrusions."

FOR SOME TIME it has been announced that the Leadgate District Council intended to make an effort to increase their present area in consequence of the new sewerage disposal works they are about to construct. Unlike most rumours, there appears to be some truth in this one, as at the last meeting of the Leadgate Council the Sewage Committee reported that they had selected a site about 100 yards distant from the present works. Before finally deciding upon the scheme, however the committee recommended the Council to consider the advisability of approaching the County Council with a view to having the present area increased in the following way, viz:—By the addition of the portion of Medomsley Parish from the Council's boundary at Carr House on to Number One, then to the depots near the Hat and Feather Inn, and joining the boundary at Pont Lane. In the event of the application being granted it would be necessary to provide a sewer for the Bunker Hill Estate and Bradley Cottages, and the committee recommended in that case, that the new works be constructed on the north-east side of the road leading from Bradley Cottages to Redwell Hills. They considered the question of having a joint scheme with the Lanchester District Council was worth consideration if the Council's application for the increased area was not granted. It will thus be seen that the Leadgate Council propose to take a considerable slice off the Medomsley people; but they will probably not be allowed to do this without meeting with very great opposition.

WE ARE OFTTIMES INCLINED to grumble at our railway service; but compared with many another place, we are really well off. Take, for instance, the Wear Valley and Stanhope lines and the Auckland and Durham lines. We are told that for some time past there has been a great deal of grumbling amongst travellers and others whose business takes them along these lines. They say—and we think with reason—that the vast population between Bishop Auckland and Wearhead, and the former place and Tow Law, are entitled to a later train service and that in conjunction with it there should be a corresponding later train from Bishop Auckland to Durham and Newcastle. Seeing that the last train leaves Wearhead at 6.3 p.m. for Bishop Auckland, and the last train from Auckland to Durham at 7.35 p.m., there certainly seems to be some ground for the complaint. It would also appear to be a matter in which Bishop Auckland tradesmen might move to advantage, as the securing of concessions such as those alluded to would undoubtedly be to their advantage. While they are about it they might also advocate the running of a later train at nights from Bishop Auckland to Blackhill, via Tow Law.

EVERYBODY SEEMS ANXIOUS to write in praise of the aged miners' home scheme started in this county, and which has so far proved successful beyond the most sanguine expectations of its promoters. We may take it for granted that other counties will follow in the wake of Durham. Mr. T. Burt, in his report to the Northumberland Miners' Association, refers to the scheme in the following laudatory terms:—"The Durham miners are to be heartily congratulated on the steps they are taking to provide houses for their aged workmen. Already about 200 houses have been obtained at a cost of about £1,400. From the honorary treasurer's report there seems to be about £1,200 still in hand. Generous help has come in from many quarters, but out of a total of £2,700 all excepting some £300 has been subscribed by the miners themselves. This is certainly a long step in the right direction. Even if the long promised Old Age Pension scheme ever comes into practical operation, there will still be room for voluntary effort on the lines so auspiciously begun at Haswell and Shotton Collieries. It is objected that it would be much better for the aged to be housed near their relatives, rather than for them to be secluded in colonies by themselves. Ideally, that is perhaps true. But at collieries in full working order house accommodation is often unprocurable on any terms even for the working staff. For others than the workers they cannot be obtained. Trouble and adversity at some of the Durham collieries have facilitated the acquisition of houses for the aged which could hardly have been secured under conditions of prosperity. I gladly observe that the example set in Durham is attracting attention in our county, and I trust it may be possible for us to do something practical in the same direction." It only needs for the same enthusiasm to be thrown into it as has been done in our own county to bring this about.

WEDNESDAY NEXT WILL BE a "red-letter day" in Annfield Plain, on the occasion of the opening of the grand Indian Palace Bazaar in connection with the new Wesleyan Church and suite of rooms. The bazaar, we are told, will be on a scale that will in many respects surpass anything attempted in Annfield Plain before. It will be decorated to represent an Indian Palace by Mr. G. M. Bridges, of King's Lynn who for many years past has made the requirements of bazaar decorating and fittings his speciality. The bazaar will remain open for four days. The committee have been exceedingly fortunate in obtaining the promise of the popular member for the division, Mr. L. A. Atherley-Jones, to perform the opening ceremony on the first day, and this fact in itself is sure to attract a number of people. Mr. James D. Williamson, A.M.E. of Amble, will perform a similar duty on the following day, whilst on the Friday and Saturday Mrs. W. H. Ritson, of Lanchester, and Mr. Ed. Brough, of Newcastle, have respectively kindly consented to open the bazaar. There will be many attractive entertainments and side shows, and visitors to the bazaar will find plenty to interest and amuse them. About £2,000 is required in addition to what has already been promised, and we sincerely trust that the result of this undertaking will be to considerably reduce this sum. Our Wesleyan friends at Annfield Plain deserve every encouragement. We might mention that cheap railway tickets will be issued to Annfield Plain from all stations within 60 miles on production of bazaar ticket only.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

BY "ROSICRUCIAN."

THE LATE MR. HENDERSON.

Throughout the Stanley and Chester-le-Street districts a feeling of deep regret was made of the death of Mr. Henry Elsdon Henderson, of Pelton Cottage. Not many were aware of his illness, for only a fortnight previously he presided over a meeting of the Chester-le-Street Highway Committee in the new Board Room, and by the way, he was the first to officially occupy the chair in the new place. On the same day he attended the Guardians' meeting, yet, a fortnight later, when the Rural Council met, he was lying on his death-bed. As manager of Lord Dunsaney and Partners' Pelton Colliery over a long period of years, he was probably the most popular man in that district. He not only won the confidence of his employers but he was exceedingly well-liked by the men, with whom he was always honestly frank, and on many occasions most generous. His loss is by no means a light one to the district.

THE RESERVISTS' FUND.

So far there has no definite action been taken in Stanley towards raising subscriptions towards the Reservists' Fund, but matters are now taking shape, and we may shortly expect the example of other districts being emulated. It is only right that this should be so, for Stanley and the neighbouring villages have contributed their quota to the men called out to South Africa. These men have given up comfortable homes, good work, and good wages to endure hardships and to face death in a far-away country. Those dependent upon them are reduced to a mere pittance, and it would be contrary to British nature not to come forward and as far as possible fill up the financial breach. It is not a question of charity, or even of generosity; it is a question of right. The men have gone out to fight for our interests, and a "quid pro quo" is due to their dependents.

A GOOD IDEA.

The ladies attending the Wesleyan Church at West Stanley have reason to be proud of the provision made for them by the officials of the Church. Their own particular parlour was formally opened on Wednesday by Mrs. Teasdale, who is, happily now far removed from the turmoil and strife of diplomacy's false child, and far away from the noise created by the "dogs of war." A relative of Mr. J. T. Calvert (by marriage I believe) of East Stanley, she has by his influence been drawn to the far north of England after a sojourn in South Africa. Mr. Calvert has no reason to regret the visit of his near friend, and neither have the Wesleyans of West Stanley.

DERWENT VALLEY NOTES.

[BY "ROWLEY."]

A LITTLE TOO PREMATURE.

Many, if not all of us, have had inculcated to us the truth of that old saw about "the early bird catching the worm," but the passenger who wishes to be an "early bird," and chances to alight upon the platform before the train is stationary, is apt to find himself arraigned before a Bench of Justices, on a charge of having alighted from a train whilst the same was in motion. A couple of young men belonging to Tow Law had preference to put in an appearance before a local Bench of Magistrates the other day, to answer a charge of having alighted from a train whilst the same was in motion. Although the fine imposed was an infinitesimal one, it should serve as a warning to those persons who endanger their lives by foolishly alighting upon the platform whilst the train is in motion. Notwithstanding the fact that an alarming number of people yearly pay the penalty by a limb, and sometimes their lives, still we find this offence carried on to an almost alarming extent. No pathologist is needed to cure this disease; the remedy is in the hands of the railway officials, who would do well to follow the example set forth by the Tow Law railway officials.

PROPOSED NEW CHURCH SCHOOLS FOR WINLATON

The ratepayers of Winlaton have at last been called upon to face the question of providing new Church Schools for that village. For the purpose of considering the desirability of erecting new schools, in place of the present dilapidated ones, a ratepayers' meeting was held on Wednesday evening week, when the following resolution was passed nem. con.:—"That this meeting of ratepayers, come together to consider the desirability of giving pecuniary support to the proposed scheme for erecting new Church Schools in place of the existing dilapidated school buildings, suggest that in face of the already over-heavily rated state of the township of Winlaton, each of their fellow ratepayers be asked to contribute what he considered a proportionate sum towards carrying out the proposed scheme, and the warding off of an otherwise permanent rate." A sum of £2,100 is said to be required, and it is pleasing to note that towards this sum the following donations have been received:—Messrs Priestman and Sons, £250; Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering, £100; Mr. Thomas Spencer, £100; Durham Diocesan Board of Education, £100; Mrs Cowen, £50; and the Lord Bishop of Durham, £25.

STRANDED!

Those passengers who had the misfortune—for misfortune it was—to travel on Wednesday evening week by the evening trains from Newcastle to Consett, via the Annfield Plain line, were doomed to suffer that painful ordeal of having to wait an unusual length of time for the train which was to carry them to their destination. "Rowley" was one of these victims. Business took me to Leadgate, and I had—or rather intended—to travel to Blackhill by the 9 o'clock train; but, lo! on arriving at the station at about a quarter to nine, I was told that the 7.27 p.m. train had not yet arrived. After having waited for about an hour, I, like many others, adopted the oldest mode of travelling—by foot, and reached my destination before the train. It was almost sufficient to make me believe that there was some truth in the story which I heard related about a certain station-master who went to commit suicide by placing his head upon the metals, and then await the approach of the next train. Three days later a search party came across his dead body, death having resulted from starvation whilst waiting for the train.

WEARDALE NOTES.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

A CONSUMPTIVES' HOME.

A home for consumptives for Durham County is to be established at Stanhope. I have it on good authority that Horn Hall Villa, at the west-end of Stanhope, is to be fitted up temporarily, pending the purchase of land for site for a sanitorium from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The air at Stanhope is well adapted for consumptive patients, and the way in which patients sent from our centres of population recuperate is bordering on the miraculous.

AN IDEAL SPOT.

There are several consumptive patients in and around Stanhope, some staying at local farm-houses who have been sent from the large towns by skilled physicians. They were told if they stayed at home they would die, but if they went to Stanhope it would prolong their lives. There is no smoke, and the air is pure and bracing. The water supply is one of the best in England—soft, pure, and sweet, and abundance of it. Plantations of pine acres in extent surround its north-western part.

NOT BEFORE TIME.

A public meeting is being convened in the Town Hall, Stanhope for Friday night, to take steps to raise funds for the wives and families of our soldiers out in the Transvaal. It has long been a standing disgrace for our heroes who defend us on the battlefield to finish their days in the Workhouse of this country—the richest country in the world. It is to be hoped that that day is past, and that Tommy Atkins will be better cared for. The signs of the times indicate a brighter era for our brave defenders.

A SAD AFFAIR.

There is profound sympathy on every hand with the bereaved Bainbridge family at Stanhope, who lost their son—a brave young fellow—last week-end in the battle for bread. He fell over the quarry face at Parson Byres Quarry on Friday, and died on Sunday morning from the injuries received while following his daily avocation. What valuable lives are lost in the Weardale quarries, and what terrible accidents occur from time to time. Seldom a week passes but there is some accident to workmen.

A GOOD PERFORMANCE.

The Stanhope and Wolsingham volunteers are said to have topped the tree this year in shooting, and won premier honours, beating Spennymoor, Crook, Bishop Auckland, Barnard Castle, and other corps.

16 STONE OF GOLD.

Weardale is represented at Klondyke. A Weardale man now in the dale returned from that El Dorado with 16 stone of gold. He refuses to be interviewed by press representatives, but can give a graphic account of that sequestered but interesting region.

NICE PEOPLE.

Stanhope was favoured on Saturday and Westgate on Sunday by the presence of a returned missionary from Nigeria in Africa. He spoke at the Church missionary meeting on Saturday night at Stanhope, and preached at Westgate Church on Sunday. The people he has been among are cannibals, from the fact that they kill and eat old people. They have an abhorrence of twin children, and kill them outright. Hundreds of miles of the country has never been explored by a white man yet. The story, told by this returned missionary was highly interesting. The country has been under a British trading company; but is about to be taken over by the Government. Another plum for the pudding of the British Empire.

WELL DONE!

The Stanhope Church members and workers have raised considerably over £20 for mission purposes and kindred objects this year.

Medomsley Parish Council

The monthly meeting of this body was held in the Council-room at Medomsley on Wednesday evening. Coun. H. Palmer, J.P. presided and there were also present—Couns. W. R. Cocke, W. Hogg, J. Crawford, J. Harrison, W. Walton, Jacob Walton, J. W. Jamieson, and W. Robinson the latter acting as Clerk in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Milburn.

LIGHTING NUMBER ONE ROAD.

The Chairman referred to the fact that at the last meeting a petition was presented to them asking the Council to light up the above road, and it was left over for further consideration.

Coun. Cooke thought it would be advisable, having in view the fact that Leadgate was going to try and rob them of some of their ground—which they must oppose tenaciously—not to entertain this matter at present as it might be disputed land. At the same time, he thought the Council were favourable to the principle of it.

Coun. J. Walton thought that Consett should do something.

The Chairman said it was merely the width of the road that separated them from Consett. Probably for one inhabitant of Medomsley that passed along this road there would be a number belonging to Consett and Leadgate. It was undoubtedly a dark road, but, as Coun. Cooke remarked, there were certain matters in the air. The Leadgate Council were talking of petitioning the County Council for a considerable slice of the Medomsley parish and if they got it he thought the onus of lighting this road would rest with the Leadgate Council.

Coun. Robinson said that Leadgate were professing to be playing the part of the Good Samaritan towards Medomsley. (Laughter.)

The Chairman pointed out that he was chairman of both Councils, and he tried to be absolutely impartial.

Coun. Cooke remarked that Medomsley had not solicited the good services of Leadgate—then why should they offer them? He thought that the petitioners might have united to approach the Consett Council.

The Chairman thought that under the circumstances no one would object to postponing this question for a time. The result of the poll that day would throw some light on the matter. Upon that would depend whether Leadgate appealed to the County Council. If the poll that day said the Parish Council had to appeal to the County Council for urban powers, the latter body would probably consider both petitions at the same time. They would hear the arguments for and against.

Coun. Jamieson supposed it was true that Leadgate had decided to petition the County Council?

The Chairman replied in the affirmative, but said there would be no meeting until February, so that nothing could be done for some time.

Coun. Crawford thought they all agreed that the lighting up of the road was a necessity, but they would not like to embark upon it considering the position taken up by Leadgate. Then there was the poll that day. He thought it was best to let the matter rest for a time, and reply to the petitioners to this effect. He thought that Leadgate was determined to secure that piece of rateable value, which was the only piece that seemed likely to develope. He thought it not wise to say all they thought that night on the question. It was best to keep a bit up their sleeves. When the time came he was of the opinion that Leadgate would not get this ground without considerable opposition from Medomsley.

The Chairman fancied Bunker Hill Estate was all on the Lanchester Common. What caused Leadgate to take this matter up was because they had to provide sewerage works for Bunker Hill.

Coun. Jamieson asked if they could not petition the County Council to tack Leadgate on to Medomsley? (Laughter.)

The Chairman then moved that the Clerk be instructed to write Mr. C. F. Scott (on behalf of the petitioners), stating that owing to the present position of public affairs the Medomsley Council could not say anything definite on the matter, but when the time came they would be willing to consider it again.

Coun. Robinson pointed out that many years ago they did approach the Consett Council respecting this road but got a flat refusal.

Coun. Hogg seconded the motion, which was carried.

LIGHTING.

Coun. Jamieson moved that a precept be issued on the overseers for £250 in respect to lighting account.

This was seconded by Coun. Hogg, and adopted.

FINANCE.

Cheques were passed for sums amounting to £9 12s 4d; after which the Council adjourned.

Derwent Valley Ploughing and Hedge-Cutting Association

The Place of Contest

On Tuesday evening a meeting of the members of the Derwent Valley Ploughing Association was held at the Commercial Hotel, Shotley Bridge, for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee appointed to view the various places, which might be suitable for the holding of the competitions. The chair was occupied by Mr. Stonehouse Hedley, who explained the object of the meeting. As one of the committee he had to report that they had decided that the best place at which to hold the competitions would be Bradley, and he should recommend the three fields they had seen at that place. With reference to the hedge-cutting competition he thought this would have to be abandoned, as there were no hedges at Bradley suitable for the competition and to make anything like a decent job of it.

Mr. Gledson said there were only two lots of land laid before the committee.

The Chairman: Three fields at Bradley, and three at Pontop Hall. The acreage was Pontop, 14, 6, and 5; and Bradley, 18, 11, 6.

Mr. Gledson moved that they should adopt the land at Bradley for the competition, seeing that it was the most suitable.

Mr. Stonehouse seconded.

Mr. J. Hunter, Grange Farm moved, as an amendment that they should adopt the land at Pontop.

Mr. Thomas Hunter seconded the amendment, which, on being put to the meeting, received five votes, the same number being recorded for the motion. The chairman therefore gave his casting vote in favour of Bradley.

THE HEDGE-CUTTING COMPETITION.

The Chairman said he did not think there were any fences suitable for the hedge-cutting competition.

Mr. Gledson moved that the hedge-cutting competition should be abandoned this year.

Mr. Thomas Hunter seconded.

Mr. J. Hunter moved as an amendment that the competition be held, and added that he would find two hedges at Medomsley.

Mr. Dixon seconded the amendment.

Mr. Gledson pointed out that at the previous meeting of the association a committee was appointed to view the hedges, with a view of procuring some suitable for the competition. The committee had not found suitable hedges, and he maintained that the amendment was void.

The amendment was declared void, and upon the motion being put to the meeting it was carried.

THE JUDGES.

The following judges were appointed.—Horses and decorations—Mr. J. Whitehead and Mr. G. Morgan. Ploughing—Mr. Wheatley, Tow Law; Mr. Bewick, Billy Mill, South Shields; Mr. Brewis, North Shotton; and Mr. Heslop, Heddon Banks.

THE DINNER.

It was decided to hold the dinner at the Stag's Head Inn, Medomsley, providing that sufficient accommodation could be found, and failing this, at the Miners' Arms.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

HOCKEY.

DERWENT VALLEY v. DURHAM.

At Durham, on Saturday, when the following will play for the

DERWENT VALLEY—Backs, T. D. Dales (capt.), J. E. Thorpe, and T. W. Hanson; half-backs, A. C. Blunt, J. M. Nicholson, and W. H. Croudace; forwards, R. S. Renton, W. S. Douglas, H. H. Wattsford, E. Roe, and J. Hamilton.

Bully-off at 2-30.

Local and District News.

Consett.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—On Monday evening a meeting under the auspices of this society will be held in the Consett Wesleyan Church Hall, when the attendance of all classes is earnestly requested.

NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN, AND CLERKS.—A meeting in connection with the Consett branch of the above union was held on Thursday evening, November 9th, Mr. T. C. Matthews, secretary of the Sunderland branch, presiding. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. A. Kirkpatrick; vice-president, Mr. T. L. Ridley; treasurer, Mr. G. Matthews; secretary, Mr. T. R. Spratt.

PLATE MILLS DISPUTE.—A short time ago a dispute arose in the Consett Plate Mills, the shearmen's helpers in Nos. 1 and 3 claiming to be paid at the same rate as paid to those of No. 2 mill, or as paid by other firms. The Standing Committee of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration referred it to Dr. R. Spence Watson as referee, and his award was issued this week, after sittings on the 12th and 19th of October. He says:—The arguments brought before me on the part of the employed who made the claim were marked by such moderation and cogency that I have had much difficulty in coming to a clear conclusion in this matter. But after considering the whole of the arguments and the figures which were handed in to me I am unable to discover any sufficient ground for reversing the decisions of the Standing Committee which were come to under circumstances which have not been altered, and I therefore award no change in the rates at present paid.

CRICKET CLUB CONCERT.—The annual concert in connection with the Consett and District Cricket Club—one of the most popular events of the season—is fixed to take place in the New Town Hall on Wednesday night week. That well-known entertainer, Mr Harry Liston, has again been engaged, and those who have heard this popular favourite once will eagerly welcome the opportunity of listening to him once more. He will be accompanied by Mr W. Miles (a talented artiste) and Miss Lord Lumley (the charming actress), so that the audience may safely expect a programme much above the average. We understand that tickets for the concert are going off in the most satisfactory fashion, and it is anticipated that there will be very few—if any—to sell at the door. Those, therefore, who intend being present should make a point of securing tickets without further delay.

Annfield Plain.

The 'Castle' Watch-works, Stanley, is the place for the Finest and Cheapest display of Xmas Presents.

Blackhill.

A NEW STOCK MART COMPANY.—At a meeting of the directors of the Blackhill and District Farmers' Stock Mart Company, Ltd., held at the Royal Hotel, Blackhill, on Monday night, Mr Joseph Osborne, of Blackhill, was appointed secretary; Mr Jackson Green, auctioneer; and Mr J. M. Nicholson, Consett, auditor of the company. The first sale under the auspices of the company will be held on the 27th inst., and the Christmas prize show and sale was fixed for Monday, December 18th.

Burnopfield

TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—On Wednesday week a public entertainment was given in the U.M.F. Church Schoolroom. Owing to the inclement weather, there was only a moderate attendance. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. Davis and the programme was rendered by Misses Robinson, Stark, Lammonby, and Johnson.

C.E.T.S.—On Monday night a lecture was given in the Temperance Hall by the Rev. E. Rust, B.D. Ruri-Decanal Secretary C.E.T.S. The subject was, "A History of the drinking custom in England." The lecturer dealt in a very able manner with his subject, which was illustrated by a good number of magic-lantern views. A good company was present and the lecture was well received.

FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—On Saturday evening last, the members of the above popular society held their annual dinner at the Pack Horse Inn, Crookgate. Upwards of 30 sat down to a splendid repast, the viands of which proved that the culinary resources of the hostess (Mrs McElduff) and her efficient staff of waiters were all that could be desired. Needless to say the dinner was enjoyed by all. After the cloths had been removed, the chair was occupied by Mr G. Humble, who was supported by Mr W. S. Telford in the vice-chair. "The health of the Queen and Royal Family" was given and loyally drank, as was also that of the "Army, Navy, and Volunteer Forces," and references were made to the brave deeds being accomplished by our soldiers in the Transvaal at the present time. "The Burnopfield Floral Society" was drank in a bumper, other toasts suitable to the occasion being also given. During the evening, capital songs were rendered by Messrs Humble, Smith, Telford, Hogarth, Mallams, etc., the proceedings being brought to a close with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Chester-le-Street

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

THE RESERVISTS' FUNDS.—At the Queen's Theatre, Chester-le-Street, on Sunday night a well-attended sacred concert was given by Dr. Walford Bodie's Company, who had been performing there during the week. The result of a silver collection in aid of the Reservists' Fund exceeded £13, and Dr. Bodie and his troupe added a guinea.

Crookgate

PACK HORSE INN YEARLY BENEFIT SOCIETY.—On Saturday night last, the annual meeting of the above club was held in the above well-known hostelry. The Secretary (Mr H. Easten) in his annual report said he was glad to congratulate the members upon their improved condition compared with what it was twelve months ago. During the year just ended the total income from all sources amounted to £16 19s 10d; the expenses had been £9 12s; which was made up by £9 2s being paid in sickness and deaths, and 10s as secretary's salary, thereby leaving a balance of £7 7s 10d, and after deducting the amount to be paid to the annual dinner of the members, there was a dividend of 4s 9d each. (Applause.) The election of officers was next proceeded with, and resulted in the whole of the retiring officers being re-elected, which proves that the members have every confidence in their secretary and his co-workers. On the conclusion of the business an adjournment was made to another room, where the members partook of their annual dinner, and, thanks to the excellent repast served up by the worthy hostess (Mrs McElduff), the company to the number of 21 satisfied the wants of the "inner man" to repletion. On the cloths being removed Mr G Cooper took the chair, and submitted the usual loyal toasts, which were loyally pledged. "Success to our Yearly Fund" was drank with enthusiasm. "The Hostess" and other toasts were also honoured, these being interspersed with songs, etc., and altogether a most pleasant and enjoyable gathering ended with the hope that all might be able to meet under similar prosperous conditions at their next annual gathering.

Dunston

HER FIFTY-THIRD APPEARANCE.—Elizabeth Boyle, whose face is now familiar at the Gateshead County Police Court, again renewed her acquaintance with the Bench of Justices on Thursday, this being the celebration of her fifty-third appearance. The present charge preferred against her was that of stealing a quantity of old metal, at Dunston, the property of the N E R Company, to the value of 6d.—A constable proved the charge, and the accused was sent to Durham gaol for one month.

SOCIAL AND DANCE.—A well-attended social and dance, promoted by the members of the Dunston Mechanics' Institute, was held on Friday evening in the Board Schools, Dunston. Dancing commenced about 8 o'clock to the strains of music supplied by Mr. Miller (piano) and Mr Stephenson (violin), and was indulged in with much spirit till the early hours of Saturday morning. The M.C.'s were Mr Lister and Mr Wilson, who were painstaking in their duties. Amongst those assembled were:—Mr A. Scott, Miss Scott, Mr B. Thompson, Mr C. McIntyre, Mr A. Graham, Miss Wilkinson, Mr J. Forster, Mr H. Craft, Miss Wake, Mr J. Jackson, Mr H. Gowland, Mr J. G. Swinburn, Miss C. Swinburn, Mr W. Swinburn, Miss E. Weston, Miss Noble, Misses Gardner, Mr W. Gowland, Miss A. Hutchinson, Misses Soulsby, Mr W. Davison, Mr E. Gladstone, Mr G. Batey, Mr G. Noble, Mr Wm. Dixon, Mr J. Dixon, Mr D. Watson, Misses Boldon, Mr J. Boldon, Mr E. Boldon, Miss Grey (Kibblesworth), Miss Lawson, Miss G. Smith, Miss J. Buckton, Miss Norman, Miss Batey, Mr Crozier, Mr J. Dinning, Miss Sharp, Miss L. Taylor, Miss M. Taylor, Mr T. Frost, Mr J. Whitfield (Swalwell), Mr T. Watson (Swalwell), Mr Barron (Swalwell), Mr Shillitoe, Mr Welsh, Mr Hedworth, Miss Wilkinson, Miss Frost, Mr Halliday, and others.

AMBULANCE CLASSES.—On Monday evening a large audience assembled in the Dunston Lecture Hall to witness the presentation of the medallions and certificates to the successful students of the Dunston Ambulance Classes (ladies' branch), the ceremony being performed by Lady Joicey. The proceedings were presided over by Ald. John Lucas, who was supported on the platform by Sir James and Lady Joicey, and the Misses Lucas. Lady Joicey made the presentations as follows:—Medallions—Miss Adelaide I. M. Cooper, and Miss Jeannie Cooper. Certificates (second year)—Miss Ada Taylor, Miss Pugmyre, Miss Sharp, Miss F. Thompson, Mrs Parker, Miss Burnett, and Miss Beveridge. First year—Miss M. J. Noble, Miss S. A. Gladstone, Miss Jenny Scott, Miss J. Noble, and Miss M. Parker. An excellent programme of music was gone through, the following ladies and gentlemen contributing:—Miss Laura Blenkinsop, Hartlepool; Miss Wheatley, Gateshead; Miss C. Swinburn, Whickham; Miss Parker, Dunston; Mr Bedford, Newcastle; Mr Winyard, Tyne Dock; Mr Mackay, Newcastle, and Mr Maddock. Miss Nellie Farmiloe proved an able accompanist. Votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

Causey Row

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday night a concert was given in the chapel by the McCartan Family from Kibblesworth. A fairly good company assembled, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

Dipton

DISTRICT CYCLING CLUB.—On Wednesday evening of last week, the members of the Dipton and District Cycling Club held a meeting to arrange for a social in the Co-operative Hall, Dipton. A large number of cyclists turned up, and it was decided to hold a social on December 29th in the above hall, the following being chosen a committee to cary out the arrangements in detail:—The Rev. R. Tuson, Messrs W. McQuillen, R. A. Aitken, M. Bell, J. Butler, and J. Gray, Mrs McQuillen, Misses M. Clark, B. Thompson, and S. Riddle.

WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE.—On Wednesday night, the members of this Band of Hope gave a lively entertainment in the Dipton Wesleyan School-room, under the presidency of Mr J. W. Glenwright, president of the Band of Hope. There was a nice company present. The programme was opened by the singing of the hymn, "My heart and voice," from the Wesleyan hymn book. After prayer the Band of Hope rendered the chorus, "Lo! His mightiness," in fine style, which was followed by the recitation, "Wasp in the pear," by Master T. Spink. Then the solo, "Side by side," was rendered by Miss M. Chambers, after which an amusing dialogue, "Refinement versus vulgarity," was performed by four characters. Master G. Ferguson then played the violin solo, "Hope told a flattering tale," in excellent fashion, which was succeeded by the chorus, "Oh! iron is a wondrous thing," after which Master W. Wood recited "Bob's letter to Horry" in a creditable manner. This was followed by a laughable temperance sketch, "Dr Squils," which was ably performed by five characters. A coffee bar which followed the entertainment was well patronised. The proceeds were in aid of the Band of Hope funds.

Hamsteels

FATALITY AT THE COLLIERY.—On Saturday, a hewer, named Thomas Humphrey, 32, was killed by a fall of stone at Hamsteels Colliery. The unfortunate man had just reached his place, and was about to start work, when his "marrow" cautioned him to "jowl" the roof to see if it was safe. Humphrey was proceeding to do so when a large quantity of stone fell from the top crushing the poor fellow to death. He leaves a widow and one child. On Tuesday, at the Hamsteels Colliery Inn, Juebec, an inquest was held, before Mr. Coroner Graham, touching the deah of Thomas Humphrey (30), coal hewer, of Low Row, Hamsteels, who was killed by a fall of stone on the morning of the 11th inst. in the Busty Seam, Hamsteels Colliery. Mr. Walker, Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines, Durham, was present. Mr Lowden represented the owners, and Messrs Cheek and Littlewood attended in the interests of the miners.—A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

Lanchester.

THE WAR.—On Tuesday evening a public meeting will be held in the National Schools, Lanchester, to take steps for the relief of the wives and children of the reservists who have rejoined the colours. All interested are cordially invited to attend.

Pelton

THE LATE MR. HENDERSON.—At the funeral of the above gentleman wreaths were sent by the following:—Mrs Henderson, Mr. H. M. Cook (Newcastle), Mrs Handyside (Newcastle), Mr Moller (Sunderland), Mr and Mrs Moller (Sunderland), Mr J. H. Procter (Newcastle), Dr. and Mrs Taylor (Chester-le-Street), Mr and Mrs J. Thornton, Miss Thornton (Tribley Farm), Mr and Mrs Nicholson (Lanchester), Mr Jas. Reay (Newcastle), Mr and Mrs Crichton (Chester-le-Street), Mr and Mrs Walker (Saltburn), Mr and Mrs Puff, Mr R. S. Gardiner (London), The Owners of Pelton Colliery, Misses English (Pelton Colliery), Mr and Mrs English (Pelton Colliery), Mr and Mrs H. Armstrong (Castle View, Chester-le-Street), Misses Reed (Pelaw Cottage), Mr and Mrs T. Reed (Pelaw Cottage), The Hospital Staff (Chester-le-Street), Mr and Mrs Wilson (Pelton), Mr C. Kirk (Newcastle), Mr and Mrs Walker (Durham), the Pelton Fitting Office Staff, Mr and Mrs Musgrove (Harrogate), The Officers of the Guardians and Rural District Council of Chester-le-Street, Messrs Thompson and Bell (The Hermitage), Teachers of Pelton Colliery Schools, Miss M. Bell (Newcastle), Workmen of Pelton Colliery, Officials of Pelton Colliery, Mr R. H. Lonsdale (Pelton Colliery), Tribley Star Football Club, Miss A Embleton (Newcastle), Mr J. Laverick (Sunderland), Durham Miners, Mr Thompson (Pelton Colliery), Rev. Father Holmes (Chester-le-Street), Mr. T. Reed (Chester-le-Street), Miss Howard.

Stanley.

Is marriage a failure? Certainly not, if united with one of J. T. Castle's Wedding Rings.

CLOUGH DENE.—At this generally quiet place there will be something to attract the inhabitants on Monday night when the trustees of the late Mr. W. Lowes, will, through Mr. J. T. Weston, jun., offer for sale the valuable furniture and household effects of that well-known gentleman.

RESERVISTS' FUND.—A preliminary meeting was held on Thursday night to consider the advisability of forming a local fund for the benefit of the wives and relatives of the reservists now in South Africa. It was resolved to call a more general meeting to take definite action in the matter. In the meantime isolated efforts have resulted in small sums being collected.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—"How Money's Made" is the title of a very attractive drama being performed at Mr Lindon's Theatre during the present week. It is being produced by Mr F. Brook Warren's company—a talented lot of ladies and gentlemen—who make up a very powerful "caste." The story is told in four acts, and throughout the various scenes a well-conceived and ably written plot is unravelled. The situations are dramatically portrayed, the lines all well spoken, and with excellent stage effects affords a splendid evening's entertainment. Next week, "The Black Mask," another very popular drama, ought to be a great source of attraction.

P. M. MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.—In connection with the Primitive Methodist missionary anniversary services were conducted on Sunday last at Stanley, West Pelton, Craghead, Burnhope, and Greencroft, and at subsequent dates during the week meetings were held at the places named. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. Dennison, the Rev. D. Kyles, and others. Collections were taken for the Connexional Missions.

DEATH OF MRS. BATES.—The friends of Mr Bates, of Front Street, East Stanley, will sympathise with him in the demise of his wife at the early age of 34 years. Her illness was not of long duration and her death in comparative youth is a matter for deep regret.

DEATH OF MR W. PEARSON.—Mr Wm. Pearson, of Joicey's Square, was "an old hand," having worked at Joicey's Collieries for many years until by age he became practically incapacitated. He then undertood the task of "caller" and performed these duties successfully until about a fortnight ago, when he was compelled to forego them. His illness developed rapidly, as well it might in the case of a man who had reached the span of life, and he was found on Wednesday morning to have answered the "last call."

Stanhope.

Mr. Robson, a Scotch evangelist, is conducting a month's special services for the Stanhope Primitives.

VOLUNTEER NEWS.—Reports are to hand that the Stanhope and Wolsingham Volunteers forming part of the E Company have won the badge and cross guns this year for good shooting, beating Spennymoor, Bishop Auckland, Crook, and Barnard Castle.

A GOLD WATCH FOUND IN STANHOPE DENE.—Mr Wm. Tweddle, reporter, while in Stanhope Dene on Tuesday, found a beautiful lady's gold watch beside the Tennis Court. It turned out to belong to Miss M. E. Pulleine, daughter of the Bishop of Richmond, who had lost it one day last week. It was returned to the young lady on Tuesday evening. The finder was handsomely rewarded.

INQUEST.—Coroner J. T. Proud of Bishop Auckland, held an inquest on Tuesday at Stanhope Town Hall, on the body of Joseph Bainbridge (33), who fell over the quarry face at the Parson Byres Quarry of Bell Bros., on Friday, and received injuries from which he died on Sunday morning. Mr Plummer, Government Inspector of Mines and Quarries, was present. Mr John Spark represented the Company, and Mr J. Carrick the men's Union. A verdict of "Accidentally killed" was returned.

WEARDALE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.—The monthly meeting was held on Saturday, Coun. J. Barker, of Frosterley, presided. An interesting paper was read by Mr. Thos. Hull, of Frosterley, on movements of the earth's crust, and their physical effect on the surface. Discussion followed, in which Messrs Egglestone, Barker, Batute, and others took part. The photographers of the club are to be asked to exhibit specimens of their art at the annual meeting in March.

FATAL QUARRY ACCIDENT.—A young man named Joseph Bainbridge, son of Mr John Bainbridge, Back Lane, Stanhope, met with a sad accident on Friday at the Parson Byres Limestone Quarry of Messrs Bell Bros. Whilst following his daily employment as quarryman he slipped and fell over the quarry face a distance of about 50 feet. He was severely injured internally, and died from the effects of the accident on Sunday morning. Dr. Livingstone attended him.

CHURCH MISSIONS.—The annual missionary meeting in connection with the above work was held at the Barrington Schools, Stanhope, on Saturday night, presided over by the Bishop of Richmond. The speakers were the Rev. Mr Robinson, of Bradford, and the Rev. Sydney Smith, returned missionary from Nigeria (Africa). The sum of £17 10s had been raised during the year at Stanhope, without their week-end collections for the work. The Sunday School raised over £2 alone. The meeting was a very successful one.

Lintz Colliery

WESLEYAN FOREIGN MISSION.—The missionary services were conducted on Sunday by Mr. John Cook, of Whickham. Good companies assembled. On Tuesday night the annual missionary meeting was held in the Colliery School-room. Excellent addresses were given by Rev. W. H. Moseley and Mr. Percy Pegler. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. C. Batey, of Gateshead.

South Moor

NEW WORKMEN'S CLUB.—On Wednesday week, a new workmen's club was opened on the premises of Mr Michael Martin, at the corner of Hustle Down Lane, South Moor. The club contains fourteen rooms, including billiard saloon, and a large room capable of seating 250 persons, to be used for social and festive gatherings. The club is under the management of a strong local committee, with Mr Robert Dixon as secretary, and a large membership is assured.

Swalwell.

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—On Saturday evening there was a large attendance at the usual weekly entertainment held under the auspices of the Swalwell Gospel Temperance Association, in the Presbyterian Church. The programme was given by the members of the Wesleyan Church Choir, whose vocal efforts were highly appreciated. An interesting temperance address was given by Coun. Wm. Walls, of Dunston. The gathering was a successful one.

ALLEGED THEFT OF COALS.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, George Walton, James Welsh, Robert Patterson, and John Maddon, all of no fixed abode, were charged with stealing a quantity of coals, valued at 1s, the property of the North-Eastern Railway Company, at Derwenthaugh, on the 8th inst.—Evidence was given to show that the defendants were caught stealing coals from the top of waggons, which they took into disused coke-ovens.—The defendants were each fined 2s 6d, with the exception of Walton, who was ordered to pay 10s.

BAND OF HOPE.—The Swalwell Presbyterian Church was, on Monday evening, filled with a large audience on the occasion of the usual weekly entertainment held under the auspices of the Swalwell Band of Hope. An admirable temperance address was given by Mr Rattery, the newly-appointed Band of Hope Union agent. Songs were tastefully rendered by Miss Irving and Mr Alfred Radford, Miss Maggie Harris, Miss Polly Heaton, and Miss Polly Oxley each gave a recitation in fine style. A drill was ably gone through by fifteen young members, under the care of Miss M. Speers. The gathering was presided over by Mr Wm. Speers. Miss Maggie Speers proved an able accompanist.

Tow Law.

GOOD TEMPLARY.—At the weekly session of the Pride of the West Lodge the election and installation of the officers for the ensuing term took place and resulted as follows, viz:—C.T., Bro. Wm. Ray; V.T., Sister E. Richardson; P.C.T., Bro. Jos. Knaggs; Secretary, Bro. W. H. Chubb; Assistant-Secretary, Bro. W. A. Chubb; Financial Secretary, Sister E. Chubb; Treasurer, Bro. Robt. Gilmour; Chaplain, Sister M. Ray; Marshall, Bro. G. A. Bond; D.M., Sister A. Wilson; Guard, Bro. Geo. Wilkinson; Sentinel, Bro. H. Broadbent.

Winlaton.

PROPOSED NEW CHURCH.—A ratepayers' meeting was held at Winlaton on Wednesday week, to consider the desirability of building new Church schools on a fresh site, in place of the existing dilapidated schools. The Rev. J. Napier-Clavering presided, and there was a very large attendance of ratepayers; also the Rev. Arthur Jones, rector; the Revs. G. D'Eath and J. G. Brown; the Hon. Mrs. Vereker and Miss Surtees; and Mr. John E. Cowen, one of the managers of the school. The Chairman proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by the Hon Mrs. Vereker, in a few spirited words, and was carried nem. con.:—"That this meeting of ratepayers, come together to consider the desirability of giving pecuniary support to the proposed scheme for erecting new Church schools in place of the existing dilapidated school buildings, suggest that in face of the already over heavily rated state of the township of Winlaton, each of the fellow-ratepayers be asked to contribute what he considered a proportionate sum towards carrying out the proposed scheme, and the warding off of an otherwise permanent rate." The following promised donations towards the sum of £2,100 required were announced at the meeting:—Messrs Pristman and Sons, £200; the Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering, £100; Mr. Thomas Spencer, £100; Durham Diocesan Board of Education, £100; Mrs. Cowen, £50; the Lord Bishop of Durham, £25. The Rector read to the meeting the following letter from the Bishop:—"As a general rule, I do not feel able to contribute to buildings of the kind, in addition to my general subscripiton through the Diocesan Fund, but this is a very urgent case, and I shall be glad to give £25 to the work."

THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES ASSOCIATION.

Barracks, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
November 5th, 1899.

DEAR SIR,—I am directed by the General Officer commanding the N.E. District to ask the editor of all local newspapers to publish the names of presidents or secretaries of each of the branches of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, to whom wives of soldiers (including reservists) should apply in case of need. Appended please find list accordingly. Thanking you in anticipation.—Yours faithfully,

A. A. GARSTIN, Colonel,
Commanding 68th Regt. District.

The Editor, "Consett Guardian," Consett.

DURHAM.

President, The Marchioness of Londonderry, Wynyard Park, Stockton. Hon. secretary, Thos. Appleby, Esq., Greatham, Co. Durham. Committee: Presidents of divisions—Barnard Castle, Lady Barnard, Raby Castle, Darlington; Bishop Auckland, Lady Eden, Windlestone Hall, Ferryhill; Chester-le-Street, Countess of Scarborough, Lumley Castle; Durham, Viscountess Boyne, Brancepeth Castle; Gateshead, Countess of Ravensworth, Ravensworth Castle, Gateshead; Houghton-le-Spring, Lady Ann Lambton, Lambton Castle, Durham; Seaham Harbour, Lady Helen Stewart, Wynyard Park, Stockton; Stockton-on-Tees, Marchioness of Londonderry, Wynyard Park, Stockton; Sunderland, Mrs Doxford, Grindon Hall, Sunderland; West Hartlepool, Mrs Lauder, Broomhill, West Hartlepool.

FOOTBALL.

ROBERT SINCLAIR CUP.
THIRD ROUND.
EAST END HARRIERS v. STANLEY.

These teams met on Wednesday in the third round of the Robert Sinclair Cup Competition before a moderate attendance of spectators, on the St. Peter's Albion Ground. The opening exchanges of the game were of the usual give-and take nature. The visitors, who had the advantage of the slope, forced a corner, which came to nothing. Patterson, receiving from the home men, made a good run up on the right, but he lacked judgment, and shot wildly wide. The visitors for some time gave trouble to the home contingent, and experienced the vilest of luck in not bringing off something worthy of their determined efforts to break the defence of their opponents. Another corner fell to Stanley, Wilson taking the kick and placing nicely. But the leather was got out of the home territory, and once again the homesters had a run up. The backs of the visitors were not to be found napping, however, and they gallantly cleared. Once the Harriers had a capital sprint, and what looked like something serious taking place was cleverly got rid of by the Stanley custodian. A moment later the homesters forced a corner, which proved abortive. Stanley then made another visit, and for some time peppered away at the home target. Whitfield collared and banged in a shot, which gave Price no earthly chance to save. A few minutes elapsed, and Stanley forced another corner. The kick was well taken and the shot propelled just grazed the cross-bar. Half-time—

Stanley .... One goal.
East End Harriers .... Nil.

Immediately on the resumption, Stanley continued to press, and were not long in visiting the home territory. They kept up the pressure for a period, and were compelled to retreat, the Harriers having a good run down. Play, in the visitors' citadel, only ruled for a very brief stage, the Stanley men getting up the field and forcing a corner, which was only saved by Price clearing in a miraculous fashion. The visitors, nothing daunted, tried again, their effort this time resulting in the ball rolling by. The Harriers then put on a spurt and frantically tried to equalise, but their efforts proved futile, the cool, fine play of their opponents, especially that of the backs—Whaley and Cunningham—being far ahead of that of the opposing side. Stanley, who only played with ten men, had decidedly the best of the game. A pretty piece of individual play resulted in Wilson registering the second goal for the visitors. The homesters showed poor form, and try as they did they found no alternative but to submit to the defeat, which was administered to them by their opponents, whose form was of the best and could not in any way be found fault with. Final:—

Stanley .... Two goals.
East End Harriers .... Nil.

SHOOTING.

On Saturday, near the Causey Inn, the house of Mrs Carr, there took place a pigeon shooting match for £20 between S. Edgell, Beamish, and W. Carr, The Causey. Seven birds each. Edgell, 10111, Carr, 00100. G. Thornton, Bebside, trapped and supplied birds for winner, and R. R. Smith, Dipton, for loser. There was a good attendance.

SCIENCE NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

IT is well known that there is much waste gas given off by blast furnaces, and attempts have been made to utilise it for producing motive power with gas engines. According to Herr Witz, the best kind of gas engine for the purpose would be a combustion, not an explosion, one.

TIMBER is now seasoned by electricity, after the process of Nodon and Bretonneau. The current forces a chemical solution into the wood for five to eight hours. The solution is 10 per cent. of borax, 5 per cent. of resin, 5 per cent. of carbonate of soda, and it is heated by a steam coil.

UTILISING THE TIDES.

The tides are now utilised for generating power at Pont l'Abbé, Finisterre, France, during fourteen hours a day. At flood tide the water flows through the canal two and one-half miles inland into a pond in the rear of the power house, and returns to the sea at ebb tide. The total fall is 7½ft., and eighty horse-power is generated by turbines.

"CORAL LIPS AND LEADEN LIPS."

"Coral lips and leaden lips" was the title of an ethnographical paper, by M. Paul d'Enjoy, to the French Association for the Advancement of Science. He has found two distinct types of Annamites, both having Mongolian features, and coarse black hair, but one having an ivory skin and blackish lips, the other a ruddier skin and red lips. In short, they are the brunettes and blondes of the yellow race. In the native language one is called Muoi-son and the other Muoi-chi—that is "lips of coral" and "lips of lead." The former are considered the more intelligent, and the higher classes belong to them for the most part. M. d'Enjoy points out that they might represent Mongolians, while the "leaden lips" are of Malayan descent, but leaves the question open. The Annamites believe that both types are Mongolian.

INTENSE COLD AND PHOSPHORESCENCE.

According to Professor Trowbridge, of Columbia University, United States, a number of common things become phosphorescent at the low temperature of liquid air. Gum arabic appears a blue, ivory a bluish or greenish white, cotton-wool a bluish-green, starch and paper a yellowish-green, white glue and celluloid a greenish-yellow, and kid glove a green. All these substances were put into filtered liquid air, exposed to an arc light, and examined in the dark. They continued bright for half a minute at least, when kept at a low temperature after their excitation. Calcium tungstate, which is white in Röntgen rays, appeared green when submitted to the above treatment.

MICROBES IN TELEPHONES.

According to the New York *Medical Record*, Dr. W. H. Hill, of the bacteriological laboratory of the Boston Health Department, recently made an examination of thirteen public telephones in that city. In several of the transmitters harmless microbes were found, but an inoculation of guinea-pigs failed to reveal the presence of any pathogenic micro-organisms. The report states, however, that this examination has demonstrated the possibility of infectious diseases, particularly diphtheria and tuberculosis, being conveyed from one user of the telephone to a subsequent user. He suggests that the receiver as well as the transmitter be also cleaned and disinfected. Precautions of this nature are more necessary in public than in private telephones, as in many cases public telephones are used by persons who are unfamiliar with the instrument, and insist upon placing their lips in close contact with the transmitter.

PROFESSOR RAMSAY ON LIQUID AIR.

A lecture on "Liquid Air" by Professor Ramsay, F.R.S., excited much interest at the Royal Victoria Hall, London. He had a store of liquid air on the table, with which marvels were performed that would certainly have been set down as magic in former days. He poured it from one vessel into another, little clouds of snow being condensed from the air along its path. He poured some on to water, and each drop froze for itself a boat of ice. Double glass vessels were used to hold it, the space between being exhausted of air, that heat might be conducted as slowly as possible from the outside to the air. In these vessels the boiling, which was violent when first the air was poured into them, soon ceased. Indiarubber placed in liquid air became so hard and brittle that it broke with a blow from a hammer. Butter became hard and brittle, and fell with a sharp, rattling sound on the floor. Smouldering wood, when plunged into liquid air, broke out into flame, on account of the large proportion of oxygen which it contains.

HOW THE TELEPHONE WAS INVENTED.

In a recent lecture Professor Alexander Graham Bell is reported to have explained, as follows, how he came to invent the telephone. His father invented a symbol by which deaf mutes could converse, and finally Bell invented an apparatus by which the vibrations of speech could be seen, and it turned out to be a telephone. It occurred to him to make a machine that would enable one to hear vibrations. He went to an aurist, and he advised him to take the human ear as a model. He supplied him with a dead man's ear, and with this ear he experimented, and upon applying the apparatus he found that the dead man's ear drum wrote down the vibrations. Professor Bell concluded that if he could make iron vibrate on a dead man's ear, he could make an instrument more delicate which would cause those vibrations to be heard and understood. He thought if he placed a delicate piece of steel over an electric magnet he could get a vibration, and thus the telephone was completed. The telephone arose from his attempts to teach the deaf to speak. It arose from Professor Bell's knowledge, not of electricity, but as a teacher of the deaf. Had he been an electrician he would not have attempted it.

WHAT IS MEMORY?

It is quite as difficult to conceive the "infinitely-small" as the infinitely great. In the course of a public lecture on nervous vibration, Professor Richet stated that nerve-impulse travels at the rate of only 30 metres per second, just 1-700,000,000th of the rate of speed of light in space. One can almost better imagine the fact put this way—light travels 700,000,000 times quicker than a nerve-impulse. A wave of nerve motion lasts the tenth of a second, and the wave is ½ of an inch long. A nerve once stimulated never returns to its original condition, and, though the difference is physically infinitesimal, psychologically it is enormous; for it is this permanent disturbance which constitutes memory. So thinks Professor Richet. The period of the undulation is most important; our ideas, our impulses, cannot be repeated more frequently than ten or twelve times a second at the outside. If we try to think of a set of words in succession we can never pass this speed. If the rapidity of nerve-waves were greater, the *Chemist and Druggist* suggests first sound, then electricity and light, would be perceived as independent undulations; if slower, we should see the motion of the hour-hand of a watch and the growth of a tree.

OPTICALLY PURE WATER.

It was only after much experimenting that Tyndall succeeded in obtaining absolutely optically pure air, so clear that the path of even the most intense light is invisible. In experimenting upon water Lallemand was unable to obtain optically pure water, and was led to question its existence. Professor Spring, of Liége, has, however, succeeded in thus purifying water, and an extended account of his work is given in the *Bulletin* of the Royal Academy of Belgium. That the visibility of the path of a ray of light is due to suspended matter is shewn by the fact that in the optically pure water of Spring the path is wholly invisible. Such water cannot be obtained by distillation, nor by filtration, these processes having no tendency to purify water optically, but often rather the contrary. Optically pure water can be obtained by the action of a weak high tension current on water which contains suspended matter, or by sedimentation of colloidal precipitates, such as aluminium, ferric, &c., hydroxides, or by filtration of the water through colloidal precipitates. Crystalline precipitates, such as calcium oxalate, have little or no effect; nor can organic liquids be purified by colloidal precipitation. Spring believes that the illumination of the water is probably not caused by the dust itself, but by minute bubbles which adhere to the dust particles. These occasion different colours, in which red and orange predominate, and hence the blue colour of natural waters cannot be due to a selective absorption on the part of the suspended matter.

COPPER PLATING SHIPS' HULLS.

After trials lasting four years a favourable report has been made to the United States Government on Crane's system of copper-plating the hulls of ships in order to prevent fouling by marine growths. The whole bottom of a ship, 400ft. long and drawing 20ft. of water, can be plated in eight or nine days with a thickness of copper of one-sixteenth inch or more. Some 55,000lb. of copper would be required for a vessel of that size. On the other hand, £4,000 a year are expended by some trans-Atlantic boats in overcoming the resistance due to fouling, and to this must be added the cost of docking for cleansing the bottom. An iron vessel with a speed of 20 knots would go 21 knots if electro-plated with copper.

Wolsingham

PRIMITIVE METHODISTS.—In connection with the missionary anniversary of the Primitive Methodist Church, the Rev. J. W. Moorse preached an excellent sermon on Sunday morning. The annual public meeting was held on Monday evening under the genial presidency of the Baptist pastor, Rev. James Black, M.A., whose opening remarks gave inspiration to the whole of the meeting. The report was given in interesting style by the Rev. J. Elliott (superintendent), the Rev. C. Humble followed with an earnest, thoughtful speech, that was well received. The deputation, Rev. J. W. Moorse, came last with a vigorous and timely address. Votes of thanks to the chairman, speakers, and juvenile collectors were heartily accorded.

Weardale

A heavy shower of snow, sleet, and hail fell in Weardale on Saturday afternoon. The ground was covered with snow.

Time means money! Have the correct time, by wearing J. T. Castle's 50s English Lever.

HEALING THE SICK.

A REVELATION IN THE ART OF HEALING. DOCTORS OUTCLASSED BY VENO, THE NEW CHAMPION OF MEDICINE.

MR. VENO is Ex-President of the Veno Drug Co., a corporation chartered under the laws of Pennsylvania, U.S.A., founders of a system of medicine which has made rapid inroads on the old fashioned drugging system of the doctors. Its science and simplicity and marvellous success stamp it the medicine of the future.

THE VENO MEDICINES are applied with scientific certainty and without leaving injurious effects, as is too frequently the case with doctors' medicine, also with the host of common, cheap, trashy drugs which are daily foisted on the public. The cures accomplished by Veno have never been equalled since the art of healing began. He does not exaggerate his cures. Read the following:—

NEURALGIC HEADACHE COMPLETELY CURED.

MRS COCKBURN, 23, North View, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, writes, September 14th, Mr Veno. Dear Sir,—I am happy to say my husband is keeping well. He has not had any return of the trouble in his head. He was better after the first bottle, but he has taken two bottles altogether. If he should ever have a return of the trouble, I will at once get your medicine.

ECZEMA CURED. AN IMPORTANT CASE.

THOMAS FENWICK, Thornton Fold, Pitt Hill, R.S.O., writes, May 23rd, 1899:—Dear Sir,—It gives me great pleasure to inform you that I am quite well of the Eczema, after being troubled with it for so long, and after attending many doctors and never getting any better. I was induced to try your medicine, and after using the same for two months I am completely cured. I shall always recommend your medicine for its sterling value.

KIDNEY TROUBLE AND RHEUMATISM COMPLETELY CURED.

MRS. ANN KIRBY, 67, Eglesfield Road, South Shields, writes, Jan. 6th, 1899:—Mr. Veno, Dear Sir,—I am glad to say my leg is now much better after using your medicine. I can walk as well as ever I did. I also feel very well in my body, for which improvement I am very grateful to you.

CHRONIC JOINT RHEUMATISM CURED AFTER SEVERE SUFFERING.

MR. W. WINEBERG, 61, Cambden Street, North Shields, writes, January 13th, 1899:—W. H. Veno, Esq., Dear Sir,—I am deriving great benefit from your medicine. I do not feel the pains at all now. You may depend upon it I shall recommend your medicine to all I may come across. I am widely known up and down Tyneside among shipyard hands.

VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC

IS THE PEOPLE'S STRENGTHENER AND HEALTH-GIVER.

It is the safest and best cure for ailments arising from a diseased condition of the stomach, liver, kidneys, and blood, such as indigestion, wind, billiousness, sick, dull headache, and weakness. It is the best medicine for weak, pale, debilitated men and women, especially where there is heart weakness and constipation. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

STOP A COUGH IN ONE NIGHT.

Take VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE, it stops an ordinary cough in one night, and cures rapidly Chronic Coughs, Asthma, Bronchitis, Weak Lungs, Catarrh, Influenza, and Whooping Cough. Its vast superiority over the different emulsions and ordinary Cough Mixtures, cannot be estimated. It has saved thousands of lives after they had been turned out of hospitals. It is a scientific remedy endorsed by medical men. Ask for VENO LIGHTNING COUGH CURE, 1s. 1½d and 2s. 9d. (copyright.)

Sold by following Chemists, T. Milner, Consett; Jabez Swindale, Blackhill, and Branches; Robinson and Co., Chester-le-Street; T. Wilkinson, Crook; Birtley Co-operative Society, and all Chemists and Stores everywhere, or post free from The Veno Drug Co., 13, Devonshire Street, Manchester. Consult Mr. Veno free personally or by post, and send stamps for his book entitled "Rheumatism and Paralysis, and their complete cure." 729f

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

Coun. J. Humble presided at the monthly meeting of the Council at Stanhope on Saturday. There was a good attendance of members.—It was reported that a footpath at Frosterley had been improved by Messrs Ord and Maddison. The work had been well done, and, on the motion of Coun. Barker, seconded by Coun. Ridley, a vote of thanks was accorded the Company through their agent, Mr. G. Pattinson.—The repair of the footpath between Stanhope and Eastgate, by the river-side was discussed. It was decided to repair it and invite tenders by next meeting to do the work.—Coun. T. Robinson stated the result of his interview with Mr. J. W. Roddam, agent to Mr. Hildyard, in respect to diverting the path above Water Lodge into the field between the railway and the present path. Mr. Roddam is to see Mr. Hildyard in respect to it.—The Heathery Cleugh Bridge question came up again for discussion. The estimated cost of the bridge required was stated to be £65. Coun. T. Robinson thought the cost rather heavy for the Parish Council, considering that they could not exceed spending 3d in the pound. Coun. T. Pentland thought in some of the wards very little had been spent to improve footpaths, at least since they came upon the Council. The Chairman thought it unfair for some proprietors both to have to pay rates and likewise to be asked to contribute as well personally. Messrs Wilson, Ridley, Walton, Thompson, and others spoke for and against. On the motion of Coun. Walton, seconded by Coun. Lee, it was decided that the Clerk should write the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, asking them to subscribe towards the cost of the bridge; also some of the proprietors interested, the matter to rest pending a reply from the Commissioners and proprietors.—Two tenders were received for repair of footpath at Earn's Well—John Hetherington at £2, and T. Porter at £3. It was let to the lowest.—It was ascertained by the Clerk (Mr. R. Thompson) that the cost of copy of award would be £40 without plans. The Council decided to let the matter stand over at present.—A tender was received for repairs of footpath at Westgate from the village to Weeds at £23 6s 8d. The estimate being only £8. On the motion of Coun. J. Ward, seconded by Coun. T. Robinson, it was decided that the tender could not be entertained.—The making of a footpath between Eastgate and Rookhope was discussed. Tenders were received from Fairless Bros., £40 9s; if only a three feet path, £35; Messrs Baty and Collingwood, £30; if only three feet path, £25. The width of the footpath was also discussed. It was thought a pity to demand four feet through good land when perhaps a three feet path would meet the requirements. On the motion of Coun. J. Barker, seconded by Coun. J. Lee, it was decided to adjourn the question until next meeting, the Clerk to ascertain some facts in respect to width of paths legally.—The Clerk is also to ascertain the Parish Council's powers in regard to the removal of dangerous stiles on paths.—Tenders were received for improving footpath from Wearhead to East Black Dene from Fairless Bros., £7 6s; J. Hetherington, £5 16s. It was let to the lowest.—Tenders are to be invited for fencing 80 yards of dangerous footpath at Burnt Hills in Upper Weardale.—Notice of motion was also given by Coun. J. Ward for 70 yards of fencing at Eastgate Lynn.

Interesting Presentation at Tow Law

The Mechanics' Institute, Tow Law, was crowded on Saturday night on the occasion of a presentation to Mr. J. W. Laverick, who for 12½ years acted at Tow Law as the resident manager for the Weardale Iron Company, but who has just recently been transferred to the management of the Wheatley Hill and Thornley Collieries under the same firm.—Mr. A. W. Emerson, local cashier, presided, and he was supported by a very large gathering of officials and colliery representatives amongst whom were Messrs J. B. Robinson, R. Dixon, W. Robson, Wm. Gradon, W. Hodgson, J. P. Allison, T. Raine, T. H. Potts, W. M'Intyre, J. Vickers, etc.—Mr. A. W. Emerson made the presentation in a characteristic speech, and amongst those who paid a tribute to Mr. Laverick's ability and character were Messrs R. Dixon, Wm. Robson, E. Close, and James Vickers. The presentation consisted of a handsome tea and coffee service, together with an illuminated address, which had been subscribed for by the workmen of the two collieries to the amount of about £40. Mr. Laverick, who responded during the course of the evening, met with a most cordial reception. Songs were given during the course of the proceedings by Messrs James Hildreth, R. Wislon, T. Finneran, and T. Watson, Mr. J. Keogan presiding at the piano. The gathering, which was of the most harmonious character, terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

The attraction at the theatre this week is J. K. Murray and Emilie Dawson and their Standard Repertoire Company. There was a good company present on Monday night to witness the production of the great domestic drama, "Driven from Home," which was very ably played. The piece is an interesting and exciting one, and the scene depicting the interior of the sawmills is one of the finest we have seen produced at the New Theatre. The heroine, "Laura Raybrook," is splendidly impersonated by Miss Emilie Dawson, whose acting was a treat. Miss M. Vaughan and Miss Isabel Mairt also performed their parts in good style. Mr J. K. Murray was excellent as "Anthony Raybrook," and praise is likewise due to Mr T. Adams ("Walter Hatherleigh"), C. Boyne ("Geoffrey Waring"), Mr A. E. Walker ("Jabez Thomas"), and Mr Mostyn Thorpe, who was very effective as an outcast. The humourous business was in the hands of Mr A. Hall Menzies as "John Anderson," and Miss Marie Moore as "Barbara Ashdown." The other parts are ably portrayed. On Wednesday night "The Wandering Jew" was placed on the boards to the complete acceptance of the audience. The same play will be produced to-night (Thursday), whilst on Friday there will be a grand special night, when the pathetic drama, "A Woman's Error," will form the bill of fare. The attraction on Saturday evening will be "Driven from Home."

MEDOMSLEY CYCLING CLUB

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the above popular club was held at headquarters, Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, last week. Mr. I. Rutherford occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The energetic hon. secretary (Mr. Joseph Walton) read his annual report as follows:

Mr. Chairman and fellow members,—In presenting you with my first report I have much pleasure in stating that the past year has been a very successful one. We have just ended the second year of our club, which I think has been more satisfactory than the first. We have had fifteen runs this season, and I am sorry in one respect to say that I alone can boast of attending all of them. W. Hornsby is the next best with twelve to his credit, and then T. and R. Cant with ten and eight respectively. I regret to say our captain has not had more time to give us, but I am sure it is through no fault of his, as his heart was always with us. (Applause.) I trust that in the coming season there will be a better attendance all round, and think we might offer some small prize as an encouragement for the same. We won the prize valued at 10/- given at Kyo Flower Show. I propose we buy a bugle with this money, and also another out of the club funds. We have a balance of £2 now lying to our credit in the Post Office Savings Bank, and, together with a small sum of 12/-, which I hold, we may consider ourselves in a good financial position. (Applause.) Our late treasurer, Mr. McCue, having left the district, we will have to appoint someone to fill his place. The money is banked in my name, but I will have it transferred to whoever is appointed. I trust you will appoint suitable men as officers of the club, as in my opinion these are most essential for the welfare of the club. I thank you, gentlemen, for your presence here to-night, and hope that in the coming season you will rally round and make our club second to none in the county. (Applause.)

The report was adopted as very satisfactory.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. H. Palmer, J.P.; vice-presidents, Messrs J. W. Jamieson, A. M. Hedley, W. P. Morris, G. E. Milburn, T. D. Dales, T. W. Vasey, R. Moffitt, G. Hunter, T. Trainor, and Dr. Downes. Committee, Messrs W. Hornsby, M. Cousins, G. Snaith, W. Lovat, J. Kirtley, and J. Pickernig; captain, Mr. T. Brown; vice-captains, Messrs G. Wallace and R. Cant; treasurer, Mr. I. Rutherford; hon. sec., Mr. Joseph Walton.

CLUB COLOURS.

It was resolved to retain the same colours—viz., green and gold.

A FOOTBALL MATCH.

It was decided to play a football match with Shotley Bridge Green Caps, and that after the game visitors be entertained to tea, to be followed by a smoking concert.

ANNUAL SOCIAL.

The annual social was fixed to be held on December 26th when the club intend to make it a big success.

ATTENDANCE PRIZE.

The prize for best attendance at club runs was won by the secretary, but he declined to accept it.

It was decided to present Mr. Walton with a pipe in recognition of his past valuable services.

Votes of thanks to the retiring officers and the Press brought the meeting to a close. We are pleased to hear that the prospects for next season are very bright, and the club hope to have a record season.

New Wesleyan Chapel at Ushaw Moor

Memorial stones of a new Wesleyan Chapel at Ushaw Moor in the Crook Circuit, were laid on Saturday afternoon. In spite of the heavy downpour of hail during the afternoon there was a good company present. The site of the new chapel, which comprises 1,000 yards, is an admirable one, situated near the main road, between the colliery and White House Lane. It is designed in the Gothic style and will provide seating accommodation for 300 persons. The building will be faced with white pressed brick—given by Messrs Pease and Partners—and will be enclosed by a stone wall. The architect is Mr. J. W. Taylor, F.R.I.B.A., of Newcastle. The total estimated cost of the building will be about £600.—The Rev. T. Baron (superintendent of the circuit) presided, and was supported by the Revs. J. W. Houghton and E. S. Harland. The first stone was laid by Mrs. W. Burnip of Crook, other stones were laid by Mrs. T. Baron (wife of the superintendent minister), Mrs. J. Pedelty, Mrs. R. Dixon, Crook; Mrs. J. V. Walton of Witton-le-Wear; Mrs. Isaac Wood, New Brancepeth; Mrs. T. Smallwood, Ushaw Moor; Mr. J. Barron, Hedley Hill; Master Parker, Hagg House. Bricks were also laid by representatives of the Sunday Schools in the Deerness Valley. At the close of the ceremony a collection was taken. The amount realised, together with the stone laying was £65. A public tea was provided in the Baptist Chapel (kindly lent for the occasion), and was well patronised. In the evening a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr. J. J. G. Crofton, Esh Villa. Addresses were given by the Rev. J. Bacon of Durham, the circuit ministers, and others.

BLAYDON.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.—At the Gateshead County Poice Court on Thursday, James Campbell and George Marshall were charged by P.C. Tulley with fighting at Blaydon.—Marshall pleaded guilty, while Campbell denied the charge. The latter stated that he had more sense than to fight, and he only wanted to get away from Marshall, who was arguing with him, to do some bussiness.—Campbell was dismissed, whilst Marshall was bound over to keep the peace in the sum of £5, and ordered to pay the costs.

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THE JUBILEE OF THE ORDER OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

CELEBRATIONS AT CONSETT

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS.

Habing cognisance of the fact that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the inception of the Order of the Sons of Temperance into Great Britain, the following Divisions thought the present on opportune time to celebrate the jubilee in Consett:—"Star of Hope," Blackhill; "John Wesley," Consett; "Beacon on the Hill," Medomsley; and "Star of Industry," Lanchester. With this end in view it was decided to hold a public tea and meeting, which duly took place on Saturday.

THE HISTORY OF THE ORDER.

It will perhaps here not be out of place to give a brief outline of the Order. The Order was formed on the 29th September, 1842, by a meeting held in the Teetotalers' Hall, Division Street, New York, the meeting being held as the outcome of the founders' interest in the temperance movement and in the victims of intemperance, and it was recorded that "the meeting passed off with the greatest harmony and good feeling, and may be truly styled a good beginning." The Order, we are told, was instituted as a social circle, where drink-cursed victims might find companionship without association with the drink. The movement found great favour. The membership went up by leaps and bounds. The pledges were kept by the pledge-signers, and the percentage of defection was greatly reduced. In the year 1849, the Order was introduced into Great Britain, and remained under the jurisdiction of the National Division of North America until 1855, when the National Division of Great Britain and Ireland was formed, and in 1862 it was introduced into Newcastle. The Grand Division was instituted on the 25th March, 1864, and a very successful career it has had, being now one of the strong districts of the Order. In addition to the city and suburbs, it has adult and juvenile branches in many places, amongst them being Blaydon, Winlaton, Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, Medomsley, Leadgate, and Burnopfield. The membership increased with rapidity, and on the 30th September, 1899, it numbered 6,450. The funds, which have largely increased during the last few years, now total upwards of £20,400. At its formation, the Grand Dibision had 216 members, with funds in hand amounting to £196, and, during its history, Newcastle has been twice honoured with a visit from the National Division—the supreme head of the Order—the first occasion being in the summer of 1867, when the district had only 471 members, with a capital of £404. Quite a different state of affairs greeted the representatives on their second visit to the city, at Whitsuntide, 1894, when the adults numbered 3,192, and the juveniles 1,562, with total funds amounting to £15,612. Since that time there has been a nett increase of 1,500 in the membership, and of £4,500 in the funds. Much greater results could have been reported, but a large and prosperous district has been formed, which owes its orgin to Newcastle, so that it is not possible, even approximately, to give an idea of the thousands of thrifty people, who have benefitted by the introduction of the Order into the North of England. Coming nearer our own town we find the financial and numerical progress of the subordinate divisions in this district, in connection with the Grand Division of Newcastle-on-Tyne, is as under:—

Name of Division.	When Opened.	Number of Members.	Amount of Funds.	Number of Members, 1899.	Amount of Funds, 1899.
			£		£
Star of Hope, Blackhill	1867	27	40	434	2373
John Wesley, Consett	1169	39	45	233	1100
Beacon-on-the-Hill, Medomsley	1867	16	2	261	401
Star of Industry,	1870	18	28	44	238
Total Membership and Funds..				969	4112

THE PROCEEDINGS.

The proceedings in connection with the celebrations began with a public tea, which was held in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, in the afternoon, at which about 600 people sat down to tea. In the evening a public meeting was heldd in the Town Hall, the chair being occupied by Bro. Geo. Lowes, P.G.W.P., Consett, who presided over a moderate gathering. Afther the singing of a hymn and prayer the chairman said a few words. At the outset he expressed the pleasure it afforded him to meet them that evening. He would have been very much more pleased if the building had been full. About 600 people had sat down to tea in the afternoon, and he should have liked to see the same number present at the meeting. They had had a thousand people present before, and could seat them comfortably. It would have given him great pleasure to have seen the hall full of people to advocate the cause of teetotalism, and the Order of the Sons of Temperance. (Applause.) As most of them would be aware this year was the jubilee of the introduction of that Order into Great Britain, which took place in the year 1849, and now they had reached the year 1899. Meetings were being held almost all over Great Britain, to celebrate the jubilee, and he was exceedingly pleased to see so many faces at the tea, and faces that he had not seen for years, and members of the Order of the Sons of Temperance. He had a recollection of when the Order was first commenced in this district, the inception meeting having been held in his own house—(applause)—at Cutler's Hall. (Applause.) There was not a single "son" in the neighbourhood, but a few of them banded together and got as many members as possible, and then subsequently asked for a charter, which was granted in the year 1867, and they now had one or two of these officers present that evening. (Applause.) One of the members—Bro. Gibson—would later on say a few words about the Division. Bro. Gibson was closely in touch with all the ramifications of the Order in this northern district. (Applause.) He was also pleased to meet some of his colleagues on the Executive of the Grand Division of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, notably Bros. Scott and Heslop. (Applause.) They had also present the Grand Patriarch of the district, and as a rule that official almost always took the chair at all the meetings held in the district, under the Grand Division, but their Grand Patriarch did not need any apology from him, as he had told them to make their own arrangements. The reason why he (the chairman) occupied the position of chairman that evening was because his name was first upon the register in the district. (Applause.) He had been a member of the Order from the very beginning, 34 years ago—(applause)—and he was exceedingly pleased that the Order had greatly progressed, and he was pleased that so far as he was personally concerned he had never needed the good offices of the Order, except only on one occasion, during the whole 34 years of his membership. (Applause.) As he had intimated at the Grand Division Conference held in Newcastle, he had paid into the Order over £47, and he had received only 18s, being for an accident. If half of the members of the "Star of Hope" Division had been so favourably situated as he had been it would have been one of the richest Divisions in Great Britain. (Applause.) But every person could not be as healthy as he had been. Their Institute helped a brother in time of sickness and distress, and he was pleased to say that as a Division they had been of great assistance to a number of families when poverty had been at the door. They had helped them in many ways, and it was their duty to help each other in times of sickness and distress. He had no doubt but that jubilee meeting would have a beneficial effect upon the outside public, and would bring the Order more prominently before them, than it had been for some time. Many of them would have received leaflets explaining the Order, and these, he thought, ought to be perused with great care, and no doubt the outcome of this would be that many people would join the Order. (Applause.) Some 29 or 30 years ago another Order was commenced in the district, called the Independent Order of the Sons of Temperance. They did not hold their meetings in the same way as the Order he had just mentioned, but held demonstrations in the old Town Hall, and also paraded around the town. They also found other three or four Dibisions in the locality, including the "Star of Hope," which had nearly 450 members upon the books. (Applause.) With such a large number of members they must see that many of them needed their attention and help, and he was pleased to say that every person who needed help had the same cheerfully given to them. (Applause.) As a Division they had been the means of helping many of their brothers who had been in distress. Some of the members fell back in their payments and these "lapses," which were sometimes caused by the members getting into difficulties, were often prevented by the Division paying their arrears. Many of such members when they had again obtained work paid back their arrears. He would not say anything more but simply ask Bro. Gibson to address them. (Applause.) Bro. Gibson did not pose before them as a public speaker, but he was a scribe, and a grand scribe in every sense of the word, and he was sure that a more painstaking Grand Scribe, or Secretary, they could not find in the district. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in introducing to them Bro. Gibson. (Applause.)

Bro. James Gibson, G.S., Newcastle, who was loudly cheered on rising, said the chairman in his opening remarks had made a kind reference to him, especially during the time he had held the office of Grand Scribe. Well it so happened that one of the first official jobs he had to do took place in the year 1867, and that was to come up there along with their other Patriarch. They came up to Blackhill and instituted the "Star of Hope" Division, to which Bro. Lowes had referred. (Applause.) Just for a moment or two he would like to say a few words touching upon the institution or the introduction of the Order into the North of England. (Applause.) He had been going through the first minute book for the "Sons of Temperance," and the Grand Division in the District—he meant the first minute book of the "Excelsior" Division, instituted in the month of March, 1852, and for the information of those brothers present he might say that for some time after that Division was instituted that there was not much success attendant upon their efforts. For some months the receipts were very low, but the pioneers of the movement stuck to their ground, and in a short time the Order began to prosper, and shortly afterwards it was introduced into South Shields, and subsequently made its way to Jarrow, and a second division was instituted in Newcastle. Four Divisions formed the Grand Division, and it was rather singular that the Grand Division was formed in the month of March, and at that time they had 147 members, and not much money. In 1867, the Order was introduced into that district, and that also took place in the month of March. That month, to him, seemed to have been an important one to them in connection with their landmarks in the district. He could remember well when the Division was instituted in Blackhill there being only about a dozen persons present at the meeting, and it was there he made the acquaintance of the chairman. At the end of the year that Division, he thought, had about 29 members. There had been some figures put before them, and from that they would see in connection with the Division that there had been increasing prosperity. During these years the Division had increased its number, and there was one remarkable thing in regard to these figures and that was that the membership in Consett, Blackhill, Medomsley, and Lanchester, had increased by about ten times the original number. Therefore, should any young man or woman wish to join a friendly society they need not be afraid to come and join any in the Division—because they were joining a strong order. With regard to the district they now had some 6,450 juvenile members, and four thousand adult members. At the end of September they had a capital of something like £20,000, and they had progressed during the last quarter at the rate of above £100 per month. The chairman had referred to the "Star of Hope" Division, and as far as members were concerned they had a healthy membership. (Applause.) They could have had a larger membership than they had at the present time, but when they got members they liked to have the best members, and they knew they found such in young men and women who had not been addicted to drink. Drink injured the health. In conclusion, he might say that the chairman had asked him to say a few words touching upon the introduction of the Order, and he had been pleased to comply with that request. They had present that evening Bro. Scott and Bro. Heslop, who were also to address the meeting, and also Bro. Davis, who had come all the way from Manchester—(applause)—and in order to give them time he would conclude his remarks by again expressing the pleasure it gave him to be present that night, and he hoped that the meeting would be the means of increasing the membership in that district. (Applause.)

A little harmony was now thrown into the meeting by the rendering of a solo by Mr R. Evans, of Blackhill which was given in fine style.

The Chairman afterwards called upon Bro. W. Scott, M.W.C., Winlaton, to address the meeting.

Bro. Scott, who met with a warm reception, said he only hoped he might come up to the high standard the chairman had set before him. He must say that he was pleased to be under Bro. Lowes' chairmanship. (Applause.) He had long noticed that Bro. Lowes' trait was in keeping other people right, and that was the work of a good chairman. Now he could not help thinking when the chairman was depicting those far-away times, and the pioneers of their movement who went through hard work and bad weather—(applause)—to do the pioneer work, he could not help thinking about the time when Bro. Gibson came up here, when there was about twelve inches of snow upon the ground. They seemed to be rather fond of that weather at Consett—(laughter)—and the first snow he had seen that day was whilst coming up to Consett, so they therefore had not been able to alter the weather very much—(laughter)—but they had certainly altered the aspect of the district very materially—(hear, hear)—because he believed that Consett and its products were now known almost wherever civilised man was to be found—(A voice: "That's true.")—and he took it for granted that they did not care if such were known where uncivilised men were, so long as they got a sale for the steel and iron, that brought grist to the mill. (Laughter.) They were now celebrating throughout the district, nay, as the chairman had said, throughout the country, the jubilee of the Order. (Applause.) He hoped that everybody present understood what the Order was, but should they not understand it he would read a leaderette which appeared in a Newcastle paper two or three weeks ago. He wished to preface any remarks he should make by reading the leaderette, and he wanted them to remember that this was not an advertisement, or a piece of news which had been sent—(hear, hear)—but it was something they choose to put in from information they had received for themselves. The reference was as follows: "The Order of the Sons of Temperance is perhaps the strongest of the temperance bodies in the North of England. Originally an American Order, it was introduduced into Great Britain in 1849—seven years after its inception, and in 1862 it penetrated to Newcastle. Two years later a Grand Division was formed in this district, with a membership of 216, and funds in hand amounting to £196. In 1894 a new order—the National Division—met in Newcastle. It had a membership of 4,754, and funds amounting to £15,162. While in June of this year the membership in the Newcastle district had reached 6,300, and the funds reached £20,200. (Applause.) The various branches of this Division are now about to celebrate the jubilee of the organisation in this country." A series of meetings, he said, had been held, and the movement was inaugurated in Gateshead a few nights ago. These meetings had been held, and they were at that moment celebrating the jubilee at Consett—one of large membership. They had in that district close upon a thousand adult members, and nearly 500 cadets. He did not think the Order of the Sons of Temperance ought to be ashamed—(hear, hear)—he did not think it need be ashamed at all. He believed that if by that meeting they could bring home to the people the privileges of the Order they would have done a great blessing. (Applause.) They had amongst them that evening some young people, whom they desired should remember the jubilee, and to tell it in after years to their children, and to every one whom they met. He was glad that they had the cadet part of the work, which was perhaps the most hopeful part they had, because it was in youth that most of them formed habits, which stood by them. He remembered hearing the story of a blacksmith, who was such a renowned chain-maker, and whose chains it was said no one could break. The story said that in his older days he became a prisoner, and he examined the chain that shackled him to see if there was a flaw in it that he could break, but he found it was a chain he had made himself, and then his faith vanished, because he knew it was impossible to break it. It was in youth they made the chains of habit, which could scarcely be broken. Perhaps some of them had heard the eminent divine, Dr. Watson, who was a gentleman abounding in wisdom and wise sayings. Some little time ago that gentleman stated that now and again people said to him, "Don't you think Methodism is going down?" Dr Watson replied, "No, I don't know what makes you think so!" They replied, "Well, we remember when many of our churches and chapels had carriages which waited for the people when they came out." Respectable people thought that Methodism must be going down because they did not see any carriages. Dr. Watson remarked that one thing he knew, if they did not see carriages, they had plenty of perambulators. (Laughter.) That was their position; they did not care so very much about the "carriage people," they could take good care of themselves as a rule, but they wanted to have plenty of children coming amongst them—(hear, hear)—who would grow up to be men and women who would do good work. (Applause.) Take the temperance question of fifty years ago, what was the state of things then? Why on every well-ordered table wine was to be found; even the churches could not do without it. They thought it necessary in those days to fortify the minister before he went into the pulpit. The good deacons and the students thought they ought to have a little wine, and sometimes a little spirit, so that at any rate there might be one spirit to be found in the pulpit. (Loud laughter.) Doctors prescribed it right and left, because they perhaps thought it was the handiest thing. He read a little time ago of a lady, who took her girl to a doctor, and the lady was rather deaf. The doctor said, "I see what your girl wants, she wants a little claret three times a day." After a lapse of about ten or twelve days the girl was brought back to the doctor, who exclaimed, "Yes, she seems rosy and wonderfully revived," and added, "It has been just what she wanted." The woman replied, "Yes, I gave her them three times a day, she had carrots raw, and boiled, and she had them everywhere." (Laughter.) The woman had mistaken the word, and thought the doctor had ordered carrots. What was the state of things now? Why there were 600 members of the Medical Association who were teetotallers. (Hear, hear.) And what about the churches? Ninety-eight per cent of the ministers of the churches were total abstainers. (Applause.) They had also a wonderful army even amongst the state church ministers, and many of the bishops were excellent temperance advocates. A great change had taken place. If a man at those times was inclined to be stout like his Bro. Heslop—(laughter)—or himself—(renewed laughter)—and wanted to be made thin they had to take intoxicants, and they were likewise ordered it if they were thin and wished to become stout. (Laughter.) If they were in a cold region it was supposed to be suitable for warming them, whilst if they were in a hot climate it was said to be suitable for cooling them. (Laughter.) There had been a mighty change for the better. (Applause.) He was glad that children were now differently treated altogether; this was the age of the children. Why, there were some men and women present that evening, who could remember when little fellows were sent to the mines and who had long hours, and some did not see God's sun except on the sabbath. Some were sent to factories, and had to carry heavy burdens all day, and the wonder to him was that they ever grew up to be men and women, and people were sometimes heard to say that those were the good old times—he was glad he did not live in those times. (Laughter.) They had had it demonstrated beyond a doubt that men could do without drink. Of course fifty years ago it was thought rather a serious thing for some of those men who signed the pledge, as they did not know what was before them. It was like getting married, it was largely a speculation. (Laughter.) Now they knew that men could do every kind of work, both physical and mental, and if they were teetotalers they could do it better. (Hear, hear.) The speaker related the story of two miners, one of whom was a teetotaler, whilst the other was not. The non-teetotaler thought the other miner would be unable to do the hard work because he did not take drink, so he said to him, "Thee knocks down coils; thee will never knock down coil until thee takes beer." (Laughter.) The teetotaler told his companion that he only drank water, and when he got that he could knock down coals in such a fashion, that he had knocked up two houses, and got the deeds for them. (Applause.) He had yet to meet with the man who regretted he was a teetotaler—such had not been found. He joined the Total Abstainence Society when he was 13 years of age, at a band of hope meeting. Did they think he had cause to regret it? Not he, and he did not regret being a member of the Sons of Temperance. (Applause.) The organisation was all on their side. Bro. Gibson had given them some statistics, but he had refrained from comparing their society with some others, and to show them that it tended towards longevity. They had a very low death-rate; therefore, was not preponderance all on their side? These were facts, and facts were "things that winna ding," and which were not to be disputed. They had nothing to be ashamed of in connection with the Order. There was the moral aspect of the organisation. "When a man went home after having attended this Division meeting of the Sons of Temperance, or any kindred society, the children did not have to slip out of the way at his approach. (A voice: "No!") When the history of the 19th century came to be written a very large page would have to be allotted to the work of friendly societies, which had done magnificent work. (Applause.) But how often did some men go to what were called friendly societies to pay money, so that they might have benefit at times of sickness, or at death, and how often did they go home in anything but a friendly condition? They needed to put the whole atmosphere into as friendly a state as it possibly could be. He urged upon every member of the Order to never cease advocating the claims of their own society; they had nothing to be ashamed of, but everything to be proud of. (Applause.) There was, he said, a fallacy abroad, and it was this: that men thought if they sent their money to the secretary or the club-room that that was all required of them. That was not so; and if they could help to remove that fallacy they would be doing a great good. By attending the meetings members not only helped the Order, but they also learned citizenship. At the meetings they had a regular routine of business, and he had had it from men in all positions up to M.P.'s in that northern district, that they got their ideas of how to discharge public duties in the division room. (Hear, hear.) They would therefore see at once that they rendered immense service in the district. Anything tending towards good citizenship helped to make men better and wiser. In conclusion he urged upon them the claims of their division, and hoped that the jubilee year would be a year of rejoicing and happiness, and that God would bless the jubilee, and that they would have cause to rejoice. (Applause.)

