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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. 4th and Nov. 18th. 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. 13th; Hours, 12 to 4·30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, Nov. 15th; Hours, 10·30 to 4·30. Imperial Hotel, Hull, Friday, Nov. 17th; Hours, 11 to 4·30.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,
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No. 2047 [REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION THE UNITED KINGDOM.] FRIDAY, November 10th, 1899. PRICE ONE PENNY.

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.

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800f DAVID M. SPENCE, Architect.

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WANTED, a Smart GIRL, for Desk.—Apply, JOHN T. POTTS. 822f

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

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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.
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Call and hear the celebrated Haake Piano for which W. E. Wardill holds the sole agency.
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A Splendid Assortment of CLOCKS at all Prices and Warranted. An Excellent Display of JEWELLERY of all kinds.
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Begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett that he has
OPENED A BRANCH SHOP in
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,
where he will carry on the above Business in all its Branches, and hopes by strict attention, good workmanship, and moderate charges to meet with liberal support.
Authorised Agent for the WELSBACH INCANDESCENT LIGHTING CO.
A Choice Selection of Gas Fittings of all descriptions, Burners, Mantles, Globes, Chimneys &c. Baths, Washbasins, Beer Pumps, Spirit Taps, and everything connected with the Trade kept in stock.

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SPECIAL LINES
IN 1890 CLARET, 2s 6d per Bottle. ORION BURGUNDY. 2s Flagons.
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BAXTER'S IN 6, 9, AND 18 GALLON CASKS. 9s, 10s, 12s. In splendid condition.
ALLSOPP'S ALES AND STOUT (FULL PINTS), 2s. 6d. PER DOZ.
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Pleasure Parties.
all its Branches done upon the
ost reasonable terms.
at yard from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m.,
rs may be left. 350g

Tow Law.

CHURCH.—In connection with this
orship mission services were com
Sunday, and are to continue for
ys. The inaugural service was
nded.
HALL.—A successful eight days'
nducted by Mr. Thomas Barker, of
under the auspices of three local
societies, has just been concluded.
last evening Mr. Barker gave his
in a most interesting manner. The
re largely attended.
'S HALL.—On Thursday evening, the
nnected with Dr Stephenson's homes
eresting entertainment in the Mech
The youthful performers went
ong programme, consisting of action
in a highly creditable manner. The
re under the care of Miss Stephen

NING CARDS in all the Newest
terns printed neatly and expedi
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erybody to their Business.
Business is not only to sup
y Oak and Polished Coffins of
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but we also Supply Hearses,
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and Conveyances of all kinds.
by Brakes specially Con
d for.
Mourning is under our personal
ision, and everything is done
care and respectability is
d, and to suit the pockets of all
. A Stock always on hand
an be finished at a few hours'
T. C. RAWES & Co
NERAL FURNISHERS,
CONSETT. 940b.

S, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

N—ALLAN.—At St. Michael and All
Parish Church, Newburn, on the 29th
pecial license, by the Rev Dr Nowell,
nder Cameron, youngest son of John
ron, of Motherwell, to Isabella Allan,
daughter of John Allan, fruiterer,
urn.
–MILNER.—At Shildon Parish Church,
e 25th ult., by the Rev J. W. Milner,
vicar (father of the bride), assisted by
Rev F. E. Milner, B.A. (brother of the
, James Albert Lister, of Mirfield, to
Rhoda Milner, of New Shildon Vicar

Deaths.

Mickley Square, on the 28th ult., aged
Margaret Bell.
—Dunston, 31, Athol Street, on the
ult., aged 3 years, Robert Boston.
—Medomsley, No. 40, Dean Bank, Allen
Cottages, on the 28th ult., aged 62,
as Bushby.
—Pity Me, Durham, on the 29th ult.,
33, Nicholas Carter.
EY.—Whickham, Pit Row, on the 24th
aged 37, Annie Crossley.
—Chester-le-Street, on the 30th ult.,
76, John Dixon.
N.—Hall Yard Cottages, Mickley, on
29th ult., aged 7 years and 9 months,
thy Ann Davison.
SON.—Gateshead, 45, Pine Street, on the
ult., aged 62 years, Mary Ann Dickinson,
w of the late William Gilbertson, Shot
Bridge.
ING.—Dunston, 2, Ellison Road, on the
ult., aged 46
—Consett, 6, Eldon Terrace, aged 1 year
8 months, Stanley, dearly-beloved son of
uel and Ellen Matilda Gill, who died on
29th, 1899.
—Greenside, Ryton, on the 26th ult.,
ella Hall.
T.—Consett, 19, Palmerston Street, on
27th ult., aged 35, Robert Hewitt
—Consett, 11, Spencer Street, on the 2nd
, aged 34, Esther, dearly beloved wife of
n Hope, and daughter of the late William
Isabella Walton, of Medomsley. To be
rred at Medomsley, on Sunday; cortege
leave at 2-30. All friends kindly accept
the only intimation
ON.—Eight Houses, Prudhoe, at the re
nce of her father, on the 30th ult., aged
Sarah Jane Johnson.
RESON.—Newcastle, 24, Eldon Square,
the 27th ult., aged 55, Christopher Samuel
ffreson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.
UP.—Fatfield, on the 29th ult., Margaret
rton Kirkup.
ON.—Barnhope, on the 25th ult., aged 24,
orge Beck Hedley Newton.
ER.—Station Lane, Birtley, on the 30th
, aged 30, Mary Jane Palmer.
ERBELL.—Consett, No. 4, Rose Mount, on
27th ult., aged 52, Edward Summerbell.
ALE.—Accidentally killed, aged 75, Joseph
th Teasdale, of Stanley.
N.—Blackhill, 5, Murray Street, on
ult., at the residence of his son-in-law,
Kirkup, aged 73, James Vivian, husband of
late E. B. Vivian, after a long and pain
illness borne with Christian fortitude.
be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery on
urday, at Three o'clock. All are invited.
end was peace."
—Lumley, on the 25th ult., at the Fox
Hounds Inn, aged 82, Thomas Willies.
G.—18, Woodhouse Terrace, Gateshead,
29th ult., aged 20, Minnie Meldrum Young.
ing memory of Mary Wanless, of Lead
, who died Nov. 7th, 1898.
r remembered by husband and family.
ectionate remembrance of Jane Watson,
oved wife of John Watson, newsagent,
nfield Plain.
"Rest in peace."
ing memory of our dear brother, John
garth, son of the late John and Frances
garth, of Waskerley, who departed this
November 5th, 1896.
Ever remembered by his sisters.
ing memory of Annie Isabella, beloved
ghter of Robert and Mary Foster, who
d at 24, Buddle Street, Consett, October
1898.
Ever remembered.
er father, mother, brothers and sisters.
ing memory of my dear husband, John
mphrey, of Street Gate, who departed this
November 6th, 1896, aged 76 years.
Ever remembered
is loving wife and daughters, M. and A.
in would have kept him and shrank from
stroke.
nk after link his tender chain broke;
ness we watched the last lingering breath,
lay like the snowdrop so lovely in death.
ing memory of Susannah Bell, who died
Verge Cottage, Bessemer Street, Blackhill,
. 30th, 1898.
Her languishing head is at rest,
Its achings and troubles are o'er,
Her quiet immovable breast,
Shall heave with affliction no more.

ROBERT BEALL,
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ES, BURNOPFIELD, AND STANLEY.
ptions neatly executed in Town or Coun
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AMINE COTTAGE, BENFIELDSIDE.
es on application, and Special Designs
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riptions neatly cut at moderate charges.
S AND SHOW ROOMS IN GOOSE YARD,
BLACKHILL.

and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at
Atmospheric Printing Works, 59, Front
et, Consett, November 3rd, 1899.

FOOTBALL.

MATCHES.

BUSTY BANK EXILES v. BYER MOOR.

Played on the ground of the former, and ended in a draw of two goals each.

HAMSTERLEY VIOLETS v. CHOPWELL.

This game took place at Hamsterley, and after a good game the visitors were defeated by two goals to nil.

KIP HILL WANDERERS v. KYO UNITED.

Played on the former's ground, and ended in a draw, no goals being scored.

TANTOBIE RED STARS v. DIPTON UNITED.

Played at Tantobie. The home team won the toss and elected to play with the wind. J. Atthey and G. Stokel scored for the Stars, and at half-time the scores were:—Stars, two goals; United, nil. On resuming, play became fast, and W. Short scored two goals for the Stars, and then T. Atthey scored, and afterwards the United scored two goals. Then T. Atthey scored for the Stars, and the final score was:—Stars, six goals; United, two goals. The following did duty for the winners—Goal, J. Holmes; backs, W. Harrison and W. Lewins; half-backs, F. Mather, G. Short, and W. Hodge; forwards, J. Atthey, G. Stokel, T. Atthey, W. Short, and J. McGovern.

CRAGHEAD RANGERS v. PELTON FELL.

At Pelton, before a good muster of spectators, Pelton won the toss and elected to play with the wind at their backs. Dodds kicked off for Craghead, and play ruled in mid-field for a while, but Pelton broke away, and Craghead had their work cut out to keep them at bay. The Craghead forwards, by a piece of good passing, got within an ace of scoring, the Craghead centre troubling the backs, which left Grix to just miss by inches. Pelton came away, Laycock had the greatest difficulty to keep out a good shot from Usher. Pelton strove hard to score, and Craghead strove hard to keep them out, and half-time arrived with a clean sheet.

Pelton	Nil
Craghead	Nil

After crossing over the Craghead lads soon got going, and Dodds tried to find the net with long shooting, but they went wide of the mark. The Pelton forwards now and again broke away against the breeze, but the Craghead halves held them in check. Craghead worked their way down again, and from a good centre from Fairley, Dodds received, but transferred to Grix, and that player scored for Craghead. From the centre kick Pelton tried hard to equalise, but the Craghead backs drove them down the field. Fairley broke away on the right, and scored the second goal for Craghead. After this play ruled in midfield, and when the whistle sounded for the final the score was—

Craghead	Two goals
Pelton	Nil

DURHAM SENIOR CUP.

TOW LAW v. WEST AUCKLAND.

On the Tow Law ground, in bad weather, the top goal being hidden from view by mist. Tow Law played up the incline. Play, though of a variable character, was fairly fast, and Hymers receiving from Page banged in the homesters' first point. A corner fell to the hilltoppers, which was twice cleared, and Iley afterwards placed over the bar. The visiting forward line again came away, and Parker tested Nattrass, who again saved in capital fashion, the corner which followed being successfully cleared by the home defence. Each goal was then visited in turn, Page putting over the bar for Tow Law, and Parker executed a similar movement for the Auckland men. From a pass in the centre of the field the Tow Law left wing worked close in, from which Iley added No. 2. The third goal was added just before the half-time. In the second period the weather continued to get more unpleasant, and after White had scored from a penalty for the visitors, the game was abandoned some 35 minutes before the call of time. Final—

Tow Law	Three goals
West Auckland	One goal

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC v. CONSETT SWIFTS.

These teams met at Annfield Plain on Saturday in dull weather, and before a moderate attendance. Mr Robson, of Ouston, had charge of the following players:—

Consett—Goal, W. Graham; backs, J. Laidler and Jos. Finnigan; half-backs, B. McKie, W. Harrison, and P. Smith; forwards, B. Rafferty, J. Turley, Jas. Finnigan, M. Eustace, and J. Morgan.

Annfield Plain.—S. Forster; backs, Pearson and A. Bell; half-backs, A. Coyle, P. Bell, and R. Gillender; forwards, D. Pendleton, R. Forster, T. Bell, J. Gallagher, and E. Storey.

Consett were set to defend the entrance goal, and Jas. Finnigan set the ball in motion. The right wing immediately got down, but A. Bell drove them back. Storey got hold and centred well, but Graham cleared in good style. P. Bell made a mis-kick, but A. Coyle rectified the mistake, and then Joe Finnigan stopped Pendleton and Forster, and the ball went out. From the throw-in Joe Finnigan again cleared, and Morgan got away, but was robbed by Pearson, and Pendleton fired in a long shot which Graham easily saved. The Swifts then pressed severely, and S. Forster twice saved finely, especially from Rafferty. Consett came again, and A. Bell cleared the danger with a big kick. Smith put in good work for the visitors, following which Bobby Forster ran through several opponents, and sent in a terrific shot at close range which, fortunately for the Swifts, cannoned back with rare force off Laidler. Fouls ensued to either side, and then Turley and Rafferty got off and sent across to Morgan, who centred, and Eustace put by. Harrison stopped the home forwards and gave to Eustace, but the ball went out. Forster and Pendleton tried a run, and Joe Finnigan was beaten, but Harrison rushed across and saved the situation. Turley then put in a fine run, but the ball found touch. Forster again got going, and when tackled by Joe Finnigan gave to Pendleton, who shot in, Laidler clearing. McKie next put in a grand long shot, but there was no one up to take advantage of it. The Plain forwards ran the leather back and forced a corner, which nearly resulted in the downfall of the Swifts' fortress. Harrison cleared a warm attack, after which Storey shot past, and then A. Coyle stopped Eustace and Morgan in good style. Storey then sent in an awkward kind of shot which Graham quite misjudged, but he managed to recover himself and got the ball away from the goal-line, the Plain appealing for a goal in vain, albeit it must have been a near thing. Pearson robbed Jas. Finnigan, and Storey got possession and sent to Pendleton, who shot over the bar. Pendleton then secured and centred finely to T. Bell, who shot between the backs and beat Graham all the way with a low shot. Receiving from Pearson, T. Bell put in a nice run, and rounding the backs sent in a beautiful shot which just sailed over the top—a good attempt. Joe Finnigan put in a good return, and also cleared well from a centre by Storey. The Plain attacked again, and P. Bell shot into Graham's hands. The latter was hardly pressed, and in trying to clear, kicked the ball against the inside of the upright, and it rebounded into the net. After a spell of pressing by Consett, T. Bell rushed in from a big kick, but was off-side. The visitors were pressing at half-time:—

Annfield Plain	Two goals
Consett Swifts	Nil

On resuming, the visitors immediately attacked, and the ball coming across from the left Turley had a chance in a thousand, but he sent just past the post. The Swifts continued to force the play, and gained a free kick close in, which Turley put over. Consett had nearly all the play for a time, and came near scoring once or twice, but failed at the crucial moment. A foul to the Celts relieved the pressure, and the Plain got close in, T. Bell missing a nice opening. Then the visitors came away, and Jas. Finnigan made a fine run, but Forster rushed out and cleared. The same player was unfairly brought down within the twelve yards' line, but the referee took no notice of an appeal for a penalty. P. Bell then put to Storey, who gained a lot of ground, but Laidler sent the globe back. A regrettable incident ensued hereabouts, Turley and Gillender coming to blows, and both being ordered off the field. Play afterwards became very tame and uninteresting. Rafferty once had a glorious chance, but he made a mess of it when a goal seemed a certainty. The closing stages of the game were marked by some unnecessarily rough play, the game being stopped on two or three occasions. A few minutes before the close the Swifts beat Forster in a scrimmage, but this concluded the scoring, and the result of a poor game was:—

Annfield Plain	Two goals
Consett Swifts	One goal

STANLEY v. LEADGATE PARK.

The number of spectators who visited the Oakey enclosure on Saturdady afternoon to witness the tie in the third round of the Durham Cup between Stanley and Leadgate Park was not so large as might have been expected. The game ended in a very unsatisfactory manner through no fault of either team. Mr Greener was to have officiated as referee, but failed to turn up and Mr Boggan, of Gateshead was requisitioned. He did not arrive until considerably after 3 o'clock with the result that the game had to be stopped a quarter-of-an-hour before time. The teams were:—

Stanley.—Goal, Robbins; backs, Saunders and Bell; half-backs, Coates, Allison, and Redpath; forwards, Crute, Robson, Douglass, Ellis, and Masterman.

Leadgate Park.—Goal, M. Hedley; backs, G. Temple and J. Wilson; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, B. Cook, J. Grant, W. Crowther, G. Forster, and J. Harper.

Masterman won the toss and Crowther kicked off towards the Cottages, Crute returned and exchanges followed. A couple of fouls against the Park came in quick succession, but the home men gained nothing thereby. After some give-and-take play Ellis headed over the line, and from the goal kick the ball was sent to Bell, who, by a strong kick, returned over. Some smart play by Crute gave Stanley an opening, but Hedley was sound in goal. A rapid movement by the Park caused Robbins to handle out. Stanley next attacked strongly and after a fine piece of passing Masterman and Ellis nearly scored, but Hedley saved at the expense of a corner. The homesters had the worst of the luck, several attacks just failing. The visitors made a gallant bid but were driven back, and Temple very cleverly saved a hard shot from Crute. Stanley continued to press and Hedley had to concede another corner, which was well placed by Masterman, but failed to get past the Park defence. Leadgate then took up the offensive, and were getting well placed when the left half-back missed badly, and play was carried back to their territory. They continued to make strong efforts, but found Allison and Coates too much for them. At this point Ellis and Douglass exchanged places. A pass from the right to the left wing resulted in Masterman and Douglass finding the net, but Mr Boggan declared the point off-sided, and it was disallowed. Leadgate made tracks for the home goal, and secured a corner, which was cleared by Coates. The visitors kept up the attack, and Robbins had to use his hands. The play of the home team was very moderate and far below recent form. Crute was an exception, and worked hard. He got in some good centres, but they were not taken advantage of, and several chances were missed. A good shot by the Stanley secretary was diverted over the line, but nothing was gained by the resultant corner. More chances fell to the lot of the home team, but they were allowed to pass, and the interval came with the score sheet blank. Half-time:—

Stanley	Nil
Leadgate Park	Nil

Ellis re-started and the homesters attacking strongly came near scoring. The visitors were not long in retaliating, and Robbins came out of goal to get the ball away. Masterman got in a good centre but Robson missed his kick, and a splendid opportunity was thrown away. A foul against Allison gave the Park a chance, and they gained a corner which was cleared by Ellis. Immediately after Robbins was tested and then Crowther scored an off-side goal. Leadgate at this stage were having the best of matters, but some open play nearly brought about their downfall, Coates sending outside. Another good centre by Masterman led to Ellis making a poor attempt to find the net. The visitors turned the play against Stanley and although they were driven back to the centre, they passed again and Forster taking prompt advantage of an opening sent the ball past Robbins into the net, thus opening the scoring. The ball had not been long in motion again before Ellis with a very soft shot put on the equalising point. Soon afterwards Cook had to retire but thus handicapped the Park pressed strongly and forced a couple of goal kicks. Give-and-take play followed, and after exactly half-an-hour's play Mr Boggan suspended hostilities owing to the dimness which was setting in. The result, therefore, was:—

Stanley	One goal
Leadgate Park	One goal

BIRTLEY v. RYHOPE VILLA.

Played at Birtley before a small "gate." Teams:—

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

Ryhope.—Goal, Ord; backs, Surtees and Conolly; half-backs, Noble, Moody, and Errington; forwards, Reynolds, Street, T. Conolly, Duck and Geever.

Referee, Mr Little, Leadgate.

Birtley won the toss, and Ryhope started towards the railway end. The visitors immediately got up and Biggars gave a corner to Street whose shot he tipped over the bar. The corner being without result the homesters took the ball down the field and then ensued a long attack on the visitors' goal. Had it not been for execrable shooting the Ryhope goal would certainly have succumbed, but, as it was, the forwards could not hit the goal, and whenever Ord was troubled with a shot it was from the half-backs. Doyle was occasionally conspicuous for tricky play and generally finished up by having a shot at the goal, but Ord always saved. Occasionally Ryhope would break away, but they very seldom got dangerous and the bulk of the pressing was done by Birtley. The most of the play was on the Birtley left wing, the right very seldom getting a chance. Shortly before the interval Weatherspoon scored for Birtley, but was given off-side, and the interval arrived with a clean sheet. Half-time:—

Birtley	Nil
Ryhope Villa	Nil

Straight from the kick-off the Ryhope right wing dashed down the field and in a twinkling Street had scored for Ryhope. On resuming Ryhope again got down, but gradually they were forced into their own quarters, and, except for a few incursions into the Birtley half, they were kept there till the finish of the game. The shooting had not improved at all, while each of the Birtley forwards seemed to think that if an equalising goal had to be got he alone had to score it. This selfish play prevailed up to a quarter of an hour off "time" and then Birtley commenced to play in earnest. It was by the greatest of miracles that the Villans' goal escaped defeat, and on the play during this period Birtley should have had at least three goals. However they did not get any, and in the end they had to acknowledge defeat to a team who in the open were altogether outplayed. Final:—

Ryhope Villa	One goal
Birtley	Nil

WALTON CUP.

SECOND ROUND.

LEADGATE WEDNESDAY v. NEWCASTLE CO-OPERATIVE WEDNESDAY.

These teams met on the Park ground on Wednesday afternoon of last week to decide as to which should enter the third round of the above cup. There was a good attendance, and the ground was in fine condition. The teams faced each other as under:—

Leadgate Wednesday.—Goal, W. Bell; backs, R. Cheesmond and F. Lowes; half-backs, J. Kennedy, T. Greener, and J. Steel; forwards, J. Kershaw, A. McGowan, A. Burnhope, Fred Lockey, and J. Tolson.

Newcastle Co-operative.—Goal, Hopper; backs, Potts and Thompson; half-backs, Appleby, E. Bell, and T. W. Lawson; forwards, Bailiff, McIntyre, Heron, Findlay, and Simpson.

Referee, Mr T. Mallabar, Birtley.

The visiting captain won the toss, and decided to attack the entrance goal with a pretty strong wind in his favour. Burnhope set the ball rolling for the home team, who proved to be in fine form, and they were soon pressing. Not many minutes had elapsed ere Potts (the Newcastle right back) made a mistake, of which Lockey promptly availed himself, and headed the ball through amid cheers. Notwithstanding the wind against them the home team continued to hold their own, Kennedy being very conspicuous for judicious play. Receiving from Bell the visiting forwards put in a good run, and McIntyre was presented with a fine chance, but he mulled it. McGowan, Burnhope, and J. Kershaw got down, the latter centreing well, but Hopper kicked away. The Co-operative front rank again got going, and Cheesmond miskicked close in, giving McIntyre a rare opening, but he sent past. From the goal-kick Findlay had an abortive shot, and then at the other end Hopper had all his work cut out to clear from the Leadgate forwards. Half-time:—

Leadgate	One goal
Newcastle	Nil

On resuming with the wind at their backs, the home team quickly attacked, and on two or three occasions favourable opportunities were allowed to go a-begging. Newcastle now raised the siege, and got well down, but a big kick by Lowes forced them back. Steel put well up to the forwards, and Tolson forced a corner, which was well placed, and the ball was scrimmaged through, but the referee struck it off for obstruction. The home men were in no way daunted, and returned to the attack. The ball was put over nicely from the right, and Tolson dashing in gave Hopper no chance whatever with a fast shot. Newcastle now played up desperately, and seemed to have a chance with Bell out of his goal, but the defence retrieved the position, and the Co-ops. had to go away empty-handed. Then Lowes put up the field, and Kennedy placed nicely for McGowan to score a third point. It was all over now, the home team easily holding their own, and at the finish they were comfortable winners. Final:—

Leadgate	Three goals
Newcastle	Nil

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. LINTZ ROVERS.

These teams met on the ground of the former on Saturday afternoon, under the auspices of the above league, in very miserable weather. When the whistle sounded the teams lined up as under:—

Blackhill—Goal, Johnson; backs, Patterson and Aitkin; half-backs, Simpson, Taylor, and Cain; forwards, Smith, Redshaw, Robson, Higgins, and M. Robson.

Lints—Goal, J. Dews; backs, Turpin and Wood; half-backs, Sinclair, A. Dews, and Kay; forwards, Humble, McAneny, Watson, Pyle, and J. Humble.

Referee, Mr Gray, Marley Hill.

Blackhill won the toss and elected to defend the entrance goal. The visitors were the first to take up the attack, Johnson being called upon to save, which he did in fine style. The Saints' right wing now broke away, and Robson had hard lines in not scoring, just grazing the cross-bar. From the goal kick the visitors again got away, Patterson relieving with a good kick. Midfield play was now the order for a while. The Lints again broke away, Johnson having a hot shot to contend with from Pyle, which he saved at the expense of a corner, but it did not prove of any advantage, going wide of its mark. Blackhill now broke away in a body, and they were awarded a corner, but it also proved fruitless. Even play followed up to interval. Half-time—

Blackhill	Nil
Lints	Nil

On crossing over the visitors got away, and looked like scoring, but Aitkin came to the rescue and relieved the pressure with a huge kick. The Saints now made a rush for the entrance goal, M. Robinson having hard lines in not scoring. Blackhill kept up the attack for a while, but could not penetrate the defence opposed to them, Turpin and Wood being in grand form. A good run on the part of the visitors' left again made the home quarters the scene of action, where Johnson had some hot shots to contend with. Robson and Smith now carried play to midfield, where it raged for a while until Pyle and Humble got away, the former beating Johnson with a good shot. From the centre kick the Rovers again returned to the attack, and kept up the pressure till the whistle sounded for time, with the score as under—

Lints Rovers	One goal
Blackhill	Nil

BURNHOPE v. CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE.

Played on the Burnhope ground in misty weather. The following did duty for

Burnhope—Goal, W. Laycock; backs, Talbot and Cassidy; half-backs, Hodgson, Wallace, and Murray; forwards, Talbot, Wallace, Flynn, Talbot, and Flynn.

Referee, Mr W. Hodgson.

The Swifts won the toss and elected to play with the wind at their backs. Flynn kicked off for the Rovers, and the Swifts showed the way for a while, but Cassidy relieved, and the Rovers had hard lines in not scoring. The Swifts having to concede a corner, Talbot took the kick, and Wallace headed well in, but Coleman cleared, and Boyle receiving put in a nice run, but was checked by Hodgson, who gave to Murray, and he put well over to Wallace, who centred, and Talbot scored amid cheers. The Rovers again took up the running, Wallace striking the upright, and they appealed for a goal, but the referee ruled otherwise. The Swifts then took the leather into the home territory, where Boyle was fouled by Cassidy, but nothing resulted, the ball being put past. The custodian took the goal kick, and sent well up the field, where Flynn got hold and gave to Talbot, who shot into the visitors' goal, but Coleman fisted out, and Wallace caught it on the rebound and scored No. 2. The ball was again set rolling, and the Rovers had another spell, A. Flynn missing an easy chance. Half-time arrived with the score—

Burnhope	Two goals
Consett	Nil

From the re-start Burnhope got away, but were checked by the opposing defence. After some give-and-take play the visitors' right wing got away, only to be stopped by Murray, who put well into the goal, where the visitors had to concede a corner, which was well placed by J. Flynn, the ball dropping straight down by the bar, and it glanced off Coleman's fist, thus scoring No. 3. From the centre kick Boyle got away, and dodging Cassidy went well up the field, but was stopped by Talbot. Not to be denied they went away again, and a scrimmage took place, the Swifts claiming for a goal, which the referee allowed, the Rovers being dissatisfied at the decision. From the kick-off the Rovers went away, and A. Flynn scored. Shortly after the whistle sounded for time, the score being—

Burnhope	Four goals
Consett	One goal

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE

CATCHGATE LILYWHITES v. BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S.

These teams met in very dull weather at Catchgate. Blackhill won the toss, and Hodge set the ball in motion. Catchgate pressed very heavily against the wind, but the defence was too good for them, and they failed to score. The visitors just scored before the interval. In the second half the home men did most of the pressing, and put on four goals, while the Saints got one through, the game ending as under—

Catchgate	Four goals
Blackhill	Two goals

Referee, Mr Turnbull, Leadgate.

CONSETT UNITED v. CONSETT SHAMROCKS

Played on the ground of the former. The Shamrocks won the toss and defended the entrance goal. The United kicked off up the hill, and end-to-end play was the rule for a time. From several throws-in Malone received on the left, and notched a point for the Shamrocks amid tremendous cheering. From the centre kick the United played with more dash, but owing to the splendid defence opposed to them they could not break through until Jones received when well placed, and banged the leather into the net for the United, thus equalising. Play became fast and furious, the ball travelling from one end to the other, and half-time arrived with the score—

Shamrocks	One goal
United	One goal

The second half was commenced with more judgment being put into the play, and the United were continually swarming round the Shamrocks' goal, and bully after bully took place, but no goal was put through. The United had the most of the play this half, but the defence was impregnable, and when the whistle sounded a hard game ended in a draw. Score:—

Consett Shamrocks	One goal
Consett United	One goal

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

By "OFF-SIDE."

UNSATISFACTORY FINISH AT STANLEY.

Stanley and Leadgate Park will have to meet again. Mr. Greener, who was to have acted as referee, delegated his duties to Mr. Boggan, of Gateshead, who did not arrive until the train due at Shield Row at three o'clock. As usual on a Saturday the train was late, and the kick-off was delayed for considerably more than half-an-hour. The Park team arrived at two o'clock, and by previous arrangement with Charlie Hanson, the genial manager of the Board Inn they attended to their toilet at that well-known Shield Row hostelry. In the meantime the Stanley players assembled at their own headquarters at the Royal Hotel, and both teams put in an early appearance at Oakey's. It was, therefore, very annoying to have to waste a valuable half-hour with the probable prospect of the game having to be abandoned. As a matter of fact, it was stopped with still a quarter-of-an-hour to play. The light was certainly good enough for another fifteen minutes, and Mr. Boggan might safely have allowed the game to be played out. If this be a fault it was the only one, for he discharged his referential duties with marked fairness.

—o—

Stanley did not play up to recent form. There was an emphatic lack of energy and a disinclination to take advantage of openings when goals might and ought to have been scored. Peter O'Connor, not being qualified, had to stand down and Douglass was tried at centre. He was not a success and soon had to exchange with Ellis, and had to go to his usual position at left outside. Crute filled the vacancy at right outside and played as good a game as any man on the field. He was a distinct trier and if his colleagues had worked as hard they would have had a substantial lead at half-time. The goal which Ellis got might have been stopped by Hedley who, otherwise discharged his duties efficiently. Temple played a good game but generally speaking the form shown on each side was below the standard of Alliance teams. The match will have to be re-played and it will be for the Cup Committee to say where and when.

—o—

A POOR GAME AT THE PLAIN.