Miss Walton, of Consett, now rendered a solo, after which the Chairman called upon Bro. Richard Heslop, P.G.P., of Winlaton, to address the meeting.

Bro. Heslop, who met with a warm reception said after having such an introduction from the Chairman he hardly knew how to proceed at all. (Laughter.) The Chairman had given them to understand perfectly clearly that he took the liberty of taking license with him, and he thought there were other men upon the platform whom, if they had had that right, would have taken a similar license with him as the Chairman had done. (Laughter.) He sometimes thought these gentlemen would take a good deal more if it was not for the policeman. (Laughter.) They were assembled there that evening to celebrate the jubilee. Bro. Scott had given them an excellent speech upon the temperance question generally, and he had informed them that he had been a teetotaler since he was 13 years of age. Well, he believed that was somewhere near the age when he (the speaker) signed the pledge, and perhaps they would think that at that age it was an utter impossibility for a youth to have any experience of the effects of intoxicating drinks. Well, now, he signed the pledge under very peculiar circumstances at the age of 13 years. At that time he was working in a boiler-yard, heating rivets as his vocation was called. He remembered one day when a woman came and asked him what he was working at and he told her "heating rivets," when she exclaimed, "Why, mun, eating ribbits! That wad be the vary job that wad suit worJoe, bekas what a' eater he is." (Laughter.) The woman had confounded "heating rivets" with "eating rabbits." The speaker then went on to relate the circumstances under which he signed the pledge. At the place where he was employed they worked in "squads." A good deal of piece work was done, and it was customary for one person to receive the wages wherewith to pay the "squad." An adjournment was afterwards made to a public-house, where the money was parted. Having arrived at the public-house a knock was given upon the table, in response to which in stepped "Mrs Smiler." (Laughter.) A half-gallon of beer was ordered—as nothing less would do—this incident occurred at the Wagon Inn in the Close, Newcastle. The first "tot" was turned out and this was given to the "lad," after which he received his money and was sent home—(laughter)—whilst the men sat until they were sometimes ordered out. After he got his money he went down an ally, when he heard a woman exclaim, "Luck at yon bit lad, Bess; the men hev meyd him drunk. He'll fall down directly, gan and help him." (Laughter.) Well, after he got home he was unwell, and on the following morning he did not feed as he ought to have done. He then began to reason with himself, and, remembering the teaching he had received at the Sunday School, he said to himself, "Well, Dick, if a tot will hev that effect upon you, what wad a bucket-ful hav when yor able to teck it?" (Laughter.) It was quite common at that time for certain men to consume a bucket-ful of ale, and the same to have little effect. He did not want to get to that state. On the next Monday night he attended a Band of Hope meeting, and signed the pledge—(applause)—and he was going to keep it. Why, they talked about beer making men; well he never could understand that. He knew that sometimes beer made men beasts; and, again, it was not necessary to take it. It was not a precursor to happiness—certainly not. As Bro. Scott had said fifty years ago it was supposed that they could not do anything unless they had a "drop" to begin with, but during those fifty years they had taught the world, and had proved that men who were teetotal lived longer, and happier, and better lives, all the world over. (Applause.) This was no visionary thing. He was afraid that he might have wearied them by a speech, but the Chairman had asked him to give them a rendering of "Ned White, and Hawke's men in the battle of Waterloo." (Loud applause.) He would comply with that request. They would no doubt have heard tell of the renowned works of Hawke's, noted for its iron and steel. To proceed with his narrative in the Tyneside dialect:—"Man, ah fell in wa Ned White the uther day, and ya nah thet Ned White an' uther twenty-fower a' Hake's cheps went oot to the Pennisular war where Wellington was. I says teh Ned, 'De ye meen thet thou wee a' the Pennisular war?' 'Pennisular war!' says Ned, 'ah shud think ah wes.' 'Did you ever meet Wellington when thou wes there?' I asked. 'Wellington! why man ah neu him. Just the neet afore the battle a' Waterloo Wellington sends for me. 'Ned,' seys he, 'ah want yee ta teck yor twenty-fower men and shift yon Frenchmen off yonder hill.' All reet, says ah, I'll shun shift them, but it'll not teck the whole twenty-fower. 'Why, man,' says Wellington, 'yon's Napoleon's crack regiment, and teck plenty ah men to shift them.' All shun shift them seys ah, and away ah gans down ta the lads, and ah says, 'Wellington wants us ta shift yon Frenchmen off the top of yon hill.' 'All reet,' says they, 'we'll shun shift them.' 'Hoo meny Frenchmen will there be?' asked Billy Scott. 'Oh, about fower hundred,' says ah. 'Hoo meny will it teck ta shift them?' says ah. 'Oh, about ten on us,' says Billy. 'Why, Wellington seys it's Napoleon's crack regiment, so we'll just teck fifteen to humour the aad man.' So away they gans alang the lonnen at a double, and when they turned around the corner at the foot o' the hill, whe shud they meet but Napoleon himself sitting upon a lilly-white horse. 'Where are yee ganning?' asked he. 'Wellington seys we hev ta shift yon Frenchmen off yon hill,' seys ah. 'What! de yee not nah that's my crack regiment?' seys Napoleon. 'Nivver mind,' seys ah, 'Wellington seys they hev to be shifted, and shifted they'll be.' 'Had on' seys Napoleon, and turning his horse aroond he gallops back ta the hill and shoots ta his army, 'Gan back, lads, heer's Ned White and twenty-fower fra Hawke's ganning to shift ye. Gan back! gan back!'—and they went back." (Loud laughter.)

A solo was now rendered by Mr Joseph Siddle, of Consett, after which Bro. Walter Davies, M.W.A., Bradford, said a few words. One would seem, he said, almost in a difficulty as to what subject he could talk about, after the very eloquent address of Bro. Scott, and the information given by Bro. Gibson, together with the humourous address of Bro. Heslop. One felt somewhat like the two lads whom they had heard about, one of whom came out of the house with sparkling eyes, and his countenance all aglow, as if something had happened which afforded him exceptional pleasure. This lad met a companion and said to him, "Do you know there is a new bairn come to our house this morning?" or rather that it had come from Heaven. "Oh!" exclaimed the other youth, "that's nowt; we had one that went from our house to Heaven last night." The other lad had replied, "Blow'd, it must be the same bairn." (Laughter.) He did not wish to be like that and to travel over the same ground as his other friends had done. They had set before themselves the task which they all ought to perform. There was a great deal of work for them all to do, so that it would not be necessary for them to stay at home, and let someone else do the work. Bro. Scott had said that they were then to celebrate the jubilee, and they must remember that many of their people had gone to the south part of the globe, leaving their homes and families in order to fight so that England's honour might be upheld. (Applause.) He regretted that in these days such barbarous methods should be necessary. (Hear, hear.) When they remembered that the Sons of Temperance had raised an army quite as large as that which the English nation had sent out from her shores, and that not one sword had been unsheathed to that victory. The Sons of Temperance had an army something like sixty-three thousand—(applause)—and during the fifty years it had been in existence it had permeated the world, not in a fashion calculated to blast humanity, but by making homes better. When they first began tremendous difficulty was placed in their way, and it had been said that the clergy were against them. The speaker afterwards made reference to the large number of people they had upon their side, who were at first adverse to the movement.

Miss Urwin, Blackhill, accompanied the singers; hearty votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

On Sunday evening, a largely-attended gospel temperance meeting was held in the Town Hall, at which Bro. Davies delivered an interesting address. The proceedings which were most successful, were presided over by Bro. W. Grainger, P.W.P., Consett.

Fatality at Whickham to a former Oxhill Man.

A Miner's Sad Death

On Friday afternoon, about four o'clock, a fall of stone took place in the five-quarter seam at Messrs Hannington and Co.'s Axwell Park Colliery, Whickham, which resulted in the death of a miner named William Dawson, 21 years of age, who resided at Eleanor Terrace, Whickham. The deceased who was a native of Oxhill, has only resided at Whickham for a few weeks. He leaves a wife and one child, for whom much sympathy has been expressed.

THE INQUEST.

On Monday afternoon, Mr. Coroner John Graham and a jury sat at the Three Tuns Inn, Whickham, to investigate into the circumstances attending the death of Dawson. Mr. Bell, H.M. Inspector of Mines, was present, whilst Coun. R. Rutherford was present on behalf of the company. Mr Cook was appointed foreman of the jury.

The first witness called was John Coulson, who resides at Charley Pit, South Moor, Chester-le-Street. Witness was the fore-overman at the Charley Pit. The deceased was his brother-in-law, and employed as a coal-hewer. Deceased was 21 years of age last birthday. Witness had been informed that deceased was killed bya fall of stone on the 10th inst.

Coun. Rutherford, manager of the colliery, here submitted a plan shewing the place where Dawson was killed. He stated that at about a quarter to two o'clock the deputy visited the place where Dawson was working, and at that time the deceased was busy taking the coal off. At about four o'clock the deceased had taken out the whole of the coal, and this stone fell, and so far as they could make out there was one prop standing beneath it. He would not be surprised if the last stroke of the pick caused the accident. The stone would weigh about one ton.

Mr Coulson: I suppose there would be plenty of timber in at the time?

Mr Rutherford: We will get men to prove that directly.

Edward Ross, deputy, said he was in charge of number four west five-quarter, at Axwell Colliery. He was in the place during the time that Dawson was working his shift. He was in once that day during the time deceased was working his shift, and that would be about 1-45 p.m. Deceased was working "single-handed." The width of the place would be about four yards, whilst the total height of the same was six feet seven inches, which was made up by bottom coal, two feet ten inches; band, one foot four inches; and top coal, two feet five inches. The mode of working was to take out the bottom coal right across the place, and then the band separately. Before doing that it was the custom to timber the band. After that the band was taken down separately, and then the top coal. When witness was in all the coal was taken out except about a yard in the right-hand corner. Witness himself set a prop and plank under the band. No other timber was necessary but this then. Witness left quite sufficient props and planks for the deceased to afterwards set himself. The props were of the right height. The deceased did not make any complaint to witness about the place. Witness received information about four o'clock that a fall of stone had taken place, and upon going back to the place he found that part of the band had fallen. Witness called the stone that fell a "horse back." The place where the stone fell from was covered with coal when witness was there. The deceased was still among the debris when witness arrived, and he was extricated as soon as possible. Dawson was then quite dead. Witness afterwards found that this stone had had a "slippy back." He could not say the exact size of the stone, but he gathered that it was about a ton weight. Witness was of opinion that the deceased was busy taking the coal out beneath the stone when it suddenly fell upon him.

George Heaton, residing at Back Row, Whickham, deposed that he was a putter employed at the colliery. He was putting for Dawson at the time of the accident, and the last tub he took in to deceased would be taken in about ten minutes to four o'clock. Deceased did not complain to witness about the place, but he was satisfied with the same.

Mr. Rutherford (to witness): Did you notice whether there were any props under the stone?

Witness: Yes. There were three props under the band.

Mr. Rutherford, in reply to the Coroner, explained that at the time of the accident there were three props set. One had been set by the witness Ross, the other by the fore-shift deputy, and the other by the deceased. He had come to the conclusion that the deceased set the third prop himself, which had been verified.

The Coroner: That shows he was careful.

William Tremble said he was hewing in the next place to the deceased. About 3-20 p.m. witness went to borrow some gear from the deceased, and whilst taking the same back about four o'clock he found that a fall of stone had taken place. Witness called for assistance. When witness was borrowing the gear the deceased said to him, "Be sharp and we will both get out together." Witness thought there were two or three props in at the time, but he would not like to say positively.

Mr Bell (to witness): Anyhow the place was perfectly safe?

Witness: Yes.

The Coroner next read the report of the men's inspectors—Messrs Herron and Dammighan—who testified that they had examined the workings where the accident occurred, and found the same satisfactory in every repect. They had examined the place where the deceased was killed and found that the mishap was a pure accident. There was plenty of props and loose timber in the place.

The Coroner, in reviewing the evidence said the same was as clear as they could well have it put before them. They had had such cases before, and, he was sure, would have many more. It was things like these, which were known as "horse-backs," and which might fall at any time, when the coal was taken from beneath it, and the poor miner got no warning that anything was going to happen. As far as precautions went, he thought the evidence was satisfactory. At the time when the deputy left the place the man was supported with sufficient timber, as far as the place could be timbered. The evidence went to show that the deceased man had been careful in looking after his safety as far as he could, and he had availed himself of the timber supplied to him. Therefore there was no fault to find with anyone; it was a case of pure accident.

A verdict of "accidental death" was returned.

The remains of deceased were interred in Whickham churchyard on Monday afternoon, amid many tokens of sorrow and regret.

Whickham Cricket Club.

Annual Dinner.

The members of the Whickham Cricket Club held their annual dinner at the Bay Horse Inn, Whickham, on Friday evening, when upwards of fifty members and friends sat down to an excellent repast ably purveyed by the genial host and hostess, Mr and Mrs J. Arkless. After the removal of the cloths, Mr John Turnbull was voted to the chair, whilst Coun. R. T. Swinburn occupied the vice-chair. After several loyal and patriotic toasts had been submitted and duly honoured, Mr W. B. Collin proposed "The Whickham Cricket Club," which was responded to by the Chairman. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, songs being rendered by Messrs W. Cheesman, T. M. Burn, J. Craig, C. King, J. Mowbray, Coun. Swinburn, G. Easey, F. Faldon (whose rendering of the farm-yard was cheered to the echo), and G. Turnbull. The health of the host and hostess was ably submitted by the Vice-chairman.

Annual Report.

The Secretary (Mr R. Mordue) submitted his annual report, which stated that the first team had played 16 games—won 9, lost 6, and drawn 1, whilst the second team had played 16 games—won 9, and lost 7. The prize bat given by Mr R. Mordue for best batting average had been won by Wm. Cook, with an average of 11.70 for 13 innings, T. B. Mowbray being second, with an average of 11.26. The bowling in the first team had been very consistent, G. Cheesman being top with 212 overs, 76 maiden overs, 351 runs, 64 wickets, and 5.48 average, whilst W. Cook came second with 213 overs, 67 maidens, 402 runs, 68 wickets, and 5.96 average. T. B. Mowbray has also been most useful, having secured twelve wickets at an average cost of 5.83. The batting prize for the second team—a pair of cricket boots, presented by Mr T. M. Burn—had been won by F. Mowbray, with an average of 11.44 for 13 innings. The bowling honours were carried off by Mr W. Mowbray, his performance reading—132 overs, 33 maidens, 62 wickets, 253 runs, 4.24 average, who was followed in the second place by F. Mowbray with 112 overs, 18 maidens, 46 wickets, 232 runs, 5.04 average. The first team had finished third in the North-West Durham League, whilst the second team qualified for the final in the second division, but were beaten in the final by Felling Temperance.

Election of Officers.

The following officers have been elected for the ensuing year:—First team—Captain, Mr R. Mordue; vice-captain, Mr W. Cook. Second team—Captain, Mr Wm. Mowbray; vice-captain, Mr T. Thynn. Secretary, Mr J. Mowbray; treasurer, Mr G. H. Heighton; committee, Messrs J. Turnbull, T. M. Burn, W. Thynn, G. Cheesman, F. Faldon T. Thynn, and J. Goodfellow.

HOW GOOD TEMPERED AND ROSY your baby is, Mrs Jones! Whatever do you give it? Oh, just one or two of PATTRICK'S COOLING & TEETHING POWDERS every week. They are the cheapest and best in the district—only 9d per dozen, from PATTRICK, CHEMIST, 5, Front Street, Consett. 309a.

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Hundreds of dozens always on hand; also SYPHONS.

ASK FOR "TIDLEY" THE NEW DRINK.

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DELVES LANE (near the New Consett Station.)

ESTABLISHED 1869.

Death of Mr H. E. Henderson, of Pelton.

We regret to have to record the unexpected death of Mr Henry Eldon Henderson, of Pelton Cottage, the sad event taking place at his residence on Friday morning last. Only a fortnight previously Mr Henderson presided over a meeting of the Chester-le-Street Highway Board, and had the honour of being the first to take the chair in the new Board-room. He subsequently attended the Guardians meeting and appeared to be in his usual hearty and robust condition. Unfortunately the disease from which he succumbed was developing then and blood poisoning setting in, Dr Taylor, who attended upon him, soon found the case hopeless, and to his own regret and the regret of the community at large, he had to announce the death of a gentleman who had the goodwill of all, and who took a fair share in an effort to leave the world better than he found it. Mr Henderson, who was 66 years of age, came from Wingate upwards of 30 years ago to manage Lord Dunsaney and Partners Colliery at Pelton. This was shortly after the explosion which took place on the 31st of October, 1866. For many years he devoted his time and energy to the discharge of his duties until, in 1894, he found himself able to give a share of his spare time to public work. In that year he was elected a member of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians, and of the Rural District Council. He was also a member of the Highway Committee, the Burial Board, and Chairman of the Parish Council. It will therefore be seen that he had a fair share of public work, and it can safely be said that each position was well and worthily filled. Mr Henderson was twice married, but had no family. His surviving widow is the daughter of Mr Joseph Thornton, of Tribley Hall. His death creates a vacancy for Chester-le-Street Parish on the Guardians and Council.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at Pelton Churchyard, and the respect entertained for the late gentleman was manifested by the large number who attended, and the many beautiful wreaths which were placed on the coffin. The cortege left the residence at about half-past twelve o'clock, the hearse being followed by four mourning coaches and between twenty and thirty private carriages. The mourners were Mr Walker, sen., Mr Walker, jun., Mr Scott, sen., Mr Scott, jun., in the first coach; Mr Thornton, sen., Mr Thornton, jun., Mr Foster, and Mr Emmerson in the second coach; Mr Crichton, Mr Thompson, and the Rev. R. Crookhall in the third; and Mr H. Armstrong, J.P., Dr Taylor, Mr Reed, and Mr J. Reay in the fourth. The pall-bearers were the following miners:—Messrs R. G. Wilson, T. Robson, J. W. Hewitson, and S. Leatham, whilst Mr English (engineer), and Mr R. H. Lonsdale preceded the hearse. Among others who attended were the Rev A. Dunn, the Rev Father Holmes, Messrs J. Tully, P. Hay, John Turnbull, James Turnbull, R. J. English, J. W. Bolam, J. Burnett, T. F. Brass, R. Y. Dickinson, Thos. Burn, T. C. Renwick, J. Hall, J. Clark, J. Moffatt, J. Maddison, J. Russell, A. Aikman, Supt. Heslop (Castle Eden), Inspector McDougall, Brewis, L. Anderson, J. Winn, T. Beveridge, W. Dawson, Blyth (Birtley), J. McKay, J. Robson, R. Finlay, J. Thompson, Curry, R. G. Cowe, J. Coxon, J. Low, R. Bland, J. Mitchell, W. Clarke, G. Heppell, Dr Renton, Dr Smith, J. H. Mole, and W. Crawford. The coffin was of oak with brass mountings, and bore the following inscription on the breast-plate:—"Henry Eldon Henderson, died Nov. 10th, 1899, aged 65 years." The first portion of the service was conducted in the church by the Rev Hugh Birley, of Gateshead, and late vicar of Pelton, the choir singing the hymn, "When our heads are bowed with woe." At the graveside the Rev C. C. Ledger, vicar, officiated, and the choir there sang the hymn, "Thy will be done."

Healeyfield and Rowley Parish Council.

The bi-monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Board Schools, Castleside, on Tuesday evening, when there were present—Couns. Anderson (chairman), Golightly, Ripley, Johnson, Richardson, and Greenwell. The clerk discharged the duties of clerk in the absence of Mr W. J. Scott.

NUMBERING OF HOUSES AND NAMING OF STREETS.

Pending definite information from the Lanchester Authorities, Coun. Ripley moved, and Coun. Richardson seconded, that the matter be carried forward.

Carried.

FOOTPATH AT LANE ENDS PUBLIC-HOUSE.

Pending further information from Mr Cumming, surveyor to the Lanchester Council, this had also to remain in abeyance.

HCESLEYHOPE FOOTBRIDGE.

The report from the committee deputed to visit this was that "they had come to the conclusion that nothing but a new bridge would suffice, the present one being a complete wreck and dangerous. They had also decided to ask for tenders for the erection of the bridge. Mr Askwith, of Consett, had kindly drawn up the plan and specifications for the same."

Subsequently, the tender of Mr W. Milner, of Castleside, was accepted for the erection of the footbridge, on the proposition of Coun. Richardson, seconded by Coun. Johnson.

It was stated in the report that Messrs Newton and Graham had offered to do the "leading" required for the erection of the footbridge free of charge.

DERWENT GRANGE ROAD.

This matter was carried forward, on the proposition of Coun. Golightly, seconded by Coun. Johnson.

This was all the business.

BILLIARD TOURNAMENT

Appended are the results of the games played during the past week:—

Consett New Town Hall v. Leadgate Guild.—J. Merrit, 100, v. C. Todd, 47; F. McNally, 100, v. J. E. Kinleside, 7; Hy. Wood, 100, v. F. Lockey, 92; G. Turner, 90, v. H. Makepeace, 100; Wm. Elliott, 100, v. J. S. Jopling, 91; W. Smurthwaite, 83, v. John Kershaw, 100. Totals:—Consett, 553 points; Leadgate, 501.

Leadgate League v. Derwent Cottage.—F. McDonald, 100, v. T. Leatherd, 95; R. Cheesmond, 100, v. W. Sanderson, 63; J. Matthews, 100, v. J. Curley, 70; P. Matthews, 92, v. G. Campbell, 100; T. Ward, 73, v. J. Barron, 100; A. McGurk, 100, v. Rev. A. C. Blunt, 88. Totals:—Leadgate, 563; Derwent Cottage, 516.

Stanley Victoria Club v. Allendale Cottage.—W. Long, 100, v. G. Walton, 56; J. Meggison, 100, v. J. Longstaff, 66; C. Pringle, 100, v. R. Ashby, 81; W. Clark, 100, v. J. Page, 81; W. Barker, 32, v. A. White, 100; W. Rose, 100, v. W. Eggleston, 38. Totals:—Stanley, 592; Allendale Cottage, 424.

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

SWALWELL.

COSTLY FOOTBALL.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, three youths belonging to Swalwell were charged with playing at football on the highway at Swalwell, to the annoyance of persons passing thereon.—P.C. Kindred proved the case, and the defendants were dismissed on payment of the costs—3/6 each.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD

The monthly meeting of this body was held at the Benfieldside Schools on Friday afternoon. The Rev. A. Baillie (chairman) presided, and there were also present—Rev. Canon Ross-Lewin, Rev. E. W. Jenkins, Mr. J. Sloane, Mr. J. Dowson, Mr. W. Ramsay, Mr. G. J. Robinson; and the Clerk (Mr. R. G. Barclay, J.P.)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee stated that at their last meeting a letter was read from Miss Wood, resigning her position as assistant teacher. The committee recommended that Miss Wood be liberated at once, as she was suffering from ill-health and that a successor be advertised for. A letter was read from Miss Davison saying that she had obtained her certificate, and asking to be retained on the school staff as a certificated assistant, and the committee recommended that the application be acceded to.

THE RESIGNATION OF MISS WOOD.

The Chairman bore testimony to the excellent teaching qualities of Miss Wood, and said they had heard of her resignation with regret. Owing to ill-health she had only been able to attend school once or twice a week.

Mr. Dowson suggested that they transfer Miss Davison from Derwent Street to the Benfieldside Schools in place of Miss Wood. He found that at Derwent Street school there were five teachers for 105 children. He thought four quite sufficient for that number of children.

Mr. Ramsay thought it would hardly be fair to the teacher herself.

Mr. Sloane: Why?

Mr. Ramsay: Because Miss Davison has made infant teaching her profession.

Mr. Jenkins said this seemed an opportune time for them to put their theories into practice.

Mr. Sloane said they had had enough of advertising. They were only doing justice to their own teachers to give them every opportunity.

Mr. Dowson did not see that Derwent Street School would suffer anything by the proposed transference.

Mr. Sloane moved that it be a recommendation to the School Committee that the vacancy be filled up from their own staff if possible.

Mr. Ramsay said that the School Committee were anxious to be as economical as possible. They were willing to consider any suggestions likely to benefit the schools and keep down the expenditure.

Mr. Dowson said he wished to do nothing to detract from the efficiency of the school. He would second the motion.

In reply to a question, the Chairman said that the School Committee would have to bring back a report to the Board.

Mr. Dowson said if Miss Wood had only been coming to the school once or twice a week her loss would not be much felt for a month.

Mr. Jenkins: Miss Wood has been a very good teacher.

Mr. Sloane thought it would only be doing justice to the teachers and the ratepayers to adopt the course suggested.

The motion was then put and carried.

MISS DAVISON'S APPLICATION.

It was agreed that Miss Davison should be retained on the staff of the school as a certificated assistant.

THE ATTENDANCE.

Mr. Ramsay said the Attendance Officer had reported to the school Committee that the attendance for the month was 83 per cent, as against 91 last month.

The Chairman: The attendance is not quite so satisfactory, but I believe there has been a good deal of whooping cough in the district and that will account for the smaller attendance.

Mr. Dowson said that whooping cough had been very bad in Blackhill.

Mr. Jenkins remarked that they were better off than a lot of places in respect to the attendance.

MEANS TO IMPROVE THE ATTENDANCE.

The Clerk said the Board would remember that a committee, consisting of Messrs Ramsay, Robinson and himself was appointed to meet the Consett sub-committee with a view to trying to improve the attendance in their township. He had received a letter from Mr. W. H. Ritson Lanchester, stating that he was directed to say that the Consett sub-committee would meet their committee at the Council Chamber, on Tuesday, Nov. 14th, at 7.15. He extremely regretted that, owing to a long-standing engagement he should be unable to attend, but perhaps Messrs Ramsay and Robinson would be able to be there.