If you want to see good football don't patronise cup-ties. It is a curious thing, but nevertheless true, that teams seem to play an almost entirely different game in cup-ties to what is the case when they are engaged in a league fixture. During the course of a lengthy experience I have noticed this repeatedly. A cup-tie more often than not is totally devoid of science or the finer points of the game, and the players seem to take a delight in doing a little "bashing" on their own account. When the draw for the third round of the Durham Senior Cup was made, a tempting morsel seemed to be the tie between Annfield Plain and Consett Swifts. The clubs are old and keen rivals, and there has rarely been but little to choose between them. Consequently I paid a visit to the Plain on Saturday in the expectation of seeing a fine game, but I was hugely mistaken. It was, I may say at the outset, a typical cup-tie. Combination was at a discount, whilst there was far too much ill-feeling astir. This ultimately culminated in a player from each side being ordered off. If it had been a league game, I will make bold to say that there would not have been a tithe of the unpleasantness that prevailed on Saturday.

—o—

I was downright disappointed at the display of both sides, and was heartily glad when all was over. Neither team was at full strength, but the Plain were fortunate in having Sam Forster once more between the sticks. It appears that Forster has not found the force "all beer and skittles," so he has chucked it up and come back to the Plain, which is a good thing for the Celts. The first half was fairly even, but the shooting of the home men was much superior to that of their rivals. Bobby Forster played a great game for his side previous to the interval and he had a very useful partner in Pendleton. Storey on the other wing was also useful, but he was handicapped by a weak partner. When they got anywhere near goal the Celts were much more dangerous than the Swifts, with the result that they crossed over with a two goals lead, Graham presenting the second point to his opponents when hardly pressed. Sam Forster had early on shown that he retained much of his old skill, and one save from a tremendous shot from Rafferty was a masterpiece, as it appeared to be guineas to gooseberries on a goal. However, Forster was all there, and he managed to maintain a clean sheet up to breathing time.

—o—

From the manner in which Consett opened the second half it seemed as if they were going to carry all before them. In the first few minutes Turley was presented with one of the chances of the game, but, to the disappointment of the Consett supporters, he shot past the post. The lengthy right-winger should certainly have scored. After being hemmed in for a time the Plain at length raised the siege, and T. Bell had a nice opening at the other end, but could do nothing with it. Jas Finnigan seemed likely to do the trick when he was badly tripped about six yards out of goal. It was a palpable penalty, but the referee was deaf to all appeals. And now a deal of roughness crept into the game, with the regrettable result alluded to above. Even this incident did not stop the unpleasantness, and every moment it appeared likely that other players would be called upon to retire. The referee seemed to have little or no control over the teams, with the natural result that any amount of shady tricks were indulged in. Consett scrimmaged a goal through shortly before the finish, but there was no more scoring, and everyone was thoroughly pleased when the end came. It was a poor, scrambling kind of game, in which the Celts made the most of their opportunities, and thus they pass into the next round.

—o—

As yet the Celtic ground is hardly conducive to a fast and scientific display, owing to the long and rough grass in places, but still this could not be blamed entirely for the moderate character of the play. The visitors never seemed to get fairly into their stride, and their secretary (Mr. Lowes) remarked to me that he had never seen them play a worse game. I fully beleive him. Graham was fair in goal, but both Laidler and Joe Finnigan have done better at back. Harrison was the shining light at half, but his partners did not do anything startling. James Finnigan was easily the pick of the forwards, and he worked untiringly throughout. The left wing were completely out of it, Morgan being apparently unable to get along through the rough grass. The Plain owe a lot to the two Forsters, who were just about the pick of the team. Sam of that ilk kept goal very finely, and the Celts will be fortunate if they can secure his services permanently. Bobby Forster worked might and main in the first half especially, and he was forever on the ball. He had a capital partner in Pendleton, who should be given a fair trial in this position. Gallagher may be able to keep goal, but he is not a forward. Storey and T. Bell were fair, with A. Coyle the best of the halves, and Pearson playing a useful game at back. The refereeing was only so-so, and with a firmer official there would not have been so much unpleasantness introduced.

—o—

LEADGATE WEDNESDAY IN FORM.

Whatever they may accomplish in the league tourney, it must certainly be said that the Leadgate Wednesdayites came out of their first cup-tie struggle with honours thick upon them. They were drawn at home against Newcastle Co-operative in the Walton Cup, and it was felt that the tie was a pretty open one. The visitors were very sweet upon their chance, but long ere the finish they must have had all the conceit knocked out of them. The home team began against the wind, yet in spite of this drawback they were soon to the front, the captain (Fred Lockey) appropriately opening the scoring. Leadgate continued to hold their own, although the Co-ops made some dangerous sallies and miskicks by Cheesmond nearly let them in on two occasions. At the interval nothing further had been scored. With the wind to aid them it was expected that the home men would pile on a big score, but for a time they shaped only moderately. They certainly exerted the most pressure, but they used bad judgment in front of goal. However, they came again towards the finish, and made the result safe by popping on other two goals, besides having another disallowed for some infringement, although it seemed to the casual looker-on to be a good point.

—o—

Leadgate fully deserved their three to nil win, as they were far and away the better team. In awarding the praise I must give the lion's share to the halves, who were in fine trim. Steel played a splendid game, and is improving rapidly, whilst Jock Kennedy (the old Birtleyite) was seen to great advantage, and used good judgment. Greener whilst hardly so prominent as his wing colleagues, yet put in a lot of useful work. Wilf Bell again kept an excellent goal, as is proved by the fact that he was not once beaten during the afternoon. He was not too well served by his backs, as Cheesmond was not very reliable whilst Lowes has played better games. However, the halves made up for any deficiency in this respect. Amongst the front rank I think that McGowan is entitled to premier place, and he is always a trier. His goal was perhaps the prettiest one of the day. The veteran Anty Burnhope showed up capitally, whilst Lockey gave an improvement upon recent displays. Tolson was conspicuous at times, but is rather on the light side and easily knocked off the ball. Kershaw has not yet got into his old form, but I shall expect to see him do so before very long. The pick of the visitors were Thompson, Simpson, Appleby, McIntyre and Bailiff. The Leadgate boys are now waiting anxiously to see who they fall against in the next round. With a little bit of luck they should go further up in the competition.

—o—

BURNHOPE WIN AGAIN.

Burnhope are going in rare form just now, although it must be remembered that they have had a succession of home games. However, a team can only win, and this Burnhope have accomplished on each occasion that they have appeared before their own supporters, scooping in ten points out of five games. The victims on Saturday were the Swifts' Reserve, who had to put up with a four to one beating, which must be accounted a creditable performance. For the winners, Laycock in goal had not much to do and it was through no fault of his that the Consett goal was scored. The backs played a good game, and the same may be said of the halves, who proved to be a great source of strength to the team. The forwards put in some good runs, but they often pass too far in front of them, and thus throw away good chances. For the losers Coleman had little chance with the shots that beat him, whilst Wood was the pick of the backs. The halves were a pretty level trio, but Boyle was much the best of the forwards. He was tricky, and put in some grand runs. The Rovers are evidently destined to finish well up in the competition.

—o—

TANTOBIE PLAY WELL.

In the match at Allendale on Saturday, Tantobie played well, and they should just have won. Fancy missing a penalty. Lishman did well, while Adamson and Gladders were a treat. The halves were a bit off at first, but they began to come on later on. Thompson (the late Diptonian) played well, while the forwards were in rare form.

MEMS

Fancy Ryhope Villa beating Birtley, at Birtley!

It seems preposterous.

But nevertheless true.

Too true, alas!

The ball must have been of great value.

The way the Birtley forwards stuck to it led one to think so.

What a difference in the play against Middlesbrough A and Ryhope Villa.

In the former the object was to score goals.

In the latter to be tricky.

With the result that there was no combination.

And no idea of scoring goals.

Therefore they deserved to lose.

Stanley and Leadgate Park met.

And will have to meet again.

The late arrival of the referee is alone the cause.

This was unsatisfactory to both teams.

Who were on the ground in good time.

After plaiyng for 75 minutes the referee stopped the game.

When each team had scored once.

The game was not an exhilarating one.

Neither team was extended.

And the players, with one or two exceptions did not seem to realise that they were engaged in a cup tie.

"Waken up, Stanley," was the most frequent remark heard from the spectators.

There was none of the customary cup tie excitement.

Did they know the game would not be played out?

It seemed rather like it.

How about the next gate?

After witnessing Saturday's game at the Plain cup-ties are off with me.

Rarely have I seen a less interesting display.

Neither side displayed anything like their best form.

Then there was too much ill-feeling introduced.

However, a firmer referee would have stopped a lot of this.

A notable feature of the game was the re-appearance of Sam Forster in goal for the Celts.

He appears to have soon tired of the force.

Sam evidently retains all his old ability as a custodian.

I was sorry to hear that "Walloper" is showing but little inclination for football this season.

This is a pity as he is a really good half.

One of the hardest workers on the field was Bobby Forster.

In the first half especially he put in heaps of work.

The Celts' captain and Pendleton form a useful wing.

Gallagher may be a good goalkeeper.

But he is not a forward.

James Finnigan played a hard game for the Swifts.

Morgan and Eustace could not get going among the long and rough grass.

The Swifts are wishing that Bob Wake was fit again.

Consett should have been awarded a penalty when Jas. Finnigan was badly tripped about six yards out of goal.

It was one of the clearest cases I have seen for a long time.

This the Plain supporters candidly admitted.

Harrison put in a lot of useful work at half.

But the rest of the defence did not shine.

It was only a moderate game that was played at Shotley Bridge on Saturday.

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's and Lintz Rovers being the contestants.

The miserable weather seemed to affect the players.

The Rovers just pulled through by a goal to nil.

Pyle was the successful shootist.

And he is a really smart forward.

The veteran Turpin played capitally at back.

I learn that the popular Byer Moor back, George Bennett, joined the matrimonial ranks last Saturday.

Here's good luck to you, George.

Likewise the missus.

I'll drink your jolly good health the next time I visit Byer Moor.

Speaking of Byer Moor, reminds me that the club had a most successful dance on Saturday.

There was a capital company present.

And everything passed off in the smoothest fashion possible.

Thanks to the excellent arrangements of the energetic secretary (Mr. W. H. Dawson),

And a most capable committee.

Burnhope administered a severe defeat to the Swifts' Reserve.

And in consequence take second position on the league table.

They have not been beaten at home yet.

But what will they do away?

Ask me another.

Laycock is always there when wanted.

And has his doubts as to the genuineness of the goal given against him.

Cassidy and Talbot are a couple of rare backs.

Murray is making a name for himself at half.

Ditto Wallace and Hodgson.

J. Flynn was tried at outside left.

And gave every satisfaction.

He has a fine partner in J. Talbot.

The home captain (A Flynn) shaped well in the centre.

And actually scored a goal!

Wonders will never cease.

P. Talbot and Wallace got along nicely together on the right.

A Burnhope correspondent is evidently depressed at the thought of his club going away.

For he pathetically exclaims:—

"Ah! me. Ah my.
We'll know more about them
By-and-bye."

He then significantly adds:—They play away at Tanfield Lea on Saturday.

Boyle played a splendid game amongst the Consett forwards.

His clever tactics greatly took the fancy of the spectators.

Leadgate was in a great state of excitement.

On Wednesday night of last week.

"What for?" you ask.

Why because the Wednesday boys had won their first cup-tie.

And don't you forget it.

The Newcastle Co-ops. came dividend hunting.

But lost their checks.

Wilf Bell wouldn't let them have a single notch.

Good man, Wilf!

Kennedy Greener, and Steel formed the stumbling-block to the Co-ops. aspirations.

Jock gave them a touch of his old Birtley form.

And it was too much for the visitors.

Steel is the most improved man on the side.

The enthusiasm of the Leadgate secretary knew no bounds.

As he shook my hand at the conclusion of the game, he assured me that his boys had had the cup.

In fact, he was so overcome that I thought he was going to present me with the gate-money.

However, unfortunately for me, he came to himself in time.

Just like my luck.

The boys celebrated the victory in the old sweet way.

Oh! my poor head.

The Tantobie mid-weekers journeyed to Langley Park last week.

And came off second best.

The Co-ops had to obtain the assistance of one of the Langley men.

What oh! Tantobie 2, Allendale 2.

The anchor's wet.

The two great Consett rivals (Shamrocks and United) played a draw.

The Shamrocks are a good passing team.

And their combination is grand.

They have a good back in Carty.

And a most reliable goalkeeper.

The United play a good game.

But more on the "kick and rush" principle.

McCone and Emmerson were off-colour.

Overall and Jones both played a hard game.

Dodds was not often troubled.

On Saturday's form at Medomsley, Tantobie should have a great chance for the Derwent Valley League championship.

The Park committee were severely criticised last week for the team they selected to meet Stanley.

But the result shows that they were not far out.

Hebburn Arygle are anxious to get Saunders from Stanley.

Be loyal Saunders, be loyal.

If this sort of thing goes on Hebburn Argyle will have to add to their title, "late Stanley."

An interesting gathering took place at Leadgate on Saturday night.

When that popular veteran, Anty Burnhope, was honoured.

He received a handsome timepiece from a few friends on the occasion of his marriage.

The proceedings were most enjoyable.

—o—

MATCHES WANTED.

Annfield Place White Stars have a few vacant dates and would like them filled up as soon as possible.—Apply, James Huggup, 5, Annfield Place, Annfield Plain, R.S.O.

High Hold United have several dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible —Apply, Thos. Little, 1, Urpeth Cottages, High Hold, near Chester-le-Street.

Crookhall Rising Stars have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible ages, 9 to 14 years.—Apply, E. Fowler, 16, Red Row, Crookhall, Leadgate.

Tantobie Red Stars Reserve have all dadtes vacant; ages, 13 to 15. Apply, F. Mather, Quarry Row, Tantobie, R.S.O.

Pickering Nook Lilywhites are in want of matches; ages, 10 to 13. Apply, T. Moyle, Hobson

Burnhope Violets are in want of matches; ages, 11 to 15 years.—Apply, William Hobkirk, 17, Westwood Row, Burnhope Colliery.

Sunniside United have all dates vacant; ages 16 to 18 years.—Apply, W. Maddison, Quarry Cottage, Sunniside, near Gateshead.

South Pontop Albions would like to arrange matches with teams ages from 13 to 15 years.—Apply, Albert Walters, South Pontop, Annfield Plain.

Tantobie Red Stars would like to have a few of their vacant dates filled up; ages 13 to 15 years.—Apply, F. Mather, Quarry Row, Tantobie, R.S.O.

Kip Hill Red Rovers have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up; ages 12 to 14 years.—Apply, Jas. Anderson, Kip Hill, Stanley, R.S.O.

Annfield Plain Red Stars are in want of matches; ages, 11 to 13. Apply, J. Huggup, 15, Annfield Place, Annfield Plain.

East Pontop United are in want of matches; average age 12 to 14 years.—Apply, Albert Walford, 46, East Pontop, Durham, R.S.O.

Hobson United Reserve wish to cancel all games as they are unable to raise a team.—Signed, J. Dickinson, Secretary.

Kip Hill Rovers played a draw with Oxhill—one goal each—at Oxhill, on Saturday.

Kip Hill Wanderers have all vacant dates, and would like them filled up with junior teams; ages from 16 to 17 years.—Apply, R. Lauder, 13, Shield Row, R.S.O.

Stanley Athletic Reserve are in want of dates; average age, 16 to 17 years.—Apply, T. Robson, 49, Joicey Square, West Stanley.

Hobson United have a few vacant dates, and would like them filled up at once with good junior teams; ages 16 to 18 years.—Apply, R. W. Hallam, 50, Front Street, Hobson, Burnopfield.

Allendale Putters are in want of matches; average age, 16 to 17 years.—Apply, J. G. Stobbs, 88, Allendale Cottages, R.S.O.

Grange Villa Albions have all dates vacant; average age, 16 years.—Apply, R. Jacques, 2, Lee's Terrace, Grange Villa, via Chester-le-Street.

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. Whites, 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 Tigne, Esh Village, near Durham.

Allendale Rangers are in want of matches; ages 10 to 11 years.—Apply, Thos. Minks, 18, 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.

Hamsterley Violets are in want of matches; ages 1. to 13 years.—Apply, Richard Maitland, 11, Prospect Terrace, Hamsterley Colliery, Ebchester.

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CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

A meeting of this league was held at the Black Horse Hotel, Consett, on Thursday night. Mr. J. Ross (chairman) presided, and representatives were present from Blackhill St. Cuthbert's, Stanley United, Consett United Consett Shamrocks, Leadgate Park Juniors, Derwent Cottages, Leadgate Exiles, Blackhill St. Cuthbert's Juniors and Leadgate Athletic.

A PROTEST.

Derwent Cottages sent in a protest against one of the Shamrocks' reserve team for being over age.—Mr. Alderdice (Derwent Cottages) explained that he had got the birth certificate proving his case, but had not brought it with him.—The committee decided to adjourn the case for a month; but later on the secretary (Mr. E. Birtley) read a communication from the Shamrocks asking permission to withdraw heir reserve from the second division, as they were unable to raise a team.—The committee agreed to accept their resignation consequently the protest of Derwent Cottages fell through, and their fee was returned.

WITHDRAWN.

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's had sent in a claim for points against Consett United; but Mr. Patterson intimated that his club had decided to withdraw it.

RESULT OF MATCHES.

The Secretary complained that several of the second division secretaries failed to send in the results of their games.—The Chairman explained that according to rule 24 secretaries had to forward results of games, with list of players, so that they reached the secretary of the league by Tuesday morning's post, or otherwise be fined 1/-. He trusted that they would bear this in mind in future.

MEDALS FOR THE CHAMPIONS.

The Chairman said that Blackhill St. Cuthbert's were anxious to present their players with medals for winning the championship, and they asked the league to make a contribution towards this object, and the club would make up the rest. Personally be thought that the league should do something of the kind, as the winners were undoubtedly entitled to some permanent recognition of their prowess.—The meeting unanimously voted 25/- out of the funds to Blackhill, and the latter will add a similar amount.—Mr. Patterson returned thanks on behalf of St. Cuthbert's.

APPOINTMENT OF REFEREES.

The following appointments were made:—

November 11th.

South Moor v. Park Juniors, R. Mullen.
Consett Shamrocks v. Stanley, E. Brown.
Catchgate v. Consett United, W. Turnbull.
Derwent Cottages v. Leadgate Athletic, W. Thompson.
Leadgate Exiles v. Medomsley Juniors, T. Browell.

November 18th.

South Moor v. St. Cuthbert's, W. Turnbull.
Consett United v. Allendale A., W. Oliver.
Medomsley Rovers v. Blackhill Juniors, J. Lock.

November 25th.

St. Cuthbert's v. Consett United, W. Turnbull.
Consett Shamrocks v. Park Juniors, R. Mullen.
Derwent Cottages v. Leadgate Exiles, J. Lock.

December 2nd.

Allendale A. v. Park Juniors, J. Overall.
Blackhill Juniors v. Derwent Cottages, T. Browell.

A TRANSFER.

The committee granted the transfer of A. Matthieson from South Moor to St. Cuthbert's.

This concluded the business.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

A meeting of this body was held at the Dun Cow Hotel, Chester-le-Street, on Monday evening—Mr Martin Dodds presiding.

PROTESTS.

Pelton Fell Institute protested against Ouston for playing an ineligible man (J. Quinn) in their match against them.—After hearing the evidence the protest committee decided that Ouston had violated the rules, and would be fined 10s and the points awarded to Pelton Fell, subject to the approval of the D.F.A. committee.

Pelton Fell United protested against Ouston playing C. Harle, he being ineligible.—At the request of the Ouston club the hearing of the case was postponed until next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

Craghead II were fined 4s 1½d as quarter brake fare for Springwell, who were disappointed.

The resignation of Pelton Fell Institute II and Craghead II was accepted.

It was agreed that in future the secretary of any club withdrawing should give notice to the other league clubs.

The game, South Moor v. Washinton, which was stopped ten minutes before time was ordered to be re-played at South Moor on cup-tie terms.

The match between Washington and Waterhouses, which was also stopped through darkness, was similarl dealt with.

REFEREES FOR NOVEMBER.

Joicey Cup—November 11th—Craghead v. Waterhouses, M. Howe; Chester-le-Street v. Birtley A., E. T. Hall; Fatfield v. Pelton Fell, G. Petrie; Washington v. South Moor, W. Marshall; Waldridge v. Ouston, J. McGregor. Nov. 18—Waldridge v. Pelton Fell Institute, W. Marshall; Birtley A v. Fatfield, J. Longstaffe; Craghead v. South Moor, J. Robson; Waterhouses v. Washington, E. T. Hall. Nov. 25th—Chester-le-Street v. Pelton Fell United, J. McGregor; Birtley A v. Waldridge, E. T. Hall; Fatfield v. South Moor, W. Stanger; Ouston v. Craghead, R. Thompson. December 2nd—Pelton Fell United v. Fatfield, J. Robson; Craghead v. Chester-le-Street, J. Scott; Ouston v. Washington, J. Longstaffe.

Peter Hay Cup—November 11th—Springwell v. Stanley United, W. Stanger. Nov. 18th.—Tribley Star v. Black House, R. Robson; Stanley United v. Waterhouses, M. Marshall; Ouston v. Waldridge, W. Stanger. Nov. 25th—Waterhouses v. Black House, R. Robson; Waldridge v. Birtley Rovers, J. Dryden. December 2nd—Waldridge v. Waterhouses, G. Petrie; Black House v. Stanley United, M. Marshall; Chester-le-Street v. Springwell, R. Robson.

BYER MOOR FOOTBALL CLUB.

ANNUAL DANCE.

The annual social and dance held under the auspices of the Byer Moor Football Club, took place on Saturday evening, in the Burnopfield Co-operative Hall. The club, whose supporters are legion, seems to jump into greater popularity each year, and the invitations sent out this year were heartily responded to, the attendance being larger than on former occasions. Everything possible was done by the energetic committee to ensure the comfort of those present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Dancing commenced about seven o'clock to the strains of excellent music supplied by Mr Maurice Mulcahy (piano) and Mr Frank Gregory (violin), and was kept up with much spirit till about eleven o'clock. The M.C.'s were Messrs M. Cheeseman, N. Keefe, J. Shippen, T. Hall, E. Saunders, and P. Mulcahy, who discharged their duties with credit. Amongst the large company present were:—Mr J. Keenan (Marley Hill), Mr Shotton, Mr Hall, Mr Pyle, Miss Keith, Misses Hodgson (C.), Miss Coulthard (Byer Moor), Miss Pearson (Crookgate), Mr J. Turbitt (Swalwell), Mr W. Young, Miss Jennings, Mr T. Anderson, Miss Atkinson, Mr O'Brien, Mr Dunn (Burnopfield), Mr T. Blackford (Tantobie), Miss Stafford, Mr P. Robb, Miss Robb, Miss Patterson, Miss Gardner, Mr Park, Mr Hudspeth, Mr Thompson (White-le-Head), Mr T. Kitchen, Miss Robson (Marley Hill), Mr W. Smith (Marley Hill), Mr J. Smith (Marley Hill), Miss I. Wright, Miss E. Wright, Mr W. Wright, Mr J. Wright, Mr M. Keenan (Marley Hill), Mr Owen, Mr McGahon (Marley Hill), Mr R. Elliott (Whickham), Miss E. Young (Crookgate), Miss J. Young (Crookgate), Miss Barresford, Misses Hall (Hobson), Mr Douglas Renwick (Rowland's Gill), Mr E. Hudspeth, Miss Hodgson, Miss Nicholson (Annfield Plain), Miss Nicholson (Tantobie), Miss Oates, Mr Turnbull, Mr and Mrs Hodgson, Mr and Mrs Leighton, Miss Babe (Lintz Hall), Miss Reay, Mr J. Wall (Hobson), Mr M. Thirlwell (Marley Hill), Mr T. Lamb, Miss K. Hall, Misses Keenan (Marley Hill), Mr W. Kendal (High Row), Miss E. Hall (Byer Moor), Miss A. Hall (Byer Moor), Miss Armstrong, Misses Farrar, Misses Clasper (Byer Moor), Miss O'Brien (Leases), Mr Robson (Rowland's Gill), Miss McDermott (Marley Hill), Mr Burnip (Hobson), Mr Hindhaugh (Hobson), Miss Parker (Hobson), Miss Coulthard (Byer Moor), Miss Carr (Tantobie), Miss Mulcahy (Byer Moor), Miss Hall (Ponteland), Mr Conway (Marley Hill), Mr Jennings, Mr J. Coulthard (Byer Moor), Mr Clark (Tantobie), Mr B Waythen, Miss M. Smalles, Mr E. Bond, Mr R. McDermott (Marley Hill), Mr J. Spinks, Miss Carr (Friarside), Mr J. Arnold (Marley Hill), Mr J. Hearne (Sunniside), Miss Smith, Miss Birgiss (Blaydon), Mr R. Dillon (Sunniside), Mr J. Coulson (Marley Hill), Mr McKevor (Tantobie), Mr Carr (Friarside), Mr Potts, and others.

CHOPWELL.

DRUNKENNESS.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Walter Dickinson pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly at Chopwell on the 21st ul., and was fined 1/- and costs.—P.C. Johnson prosecuted.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Thomas Cares and John Cranson were charged by P.C. Johnson with committing a breach of the peace at Spen, on the 20th ult.—The defendants pleaded guilty, and were bound over to keep the peace for six months in the sum of £5, and ordered to pay the costs.

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LEMO.

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LEADGATE and GATESHEAD.

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.

THE COST OF SEAL-SKIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

SIR,—Some of our fashions encourage terrible cruelty. This somewhat obvious fact has, perhaps, not escaped your notice; but, now that winter is approaching I would call attention to a little pamphlet which I recently published under the auspices of the Humanitarian League, entitled "The cost of a seal-skin cloak," as I feel sure there are many people who do not realise at what terrible cost to the animal this material is obtained. In this age of advancement many of us have come to regard the cruel semi-barbarous customs commonly practised in the sub-human groups as relics of the dark ages, which can only be dispelled under the strong light of culture and civilisation; and on ethical grounds it behoves us to investigate the facts for ourselves, and eschew the use of anything which encourages cruelty. I shall be glad to hear from any of your readers who are interested in this question. Copies of my pamphlet can be had from the offices of the Humanitarian League, 53, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., free of charge.—Yours faithfully,

JOSEPH COLLINSON

November 2nd, 1899

MR. CRUDDAS AND THE WAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

SIR,—I am very glad that the agent for the Tory Party has spoken in a way that cannot be misunderstood respecting the policy of the present Government. I, as well as others, had almost made up our minds not to vote for Mr Atherley-Jones at the next election, on account of the hon. member's services in the House of Commons not being rendered in a manner satisfactory to us as they might have been. But his recent utterances in the division and the humane as well as the courageous stand he has taken against this wholesale sacrifice of human life is such that we admire him more now than we have ever done before, and for this act alone (which certainly is above all others) we owe him a deep debt of gratitude, and I have no doubt but what this will be paid him at the next election, and then Mr Cruddas will see that he has ventured to express an opinion and a hope to see the electors of this division unseat the present member that only a stranger such as he could have fallen into such a miserable error of judging us as a lot of barbarians in North-West Durham. We are not prompted by other motives than one of justice to all creatures; but I am afraid this cannot be of those who are responsible for the present state of affairs, and more particularly the present Government, which I trust will receive a just rebuke when an appeal is made to the country.—Your &c.,

ROBERT ECCLES.

Blackhill, Nov. 6th, 1899.

THE VALE OF DERWENT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—I was very pleased to see a correspondent in a late issue calling attention to the erronous manner in which the affairs of the club have been managed lately. I am an old member, and am far from being satisfied at the club in the way it has been conducted of late years. As your correspondent said, it is seven years since the last volume of transactions was issued, and there is seven years' subcription lying somewhere to print them. But there is more. There was an exhibition in 1894, and funds were raised at it. This money must be added to the subscriptions. I consider it a shame that so many interesting papers which have been read at past meetings should, after so long a time, be yet unpublished in volume form when there is money to print them. True, just lately, a 24 page pamplet, containing five papers, has been issued—but it is a paltry concern, and I consider a disgrace to the club after seven years' work. It is called an instalment, but we have no guarantee when the next will appear; perhaps it may be another seven years. And another thing—whoever was responsible for the issuing of it were evidently of selfish dispositions—two of the papers were never read at meetings. It was not as if there were not enough to fill up, but there must be between thirty and forty papers, if not more, imprinted. Why wasn't one of Mr. J. Robinson's papers included? That gentleman did more and wrote more for the club than any other member up to the time of his sad illness, and yet the compilers of this petty pamphlet—who are not fit to lick the dust off the shoes of the late president and founder of the club—ignore him altogether, and insert papers which never saw a meeting. The members pay their subcriptions for the printing of the papers read and it is their right to have them. The year is drawing to a close, and it is hoped that a new management will be made, for under the present state of things the constitution is rotten. I should like, however, to see abler pens than mine take the matter up and see if those members who have paid their subcriptions for the last seven years cannot have something for their money. Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for trespassing on your space.—I am, sir, &c.

A DISSATISFIED MEMBER.

HOW SEAL-SKIN IS OBTAINED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—Few people are aware of the horrors of the trade in seal-skin. This is one of the most fashionable furs; but, until we can be satisfied that it has not been obtained at the terrible cost of wanton and barbarous cruelty to the seal, women ought to forego the luxuries of fashion. The Humanitarian League has just published a pamphlet by Mr Joseph Collinson on this subject, entitled, "The Cost of a Seal-skin Cloak." Mr Collinson is striving to stir up those in authority to make laws for the protection of these harmless animals from wanton cruelty. It is harrowing to read that, when seal-pikes are used, the first blow does not kill the seal. The captors consider this better than a mortal blow, it being easier to skin the creature when it is only half dead, for then the victim involuntarily draws its muscles away from the flaying of the knife, and thus in the utmost agony assists at the parting of its own coat. Unnecessary cruelty is indeed practised in the procuration of sealskin. The story told by Captain Borchgrevink (quoted Mr Collinson) lends weighty support to the implication referable to Mrs Ormiston Chant (in her denunciation of cruel fashions), that "that a dark shadow hangs over the fascinating beautiful (?) seal-skin jacket—a shadow of unutterable cruelty, which ought to be cleared away." Kindly allow me to add that "The Cost of a Seal-skin Cloak" can be had from the offices of the Humanitarian League, 53, Chancery Lane, London (post free.)—Yours truly,

M.G.

(A Woman who has never worn seal-skin.)

October 26th.

THE BENEFIT CONCERT AT BURNOPFIELD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Dear sir,—Through the medium of your valuable columns, allow us to sincerely thank the committee, performers, and all those who took part or assisted in any way in the recent concert held at Burnopfield for our benefit. It has greatly gratified us to know how many kind friends have come forward in our time of trouble and shown their sympathies. When restored to health we can assure you our services will not be sought in vain. Again thanking all from our hearts.—Believe us, yours thankfully,

FRANK and SARAH GREGORY.

Crookgate, November 7th, 1899.

CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held on Tuesday evening, in the Board Room, Spen, Mr. J. R. Gilchrist presiding. The other members present were—Messrs Richardson Tucker, Stokoe, D'Eath; and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ord.)

HEAD MASTER'S REPORT.

The head-master (Mr. Coulson) reported that the average number present were 250; percentage of children on books in average attendance, 82; number of children admitted, 3; number of children withdrawn, 8.

The report was adopted.

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT.

The head-mistress (Mrs. Melhuish) reported that the average number present were 173; percentage of children on books in average attendance, 77; number of children admitted, 1; number of children withdrawn, 16. The report went on to state that the attendance was still very irregular and unsatisfactory. This necessarily told upon the progress of school work.

The report was adopted.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

The attendance officer (Mr. W. Hunter) reported that he had visited the school 20 times during October, and made enquiry after 395 children at Spen, 55 at Hamsterley, and four at Victoria Garesfield. He had found no infectious cases during the month. Several children had been absent, their non-attendance being due to gathering potatoes and blackberries.

The report was adopted.

THE SEWING ARRANGEMENTS.

Mr. Tucker inquired what were the sewing arrangements?

Mr. Coulson replied that the school found the work; and that the children made the goods, which were sold at cost price.

THE PROPOSED NEW SCHOOLS.

A list of names of persons desirous of contracting for the proposed new schools at Chopwell was submitted by the architect (Mr. Oswald) and it was decided that Mr. Oswald should forward particulars, etc., to such persons, and thus enable them to tender for the work.

TRADE UNIONISM.

Mr. Stokoe, according to notice given, moved "That in all contract work done by the Board the trade union rate of wages and conditions in each particular trade be acknowledged, and inserted in contract."

Mr. Tucker seconded the motion, which, on being put to the meeting, was lost by three votes to two. There voted against the motion Mr. Richardson, Mr. D'Eath, and the Chairman.

FINANCES.

It was reported that after all cheques had been signed there would be a balance at the bank of £27 16s 9d.

The meeting shortly after terminated.

AUTUMN IN THE HIGHLANDS

How pleasant 'tis to wander
In the autumn of the year
When the evening shadows linger,
And the moon shines pale and clear.

By the hillsides and the meadows
When the landscape all is zere;
With the tints and shades and shadows
And the ghosts of other years.

Or linger by the river's bank,
To hear its waters sing;
Its music as it rose and sank,
Like bird upon the wing.

Or lie about the mossy braes,
As soft as eider-down;
To watch the suns declining rays
Sink down behind the town.

Or steer my birliun o'er the bay
To catch the rising breeze;
Then sail away for many a day
On phosphorescent seas.

Catchgate, 1899 W.M.

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Drink.
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ENEFIT CONCERT AT BURNOPFIELD.

DITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

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OR WHOLESALE FROM THE

ATED WATER CO.,

WATERS AND SPECIALLY
DRINKS,

PLAIN.

CONSETT LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

The Easter Carnival.

Mr. Winter replies to Mr. Cruddas!

On Friday evening, the adjourned annual meeting of the above association was held in the Cocoa Rooms, Havelock Street, Consett, under the presidency of Mr. T. F. Foster, who was supported by Mr. J. W. Winter, Liberal Agent, Messrs A. Broadbent and J. Wildsmith (secretaries), and a fair attendance.

THE EASTER CARNIVAL.

The Chairman explained that this matter was left over from the previous meeting for consideration. He should be pleased to hear their views upon the question.

Mr. Wildsmith said they had thought it best to postpone it as there was only a small gathering at the annual meeting. He had brought it forward because Mr. Welford had asked him whether he wanted to book the hall for Easter Monday.

Mr. Peacock: Can you give us the profits of the different years from first to last?

Mr. Wildsmith replied that in the first year they made £62 13s 10d; second year, £45 11s 2½d; third year, £26 4s 5½d; this year, £2 14s 0½d.

Mr. Peacock said they seemed to be losing ground every year—and very heavily too.

Mr. Carr asked whether they were losing ground or whether it was owing to the increase of the expenditure?

Mr. Broadbent said it was owing to the increase in the expenditure.

Mr. Carr said if they could devise means for having cheaper entertainments they might perhaps make as much as in the first year of the Carnival.

Mr. Heslop advocated going in more for local talent, and he thought it would be better patronised. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman thought that it could not be much better patronised.

Mr. Broadbent: Will local talent draw as well as people might say they had heard these artistes at all the benefit concerts?

Mr. Heslop said they might get some talent out of Newcastle. Mr. Atkinson had told him that he could supply a good party reasonably.

Mr. Wildsmith said he noticed at the last Carnival that the local talent really took the best. Miss Ella Wilson, and Messrs Atkinson, Macfarlane, and others took immensely. He thought if they reverted back to the first year's arrangement that they would do better. He thought they might also revert back to the patronage, especially if the Liberal Club went on. They took the Small Hall last year for side shows, but they found it did not answer. He thought they might have a small polytechnic, or a picture gallery, or something of that kind in the Small Hall.

The Chairman inquired if these things were not more matters of detail? What they wanted to look at was whether they were going on with the Easter Carnival or not? It no doubt entailed an immense amount of work, but if they thought it was in the interests of Liberalism in the district, then they ought to put up with that sacrifice. (Hear hear.) However, they must in some way curtail the expenditure.

Mr. Carr said if the Carnival was on the lines of last year he would say not to hold it. He inquired how the stalls let?

Mr. Broadbent replied that they went splendidly. There was no difficulty at all in letting them. Mr. Broadbent further said that he believed the thing could be worked, and that there was plenty of ground for making it a success. He thought the main point was to discuss it on a broad ground. In nearly every case they ought to make changes in the constitution of the committees. If the members would consider the matter, and come prepared to go on other committees than those they had been used to, they would have an infusion of new ideas. He asked whether it was worth while doing all the work that was done last Easter for a profit of £3? Personally he believed that if they put the affair on a fresh foundation they would make it go, but they must be prepared to work, and use other means than those of the last Carnival.

The Chairman said that in connection with the last Carnival, when they were discussing the best way of making it attractive, it was thought best to get up even better entertainments than previously. He thought that that was where the mistake was. In his opinion they would get the people whether they launched into a big expenditure or not.

Mr. Carr said on the first night two years ago they had a poor programme and in consequence this greatly depreciated the attendance the next night.

Mr. Wildsmith concurred.

Mr. Broadbent said that last Easter the Tuesday was the biggest night they ever had.

Mr. Wildsmith thought there was no complaint respecting the programme last time. There was some little complaint with respect to the sketches. The talent they got from Newcastle—and got cheaply—took the best.

Mr. Peacock said it was a long way to go to London to get singers.

Mr. R. Heslop then moved that the Carnival be held next year.

Mr. Arnott seconded the motion, which was carried.

It was further agreed that the secretaries should book the hall at once.

Mr. Winter asked if there was anything special on on Good Friday?

Mr. Broadbent: There is the Philharmonic Concert.

Mr. Winter thought that if there was not anything special on on Good Friday they might have opened on that day, and closed on the following Wednesday.

Mr. Carr said that Good Friday was practically a Sunday, and he thought Mr. Foster would object to go and sell on that day. (Laughter.)

Mr. Peacock thought that the secretaries ought to communicate at once with their member, Mr. Atherley-Jones, respecting the opening ceremony.

Mr. Carr considered this a good idea.

Mr. Courtney: Perhaps Mr. Jones might bring someone with him.

Mr. Winter then put this suggestion as a motion, and said if they began in time Mr. Jones might bring someone of standing with him.

Mr. Bainbridge seconded the motion, which was adopted.

A SOCIAL.

On this question coming up for discussion, Mr. Carr said he was in favour of a social by all means if they had a fresh committee. (Laughter.)

Mr. Wildsmith stated that they had a social last December in the Masonic Hall, and it proved a huge success so far as the company and entertainment were concerned. He thought the old committee the best, as they had provided a splendid programme. He was of opinion that they should go in for the social, as it brought them into touch with one another, and enabled them to spend a pleasant evening. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman asked the names of the last committee, as they made the social a great success.

Mr. Broadbent read the list.

The Chairman said they might meet Mr. Carr's complaint by adding to the committee.

Mr. Wildsmith moved that they hold the annual social in December next.

The Chairman seconded.

Mr. Peacock moved as a amendment that the matter lie on the table.

There was no seconder to the amendment, and the motion was carried.

It was resolved that the following gentlemen should constitute the committee:—Messrs R. Heslop, J. T. Curry, H. Goudie, J. E. Colling, J. Brown, and the secretaries.

MR. ATHERLEY-JONES AND MR. CRUDDAS.

Mr. Broadbent said he had heard it stated that Mr. Cruddas had brought his name into prominence in connection with smoking concerts and Tory meetings. He asked who Mr. Cruddas was from an outsider's standpoint! He had been asked if he was the Vicar of Consett or Mr. H. Cruddas, of Iveston, or if he was any relation of the M.P. for Newcastle? (Laughter.) He was not able to give a definite answer. He knew him by sight. He could not understand Mr. Cruddas coming into that division and telling what they should do. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cruddas was reported to have said that he would call upon Mr. Atherley-Jones to resign on the South African question. (Laughter.) He thought they would agree that this was an unparalleled piece of impudence. (Applause.) He might as well ask Mr. Atherley-Jones to resign on the disestablishment question. Mr. W. S. Robson, the member for South Shields, was practically a supporter of the Government, but he (the speaker) believed Mr. Cruddas in 1895 worked tooth and nail against Mr. Robson. It seemed to him outrageous that a man should come and tell the party what they should do. (Applause.) He believed that the majority of the people were with Mr. Atherley-Jones—(applause)—and if they were not it was not Mr. Cruddas' duty to dictate to them as to what they should or should not do. They were told it was unpatriotic for them to denounce the Government over the Transvaal question, but he asked where the patriots were when the Conservatives went up and down the country denouncing Mr. Gladstone's Government respecting the Soudan War! (Applause.) If the Liberals had been in power and entered upon this war, without doubt Mr. Cruddas would have denounced them. What had the Conservatives done? They had brought in the Agricultural Rating Act, and also a Bill for the Clergy, which was a most iniquitous piece of business. (Applause). Why should the Government out of this blundering piece of business in the Transvaal try to make everything else insignificant? He strongly objected to this outsider asking Mr. Atherley-Jones to resign. (Applause.)

MR WNTER'S REPLY TO MR. CRUDDAS' CHALLENGE.

Mr. Winter said he depended upon the good graces of the association to avail himself of saying something that ought to be said—and at once—in reply to certain statements referred to by Mr. Broadbent, and made at a Conservative meeting the previous week. He would like to say, before discussing this matter, that up to the present time he was not aware that any personal feeling existed between Mr. Cruddas and himself that should have caused that gentleman to make what was almost a personal attack upon him (the speaker) in a public-house the previous week. He had never raised Mr. Cruddas' name, and had always endeavoured, as far as possible, to speak kindly of a fellow-agent—(hear, hear)—and to act towards him in as friendly a way as he possibly could. (Applause.) That made it all the more surprising that Mr. Cruddas should have allowed that matter of political conflict to reduce itself to a fight almost between Mr. Cruddas and Mr. Winter. That he (the speaker) most strongly deprecated. If it had only been a question of what was reported of what Mr. Cruddas said he should certainly have taken no notice of the matter, but it was what had not been reported of what Mr. Cruddas said which had aroused his ire. (Hear, hear.) However, he was only going to deal with what had been reported. He was not going to repeat those things which had been brought to him from that meeting which had not been reported. He would reply as fairly as he possibly could to what had been reported to have been said by Mr. Cruddas at the meeting referred to. If he (Mr. Winter) could have given it a title, he thought a most appropriate one would have been, "Magnificent Tory achievements, as told by myself." (Loud laughter.) Mr. Cruddas, in the first place, as was usually the custom in that and other divisions, had published his statement respecting the revision in the columns of the "Consett Guardian," and probably in some of the daily papers. Of couse, there could be no objection to him doing this. . . having published his statement he should have been satisfied with that statement. Not satisfied with this, a letter appeared in the local papers drawing attention to the magnificent Tory victory achieved by Mr. Cruddas at the Revision Courts. (Laughter.) Further on Mr. Cruddas' own association held a meeting, and he (Mr. Winter) understood that the association passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Cruddas for his excellent work. They would have thought that this would have been sufficient satisfaction for Mr. Cruddas; but the burden of the latter's complaint was that he (the speaker) had not yet given his statement to the press. He hoped that Mr. Cruddas would concede to him the right to choose his own time and his own place to make that statement. (Applause.) When his (Mr. Winter's) account of the Revision Court proceedings were given to his own association, if they were not satisfied with it they knew what to do. He had no hesitation in leaving it in their own hands. (Applause.) Mr. Cruddas had remarked that some 60 Radical lodger claims were successfully opposed. He (the speaker) said that there were not 60 Radical claims successfully opposed. It had been asserted that the objection to these claims was on a technical point. Mr. Cruddas did not deny it, and he (Mr. Winter) did not deny it. Mr. Cruddas had replied by saying that he (Mr. Winter) would have done the same had the positions been reversed. He could say that he never opposed one bona-fide claim on the part of any Tory or Unionist in the division. (Applause.) He considered that the last thing the agents ought to do was to try and keep bona-fide electors off the list. (Loud applause.) Mr. Cruddas ought to have told his audience that Mr. Winter assisted him to get at any rate one Conservative on the register. He hoped when he went to the Revision Court—and he believed he had their approval in saying it—to take his conscience there both with respect to Liberals and Tories. (Applause.) He felt it to be his duty to get as many bona-fide electors on the register as possible. Mr. Winter then denied that he used some words imputed to him by Mr. Cruddas as to a substantial increase in their strength. What he did say was that he believed that there had been a large increase of Radical voters on the register. Respecting the technical point, both Mr. Cruddas and himself knew the law on the point, and he would remind Mr. Cruddas of the remark the Revising Barrister made, and that was that he (the Barrister) very much regretted that Revising Barristers had not the power to amend these small technical points. (Applause.) Mr. Cruddas was anxious as to Mr. Winter not challenging his return. He said at the meeting at Consett, "If Mr. Winter did challenge his return he would demand the appointment of an impartial tribunal to go through the lists." In making out his table Mr. Cruddas had claimed for the Unionist party a nett gain of 103 votes. Anyone reading that would take it for granted that Mr. Cruddas, over and above his claims, had an increase of 103 votes over his (Mr. Winter's) return. That was what Mr. Cruddas asked him if he was going to challenge. He would challenge Mr. Cruddas' return—(applause)—and do it in as fair a way as possible, and if he wanted an impartial tribunal appointed he would accede to it. He (the speaker) denied that Mr. Cruddas had a nett gain of 103 votes at the Revision Courts, and he would undertake to prove to an impartial tribunal—consisting say of a Conservative, Liberal Unionist, and a Liberal—that Mr. Cruddas did not make that gain. (Loud applause.) If he failed to prove it, he was willing to give to the Technical Institute, and the fund that was to be raised for the benefit of the dependents upon the Reservists, £5 each, on the condition that if he (the speaker) succeeded Mr. Cruddas would do likewise. (Loud applause.) He would name as the tribunal Mr. Ralph Welton, of Lanchester, a well-known sound Conservative; Mr. T. J. Muse, of Castleside, a highly-respected Liberal Unionist; and a Liberal to be appointed by himself. Mr. Cruddas had spoken of the compliment paid to him by the Revising Barrister, and he (Mr. Winter) hoped he would get all the satisfaction possible out of it. (Laughter.) But that was not the only compliment the Revising Barrister paid to Mr. Cruddas' work, because on one or two occasions when he was asking for the ruling of the Revising Barrister, and quoting the law on the point, the Barrister paid Mr. Cruddas the compliment of addressing him as "his learned friend." (Loud laughter.) That compliment was never paid to him (the speaker), and he was not anxious that it should be. (Hear, hear.) That referred to Mr. Cruddas' personal remarks. Respecting his remarks about Mr. Jones and the latter's relations with the constituency, he would remind Mr. Cruddas that not long since Mr. Jones addressed about 13 meetings in the division, and he (Mr. Winter) could say that in all the round of meetings Mr. Jones had addressed since he became the member for North-West Durham, these meetings were the largest and most enthusiastic he had ever addressed except at the time of a general election, and at every meeting he had received an overwhelming and unanimous vote of confidence. (Applause.) He thought all would agree that had heard or read Mr. Jones's speeches that he made his attitude clear on the Transvaal question. (Hear, hear.) In spite of what the other side said, the fact remained that Mr. Jones received votes of confidence at all these meetings, and the most enthusiastic he received was at what was looked upon as a Tory stronghold—viz., Burnope. (Applause.) The gentlemen who were said to be so greatly opposed to Mr. Jones on the Transvaal question put in no appearance at these meetings. If there was such an overwhelming feeling in the division, and such a patriotic attitude against Mr. Jones, he asked where were these men when Mr. Jones addressed meetings on this question? (Applause.) Mr. Cruddas had said that the Liberals of Stanley had secured the services of Mr. Dodd to give them the true history of the Transvaal. He (the speaker) was present at that meeting, and might say he entertained the highest respect for both Mr. Tom and Mr. Michael Dodd. However, he believed they were mistaken on this question, and he believed that Mr. Jones's statement was an infinitely more important speech of the history of the Transvaal than that of Mr. Dodd's was. (Applause.) As for the Liberals bringing Mr. Dodd to Stanley, he looked on the platform to see where they were, and he challenged Mr. Cruddas to name a single Liberal gentleman on the platform who had taken an active part in politics for the past three years, or had any hand in bringing Mr. Dodd to Stanley. (Applause.) He asked Mr. Cruddas whether the expenses of the meeting were defrayed by the Tories or the Liberals? Until Mr. Cruddas proved that the expenses were paid by the Liberals he would not believe it. (Applause.) He believed that Mr. Dodd's meeting was a beat-up of the Tories throughout the division. He asked who sent out the circulars for that meeting? (Applause.) If Mr. Cruddas cleared up these things successfully then he would say that Mr. Jones was overthrown in his own stronghold, but not till then. Mr. Dodd distinctly said that he had not come for the purpose of setting a member against his constituency or a constituency against its member. He (the speaker) thanked them for the kind attention they had given to his remarks. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman said they would be glad to hear the remarks of their agent. (Hear, hear.) It seemed to put their Tory friends "into a cocked hat," but that was not very hard to do. (Laughter and applause.) Mr. Jones could look after himself. The Liberals of the constituency had full confidence in Mr. Jones, and personally he never had more confidence in their member than he had at the present time. (Applause.)

Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

Funeral of Mr Mark Farthing, of Dunston

On Sunday week the mortal remains of the late Mr. Mark Farthing, of Ellison Road, Dunston, were committed to their last resting-place in Dunston Churchyard, in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends. His demise, which took place suddenly on the previous Friday at the age of 46 years, removes a well-known local Primitive Methodist preacher and missionary. His career was one full of interest. The deceased leaves a wife and family to mourn his loss. A service was conducted in the Dunston Primitive Methodist Chapel, by the Rev W. D. Dennison, of Gateshead. The chief mourners were Mrs Farthing, Mr J. I. Farthing, Misses Mary, Esther, and Minnie Farthing, Messrs David, Seth, and Thomas Farthing, Messrs Thomas, Henry, Civil, and Joseph Meredith. The underbearers were Messrs Scott, W. T. Williamson, J. W. Stephenson, and T. Slack. Amongst those assembled at the grave-side were Mr Cruise, Mr Airy (Blaydon), Mr James Thompson (Prudhoe), Mr J. Hogg (Thornley), Mr Samuel Brown (Swalwell), Mr R. Cooley, Mr J. Cooley, Mr Slater, Mr Burlinson (Swalwell), Mr Harrison (Swalwell), Mr J. Thompson, Mr Davison, Mr A. Allen, Mr Fletcher, Mr Lindsay, Mr Copeland, Mr Mensis, Mr G. Whitfield, Mr Wilson, Mr J. Noble, Mr Isaac Bewley, Mr J. Roberts, Mr J. Donnison, and others.

THE TRANSVAAL

Mr W. S. Robson and Mr Atherley-Jones

Mr. W. S. Robson replies in the "Times" to the letters on the Transvaal Franchise Act from Dr. Clark, Mr. Channing, and Mr. Atherley-Jones, in reference to his letter of the 27th u.t. It may be remembered that Mr. Robson had drawn public attention to the clauses of the Transvaal Act, with the view of showing their utter futility for the purpose of giving "an immediate and substantial representation" to the Uitlanders. He had, also privately noticed the curious fact that Clause 4 of the Act, which the Transvaal Government had promised should confer naturalisation with full franchise on a retrospective seven years' qualification, did not do so according to the version of the Act appearing in the Bluebook. It gave a seven years' naturalization only, and the words "with full franchise" were omitted. Mr. Robson says:—Before raising this point in debate or on the platform, I thought it advisable to make enquiries as to the original Dutch version of the Act. I made those enquiries privately of Dr. Clark, and on the strength of a mere enquiry Dr. Clark made to the House of Commons the inaccurate and unauthorised statement that my publicly expressed opinion of the Act (which Mr. Chamberlain had quoted) was founded on a misconception as to the period of qualification wholly unimportant. In Dr. Clark's letter he neither justies, nor withdraws, nor explains his mistaken statement in the House of Commons. He has apparently been confusing my enquiry with some other person's assertions, for he says, "Either Mr. Robson or one of those who took his views stated that Mr. Fitzpatrick had shown in his book that the words in the Bill had been taken out whilst passing through the Volksraad," &c. I have never said a word to Dr. Clark or anybdy else about Mr. Fitzpatrick or his book, which I have never seen. So far as I am concerned this additional statement by Dr. Clark is a mere instance of misplaced imagination.

But Mr. Channing and Mr. Atherley-Jones have both followed Dr. Clark in his error, and with less excuse, for their letters were written after Dr. Clark's error had been exposed. They have both treated a private inquiry as if it had been a public assertion. They even go further for my friend Mr. Channing is "amazed" and Mr. Atherley-Jones "rebukes" me for omitting (as they suppose) to notice paragraph 1 (c) of the instructions issued by the Transvaal Government under the Act, headed "Naturalization with full franchise, granted under Articles 3 and 4." Without either amazement or rebuke, may I point out that this heading carried the matter not a step further, for under the Act as printed both Articles 3 and 4 give naturalization with full franchise, but not on a seven years' retrospective qualification? The franchise qualification as it stands is prospective, and that is the whole point in dispute. However, it was mainly from perusal of the instructions that I felt the necessity of further inquiry before publicly adding the period of qualification to the other absurdities of the Act.

Mr. Robson adds:—I do not wish to enter into the interminable dispute as to how our later despatches should have been phrased, but it seems to me clear enough that Mr. Chamberlain's qualified but substantial acceptance of the terms as stated in the despatch of August 19th, would have satisfied Mr. Kruger if he had had a genuine desire to come to an agreement. . . . Mr. Atherley-Jones says sceptically that he does not know where I got my definition of "notabele burgher." He will find it given by Sir Alfred Milner as being the definition of the Transvaal State Attorney on p. 5 of C. 9.518.

UNIONIST MEETING AT LEADGATE

The Recent Revision

On Tuesday week, a "smoking concert," under the auspices of the local Unionist Association, was held at Mr. Calvert's, Coach and Horses Inn, Leadgate. Mr. Geo. Nicholson (president) occupied the chair, with Mr. A. Blench in the vice-chair, and there was a large company present, including Mr. W. H. Cruddas (Unionist agent) and Mr. H. S. Neale.—During the course of his remarks, Mr. Cruddas referred to the recent revision, and said the result was a gain of 103 votes for the Unionist party. (Applause.) He (Mr. Cruddas) was told that he would get a drubbing at the Revision Courts from Mr. Winter, but instead of that he had the pleasure of giving Mr. Winter a good drubbing. (Applause.) Of course, Mr. Winter said that they had played a trick on him, but it was no trick—it was Mr. Winter's own fault, and he (the speaker) would have been to blame if he had not seized the opportunity. (Hear, hear.) When the claims were struck off the Revising Barrister asked Mr. Winter if he had any defence to make, when the latter made what he (Mr. Cruddas) thought a poor defence—he said it was the fault of the local printers. (Laughter.) He (the speaker) would have thought that the local printers only followed Mr. Winter's instructions. He had published his statement of the recent revision in the "Guardian," but up-to-date nothing had appeared from Mr. Winter to refute that statement. (Applause.) Therefore he thought the result of the revision satisfactory to the Conservative party. (Hear, hear.) He believed if they wanted to be successful in any constituency they must have political education. They lived in an age when they made such progress that they must keep abreast of the times. (Applause.) He thought the Government, after the war was over, would be justified in appealing to the country on the result of that war. He trusted that when the General Election came they in North-West Durham would be on the side of the Government. (Applause.) He hoped that they in Leadgate would do their utmost for the Unionist party. When they considered that Mr. Atherley-Jones was in the constituency a few weeks ago, speaking in favour of the Boers, and that there had been a meeting at Stanley in favour of the Government, addressed by Mr. M. Dodd, and with a Radical in the chair he thought they had everything to gain and nothing to lose. (Applause.) They had had Mr. Pease (the member for Tyneside) in the constituency supporting Mr. Jones, but they now found that Mr. Pease was turning round and patting the Government on the back. (Laughter.) He wondered if Mr. Atherley-Jones would do likewise? If not, he was afraid that he would not get on with the working-men of the constituency. He thought they would have an opportunity in the near future of being represented by a true Briton, and not by what he might term an "English Boer." (Loud applause.)—Mr. Neale then delivered a powerful and eloquent address on the Transvaal, tracing the early history of Dutch and English colonisation in South Africa, and the steps by which Mr. Kruger had made it impossible for the Uitlanders to obtain the franchise. He said that Mr. Chamberlain had strained patience to breaking point, and he for one did not regret the outbreak of hostilities, as the question could be settled in no other way. A pacific settlement would have been a mere matter of political sticking plaster, but now they would have a radical cure. (Loud applause.) During the evening songs were rendered by the vice-chairman, Messrs J. Day J. Haggerston, C. Lockwood, W. Shield, T. Hall J. Kennedy, W. Hagan, &c., and votes of thanks to the chairman and speakers concluded a successful meeting.

HOW'S YOUR LIVER? Why, I never know I have one now, as I always keep a bottle of PATRICK'S MEDICINE by me, and if I feel a little "off," I take a dose, and am soon myself again. Everyone who is ill goes to PATRICK, CHEMIST, 5, Front Street, Consett, who can cure almost any complaint. 371a.

CONSERVATIVE MEETING AT DIPTON

The History of the Boers

On Friday evening, a meeting under the auspices of the Dipton Conservative and Unionist Association was held in the Black Bull, Dipton—Mr J. Turnbull, president of the Association, occupied the chair.

In his opening remarks, Mr Turnbull observed that they had met to hear something from Mr Cruddas Mr Neale about Conservatism. He didn't know how soon the Government might have to take a back seat, but he believed they would be returned to office. They had had Mr Atherley-Jones "stumping" the country, and those who had read his speeches might take them for what they were worth. (A voice: "Not much.") He believed Lord Salisbury had not an equal in diplomacy. (Applause.)

After the local secretary, Coun. T. Clark, had given a brief report of the state of the association, the Chairman called upon Mr H. S. Neale, F.N.S., Conservative and Unionist agent, of Berwick-on-Tweed, to address the meeting.