Mr. Robinson regretted that he could not possibly attend on Tuesday night, as he would be engaged at Blackhill.

Mr. Sloane, in deference to the wishes of the Board kindly consented to attend in place of Mr. Robinson.

FINANCE.

Cheques were passed and signed for sums amounting to £228 16s, after which the Board adjourned.

LOCAL STOCK MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr Johns. Murray, on Monday, had forward 11 fat cattle, 6 grazing cattle, 3 calves, 126 sheep and lambs, 5 pigs. There was an unusually large attendance and trade was brisk, especially for fat cattle and sheep, a total clearance being effected at advanced rates. Prices:—Fat cattle from £11 2s 6d to £15 12s 6d, top Mr Hudspith, Eddis Bridge; grazing cattle, £4 to £9; fat sheep, from 30s to 43s 6d, top Mr William Reed, Knitsley; lambs to 33s, top Mr Suddes, Cornsay. Calves from 23s to 34s. Poultry and agricultural sundries also brought satisfactory prices. It has been decided to hold the annual Christmas fat stock show and sale on Monday, December 18th.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday, 49 dairy cows and heifers, 7 fat cattle, 15 calves, 166 fat sheep and lambs. Calved heifers, £11 15s to £15 15s; calved cows £14 5s to £21 10s; incalving heifers, £13 5s to £14 12s 6d; incalving cows, £13 15s to £21 17s 6d; calves to 96s; fat sheep 40s, from Mr J. T. Morton, Tow Law; 29s, from Mr R. Crowe, Cornsay House; 28s 9d, from Mr Reed, Newlands; 16s 3d, from Mr W. Collinwood, Howden; 16s 6d, from Miss Emerson, Harley Burn; 34s, from Mr J. Ruecroft, South Park. Fat lambs to 18s, from Mr J. G. Wearmouth, Ashes; 19s 6d, from Mr J. Robson, Doctor Pasture; 19s 6d, from Mr R. Noble, Sweet Wells; 27s 6d, from Mr R. Crowe, Cornsay House; 34s 3d, from Mr R. Robson, Etherley; 20s, from Mr W. R. Van Haansbergen, Woodlands. A considerably better trade prevailed for cows. Fat cattle at about late rates.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

AMONGST THE TURNIPS.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Thomas White, a youth, was charged by P.C. Johnson with doing wilful damage to turnips, the property of Messrs Wm. Allendale and Sons, to the amount of 1d.—The accused who pleaded guilty, was ordered to pay the costs.

FOR BEST VALUE IN MEN'S, YOUTHS', AND BOYS' CLOTHING GO TO J. W. WOOD'S

Noted Cheap Warehouse, Front Street, West Stanley.

...N'S
...WATERS
... bush.
...ens always
...SYPHONS.

...HE NEW DRINK.
... Refresh You.

... & SONS,
...e New Consett

... 1869.

...ENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD

...monthly meeting of this body was ... the Benfieldside Schools on Friday ... The Rev. A. Baillie (chairman) ... and there were also present— ...anon Ross-Lewin, Rev. E. W. Jen... Mr. J. Sloane, Mr. J. Dowson, Mr. ...msay, Mr. G. J. Robinson; and the ... (Mr. R. G. Barclay, J.P.)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

...committee stated that at their last ... a letter was read from Miss Wood, ...ing her position as assistant teacher. ...ommittee recommended that Miss Wood ...erated at once, as she was suffering ...ill-health and that a successor be ad... ...d for. A letter was read from Miss ...on saying that she had obtained her ...ate, and asking to be retained on ...hool staff as a certificated assistant. ...he committee recommended that the ...ation be acceded to.

THE RESIGNATION OF MISS WOOD.

...Chairman bore testimony to the ex... ...teaching qualities of Miss Wood, ...aid they had heard of her resignation ...regret. Owing to ill-health she had ...been able to attend school once or ...a week.

...Dowson suggested that they transfer ...Davison from Derwent Street to the ...ldside Schools in place of Miss Wood. ...found that at Derwent Street school ...were five teachers for 105 children. ...hought four quite sufficient for that ...er of children.

...Ramsay thought it would hardly be ...to the teacher herself.

...Sloane: Why?

...Ramsay: Because Miss Davison has ...infant teaching her profession.

...Jenkins said this seemed an opportune ...for them to put their theories into ...ce.

...Sloane said they had had enough of ...tising. They were only doing justice ...eir own teachers to give them every ...rtunity.

...Dowson did not see that Derwent ...t School would suffer anything by the ...sed transference.

...Sloane moved that it be a recom... ...dation to the School Committee that the ...acy be filled up from their own staff ...ssible.

...Ramsay said that the School Com... ...e were anxious to be as economical as ...ible. They were willing to consider any ...estions likely to benefit the schools and ...down the expenditure.

...Dowson said he wished to do nothing ...tract from the efficiency of the school. ...would second the motion.

...reply to a question, the Chairman said ...the School Committee would have to ...g back a report to the Board.

...r. Dowson said if Miss Wood had only ...coming to the school once or twice a ...k her loss would not be much felt for ...onth.

...r. Jenkins: Miss Wood has been a very ...l teacher.

...r. Sloane thought it would only be doing ...ce to the teachers and the ratepayers ...dopt the course suggested.

...e motion was then put and carried.

MISS DAVISON'S APPLICATION.

...was agreed that Miss Davison should ...retained on the staff of the school as a ...ificated assistant.

THE ATTENDANCE.

...r. Ramsay said the Attendance Officer ...reported to the school Committee that ...attendance for the month was 88 per ...t, as against 91 last month.

...he Chairman: The attendance is not ...te so satisfactory, but I believe there ...been a good deal of whooping cough in ...place and that will account for the ...aller attendance.

...Mr. Dowson said that whooping cough ...been very bad in Blackhill.

...Mr. Jenkins remarked that they were ...tter off than a lot of places in respect to ...attendance.

MEANS TO IMPROVE THE ATTENDANCE.

...The Clerk said the Board would remember ...a committee, consisting of Messrs Ram... ...Robinson and himself was appointed ...meet the Consett sub-committee with a ...w to trying to improve the attendance in ...eir township. He had received a letter ...m Mr. W. H. Ritson Lanchester, stating ...at he was directed to say that the Consett ...committee would meet their committee ...the Council Chamber on Tuesday, Nov. ...at 7.15. He extremely regretted that, ...ing to a long-standing engagement he ...uld be unable to attend but perhaps ...essrs Ramsay and Robinson would be able ...be there.

...Mr. Robinson regretted that he could not ...ssibly attend on Tuesday night, as he ...uld be engaged at Blackhill.

...Mr. Sloane, in deference to the wishes of ...Board kindly consented to attend in ...ace of Mr. Robinson.

FINANCE.

...Cheques were passed and signed for sums ...mounting to £223 16s, after which the ...oard adjourned.

LOCAL STOCK MARTS.

...BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr John S. Murray, on Mon... ...y, had forward 11 fat cattle, 6 grazing cattle, ...calves, 126 sheep and lambs, 3 horses, etc. ...ere was an unusually large attendance and ...de was brisk, especially for fat cattle and ...eep, a total clearance being effected at ad... ...nced rates. Prices:—Fat cattle from £11 2s 6d ...£15 12s 6d, top Mr Hudspith, Eddis Bridge; ...ing cattle, £4 to £6 15s. Sheep made up to ...6d, top, Mr William Reed, Knitsley; lambs ...5s, top Mr Suddes, Cornsay. Calves from 25s to ... Poultry and agricultural sundries also ...ught satisfactory prices. It has been decided ...hold the annual Christmas fat stock show ...d sale on Monday, December 18th.

...TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Mon... ...y, 49 dairy cows and heifers, 7 fat cattle, 15 ...ves, 166 fat sheep and lambs. Calved heifers, ...11 15s to £15 12s; calved cows £14 5s to £21 10s; ...t heifers, £13 5s to £14 12s 6d; incalving ...ws, £13 15s to £21 17s 6d; calves to 96s; fat ...eep 40s, from Mr J. T. Morton Tow Law; 39s, ...m Mr J. Crowe, Cornsay House; 38s 9d, from ...Reed, Newlands; 16s 3d, from Mr W. Collin... ...d, Howden; 16s 6d, from Miss Emerson, Hore... ...Barn; 34s, from Mr J. Ruecroft, South Park. ...t lambs to 18s, from Mr J. G. Wearmouth, ...; 19s 6d, from Mr J. Robson, Doctor Pas... ...; 19s 6d, from Mr R. Noble, Sweet Wells; ...6d, from Mr R. Crowe, Cornsay House; 34s 3d, ...om Mr R. Robson, Etherley; 20s, from Mr W. ...Van Haansbergen, Woodlands. A consider... ...ly better trade prevailed for cows. Fat cattle ...about late rates.

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THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A SERMON ON WAR.

[By a Wesleyan Local Preacher.]

Text: Jeremiah, ix., 23-26.

These words relate to war between the Jews and the Chaldeans. Just now, Britons are fighting the Boers in South Africa; and as it is this circumstance that led us to take the words before us as our text, our object shall be to point out, of course, from a religious standpoint, the duty of a natiin in time of war. Our text was primarily addressed by Jeremiah to the Jews, and refers to war between them and the Chaldeans, in which it was foretold that the Jews would be defeated, Judah and Jerusalem destroyed, and their nation overthrown, as a punishment inflicted by God for their great national sins. Our text also relates to the time when God would not only punish the Jewish nation, but also every other nation that did not fear and serve Him, forsake sin, and seek His mercy. When, however, the prophet declared to the Jews the certainty of the overthrow of this nation by the Chaldean army, in the war between them, unless they repented, evidently with the object in view to lead them to repentance; they pleaded as a reason why their nation was safe, and as an excuse for their carelessness and obstinacy, the wise men they had to advise them concerning the war, the mighty men who would be engaged in it, and the rich men who would pay for it, or the wisdom, might, and riches—the policy, power, and purse of their nation; and, moreover, that they were Jews and had been circumcised. But the prophet intimated that none of these things would prevent their defeat and overthrow by the Chaldeans, not even their circumcision, which was the seal of God's covenant to protect and defend them, and give them, as He had often done, the victory over their enemies; and when they were merely circumcised in the flesh, but not in the heart or not a truly righteous but a wicked nation. And so Jeremiah writes, and not merely as prophet of the Lord, but as a true patriot. It will be seen that our attention is directed here to the duty of a nation in time of war, and first as to its policy. "Thus," saith the Lord, "let not the wise man—the nation glory in its wisdom, the policy of its politicians." Solomon says, "A wise man scaleth the city of the mighty," that is, wisdom and policy are often more considerable and powerful than strength—"and casteth down the strength thereof;" the strongest forts to which the citizens trust most for defence. Again: "The wise man is strong, yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength, for by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war, and in multitude of counsellors there is safety." Not always, but as God sees fit and proper, and wise and good. Besides, when God will destroy a nation, because of its sins, and by war, he can destroy the counsel thereof. He can blast its politics and turn them into foolishness. He can take away wisdom from the statesman, or set one against another. He can break their measures, even, when they seem well laid. Statesmen can make fools of each other, and God can make fools of them all. All this happened to Judah, Egypt, Edom, Babylon, and other nations, and nations renowned for their wisdom; and when God designed them for destruction. We read in the preceding chapter concerning the politician of the Jewish nation. How do ye say, we are wise, and the law of the Lord is with us? So certainly in vain made He it; the pen of the scribes is in vain. The wise men are ashamed they are dismayed and taken, lo! they have rejected the Word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them. And so with Egypt, and when God would punish it for sin, we read, "And the Spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof, and I will destroy the counsel thereof." Surely the princes (statesmen) of Zoan are fools; the counsel of the wise counsellor of Pharoah is become brutish. Pharoah had his wise counsellors. Egypt was famous for such, but their counsel has all become brutish; they have lost all their forecast; one would think they had become idiots, and were bereaved of common sense. Ahithophel, the counsellor of Absalom, in the war between him and his father David, and in that age, the wisest of the very wise, more renowned for policy than ever any man was, was befooled. Napoleon in the war between France and England at Waterloo, and after, in his infatuation, he had rejected terms of peace, which would have established him in his dominion over France, his metropolis, the pivot and centre of his power, fell by a military error on his part, which astonished the world, because it was an error which the commonest mind might have perceived, and avoided. He withdrew his army from the only point which he was concerned to defend, and left that way open which ought to have been closed by the firmest fence of iron. But God had turned his counsel into foolishness, his accustomed sagacity forsook him, and his polluted throne, struck by an unseen hand, crumbled into dust. When God will punish a nation, He can take away its statesman; He can remove them by death, or they will resign, and it will be difficult, and perhaps, impossible, to replace them. Thus we see how appropriate the direction of Jeremiah and of Paul, when he wrote "Let no man deceive himself. If any many among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, 'He taketh the wise in their own craftiness,' and again 'The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.' Therefore let no man glory in men." This brings to our notice the duty of a nation in time of war, and when God is punishing it for sin, as it relates, secondly, to its power. Thus saith the Lord, let not the mighty man-nation, glory in its might, its power, its military power. It has been said, that might is right, that God is on the side of the largest battalions. No, not always. The battle is not to the strong, valiant men are not the most victorious—not always. David the stripling, and with the Almighty on his side, proved too hard for Goliah. Wellington, with an army which seldom exceeded 25,000, conquered Napoleon with an army that varied from 150,000 to 300,000. How shall one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight!! except their rock had sold them, and the Lord had shut them up. For their rock is not as our rock, even our enemies themselves being judges. The shields of the earth belong unto God. The horse is prepared unto battle but safety,—victory, the success of a battle, is of the Lord—who gives it to whom he pleases and frequently to those that have least reason to expect it. When God will punish a nation, and by war, He can, not only take away wisdom from its statesmen, but also strength, and prowess, and valour, and courage from its soldiers. This happened with Egypt. No people in the world were ever in a better method of keeping a standing army than the Egyptian men but their heroes that used to be celebrated for courage, were posted for cowards. Egypt was also famous for its river Nile, which was not only its wealth and beauty, but likewise its strength. But God dried it up, and as foretold, when he would destroy Egypt for its wickedness. And likewise Jerusalem. It was called a defenced city, but God said: "And in His anger because of its sin, that he would make of the defenced city a heap." Jerusalem was also called an inhabitant of the valley. She was guarded with mountains on all sides, which were her natural fortifications making it difficult for an army to approach her. Jerusalem was also called a rock of the plain, which made it difficult for an enemy to undermine it. These advantages of the city of Jerusalem, the Jews trusted to more than God, and thinking their city impregnable they set his judgments at defiance, saying, "Who shall come down against us. None of our neighbours dare make a descent upon us, for if they do, who shall enter into our habitation." They had some colour for this confidence, for it appears to have been the sense of all their neighbours that no enemy could force his way into Jerusalem; but these are sometimes the least safe, that think themselves the most secure. Who shall come down against us when God says, "Behold I am against thee. They had indeed by their wickedness driven God out of their city when he came against them as an enemy!" Further, when God will punish a nation, he can not only take away its statesmen but also its soldiers, its distinguished Generals, and others. They shall either be cut off by the sword, or so discouraged by the defeats they meet with, that they shall throw up their commissions, or resolve to act no more. It bodes ill with a people, when their valiant men are lost. Let not the strong man therefore glory in his strength, nor any people trust too much to their mighty men, but let the strong people glorify God and the city of the terrible nations fear Him, who can make them weak and despicable. And now we are to note the duty of a nation, in time of war and when God is punishing it for sin, thirdly as it relates to its purse. "Thus," saith the Lord, "let not the rich man, let not the nation glory in its riches, its money, cash, wealth, treasury budget, and financial scheme." Money, it has been said, "is still for the sternest as well as for the bravest of purposes," the supreme power in the affairs of nations as it is in the affairs of individuals. The last sovereign wins. The rich man's wealth is his strong city. Money answereth all things. No! For when God will destroy a nation for its sins, and by war, money will prove a vain thing for safety. What was said of Job, and when calamaties were coming upon him may be said of a nation, and when calamaties are coming upon it, when it is overtaken by war, and when God in his anger is punishing it for sin. Because there is wrath, beware, lest He take thee away with a stroke, and a great ransom cannot deliver thee. Will he esteem thy riches, no not gold, nor all the faces of strength. God said of Judah and when it was to be overthrown by the Chaldeans, "I will give all thy substance and all thy treasures to the spoil." Again, God said, "I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon; moreover, I will deliver all the strength of the city, that is, its wealth, and all the precious things thereof." Again, and with respect to Babylon, called the golden city, because of its immense wealth, God said, "And when he would destroy it for its wickedness; a sword is upon her wise men, a sword is upon her mighty men, and they shall be dismayed; a sword upon her treasures, and they shall be robbed." Again. "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall give them, that is, Israel, rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from thy hard bondage, wherein thou wast made to serve! That thou shalt take up the proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, 'How hath the oppressed ceased, the golden city ceased.'" Here we are reminded of what was said concerning King Hezekiah, and in anticipation of the overthrow of Seunacherib's army, the Assyrian invaders of Jerusalem, and the subsequent rest and peace of that city. We read, "The Lord is exalted, for He dwelleth on high, He hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness. The city shall be established with true religion and righteousness. And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the Lord is his treasure." "A prime maxim" say Matthew Henry of state, for Hezekiah and his people to govern themselves by. It is God's treasure in the world, from which he receives his tribute, or rather, it is the prince's treasure. A good prince accounts it so (that wisdom is better than gold) and he shall find it so. True religion is the true treasure of a prince and people. These places that have plenty of Bibles, and ministers, and serious good people, are really rich, and it contributes to that which makes a nation rich in this world." Now—and very briefly—we shall note the duty of a nation in time of war, and when God is punishing it for sin as it relates fourthly, to the knowledge of God, to piety. "Thus" saith the Lord, "let not the wise, but let him—let the nation, that glorieth glory in this, that it understandeth and knoweth Me, that I am the Lord which exercises loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I delight," saith the Lord. These words refer to true religion, intelligent piety, a clear, and correct and comprehensive knowledge of God, and such a knowledge of God, as leads a nation to fear Him, and depart from evil. The words we are now considering—relate, not merely to the name and form, and profession of piety, but also the practice of it, and the true wisdom and policy of a nation, and the only true foundation of its safety, and defence. The Jews were called the people of God, and the people of England, and in Africa, and who are now engaged in war, make a profession of religion. But a nation must be righteous as well as religious. This was included in God's covenant with the Jews, and of which their circumcision, and of which they boasted, was the seal, and this is the rule of God in providence, as He is the Lord, the King of nations, the King of kings, and Lord of Lords, the supreme governor; and who exercises loving kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. Who rewards the righteous and punishes the wicked in this world. And this is proved by clear examples, some of which we have given, and taken from the history of nations, and more particularly Judah, Egypt, Babylon and other eminent nations of antiquity. God said, and referring to his rule in providence, "At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom to pluck up, and pull down, and to destroy it; if that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them, and at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; if it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good wherewith I said I would benefit them." In conclusion—Let not England, and in the present war, and that she may conquer her enemies, not glory in her wise, mighty, and rich men, but in God, who is all-wise and Almighty, and who has said, "the gold and the silver are mine;" may she be saved from her great sins, especially drunkenness, and which at the present moment threatens to be her ruin; and may the time soon arrive, and to which the prophet Habakkuk alludes, and after intimating that God does not approve of war, though He sometimes uses it for the wise purposes of his providence in chastising and punishing the wicked. The prophet writes—"Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and 'stablisheth a city by iniquity. Behold, it is not of the Lord of hosts, that the people shall labour in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity? For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." God's power and providence in governing the world shall conspicuously appear, and be widely displayed, in the overthrow not only of the Jewish nation, and by the Chaldean, but afterwards the overthrow of the Chaldean and other heathen nations, and thus open the way for the universal spread of true religion, and when there shall be no more war, but everywhere peace and goodwill among men.

Charge against a Blackhall Mill Man.

The Trouble of Married Life

At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday—before Mr. J. Hall (presiding), and Mr. Walter Willson—John Wm. Graham, miner, formerly of Dunston, but now residing at Blackhall Mill, was charged with deserting his wife, Jane Ann Graham, who now applied for a separation order. The accused pleaded not guilty.

Complainant stated that on May 21st, she had to go to the Newcastle Infirmary, where she went through an operation on account of her confinement. The defendant never came to see her.

The Clerk (Mr. Harle): There is no desertion so far.

Complainant (continuing) said her husband never came to see her but once at her mother's. She had to go back home as the accused had "smashed" her home up, and taken the things to his mother's house. Her husband afterwards went away, and told her that he was going to Yorkshire. He father had had to support her, as the defendant never gave her one halfpenny.

The Clerk (to defendant): You will have to explain that.

Defendant: They had to put her into the Infirmary to save her life, and when they put her into the Infirmary I had received my notice to leave work at Dunston, and I told her that I was going to seek work. I started at Friarside on the Monday, and when I went down on the "pay" Friday night they blackguarded me "all over the place," and every time I went to see her they blackguarded me, and I was blackguarded "all over the Infirmary" every time I went to see her. My father had to go one to the Police Station at Westgate, and bring an officer down before I could get into the Infirmary, the last time I was there.

The Clerk: The fact remains that you have paid nothing since.

The accused replied that he sent his sister to the complainant's with 5/-, when they shut the door in her face, and told her to go to a very warm place.

The complainant (handing a letter to the Clerk): That's a nice letter to send to a "dying woman." (Laughter.)

The Clerk: That does not seem a bad sort of a letter.

The Chairman (to defendant): Are you prepared to take her back?

Defendant: Yes; I will make a home for her.

Complainant: I'll not go back any more.

The accused, in reply to the Bench, said he was a miner, and twenty-four years of age.

The Bench dismissed the case, and advised the parties to try and live peaceably together in the future.

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CHESTER-LE-STREET DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Chester-le-Street Rural District Council was held on Thursday last, in the New Boardroom—Mr. P. Oswald presiding. There were also present—Messrs C. J. Banks, B. Bolam, J. H. Hornsby, J. Burnett, W. Norman, J. H. R. Garson, T. F. Brass, J. Mitchell, R. J. English, J. Humble, C. Green, J. Sharp, J. Smith, T. Arnell, J. W. Bolam, J. Emmerson, Geo. Middlemas, R. Selby, W. S. Harris, T. Richardson, W. Hawking, M. H. Douglass, W. Morris, F. Harle, J. W. Paterson, M. Gilhespy, R. E. Purves; the Clerk (Mr. R. Dickinson), and the Assistant-Clerk (Mr. R. V. Dickinson.)

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. Taylor, Medical Officer of Health, reported that during the month 162 births had been registered, giving a birth-rate of 35.5 per 1,000, and 90 deaths had been registered, giving a general death-rate of 19.7 per 1,000. During the same period nine deaths from zymotic disease had been registered, namely, five from diarrhœa, three from scarlet fever, and one from measles, giving a zymotic death-rate of 1.97 per 1,000. During the month 32 children had died under one year of age, giving an infantile death-rate of 200.0 per 1,000 born. He had received 35 notifications of infectious disease as compared with 35 notifications during the corresponding month of last year. The diseases notified were 25 cases of scarlet fever, three of enteric fever, and nine of erysipelas. On the 21st ult. he found a child named John E. Greenwell residing at Beamish, playing in the streets, whilst suffering from scarlet fever. The mother admitted that the child had been out for a week before that date. Within five or six days from the first day on which it was admitted that this infectious child had been running about two fresh cases of scarlet fever appeared in the same street, one of which had terminated fatally. The parents of Greenwell had been warned verbally, and by printed matter, of the danger and their own legal liability. He considered this a case in which legal proceedings should be taken. Acting on instructions, he had visited a house at the Coke Ovens, Belgravia, and found it in a very filthy state, the people living in it having a very hazy idea of cleanliness. He had called upon the owner, who had promised to improve the house. During the month 11 patients suffering from scarlet fever had been admitted to the hospital, and one had died from this complaint, while eight recovered, had been discharged. The number under treatment in the hospital was 17, and the average number daily resident during the month was 19.0.

Dr. Taylor's report and recommendations were adopted.

INSPECTORS' REPORTS.

Mr. J. H. Mole reported that as instructed, he had made enquiry about the recent sewer extension at the rear of Blacket Street, Sacriston, and the reason why the owner of two sites said to be benefitted thereby, declined to pay, and he found that the sewer had been carried up to the boundary of the first, and within legal distance of both these sites, but that it would have been better to have carried it eight yards further. The owner said he had since sold the sites and still declined to pay his proportion of the cost. At the new sewers in course of construction at High Hold, it had been found necessary, owing to the ground at one place being found to be unsound, due possibly to pit-falls, to alter the course of the sewer round one street, as it was at this point nine feet deep, and near to the gables of houses. No additional expense would be incurred by this alteration. He found that owners of houses which had drains before the new sewer was made were averse to being at the whole cost of connecting to the new sewer, and they wished to ask the Council to assist them in the matter.

Mr. Brown reported that he had inspected the scavenging at Witton Gilbert, Sacriston, Daisy Hill, Waldridge Fell, and Pelton, and had served notices where neglect was observed. He advised the conversion of many privies into ash closets, and the roofing of the ashpits. He was making an inspection of the dairies and cowsheds in the Chester-le-Street division, and hoped to have them finished during the next month. The drains at Witton Cottages, the property of Mr. Wm. Logan, of Langley Park, were choked and overflowing. Two letters had been sent to him to have them cleared, but he declined to do anything, saying that it was the Council's sewer that was stopped. Mr. Brown asked if there was any certainty of a sewer having been made there at any timt by the Council, as he could not find out anything about it. All the sewer he could see was about 30 yards of the roadside ditch, which had been covered in. Part of the drain was under a dwelling-house.

It was agreed to refer the last item to a local Committee, and the reports otherwise were adopted.

THE STACK FIRE AT LUMLEY.

Mr. Hawking, on behalf of Mr. Renwick, moved "that five hydrants be placed in different parts of Lumley, and sufficient hosepiping be provided for the village for use in case of fire." He said they had a stack-fire a fortnight ago, and they had to carry water to throw on. They got the engine from Lambton Castle, but they were unable to get water to secure the services of the engine.

Mr. Purves seconded the motion.

Mr. Brass moved that the matter be referred to the Parish Council, and the amendment being seconded, was agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Local Government Board wrote, sanctioning the appointment for twelve months of Mr. G. B. Brown, as Inspector of Nuisances for the Chester-le-Street district.

The Sunderland Rural District Council sent amended copies of notices of their intention to proceed against the Chester-le-Street Council, in respect of the pollution of the River Don.—It was resolved to defend the action.

The meeting then ended.

The march of time has brought Christmas with its tender, endearing recollections, to our memories and we are naturally exercising our minds as to the gifts we will make at this season of cheer and kindly remembrance. Perplexing as this matter of gifts is where the choice is so infinite, we one and all may solve this problem by wisely selecting as a gift of surpassing excellence both for beauty and for practical utility, the famous pen of pens the "Swan," as manufactured by those renowned pen makers, Mabie, Todd and Bard.

The pioneer of reservoir pens the "Swan" Fountain Pen from the moment of its introduction, has had a triumphant march into the hearts and homes of people of every race and clime, and in late years has been used in affixing signatures to State documents of momentous import. Further, we may state that in all departments of Government, from officers of the army and navy, from the bank, the counting house and from people of every station in life, the "Swan" Fountain Pen receives unqualified praise and approval.

Now with approval so universal, and with a history and record so distinguished, we submit to our readers that of all gifts none can excel in usefulness the famous "Swan," which we are glad to say, can be had from our local stationers, or direct from the manufacturers Mabie, Todd and Bard, 93, Cheapside, London who will gladly send post free a catalogue of their pens, ranging in value from 10s 6d, to 18 guineas.

Mrs Allen's World's Hair Restorer, never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour. It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, removing dandruff, rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female, young and old. Sold by Chemists and perfumers.