Mr Neale, who, on rising, said it was difficult to speak to a meeting mainly composed of friends, because, on the one hand, they had not the stimulus applied by the Radical party and on the other hand speakers laboured under the impression that they were reciting a variety of facts which their hearers were as well acquainted with as themselves. In speaking of the South African question he would endeavour to include some of the facts and phases which had not previously been brought before them. Their connection with South Africa dated back to 1814, when the Dutch, after a war of a complicated character ceded it to Great Britain. The major portion of the population was Dutch. At that time the Dutch were pretty much the same as they were now—a simple, primitive people with somewhat narrow and bigoted ideas; a firm love of the Bible was only equalled by their hatred of soap and water; their disinclination to work was confirmed by the impression that they were the chosen people of God, and that the black race had been given them as an inheritance. The slave-owning and slave-holding practices of the Boers met with little cognisance from the British, and in the course of nineteen-years an Act was passed in this country which had its effect in Cape Colony, that great, noble and glorious Act for the emancipation of slaves in British dominions. (Applause.) The Dutch now found themselves confronted with new systems, and their somewhat narrow and ignorant reading of the Scriptures received a somewhat startling shock. They were compensated for the slaves, but the compensation was not such as to satisfy them, and from that time there was nothing but friction and discontent on their part with the British law. After this friction and discontent had smouldered for two years it culminated in the great Trek, when three-fourths of the Dutch of the Cape packed up their goods and chattels and journeyed to the south-west and south-east; some crossing the Orange River founded the Orange Free State, while the rest crossing the Vaal River laid the foundation of what afterwards became the Transvaal Republic. Here they were allowed to carry on their primitive ideas, their slave-owning practices, without let or hinderance, and were practically beyond the reach of British power, which had plenty to occupy its attention. The same process carried on in Cape Colony was repeated in their new settlement, but England never acknowledged that those men who had been their subjects, and had shifted northwards were entitled to their independence, and so from time to time a series of military expeditions were sent from Cape Colony with the object of asserting their rights to the States until at last England, having her hands occupied in another direction, formally acknowledged the independence of the Transvaal Republic. Two years later a similar measure of independence was given to the Free State. From the date of the Sands River Convention the Boers had practically full liberty to work their own sweet will, and for 25 years Boer rule held sway in the Transvaal Republic, the result being that in 1877 they became bankrupt, and destruction at the hands of the native tribes stared them in the face. Their government was so loose and bad that they could not gather in the taxes, and the farmers found the Government was not strong enough to protect them, the financial resources of the Transvaal Republic consisting of only 12s. 6d. in the National Treasury at Pretoria. That was bad enough, but there was another thing equally as bad. Their president had practised persistent and consistent and constant brutality on the native tribes, until at last he had stirred up a general wave of hostile feeling amongst the native tribes of South Africa, and from the Bechuanas on the north-west to the Zulus on the south-west the natives organised a concerted movement for the purpose of getting rid of their oppressors and driving the white man into the sea. The question which was then presented for our consideration was pretty much the same as that which was raised by a gentleman in that room a few minutes previously, as to why the British did not allow the native tribes to engage in war against the Boers. Then the British and Dutch combined knew they were entitled to a much better feeling from the native tribes, but were confronted with the large and far-reaching question that naturally the black man looked upon South Africa as his own country, but the question of humanity and policy combined gave the British a willing ear to the request of the Boers to go to their help. They were sometimes told by the apologists of Mr Kruger that the annexation of the Transvaal was an act of aggression on their part. When Sir Theophilus Shepstone marched into the Transvaal and hoisted the British flag at Pretoria there were something like eight thousand adult Boers trained to the use of arms, while the force which accompanied Sir T. Shepstone consisted of twenty-five policemen. The plain fact was that when destruction and death stared the Dutch in the face they were only too glad to seek the protection of the British flag. No sooner were the Boers freed from the apprehension of their enemies and the pressure of financial bankruptcy than they turned round and said to Britain. "You are a squeezed orange as far as we are concerned and we can get on without you." Then Mr Gladstone, desperately seeking a question upon which he might cast a stone against the Government, seized upon the Transvaal question and in his Mid-Lothian speeches declared the unwise, insane annexation by which they, the free subjects of the Queen, sought to force our rule on the free subjects of a republic against the wishes of its subjects. No sooner had Mr Gladstone returned to power than the Boers, naturally enough, called upon him to give effect to those views. They thought that if Mr Gladstone thought annexation was wrong he would naturally proceed to put it right when he came into power. He refused to consider the question of the independence of the Boers and authorised Sir Garnet Wolseley to make a public declaration that the Transvaal would be British territory as long as the sun shone. The Boers broke out and attacked the small British army by surprise, and finally, when Mr Gladstone had executed a change of front, surrendered to the desire of the Boers. He (the speaker) did not go into those matters at length because they had any personal grudge against Mr Gladstone—no member of the Unionist Party was desirous to throw stones at the grave of a dead man. It was not a personal question, but a part of the history of the whole question of South Africa. They were bound, entirely apart from personal feeling, to keep the central and salient facts before them for their own benefit and the benefit of generations yet to come. No sooner was the Convention signed than the Boers were dissatisfied with their conditions, and so in 1884 a still further concession was made. The provisions of 1884 were substituted for the provisions in the 1881 Convention to which the Boers objected. It was a purely legal question in which gentlemen like Sir Wm. Harcourt were interested. It was not a question whether the Convention of 1884 superseded the preamble of 1881. Of course, both were now dead and done with, and the next one would be of a very different character, and one which would not be likely to be misunderstood. (Applause. The Convention of 1884 simply dealt with certain boundaries and internal tribes, and the Transvaal Republic; the independence or semi-independence of the Transvaal rested upon exactly the same foundation as the suzerainty of the Queen, the preamble or introduction of the 1881 Convention. Neither of these things, the self-government of the Transvaal or the suzerainty of the Queen were mentioned in the 1884 Convention, but implied, and they maintained that the preamble of 1881 was not repealed, but only the articles; but if Sir Wm. Harcourt's contention was correct, then the situation was not much better from the Boer point of view, because as it did away with the suzerainty of the Queen, it struck away the legal basis and foundation of their existence as a Republic, which rested wholly and solely upon the preamble of the 1881 Convention. The Boers could not work the mining industries, they had not the capital, the mining knowledge, or the engineering skill, and were obliged to have recourse to foreign capital and labour, and had an inrush of the mining population which increased by leaps and bounds, until now the Uitlander population numbered two-thirds of the Transvaal population. The Transvaal had by foreign enterprise, chiefly British, been raised from being one of the poorest and most pettifogging states to one of the richest in the world. (Applause.) Mr Kruger, who had been turned from a poor farmer to a many-time millionaire, had denied the Uitlanders all the rights of citizenship. They had no right of public meeting, no free press, no right to have their own language used officially in the law courts or any official places in the country, no right to have their children educated in the language of their parents. ("Shame.") All those things constituted the grievances of the Uitlanders, and were the result of a systematic and carefully thought out policy of Mr Kruger. In 1877 a two years' residence in the Transvaal was sufficient to entitle a man to a vote, but in 1882, within twelve months of the signing of the Convention, Mr Kruger went into the Volksraad with a little bill in his pocket which he asked the Volksraad to pass, raising the period required from two years to five years and the payment of £25. It seemed pretty hard that the men who had made the country and had been its financial and social saviours, should have no right of citizenship for five years, but in 1887, when many of them were reaching the termination of their five years' residence, and have their names placed upon the electors' roll, Mr Kruger, whom they did not know, went to the Volksraad with another little bill in his pocket which raised the term from five to fourteen years. Prior to hostilities Mr Kruger said he had always wanted to enfranchise the Uitlanders, but his difficulty was that they would not take the oath of allegiance to the Transvaal. The oath of allegiance to the Transvaal was so drafted by Mr Kruger that after the two years were over the Uitlander lost by its terms all the privileges as a British subject; he renounced his allegiance to Queen Victoria, but got nothing in return for other twelve years, and perhaps not then. He ceased to be a British citizen, and did not become a Dutch burgher; he was neither fish, flesh, nor fowl, and even if he put himself into that position by taking the oath, he was not sure of getting a vote, because Mr Kruger had tricks and devices by which the Uitlander might be chiselled out of it. New-comers into the country were required to register their names with the Field Cornet within fourteen days of their arrival. If they had by all the different processes made themselves as they thought qualified, and presented themselves to claim a vote, there was another little formality to be gone through. They had to make a petition for the vote and have it signed by the Dutch burghers resident in their district. Was it wonderful that the Uitlander population kicked and kicked hard? The Jameson Raid, although illegal from the point of view of international law, was a God-sent to President Kruger. All his misgovernment, and the corruption which had honeycombed Pretoria, was forgotten in the sensational incidents of the Jameson Raid. It strengthened his position to resist reform as nothing else could have done. He was glad Sir Alfred Milner had been sent out to South Africa. Under Mr Gladstone's Government they had the weakest of all secretaries for war, Lord Ripon and Sir Hercules Robinson, a well-meaning man, but no match for the deceit and chicanery of President Kruger, who had had his own way until Sir Alfred Milner got into personal touch with him, and showed him that he had met his match, and that his deceit and diplomacy were seen through as clearly as possible. (Applause.) The speaker held Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, whom he characterised as the spineless leader of the Liberal Party, and his followers responsible for the delay in sending out the troops. It was a good thing that they could see within reasonable distance the final settlement of the South African question, and the end of the oppression of the native races by the Boers. In the future they would see equal treatment to the Uitlander, and the native races, administered by the new Dominion Government. Every traveller in South Africa agreed that the Boer treatment of the Uitlander and native races was most diabolical. The time prophesied by the late Lord Randolph Churchill, who travelled it in 1892 and 1893, was not far off. They might have reverses and lose many valuable lives before they got out upon the field of battle with sufficient force to put an end to the conflict, but the end was worth the means employed for the pacification and peace of South Africa. There was only one end to that struggle, and when the smoke of the conflict had cleared away, it would be better all round, even for the Boers themselves. They would see the South African Federation, in which all would be treated alike. They would see the great and fertile country of the Transvaal rival the fabled Phœnix of old. (Applause.)

Mr Cruddas, Conservative agent for North West Durham, then addressed the meeting. He hoped when they were at the trouble to get gentlemen to address their meetings they would not forget to advertise the meetings. He believed the Conservative Party always had and always tried to be honest politicians. He did not impute dishonesty to their opponents, but it looked rather "shaky" when they twisted about as they had been doing lately. If the opposition of the Government had been stronger than it was, it would only have brought out the beauties of the present Government. He was pleased the Government had been backed up by the country as it had, and that they had a gentleman like General Buller to go out to South Africa. (Applause.) He was a second Bismarck, and went determined to win the day and to use his own words "Have his Christmas dinner in Pretoria." If they showed themselves weak in the South African policy it would alienate a great deal of sympathy and support from their dependencies. With the British supremacy in South Africa, and what had been accomplished in Egypt, it would give other nations to see that England, having put her hand to the plough, did not intend to turn back from the course she had laid down. He thought that when the Transvaal business was over it would be a good thing if they had a General Election. Conservatives would be returned to carry out many more reforms for the betterment of the people of this country, and throughout the Empire. (Applause.) He hoped that they would try to repeat in North-West Durham what their soldiers would do in South Africa and that they would not any longer be represented by an "English Boer," but by an honest Briton representing their views and wishes. (Applause.) He was convinced that the great majority of the Irish people were as loyal to the core as Englishmen, and he would like to see the Irish Fenians raise an Irish Army Corps to aid the Boers in the present struggle, as he believed the Dublin Fusiliers—(applause)—would show them that if they took up arms to aid an oppressing and tyrannous people they would lose their sympathies, even though they were of the same blood and nationality. (Applause.) Mr Cruddas moved, and Mr Turnbull seconded, and Mr Clark, and Mr Allen supported, a vote of thanks to Mr Neale for his instructive address. The motion was carried unanimously, and after a similar expression of goodwill had been accorded to Mr Turnbull for presiding, the meeting terminated.

"BRITON OR BOER"

Mr Linden Travers at Stanley

On Monday week there was a crowded audience in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley, to hear a recital on "Briton or Boer," by Mr. Lindon Travers, F.R.G.S., in which he told the story of South Africa in the nineteenth century, aided by a series of remarkable pictures and sensational snapshots taken by himself during a visit to South Africa. Speaking of the war he said he felt perfectly sure there was no one there desirous of the war, or who would in any way have stretched out a hand to bring it about. It had been thrust upon them, and he was there for the purpose of giving them a series of pictures illustrating places of recent events, together with explanatory remarks. Mr Travers then had a map of Africa thrown upon the screen, and after a geographical description he brought his audience back to England, where he illustrated officers and visitors going on board the Kinfauns Castle, followed by a sketch of two officers of the Army Service Corps and one of the ship's officers just before they embarked. In quick succession came illustrations of men at Southampton docks, and going on board the Kinfauns Castle; men taking their kits on board, the 2nd Gordon Highlanders at the docks at Bombay just leaving there for Durban after having already distinguished themselves; the departure of the Northumberland Fusiliers, the New South Wales Lancers, the vessel leaving the docks at Southampton, New South Wales Lancers marching through London, Sir Redvers Buller passing up the gangway on board, a full-size portrait of Sir Redvers Buller, the Dunottar Castle in Southampton water starting to do a 16 days voyage in 14. Then came an illustration of the passage out, during which Mr Travers sang "Rocked in the cradle of the deep," to the accompaniment of Miss A. L. Travers. The audience was next taken to Maderia, the town and bay being beautifully illustrated, followed by a sketch showing the antics of the diving boys, and another delineating one of the charming glens of the place. Then came sketches of Commandant Grosvenor, nephew of Paul Kruger, of a Boer who was one of the inner circle of the Oligarchy, and of Germans going out as artillerymen. Next came a very effective cinematographic illustration of Cape Town, followed by stationary photographs of Mr Schriener, of the abundant arum lilies, of Mr Rhodes' house, and of the market square. Then Mr Travers displayed a map of Natal and sketches of recent events in the vicinity of Glencoe, Dundee, and Ladysmith. Durban was illustrated. Kopjes (pronounced "koppees") were explained. General Joubert's features were delineated, an idea of the Jameson Raid was given, and the bitter memories of Majuba Hill were revived. A portrait of the late General Symons elicited the sympathetic feelings of the audience, after which Pretoria was illustrated and explained. At this point Mr Travers sang the pathetic song, "The little hero," the features of the touching story being illustrated on the screen, adding effect to an already effective composition. Johannesburg past and present were next shown, after which a magnificent series of cinematographic pictures was exhibited on the screen. This series included an attacking party repulsed, artillery getting into position and firing guns, launch of a British battle-ship, under the sea—divers at work, Battle of Trafalgar, Rocks of the Virgin during a storm, clown's performance—hat tricks, the Amazon's dispute, sack race in the street, Dr Grace and famous cricketers, and Captain Dreyfus bidding farewell to his wife and counsel in the cell at Rennes. All these pictures were very effective, some of them thrilling, some calculated to create enthusiasm, and several, like that of Captain Dreyfus, arousing the sympathetic feelings latent in the British heart. In every respect the lecture was a success, and the Presbyterian Church Building Fund is likely to be greatly benefitted by the action taken by a few of the active and energetic members of the denomination.

Whickham By-Election

We understand that Mr Walter Fenton, market gardner, Sunniside, has been elected a member of the Whickham School Board, by the contributory district of Lamesley, in pursuance of the order recently issued by the Education Department.

The Late Mr. Mark Farthing, of Dunston

A Noted Preacher and Missionary

[By "Rowley."]

A profound feeling of deep regret and sorrow was cast over Dunston and district on Friday week by the announcement of the death of the late Mr Mark Farthing, of Dunston, a well-known local preacher and missionary. Through the kindness of Mr James Thompson, of Prudhoe, a gentleman who has been associated with the deceased for a number of years, I am able to put on record a few particulars bearing upon the career of Mr Farthing.

The deceased gentleman was born on June 11th, 1853, in the sunny South of England, in a black-thatched farmhouse. His father was a farmer and stockbroker, and kept his flocks and herds on the hills round his native village. The home was a happy one, hallowed by Christian influence, and the neat farmhouse, with its well-trimmed garden and luxurious orchard, was the delight of the family. But, alas! a dark cloud appears on the horizon; the deadly cattle plague murrien, visits the flocks and carries away the cattle, and, like good old Job, he is left destitute as far as the material is concerned. His father is a bankrupt. He now passes through the fiery furnace, but comes out unscathed. The auctioneer's hammer is heard, his earthly possessions are all sold to meet his grasping creditors. When all is over the Christian father in sublime and invincible faith, together with the good mother, in that room with its four bare walls, says: "Let us pray." "Pray," says the worldling, amid his desolation and poverty? "Yes, pray," cries Faith, "though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him." His father's God heard that prayer, and the subject of my sketch says, "That prayer entered deep into my heart, and will live with me for ever." Rising from his knees, and with a tremulous voice he gave out the lines:—

"'Tis done; the great transaction's done,
I am my Lord's, and He is mine;
He drew me, and I followed on,
Charmed to confess that voice Divine."

That hymn, together with the tear-stained faces of father and mother, were such as not to be easily forgotten. After this the family removed far away from their native village to the town of N———, where Mr Farthing was sent with his uncle's son to an academy, to acquire a good English education. One night a violent ring was heard at the door-bell in the midnight hours, and our hero was told to dress and hasten out, as a carriage was waiting to convey him to his dying mother. The family were receiving her parting benediction; she laid her hand upon her boy's head and said, "Mark, meet me in Heaven." The promise was given, and alas! poor Mark has gone to meet his mother in Heaven. Another year expires, and the greedy grave opens again to receive the father and sister, who both died on the same day, leaving the subject of my sketch an orphan.

"Alone! Alone! no other face,
Wears kindred smile or kindred line,
And yet they say my mother's eyes—
They say my father's brow is mine."

After his parents' death he was placed with his youngest brother in the Workhouse by his rich uncle. Aye, me, "Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn." Picture the change from an academy to the Workhouse from luxury to penury. The poor orphans cried themselves to sleep, the youngest crying for his mother, who was told by Mark that she would come back in the morning, meaning the morning of the resurrection. Growing tired of the Workhouse he and a companion ran away, but were captured by a policeman, who brought them back to the Workhouse. The sequel to this was that he received eight strokes with the birch-rod, and was placed upon bread and water diet. Again he escaped, and after walking all day becomes tired and weary long after the birds have nestled their heads beneath their wing. The stars shone brightly, and, kneeling down, he looks up to Heaven and commences to pray his first earnest prayer:—"Please, mother's God, help me!" His prayer was answered. He sees a light shining and goes to the door; a kind, motherly voice welcomes him; his story is told; her heart beats tenderly towards him; he is fed and a good bed receives his weary frame. He falls asleep and dreams of riches and honour. After having received a good substantial breakfast in the morning, he set out and seeks work, which he finds at a brick factory, and there received tenpence per day. At the fortnight's end the sum of 10s is taken to his foster-mother who returns him three pence for pocket money, which he saves up. This, together with other sums earned by going errands, he purchases his first suit of clothes. Clad in his new attire he goes to a large nature's mirror—a large pond—to see how he looks, and returns highly elated and proud at his success. Time rolls on, and alas! he falls into bad company, and forgets his mother's God. We afterwards find him working in a mine, where one day a fall of stone takes place, buries his tub, and he is incarcerated in a living tomb. This seems to have had a good effect upon him, for on the following night he goes to a Primitive Methodist Chapel, and gets thoroughly converted, and subsequently joins the church. Later on he became a local preacher; persecution follows, he remains firm to conscience and Christ. His ministry is followed with beneficial results, and one of the many places he visited was Rowland's Gill. A call is received from Mr. Baxter to go as an evangelist for the Gospel Army, and to this Mr. Farthing responds. In the latter part of 1885 his wife and child are taken away from him by death. After preaching in Yorkshire and Lancashire, he travels to Paisley, and among the crowd to welcome him was an old Scotch woman, who was heard to exclaim, "He is a wee one, but he has the gift of God." His labours result in the saving of many souls, after which he returns to Yorkshire. At a certain place where Mr. Farthing was preaching he was presented with a clerical suit, and made a fully equipped minister. He again returns to Tyneside, where he works in the mine during the summer, and carries on evangelistic work during the winter months, with good results. During February this year he won about forty converts at Mickley Primitive Methodist Chapel, and at Westwood he made his last public effort, which resulted in the conversion of precious souls. As a preacher he was much admired, his power in the pulpit being above the average. The Rev. John G. Binney, writing of Mr Farthing, says, "Though we have not been brought together during recent years, I have pleasure in stating that when I did share his co-operation in church work, he was an earnest, devoted Christian man and an acceptable and successful lay preacher in the Primitive Methodist Church. He was often called to conduct mission services, many of which were fraught with blessing to the churches." Another testimonial, which I have before me goes on to say, "We need scarcely say that any church might be proud of him as a missionary, or as a Christian worker." Mr. James Alexandra, of Newcastle, in giving his testimony to the abilities and character of the deceased, says, "Having known him for a considerable time, and having heard him preach frequently, I have formed a very high and favourable opinion, both of the man and his preaching gifts. I have found him in character and in life, a true Christian gentleman, one with whom it is indeed a pleasure to work, and with whom anyone may work. His preaching gifts are of such an order that I have long looked upon it as a great loss to the Christian Church, not to have a man of his abilities leading some evangelical Christian effort. His whole heart and soul is in this work, and he has well qualified himself for it." A humble and sincere Christian, an earnest and faithful preacher, a sterling and sympathetic friend, he leaves behind him a sorrowing widow and family, together with a wide circle of friends to mourn his loss.

HAMSTEREY.

A CYCLIST IN TROUBLE.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Martin Campbell, Hamsterley Colliery, was charged with riding a bicycle at Blaydon, without having a light, on the 22nd ult.—Supt. Rutherford informed the Bench that the accused rode upon his bicycle without a light at Blaydon, and knocked a constable down, who was now suffering from erysipelas. The constable was very much injured and unable to be present. At the time of the accident there was a lot of people coming out of the church, and the constable had been at church also.—The defendant said he had no light at the time, and added that he had been to a friend's house for his tea, and was consequently detained.—P.C. Dixon spoke of having cautioned the defendant but he took no notice.—A fine of 10/- and costs was imposed —18/- in all.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected COCOA, Mr Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavoured beverages which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a thoroughly nourished frame."—"Civil Service Gazette."—Made simply with boiling water or milk.—Sold only in packets and round tins, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London.

Death of Mr T. R. Richardson, of Blackhill

On Monday week the remains of the late Mr Thomas R. Richardson, of Queen Street, Blackhill, were interred in Benfieldside Cemetery, in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends. The deceased, who was 49 years of age, leaves a widow to mourn his loss. For the long period of 17 years he held the position of insurance agent under the Prudential Insurance Company, during which time he made many friends, who were present at the funeral to pay their last tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased gentleman. He was a man of excellent character, outspoken, and commanded the respect of all who claimed his acquaintance. Amongst his fellow-agents he was held in the highest esteem, and they have lost a true friend by his demise. The coffin, which was of polished pitch pine, with brass mountings, was supplied by Mr S. Gradon, Blackhill, who carried out the funeral arrangements. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Ross-Lewin, vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside. The cortege consisted of the hearse, and three mourning coaches, which were followed by a large number of persons on foot. The first mourning coach contained Mrs Richardson (widow of the deceased), Mr G. Richardson (brother), York, Miss M. A. Richardson (sister), Leeds, Mr Wm. Lee, and Mr John Lee (brothers of widow). In the second coach there were Mrs W. H. Richardson (sister-in-law), York, Mr Joseph Temperley, Blanchland, Miss A. Temperley, Blanchland, Mrs E. Lee, Newcastle, Mr J. Lee, Newcastle. The third coach contained Miss Oliver, Castleside, Mr and Mrs Reed, Newcastle, Mr J. Lee, Derwent Cottages, Mr and Mrs Wilkinson, Westwood, Mr J. Dent, Benfieldside. The under-bearers were Mr Lang, Mr Hart, Mr Nicholson, and Mr Hogg. Amongst those assembled at the grave-side were Mr and Mrs J. Palliser, Mr W. Palliser, Mr and Mrs Wm. Nicholson, Mr Turnbull, Mr E. Huntley, Mr Powell, Mr Kelsey, Mr Hardcastle (Consett), Mrs Brown, Mrs J. Turnbull, Mrs Eddie, Mrs T. Reid, Mrs W. Reid, Mr J. Dent, Mr and Mrs Curry, Mr Elliott (Catchgate), Mr Donnison (superintendant Prudential Insurance Company), Mr Elliott, Mr Adamson, Mr R. Ferguson (Burnopfield), Mr Smith (Blackhall Mill), Mr Heckles, Mr R. Richardson, Mr J. Johnson, Mr Heslop (Consett), Mr Dodd (Consett), Mr Cockburn (Consett), and Mr Wilkinson (Castleside), officials of the company. The floral tributes were numerous, and included a permanent wreath from the officials of the Prudential Insurance Company.

Death of Mrs Muir, of Blackhill

The interment took place at Benfieldside cemetery on Monday afternoon amid many manifestations of regret, of the remains of the late Mrs M. J. Muir, of Durham Road, Blackhill, whose demise occurred on Thursday. The deceased lady was a member of the Wesleyan denomination, and a good Christian worker. Her influences for good were widely felt, and she leaves behind a large circle of sorrowing friends. Her husband, the late Rev Jos. Muir, a well-known Wesleyan minister, predeceased her about four years ago. The deceased by her kind and loving nature, encircled around her many admirers, by whom she was held in the highest esteem and regard, and of these a large number followed her remains to the grave, to pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of their departed friend. The cortege proceeded from the residence of the deceased to the Wesleyan Chapel, where a short service was conducted by the Rev J. Bishop, assisted by the Rev. E. W. Jenkins. At the conclusion of the service, the cortege, which included the hearse, three mourning coaches, and a large number of people on foot, was then reformed and proceeded to the cemetery. In the first coach were Mr A. E. Turner (father of the deceased), Mrs Davison (aunt of the deceased), Mrs Wm. Gillies (sister of the deceased), Masters Jack and Arthur Muir (sons of the deceased), and Mrs Kell. The second coach contained Mrs W. R. Hale, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Arthur Turner, Mrs Lee, and Mrs Whittaker, whilst in the third coach were Mrs Muir (mother-in-law), Mrs J. T. Muir, Mrs H. W. Gillies, and Mrs Davison. The underbearers were Messrs Mackay, Raw, Turnbull, and Eddie. Amongst the large company assembled at the grave side were Mr Ellison, Mr Jackson, Mr R. Frankland, Mr G. J. Robinson, Mr R. Walker, Misses Richardson, Mrs L. Brown, Miss Brown, Mrs W. Muir, Miss Beck, Mr and Mrs Leybourne, Mr and Mrs Robson, Miss Lumsden, Mrs Nicholson, Mr and Mrs Richardson, Mr and Mrs J. Palliser, Mr and Mrs M. Noble, Rev A. Baillie, Mr Robson, Mr and Mrs Watson, Mr Lammonby, Mr Thompson, Mr and Mrs T. J. Muse, Mr Raw (Middle Heads), Mr Edgar, Mr Little, Mr J. Dowson, Mr Heymer, Mr A. Dowson, Mr C. Parnaby, Mr W. Palliser, Mr J. Dixon, Mr and Mrs J. G. Richardson, Mr Redshaw, Mr J. Eltringham, Mr Farnsworth, Mr Orton, Mr Reid, Mr W. Huntley, Miss Jackson, Mrs Stobbs, Mrs Bell, and others. A large number of beautiful floral tributes were laid upon the grave, the deceased being buried in the same grave space as her husband. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr S. Gradon, of Blackhill.

DERWENT VALLEY NOTES.

[BY "ROWLEY."]

NATURE'S LOVELINESS.

What a picture of surpassing sylvan loveliness the Derwent Valley has presented during the last few days, and even yet that picture has not been defaced. The beauty of the scene is best appreciated by those who journey by rail, and who are enabled to obtain an unbroken view of nature's loveliness. The trees clad in their rich foliage of nearly every variety of tint, from pale gold to darkest green, constitute as beautiful a work of nature as one could wish to gaze upon.

WHICKHAM CHURCH.

The historic church at Whickham is just now being greatly beautified at the hands of the decorator. The interior of the structure looks bright and attractive after having received a coating of duresco, which has imparted to it a pleasing appearance. The already large number of handsome stained glass windows in the church, I learn, is to be increased. The family of the late Mr John Keel, of Bensham propose placing a handsome stained glass window in the west part of the building to the memory of their departed father.

BURNOPFIELD'S GENEROSITY.

It affords me much pleasure to be able to record that the amount realised by the entertainment given in aid of Mr Frank Gregory, at Burnopfield, is put down at about £40. This is sympathy in its truest form, and holds up to us the mirror revealing Burnopfield's generosity. This fact is all the more noteworthy when we take into consideration that only a week or so previous a similar amount was realised by an entertainment in aid of the local cricket club.

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS AT SWALWELL.

A much-needed improvement has been carried out at Swalwell by the provision of additional waiting-room accommodation. A large and well-constructed building has been erected, and that the same is fully appreciated has been exemplified by the large numbers of people who avail themselves of its shelter. This improvement, if I mistake not, is due to the efforts of Coun. Blackbird, who brought the matter before the Whickham Council, with the result that that authority wrote to the North-Eastern Railway Company, who, recognising the necessity for extra waiting-room accommodation, acceded to the request.

COLOSSAL APPLES.

The village of Swalwell, which has long been noted for its "grosers" and leeks, will now have to put apples amongst the category. Mr J. Donnelly, of Park Terrace, Swalwell, has just taken from a tree in his garden two colossal apples, which turn the scales at 14 and 14½ozs. each. Although these must be admitted as being exceedingly large apples they certainly pale before the one he plucked from a tree last year, and which weighed exactly 19ozs.

PASSED AWAY.

There has just passed away in the person of Mr Mark Farthing, a well-known and much-beloved local Primitive Methodist preacher and missionary. His demise, which took place suddenly on Friday week, at his residence, Ellison Road, Dunston, removes a gentleman whose services for good have been felt in many places. As a preacher he was much admired, his power in the pulpit being above the average. He was an excellent conversationalist, and loved to relate his experiences during his tours as a missionary. His life's story is one full of thrilling experiences. I cannot here help relating one of the many stories he delighted in telling. At a certain colliery where Mr M. Farthing earned his daily bread, there was a miner who could not be convinced that the devil existed. How to convince the man of his foolishness was a task which Mr Farthing and some of his fellow-miners set themselves to carry out. At last a happy idea was hit upon. A goat was procured and secreted into the pit. Upon each horn of the goat was placed a lighted candle, after which the pseudo-devil was placed in this unbeliever's place of vocation. The man, unsuspecting, went to his work as usual, but was horrified to witness the apparition which the goat presented, and, no doubt, as Shakespeare puts it, "Each particular hair stood on end like the quills upon the fretful porcupine." Whether the man became convinced that the devil existed I am unable to say.

BLAYDON.

PITCH AND TOSS.—Before the Gateshead Bench of Magistrates on Thursday, George Harding, Mitchell Clarke, James McKay, Richard Blacklock, Joseph Collin, William Bell, and Robert Anderson, were charged with playing pitch and toss at Blaydon on the 20th ult.—The defendants all pleaded guilty, and were fined 2/6 and costs.

NOTES FROM LEADGATE.

[BY "GEORDIE."]

A GOOD IDEA.

I understand that a scheme is on foot to float a Workmen's Club at Leadgate. So far as I can make out at present, the idea is to get up a petition to the Consett Iron Company, asking them to acquire the Miners' Hall for the purpose, and to fit it up in the manner required. I believe it is intended to carry it on—if the promoters are successful in their efforts—on the same lines as the club recently presented to the workmen at Burnhope by Ald. U. A. Ritson. Something of the kind is urgently required in Leadgate, which is badly off in this respect. Properly conducted, a club of the kind mooted should prove a big success, and at the same time provide a long-felt want.

OUR COUNCIL.

As many people are given to criticising our Council—sometimes with and at others without reason—I think it is only fair that we should recognise any good actions on their part. They have undoubtedly earned the thanks of the inhabitants for their successful application to the Railway Company respecting the running of the late train, via Blackhill, on to Leadgate, instead of passengers having to get out at Consett and walk down as heretofore. Let us give credit where it is due, and therefore I know that you will all heartily join with me when I propose a warm vote of thanks to our Councillors. With musical honours, gentlemen, please!

A PLEASANT GATHERING.

One of the most pleasant gatherings I have attended for some time was that held on Saturday, at the Black Bull Inn, Leadgate. The object of the meeting was to present a handsome black marble timepiece to Mr Anty Burnhope on the occasion of his marriage. The gift was a beautiful one, and was subscribed by a few personal friends of Mr Burnhope's. Anty—as he is familiarly termed in Leadgate—is a great favourite with all, hence the desire to recognise this important step in his life. Mr John Kershaw (who acted as chairman of the committee) presided, whilst Dr. Henley made the presentation in admirable terms, and was ably supported by Coun. Foreman. However, the speech of the evening was given by the worthy landlord (Mr W. Smith), who was in grand form. So impressed was one of the company by Mr Smith's eloquence that he advised the host to oppose Mr Atherley-Jones at the next election. Mr Burnhope, who was obviously deeply moved, replied in feeling terms, and an enjoyable evening was spent by a company numbering between twenty and thirty.

A QUERY.

A correspondent signing himself "Monument" writes:—"Dear 'Geordie,'—As I know you are an authority upon clubs, can you tell me anything concerning a new club which I understand has been recently formed, called the Foresters' Club? I hear very little about the Touring Club nowadays. Has it dropped out of existence? I trust not, as I greatly enjoyed reading of the exploits of the eminent members, especially the president. I am not acquainted with the latter gentleman, but he must be a wonderful personage. I hope you will be able to oblige me." [I exceedingly regret that I cannot give "Monument" any information. The Foresters' Club I know nothing about, but it is rumoured that the Touring Club is going to be re-organised. Should the members take any jaunts abroad I will try and keep my readers posted up as to their doings.—"Geordie."]

A BRILLIANT VICTORY.

My readers will perhaps remember that a week or two since I referred to the fact that Mr James Kershaw, of Gateshead (father of Mr John Kershaw, of Leadgate) was seeking municipal honours. I am pleased to say that on Wednesday of last week Mr Kershaw was returned for the North-West Ward. He had a strong opponent to meet, but in the end gained a brilliant success, ousting the retiring member. Mr Kershaw, sen., is exceedingly popular in Gateshead. He is looked upon as a level-headed and honourable man of business, with his heart in the right place, and I feel certain that his return to the Council Chamber will be warmly welcomed by his colleagues, amongst whom he is deservedly respected and esteemed. Mr John Kershaw has been the recipient of warm congratulations consequent upon his father's success.

AN OLD STANDARD GONE.

Regret was general in Leadgate at the death of Mr George Ferguson, of Durham Road. Deceased was well-known throughout the North of England, and there were few better judges of horseflesh than he was. Of an inoffensive and kindly disposition, "Old Fargy"—as he liked to be called—was respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He was generous to a fault, and, whilst his friends were legion, his enemies were few. Deceased's funeral was largely attended, there being a rare beat-up of those hardy and usually kindly people known as "campers," whilst a good number of townspeople followed the remains of their old friend to their last resting-place. Nearly everyone I met had a good word to say for George Ferguson, and his somewhat sudden demise has been deeply deplored. May the turf rest lightly upon him!

WHAT I HEAR.

That Leadgate is accused of grabbing propensities.

That it is said we want the Number One Road and Bradley Cottages.

That if we had Number One Road we would light it up.

That the trains are shortly going to run punctually on the Annfield Plain branch.

That the proposed Workmen's Club won't be welcomed by the publicans.

That each man will be limited to four gills a night.

That the new out-houses in the squares are not giving unqualified satisfaction.

That they are often used for "nap" parties.

That the local Reservists' Fund is a long time in getting a start.

That the members of the Leadgate Hardy Cycling Club are going to hold a ball.

That the "Master" is not going to leave Leadgate after all.

That we couldn't do without him.

WEARDALE NOTES.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

RARE BIRDS.

Kingfishers on the Wear between Stanhope and Frosterley are often seen. The birds' beautiful plumage attracts the sportsman, and it has many enemies, still they seem to have a charmed life, as few are shot comparatively speaking. Herons are also seen here frequently plying "Old Isaac's" gentle art.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

Special services were commenced on Sunday by the Stanhope Primitives. The evangelist is the popular Scotch preacher, Mr Robson, who is engaged for a month.

THE GREAT UNPAID.

There is no dearth of the "great unpaid" in the Wear Valley, yet there is one very popular gentleman, well-known and highly respected, who should have been made a J.P. long since. I refer to Councillor J. Vickers, of Elm Park, Tow Law. It is to be hoped that that honour will be conferred upon him ere long.

BRAVERY REWARDED.

A Royal Humane Society's medal for life-saving was presented to a Frosterley gentleman recently for rescuing a drowning boy out of the River Wear, whilst in big flood. All honour to such men.

AN ERROR.

In my previous notes an error occurred. It was in reference to the Rev. Mr Robinson, who preached in Stanhope Church the other Sunday night, in the room of the Rev. J. C. Orr, curate of Stanhope. The paragraph stated that he was the son of the Rev. J. C. Orr. This is a mistake, as the rev. gentleman has no sons, and is not even married.

CORNISH LIGHTHOUSE

Reared on a cliff that is beetling
And facing the great deep sea,
And drives back the mighty Atlantic
That prances about in mad glee;
The lighthouse stands up as the guardian
Of those who go down to the sea
To seek for the treasures the Creator
Has placed there for you and for me.

Wild are the waves that are leaping,
And wilder the ocean's roar,
And wild are the winds that are beating
The billows that dash on the shore;
And well that we look at a distance
On the splash and the swish and the foam,
As it dashes its spray o'er the lighthouse,
That shines its light out through the storm.

To many a ship on the billows
That's tossed by the angry storm,
On to the rocks that are waiting,
Waiting for something to gore;
The light from the lighthouse comes streaming
Out through the mist and the foam,
To guide the ship in the darkness
Away from the reefs and the shoal.

Oft have I tossed in the Channel,
The Minch it is called, I am told,
In dire perturbation and terror,
As I looked on the ocean so old;
And oft have I peered through the darkness
To catch through the gloom and the cold,
A gleam from the light of the lighthouse,
That gleam that was welcome as gold!

W.M.

Catchgate, 1899.

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Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Drawing and Music.

A Field for Cricket, Tennis and Football.

MONTAGU V. STOGGALL, M.A., Head-master.

HOSPITAL
FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.

GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED... 2s 9d
LADIES' Do. Do. ...1s 9d

With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand. (Signed), J. ORTON.

ESTABLISHED 1854.

J. SIDDLE

HOUSE AND CHURCH DECORATOR, PAINTER, GILDER, PAPERHANGER, GLAZIER, &c.,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

TAKES the present opportunity to return thanks to his Customers in Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, and the surrounding District for their esteemed Orders during the Past Forty-four Years. It has always been his wish to give satisfaction to those favouring him with their custom; and by assiduous attention to business, he hopes to merit a share of Public Patronage. 704c

THE NEWCASTLE DRAPERY AND CLOTHING STORES.
FRONT STREET,
DIPTON.

J. A. CASTLE has undoubtedly made the above a Noted Establishment for quality and cheapness. Every Branch of his Trade will be found well represented.

His Tailoring Department is a very special feature, having considerably over 1,000 patterns of the Newest Scotch, West of England, and Irish Woollens to select from.

Style and perfect fit guaranteed.

Gents' Suits to order from 25s.

MRS. M. WRIGHT,

DINING ROOMS AND CAFE,
4, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,

In thanking the Public for the patronage accorded to her since opening these rooms, begs to state that she continues to provide

DINNERS, TEAS, AND SUPPERS.
PASTRY, CONFECTIONERY, AND PIES

Established 1833.

WILLIAM POTTS & SONS,
CLOCK AND WATCH MANUFACTURERS, OF LEEDS.

Beg to announce that they have removed the Newcastle Branch of their business from 22, Collingwood Street, to more extensive Premises in TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, Entrance CLOTH MARKET, (Opposite Messrs J. Hindhaugh and Son's,) NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Makers of the Great Clock and Electric Greenwich Time Signal at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Consett Town Clock, and many others in the Northern Counties.

THE NOTED FLOUR, GROCERY, AND PROVISION SHOP.

JAMES PALLISER,

FAMILY GROCER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA MERCHANT,
47 and 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

A Good Assortment of Fruits.
Choice Cheshire Cheese and Fruit Cakes.
TRY OUR SPECIAL BLENDED TEAS.

THE NEWEST MATERIALS IN
SUITINGS,
TROUSERINGS, and
OVERCOATINGS,
FOR AUTUMN AND WINTER, 1899,
AT

W. FITZPATRICK'S,

TAILOR AND CLOTHIER,
No. 5, DURHAM ROAD, ANNFIELD PLAIN. 339f

PIANOS & ORGANS

FOR SALE,

8s., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., 22s. 6d., per Month.

Guaranteed 10 years. Liberal Discount for Cash

Old Pianos taken in exchange.

Tuning and Repairs promptly attended to.

CYCLES. CYCLES.

Sole Agent in District for the "Osmond," "Beeston," "Ariston," and other renowned makes.

ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND ENAMELLING done on the Premises.

ADDRESS:

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

Business Announcements.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

LEEDS, LONDON, YORK, SCARBOROUGH, DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBROUGH, DARLINGTON, WEST HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, KEIGHLEY, MORECAMBE, HULL.

THE LARGEST WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN THE KINGDOM.

BY reason of their EXTENSIVE PURCHASE, necessitated by the enormous trade done by them, ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LTD.) have the PICK OF THE NEWEST and BEST GOODS BROUGHT INTO THE MARKET and can offer to the public ADVANTAGES and VALUE which the ordinary dealer cannot compete with.

THEIR RENOWNED SPECIALITE PIANOS are
MARVELLOUS VALUE.
MARVELLOUS VALUE.

THE RAMSDEN MODEL.
THE RAMSDEN MODEL.
£19 10s. cash or 17s. 9d. per month

With the latest and best modern improvements; iron frame, full trichord, handsome case. Although so remarkably low in price, it is a model of good workmanship throughout.

THE PEOPLE'S MODEL.
THE PEOPLE'S MODEL.
£23 cash, or 15s. per month.

Thousands of this model have been sold; it is known throughout the country as a superior and thoroughly reliable piano, yet at no greater price than what is paid in many instances for Instruments of the worst grade.

ECLIPSE PIANO.
ECLIPSE PIANO.
£28 cash, or 18s. 4d. per month.

An Instrument which has been specially sold by Archibald Ramsden for schools and students. Hundreds are in use in Public Schools where they are subjected to excessive wear and great variation of temperature, yet stand the strain in a remarkable way, and show little sign of deterioration after years of wear.

DRAWING-ROOM MODEL.
DRAWING-ROOM MODEL.
£33 cash, or 21s. per month.

A choice Instrument of beautiful design and finish, rich tone, even and sensitive touch; a piano that is equal to many which are sold at nearly double its price.

THESE FAMOUS SPECIALITIES CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED FROM ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.

Each instrument is Guaranteed Ten Years. Intending purchasers are invited to inspect these models, which have won the highest praise from those who have used them.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LTD.) are displaying a large and varied stock of UPRIGHT and HORIZONTAL GRAND PIANOS by the leading English, German, and American makers. PURCHASERS OF HORIZONTAL FRAMES can view a selection larger and more complete than can be seen in any single depot in the provinces, some 40 instruments being regularly stored, and may be compared and their relative merits tested by a close and equal comparison, WHICH IS OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO A PURCHASER.

SECOND-HAND PIANOS. In great variety, at every price.
SECOND-HAND PIANOS. Every class of purchaser can be suited.
SECOND-HAND PIANOS. Call and see them.

THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS
THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS
THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN has a 20 years' experience of these beautiful Instruments. They are recognised by the greatest connoisseurs to be the best high-class Piano in the market at a moderate price.

The KNAUSS PIANOS are to the front for excellence of construction, purity and fulness of tone, delightful touch, and immense capabilities.

THERE IS NO SUCH VALUE IN THE MARKET. Special Terms for Cash, and Easy Terms for Hire and Purchase.

AMERICAN ORGANS. AMERICAN ORGANS. IN LARGE VARIETY.
Special Bargains in beautiful designs at £12, £15, £16, and higher prices.

SECOND-HAND ORGANS at £5.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S THREE-YEARS' SYSTEM is adapted to the requirements of their customers. The lowest possible percentage is added to the Cash Prices, and every consideration is shown in cases where from unforeseen circumstances, punctual payments cannot always be made.

LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME. OVER £800 PAID IN
LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME. CLAIMS.
INTRODUCED BY ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.

This scheme is applied to Instruments taken on the Hire and Purchase System, AND IS A GIFT, no additional charge whatever being made for the Instrument.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

HARMONIUMS. HARMONIUMS.
At £2, £4, £5, and every price.
Magnificent value. A rare opportunity for those desirous of acquiring an instrument at a small outlay.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LIMITED),
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
PARK ROW, LEEDS.
238, HUNSLET ROAD, LEEDS; 103, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON; and NUMEROUS BRANCHES.

Public Notices.

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	2363	14	6
W. M. Annandale, Esq., Lintzford	5	5	0
	£2368	19	6

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

BLACKHILL AND DISTRICT CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.

SECOND ANNUAL

EXHIBITION

AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

Will be held in St. Aidan's Hall, Blackhill, on Wednesday and Thursday, November 15th and 16th, 1899. Doors open at 1 o'clock.

Admission: — Wednesday, One Shilling; Thursday, Sixpence.

Schedules may be had on application to Mr. A. TROTTER, Hon. Secretary, 57, Durham Road, Blackhill.

Entries close Wednesday, Nov. 8th. 664f

SONS OF TEMPERANCE, BLACKHILL.

"STAR OF HOPE" DIVISION.

THE NEXT MEETING of this Division will be held on FRIDAY, Nov. 10th, 1899, owing to the Jubilee Tea and Meeting being held on Saturday, Nov. 11th, 1899. 789f

1849. THE JUBILEE 1899.
OF THE
ORDER OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

AS this year is the 50th ANNIVERSARY of the Order's introduction into Great Britain, the following Divisions, viz: "Star of Hope", Blackhill; "John Wesley", Consett; "Beacon-on-the-Hill", Medomsley; and "Star of Industry", Lanchester, have thought the present an opportune time to celebrate the JUBILEE IN CONSETT.

On Saturday, November 11th, 1899, a PUBLIC TEA will be held in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, Middle Street, Consett. Tea at 4 o'clock. Tickets 9d. each. In the Evening, a PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Town Hall, when the following Officers will take part—Bros. Walter Davies, M.W.S., Bradford; W. Scott, M.W.C., Winlaton; Richard Heslop, P.G.P. and James Gibson, G.S., Newcastle. Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock, by Bro. G. Lowes, P.G.W.P., Consett. Solos will be given at intervals.

On Sunday Evening, Nov. 12th, a GOSPEL TEMPERANCE MEETING will be held in the above Hall, when Bro. Walter Davies will deliver an address. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock, by Bro. W. Grainger, P.W.P., Consett. Sankey's Hymns will be used on this occasion.

ALL SEATS FREE.

HENRY WALKER, } Secretaries.
J. T. BAIN, }

Church Notices.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 1899,
Morning 10-30 } Rev. J. BISHOP.
Evening 6 }

ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 1899.
Morning, 10-30 —MR. W. C. BOWMAN.
Evening, 6 —MR. WILSON CLAYTON.

ALL SEATS FREE.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY FIRST, NOV. 12th, 1899.
Morning 10-30 } REV. J. TAYLOR.
Evening 6 }

THE PUBLIC ARE KINDLY INVITED.

ANNFIELD PLAIN NEW WESLEYAN CHURCH.

GRAND INDIAN PALACE

BAZAAR

(FOUR DAYS)
Will be opened by

L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES,
ESQ., Q.C., M.P.,
ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22ND, 2·30 P.M.

Admission:—Wednesday 1s.; Thursday 1s., after 6 p.m. 6d.; Friday 6d.; Saturday 6d.

UNITED FREE CHURCH CHOIR FESTIVAL.

BLACKHILL CIRCUIT.

GRAND

CHOIR FESTIVAL

In the Consett Town Hall, on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13th, 1899.

Chorus of over 220 Voices, accompanied by CONSETT AMATEUR ORCHESTRA, under the able leadership of Mr. Geo. A. Williams.

SOLOISTS.—Soprano, MISS ELLA WILLSON, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Tenor, MR. T. HOLLAND, Catchgate; Bass, MR. PEACOCK, Durham Cathedral.

Accompanist, MR. G. P. STEPHENSON, Blackhill; Conductor, MR. T. HOLLAND.

Tickets—Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d.; Second Seats, 1s. 6d.; Admission, 1s.; can be had of any of the Choristers. Plan of Hall at Ramsden's Music Saloon, Front Street, Consett.

For further particulars apply, MR. W. J. BERRYMAN, Hon. Secretary, Allendale Cottages. 718f

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TRAINS will be run as under:

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th.

From BLACKHILL at 2·25 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, &c.), to ELSWICK and NEWCASTLE, returning at 10·40 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18th.

From CONSETT at 1·5 p.m. (with bookings from Leadgate) to GATESHEAD and NEWCASTLE, returning at 8·15 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19th.

From BLACKHILL at 8·13 p.m. (with bookings from Blaydon, Consett, Annfield Plain, &c.), to PETERBOROUGH and LONDON for 2, 3, 4, 5, or 8 days, returning from King's Cross Station at 11 p.m., November 21st, and at 10·20 p.m., November 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 27th respectively.

For further particulars see bills.

York, GEORGE S. GIBB,
November, 1899. General Manager.

Public Notices.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF DIPTON

SHOULD any ASHPITS or PRIVIES be Overlooked or not properly Cleaned, please notify the Contractor at once when they will be attended to. Signed,
579e G. NICHOLSON, Contractor.

DERWENT VALLEY PLOUGHING AND HEDGE-CUTTING ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the Members of the above SOCIETY will be held at Mr. George Morgan's, Crown and Cross Swords, Shotley Bridge, on TUESDAY, Nov. 14th, at 6 p.m. to receive report of Sub-Committee, &c. GEORGE BELL, JUN., Secretary. 785f

ART STUDIOS.—PAINTING AND DRAWING.

GEO. SURTEES
(Pupil of Mr. Sticks, Newcastle).

STUDENTS' CLASSES at Consett, Stanley, Annfield Plain, Benfieldside, and Medomsley.

Also, Private Attendance.

For terms and full particulars apply to
GEO. SURTEES,
NORTH VIEW, MEDOMSLEY. 549f

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.

Lessee and Manager .. MARK H. LINDON.

SATURDAY, Nov. 11th, the Last Night of
DRIVEN FROM HOME.

MONDAY, NOV. 13th, and during the Week,
The enormously successful, new, and original Drama—
HOW MONEY'S MADE.

NEW THEATRE,

CONSETT.

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

Last Three Nights and greatest possible success of
Mr. MATT. WILKINSON'S Company in the latest modern Drama of real life, entitled
SATURDAY NIGHT IN LONDON.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 1899,
MR. J. K. MURRAY'S
POPULAR REPERTOIRE CO.

Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday—
"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
Wednesday and Thursday—
"THE WANDERING JEW."
Friday—
"A STROKE OF LUCK."

Time and Prices as usual.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr A. Phillipson

Royal Hotel, Stanley.
Wednesday, 15th November, 1899.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, respected with instructions from the representatives of the late Mr. T. Forster, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above mentioned date and place, the very Valuable Household FURNITURE and APPOINTMENTS, comprising: Sideboard; 2 Mirrors; 2 Couches; 5 Tables; Wash Stand, with Marble Top; Dressing Table, with Glass attached; 3 Iron Bedsteads; 2 Feather Beds; Quantity of Bedding; 4 Easy Chairs; 11 ordinary Chairs; Clock; Sewing Machine; Mangle; Gold Albert; 4 Silver Watches; 3 Silver Chains; and other Jewellery; Set of Harness; Bridle and Saddle; Horse Clothing; Trap; Superior Cottage Piano in Walnut; and a host of other Articles. For particulars see bills.

Sale to commence at 10·30 o'clock. 772f

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.

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. 897a

Sales by Auction

By Mr John S. Murray

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 1899.
12 to 20 Fat Cattle.
150 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
Dairy Cows and Heifers.
Patent and other Blocks, Ropes, Gripes, Shoves, Ladders, Poultry, &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
815f J. S. MURRAY.

FOR SALE, in Consett and District, several HOUSES of Two, Three, and Four Rooms each.—J. S. MURRAY, Blackhill. 816f

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 T. D. Dryden.

SHORT NOTICE.

Important Sale of Household Furniture at 19, Palmerston Street, Consett, at 1-30 p.m. prompt, on Monday First, Nov. 13th, 1899.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN, favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. R. Hewitt, deceased, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, November 13th, 1899, at 1·30 o'clock, the Valuable Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, Consisting: Handsome Drawing-Room Suite, nearly new; Walnut Piano, by Collard and Collard; Fender and Brasses; Clock; Pictures; Cornice Poles; 1 Handsome Brussels Carpet; &c., 1 Dining-Room Suite; 1 Hair-seated Sofa; 1 Kitchen Sideboard; Steel Fender and Irons; Large Oilcloth; Square Kitchen Table (Dining); Iron Beds; Basket Chair; 3 Bedroom Fenders; Child's Crib; 4 Kitchen Chairs; Fender; Fire-irons; Tidy; Sewing Machine; Child's Chair; Office Stool; Small Floor Cloth; Wringing Machine; Poss-tub and Staff; with all the Pots, Pans, Crockery, and Utensils of a usual Household.

Sale to commence at 1-30 prompt.

N.B.—Owing to the short days, the Auctioneer would ask his patrons to be in good time.

T. D. Dryden, Auctioneer, Consett.

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

By Mr John Crawford

JOHN CRAWFORD'S Salerooms, Victoria Street, Consett. Sale of Valuable FURNITURE and EFFECTS, BY AUCTION, on Monday first, Nov. 13th, at One o'clock. Splendid Sideboards; Sitting-Room and Bedroom Suites; Centre Tables; Piano; Harmonium; Two Fire-proof Safes, by Turner, Dudley; Three Copying Presses; Bedsteads; Feather and Flock Beds, and other Furniture, too numerous to mention. 813f

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 814f

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.

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 PINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM ATNSLEY, 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 10th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

OUR READERS IN THE Consett district will probably remember that some months since Mr. Alex. Robson, solicitor, of Consett, was appointed to the important post of clerk to the Wallsend District Council. Mr. Robson's many friends will be pleased to hear that he has since been appointed solicitor to the Jarrow Co-operative Society. The society is a large one, having over four thousand members, and the position is a lucrative one. Mr. Robson is undoubtedly a young man of ability and perseverance, and we congratulate him upon his success.

OWING TO THE rapid development of Dunston during the last year or so, the postal work at that place has increased to such an extent that the present post-office has been found almost inadequate to meet the requirements of the village. We are pleased to learn that the genial postmaster, Mr. Andrew Donnelly, has come to a satisfactory arrangement with the local authority, enabling him to greatly enlarge the present building, so as to cope with the postal requirements of that rapidly increasing village.

JUST AT PRESENT there is a wordy warfare going on between the agents of the two political parties in the division. It has all arisen out of the proceedings at the recent Revision Courts. As our readers will perhaps hardly need to be reminded, Mr. Cruddas (the Unionist agent) has published his statement, in which he claims a nett gain of 103 votes for his party. Speaking upon this matter recently the Unionist agent referred to the fact that Mr. Winter had not yet given his statement to the press, and further said that if the Liberal agent challenged his (Mr. Cruddas') figures, there would have to be an appeal to an impartial tribunal. At a Liberal meeting held last Friday night, Mr. Winter replied at length to Mr. Cruddas' remarks, and declared that he would challenge the statement presented by Mr. Cruddas, and would undertake to prove that the Unionist party had not made a nett gain of 103 votes. Mr. Winter suggested that the matter should be referred to a tribunal consisting of a Conservative, a Liberal Unionist, and a Liberal. In case he failed to prove what he said, Mr. Winter undertook to give £5 each to the Technical Institute and the Reservists' Fund, on condition that Mr. Cruddas would do the same should he (Mr. Winter) substantiate his case. It is now for Mr. Cruddas to say whether he will pick up the cartel thrown down by Mr. Winter. Should he do so, there would seem to be all the ingredients for an interesting little "trial." Mr. Winter has suggested as two of the "judges," Mr. Ralph Walton, of Lanchester (a Tory), Mr. T. J. Muse, of Castleside (a Liberal Unionist), and a Liberal to be chosen later on by himself. However, this is obviously a question upon which Mr.

Sales by Auction

y Mr John S. Murray

L AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

NDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 1899.
0 Fat Cattle.
Sheep and Lambs.
nd Keeping Calves.
Cows and Heifers.
and other Blocks, Ropes, Gripes,
s, Ladders, Poultry, &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
J. S. MURRAY.

ALE, in Consett and District, several USES of Two, Three, and Four Rooms S. MURRAY, Blackhill. 816f

n SWINBURNE MURRAY,
THE
LTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER
ENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE,
BENFIELDSIDE.
d by his Honour JUDGE MEYNELL to tress for Rent, under the New Law of istress Amendment Act, 1888.

By Mr T. D. Dryden.

SHORT NOTICE.

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le to commence at 1-30 prompt.

Owing to the short days, the Auction-l ask his patrons to be in good time.

Dryden, Auctioneer, Consett.

D. DRYDEN,
CTIONEER AND VALUER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

By Mr John Crawford

CRAWFORD'S Salerooms, Victoria reet, Consett, Sale of Valuable URE and EFFECTS, BY AUCTION, day first, Nov. 13th, at One o'clock. Sideboards; Sitting-Room and Bed-tes; Centre Tables; Piano; Harmon-o Fire-proof Safes, by Turner, Dudley; opying Presses; Bedsteads; Feather k Beds, and other Furniture, too s to mention. 813f

14, Park View, Burnopfield. JOHN CRAWFORD, is instructed to ELL BY AUCTION, on Monday, Nov. One o'clock, the whole of the Valuable d FURNITURE, belonging to Mr. Weedy, who is declining Housekeeping. ticulars see posters 814f

CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL UCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRA-d HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed by his Honour Judge MEYNELL, to tress for Rent, under the Law of Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, oria Street Consett.

ATHAN ELSDON.
UCTIONEER AND VALUER.
ES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

DON wishes his friends and customers w that he has the LARGEST AND SALE ROOMS in the district and that repared to STORE FURNITURE and es of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Commission according to arrange-

Classes of Furniture or Property pur-outright for Cash, or sold by Auction.

ILLIAM ROBINSON,
TIONEER AND VALUER, AND
NERAL COMMISSION AGENT
EW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
nducted on the most reasonable terms.

Business Announcement.

ETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT EFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
ILLIAM ATNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.
SCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in e New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, n 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Mon-The Monday after the Consett Iron ay Saturday. ☞ DEPOSITS received r per cent. interest, repayable on one month's notice.

CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, November 10th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

READERS IN THE Consett district will bly remember that some months since lex. Robson, solicitor, of Consett, was ted to the important post of clerk e Wallsend District Council. Mr. n's many friends will be pleased to that he has since been appointed or to the Jarrow Co-operative Society. ociety is a large one, having over housand members, and the position crative one. Mr. Robson is undoubt-young man of ability and persever-and we congratulate him upon his s.

NG TO THE rapid development of Dun-uring the last year or so, the postal t that place has increased to such an that the present post-office has been almost inadequate to meet the re-ents of the village. We are pleased rn that the genial postmaster, Mr. Donnelly, has come to a satisfac-rrangement with the local authority, g him to greatly enlarge the present g, so as to cope with the postal re-ents of that rapidly increasing vil-

AT PRESENT there is a wordy war-oing on between the agents of the olitical parties in the division. It arisen out of the proceedings at the Revision Courts. As our readers rhaps hardly need to be reminded, uddas (the Unionist agent) has pub-his statement, in which he claims a in of 103 votes for his party. Speak-on this matter recently the Unionist referred to the fact that Mr. Winter ot yet given his statement to the and further said that if the Liberal hallenged his (Mr. Cruddas') figures, ould have to be an appeal to an im-tribunal. At a Liberal meeting held riday night, Mr. Winter replied at to Mr. Cruddas' remarks, and de-that he would challenge the state-resented by Mr. Cruddas, and would ake to prove that the Unionist party t made a nett gain of 103 votes. Mr. suggested that the matter should rred to a tribunal consisting of a rvative, a Liberal Unionist, and a . In case he failed to prove what d, Mr. Winter undertook to give £5 o the Technical Institute and the ists' Fund, on condition that Mr. s would do the same should he (Mr. substantiate his case. It is now for ruddas to say whether he will pick up rtel thrown down by Mr. Winter, he do so, there would seem to be ingredients for an interesting little ." Mr. Winter has suggested as two "judges," Mr. Ralph Walton, of ster (a Tory), Mr. T. J. Muse, of ide (a Liberal Unionist), and a Liberal hosen later on by himself. However, obviously a question upon which Mr. Cruddas will want to say something. We cannot say that we look upon the personalities that have recently been indulged in with approbation. Personally, we see no reason whatever why the two agents should not be the best friends in the world. Each naturally tries to do his best for his own side, and, so long as this is done in a fair and legitimate manner, no one has any cause to feel aggrieved. Washing dirty linen in public is never an edifying spectacle.