MAN KILLED NEAR OUSTON.

On Saturday morning, Mr. Coroner Graham held an inquest at the Workhouse, Chester-le-Street, on the body of an old man named Joseph Morris, who was killed on the railway near Ouston, on the previous Thursday. Mr. M. J. Starford, manager, Mr. R. J. English, traffic manager, and Mr. Sterey, engineer, Beamish Colliery, were present, and produced plans and photographs of the place where the accident occurred. The photographs showed that there were two ordinary caution boards, and one with the words—"Beware of the waggons." P.C. Buckley informed the Coroner that there was no one related to the deceased to identify him. The deceased had told him that he had no relatives.

James Balfour, waggon rider, Pelton Village, said he knew Morris by sight. He was a man about 80 years of age, and had no fixed place of residence. He used to sleep in brickyards and other places, and lived by begging. Every day in fine weather he had seen Morris about the line. The accident happened at Beamish waggon way, after passing Ouston Colliery. On Thursday witness was riding on a set of full waggons, going down the incline. They got past the crossing about 3.15, and witness then saw the deceased trying to get up from a place about three feet from the line. He went to Morris' assistance with two other men. They found him very much injured, and he appeared to have been run over. Morris said he did not know whether he had been run over or knocked down. Dr. Renton and P.C. Buckley were sent for, and the deceased was conveyed to the Chester-le-Street Workhouse Hospital.

Edward Eddy, waggon driver, residing at Birtley, said he was on an empty set running up the incline, but saw nothing of Morris, and knew nothing of the accident until he got up to the top of the bank.

Dr. Renton said he found Morris suffering from a severe compound fracture of the right thigh bone. The limb was badly mangled, and almost severed from the trunk. Deceased had lost a large quantity of blood. He was perfectly conscious, but did not complain of much pain. The usual restoratives were applied to counteract the shock. Amputation was necessary, and Morris died when the operation was being completed. The cause of death was loss of blood and shock. He was of opinion that Morris was run over, and that several wheels passed over him.

The Coroner said there was no evidence as to what the man was doing, but it was reasonable to assume that he was trying to get over the level crossing. Considering his great age his sight would not be good, and he would the more readily meet with an accident. It was a case in which no blame attached to anyone.

A verdict of "Accidental death" was then returned.

THE INFLUENZA PLAGUE.

A NEW SPECIFIC.

Mr. A. S. Selwyn of No. 4, Emily-street, Warrickville N.S.W., says that Charles Forde's Bile Beans pulled him round from a terrible attack of Influenza when all else failed. Interviewed by a representative regarding his recovery, he said—"Not long since I was attacked most severely with influenza; such a hold did it get upon me that I was obliged to leave my work, and was confined to the house for over a week. Anyone at my place of business will verify this statement as I have often complained to them, and they know full well that I have suffered keenly. I went through all the stages of this miserable complaint, being assailed continually with a cold and headache, pains in various parts of my body, and a general disinclination for exertion of any kind. While confined to the house I tried various remedies, but all to no effect. This was the state of things when I happened to have Charles Forde's Bile Beans brought under my notice, and I thought I would try them. Well, sir, I must say I was surprised at the amount of good they did me; not only did they completely cure me of influenza, but also of several other complaints, notably biliousness and indigestion, from which I suffered. Immediately after I began taking them I commenced to experience



relief and in a surprisingly short time I was completely cured. Since that time I have not had the slightest return of any of the complaints, and I ascribe my speedy and thorough cure to Bile Beans for Biliousness, and I can heartily recommend them as a grand cure for influenza."

The reader should bear in mind that what Bile Beans will do for one they will do for others. They have proved themselves an undoubted specific for biliousness indigestion, constipation rheumatism, sciatica lumbago gout, influenza debility, dyspepsia, headache, insomnia, liver complaints and piles. At this season of the year the liver's action is very bad, causing chill numbness of the hands, and in such cases Bile Beans will be found very effective. Bile Beans are obtainable from chemists generally; or the Bile Beans Manufacturing Company will forward direct from their London Depot, 119 and 120 London Wall, one box for 1/1½ or 2/9 (large box holds three small). Please mention this paper if you are writing.

LOCAL PATENT APPLICATIONS.

The following list is specially compiled by Mr. J. A. Harvey, chartered patent agent, 5, St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whom all information concerning patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained:—

21,722. October 31st 1899. P. Phorson and J. Marr, Sunderland. Improvements in or relating to watertight doors.

218,29. November 1st, 1899. T. Wilkinson, West Hartlepool. Improvements in or relating to brick dies.

21,842. November 1st, 1899. J. Houston, Sunderland. Improvements in textile machinery.

21,849. November 1st, 1899. C. W. Clarke and V. S. Walker, Stockton-on-Tees. A combined safety ink colour or the like bottle holder and paper weight.

21,911. November 2nd 1899. P. Lofthouse, Stockton-on-Tees. An improvement in connection with zithers, banjoes, guitars, and similarly operated musical instruments.

22,063. November 4th, 1899. H. Shand, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in screw propeller, shafting, thrust bearings and screw propeller bosses.

FREE MUSIC.

A GENEROUS GIFT TO THIS PAPER'S READERS.

The Bile Bean Manufacturing Company, proprietors of the famous Bile Beans for Biliousness, have lately issued an excellent piece of music entitled "The Bile-Bean March." This production is not a cheaply got up, unsightly piece of music, but is published in a really first-rate manner. It is printed upon best paper from clear plates and is altogether as neat a production as any piece of four shilling music on the market. The March itself can hold its own with any piece of similar music, and is far superior to a great many. There is a swing and a go to it that is quite entrancing and altogether peculiar to itself. The proprietors are giving this music away by post, and they will be only too glad to send a copy, post paid to anyone who will send their name and address to The Bile Bean Manufacturing Company, 119 and 120, London Wall, London, the only condition being that you mention the name of this paper when writing, give your full name and address, and enclose a penny stamp to pay postage.

Sentenced to Death. These are the most terribly significant three words we have in English language. Thousands of wretched creatures, whose lives have become forfeited to the outraged laws of their country, have heard them pronounced with feelings of sickening terror. The man who has neglected the most simple laws of health feels that all is indeed lost, when the dread sentence is pronounced by the doctor, who has used all his medical skill upon him, in vain. In the latter case, however, the door of hope has been opened, through the medium of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. They have effected a cure at the last moment, as thousands of testimonials being constantly received, will prove.

The Most Wholesome and nutritious of confections is far less consumed than it would be were it not for the greatly adulterated articles sold under the name of chocolate. Every cake of chocolate bearing the name of Cadbury is guaranteed to consist solely of pure Cocoa and white sugar, and may therefore be given to children with perfect safety. Chocolate makers by special appointment to the Queen.

TOW LAW DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The ordinary meeting of this authority was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday, November 8th. There were present—Councillor Atkinson (in the chair), Councillors Blenkiron, Brewer, Graham, Hall, Hildreth, and Sproats; and Mr. J. Hillary (clerk pro. tem.)

NIGHT GAS MAN.

After reading applications from three candidates for the above post, on the motion of Coun. Graham, seconded by Coun. Brewer, Mr. Gilling of Thornley, was appointed. If Mr Gilling be not open to engagement, Mr. Young, of Cornforth, will be offered the post.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Sanitary Inspector reported that the notices sent out last month were generally receiving attention. The pit of Mr. Boal had been emptied weekly as ordered. Mr. Spedding had ceased to use house for piggery or hunger house. Plans were submitted for new conveniences in Hope Terrace. The manager of the Weardale Coal, Iron, and Steel Company reported that the gulley traps had arrived and would be placed in North Street promptly.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was resolved that Mr. Angus receive formal notice to abate nuisance under threat of legal proceedings.

LANDRETH'S PROPERTY.

The Inspector reported that Landreth's property was being repaired, but the work was not complete.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor reported that some flags of cement squares were needed to fill in hollows worn in the causeway. It was resolved that 30 square yards of "cement squares" be ordered to be laid at the discretion of the Roads' Committee, and that the flagging taken up be used to repair holes.

CLOSING THE SCHOOLS.

Coun. Sproats asked if official notices had been sent to the schools?

The Chairman, as correspondent of one of the schools, said that no official notice had been sent him by the Clerk.

Coun. Brewer pointed out that it would be absolutely necessary to produce such notice to the Educational Department.

It was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to forward the official notices at once.

SEWERAGE SCHEME.

The Roads' Committee reported that they had inspected the area proposed to be dealt with by the sewerage scheme of Mr. Harrison, and that they thought it impracticable to carry it out in the winter season.

THE CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

Mr. Elliott, of the Market Hotel, again wrote asking for some compensation and an additional gulley trap to prevent the water from flooding the cellar.

The Surveyor stated that he had not recieved any order to place a gulley trap in front of the Alliance Boot Shop.

General dissatisfaction was voiced by Coun. Brewer at the dilatory way in which the orders of the Council were carried out.

Coun. Graham expressed his opinion that if the additional trap had been placed as directed two months ago, the overflow would never occur again.

The Chairman: Mr. Elliott has been at great loss and inconvenience, and I do not think the flooding will be prevented until a trap is placed in the bottom of the yard.

Coun. Blenkiron moved that a trap be placed in the yard.

Coun. Hall seconded.

Coun. Sproats: We have not tried the trap in front of the Alliance Boot Shop.

Four voted with Mr. Blenkiron and four against the motion, and the Chairman having already voted, declined to give the casting vote.

NUMBERING STREETS.

It was resolved that the suggestion of Mr. Davidson be acted upon and that all the streets be numbered. To secure uniformity it was decided to get prices of metal numbers, and that the Surveyor be requested to find out the number of houses in each street. While asking for prices of numbers, Couns. Brewer and Hall suggested that the cost of numbers for space in cemetery be ascertained.

POST OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

On the motion of Coun. Sproats, seconded by Councillor Graham, it was decided to approach the Postmaster General, asking for better Post Office and telegraph facilities. The Clerk was directed to point out that it was often impossible to write a telegram except under surveillance of whoever might be standing at the counter. The large stock of goods standing on the floor of shop often made it difficult to reach the post-office at all.

DISTRICT RATE.

A general district rate of one shilling was then formally confirmed and the Council's seal was affixed to the Rate Book.

FINANCE.

Bills to the amount of £108 were then presented, and ordered to be paid, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

THE VACANCY.

The Clerk was then directed to arrange for the election of another councillor to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Mr. Laverick.

This concluded the business.

LICENSING PROSECUTION FROM WINLATON

A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY AND A DECOMPOSED CORPSE.

At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday Samuel Lowes was charged that on the 23rd ult., he, then being a licensed person, did sell to Jessie Brooks and Alice Brown, intoxicating liquor, to wit, one bottle of whiskey, during part of the time—4.25 a.m.—that the licensed premises were required to be closed, in pursuance of the Licensing Act. Mr. Parsons defended.

P.C. Smurthwaite deposed that on the 23rd ult., at 4.25 a.m., he was on duty at Winlaton, when he saw Alice Brown and Jessie Brooks knock at the door of the public-house occupied by the accused. They were admitted, and the door was locked. Witness went and looked through a window and saw Mrs. Lowes go into the bar and fill a bottle of whiskey. The door was shortly afterwards opened, and he saw Jessie Brooks standing with the bottle in her hand. Witness spoke to Brooks, and she told him that she had bought the whiskey for 2/6. Brown had the change in her hand. Witness charged the landlady with having sold drink during prohibited hours, and she replied that she did not know that she was doing wrong, and added that the whiskey was for some woman who had been sitting up with a man who had died.

By Mr. Parsons: They told witness that a man named Smith had died. He found that this old man had died shortly before the sale of whisky. They never said that he was in a decomposed condition.

Mr. Parsons admitted the sale of the whiskey. It appeared that a man named Smith had died during that morning, and that these two women had been "sitting up" with him, and an old lady had been sent for to "lay him out." These two women would tell the Bench that the body was in a decomposed condition and a terrible smell prevailed. This woman who had been brought to lay the corpse out asked for a little spirit, and a relative sent these two women to seek some whiskey. The landlady thought she was not doing any harm under the circumstances. The offence was only a technical one, and he thought the case might be met by payment of the costs.

The Bench concurred and dismissed the case on payment of the costs.

Dales' GOLD MEDAL Dubbin

Is a wonderful waterproofer for BOOTS and HARNESS. Softens and preserves the leather. Pleasant odour, allows polishing with blacking. 12 EXHIBITION HIGHEST AWARDS. Tins 2d, 6d, 1s, and 2s 6d of Boot Makers, Saddlers, Ironmongers, &c. Manufactory, Dulwich, London.

Human Life.—Fifty years record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Diseases and the preservation of Human Life on Earth By Dr. Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D., author of "Patriarchal Longevity Returnable. "Earth-life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 32-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every sufferer, Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 44 Theobald's Road, Holborn, London, W.

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

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE

The last marvellous cures of this medicine was the restoration of sight and hearing, but lately still more wonderful cures have been effected. Fully half of the people above sixty are troubed with bladder disease and stoppage of water. The Consumption Cure has proved itself to be a certain cure. This Medicine is sent out without the money on the clear understanding that if it does not do good for Consumption, Cancer, Tumours, Sleeplessness, Debility, Languidness, Indigestion, Blindness, Costiveness, Bladder Diseases, and all other diseases, no money is required. It must be perfectly understood that if the organs of the eyes are defective no cure for blindness need be accepted, but the many thousands of cases of blindness, through weakness of the organisms of the eyes can be obtained. The marvellous cure of blindness at the Sunderland Dispensary was seen by the reporter of the "Jarrow Guardian," and when the lady was restored to the blessings of sight I invited him to see the marvellous results, which he published. Bladder disease has never been cured in the annals of the world, but millions of people have died with it in torturing pain. The person I allude to would have given a fortune to be cured, but no one could hold out any hopes, and the way it was discovered to cure Bladder Disease was he took it for another disease, and to the great astonishment of myself and his doctor he got perfectly well. He ceased to take the Medicine for nine years, and back the disease came, and after again taking the Medicine for a few weeks he is perfectly well. I have been much pressed by many people who have received benefit from it to make the Medicine better known. I intend to do so, and will open out more Dispensaries, where anyone can go and see for themselves cures that have baffled all medical skill. To those who live too far away from the Dispensaries I intend to ask newspaper reporters to visit the Dispensaries, and report upon the marvellous cures the Medicine is making.

HOW TO CURE RHEUMATISM AND SCIATICA.

Take Handyside's Rheumatic Cure, and rub the part affected twice a day. Care should be taken not to rub too quick to produce friction and bring off the skin. Very little Liniment should be used after the first five minutes' rubbing. When there is little applied to the part affected it removes the invisible scurf, and when all the scurf is removed it must be rubbed until the pain is gone or considerably lessened. Some cases require a full hour's rubbing to get sufficient Liniment rubbed into the part affected. Sometimes one or two rubbings is quite sufficient to cure either Rheumatism or Sciatica, if the patient is below sixty, but if above sixty, and in a malignant form or longstanding it should be rubbed full two hours at a time, and rubbed three times a day. A warm bath should be frequently taken. A good quick walk once or twice a day if able to do so, will be of benefit. Above sixty it is difficult to cure, but when a good deal of time is spent in rubbing, the patient may enjoy life and walk without pain.

BLOOD FOOD

The Blood Food prepared by G. Handyside is unrivalled, being a highly concentrated preparation, for Costiveness, Sleeplessness, Indigestion, and Languidness, but it will not cure cancer, tumours, or bladder disease. It contains no medicine, therefore cannot injure the constitution as other medicines do. If taken according to directions it will add ten years to anyone's life and will enable the patient to retain the bloom of health and the vigour of youth to a very old age.

PILLS

The PILLS prepared by G. Handyside are the best Pills ever discovered for simple diseases. There is nothing like them for Indigestion, Costiveness, Languidness, want of appetite, lowness of spirits, &c. A small sample box will be sent out free of charge carriage paid, to anyone. Take one or two at night and one or two in the morning. A half tumbler of water should be taken after them. They contain no medicine, therefore cannot ruin the constitution as all medicines do. If you cannot get them from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A DOLEFUL COUNTENANCE.

Is a sure and certain sign that something is going wrong. When a man finds every morning that his top hair is getting thinner, things are not exactly right. If he is a good man he says it is a nuisance. If he is a bad one he swears at his wife, or kicks the dog. It does not grow any better in either case. When a woman finds that every day she brushes her hair back she brings out a handful of hair, it is certain that if she goes on at that rate she will soon have no "back hair" left, and that she will be taking a look at the hair-dressers' windows, and saying, "I wonder how that piece of hair will match mine," (women have a very practical way of looking at things.) But that won't make her own grow again. A man's hair does not differ from a woman's, and Dr. Horton's Celebrated Hair Fertiliser will make both grow. It produces a plentiful growth of rich and glossy hair, and prevents it turning grey. It contains a large quantity of the materials of which hair is composed, and it thus acts as a fertiliser, causing the hair to grow without drawing on the strength of the individual. Baldness is caused by an affection of the hair follicles, and Dr. Horton's Hair Fertiliser strengthens these and the roots of the hair, and thus prevents baldness.

SOLD IN BOTTLES, Price 1/3; DOUBLE QUANTITY 2/- Post Free. Order from Sole Agents in Great Britain, SOAMES & Co., 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle, and mention this paper. Bald people, and those who have weak and falling hair, who use Dr. Horton's Hair Fertiliser, always have afterwards

A CHEERFUL COUNTENANCE.

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

"Buchu-Paiba."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, indigestion, inflammations. Of Chemists. F. Newbery & Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

"Rough on Rats."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, fleas, bed-bugs, ants, roaches, insects, ground moles, &c. 1/- and 6d boxes.

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

How to Prove a Will.—Without expense—price 6. Will Forms 3d each; Improved Will Forms, with full directions how to fill it up, with printed example, 6d each, at the "Guardian" Office, Front Street, Consett.

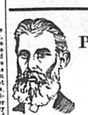
Floriline!—For the Teeth and Breath. Thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, and gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness and a delightful fragrance to the breath. Price 2s 6d for the liquid, or 1s per jar for the Floriline "Powder," of all Chemists and Druggists.

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

OVERTIRED? Take a Bath to which a little CONDY'S FLUID Has been added. The Invigorating Effect is Magical. ALL SUBSTITUTES ARE INFERIOR. Insist on buying "CONDY'S FLUID." Of all Chemists and Stores at 1/- per bottle.

ECONOMY. FRUGALITY
WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE. HALF PRICE.
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PARSONS' "PHLEGMO."

COUGH AND INFLUENZA MIXTURE.

Fortify yourself against the above diseases by taking PARSONS' REMEDY. Prevention is better than cure. See Hundreds of Testimonials from all Classes.

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Guaranteed for Accuracy, Durability, and Strength, at Maker's Cash Prices.



In Silver Cases. £5.5 In 18-ct. Gold Cases. £12.12 BENSON'S BOOK POST FREE

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BEST, CHEAPEST, and STRONGEST, London made THREE-QUARTER PLATE English Lever Watch. Thirteen Jewels, Chronometer Balance, Patent Large Barrel and Damp and Dust Proof Ring Band. Massive Silver Cases with unbreakable Crystal Glass, double the Strength and Value of any other £5 5s. Watch.

Made in Four Sizes, at one Price, £5 5s.:—No. 1, Gentlemen's (as illustrated); No. 2, Working Men's; No. 3, Railway Men and Miners'; No. 4, Ladies'.

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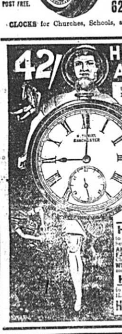
A GOOD KNOCKABOUT WATCH for general wear. BEST LONDON MADE. Three-Quarter Plate ENGLISH LEVER Chronometer Balance, fully Jewelled, Keyless Action, Crystal Glass Cases, in Sterling Silver, £5, or in strong 18-ct. Gold Cases, £15. Post free at our risk for Cash or P.O.O.

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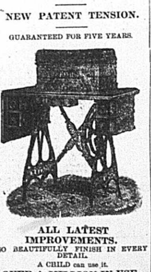
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FASHIONABLE WEDDING AT CASTLESIDE.

Rev. John Wallis and Miss Margaret Harrison.

On Wednesday morning there was solemnised at St. John's Church, Castleside, in the presence of a large and fashionable congregation, the marriage of the Rev. John Wallis, Vicar of Castleside and Miss Margaret Harrison, second daughter of the late Mr. William Harrison, of Kelloe. The esteemed bride and bridegroom, claiming hosts of friends as they do, it was natural that the greatest interest should be manifested in the proceedings, and the happy event was recognised by general rejoicing in the little village which turned out "en masse" to witness the event. Flags and streamers were to be found in almost every quarter, and a universal buzz of excitement seemed to prevail amongst the inhabitants. The sacred edifice was bedecked with a numerous supply of plants and flowers, whilst the window recesses were adorned with choice ferns and plants, which heightened the effect. The building was filled with a crowded congregation long before the event was timed to take place. Shortly before 11 o'clock the bridegroom, accompanied by his "best man," Mr. Henry Bell, of Hexham arrived from the Sycamores, the residence of Mr. W. J. Scott, and took their places at the altar. A few minutes later the bride, accompanied by her brother, Mr. John Oddy, of Cassop, who gave her away, put in an appearance. The bride was attended by Miss Lily Telford, Newcastle (cousin of the bride) as bridesmaid, who immediately afterwards entered the church, together with the mother of the bride (Mrs. Harrison), accompanied by her son, Mr. Alfred Harrison, Seaham Harbour. The bride and bridesmaid each carried handsome shower bouquets, the gifts of the "best man." The ceremony, which was of an impressive character, was performed by the Rev. James Colling, Vicar of Seaham Harbour, and the Rev. A. Watts, Rector of Witton Gilbert. The bride looked lovely in a dress of cashmere biaritz of beautiful dove-grey, trimmed with point lace, the yoke being of drawn chiffon and white silk, with a handsome buckle at the waist. The skirt was cut with shaped flounces, and edged with grey satin, the front being trimmed with bands of white silk. Her travelling dress was of electric blue habit cloth, beautifully trimmed with braid and velvet. With this she wore a sable necklet, and hat of blue velvet, trimmed with sable and quills. The bridesmaid's dress was of heliotrope veiling, trimmed with lace and yoke of chiffon and white silk; she wore a lovely hat to match. The dresses, etc., were from the establishment of Madam Rumford, costumier, Ridley Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The service was fully choral. As the happy couple left the sacred edifice to the strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," which was effectively played by the organist, Mr. J. R. Wilkinson, they were liberally sprinkled with showers of confetti by a large crowd of well-wishers for their future happiness. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party, together with relatives and friends, assembled at the Church schools, where the wedding breakfast was held. A sumptuous repast was placed upon the table. Mr. J. W. Scott proposed "The health and prosperity of the bride and bridegroom," which was accorded musical honours. The following is a list of the invited guests:—Mr. and Mrs. Kelsay, Heaton; Mr. and Mrs. J. Telford, Miss Telford, Miss Lily Telford, Mrs. Ward, Miss Marshall, Newcastle; Mr. Henry Bell, Hexham; Mr. W. J. Scott, Rowley; Miss Harrison, Rowley; Mr. T. C. Elliott, Dene Howle; Miss Rumford, South Shields; Mr. R. E. Kirsopp, Benfieldside; Mr. J. Edgar Askwith, Consett; Mr. John Alderson, Mrs. J. Alderson, Miss Beatrice Alderson, Miss Maude Alderson, Catterick; Mr. Alfred Harrison, Miss Hardy, Mr. Henry Gardner, Mr. Gibson, Seaham Harbour; Mr. George Marshall, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. John Oddy, Miss Magee, Cassop; Mr. Bowden, Mrs. Bowden, Mr. A. Richardson, Mrs. Richardson, Durham; Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson and the Misses Nicholson, Consett Park; Rev. T. and Mrs. Varley, Leadgate; Rev. C. S. and Mrs. Wilson, Gateshead; Rev. J. and Mrs. Ingham, Muggleswick; Rev. G. and Mrs. Jepson, Lanchester; Mrs. A. Watts, Miss Watts and the Rev. and Mrs. Greenwood, Witton Gilbert. Later in the day the newly-wedded couple left Rowley station for London, where the honeymoon will be spent. Their departure was marked by the well-wishes for their future happiness from a number of people. During the day over twenty telegrams were received wishing the happy couple long life and prosperity. Subjoined is a list of the wedding presents:—

Mr. Henry Bell, Hexham, silver-mounted oak tantalus.

Mr. Oddy, Cassop, drawing-room overmantle.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, Cassop, drawing-room settee in silk.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Harrison, Seaham Harbour, antique oak hall stand.

Mr. and Mrs. Gardener, Seaham Harbour, octagon table and sable necklet.

Mr. and Mrs. Botwood, Bridgenorth, fish carver in case.

Mr. and Mrs. Alderson, Catterick, rosewood medicine chest.

Mrs. and the Misses Telford, Newcastle, case of fish knives and forks.

Mr. and Mrs. John Telford, Newcastle, set of china.

Mr. Kelsay, Heaton, dressing case.

Miss Magee, Cassop, sheraton chair.

Miss Hardy, Seaham Harbour, vase and plant pot.

Mr. W. J. Scott, Rowley, case silver pepper pots.

Mr. R. E. Kirsopp, Benfieldside, case of silver salts.

Mr. T. C. Elliott, Dene Howle, standard lamp with shade.

Mr. and Mrs. Leybourne, Sunderland, silver sugar basin and mugs.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, Sherburn, pictures.

Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, London, drawing-room clock.

The Misses Dixon, case of carvers.

The Misses Rogerson, Gateshead, antique vases.

Mr. and Mrs. Sept. Ward, Newcastle, occasional table.

Miss Rumford, South Shields, two bronzes—Merley horses.

Miss Walker, Bishop Auckland, silver-mounted inkstand.

Miss Bambrough, Seaham Harbour, painted panel.

Mr. Callender, London, brush and comb in case.

Mrs. and Miss Leybourne, Castleside, silver sugar basin and sifter.

Mr. Joseph Golightly, Castleside, silver sugar and cream stand.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Barrett, Chester-le-Street, case silver pepper pots.

Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, Heighington, silver cheese dish.

Mr. and Mrs. Boulton, Sunderland, silver breakfast cruet.

Mr. and Mrs. Cree, Ower Meigne, smoker's companion.

Rev. J. and Mrs. Ingham, Muggleswick, five o'clock tea table.

Rev. T. and Mrs. Varley, Leadgate, oil painting.

Rev. Geo. and Mrs. Jepson, Lanchester, afternoon tea set.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson and family, Consett Park, framed painting in oils.

Mrs. Bradshaw, London, Indian silver pendant brooch.

Miss Bradshaw, photo frame.

Miss Winifred Bradshaw, gold brooch set in rubies.

Mrs. Barker, Newcastle, tea cosy.

Master M. and Miss Kathleen Gardener, Seaham Harbour, leather collar box.

Miss Robinson, Ryhope, picture in water colours.

Mrs. Wallis and daughter, Dorset, two silver sugar sifters.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Ripley, Maudville, sateen quilt.

Miss Harrison, Rowley, china cheese dish.

Rev. James Colling, Seaham Harbour, silver cake basket.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ainsworth, Consett Hall, brass and ormula inkstand.

Judge and Mrs. Greenwell, Lanchester, silver cream cover.

Misses and Master Alderson, Catterick, carriage clock and case.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ripley, Castleside, glass cake-stand.

The Misses Telford, Newcastle, toilet mats.

Miss Mary Telford, night-dress case.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch, Sherburn, silver sugar sifter.

Major and Mrs. Warham, Seaham Harbour, silver-mounted salad bowl.

Miss M. Davidson, The Vicarage, silver jam spoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitehead, Consett, silver toast-rack.

Col. and Mrs. Eminson, London, cheque.

Church Choir, silver tea kettle with spirit lamp.

Mrs. Kelsey, Heaton, pair of gold bangles.