THE ADJOURNED MEETING held at Allendale Cottages last week, to consider the advisability of applying for urban powers for the Medomsley township, did not bring to light any additional facts of consequence. The promoters of the scheme claim, according to the statement they have prepared from what they consider reliable data, that under urban powers the affairs of the parish would not only be more efficiently administered and greater reforms brought about but that this much-to-be-desired condition of things could be carried out at a lower rate than is enforced at present in the township. However, many of the ratepayers—and more especially the larger ones—in the Medomsley parish are somewhat sceptical upon this point, as was plainly to be gathered from the remarks of several of those at the meeting. It is alleged that those who have prepared the set of figures presented to the meeting have not taken into account the whole of the expenditure that an Urban Council would have to face, and they ridicule the idea that there would be a reduction in the rates under the proposed new arrangement. After some considerable discussion, Coun. Crawford moved:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is expedient to constitute an Urban District Council, and that the Parish Council be requested to make application to the County Council in favour of it being carried out." On being put to the meeting only a dozen voted in favour of it, whilst forty hands were help up against it. A number of those present must have remained neutral, as there were probably seventy or eighty in the room. Coun. Storey at once demanded a poll on the question, and this will in all likelihood take place very shortly. When it comes about we should not be at all surprised if the decision of last week's meeting was reversed. In any case there will be considerable opposition to the proposed change.

IT WOULD SEEM AS though the members of the Chopwell School Board will shortly have to take a firm stand on the attendance question. At the last meeting of the Board on Tuesday, it was reported that the attendance was very bad—in fact, it was stated to be equivalent to a loss of 50 children for the whole month at the Spen schools. The Board seem somewhat reluctant to prosecute, although it appears likely that they will have to adopt some such drastic step unless there is a considerable improvement in the near future. It has been hinted at that some of the membrs are averse to taking Police Court proceedings for fear it should affect their return at the next election. Whether this is true or not we are unable to say—we simply give the statement for what it is worth. But there is one thing certain—if the members wish to maintain the reputation of the schools they will have to stiffen their backs on this attendance question. Were the weather of a severe winterly nature there might be some excuse; but just at present we are enjoying fine and open weather, so that this cannot be alleged as a reason for non-attendance. In writing in this fashion we do not for one moment wish the Board to take up a vindictive attitude—far from it—but it is due to the children themselves that the men who have been placed on the Board to look after their interests in the way of seeing that they receive a good education, should carry out their mandate irrespective of frowns or favours.

THERE ARE SOME sections of nearly every community who never seem to be happy unless they are engaged in wanton destruction of one form or another. We must certainly class in this category the scamps referred to by Coun. Powell at the last meeting of the Consett District Council as having broken a number of the lamps on the road to the Consett Iron Company's works. Coun. Ainsworth stated that not only the whole of the lamps from the Consett Iron Company's offices to Consett Hall had been broken during the previous week, but the lamps themselves had been wrecked. For pure senselessness and idiocy this form of amusement would take some beating. From information we have gleaned we are led to believe that this senseless mischief is not the work of children, but has been perpetrated by those quite old enough to know better. We would dearly like to see some of these scoundrels caught in the act, and we think it is pretty safe to say that the magistrates would make an example of them. Coun. Powell was in favour of removing some of the lamps to the new streets; but the Chairman pointed out that this would be depriving respectable people of the light. It was ultimately decided to ask the police authorities to give attention to the matter, so that the gentry who spend their spare time in wrecking the lamps and breaking the glasses had better beware. They need expect no mercy if detected—and they deserve none.

Tow Law.

THE MEASLES EPIDEMIC.—The epidemic of measles at Tow Law has now considerably abated, and the schools have been re-opened.

MISSION SERVICES.—Large congregations have assembled each evening in the Wesleyan Church, to listen to Mr. Norwell, of Norfolk, who is conducting successful mission services.

INTERESTING LECTURE.—On Saturday evening, Mr. Rankin, Captain of the Salvation Army, delivered an interesting lecture in the Salvation Army Barracks, Tow Law, entitled "The Home of the Boer," which was attentively listened to. Mr. Rankin, who has done good work in Tow Law during his short stay, left for Darlington on Thursday.

SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL.—On Monday evening, week a successful social and dance was held in the Tow Law Catholic Schools, the proceeds being in aid of a new reading-room and library in connection with St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. Dancing commenced to the strains of music supplied by Miss Donachy and Mr. J. McGurk, an excellent programme of dance music being gone through. The duties of M.C.'s were satisfactorily discharged by Mr. J. Finneran and Mr. J. McCabe. During the evening songs were rendered by Miss McGurk, Miss Feeley, Mr. Jackson, Mr. McGough, and the Misses Donachy. There was a very large attendance, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

RAILWAY PROSECUTION.—At Wolsingham Police Court on Tuesday, Thos. Hall and Wm. Hymers, of Tow Law, were summoned at the instance of the North Eastern Railway Company for alighting from a passenger train at Tow Law whilst in motion.—Inspector Pears, of the N.E.R. prosecuted.—Mr. Wm. Hunter, station-master, Tow Law, said the train went two or three carriage lengths after the defendant had alighted.—Inspector Pears commented upon the prevalence of this habit amongst footballers, and said the case was brought as a caution to the public.—The Chairman said it was a dangerous practice. A fine of 6d and 9s costs was imposed.

Local and District News.

Consett.

THE RESERVISTS' FUND.—At a well-attended meeting of the men employed in the Consett Iron Company's Angle Mill, on night-shift, it was unanimously agreed to contribute weekly to the Reservists' Fund.

A GENEROUS ACTION.—The Refuge Assurance Company informs us that they have decided not to charge any additional premium for policies on the lives of men engaged in naval and military service in the Transvaal. This generous feature is sure to commend itself to all policy holders in the district.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The jubilee of the Order of the Sons of Temperance will be celebrated by the Blackhill, Consett, Medomsley and Lanchester Divisions on Saturday first, at Consett. A public tea will be held in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, at four o'clock, and a public meeting in the Town Hall in the evening, to be addressed by several prominent temperance advocates. Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock by Bro. G. Lowes. A gospel temperance meeting will be held on Sunday evening.

Annfield Plain.

WESLEYAN CHURCH.—On Sunday Mr. Eyoub Tams, a Christian Jew preached in the Board Schools in aid of the above church, and during the week delivered a series of interesting lectures on the eastern coustoms in Bible lands. There were good audiences present, and a substantial sum was realised.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH MISSION.—On Sunday, Mr. W. Moffitt, of Blackhill, conducted the services in the Mission Hall. Good congregations assembled at each service. It was a time of refreshing, and both the preacher and people were blessed. The choir rendered good service, under the conductorship of Mr. T. Prinn. Soloist, Mr. F. Prinn; organist, Mr. James Castle.

Burnopfield

MR. GREGORY'S BENEFIT CONCERT.—We are informed that the recent entertainment held at Burnopfield, in aid of Mr. Frank Gregory, has realised a sum of £45 13s 9d. The expenses incurred amounted to £4 2s 6d. thus enabling the committee to hand over to Mr. Gregory the sum of £41 11s 3d.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.—On Sunday the missionary services were conducted in the Primitive Methodist Chapel in the morning by Mr. H. C. Wood Burnopfield, and in the evening by the Rev Jas. Taylor. On Monday night the annual missionary meeting was held. A good company assembled, and listened to some excellent addresses by the missionary deputation, which included Rev. J. Taylor and Messrs Bell and J. J. Spoor.

Beamish

RENT AUDITS.—On Wednesday and Friday of last week, Mr. N. Clark conducted the rent audits for Mr. Shafto Duncombe, and Messrs Joicey respectively at the Shepherd and Shepherdess, Beamish. The tenants were entertained to dinner after the business had been transacted.

Blackhill.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW.—The second annual exhibition and musical entertainment in connection with the Blackhill and District Chrysanthemum Society is fixed to take place in St. Aidan's Hall on Wednesday and Thursday of next week. We understand that the entries are good, and there will in all probability be a splendid display of this beautiful flower. The musical programmes will be most attractive and the show is sure to be liberally patronised.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The next meeting takes place to-morrow (Friday) night owing to the jubilee meeting the following day.

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.

LORD DURHAM'S RENT AUDIT.—On Monday afternoon the half-yearly rent audit for the Earl of Durham's estates was held in the Lambton Arms Hotel, Chester-le-Street. Mr. John Tully, head agent, represented the Earl and entertained the tenants to dinner.

THE RESERVISTS' FUND.—A house to house colltction is being made in Chester-le-Street for the benefit of the wives and families of reservists, who have been called to duty in South Africa. The Rector (the Rev. A. B. De Moleyns,) Mr. W. Clarke, Mr. J. Armstrong, and others, are taking an active part in the movement which is meeting with strong support.

LOCAL RESERVISTS' FUND.—On Thursday evening last at the house of Mr. H. Lamb, King's Head Hotel, Chester-le-Street, the following were elected as a local committee of the Countess of Scarborough's Fund for the relief of those dependent on the reservists called out:—Messrs J. Turnbull (chairman), W. Clark F. Bullock, Watson, Cuthbertson, Jas. Turnbull, Coxon J. Mitchell, H. Lamb, L. Anderson J. Armstrong, Hetherington, J. G. Thompson (secretary), and Dr. Smith, with the clergy as ex-officio members.

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—On Thursday night the members of the newly-formed branch association at Springwell commenced the winter session with a supper at the Guide Post Inn. Mr. J. B. Makerence presided, and was supported by Mr. R. B. Parry (Sunderland), Mr. J. H. Burrell (Conservative agent), Mr. T. Tindale, Mr. W. Wilson (hon. secretary), and others. After supper, Mr. Parry and Mr. Burrell delivered addresses on the policy of the Government in South Africa. During the evening songs were sung by Messrs J. Greaves, R. Taylor, J. Richardson, T. Tindale, and J. H. Burhell.

THE STEEL GREY CLUB.—The members of the Steel Grey Club—a society promoted for the organisation of summer outings—held a smoking concert at the house of Mr. John Winn, Dun Cow Hotel, Chester-le-Street, on Monday night. Mr. Paul Hayes occupied the chair, Mr. W. Dawson the vice-chair, and there was an attendance of upwards of 50. Mr. and Mrs. Winn, Mr. Ben Harrison, and Mr. Barrow provided the eatables and before the close of the concert were heartily thanked. Among the contributors to the harmony were Messrs Len Gray, Brown (Pelton Fell), Nichol, Maddison, T. Robson, Adams, and "Dr. Jim," Mr. J. P. Fairley officiating as pianist. At the close of a most enjoyable entertainment the whole company rose and sang "Rule Britannia."

Chopwell

WESLEYAN METHODIST SOCIETY.—In connection with the above place of worship, a grand concert and supper was given recently by the choir. The programme which consisted of anthems, solos, glees, and quartettes, was very ably rendered and listened to by a very appreciative audience. The chair was very ably filled by Mr. T. Hutchinson in the absence of Mr. John Hunter, who was unable to attend through sickness. The proceeds were in aid of the organ fund. We are glad to learn that by perseverance and hard work the organ is now clear of debt, and the society hopefully anticipate that in the near future they will have a more commodious place than a cottage to worship in, and also for other much-needed purposes.

Castleside

THE VICAR'S MARRIAGE.—The Vicar of Castleside, the Rev. John Wallis, whose marriage takes place this month, read out his own banns for the third and last time on Sunday last.

Dipton

CRICKETERS' PIE SUPPER.—On Saturday evening the members of the above club, through the hospitality of their supporters held a pie-supper in the pavilion. The pies were of excellent quality, and were done full justice to by a goodly company. During the evening the Rev. R. Tuson was made the recipient of a bat for the best batting average, the interesting ceremony being gracefully performed by Mr. T. Clark, of Dipton. Mr. Tuson formally accepted the present, and then handed it over to the members of the club. Mr. Clark then presented Mr. W. Thompson with a gold medal for the best bowling average during the past season. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Sunday morning and evening Mr. G. C. Miller, M.A., of Whickham, preached two sermons in the Dipton Wesleyan Chapel in aid of this Sunday School, while in the afternoon the Catchgate United Methodist Free Church Choir, under the leadership of Mr. T. Holland, rendered a musical service. The programme opened with the anthem by the choir, entitled, "Sing to the Lord of Harvest," and was nicely rendered. Then Miss Daw favoured with "My bud in Heaven," after which Mr. Holland took the solo part in "Seek ye the Lord," which was rendered very sweetly. Mr. H. Bates sang "Only Tired," and then the choir rendered "Jesus of Nazareth" in an efficient manner. The solo, "Galilee," was fairly well rendered by Miss Reynolds, and Miss Daw and Mr. Holland were heard to advantage in the duett, "Love Divine." Miss Bowstead recited "John Maynard" efficiently, and the programme was brought to a conclusion by the choir singing "Behold how good and joyful." The teachers desire to tender their sincere thanks to their Catchgate friends for the practical expression of their amity and good-will with the cause they have at heart, and trust they will be long spared to render a helping-hand to similar worthy objects. The proceeds were in aid of the Sunday School funds.

Hamsterley

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—A grand public concert and supper was held in the colliery schoolroom on Saturday, Oct. 28th, which were entirely got up and conducted by the young ladies in connection with the above place of worship. A very large company was present, and partook of the great variety of good things provided. All enjoyed a very pleasant evening. On Sunday, Oct. 29th two services were held in the chapel. In the afternoon, Mr. J. Musgrove, of Hamsterley, preached a very acceptable sermon to a large audience; in the evening a grand service of song was given by the chapel choir, and was highly appreciated by a crowded audience. A collection was taken up at both services by the young ladies. The week-end's proceeds amounted to over twenty-two pounds.

Leadgate.

BLOCK ON THE RAILWAY.—About five o'clock on Wednesday evening, three waggons became derailed on the High Level Bridge, which occasioned serious delay to the passenger traffic. For a considerable time the traffic had to be manipulated on a single line, with the result that some of the outgoing trains were exceedingly late, and the incoming trains were also affected. The mail trains due to leave at 7.8 and 7.12 p.m. for the south did not get away until about eight o'clock, and the 5.20 p.m. slow followed them. The trains on the Sunderland and South Shields sections were also greatly delayed. The line was not cleared for traffic until about half-past eight or nine o'clock. The train due at Leadgate at 7.27 had not arrived at considerably after nine o'clock, and much inconvenience was caused to passengers thereby. Several people who had had tickets to various places, started off to walk after waiting about the station for nearly two hours.

Pelton

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A YOUTH.—On Wednesday morning Mr. Coroner Graham held an inquest at the Colliery Inn, West Pelton, on the body of Mark Bowen, 8 years of age, son of John Bowen, of 11, Edward Street, West Pelton. The evidence showed that the lad had climed on to a high wall and took a seat on a corner stone. From here he fell and dragged the corner stone after him which fell on to his head. When the boy was picked up he was found to be unconscious, and despite every care and attention he died two hours later. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Shotley Bridge

PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the members of the Derwent Valley Ploughing and Hedge-Cutting Association will be held at Mr G. Morgan's, Crown and Cross Swords Hotel, on Tuesday night, at 6.

Swalwell.

BAND OF HOPE.—There was a large attendance on Monday evening, at the usual weekly entertainment held under the auspices of the Swalwell Band of Hope, in the Presbyterian Church Mr. E. Y. Spencer presiding. A spirited address was delivered by Mr H. Patterson, of Newcastle while songs were rendered by Mr. J. Graham, and Miss Forster, Swalwell. An excellent dialogue was gone through by the Misses Kiley, of Whickham, and won well-earned applause, the dialogue being delivered in fine style. Miss Urwick, of Bensham, gave an admirable recitation. Miss Maggie Spence discharged the duties of accompanist in her usual able manner.

Spen.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Monday evening a largely-attended coffee supper was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Spen, the same having been kindly provided by Mrs. Smith, Clayton Terrace. The tables were attended to by Mrs. Raymond, Miss Rodham, Miss Robson, and Miss Bell. The proceeds, which amounted to £4, were in aid of the new organ fund.

Stanhope.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Mrs. Hannah Vasey, 60 years of age, an old standard of the place, died very suddenly on Monday night from heart disease. She was well known in the Stanhope district.

SCHOOL BOARD.—Dr. Livingstone presided over the monthly meeting on Friday at Stanhope. The attendance at the schools was reported to be as follows:—Lanehead, 89.3 per cent.; Wearhead, 81.5; St. John's Chapel, 80.3; Westgate, 89.6; Rookhope, 89.3; Frosterley (south), 80; Frosterley (north), 89.7; Stanhope 90; Crawleyide, 95; Eastgate, 81.—It was decided to allow £5 10s to Mr. Freeman at Westgate for a piano case for his school.—There were three applicants Miss H. Douglass, Miss Minnie Wearmouth, and Miss M. A. Egglestone) for the position of sewing mistress under article 63 at Frosterley (south) School. Miss Douglas was appointed at a salary of £20 per year.—The Clerk (Mr. F. Thompson) presented the financial statement for the year ending Sept. 29th. From this it appeared that the total grants were £1,733, the sum received from rates £1,233, whilst the total receipts were £3,288. The total expenditure amounted to £2,946. A sum of £6,849 was reported as outstanding loans. At the end of the financial year a sum of £342 odd was reported to be in hand.

Stanley.

BEAMISH, PONTOP, AND CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the ball committee of this Society was held at the Shield Row Inn, on Tuesday night, Mr. A. H. Swinburn presiding. Arrangements were made for holding the annual ball next month.

MR. MARCHANT'S LECTURES.—During the present week Mr. James Marchant of London, is delivering a series of lectures in the Albert Hall, West Stanley, on "Romanism, Ritualism, Secularism, and Spiritualism, all exposed and exploded." The first lecture, "An hour in the Confessional-box," was given on Monday, and the services will be continued until Sunday night. During each lecture solos are sung and musical selections given.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.—On Saturday night last, a meeting of the officials of the Stanley Primitive Methodist Circuit was held in the School-room at West Stanley, the Rev. D. Kyles presiding. Mr. Jas. Haddon, of West Pelton, was elected secretary. It was decided to engage a local preacher from December to July, and nominations were made for a minister to take charge from and after July. The first selection was that of the Rev. J. G. West of Guisborough, who we understand, has accepted the call.

RODNEYS IN TROUBLE AGAIN.—On Wednesday morning Mr. Jonathan Green sat specially at the Stanley Police Station to hear charges of vagrancy against a number of men who were found by Police Constables Millions and Tate sleeping in the coke ovens at Stanley on Tuesday night. Two of the men were discharged with a caution and a warning to leave the district. John Thornton ("Clubby"), John McGrath and Mr. Joyce were each sentenced to seven days imprisonment. Terence O'Neil John Sayers, and James Henry were committed to prison for 14 days Edward Gibbons, an old man, who was mercifully locked up whilst in a state of intoxication, was discharged on promising to leave the district.

TANFIELD SCHOOL BOARD.—An adjourned meeting of the Tanfield School Board was held on Tuesday night in the West Stanley Board Schools, Mr. H. C. Wood (chairman) presided, and there were also present—Messrs W. Severs, J. Green J.P., M. G. Armstrong, Rev. T. H. Archdall, W. A. Swallow, W. Bulmer, Father Thompson, and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson.) A number of accounts were passed for payment, and necessary repairs at East and West Stanley schools were ordered to be made.—An application for increase of staff at the Causey was refused.—The Committee appointed to visit the Lessee School reported that the roof needed repairing, and the yard wall required raising by 15 inches for the protection of the outhouses. It was also agreed to asphalt the schoolyard and the master's yard.—The Committee appointed to inquire into the cleaning of the Tanfield Lea School reported that the school had been badly cleaned and improperly warmed.—The cleaner was asked to tender her resignation, and it was agreed to advertise the vacancy.

WESLEYAN FOREIGN MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.—Sermons were preached in the Wesleyan Chapel at West Stanley on Sunday by the Rev. A. Barraclough in aid of the Foreign Missionary Fund. On Tuesday evening the annual meeting was held when Mr John Oliver presided, and in a few appropriate remarks briefly opened the proceedings. The Rev. A. Barraclough stated that in foreign parts they had 309 circuits 2,370 chapels and other places 360 missioners and assistants, 5,940 unpaid agents as local preachers full members 49,262, and 90,179 scholars. Towards the carrying on of the work the income of the Society was £130,533 16s 8d. The expenditure was £130,466 6s 6d, leaving a balance of £67 10s 2d. There were in addition special funds towards which the Newcastle district contributed £3,655 19s 4d. Shotley Bridge and Consett district £243 11s 9d; and Stanley, £14 9s 11d. The collections on Sunday were a little in advance of last year, and he hoped they would not keep up the credit of their church by showing that the collection that night did not suffer as compared with previous years.—The Rev. J. G. Pearson, late of Ceylon, then gave an interesting lecture on the history and progress of that colony, and at the close was heartily thanked.

NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN, AND CLERKS.

MEETING AT CONSETT.

A meeting under the auspices of the above was held in the Small Hall of the New Town Hall on Wednesday evening last. There was a fair attendance, amongst those present being Messrs G. T. Hyden, Gooden, Prior, A. and J. Kirkpatrick, Hardcastle, Dodd etc. The object of the meeting was for the purpose of forming a local branch of the above National Union. Unfortunately the chief speaker of the evening, Coun. T. Summerbell, Secretary of the Sunderland Trades' Council, was unable to be present, as was Mr. J. Hodgson, of Sunderland, who was also announced to speak. Consequently the duties of the evening devolved upon Mr. Alfred Browne, the Secretary of the Newcastle branch of the Shop Assistants' Union, and Mr. T. C. Matthews, Secretary of the Sunderland branch of the same Union.

Mr. G. T. Hyden (Consett) presided, and in the course of his remarks said that he wondered why he was in the chair. He could not say why he had been asked to be chairman. He had been pondering it over in his mind as to what was the object in asking him to be chairman—whether it was because he was a teacher in the town, and in that capacity had a number of assistants under his care—whether it was because he had had a number of scholars under him for the last twenty years, many of whom were now assistants in Consett and elsewhere, whether it was because he was a member of the Council of this town, and that it was the duty of a Councillor to do all he could for the benefit of the place and the people of the town of which he was a representative upon the Council.—Whether that was the case or not he couldn't say, or whether it was as one of the directors of a certain institution in that town and one or two others in the neighbouring town of Newcastle, whether in those respects he was an indirect employer of labour, or whether it was because having been in Consett for some twenty years and poked his fingers into lots of matters, that he was consequently as well known as the town-clock. However, he did not know the reason why he had agreed to take the chair without it was that he happened to be a member of an Association 40,000 strong—he referred to the National Union of Teachers. Since shortly after 1870, when compulsory education came in, that Association had been productive of a large amount of good. He was bold to say that they would not have had such an education as was at present being given in the towns of England to-day, if it had not been for the National Union of Teachers, which was always in the forefront for the benefit of the child, and always put in the forefront those educational benefits which would accrue from there being a thorough staff of teachers throughout this land. He did believe that Union was strength. (Hear, hear.) And had not the Education Department known and believed that the National Union of Teachers was supposed to be the voice of the teachers in that country he did not think that the department would have listened to so much as they had listened to from that body. The way he looked at it was this, employers, employes, and the public at large were interested in that question (Hear, hear.) There was no doubt about it. The public of course really brought the grist to the mill and the old institution of distributive shopkeeping was owing to an anxiety for supplying the public with what they required, and in so far as the wishes and demands of the public are met will the public be satisfied; if the masters or the shopkeeper and the employees do not come to the public with what they required, he took it that the public would very soon be demonstrative and argumentative, and very soon combine in some way or other to get that which they require. The public were very quick to complain if they did not get what they wanted. The speaker deprecated long hours, and said eleven or twelve o'clock any one night in the week was excessive, not even excluding Saturday night. His experience was that a certain section of the community would come in at the last moment, and seemed to be altogether inconsiderate of the persons behind the counter. The abolition of that sort of thing would work no hardship upon the public and bring about undoubted benefit to both masters and men. There were people in the world who went in for the quickest penny, and are not altogether troubled about the means by which that penny comes. There were considerate employers of labour, and he was glad that they had such gentlemen in Consett. Still there were many who seemed to be unconcerned about the conditions under which their employees worked. He was glad to note that a Bill had passed through the House of Commons which provided for seats for shop-assistants. His sympathies went out very much to the young ladies who stood behind counters till they were wearied out from perhaps eight in the morning till twelve at night, it was a most cruel condition of things. He could not speak particularly in regard to the Association with which they had met in connection that night. He had only had a rapid cursory glance at the prospectus to, that had been placed before them, but they would be able to see for themselves the definite table of objects etc., which the Association existed for. There had been presented to Parliament certain Bills. There was the "Shopkeepers' Bill" of the Early Closing Association, introduced into the House of Commons by Sir John Lubbock and there was "The Shop Assistants' Bill," introduced by Sir Chas. Dilke, which was the Bill belonging to the Association, under whose auspices they were met that night.

Mr. Alf. Brown (Newcastle), next explained the aims and objects of the Union in a lengthy and practical speech. The objects of the Union he said were:—

1. To promote the early closing of all shops, to secure for the employees in wholesale and retail trades a universal weekly half-holiday, and to initiate and support legislation by the Imperial Parliament or local authority for these objects.

2. To abolish all unjust and tyrannical fines, and to secure proper and definitely fixed meal times.

3. To secure fair payment for services rendered.

4. To secure proper supervision of the sanitary arrangements in all shops and warehouses, and the gradual abolition of the present system of boarding and lodging employees.

5. The establishment of a term of apprenticeship for all persons (except porters) wishing to enter the various sections of labour protected by the Union. No one to be engaged under fourteen years of age.

6. To assist members in obtaining employment by means of registers of situations vacant and wanted, kept at the various Branch Offices of the Union.

7. To regulate the relations between employers and employed.

8. To give legal aid to members when necessity arises in their relations with employers.

9. To provide a weekly allowance for members when out of employment through no fault of their own, or from obeying the lawful demands of the Union; and to assist members who, for having rendered prominent services to the Union shall have lost their situations.

10. To provide annuities for members and their widows and orphans.

11. To assist in defraying the funeral expenses of members.

12. To enable each branch of this Union to be represented on the Trades' Council in its respective locality, and to obtain representation for the National Union at the Annual Trade Union Congress.

Mr. Brown in referring to the two Bills at present before Parliament pointed out the superior merits of their Bill as introduced by Sir Chas. Dilke in contradiction to that introduced by Sir John Lubbock, showing how the former compulsory measure was more to the advantage of the assistant than the permissive legislation of the latter Bill. There was, said the speaker, a deal of difference in a word, and the word "shall" was a great deal more effective and meaning than the word "may"; especially was this the case in regard to the powers of the local authorities to fix the time of closing. The speaker also dealt with the subject of abolition of fines in drapery establishments. Last month they had an influx of over four hundred members and the month before over three hundred. They would thus see that they were making strides and that they were not going to die off in a hurry. He trusted that they would join that night very largely, and have a local branch here in Consett. Mr Brown also referred to the sick benefits and death payments in connection with the Union.

Mr Matthews, in a lengthy speech, supplemented the remarks of Mr Brown, and said that he would be remaining in the town a day or two for the purpose of receiving membership forms from any who wished to fill them in and if possible to start a local branch in Consett. In 1893 the income of the Union was £715 whilst last year (1898) it had increased to £2,867. In Cardiff alone they had a membership of over 600. The Engineers said Mr Matthews enjoyed the best of conditions with regard to labour, etc., and why was it? Their hours, remuneration, and conditions of labour were entirely due to their possessing the best organisation Seventy-five per cent. of the men were in the Union. Let them take a leaf out of the Engineers' book and learn to organise themselves to like perfection. (Hear, hear.)

THE DUTIES of MISS TAIT'S SCHOOL, will be resumed on Monday. 825f

Proposed Workmen's Club for Leadgate.

Public Meeting.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting was held in the Miners' Hall, Leadgate, for the purpose of taking into consideration the advisability of forming a workmen's club for Leadgate. The proceedings were presided over by County Councillor J. W. Winter. Amongst many of the workmen of this largely-populated village there is a great desire for the establishment of a workmen's club, and, with a view of obtaining a "feeler," the place has been canvassed with the result that some three hundred persons have expressed themselves favourable to the scheme.

The Chairman, in the course of a few remarks, said he did not know whether it was necessary or not for him to offer an explanation or an apology as to why he came to take part in the meeting. Those men who had canvassed the place, and seen the petition appertaining to the business of the meeting would have a pretty fair idea of the object that the meeting had in view. By some of those gentlemen who had taken an active part in the matter he was asked to attend the meeting, and it was suggested to him that after having heard what they had to say that he should lay the scheme before the meeting. He took that as a matter of courtesy, and he was always willing to lend his services to anything appertaining to the welfare of the worknig men, and he always felt that the workmen had the first claim upon his attention and his services. (Hear, hear.) That was the special reason why he was present that evening. He understood that there was an idea prevalent in the minds of a number of people that there was considerable room in the village for a place, or some building, or institute, or club, for the workmen of Leadgate—some place better than the one they had at the present time. (Hear, hear.) This place it was suggested should be provided for the accommodation specially of the workmen of that neighbourhood. It had been stated to him firstly that it was intended to ask the Consett Iron Company to purchase the building in which they were then assembled, and then to convert the structure into what they were pleased to term a workmen's club—a club that should be under the direct control and management of the committee appointed by the members of the club. Failing the granting of this request that the company be asked to convert the building into a news and recreation room for their workmen at Leadgate. So far as the speaker was personally concerned he had nothing whatever to do with the matter, any further than having just been requested by the committee to lay the scheme before that meeting. He supposed that they wanted the club to be run on what they termed model lines—(hear, hear)—because there were workmen's clubs and workmen's clubs. He knew some things that went by the name of a "workmen's club," which were a disgrace to the place in which they were situated, and which were a positive nuisance to the neighbourhood. Now, he was glad to be informed by the committee that they had no idea that they should have a club that should be a "bogus club," and out of their control. He presumed they intended to run the club on the same lines as Burnhope.

After much discussion as to whether drink should be permitted or not, the following resolution was carried:—

"That we appoint a deputation from this meeting to wait upon the Consett Iron Company, to lay before them the views of this meeting, and of the petition, as to the purchasing of the Miner's Hall for the same."

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT NOTES

[BY "OBSERVER."]

NOT DESIRABLE.

I hear that there is a movement on foot for the establishment of a boxing saloon at Burnopfield. I hope such is not the case, for, in my opinion, nothing is more disgraceful than the present system of boxing carried on in our country. It wants stamping out of existence, and I dare say it would soon cease to exist if it were not for the influence of some of our nobility, who spare neither time nor money to further it.

AN EXPLOSION.

The people of Burnopfield got quite a fright on Saturday night over the explosion in Busty Bank It was a very foolish thing for a man to do—even over a wedding—and might have resulted more seriously than was the case. It will be a lesson to the individual concerned.

THE LAMPS.

When are the recently erected lamps in Burnopfield district to be lit? I suppose the nights will not be dark enough yet.

THE LATE MRS. BRABBAN.

I hear with regret of the death of Mrs Brabban, the wife of the esteemed under-manager of Burnopfield Colliery.

MISSIONARY SERVICES.

Missionary services are now in full swing in the various chapels. These services were at one time very popular, but now seem to me to be on the decline. Why that should be so I don't know. People are not so full of the missionary zeal as they were a few years ago. I think this is largely due to the fact that now-a-days we are not kept so well posted in the doings of our foreign missionaries, and we scarcely ever have the privilege of listening to an address from one who has seen active service on the mission field. These things tend to lessen the interest in the work.

THE WAR.

The Transvaal war still continues to be the chief topic of conversation in the neighbourhood and is likely to be so for some time to come, as owing to the slowness of the arrival of our troops, the war is in every way likely to continue well into the new year.

A SUCCESS.

The Rowland's Gill Cricket Club social last Friday night was quite a success. The music was lively, the company was nice, and everything went off in good style.

WEARDALE NOTES

DEATH OF AN OLD STANDARD.

An old standard has passed away at Stanhope this week in the person of Mrs. Hannah Vasey, at the ripe age of 60. She was well known in Stanhope, and will be much missed by a large circle of friends.

TOWN HALLS.

Both Wolsingham and Stanhope need new Town Halls. Both are inadequate and out of date. The old thing at Stanhope is simply a disgrace to the place.

SCHOOL BOARD LOANS.

Stanhope School Board loans amount to the sum of £6,849.

CRAWLEYSIDE TO THE FORE.

Crawleyside School again topped the tree for attendances during the month.

NO ADVANCE.

The Weardale District Council on Friday refused to advance their workmen's wages.

A RECORD PAY.

The prosperity of the Weardale limestone trade may be judged by last week-end's big pay beating the record. Work is plentiful and wages good.

THE MILD WEATHER.

Numbers of Glory de Dijon roses are blooming at Stanhope just now.

THE WAR.

The Bishop of Richmond spoke on the war on Sunday evening at Stanhope Church to a large congregation.

"THE GREAT UNPAID."

There were no less than seven magistrates on the Bench at Wolsingham Petty sessions on Friday.

BITS FROM BOOKS.

MR. KIPLING'S LATEST.

In "Stalky and Co." which, after appearing as a serial, is now published in book form, Mr. Rudyard Kipling tells with his own peculiar wit a story of schoolboy life, largely reminiscent, as it seems from the introductory verses and other indications. A characteristic passage is the description of the visit to the school of a dull member of Parliament to give a lecture on patriotism after a volunteer corps had been formed:

"There was no nervousness, but a brisk and cheery affability, about Mr. Raymond Martin. . . . . He plunged into his speech with a long-drawn, rasping 'Well, boys,' that, though they were not conscious of it, set every young nerve ajar. He supposed they knew—hey?—what he had come down for. It was not often that he had an opportunity to talk to boys. He supposed that boys were very much the same kind of persons—some people thought them rather funny persons—as they had been in his youth.

('This man,' said McTurk, with conviction, 'is the Gadarene swine.')

"But they must remember that they would not always be boys. They would grow up into men, because the boys of to-day made the men of to-morrow, and upon the men of to-morrow the fair fame of their glorious native land depended. And so they ought to think of the duties and responsibilities of the life that was opening before them. Life was not all—he enumerated a few games, and, that nothing might be lacking to the sweep and impact of his fall, added, 'marbles.' 'Yes, life was not,' he said, 'all marbles.'

"There was one tense gasp—among the junior, almost a shriek—of quivering horror. He was a heathen—an outcast—beyond the extremest pale of toleration. In a raucous voice he cried aloud little matters, like the hope of honour and the dream of glory, that boys do not discuss even with their most intimate equals; he profaned the most secret places of their souls with outcries and gesticulations; they looked all ways in their extreme discomfort. Their years forbade them even to shape their thoughts clearly to themselves. They felt savagely that they were being outraged by a fat man who considered marbles a game. And so he worked towards his peroration—which, by the way, he used later with overwhelming success at a meeting of electors—while they sat, flushed and uneasy, in sour disgust. He reached for the cloth-wrapped stick. This—this was the concrete symbol of their land—worthy of all honour and reverence. Let no boy look on this flag who did not purpose to worthily add to its imperishable lustre. He shook it before them—a large calico Union Jack, staring in all three colours—and waited for the thunder of applause that should crown his effort. They discussed the speech in the dormitories. There was not one dissentient voice. Mr. Raymond Martin, beyond question, was born in a gutter, and bred in a Board school, where they played marbles. He was further (I give the barest handful from a great store) a Flopshus Cad, an Outrageous Stinker, a Jolty-bellied Flag-flapper (this was Stalky's contribution), and several other things which it is not seemly to put down."

A TALE OF PURITANISM.

A pretty story of New England life in its early days has been written by Annie Eliot Trumbull, under the title, "Mistress Content Cradock." As a very young lady Content had to choose between Resolved Archer, a Puritan, and Cyprian Stukely, the English Royalist. Here is a passage from the final meeting with Stukely:

"Stukely saw from her face that things were going against him, and yet he was now misled by a transient hope, for she looked at him with a certain tender gratitude; she could have thanked him for shewing her her own soul.

"'And, my heart,' he said, softly, 'I cannot, I will not give thee up. Since it must be thy Church and State, in the name of high heaven'—his impatience flamed forth again, even through the passionate utterance of love—'let it be mine! If the good French King thought his kingdom worth a Mass, surely, my beautiful Content, thou art worth even a brace of the unending sermons of thy Puritan Sabbath!'

"Content gently shook her head. His passion and his irreverence alike failed to move her now. He knew not dimly what it was he was so ready to promise.

"As she stood in the silent orchard—for they had both risen—and looked out across the flat green country to the rolling river, the words of John Robinson came back to her memory—household words familiar from her infancy: 'I beseech you—remember it—that you be ready to receive whatever truth shall be made known to you from the written Word of God.' What did this young gallant know of a Church and State founded on such an exhortation as this? But she knew, and Resolved Archer knew.

"New England ideality looked across the breach to the realism of Old England—as it had been and should be.

"'Nay,' she said, 'I think it is not meet to make such exchanges,' and she smiled. 'Thou art but an alien in this land of long sermons and Puritan Sabbaths; and I—it is native to me—I know no other air.'"

IN PRAISE OF MATTHEW ARNOLD.

An essay on Matthew Arnold has been added to the series known as "English Men of Letters," Mr. George Saintsbury being the editor of the volume. It has been a matter of surprise among some critics that Arnold as a poet was never popular. Mr. Saintsbury hints at the reason. His work was uneven. Now, everyone knows the public prefer good level mediocrity to uneven work, with the trouble of discriminating for themselves. The tribute of the Professor, however, is a warm one:

"But, once more, a poet is to be judged, first, by his best things, and secondly, by a certain aura or atmosphere, by a nameless, intangible, but sensible quality, which, now nearer and fuller, now further and fainter, is over his work throughout. In both respects Mr. Arnold passes the test. The things mentioned above and others, even many others, are the right things. They do not need the help of that rotten reed, the subject, to warrant and support them; we know that they are in accordance with the great masters, but we do not care whether they are or not. They sound the poetic note; they give the poetic flash and iridescence; they cause the poetic intoxication. Even in things not by any means of the best as wholes you may follow that gleam safely. The exquisite revulsion of the undertone in "Bacchanalia"—

> 'Ah! so the silence was,
> So was the hush';

the honey-dropping trochees of the "New Sirens"; the description of the poet in "Resignation"; the outburst—'What voices are these on the clear night air?' of "Tristram and Iseult"; the melancholy meditation of "A Summer Night" and "Dover Beach," with the plangent note so cunningly, yet so easily, accommodated to the general tone and motive of the piece—these and a hundred other things fulfil all the requirements of the true poetic criticism, which only marks, and only asks for, the *differentia* of poetry. And this poetic moment—this (if one may use the words, about another matter, of one who wrote no poetry, yet had more than all but three or four poets)—this 'evolution, liquefaction, transformation, the kiss of the spouse, and ingression into the divine shadow' which poetry and poetry alone confers upon the fit readers of it—is never far off or absent for long together in Mr. Arnold's verse."

"WONDERFUL WALKER."

In the latest volume of "National Biography" there is a biography of a man, Robert Walker, now forgotten, but whose character well merits him the place he obtains there. The writer, Mr. Thomas Seccombe, says:—

"Walker, Robert (1709-1802), 'Wonderful Walker,' was born at Undercrag, in Seathwaite, Borrowdale, Cumberland, in 1709, being the youngest of twelve children; his eldest brother was born about 1684, and was ninety-four when he died in 1778. Robert was taught the rudiments in the little chapel of his native Seathwaite, and afterwards, apparently, by Henry Forest (1653-1741), the curate of Loweswater, at which place in course of time Walker acted as schoolmaster down to 1735, when he became curate of Seathwaite, with a stipend of £5 a year and a cottage. In 1755 he computed his official income thus: £5 from the patron, £5 from the Bounty of Queen Anne, £3 rent-charge upon some tenements at Loweswater, £4 yearly value of house and garden, and £3 from fees—in all £20 per annum. Nevertheless, by dressing and faring as a peasant, with strict frugality and with the aid of spinning, 'at which trade he was a great proficient,' he managed not only to support a family of eight, but even to save money, and when, in 1755-6, it was proposed by the Bishop of Chester to join the curacy of Ulpha to that of Seathwaite, Walker refused the offer, lest he should be suspected of cupidity. A few years later the curacy was slightly augmented; and as his children grew up and were apprenticed his circumstances became easy. He was enabled to earn small sums as 'scrivener' to the surrounding villages. He also acted as schoolmaster, but for his teaching he made no charge; 'such as could afford to pay gave him what they pleased.' 'His seat was within the rails of the altar, the Communion table was his desk, and, like Shenstone's schoolmistress, the master employed himself at the spinning-wheel while the children were repeating their lessons by his side.'"

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

FIRST DIVISION.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Agt	Pt.
Consett United	8	5	0	3	24	11	13
Leadgate Park Jr	5	3	2	0	13	[illegible]	[illegible]
Blackhill St Cuths	4	2	1	1	8	[illegible]	[illegible]
South Moor Untd	5	2	2	1	15	[illegible]	[illegible]
Catchgate Lilyws	4	2	2	0	11	[illegible]	[illegible]
Consett Shamrocks	3	0	0	3	[illegible]	[illegible]	3
Allendale A	3	0	2	1	5	14	1
Stanley Athletic	6	0	5	1	6	11	1

SECOND DIVISION.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Agt	Pt.
Leadgate Exiles	3	3	0	0	15	2	6
Leadgate Athletic	3	2	1	0	15	[illegible]	4
Allendale W S	3	2	1	0	[illegible]	7	4
Catchgate Res.	2	1	1	0	15	4	2
Annfield Plain CR	3	1	2	0	6	10	2
Medomsley Junior	4	1	3	0	10	28	2
Derwnt Cottage J	2	0	2	0	[illegible]	[illegible]	0
Blackhill Juniors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

E. BIRTLEY,
W. ATKINSON, } Secretaries.

FROM ONE WHO'S LEFT BEHIND.

Brave soldiers of our country! our eyes are all on you—
We watch your wond'rous courage, so loyal, bold and true;
We see you far out-number'd, by hard, relentless foes;
Know something of the hardships you have to undergo.
Our eager eyes are scanning the news as it appears,
Sometimes they're lit with pleasure, but oft are dim with tears,
For it's a sad, sad story—this story of the war—
For victories mean bloodshed, and losses even more.

And in our anxious waiting there's naught else we can do,
But close our eyes, and offer our prayers, to God for you!

Our hearts are also with you—they have no other care,
Nor can have, whilst you're facing the dangers we mayn't share.
They thrill with pride and gladness o'er many a daring deed,
But sink in deepest sadness o'er tales of those who bleed
And die in fiercest battle—the noble and the brave,
Who sacrifice their life's blood their country's fame to save.
For Briton's hearts are truer than e'en their swords of steel,
And warmer than the fire that their gun and cannon deal.

So in our anxious waiting, if naught else we can do,
With our full hearts we'll offer our prayers to God for you!

Our hands would fain be near you, to tend you in your need,
To comfort you in sickness, to bind the wounds that bleed;
Our voices long to cheer you with words you love to hear,
"Be brave, my lads, be valiant, trust God, and never fear."
But since we're not permitted this privilege to share,
We trustfully commit you to tender nurses' care;
And as they take our places, so we'll take your and mind
To cherish well, and comfort all those you're left behind.
And while we're anxious waiting, this one thing we can do,
We'll lift our hands and voices in prayer to God for you!

We'll pray the God of battles the warfare soon may cease,
That out from this hard conflict, may issue forth sweet peace;
That he will stand beside you, sustain you to the end,
And bring you back in safety, to wife, and child, and friend.
But if you swell the number of heroes that are slain,
May you be crown'd with glory and higher honour gain,
And may the walls of Heaven with joyous echoes ring,
As our brave soldiers enter the presence of their king.

And in our anxious waiting, 'tis all that we can do,
To join our heartiest praises and prayers to God for you.

Consett, November 8th, 1899.

Funeral of Mrs. John Tait, of Consett.

We regret to have to announce the death of the widow of the late Mr. John Tait, schoolmaster, of East Parade, Consett, on Saturday morning. The deceased lady, who was in her 79th year, has conducted a seminary for girls for many years. On Wednesday afternoon, the interment took place at the Benfieldside Cemetery in the presence of a good company of friends and relatives. The funeral arrangements were carried out by T. C. Rawes and Co., of Consett. The coffin, which was of polished ash, had brass mountings. Three beautiful wreaths were sent by Mrs. Tait's pupils, Mrs. Eltringham, Ryton; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Davison, Consett; and a beautiful cross by Miss Blinkey, Elmfield House, Cleethorpes. Amongst the relatives were Mr. Wm. Tait, son, Gateshead; Miss Tait, daughter; 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. M. Wade, Consett; Mrs. Lockey, Consett; Mrs. Kidd, Consett; Mrs. Whitehead, Consett; Mrs. Telford, Consett; Mr. Lynn, Mr. T. L. Gledstone Mr. John Routledge; Mrs. Wilson Blackhill; Mrs. Postle, Mrs Bellas, Madame Bellas-Dryden, Consett. The services in the church and at the graveside were conducted by the vicar of Consett, the Rev. W. D. Croudace, M.A.

Wolsingham Petty Sessions

TUESDAY, Nov. 7th.—Before Mr C. J. Backhouse (Chairman), Ald. Dr. Livingstone, Mr J. Rogerson, Mr J. W. Roddam, Mr C. Bainbridge, Rev T. H. E. Espin, and Coun. W. Summerson.

DRUNKEN CASES.

The undermentioned persons were fined for drunkenness:—John Liddle, 10s; Wm. Henderson, 10s; Thos. Lightfoot, 10s; John Burton, 7s 6d; Christopher O'Neil, 10s, J. Barker, 7s 6d; John Carr, 1s 6d; John Price, 7s 6d, and David Kemp, 8s.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Ed. Plews, Tow Law, was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months for fighting, and also to pay the costs.

WIFE DESERTION.

George Shaw was charged with deserting his wife, Elizabeth Shaw, and child.—He had given her no money since May 27th.—The Bench made an order of 10s per week.

STONING THE POLICE AT TOW LAW.

George Harrison was charged with assaulting the police at Tow Law, on Sunday night, November 5th.—Sergt. Taylor and P. C. Davis deposed to being pelted with stones by a gang of men on the night in question. They captured Harrison; the others escaped.—The defence was that defendant was just coming up at the time, and saw some men running away, but the police took him.—Fined £1 and costs.

SHORT MEASURE.

Thomas Lambert, landlord of the Blue Bell Inn, Wolsingham, was summoned for using an old measure which was not up to the standard, and had not been adjusted at the weights and measures day for a year or two.—The defence was that he neglected to destroy the old measure. He had got new ones, and had had them for some time, but had neglected to put this one away.—The Chairman said it was a serious neglect. He was fined £2 and costs.—It was a quarter-gill measure unjust to the extent of 2 drachms, making three gills per gallon.

THE WEARDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL SUMMONED.

Mr. G. R. Wooler, Bombay House, Wolsingham summoned the Weardale District Council for wilful damage to a pump-handle. The well was sunk by the Wooler family at Wolsingham some 50 or 60 years ago, and has been used by the public for a number of years, until in 1895 the Weardale District Council condemned it as impure on the strength of an analysis by the County Analyst Mr Stock. The handle was taken off and the well closed. Another new handle was put on by Mr. Wooler, which was taken off the next day by order of the District Council, and Mr. Wooler now claimed £1 damages and costs for the Council. Mr T. Dowling, Bishop Auckland, represented Mr. Wooler, and Mr. J. Thompson the Weardale District Council.—The latter contended it was a public pump, and had been so for 15 years or more.—The charge against the Council was that of doing an unlawful act not a question of title, Mr. Dowling said; but Mr. Thompson contended it was a question of title. The pump belonged the inhabitants, and the Bench had no jurisdiction in the matter.—The Bench took this view of the case, and dismissed the same. Costs were claimed by the Council, but were objected to by Mr. Dowling. They were, however, allowed.

APPLICATION BY A DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Weardale District Council applied for a magistrates' order to close the well at Wolsingham.—Mr Dowling, on behalf of Mr Wooler, objected.—The Council contended that the water was impure, and under a section of the Public Health Act should be closed.—It was decided to adjourn the case pending analysis of the water by experts.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

SOME OF THE QUEEN'S "PERQUISITES."

The Queen is entitled to a goodly number of perquisites for the Royal Household.

The right to every whale or sturgeon captured on the coasts of the United Kingdom dates back to the days of William the Conqueror, when the whale was divided between the King and his consort, the Queen taking the head, in order to replenish her wardrobe.

The right of her Majesty to a certain number of shawls from the Kingdom of Cashmere is often remarked, but a custom in connection with the Royal tailor is not so well known. Every tailor holding a patent of "purveyor to her Majesty," if he conforms to the ancient tradition, should present her each year with a silver needle.

WAXWORKS IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

There is a striking article in the October number of the *Temple Magazine* on "The Waxen Effigies in Westminster Abbey."

People don't usually associate Westminster Abbey with Madame Tussaud's, and yet at the Abbey there is a fine collection of wax figures. The death of Nelson and his burial in St. Paul's had the incidental effect for a time of obscuring the attractions of Westminster as a show place. The fickle mob abandoned the Abbey and flocked to the Metropolitan Cathedral, where the funeral car on which the body of the great sailor had been borne to the grave was exhibited as a public curiosity. There was but one way of recapturing the affections of the crowd, and that was to display a Nelson relic of superior importance. The officials of the Abbey, whose purses had probably suffered some injury from the rivalry of St. Paul's, were equal to the occasion. A waxwork image of the hero, taken from a smaller figure for which Nelson had given sittings, was set up on a pedestal, and, inasmuch as this effigy was dressed in clothes which the victor of Trafalgar had actually worn, the enterprise proved completely successful. Thousands flocked once more to Westminster Abbey, while the grave at St. Paul's, with its sombre accessories, ceased to be a place of pilgrimage.

BLIND SALAMANDER.

Mr. C. M. Blackford, of Washington, D. C., in a letter to *Nature* describes a blind salamander found in an artesian well in limestone rock at San Marcos, Texas. It is 3in. to 4½in. long, has a large head, eyes covered by skin, scarlet gills like those of a fish, and its body is of a dirty white colour. The legs and feet are slender, and the tail has a fin like that of an eel. Two living specimens are now in the aquarium of the Fish Commission at Washington. They are supposed to come from a subterranean lake in communication with the well.

WHAT THE LONDON POLICEMAN COSTS.

Some interesting particulars are given in the "Statistics" volume of the London County Council as to the cost of maintaining the London police force. It appears that the Metropolitan Police, including the City, costs more per inhabitant and per constable than any other force in England. The police force in London numbers 15,326 officers and men, of whom nearly 2,000 are employed on special duties. The total cost of this force for the year 1896 was £1,377,785, which works out at 4s. 11s. per inhabitant, and £96 9s. 4d. per constable. The cost of the Liverpool police in the same period was £111,523, or 3s. 8½d. per inhabitant, and £90 13s. 7d. per constable. The Manchester police cost £95,076, or 3s. 9½d. per inhabitant, and £92 4s. 4d. per constable; while in Birmingham the charge was only £60,944, or 2s. 6d. per inhabitant, and £91 4s. 8d. per constable.

DOGS THAT DO NOT BARK.

Dogs are known as a barking race of animals; nevertheless they may not all be so described, says *Rural Life*. There are at least three varieties that never bark, viz., what is known as the Egyptian sheep-dog, the Australian dog, and the "lion-headed" dog of Thibet. There are many of the common races that do not bark much, and, as a rule, the smaller the breed the more bark. Foxes at certain times give a short note resembling the bark of a dog, but it is uttered more as a call or signal than as a note of defiance, as is that of the dog.

A REMARKABLE TRICK.

"The most startling feat I ever saw," said a professor in the Smithsonian Institution who has made a study of Indians in various parts of America, "was performed by the clown priests of the Zuni tribe in Arizona, or, as they were called, 'The Ancients of Creation.' They seat themselves in a circle on the clay floor around a jar that will hold, perhaps, a gallon, an ancient and sacred earthen vessel, which is filled with water. The chief priest carries in his hand two ordinary eagle feathers, which are tied together at the quill ends so that they make a fork. Behind the circle of the priests are other members of the tribe, and the musicians with their drums and gourds, who join in the chants with emotion. The incantations continue for several hours, and when the participants and spectators are wrought up to a proper pitch of excitement the priest dips the feather tips into the water, lifts the jar with them, and holds it suspended for a minute or two at a height level with his face or breast. Then he lowers it slowly to the ground. This feat is repeated several times during the performance. Apparently there is nothing in the hand of the priest but the feathers, and they appear to be inserted into the mouth of the jar only two or three inches. Of course there is some trick about it, but I was never able to discover it."

SOME FACTS ABOUT HAIR.

Baldness is far less common among red-headed people than among their darker-haired neighbours. The ordinary crop on the head of a red-haired person is about twenty-nine thousand two hundred hairs. Ordinary dark hair is far finer, and more than three dark hairs would generally occupy the space of a red one, a hundred and five thousand dark hairs being about the average crop. Fair-haired people are still better off, a hundred and forty thousand to a hundred and sixty thousand being quite an ordinary crop of hairs on the head of a fair man or woman. It has been stated that if the hairs on the head of a fair-haired person could be plaited together they would make a rope strong enough to support a weight of something like eighty tons, or of five hundred people. This sounds rather a big statement, but the strength even of a single hair is quite surprising when its fineness is considered, as anyone can test for himself by seeing the force that must be expended on breaking it.

MARRIAGE OMENS.

The bride who dreams of fairies the night before she marriage will be thrice blessed.

Ship marriages are considered any hing but lucky. Get married on land, or don't get married at all.

If the groom carries a miniature horseshoe in his pocket, he will always have good luck.

Don't wear an opal in getting married. Some people declare that opals are lucky. History proves the contrary.

If the wedding-ring is dropped during the ceremony, the bride may as well wish herself unborn, for she will always have evil luck.

The bride who finds a spider on her wedding-dress may consider herself blessed.

No bride, if she would have good luck, should bake her own wedding-cake. To do so invites ill-fortune.

Should a bride perchance see a coffin while being driven to the railway station prior to departing upon her wedding tour, she should order the driver to turn back and start over again, or else she will surely meet with bad luck.

No bride or groom should be given a telegram while on the way to church. It is positively a sign of evil.

To try on the wedding ring before the day of the marriage is considered very unlucky. And for the groom to drop it while placing it on the bride's finger is also held to betoken misfortune.

To lose the ring—or even to remove it from the finger—is another unlucky sign.

An old couplet says:

> "As the wedding ring wears,
> So wear away life's cares."

A HAT THAT COST 1,500 DOLLARS.

The most expensive hat on record cost 1,500dol. in gold, and was presented to General Grant while in Mexico in 1882. It is now on exhibition in the National Museum at Washington—perhaps the finest Mexican sombrero that was ever made. While William H. Seward was Secretary of State in Lincoln's Cabinet some of his admirers in South America sent him a Panama hat which cost 1,000dol. It was on exhibition in a show window in New York for a year or more. Panama hats used to be frequently sold as high as 500dol. each. A New York hatter says that in 1867 he sold three hats at that price in a single day, but they are no longer on the market. The most expensive hat he has sold for several years was bought by a New York banker last summer for 110dol. It was the last fine Panama hat in stock. Such hats are still worn by the hidalgos in South America. They are not made in Panama, but got the name because that city was formerly the greatest market for them. The finest hats come from Guayaquil and Payta, Peru. They are made of fibre of the pita, or pineapple plant, which is as soft and pliable as silk, and some of them are so fine that they can be folded up and carried in the vest pocket.

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 Chronic Coughs, Asthma, Bronchitis, Weak Lungs, Catarrh, Influenza, and Whooping Cough rapidly. 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., 18, 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

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Lanchester Board of Guardians was held on Thursday last in the Board Room at the Workhouse, Lanchester. Mr. W. Logan, J.P. (chairman) presided, and there were also present Mrs. Piercey Taylor-Smith the Rev. T. H. Archdall, the Rev. A. Magill, Messrs J. Oliver W. Gray, J. R. Ritson, J. Pumphrey, J. Green W. Bulmer, W. Robinson, U. A. Ritson, jun., G. Ritchie, E. Sloane, G. Forster E. J. Wardle, H. C. Wood, T. S. Longstaff, G. Hobson, J. Hunter W. Young, W. H. Telford, G. D. Powell, V. Dunn, W. Severs, J. Davison, H. Greener, L. Nicholson A. Kuhlman B. Mason, the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson), and the Workhouse Master (Mr. W. Brotherhood.)

PAUPER STATISTICS.

The Master reported that the number of inmates in the house was 207, as against 239 in the corresponding period of last year, showing a decrease of 32. The out-relief cases numbered,—Eastern district 343, as against 459, or a decrease of 115; western district 404, as against 554, decrease 150.

RELIEF TO MARRIED COUPLES.

The Rev. A. Magill moved, in accordance with notice, to rescind the resolution passed by the Board on August 10th last as follows:—"That the Relief Committees be requested to refer cases of married couples requiring relief, when the husband is permanently disabled, to the Board." He said according to returns made last August the total amount paid was £3 13s 6d per week, and roughly, it amounted ot £200 per annum. The total out-relief was £4,000 in 1898, which represented 1/- in the pound. There must be some good reason for withdrawing so small a proportion from the whole of the Committees. One or more Committees had given out-door relief to married couples, and the resolution passed last August was aimed at checking their action. If not, he knew of no other reason. Certain members objected altogether to relief to young married couples or to children born after the family had come upon the rates. The resolution was aimed at checking their action in either or both these cases. He quite understood the position of those who objected to giving relief, but he disagreed with them. On the score of economy they came to the conclusion that nothing could be gained by sending these people to the Workhouse. Others would have no relief given for children born after the family had come on the rates. To that he most strongly demurred. In the first place it meant insufficient relief for all, and secondly, it practically amounted to telling these people that they must not have children—a most dangerous course for any public body to take. He saw no good reason whatever why the powers of relief should be taken out of the hands of the local Committees, and he therefore moved the rescinding of the resolution.

Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion.

The Chairman said he had nothing to say excepting that the matter was very carefully considered not at one, but at several meetings, and the resolution was carried by practically the unanimous vote of the Guardians. He had not heard any reason that day to induce him to vote for the rescinding of the resolution.

A division was then taken when there voted for:—Messrs Archdall, Bulmer, Longstaff, Magill, Nicholson, Sloane, and Young—7. Against.—The Chairman, Messrs Davison, Dunn, Forster, Gray, Green, Greener Hobson, Hunter, Kuhlman, Mason, Oliver, Powell, Pumphrey, Ritchie, J. R. Ritson, U. A. Ritson Severs, Telford, Wardle, Wood W. Robinson, and Mrs. Piercey-Taylor-Smith.—23.

The motion was therefore lost.

THE VACCINATION ACTS.

The Clerk read a letter from the Wycombe Board of Guardians asking the Lanchester Board to support a resolution in favour of petition both Houses of Parliament and the Local Government Board to repeal that Clause in the new Act giving the sole authority to prosecute to vaccination officers, and leaving the Guardians to pay the cost out of the ratepayers money without having any voice in the matter.

Mr. Wood moved that they support the resolution. If prosecutions had to be taken they should be by the authority of the Guardians, who had the money to find.

Mr. Gray seconded the motion.

The Chairman said the power was contained in the old Act, but at present an officer might prosecute anyone without coming to the Guardians for permission. The object was to revert to the terms of the old Act.

Mr. Nicholson supposed the Guardians had the expenses to pay?

The Chairman said that was a certainty.

The motion was then put and carried.

THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

The Clerk read a communication from the Guisborough Guardians containing a resolution in favour of Boards of Guardians having full control as to the appointment, tenure of office, &c., of all officers employed in the administration of the Poor Law.

Mr. Gray moved, and Mr. Wood seconded, that the resolution be supported.

The Chairman said they had control over some, but the bulk were outside their authority.

Mr. Severs said he thought the superior officers ought to be quite independent of the Guardians altogether. If an officer was dependent on the Guardians it was just possible he would not do his duty so faithfully or well as when independent. He was not saying any Guardians there would influence any officer but it was possible that it might occur. He was not so sure that the time had yet arrived when they should interfere with the appointment of their officers, and especially their superior officers.

The Chairman said they had the appointments now.

Mr. Wood said they had, but they had not the power of dismissal. His own opinion was that it would act in quite a contrary direction to that suggested by Mr. Severs.

Mr. Gray said those who had the appointment should have the control.

The Chairman said he did not think there would be any chance of getting it passed unless it could be incorporated in a new Poor Law Bill to be introduced next Session. At the same time there was no harm in supporting the resolution.

Mr. Green thought that Relieving Officers and Sanitary Inspectors should be excepted.

The Chairman said he did not think it would make very much difference either way, but the man who paid the piper should select the tune.