Rev. C. S. and Mrs. Wilson, Gateshead, silver flower stand.

Mrs. Glanton and daughter, Gateshead, silver reading lamp.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowden, Durham, brass table gong.

Mr. E. Leybourne and family, Healeyfield, framed photo.

Mr. and Mrs. Muse and family, Castleside House, six initialled silver serviette rings in case.

Mr. and Mrs. Duckworth, Maudville, pair of Bohemian vases.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Siddle, Consett, silver teapot.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Richardson, Rowley, silver mustard pot.

Mr. and Mrs. Carr, Wingate, silver jam spoon.

Miss Lister, Wingate, tray cloth.

Miss Ninah Raine, Castleside, set of d'oyleys.

Mrs. and Misses Johnson, Derwent Grange, silver mounted sugar basin and sifter.

Mrs. George Kelly, Castleside, silver-mounted breakfast cruet.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pattison, Waverley, silver-mounted butter cooler.

Mrs. Charles Almond, Maudville, linen basket.

Mr. J. J. Thompson, Castleside, clock in fret-wood work case.

Misses Aitchison, Sheffield, case of silver-mounted carvers.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Angus, Castleside, silver-mounted cruet stand.

Mrs. Aird, Seaham, silver pickle fork.

Mr. Craig, Durham, ornaments; and many others.

Mr. J. Thompson, Darlington, three set flower vases and meerschaum pipe.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Potts, Weatherall House, satin eider down quilt.

Misses Fletcher, Jesmond, two silver pepper pots.

Mr. and Mrs. George Marshall Whitley, silver toast rack.

Mr. J. E. Askwith, Consett, silver crumb scoop.

Mr. W. M. Pattison, Castleside, fret-wood inkstand.

Mr. and Mrs. Potts, satin eider down quilt.

Miss Robinson, Ryhope, water colour picture.

Miss Marshall, Whitley, pair of brass candlesticks.

Rev. A. and Mrs. Watts, Witton Gilbert, copper and brass kettle on stand.

Miss Holliday, Dene Howle, netted tray cloth.

BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Wednesday evening in the Board Offices, Shotley Bridge, Coun. C. Parnaby (chairman), presiding. There were also present—Councillors J. Heymer, H. Cares, Ed. Sloane, R. G. Barclay, J. Dowson, J. Annandale, W. M. Annandale, R. Eccles, George J. Robinson, Jos. Eltringham; Mr. J. B. Lazenby (Clerk), and the Surveyor (Mr. J. Dixon).

THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT.

The Clerk read the report of the County Medical Officer of Health for the quarter ending 30th Sept., 1899, which drew attention to certain paragraphs relative to the prevalence of enteric fever and asking what course the Council intended to adopt.

The Clerk said that the Medical Officer had not reported upon it.

Coun. Annandale: We cannot deal with it.

The matter then dropped.

STEAM LAUNDRY.

A communication was read from Mr. J. M. Nicholson, secretary to the North-West Durham Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., pointing out that as the Company proposed making the road abutting their building in George Street, Blackhill, he was instructed by the directors to ask the Council to have this road made from Queen Street to back of Queen Street.

The Surveyor was instructed to prepare a plan and estimate of the cost of the work.

FINANCE.

Cheques were ordered for signature amounting to £225 2s 1d.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr. Dixon) reported as follows:—During the past month your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district laying on materials, and scraping and dressing up. The steam roller has been employed on the following roads during the month, viz.—Lobley Hill Road, Benfieldside Road, Bridge Hill Road, Back Street, Cuthbert's Avenue, and Queen Street. During the month the North-Eastern Railway Company have raised the parapet and wing walls on the bridge crossing the road at Blackhill; this has done away with the danger at this place. As requested at the last meeting, I have made up the probable cost of paving the narrow part of Wood Street, Shotley Bridge; this has been laid before your Highway Committee. They will report on this matter. I have collected and paid to the treasurer during the month the following sums:—General district rate, £79 13s 6d; from other sources £1 10s.

The report was adopted.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr. Dixon) reported as follows:—During the past month your district has been inspected several times, and on the whole the ashpits are well cleaned out and I consider your district is in a good sanitary condition at the present time. The filtering beds at sewerage works have been completed during the month, and are working well, the effluent water being very clear. The County Council Inspector has been to see them, and is quite satisfied with the materials they are constructed with, but wishes the Council to press forward with the enlargement of the filter-beds. The Building Committee have held two meetings during the month, one for the inspection of plan, the other for the revising of bye-laws. The following plans were laid before them for new ashpit and privy intended to be built for Mr. Geo. Bell; a plan for paint shop intended to be built for Mr. S. Leslie.

The report was adopted.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Coun. Heymer moved, "That the County of Durham Electrical Power Distribution Co. be requested to send a representative to meet the Lighting Committee at their next meeting with a view to discussing the matter set forth in their circular of July 15th."

Coun. Sloane seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This Committee examined plans, and recommended that a plan of a wooden building intended for a workshop to be built at Shotley Bridge, for Mr. S. Leslie be allowed to be built on the usual conditions for buildings of that description, the roof to be of incombustible material; that a plan of new offices for house in Queen Street, Blackhill, belonging to Mr. Geo. Bell, be passed. The Committee had no remarks to make. The new bye-laws were considered, and will be completed shortly.

The report was adopted without discussion.

THE RESERVISTS.

Prior to the ordinary business of the meeting, the Chairman drew the attention of the Council to a letter issued by Sir David Dale, Darlington, soliciting attention to the necessity of the establishment of a fund for the support of the wives and children of those gallant men who had been called upon to sustain the honour of their country in the Transvaal. He was sure the subject would commend itself to the sympathy of all loyal Britons and thought something might be done to establish a local fund in that district.

Coun. Barclay pointed out that Judge Greenwell and Mrs. Greenwell were organising a fund in connection with the Lanchester and Consett Petty Sessional Division.

The feeling of the Council was that a fund should be established in the district, and it was agreed that the Clerk act as secretary, with Mr. Barclay as treasurer to the fund.

Mr. Lazenby kindly consented to communicate with Judge Greenwell on the subject in hand and if desirable the Chairman should have power to call a meeting to consider the proposal.

THE LIGHTING.

Coun. Cares called attention to the fact that several of the public lamps had not been lighted during the month.

Coun. Eccles observed that he had also noticed several of the lamps out for some reason which he could not state.

Coun. Heymer said that one night he called the attention of Mr. Pearson to the fact that there was not a single lamp lighted in Durham Road.

The Surveyor said the only explanation he knew of was that when the lamps were not lighted there was something wrong with the surface pipes. When he had noticed them out he had always acquainted the Gas Company with the matter.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, STANLEY

On Wednesday evening Mrs. T. Teasdale, late of South Africa, performed the opening ceremony of the Ladies' Parlour, attached to the New Wesleyan Church at West Stanley. The parlour has been handsomely, most comfortably, but not necessarily lavishly furnished, and is well calculated to draw adult and young ladies alike to the assistance of the well-being of the church and the welfare of the congregation. There was a large gathering at the opening ceremony, when Mrs. Teasdale said she was very pleased to be present to open the parlour. She hoped it would be the means of doing much good and that God's blessing would rest upon the work.—A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Teasdale on the motion of the Rev. A. Barraclough, seconded by Mr. John Oliver.—After the opening ceremony a chair was presented to Mrs. Willey, the oldest member, and as the chair is to remain in the room it is likely to achieve a history.—Mrs. Priestman was also thanked for a donation towards the furnishing.—After the opening ceremony a public tea was held, the tables being presided over by the following ladies:—Mrs. Humble, Mrs. Wm. Green, Mrs. Batson, Mrs. Willey, Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. Calvert, Mrs. Mallita, Mrs. Teasdale (the donor), Miss Snowdon (Ebchester,) and Mrs. Wm. Forster, late of South Africa.—In the evening a grand soiree was given by the Blackhill Wesleyan Choir, consisting of 25 performers, with Mr. R. Frankland as conductor, and Mr. W. H. Palliser as accompanist, Mr. Jonathan Green being in the chair. The entertainment was an undoubted treat, and greatly enjoyed by all. During the course of the evening supper, also provided by Mrs. Teasdale, was partaken of, and it must be admitted that the opening of the Ladies' parlour was of an auspicious character.

KYO SCHOOL BOARD.

On Monday evening, the first meeting of the new Board was held in the Annfield Plain new Infant Schools. There were present:—Messrs J. Storey, J. Reece, R. Kay, W. Eltringham, J. Bainbridge; the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), the Deputy-Clerk (Mr R. Jackson), and the Attendance Officer (Mr T. Robson.)

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

The first business of the meeting was the appointment of a chairman for the next three years.

Mr Reece moved that Mr J. Storey be chairman pro. tem.

Mr Bainbridge seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr Storey then moved that Mr R. Kay occupy the chair for the next three years.

Mr Eltringham seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr Kay, on taking office, thanked the Board for the honour conferred upon him, and hoped they would carry out the business of the Board to the satisfaction of all. They had had difficulties, but if they worked together they would get over them. He hoped they wou'd not have so many as they had had in the past. (Hear, hear.)

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr Bainbridge said seeing that Mr Eltringham was the only other old member of the Board it would be a graceful act on their part to appoint him vice-chairman in appreciation of his services in the past.

Mr Kay seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr Eltringham thanked the Board kindly for electing him to the vice-chairmanship.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mr T. Robson reported that since the last meeting of the Board he had made 7 visits to schools, 60 absentee visits, reported two children to other officers, and served one bye-law notice.

The report was received after the necessary directions had been given.

APPLICATIONS.

An application was read from Mr Clark, of Oxhill, asking for his daughter to be appointed a pupil teacher in the Oxhill Schools.—The application was ordered to lie over until the schools were visited.

Mr J. F. Copley, Annfield Plain, applied for the use of the schools for the Annfield Plain Tennis Club for a social on November 29th, 1899.

Mr Storey moved, and Mr Reece seconded, that the application be granted.—Carried.

Mr Jos. Prinn, Annfield Plain, applied for the use of the schools on behalf of the Free Church Mission, Annfield Plain, for a public tea.

Mr Robt. Burnett, Annfield Plain, applied on behalf of the Annfield Plain Socialist Society for the use of one room in the Annfield Plain Schools fortnightly for the winter meetings of the society.—The applications were granted on the usual terms.

COOKERY UTENSILS.

The Clerk reported that he had met the cookery mistress, who had made out a list of utensils she required, and if the Oxhill utensils were anything like those at Annfield Plain they had practically nothing.

Mr Bainbridge moved that tenders be obtained for the supply of the cookery utensils.

The Clerk suggested that it might be advisable to appoint one or two gentlemen to obtain the necessary articles.

Mr Bainbridge thought the suggestion a very good one.

Mr Storey moved, and Mr Bainbridge seconded, that the committee get tenders from local tradesmen for the goods required.—Carried.

CHANGE OF MEETING TIME.

Mr Storey asked the Board to change the time of meeting from 5.15 p.m. to 6.15 p.m.

Mr Bainbridge moved to this effect, and it was agreed that the request be granted.

A CHANGE WANTED.

Mr Storey asked if it would not be possible to have the Morrison Pit and Oxhill Cottages transferred from the Stanley District to the Annfield Plain District Council area? According to the present arrangements they were placed in a queer predicament in educating children living outside the School Board area. He thought the matter should be attended to, and intended to mention it at the next meeting of the Council.

INCREASE OF MEMBERS.

Mr Storey asked if it was not possible to have an increase of members, or could that matter only be dealt with at an election?

The Clerk said speaking off-hand he thought it could only be dealt with at election times. He thought they were only entitled to five members.

Mr Storey: My dear sir, we are entitled to nine members.

Mr Kay: I think we should have seven members.

The Clerk promised to look the matter up and report to the next meeting.

The matter then dropped.

ANOTHER LITTLE QUESTION.

Mr Storey said there was another little question he would like to call attention to. Before he became a member of the Board he paid a visit to the Oxhill Schools, and on going into the back-yard found the privies something abominable; in fact, they were not fit for the children to go into. It was simply disgraceful to have such places; he thought they should have them properly kept. No wonder there was sickness amongst the children.

The Clerk said the Stanley Council had undertaken to clean out all the out-offices, and he thought the Board should not be called upon to pay for that work being done, as it was paid for out of the rates. When the Board had the work in hand it was properly done.

Mr Storey: The best thing would be for the Clerk to write the Stanley District Council calling their attention to the matter.

Mr Eltringham thought the Inspector of Nuisances should look into those places.

The Chairman: We have put water-closets into the Hare Law, West Kyo, and Annfield Plain Mixed Schools' out-offices.

Mr Storey's suggestion was agreed to.

A QUESTION OF COMMITTEE.

Mr Storey asked if it was necessary to go into committee on the question of the teacher referred to in a letter from the Education Department?

The Chairman: It would be better.

Mr Storey: Well, I don't think so. I prefer it to go to the public. I think the public ought to know what we are doing.

Mr Eltringham: But we should consider other people's feelings as well as our own.

Mr Bainbridge thought if the old members considered it advisable to discuss the matter in committee they could not be wrong in taking it in committee.

Mr Reece: I am in favour of the matter being made public. It will get out, anyway, and I think we ought to let it go from the meeting.

The Board decided to take the question in committee.

Rev. J. W. Odgen's Visit to Annfield Plain

On Sunday the members of the Annfield Plain Free Church Mission were honoured with the third visit of that highly-popular preacher and lecturer, the Rev. J. W. Ogden, F.R.G.S., of Tynemouth, who preached eloquent sermons in the Annfield Plain Cooperative Hall to crowded audiences. After the evening service Mr. Ogden gave a magic-lantern entertainment, at which several solos were sung.

THE "GEOGRAPHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN THE VICTORIAN ERA."

Such was the title of the lecture Mr. Ogden was announced to lecture from on Saturday evening, but owing to illness the lecture was postponed until Monday evening, when the hall was crowded to excess to hear this appropriate subject for the times dealt with in a most masterly manner. The subject concerned in some aspects a phenomenon in many respects absolutely unparalleled in the history of the world. They were to look upon the realization of an ideal of which the poets only dreamed of. The enviable position of Great Britain had not been reached at a bound, but was the outcome of the great law of the surest progress, a law unalterable in the nature of things, the law of the survival of the fittest. The lecturer showed by a number of excellent dissolving views the position and size of the British Empire when Queen Victoria began to reign in 1837, and the great advancement and expansion which had been made by the British power and enterprise, during that most remarkable reign. By the British Empire he said was meant an empire with a population of four hundred million people, or one-third of the human race. Several beautiful views were then put on the screen, showing the Canadian British possessions and the leading cities and places of interest in that loyal British colony, including Quebec, the Gibraltar of Canada; Montreal, a corruption of Mount Royal, the name of the hill near which that city stands, whose inhabitants of French and English descendants were equally loyal to the British Crown; Ottawa, the city in which were located the Houses of Parliament, and all the principal Government offices; Hamilton, on the west-end of Lake Ontario; Toronto, Niagara Falls the Canadian Falls, Winnipeg, the principal city of Manitoba, which was very small when Queen Victoria ascended the throne, a city which would have remained in its old isolation but for the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was a feat of extraordinary boldness. So great was the enterprise thrown into this scheme that it was compleed in half the stipulated time in the year 1885, the line terminating at Vancouver, the starting place of the steamers for New South Wales and Fiji. Then the lecturer exhibited slides showing the principal building in the Australasian colonies, the West Indies, South Africa, and the empire of India, together with several fine photos of those gentlemen who had been the pioneers in the development of the colonies. The lecturer concluded by remarking that his audience ought to be proud that they were English people with whom the colonies were becoming federated and confederated in such a bond of union that was more permanent now than it had ever been. (Applause.)

Mr. G. Gair manipulated the slides and after votes of thanks had been accorded the lecturer and chairman the meeting terminated.

STANLEY POLICE COURT.

WEDNESDAY, November 15th.—Before Mr. Wm. Logan (presiding), and Mr. Jonathan Green.

DRUNKENNESS.

Daniel McBride, convicted on a charge of drunkenness, was fined 1s and costs.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

The following were dealt with on charges of being drunk and disorderly:—Thomas Cook, 2s 6d and costs; Richard Johnson, 2s 6d and costs; Oliver Jefferson, 2s 6d and costs; Thomas Smith, 2s 6d and costs; William Cox, 2s 6d and costs; John Davison, 5s and costs; John McCounsell, 5s and costs; and Michael Steward, 2s 6d and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

George Lawson and John Crane were charged with committing a breach of the peace, by fighting in Stanley on the 27th October.—P.C. Tate said there was a crowd near the hotel watching the two men fighting.—They pleaded guilty, and were bound over to keep the peace, and pay the costs.

James Tinnion and Ralph Silvester were charged with fighting in Front Street, Stanley, on October 26th.—P.C. Phizaclea proved the case and the defendants were bound over, and ordered to pay the costs.

William Lasenby and Christopher Silvester were similarly charged and bound over.

Wm. Cox was convicted of fighting at Stanley on November 4th, on the evidence of P.C. Mullions, and was bound over and fined the costs.

James Gordon, James Jones, and David Jones pleaded guilty to fighting at Craghead on October 16th.—P.C. Johnson having stated the facts, the men were bound over and ordered to pay the costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Robert Gibson, James Clark, John Wm. Robson, and Philip Dixon, were charged with having played at pitch and toss on the 5th of November. P.C. Thomas said he saw the men "schooling" at East Stanley at 3.30 on the Sunday afternoon.—They were each fined 2s 6d and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Henry Maddison, W. Richardson, Robert Pattison, and George Teasdale, all boys, were charged with having on the 15th of October done wilful damage to a fence at East Stanley.—They pleaded guilty and were ordered to pay a fine of 6d and costs each.

MINES' REGULATION ACT.

Geo. Leeming, South Moor, was charged with an offence at the Hedley Pit on the 1st of November, under the Mines' Regulation Act by stemming a shot with coal instead of with clay—provided by the owners.—He pleaded guilty to the offence, and was fined 10s and costs.—In this case the Chairman announced that he did not adjudicate.

VAGRANCY.

Patrick Carr, Felix Morrison, and Patrick Burns were charged with having committed an act of vagrancy by sleeping out at Stanely Colliery on the night of 14th November, and George Burns was charged with similarly offending at West Shield Row Colliery.—P.C. Phizaclea and P.C. Millions proved the case.—Patrick Burns was sent to prison for 14 days, and the others to 7 days each.

THE MARRIED WOMEN'S ACT.

Joseph Blakey was summoned for having deserted his wife, Annie Blakey. Mr McCartan appeared for the wife, and said the parties were married in April, 1894. On the 29th May last, Blakey left his wife without giving any reason and went to live with his mother. Mrs Blakey was compelled to go to the Workhouse, and the Guardians took steps to recover the sum of £4 from him. At the hearing the defendant made a charge against his wife, and the case was adjourned to give him an opportunity of calling witnesses to prove his charge. At the adjourned hearing the defendant had nothing to say, and an order was made against him. That was in August or September last. Since then Blakey had done nothing, and refused to do anything to maintain his wife and family. He was living with his mother at Burnhope.

Mrs Blakey stated that they were married at Chester-le-Street and they had lately lived at Flint Hill. They had two children. On the 29th of May he went to his mother's, and on the following Monday he returned for his clothes. She refused to pack them, and he did so himself. He said he was going to leave her. He had never contributed to her support since that day. She went to the Workhouse and was there four months. The Guardians took proceedings against him. At the hearing of the case he charged her with an offence, but at the next hearing he did not say anything to substantiate it.

Mary Jane James said she lived next door to the parties at Flint Hill. She was there when defendant got his clothes and said he was going to his mother's.

The defendant was then sworn, and said he went home from work at about a quarter to eleven, and there was a man in the house. The man went out shortly after and Witness locked the door and went to bed as he had to be up early to go to work again. He got up at two o'clock and found the man there. What he wanted to know was who "put him" there? He was in the same room because they only had one room.

Cross-examined, he was asked if he had always been a hardworking and industrious man? He replied that he had always tried to get as much as he could. He had not been much to work this year. He was not four months off work at Wagon Hill, Tantobie. He was not going to say whether he was three months because he might be telling a lie. Asked if he was dismissed from East Tanfield, he said he was told he had not to go back any more. His average was above six days a fortnight.

Mr McCartan put in a letter from Mr C. Scott stating that Blakey's average time was six days a fortnight when the pit was working eleven days. He had tried his best but could do nothing with Blakey.

The Bench made a separation order, and further made an order for the payment of 7s weekly to the complainant, Blakey to pay the costs of that hearing—£1 5s.

PERSISTENT CRUELTY.

Joseph Green was charged with having, through persistent cruelty, caused his wife, Mary Ann Green, to leave him. Mr Welford (Consett) appeared for the complainant and said the parties had been married for 20 years, and had six children. During the last six or seven months his conduct had been disgraceful.

Mrs Green said they lived at 6, Prospect Terrace, Annfield Plain. Her husband was a miner and they had been married 20 years. He was older than she was. They had had six children, five of whom were living. The two eldest were with her and the others with the defendant. In August last, she was talking to her daughter when her husband came and asked her what all the row was about. He struck witness and said he would kill her. He felled her to the ground and then went back to bed. In September witness got a letter from a niece in Quebec who was very ill, and wanted her to go. The defendant took the letter from the postman and handed it to her. She went and returned in a few days, getting a drive with Mr and Mrs Thompson. When she she got home her husband was upstairs. She had some parcels and handed them to the children, and they were carried in, and she went back to the trap to thank Mr and Mrs Thompson. On returning to the door she found it was locked and the parcels had been tossed into the yard. Defendant opened the door and let the children in, but told witness to go where she had been. Mrs Milburn was there and saw what took place. Witness left then and went to Mrs Milburn's. Defendant sent the second daughter for her to go home. In a few days she went back and got the second daughter a place. The daughter would not stay and defendant blamed witness for it. He hit her on the side with a sugar basin, and picked up a stone and threatened to kill her. In October he refused to go to his dinner and went upstairs with a newspaper. After that he struck her and the son, and they both left and went to her daughter's. He threw a spice loaf after them. They were afraid to live with him. They could not get any peace at all. He had thrown spittoons at them.

Cross-examined, she said she did not know what had led to it. She went away from him three years ago, but he knew where she went. He had worked himself up into a state of jealousy and spite against her.

Charles Green (son), Annie Green (daughter), Mrs Milburn, and Mrs Johnston gave evidence against the defendant.

The defendant then said his wife had been in the habit of going away when she liked. It had been a regular thing for her to be out at nights. He had been neglected in regard to his meals, and they had sat down to dinner and left him out.

The Chairman: What about striking her?

Defendant (laughing): I should think I have not struck her three times in 20 years. He would not say he had not struck her. He was a shifter and was out at nights.

Mr Welford said the defendant had btween £2 and £3 a week, and had £100 in the Store. He asked that his client have the custody of the children.

The Chairman said there would be a separation order with 7s a week. No order was made as to the children.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

For refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr S. Leighton, at Craghead, on October 29th, John Grafton was fined 5s and costs.

THE ALLEGED DAMAGE TO A PUMP-HANDLE AT WOLSINGHAM.

Respecting our report of this case—heard at Wolsingham last week—which appeared in our last issue, Mr Wooler asks us to say that it was incorrect. As he is a member of the District Council he could not be plaintiff and defendant both. The facts are that Mr G. B. Wooler, [illegible] bay House, Wolsingham, summoned W. E. Egglestone and James Hopper for wilful damage to a pump-handle. The well was bored by the Wooler family at Wolsingham some 70 years ago, and had been used by the public and the Woolers as well for 70 odd years, until in 1895 the Weardale District Council came into existence, and condemned it as impure, without having an order from the Magistrates to close it. The District Council said Mr Wooler could have the handle, but he never got it. He put another handle on, which he paid 20s for, and the next day it was broken off by the defendant Hopper by order of Egglestone. The case was not dismissed, it was referred to a higher court.

CORRESPONDENCE.

☞ WE DO NOT hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—(Ed. "C.G.")

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

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

HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

SIR,—It is right to expect from public men, who have had all the honours conferred upon them it is possible to confer, impartial and honourable treatment in return. We have in our districts men who came amongst us complete strangers. Believing these men to be honourable and worthy, there was an unanimity of feeling in the way of supporting their appointment to important offices, such as members and chairmen of Parish and District Councils. As these men are depending upon our approval as voters, it is just as well to note the return we are being favoured with. Whenever any vacancy occurs in their dominions, what do they do? The past shows clearly—bring a man from some other part of the country. If this method is good for one side it cannot be bad for the other side, therefore when the elections come round let us show our disapproval by withholding our support, and set the example by appointing men who are more worthy amongst us.—Yours, &c.,

FAIRPLAY.

Allendale Cottages, Nov. 11th, 1899.

THE TRANSFERENCE OF BLACKHALL MILL TO BLAYDON U.D.C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

SIR,—Will you please grant me a little of your space, so that the public may have some idea of the treatment the ratepayers of Blackhall Mill are receiving at the hands of the Lanchester and Blaydon Councils in connection with the above matter. In the report of the monthly meeting of the Blaydon U.D.C. in your last week's issue, Mr Gilchrist says "that all ratepayers received notice of meeting of representatives of the Joint Councils at Blackhall Mill, on Oct. 25th, and that only one ratepayer turned up." Now, sir, I flatly deny that the ratepayers were notified of that meeting, and I challenge either Mr Gilchrist or any other person at the meeting to prove to the contrary. It is quite true that only "one" turned up. They couldn't expect any more, for "he" only was notified. Then, again, according to Mr Gilchrist this ratepayer (only one, just one!) told the representatives that his brother (sic) ratepayers had held a meeting and were unanimously in favour of the change. What bosh! There was never such a meeting, nor was this "large ratepayer" authorised to speak on behalf of the others. How could he be when the others did not know of the Oct. 25th meeting? Yet another proof of their opposition—95 per cent of the ratepayers signed the petition sent to the Medomsley Parish Council. Now, sir, I contend that it is unfair of the Councils to do their business in this manner. On the face of it, it seems as if they were afraid of opposition, and tried to get out of it by only notifying "one" ratepayer. In conclusion, I may say that a meeting of over two-thirds of the ratepayers was held on Tuesday, Nov. 7th, when a resolution to protest against the change was carried without a single adverse vote, and Mr Gilchrist's "large ratepayer" was there too. A deputation was also appointed to interview both Councils.—I am, your truly,

A RATEPAYER.

Blackhall Mill, Nov. 13th, 1899.

ANOTHER ELIXIR OF YOUTH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

SIR,—A few years ago, the French neurologist, Dr Brown-Sequard, announced the discovery of lymph extracted from the tissues of living dogs, which, it was asserted, would if injected into the human system, remove the degenerative effects of age. The announcement was too previous, experience did not verify the prediction, and shortly after, the discoverer had himself to join the great majority. Under the heading of "Fount of Youth in Goats," the Philadelphia Press recently contained the following paragraph:—"Dr B. F. Roberts, of Green City, Mo., has discovered a lymph taken from the glands of goats, which is now the subject of an extensive experiment by the reputable physicians of this city. The claim of some is that the elixir will bring youth to the age, and many experiments have been made, the result of which, it is declared tend to prove this assertion." It is only about two years since a doctor under the influence of inspirations originating in vivisection speculations, proposed that, in order to prolong the lives of aged men whose talents made them valuable in the community, the veins of such men should be united at the wrist to those of healthy young men, thus to preserve mental superiority at the expense of mental mediocrity. The suggestion does not seem to have received any serious notice which is evidence that in some matters the popular mind is more sane than that of the fin de siecle physiologist. The exploiting of these chimerical rejuvenators shows what grotesque absurdities occupy the minds of physiologists when they give them flight through the dolorous regions of vivisection speculation. Ancient medical history tells us of elixirs of life, and tinctures of gold, which led captive the human mind with dreams of rejuvenescence, in earlier ages. Their modern substitutes are lymphs and viruses of youth. For mankind loves an ignis fatuus to chase, as children do a butterfly. It gratifies their anticipatory wonder and is an easy and playful substitute for the more arduous but certain dicta of sane reason and consistent truth.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

FRANK LESTER.

3, Warwick Road, Redland, Bristol.

MR. ATHERLEY-JONES AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Dear sir,—As an old Radical and one who has a firm belief in the good work which a Liberal Administration would be able to effect for the country, I should like to point out that these results will never, in my estimation, be obtained by Liberal Associations allying themselves with the enemies of England as our local association has done. Granting that much that has preceded the present struggle in South Africa has been wrong, and that the minister who has been responsible for the negotiations has not acted as he should have done, after the Boer ultimatum, as men of the calibre of Lord Rosebery, Sir Edward Grey, and Sir H. H. Fowler, has pointed out, we should present a united front and be determined to "see this thing through." Now, sir, believing as I do, that the Liberals of North-West Durham are sound loyalists, and have no intention of being on the side of Michael Davitt, Atherley-Jones and Co., I think the time is ripe when we as electors of this important Division, followed the example of other constituencies, where their chosen representatives have proved themselves disloyal at a time of national danger, and call a meeting at Consett to show Mr. Jones that his conduct does not meet with the approval of those who put their country first. Where! let me ask, would our England have been to-day had the country been peopled in bye-gone days by such craven fellows as the so-called representative of North-West Durham, or of Messrs Broadbent and Winter, who have no more right to speak in the name of the Liberals than has the veriest Tory found amongst us. May I inform Mr. Broadbent that his venturing to do so is as "unparallelled a piece of impertinence" as ever it was for the Conservative agent to make the assertion he did. Let me inform these aforesaid two gentlemen that it will not redound much to their credit to help to set up a faction in opposition to what are known to be the best men in the Liberal Party to-day. Let our friends range them off in their own minds and think for a moment who are on their side, and then enquire if they conceive a possibility of winning the right-thinking men of the country to their side? Why, sir, in my estimation, the revelation of the character of some of the Nationalist members has made more Unionists than ever the split off from Mr. Gladstone on the introduction of his Home Rule Bill! I always thought the introduction of that measure would have meant the pacification of Ireland, but I know now, after such a revelation of character as Davitt and others of the Nationalists—whom Home Rule pamphlets and preachers had almost made us look upon as angels of goodness—after such a revelation, I believe, sir, that as the Boers, after the magnanimity of Mr. Gladstone have chastised us with whips, these avowed enemies of England would have chastised us with scorpions, had that measure—also of goodness, which sprung from the heart of a grand old man—have become law. Let the Liberals of North-West Durham rally around the true Liberal flag. Let us show the peoples of other countries that Liberalism does not mean disloyalty—that we are not ready to upbraid our own country on each and every occasion when difficulties crop up. Let us put our country and fellow-countrymen first wherever and whenever possible. Let us show the Dame Presidents and members of Primrose Leagues and Conservative Associations that they have not a monopoly of the "Union Jack." Let us make clear to the electors of England that we give place to none in our loyalty to the Queen. Let us steer a straight course, a clear course, and a steady course. Let us say, "This one thing we do"—by this I mean we want as Liberals more singleness of purpose, and what would then follow, more cohesion in our ranks. Then as soon as we can make up our minds to be so united and trust in men who have proven themselves to be true disciples of that great master, Gladstone, then so soon shall we see the tide in the affairs of this, our sadly disjointed party turned. With a man like Lord Rosebery at the helm, and such able lieutenants as Sir Edward Grey and Sir H. H. Fowler, we may yet lay the foundations of as strong a Liberal Party as ever the past history of the country have shown. This will never be done by recalcitrants and dissemblers; by the England-always-in-the-wrong party; by those who denounce the ship in the face of danger; by those who pray for the success of the enemy's cause; by the men of sips and little nips, who proclaim themselves strong-minded teetotallers; by the men who are ready to get down on either side of the fence; or yet by the vapourings of irresponsible young hotheads who in the course of other ten years will probably see the error of their ways. If the Liberal Party could eliminate these festering sores which are eating into the vitals of the people's cause like a cancer, then although the stripping of these rotten branches may leave the old Liberal tree with a somewhat bare look, yet after this necessary pruning, the tree shall yet be strong and give forth a vigorous growth of healthy branches. Now then sir, may I call on all the Liberals of this important constituency, through the medium of your valuable organ, to ponder these things, and if the discontent of the things said and done in our name are as wide-spread as I believe them to be, the apathy that has been so apparent in the past will be at an end, and strong action will be taken to right the wrong. Not wishing to stir up a nest of hornets about my ears,—I subscribe myself,

HEREWARD-THE-WAKE.

Blackhill, November 15th, 1899.

BLACKHILL AND DISTRICT CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY

Second Annual Exhibition

On Wednesday the second annual exhibition of the Blackhill and District Chrysanthemum Society was held in St. Aidan's Hall, Blackhill. In comparison with last year there was a much-improved exhibition, due in a great measure to the energy and perseverance infused into the working of the details connected with such societies by the hard-working committee and energetic secretary, Mr. A. Trotter, of Blackhill. The opening ceremony was gracefully performed by Mrs. H. Palmer of Manor House, Medomsley. Mr. G. Ainsworth, J.P., of Consett Hall, the genial president of the Society introduced Mrs. Palmer to the assembly by observing that they might pride themselves upon their second exhibition, because as they all knew from the registrar's statistics that the number of children who died in infancy was very much larger than those who succumbed afterwards. (Laughter.) As they had got over that period of probation they had now a fair chance of gathering strength from year to year. That exhibition showed a very great accession of strength, and they might pride themselves upon the advance visible that day as compared with the show twelve months ago. (Applause.) He had no hesitation in saying that last year's exhibition had no comparison with the present. He congratulated the committee on the persevering way they had worked for the show. They had the privilege of having a lady to open the exhibition who was now known to most of them, and one who was always willing and ready to assist in promoting the welfare not only of the district near her own home, but also that of the surrounding towns and villages. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in asking Mrs. Palmer to kindly declare the exhibition open.

Mrs. Palmer who was supported by Mr. H. Palmer, Mr. C. Stephenson, Mr. G. Ainsworth, and Mr. Geo. Pattrick, said it afforded her great pleasure to be present. They all loved flowers, she thought, and especially chrysanthemums. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Pattrick Consett, moved a cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Palmer.

Mr. C. Stephenson seconded the motion, which was carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. H. Palmer, in responding on Mrs. Palmer's behalf, thanked them for the kind vote of thanks accorded to her. It was the first time they had been able to get to the show, but they were delighted to witness the evidence of the great amount of trouble and thought bestowed in organising so fine a chrysanthemum exhibition. Perhaps next year Mrs. Pamer might be able to do, in her humble way, something for the society, by sending some of her own flowers. She was always delighted to further any laudable object. (Applause.)

Mr. Ainsworth moved, and Mr. Whitehead seconded, a vote of thanks to the committee and secretary, to which Mr. A. Trotter briefly responded.

During the afternoon Miss Ainsworth favoured with pianoforte solos, while Master S. Wilson rendered the violin solo, "De Lion," taken from Guido Papirii, Op. 114, No. 1. During the evening an excellent musical programme was rendered by the Consett Amateur Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Geo. Williams, and several well-known local artistes, the pianoforte accompaniments being efficiently supplied by Miss Greenwood and Mr. G. P. Stephenson.

The following is a list of awards:—

OPEN CLASS.

CUT BLOOMS.

Twelve Japanese—1, and special, A. Trotter; 2, Wm. Walton.

Twelve incurved blooms—1, and special, A. Trotter; 2, W. Walton.

Twelve reflexed blooms—1, A. Trotter.

Six anemone flowered—1, A. Trotter.

Six white blooms—1, A. Trotter; 2, A. J. Smail.

Six coloured blooms—1, A. J. Smail; 2, A. Trotter; 3, W. Walton.

Six incurved blooms in vases—1, A. Trotter.

Six Japanese blooms in vases—1, A. J. Smail; 2, A. Trotter; 3, W. Walton.

Six reflexed blooms in vases—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter.

One bunch of chrysanthemums—1, A. Trotter; 2, W. Walton; 3, A. J. Smail.

Six bunches of pompones—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter.

Hand-bouquet—1 and 2, A. J. Smail; 3, A. Trotter.

Epergne for dinner table—1, W. Walton; 2, A. J. Smail; 3, A. Trotter.

Lady's spray—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter; 3, A. J. Smail.

One button-hole—1, W. Walton; 2, A. J. Smail; 3, A. Trotter.

PLANTS, FRUIT, AND VEGETABLES.

Three foliage plants—1, W. Walton.

Group of chrysanthemums and foliage plants—1, A. J. Smail; 2, W. Walton; 3, A. Trotter.

Two chrysanthemum plants, incurved—1, A. Trotter.

Two Japanese chrysanthemum plants—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter.

Two pompones—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter.

One plant, chrysanthemum, Japanese—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter.

One reflexed chrysanthemum plant—1, W. Walton; 2, A. Trotter.

Six primulas—1, A. J. Smail; 2, W. Walton; 3, A. Trotter.

Six table plants—1, W. Walton; 2, A. J. Smail; 3, A. Trotter.

Collection of vegetables, six varieties—1, Mr. Middleton; 2, Thos. Clark; 3, W. Walton.

Best three leeks—1, Mr. Middleton; 2, J. Thirlwell; 3, J. Johnson; 4, J. Surtees; 5, J. Lovett.

AMATEUR CLASS.

CUT BLOOMS.

Six blooms, Japanese—1, C. Stephenson, 2, M. Charlton; 3, W. McGowan.

Three blooms, Japanese, in vases—1, C. Stephenson; 2, T. J. Johnson; 3, G. Rochester.

Six blooms, incurved—1, T. J. Johnson.

Three blooms incurved, in vases—1, J. G. Lamb; 2, W. Walker; 3, T. J. Johnson.

Six blooms, reflexed—T. J. Johnson.

Three blooms reflexed—1, C. Stephenson; 2, W. McGowan.

Three blooms coloured, one variety—1, W. Walker; 2, W. McGowan; 3, G. Rochester.

Three blooms, white—1, G. Rochester; 2, W. Walker; 3, W. McGowan.

Bunch of chrysanthemums—1, G. Rochester; 2, T. J. Johnson; 3, W. Walker.

Three bunches of pompones—1, and 2, G. Rochester.

Lady's spray—1, T. J. Johnson; 2, G. Rochester; 3, G. Moyle.

One button-hole—1, G. Moyle; 2, W. Walker; 3, J. G. Lamb.

Three table plants—1, G. Moyle; 2, J. G. Lamb; 3, E. Bain.

Three primulas—1, G. Rochester; 2, T. J. Johnson; 3, J. G. Lamb.

Two foliage plants—1, G. Moyle; 2, E. Bain; 3, W. McGowan.

One plant chrysanthemum, Japanese—1, G. Rochester; 2, W. Walker; 3, M. Charlton.

One plant chrysanthemum, reflexed—1, C. Stephenson; 2, W. Walker; 3, M. Charlton.

Two plants chrysanthemum and pompone—1, G. Rochester; 2, T. J. Johnson; 3, M. Charlton.

Collection of vegetables—1, J. Surtees; 2, W. Walker; 3, T. J. Johnson.

HONEY.

Confined to members of the North-West Durham Beekeepers' Association.

Four sections of clover honey—1, W. A. Bell; 2, G. Rochester.

Four sections of heather honey—1, and 2, Mr. Thompson, Waskerley; 3, G. Rochester.

Best super of heather honey of 10lbs and above one stone—1, and 2, W. A. Bell; 3, G. Rochester.

Best super of heather honey, 10lbs, and under—1, W. A. Bell; 2, Mr. Thompson, Waskerley; 3, G. Rochester.

For those who have not already been successful in winning a prize.

Best three sections of clover honey—1, W. Davison.

Best three sections of heather honey—1, and 3, John Dixon; 2, Mr. Urwin, Castleside.

The judges for the flowers and plants were Messrs Bolam, of Axwell Park, and Mr. Robson, of Harton Hall, South Shields; and for the honey, Mr. Dent, of Waskerley.

FOOTBALL.

Fixtures for Saturday, Nov. 18th.

DURHAM SENIOR CUP.

STANLEY v. LEADGATE PARK.

This tie comes off on the Stanley ground on Saturday, when a good game should be seen.

STANLEY.—Robbins, goal; backs, Saunders and Bell; half-backs, Coates, Allison, and Redpath; forwards, Douglas, Ellis, Wood, Masterman, and Crute.

LEADGATE PARK.—Goal, M. Hedley; backs, G. Temple and J. Wilson; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, P. Cook, J. Birtley, W. Crowther, S. Thompson, and G. Forster.

Kick-off at 2.45.

Leave Leadgate Station by the 1.40 train.

RE-PLAYED TIE.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. ALLENDALE PARK.

At Tantobie.

TANTOBIE.—Goal, J. Lishman; backs, I. Adamson and J. Gladders; half-backs, T. Middleton, J. McKever, and W. Thompson; forwards, R. Weightman, W. Adamson, J. Jardine, T. Seath, and R. Atkinson.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. ALLENDALE PARK.

At Medomsley on Saturday first.

The following well represent—

ALLENDALE PARK.—Goal, Jno. Scott; backs, G. Angus and M. Walton; half-backs, Hobday, T. Walton, and Robinson; forwards, Brown, Hedworth, Trueman, Yeates, and Lynop.

CONSETT SWIFTS.—Goal, W. Graham; backs, J. Laidler and Jos. Finnigan; half-backs, P. McNally, B. McKie, and J. Dempsey; forwards, J. Turley, B. Rafferty, James Finnigan, J. Little, and J. Morgan.

Referee, Mr Warburton, Heaton. Linesman, Mr R. Wake. Brake leaves headquarters at 2.15 p.m.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. MARLEY HILL.

This game comes off at Leadgate.

PARK RESERVE.—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, M. Willis and P. Clark; half-backs, D. Cartmell, C. McAloon, and W. G. Robson; forwards, C. Todd, R. Gleadow, P. Hughes, J. Grant, and J. Harper.

Kick-off at 2.45. Referee, Mr A. A. Fletcher, Swalwell.

CONSETT SWIFTS' RESERVE v. LINTZ ROVERS.

At Consett, on Saturday first.

SWIFTS' RESERVE.—Goal, Coleman; backs, J. Wilson and T. Dempsey; half-backs, P. McKie, R. Bradley, and W. Atkinson; forwards, W. Walton, W. Little, R. McAlear, E. Bratt, and T. Boyle.

Linesman, Mr J. Ellis. Kick-off at 2.45 p.m.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC RESERVE v. TANFIELD LEA.

At Annfield Plain.

CELTIC RESERVE.—Goal, M. Mason; backs, J. Foster and A. Bell; half-backs, T. Reay, J. Cochrane, and G. Watchman; forwards, D. Pendleton, W. Bell, R. Hill, E. Rutherford and G. Smith.

Referee, Mr Geo. F. Grey. Kick-off at 3 p.m.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. BYER MOOR.

ST. CUTHBERT'S (Chosen from).—S. Johnson, F. Jackson, R. Patterson, J. G. Robinson, M. Robinson, T. Taylor (capt.), H. Rogers, G. Smith, W. Robson, C. Lumley, M. Higgins, A. Atkin, J. Paul.

Linesman, M. Swainston.

BYER MOOR.—Goal, R. Hodgson; backs, G. Bennett and H. Lowes; half-backs, T. Young, T. Spoor, and M. Bell; forwards, R. Hall, A. Matthews, G. Nicholls, R. Leighton, G. R. Weedy. Reserves, J. Smith, P. Keefe. Linesman Tom Leighton.

Kick-off at 2.45. Brake leaves Pack Horse Inn at 1 p.m.

NORTHERN WEDNESDAY LEAGUE.

LEADGATE WEDNESDAY v. GATESHEAD CO-OPERATIVE.

This game comes off at Leadgate next Wednesday. The home team will be chosen from the following:—W. Bell, F. Lowes, J. Tolson, J. Kennedy, R. Cheesmond, T. Greener, J. Kershaw, F. Lockey, J. Frost, J. Steel, W. Forster, A. McGowan, B. Sanderson, A. Burnhope, and T. W. Hansen.

LEADGATE UNITED v. HORSON UNITED.

To be played on the ground of the former on Saturday first.

LEADGATE UNITED.—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, W. Tait and J. Whitfield; half-backs, A. Prince, J. Lamb, and J. Foster; forwards, A. Crowther, G. Temple, W. Oxley, T. Tait, and J. Lee. Reserves, J. Milburn and B. Jacobson.

DIPTON UNITED v. MARLEY HILL LITERARY INSTITUTE.

On Dipton ground. The following will do duty for

DIPTON UNITED.—Goal, W. Curtiss; backs, Gill and Sables; half-backs, Smith, Hall, and Dixon; forwards, Thompson, Panton, F. Rumson, A. Slater, and A. Rumson.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S RESERVE v. SOUTH MOOR.

ST. CUTHBERT'S RESERVE.—Goal, A. Smith; backs, I. Richards and A. Simpson; half-backs, Cain, Mathieson, and Dempsey; forwards, Kelsey, Laing, Redshaw, Robb, and Wilkinson. Reserve, A. Robson.

Linesman, T. Hetherington. Brake to leave the Derwent Hotel at 1.30 p.m. prompt.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S JUNIORS v. MEDOMSLEY JUNIORS.

To be played at Medomsley.

ST. CUTHBERT'S JUNIORS (To be chosen from)—D. Davis, Smith, Bell, Turnbull, J. Postle, Lamb, Colgan, Greener, W. A. Raw, Watson, Oliver, J. Postle, F. Simpson.

Linesman, J. Hughes.

DIPTON UNITED RESERVE v. KIP HILL RED ROVERS.

On the Rovers ground, the following will do duty for

DIPTON UNITED RESERVE.—Goal, M. Herdman; backs, Trodden and Anderson; half-backs, R. Carr, Cook, and Robson; forwards, Greenwell, Storey, Layton, W. Carr, and Chipchase.

MARRIED v. SINGLE.

At Highgate, on Saturday first.

MARRIED.—Goal, J. Dent; backs, H. Beattie and J. Laidler; half-backs, J. Burns, N. Scott, and W. Mitchell; forwards, T. Scott, T. Burnip, M. Cooper, J. Ward, and J. Lynn. Reserve, S. Scott.

SINGLE.—Goal, R. Carr; backs, J. Swinburne and C. Lumley; half-backs, A. Postle, T. Winter, and J. Winch; forwards, J. Snowdon, W. Snowdon, R. Postle, J. Price, and W. Swinburne. Reserve, T. Price.

Referee, J. Postle. Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.

Leadgate United have a few vacant dates, and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages, 15 to 18 years.—Apply, Alfred Crowther, 398, Tin Street, Leadgate.

Blackhill St. Mary's have a few vacant dates which they would like filled up; ages 15 years.—Apply, T. Nichol, 50 Cutlers Hall Road, Blackhill.

Stanley Rangers want dates with good junior teams; ages 15 to 18 years.—Apply, Albert Pascoe, 10, George Street, West Stanley, R.S.O.

The Local Reservists' Fund.

The local secretary (Mr T. D. Dryden) having written Lord Durham intimating what was done at the meeting held at Consett last week, has received a letter of thanks from His Lordship, and a later communication as follows:—

Lambton Castle,
Fence Houses,
12th Nov., 1899.

Dear Sir,—Since writing to you I have been in Durham. I hope to send out circulars to the local district authorities in a day or two.

Yours truly,
DURHAM.

In consequence of this letter it has been decided to adjourn the meeting called for tonight (Thursday.)

Death of Mrs. John Tait, of Consett

It was with sincere regret that we heard of the lamented death of Mrs John Tait, of East Parade, Consett, which took place on Saturday week. The deceased lady was the widow of the late Mr John Tait, schoolmaster, and was well-known and very highly esteemed in the district, as was likewise her talented husband. She had reached the advanced age of 78. General regret was expressed on all sides when the sad news became known that Mrs Tait had passed away, as she was a favourite with all who claimed her friendship or acquaintance. On Wednesday week, the interment took place at Benfieldside Cemetery in the presence of a large company of friends and relatives. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs T. C. Rawes and Co., of Consett. The coffin, which was of polished ash, had brass mountings. Three beautiful wreaths were sent by Miss Tait's pupils; Mrs Eltringham, Ryton; Mr and Mrs W. Davison, Consett; and a beautiful cross by Miss Blinkley, Elmfield House, Cleethorpes. Amongst the relatives were Mr Wm. Tait, son, Gateshead; Mr and Mrs Golightly, Gateshead (son-in-law and daughter); Mr. H. Tait (grandson), Gateshead; Miss White and Miss Tait (grandchildren); Mr Wm. Crake, Sunderland; and Mr Joseph Crake, Houghton-le-Spring (cousins.) Amongst the general public present were—Mr J. Davison, Consett; Mr T. Milner, Consett; Mr W. Palliser, Blackhill; Mr G. D. and Mrs Powell, Consett; Rev A. Baillie, Blackhill; Rev T. Durant, Consett; Mr. G. Wade, Consett; Mrs. Lockey, Consett; Mrs Kidd, Consett; Mrs Whitehead, Consett; Mrs Telford, Consett; Mr Lynn, Mr T. L. Gledstone, Consett; Mr John Rentledge; Mrs Wilson, Blackhill; Mrs Postle, Madame Bellas-Dryden, Consett, &c. The service in the church and at the graveside were conducted in an impressive manner by the vicar of Consett, the Rev W. D. Croudace, M.A.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Births.

CRAIGS.—Castleside, on the 30th ult., the wife of R. Craigs, of twin daughters.

DOWNS.—Dene View, Medomsley, on the 10th inst., the wife of John E. Downs, M.R.C.M., of a son.

FAIRLEY.—At Langley View, South Moor, on the 7th inst., the wife of Jos. E. W. Fairley, of a son.

Marriages.

ROBSON—STOKOE.—Rowley, Baptist Church, on the 24th ult., by the Rev E. W. Jenkins, S. Robson, of Blackhill, to M. Stokoe, of Rowley.

THIRLWELL—BELL.—St. Cuthbert's Church, Shotley Bridge, by the Rev. Canon Ross-Lewin, William Braithwaite, eldest son of the late John Thirlwell, Shotley Bridge, to Eliza, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Bell, of Bellmount, Blanchland. No cards.

WILKINSON—JACKSON.—Shotley Bridge, Wesleyan Church, on the 8th inst., by the Rev J. Bishop, R. Wilkinson to E. Jackson, both of Castleside.

WALLIS—HARRISON.—At St. John's Church, Castleside, on Wednesday, Nov. 15th, by the Rev James Colling, M.A., vicar of Seaham Harbour, and the Rev Arthur Watts, rector of Witton Gilbert, the Rev John Wallis, vicar of Castleside, to Margaret, second daughter of the late William Harrison, Kelloe. At home, December 5th and 6th.

Deaths.

BARRON.—Springwell, 11th inst., aged 62 years, Thomas, husband of Jane Barron.

BAINBRIDGE.—At Stanhope, on the 12th inst., Joseph, son of John Bainbridge, Back Lane, aged 33 years.

BEWLEY.—4, Billison Road, Dunston, 9th inst., aged four months, Allan Denny, the son of Isaac and Margaret Bewley.

BATES.—East Stanley, 11, Front Street, 14th inst., aged 34 years, Isabell, wife of Johnson Bates, and second daughter of the late Wm. Copeland, Dunston Hill.

CRAIGS.—Castleside, on the 30th ult., the twin daughters of Mr and Mrs R. Craigs.

CHAPMAN.—Dipton, 8th inst., aged 72, Matthew, husband of M. A. Chapman (late of Plashetts)

CLARK.—Blaydon-on-Tyne, 133, Thomas Terrace, 11th inst., aged 63, Mary Ann, wife of Isaac Clark.

DODDS.—Blaydon, 4, Bridge Street, on the 12th inst., James Bolton Davie Scott Dodds.

DAWSON.—Whickham (late of Oxhill), accidentally killed at Whickham Colliery, William Dawson.

DAWS.—Blaydon, 57, Tyne Street, on the 11th inst., aged 23, John Robert, son of Elizabeth and the late James Daws.

FEWSTER.—Tanfield, Peacock Inn, 9th inst., at the residence of her son-in-law, R. Johnson, in her 83rd year, Dinah, relict of the late Robert Fewster, of Stanley Hall.

FORSTER.—Castleside, at The Willows on the 13th inst., aged 59 years, William, the dearly-beloved husband of Annie Forster. Interment at Castleside, on Saturday, 18th inst., at 3.30 p.m. Friends please accept this intimation.

PENDERSON.—At Pelton Colliery, on the 10th inst., aged 65 years, after a short illness, Henry Elsdon, husband of Jane Henderson.

HARDIE.—At 20, Percy Park Road, Tynemouth, on the 14th inst., aged 69, William Hardie, late secretary of the Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead Gas Company.

KIRKUP.—South Newfield, Pelton Fell, 10th inst., aged 69, Mary, wife of George Kirkup.

LOWRY.—Riding Mill-on-Tyne, Lea Villa, on the 1st inst., in his 88th year, Richard Lowry.

LUNN.—Dunston, Seymour Street, 9th inst., aged 3 years, George Angus, son of James and Elizabeth Lunn.

LACKEY.—Waldridge Fell, Dene Cottage, 12th inst., aged 32 years, Eleanor, wife of Thomas Jackson Lackey.

MAUGHAN.—New Hall, Greenhead, on the 11th inst., Roger Maughan.

MOORE.—At the Farm, Burnhopeside Hall, on the 12th inst., aged 62, George Moore, late of Barrasford Green.

MARCH.—Blaydon, on the 15th inst., at the residence of his aunt, 15, Robinson Street, Henry March, mason, son of the late John and Frances March.

MARTIN.—Annfield Plain, 17, Jubilee Terrace, 11th inst., aged 40, Thomas, husband of Mary Jane Martin, and son of the late Matthew and Hannah Martin, of Catchgate.

PARKER.—Stargate (at the residence of his son, W. Parker), on the 14th inst., aged 80, W. Parker.

PEARSON.—Consett Park Terrace, on the 10th inst., the infant daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Pearson.

PEARSON.—12, Shield Row, on the 11th inst., aged 1 year and 7 months, Ethel Pearson, daughter of Robert and Annie Pearson.

RYAN.—At Crawcrook, on the 13th inst., aged 78, Elizabeth Ann Ryan.

THOMPSON.—Quality Row, Swalwell, 12th inst., Thomas, husband of the late Isabella Thompson.

YOUNG.—Andrew's House, on the 5th inst., aged 47, Elizabeth, wife of John Young, blacksmith.

In loving memory of Adam, the beloved husband of Ann Elliott, who departed this life on Nov. 16th, 1898; also, his son, Adam, who died on August 17th, 1892.

Ever remembered
By mother, brothers, and sister.

In affectionate remembrance of Joseph Mason, beloved husband of Isabel Mason, of Annfield Plain, who died November 17th, 1899, aged 57 years.

We know we shall meet him again
In the fields of light above.
Ever remembered by his wife and family.

In loving memory of John Hedley, the dearly beloved husband of Hannah Hedley, who died at Greenhead, Nov. 12th, 1898.

I was so long with pain oppressed,
That wore my strength away;
It made me long for endless rest,
Which never can decay.

In loving memory of Nicholas, the dearly-beloved husband of Isabella Moralee, of Blackhill, who departed this life Nov. 17th, 1898, aged 62 years.

He left his home in perfect health,
And little thought of death so nigh;
But God thought fit to take him home,
And with His will we must comply.
Ever remembered by his wife and family.

In affectionate remembrance of Alice Turner, beloved daughter of John and Mary Gailes, who died on November 13th, 1898, aged 24 years, and was interred at Tanfield.

Cold and silent she sleeps in the lonely churchyard,
Away from the friends who have loved her so dear;
And over her grave grows the green grassy sward,
Which affection has watered with many a tear.

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