Mr. Severs did not suppose there was very much in it but he agreed with Mr. Green that certain officers should not be interfered with. They might very easily get a prejudice against a man, and so hamper him that his life would not be worth living. As a matter of fact he would be pursued to the very end in order that he might be dismissed.

Mr. Wardle was afraid Mr. Severs had a very poor opinion of the Guardians. (Laughter.)

The motion was then put to the meeting, when 20 voted for and 2 (Rev. A. Magill and Mr. Severs), against. The following did not vote:—Messrs Forster Green, Longstaff, Nicholson, and Ritchie.—The motion was declared carried.

THE NEW LAUNDRY.

Mr. G. T. Wilson, architect, submitted plans for the proposed new laundry at the Workhouse, and the Building Committee having gone through them with the architect.

Mr. Wood said the Committee in the main were satisfied with them. They had suggested one or two slight alterations. They had fixed on the precise position where the buildings should be put, and they recommended that the Architect be instructed to get tenders for the work.

The Chairman said they must have the approval of the Local Government Board.

Mr. Wood said the Committee thought it would be better to have a correct estimate to submit to the Local Government Board. They got a long way wrong in their last estimate.

The Chairman said that was so. He moved the adoption of the Committee's recommendation.

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

OFFICIAL SANCTION.

Letters were read from the Local Government Board sanctioning the advance of saaries to Messrs Walton and Ward, and also approving of the grant of £200 for the extension of Lanchester Churchyard.

The meeting then terminated.

RECHABITISM IN DURHAM COUNTY.

The half-yearly meeting of the Council of the Durham County District of the Independent Order of Rechabites Friendly Society was held at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, West Hartlepool. The D.C.R., Bro. Jas. Longmoor, presided, and there were seventy officers and representatives present from various parts of the county. Reports presented by the D.C.R., D.S.J.T., and S.Sec., showed that at the end of September there were 5,111 adult and 3,148 juvenile members in the district, a total of 8,256, or an increase of 822 (416 adults and 406 juveniles) for the nine months. The funeral payments during the same period had amounted to £400 5s, and the sickness payments to £3,034, giving a total of £3,434. The total amount of funds in the district was £14,400, an increase £1,220 since the beginning of the year. Two new Tents had recently been opened, and negotiations were in progress for the opening of about half-a-dozen more. Never, said the D.S. (Bro. R. Shepherd, of Jarrow), had the outlook been more promising, and it only wanted a little more effort to bring the District to the position of being the largest numerically in England. Special mention was made of the action of the Rock Tent, Murton Colliery, the members of which had refused to submit to a small deduction from their wages for the support of a club where liquors are sold, and who, when other means failed, employed counsel, went before the Magistrates at Seaham Harbour, and won the point. An expense of about £20 had been incurred by the Tent, all of which had been paid except some £5 5s. By a unanimous vote the District Council decided to pay the balance now owing, and also passed a resolution "congratulating the members of the Rock Tent upon the splendid stand they had made in support of the principles of the Order."—Brother Wallace, of Sunderland, was elected a member of the Executive vice Brother Vickers, of Law Fell, resigned.—A long discussion took place on the question of how best to didspose of a surplus of over £2,000, which had accumulated in the Funeral Fund, and ultimately it was decided to appropriate about £250 for the purpose of increasing the local sick funds of various Tents, and to adjourn other proposals for further consideration.

Lanchester Joint Hospital Board.

A meeting of the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board was held on Thursday last at the Workhouse, Lanchester. Mr. W. Logan presided, and there were also present Messrs T. S. Longstaff, W. Gray, J. Oliver, J. R. Ritson, J. Green, H. C. Wood, G. D. Powell, E. Sloane, W. Young, W. Robinson, J. W. Winter, and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson.)

MEDICAL REPORTS.

Dr. Allen reported that since the last meeting of the Board there had been one patient admitted into the Leadgate Hospital. Two patients had been discharged cured, and two remained in the hospital—both convalescing.

Dr. Wilson reported that within the past four weeks three cases of scarlet fever, and one of typhoid fever were admitted into Langley Park Hospital. They were doing fairly well. Two boys were discharged on Tuesday last convalescent from scarlet fever.

The reports were adopted, and there being no other business before the Board the meeting ended.

Compensation Case from Langley Park.

A special sitting of the Durham County Court was held last week, before Judge Meynell, to hear several claims made under the Compensation Act. The first case was that of Michael McGowan, a coal hewer, employed at the Langley Park Colliery of the Consett Iron Company, who brought an action against his employers to decide a question of liability under the Act in respect to injuries received.—Mr Isaacs was for the plaintiff, and Mr Cooper for the defendants. On February 9th, the plaintiff was hewing coal in the busty seam at Langley Park. The place was 5 feet 2 inches high. There was a band of stone 3½ feet from the bottom, and the plaintiff had worked up to this, and was working back over to take the coal out above the seam. While doing this the top coal came away, and the plaintiff was injured. The defence, said Mr Isaacs, would suggest wilful misconduct, but he argued that there was no timber there. There was one piece of timber 5 feet long, but as the working place was only 3½ feet high it was no use.—Plaintiff, in cross-examination, denied that the deputy found fault with him for having left the top coal on.—For the defendants, Jacob Hutton, the deputy, stated that he warned the plaintiff to get the top coal down, but the plaintiff said the coal was as hard as a rock.—Witness then ordered him to take it down.—His Honour found for the plaintiff.

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BLAYDON DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Blaydon Urban District Council was held on Thursday evening last, in the Temperance Hall, Blaydon,—Mr. J. W. Tucker (vice-chairman), presiding. There were also present the Rev. A. B. Tebb, Messrs J. Cunningham, J. R. Gilchrist, J. Raine, W. Archer, A. Skidmore, E. J. W. Powell, W. Crooks, W. Atkinson, G. Bullerwell, W. Scott, W. Latimer, W. Douglas, the Clerk (Mr. H. Dalton), the Surveyor (Mr. G. Symons), and the Inspector (Mr. R. Biggins).

HEALTH AND STREETS COMMITTEE.

The minutes of the Health and Streets Committees were read. At a meeting of the Streets Committee, the Clerk after the public quay had been inspected, explained the agreement of the North-Eastern Railway Company and the award of the road to it. The Committee agreed to recommend the Council to consult Messrs Watson, Dendy, and Burton as to the right of the Council to make a charge for persons making use of the quay already made, and also for that part at present not built up in case the Council should build it up and as to the power of the Council to expend money without obtaining Parliamentary powers. The Committee also recommended that builders using the Council's water without permission be charged double prices. The Health Committee's recommendations were of a routine character.

On the motion of the Rev. A. B. Tebb seconded by Mr. Skidmore the recommendations of the Health Committee were agreed to, and Mr. Raine moved the adoption of the Streets Committee's report, which was agreed to.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. Richard Brown stated that in his last report he said that there was a distinct falling off in the number of infectious diseases towards the latter end of the month. Unfortunately there seemed to be a second outbreak—so to speak—which resulted in the total number of cases notified for October again being heavy. However, he really thought that now they might consider, so far as their worst enemy typhoid, was concerned, they had seen by far the worst of it for this year at all events. The general health of their district was excellent, medical work being conspicuous by its absence. The number of cases notified under the Notification of Diseases Act for October was 35, made up as follows:—typhoid fever, 13 (3 deaths), scarlet fever 9, continued fever 5, diphtheria 5 (one death), erysipelas 3. The number of cases in the Hospital—typhoid and scarlatina—at present was 14, eight having been sent home on the previous day, and he quite expected that half of the number now in the hospital would be able to be removed within a few days.

The report was adopted.

SHIBDON DENE FENCING.

The following tenders for the fencing at Shibdon Dene were received:—Messrs Armstrong, Blaydon Bank, £318 16s 4d; Messrs Wm. Peel and Thos Robinson, £330 8s 6d; Mr. Jos Hall Whickham, £260 19s 8d; Messrs Davison and Bolam, £287 6s 2d; Messrs Jas. Graham and Wm. Skelton, Gateshead, £318 11s 6d; Mr. John A. Pemberton, Shotley Bridge £394 12s 8d.

On the motion of Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Crooks, the tender of Mr. Hall was accepted and failing him that of Messrs Davison and Bolam.

FINANCES.

Mr. Gilchrist presented the financial statement for the month, showing that the accounts amounted to £722 16s 1d. There was a balance at the bank of £384 11s 5d.

The accounts were passed.

THE HOSPITAL.

Mr. Tucker having given notice, moved "that the motion referring to the Sanitary Officer's duties at the Hospital as passed by the Health Committee on February 9th, 1899, and confirmed by the Council on March 2nd, 1899, be rescinded."

Mr. Skidmore seconded the motion.

Mr. Crooks while not fully agreeing with the motion, thought the officials ought to be able to tell the Council how the money was being expended and how it ought to be expended.

Mr. Tebb said, on principle, to adopt the resolution would be a departure from the recognised custom of other places he had visited. In the Hospital of the Tyne Port Sanitary Authority the chief Inspector said he had nothing to do with the institution.

Mr. Skidmore thought an officer ought to stand between the Council and the money that was spent.

Mr. Raine said that in the caretaker they had an official.

Mr. Gilchrist said they must allow the caretaker to work with the doctor. If they introduced another element they would create friction.

Mr. Powell strongly supported the original motion. The Health Committee were not "worth their leather" if they could not look after the accounts.

The Council then divided when there voted for the motion, Messrs Tucker, Douglass, and Skidmore—3. Against, Messrs Powell, Atkinson, Latimer Smith, Bullerwell, Raine, Archer, Gilchrist, Tebb, and Cunningham.—10. Mr. Crooks did not vote.—The motion was therefore lost.

PAYMENT OF MEN.

Mr. Tebb moved "that the resolution as passed by the Streets Committee on Oct. 5th, 1898 and confirmed by the Council on Oct. 6th, that the workmen in the Blaydon section be paid on Saturdays at noon instead of on Fridays, be rescinded."

Mr. Scott seconded the motion, which was agreed to on the understanding that the men would not be paid until the Friday evenings.

DEPUTATION FROM BURNOPFIELD.

Mr. H. Curry Wood and another gentleman, representing the Burnopfield Co-operative Society, waited upon the Council in reference to the rejection of plans for twelve houses at Hooker Gate. Mr. Wood said they were really there to get advice from the Council or to get information. They submitted some plans about two months ago. They were, he believed, late in being sent in and the consideration of them was adjourned for a month. They then intimated that they disapproved of the plans owing to the drains not being shown. As a matter of fact the drains were shown, but there was no sewer shown in the back street. What they wanted to know was what the Council expected them to do in the matter.

The Surveyor said the question was where was the sewage going to.

Mr. Wood said the drains would have to go down the back street. Of course there could be no doubt as to their liability to put in a sewer in the back street, but they could not show a sewer until they knew something about the method of treatment after the sewage left the premises. It was not really their business to show a sewer.

Mr. Raine, Mr. Gilchrist, and Mr. Tebb having made a few remarks.

Mr. Wood said if the Council directed them to run the sewer into a cesspool he presumed they would have to do so, only the Council would have to relieve them of any question of nuisance. Still it was not their business to show the cesspool. It was, he thought, the business of the Council to direct them as to where the cesspool should be put.

Mr. Powell said their bye-laws said that when two drains drained into one cesspool then it became a public cesspool. That would enforce the Council and not the private individual to look after it.

The Clerk said it was the law and not the bye-laws. The law said the sewer was the Council's, and if they put a sewer in to drain the sewage it would become the Council's

Mr. Wood said they would be glad to agree with any reasonable suggestion of the Council. They had no desire to press the matter into legal technicalities.

Mr. Tebb thought they ought to see their way to pass the plans that night, and leave the matter to be arranged between their Surveyor and the Society. He moved that.

Mr. Gilchrist seconded the motion which was agreed to.

THE PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY.

The Clerk stated that there had been a meeting of the Joint Committee of tht Lanchester Council and Blaydon Council at Blackhall Mill, on Wednesday, 25th October, to discuss the proposed alteration of the boundary there. Mr. Ritson, clerk to the Lanchester Council, took the minutes, and promised to send a report on, but it had not yet come to hand.

Mr. Gilchrist said the committee met the Lanchester representatives at Blackhall Mill, and they seemed to be unanimously of opinion that the Derwent should be the boundary. It was thought by a representative from the other side that there would be considerable opposition from some of the residents. The ratepayers in that district had all got notice of the meeting, and it was open for any of them to be present. Only one turned up, and he happened to be, by far, the largest ratepayer. He informed the joint committee that there had been a meeting of those who would be affected, and that they were unanimously of opinion that their property, now in the Lanchester area, should be transferred to Blaydon. That removed any opposition. Mr. Ritson took the minutes and said he would forward them on to Mr. Dalton.

The Chairman made a statement respecting the rateable value of the district. Towards the cost of sewerage Blaydon district paid £145 and Lanchester £374, making a total of £519. Blaydon had 12 acres on the Lanchester side of the water, but it was land only. There were some eight or nine lamps at Blackhall Mill, which Blaydon would be required to take over.

Mr. Crooks asked if there was any payment to be made?

The Chairman said only for the lamps.

Mr. Gilchrist said the idea was that Lanchester would give them the rateable value, and what they had contributed towards the Lanchester works would be allowed to stand.

Mr. Tebb: That is a "quid pro quo."

Mr. Archer then moved, and Mr. Gilchrist seconded, that further consideration of the matter be adjourned until they had received the official report from Mr. Ritson.

The meeting shortly after ended.

JOTTINGS FROM THE CITY.

[By the "Impressionist."]

There was no getting a copy of the

"CONSETT GUARDIAN"

in the City at as early an hour as two o'clock on Saturday afternoon. At that time all copies were sold out at the Central Station, and applications at one or two newsagents in the town were fruitless. Accordingly I was amongst the number disappointed. Perhaps the proprietor will take the hint, and see that supplies are increased in order to meet an evidently increased demand hereabouts.

Locally

GUY FAWKES' DAY

passed with quite an insignificant amount of recognition. The "war fever" has not helped to enthuse the juveniles into a liberal expenditure on the purchase of rockets and pin-wheels. Indeed, the eventful day has been allowed to come and go with quite noteworthy quietness—so much so, indeed, as to suggest that the custom of celebrating it is falling into disuse so far as the "north country" is concerned. In the south the people cling with more tenacity to old usage and ancient celebrations, and it is not surprising to learn that the day was pretty generally observed with them. Of course, it goes without saying that the "guys" took the semblance of either President Kruger or Mr. Chamberlain—according to the particular views of the "celebrants." and some lively scenes are said to have been witnessed, London way, in quarters where the two factions came into contact.

Every few years an effort is started to promote the establishment of

AN ART GALLERY FOR NEWCASTLE,

but after a short time of flickering interest the scheme runs itself quietly out again. Just at this moment, after a lull of some two or three years, an attempt is being made to revive an interest in the subject. Judging from present indications the revival is likely to go the way of those of previous years. It is nothing less than disgraceful that a city like Newcastle should not long ago have been able to promote an institution of the kind. Probably no other town of its importance is so far behind in this matter as, indeed, in many other matters. But opinions have always, apparently, been divided in artistic circles locally, and there has never been proper uniformity of action to a common end. The Bewick Club, the only recognised society of artistes in the town, can scarcely be regarded as altogether representative of the art of the district. Several of the more celebrated of our local artistes are not members of the club named nor have they the least desire to be associated with it. It follows, therefore, that the management of any proposed art gallery should not fall into the almost exclusive hands of the management of the club in question. To be of real use a foundation of a more stable and less exclusive sort, and one more broadly representative, is required before the scheme can expect any real public sympathy or support. There is no reason in the world why the city should not boast a worthy Art Gallery., but such an Institution cannot possibly flourish if too much concern is given to small and exclusive interests at the expense of the public generally.

It is not, perhaps much more than twelve months since the scheme for the institution of

AGED MINERS' HOMES

was originally set afoot, and it says much for the Durham miners that already funds have accumulated to a sufficient extent to have allowed for more than the practical inauguration of the scheme. Within the short period mentioned, subscriptions have come in to the extent of £2,700, of which sum the miners have themselves contributed £2,400, the balance of £300 having been subscribed outside. The Committee, after having paid the sum of £1,450 for the cottages opened out on Saturday week at Haswell, and certain necessary repairs thereto, find themselves with a balance in hand of £1,200, and so satisfactory has this been regarded that an additional hundred cottages have been purchased at Shotton Colliery. It is intended that there shall be a thousand cottages purchased altogether in the County of Durham, and this, once accomplished, the committee feel that they will be placed in a position to accommodate all applicants. The inauguration of this beneficent scheme marks an epoch of advance in the social welfare of the County of Durham, and it is safe to prophesy that before very long other counties will follow Durham's lead. Of course, funds will have to be forthcoming right along and to a still more generous extent if the scheme is to succeed. The readiness with which support has already been accorded at the hands of the miners themselves is a most gratifying sign, and it leads to the hope and belief that the appeal for still further contributions from them will be heartily responded to. Let it be seen by the outside public that the men are eager to help themselves, and the hearts of that outside public will go out to them in a practical way— by means of voluntary contributions.

The

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN CONCERT PARTY.

which appeared before a Consett audience, in the New Town Hall, on Wednesday week, is making quite a tour of the district. Amongst other places visited are Sunderland, Gateshead, and Jarrow. The same programme is, I understand given at each hall and is a really attractive one. The artistes are very able and acquit themselves most satisfactorily. Miss Mabel Burmester is an accomplished violinist, and Mr. Julian Clifford an efficient accompanist and piano soloist. It is rarely indeed that a concert of so attractive a character is offered to the public at the price, and it goes without saying that "bumper" houses invariably prevail.

THE BISHOP AUCKLAND POST OFFICE FRAUDS.

Mr Jos. Collinson, of Wolsingham, has received the following answer to his memorial to Sir Matthew White Ridley, M.P., concerning the case of John James Hill, who was convicted of the post office frauds at Bishop Auckland:—

Home Office, Whitehall,
October 2nd, 1899.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 12th August, relative to the case of John James Hill, who is undergoing a sentence of five years' penal servitude, I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he has enquired into this case, but finds no sufficient grounds for mitigation of the sentence.—I am, sir, your obedient servant

HENRY CUNYNGHAME.

To Joseph Collinson, Esq.

A BARNARD CASTLE MAGISTRATE "RUN IN" AT WOLSINGHAM.

Mr Hilton, J.P., of Teesdale fame, while in Weardale the other day was taken into custody by a Wolsingham policeman on a charge of being drunk in the streets of that place. He was on horseback, and the horse being somewhat restive, a policeman stopped him and took him into custody. After the mistake was found out he was liberated. Mr Hilton's reference to it at the Barnard Castle Police Court caused some surprise among his colleagues on the bench and the "men in blue" present at that court. In Wolsingham it was the principal topic of the week. The police man was sorry afterwards for the mistake.

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 Drugist, Manchester.

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

CAUSEY ROW.

MISSIONARY SERVICES.—These services were commenced in the Primitive Methodist Chapel on Saturday night, when the annual missionary meeting was held. A large number of people assembled, and stirring addresses were given by the missionary deputation (Rev. J. Taylor), Messrs J. Bell, and J. J. Spoor. On Sunday the services were conducted by Messrs J. Bell and J. J. Spoor.

CHARLES FORDE'S DISCOVERY

Mr. Charles Forde, an Australian chemist, has placed before the world a vegetable specific called Bile Beans for Biliousness, that has the peculiar properties of acting in the process of digestion the same as Nature's own animal Bile. This remedy has often proved itself an undoubted cure for headache, biliousness liver trouble, bad breath rheumatism influenza, indigestion, dizziness, buzzing in the head, fulness after eating, lack of ambition, debility, female ailments, pimples, and a host of other ailments that owe their origin to defective bile flow, assimilation and digestion. A depot has been opened up in England, and if you are unwell and a sufferer, and have doubts whether it is indigestion or not, the manufacturers invite you to write in to their London Office giving a full desription of of ailment, and free of charge you will be honestly answered whether Bile Beans will cure in your case or not. Address: The Bile Bean Manufacturing Company, 119, London Wall, London, and mark your letter Special. You can also send to London if your dealer does not stock Bile Beans, and a box will be sent post-paid and packed free on receipt of price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. a large box. Please mention this paper when writing.

VISIT OF REV. J. H. HOPKINS TO STANLEY.

In connection with the above visit a public tea was held in the school-room, on Wednesday week, at which a large company sat down to tables presided over by Misses B. Armstrong, M. Stephenson, R. Eales, M. Herron, E. Williams, Mamy Brown, Mesdames Calvert, Mallams, and Humble.

LECTURE BY REV. J. H. HOPKINS.

In the evening a large congregation assembled to listen to the Rev. J. H. Hopkins deliver an interesting lecture entitled "The answer of the Methodist Church to the appeal of the bitter cry of outcast London." The chair was occupied by Mr. J. F. Elliott of Annfield Plain, who was supported by the Rev. A. Barracough and Alderman J. T. O. Penman, of Jarrow.—The Chairman, in the course of a few remarks, said he was pleased to be with them that evening, although he could not but think that they could have secured a more fitting chairman, as he did not quite feel the right man in the right place somehow; however, the duties of a chairman were light, and with an interesting programme before him he had no fear or trembling with regard to himself. He was also pleased to meet with Mr. Hopkins, whom he had heard before, and this was one of those privileges which occurred but far too unfrequently in a lifetime. He was likewise pleased to meet with Alderman Penman, of Jarrow, and he was glad to be associated in any way with the cause of God. (Hear, hear.) He blessed God that he was ever associated with the Methodist Church—(hear, hear)—the church of his early choice. The longer he remained within the church the more proud and the more glad he was that he was a Methodist. (Hear, hear.) When they took a survey of the history of Methodism, they could not but help to realize that it had a noble mission, and that it had accomplished most marvellous results; and perhaps never had she more educated herself to the needs of the world than at the present day. (Applause.)

Ald. Penman, of Jarrow, also addressed the gathering. In the course of a stirring address he said he was always glad if he could do a little for the Master. There were hundreds and thousands of their fellow-men and women who were practically at the door-step, and how many of those present knew where those men and women would go to were they to die? To his mind, the church of the future was the church of the masses, and what they wanted to do was to set themselves the task of rescuing someone. They ought to set themselves the task of rescuing even the worst characters in that neighbourhood, and it was quite possible that by God's help that they could bring someone to the Saviour.

A solo was now sung by Mrs. Jackson, of Jarrow, with great taste and feeling, receiving hearty applause.

The Rev. J. H. Hopkins, who had a most cordial reception, followed with his interesting lecture. In the first place, he said, he was delighted to think that they had exchanged their former chapel—which was by no means a poor one—for the present magnificent building. He did not know that he had ever seen such a structure, in proportion to the size of a place like Stanley. (Hear, hear.) It was up-to-date, and just built upon the principles of a new hall, the same as they were trying to erect yonder. (Applause.) The structure looked to him more like a hall than a chapel, and he thought the time had come that when erecting a building, it should be more after the type of a hall than the fixed places of worship they had had in the past. The outside working-man was more inclined to go into a hall than one of their stately Methodist Churches. (Applause.) In their present building they were all around the speaker. He was glad to find that they had men like the chairman, who were loyal to their church, and he would not give much for a man who did not love his church. He (the lecturer) was a Methodist to the backbone, and he owed all to the church which he loved. They were all greatly indebted to the service of song, and they could not help but applaud at the way in which the solo had been sung that evening, and he thought the meeting would have been incomplete without their friend Mr. Penman. (Applause.) Some of their best laymen were doing their work as well as any ministerial brother. He wondered how many of them had ever seen the pamphlet, a better one of which had never been placed before the public—"The bitter cry of outcast London." The first great result of that pamphlet in relation to the Methodist Church was this: At the Conference it was decided that in response to that "bitter cry" the Methodist Church should do something in a definite way to keep all the outcasts in the city. They began in a humble way with Mr. Edward Smith—(applause)—and Mr. Peter Thompson—(applause)—and others. They also had the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, an equally brilliant man, who was preaching every Sunday morning to one of the most marvellous congregations in the whole city of London, and wielding his influence as much as any man could wield. (Applause.) Edward Smith decided to work alone—some horses went better single than double—and by sheer hard work got the people in, and to-day, they had at Clerkenwell one of the largest congregations connected with any church in the city of London—(applause)—and Edward Smith laid the foundation. (Renewed applause.) As one born, in due time a baby came—he (the lecturer) represented that baby. (Laughter.) A friend of the lecturer's came to his place and asked him how long he had been there, and he informed him ten years, when his friend replied that he could not work there ten weeks. He asked his friend why? when he replied, "Why, I have seen more cripples—crippled children in your district this afternoon, than I have ever seen in the whole city of London put together." Another friend was struck with the looks and countenances of the people—crushed, poor, and poverty-stricken; and he was sorry to say intemperance had struck most of them down to the bottom of the gutter, and in consequence of intemperance some seemed heartless and hopeless. In that dark spot the greatest authority in London said they had the most poverty—he referred to Mr. Booth, who told them that in that very spot there was more poverty than in the east end. Men and women were found starving, and here at that very place was a magnificent Methodist Chapel, with a history perhaps equal to any in the land. There was a Sunday morning congregation not numbering one hundred, whilst the evening congregation was less than one-fifth of what it was formerly; this was in the district of outcast London. The hand of Providence came to their help at last, and God sent them a man. For twelve months this gentleman met with little or no success, but one day he was marching through the streets and he saw a number of men looking at the "Police News." It came like a flash of lightning to his mind "These men will not come to a sermon but they will look at pictures, and they look at pictures in the "Police News." He resolved that he would go in for photography, and give them pictures. It happened that at that time the immortal Spurgeon died, and the death of Spurgeon helped to fill the tabernacle at Jack's Field by the reproduction of Spurgeon with lantern slides. The people came from the poorest homes to see the pictures concerning Spurgeon's death and burial, and every Friday night the chapel was packed to its utmost capacity. (Applause.) Having filled it on a Friday evening the people came on Sunday, and in three years from that time the place was packed. The next step was to take the new town hall, and after a few months' toil, they had the pleasure of seeing the building filled with from twelve to fifteen hundred people—(applause)—and boys, men and women who had never attended a chapel in their lives. In response to the "bitter cry" they filled that place, and in answer to prayer, the way was opened in a marvellous way, and God guided them in answer to their prayers. He believed that their mission was not simply amongst the slums, but amongst the working-men. (Applause.)

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 dandruf, 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.

WEDDING AT DIPTON

On Saturday, a marriage in which a considerable amount of interest was evinced, was celebrated at Burnopfield Church. The contracting parties were Mr. Robert Howie, of West Wylam and Miss Barbara Lawson, daughter of Mr. Thos. Lawson, well-known in the Addison and Medomsley districts, and Mrs Anna Lawson, of South Medomsley Old Cottages, Dipton. The Rev. R. Tuson, vicar of Dipton, performed the ceremony, being assisted by the Rev. J. Madill curate of Burnopfield. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a light slate dress, trimmed with silver silk and pearl trimming, and wore a picture hat trimmed with slate orange blossoms, chiffon, and grey tips. The bridesmaids (Misses A. A. Lawson and Mary Elizabeth Lawson) were dressed in heather grey dresses, and wore drab picture hats trimmed with shot silk. The "best man" was Mr. Wm. Howie brother of the bridegroom, while Mr. Tom Lawson, brother of the bride, acted as groomsman. Amongst the bridal party who witnessed the ceremony were—Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lawson, brother-in-law and sister; Mr. Geo. Lawson, brother of the bride, and Miss Middleton; Mr. and Mrs. John Nevin, Lintz Colliery; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Weedy Burnopfield; and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Weedy. Burnopfield. After the ceremony the party returned to the home of the bride's parents, where a grand reception was held, and the remainder of the day was spent in merriment and feasting. As the house was too small to accommodate the guests the neighbours (Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Alderson) kindly placed their house and piano at the disposal of the guests, where several assembled and enjoyed themselves immensely. The following is a list of presents:—

Mrs. Lawson (mother of bride), a quilt and household linen.

Mr. Geo. Lawson (bride's brother), what-not.

Mr. Tom Lawson (bride's brother), brass kettle.

The bridesmaids, silver salvers.

Bride's sisters pans and steamer, and brushes.

Bride's brother, bakeboard.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Lawson, kitchen fender.

Master Willie Lawson, frying-pan.

The other presents included:—Silver teapot, pair of blankets, silver biscuit bowl, jelly dish, butter knives and jelly spoon, white musselo quilt, thirteen tablecloths, bath, roller, bedroom, and tea towels, pair d'oyleys, pillow cases, three pair sheets, two sets of wool mats, two pair plush and sateen antimacassars, two plush and sateen cushions, three pictures, two scripture texts muffin dish, fruit dish, two cheese dishes, two bedroom candlesticks, trinket set, seven pair glass bowls six cake-stands, nine pairs of ornaments, five pair of placques, three local views, three half-dozen dinner plates, two vegetable dishes four breakfast and one dinner cruets, two pair decanters, two sets of jugs, bamboo Gipsy table and flower-stand, clothes and hair brushes, paper rack three butter-coolers, five sugar-basins and cream jugs, pair of brackets, pair napkin rings silver jelly stand, hand glass, breakfast cups and saucers, lamp, a pail, clothes line, pie-dish six bread tins, two tin mugs, pair shades, rolling-pin, pair crayon pictures, pair of hand-painted placques two teapots, three glass plates, doormat, pan and steamer pair photo-stands and pair of pictures, from various kind friends and well-wishers.

A WEST OF ENGLAND WORTHY

Characteristic Story.

A "SPECIAL" in the "Bridport News" gives a characteristic history of a West Country worthy, James Hawker, of Uploders, Dorset. Engaged in farming, Mr. Hawker was seen at his home and racily answered the proposal to publish a part of his life-history. "Lor' bless you, sir, I want every-one to know!" he said; and it an interesting story that the skilful reporter extracted from him.

Like most agriculturists, Mr. Hawker had to have his grumble. Times were not over good; the weather was trying; he had not been very well, either—"in fact, I used to be terribly bad, what with my rheumatism and bleeding at the nose; oh, for eighteen months or more, and not a week without it. But I've not had it now since the beginning of March."

"Ah," said Mrs. Hawker from the corner, "Jim's another sort of chap now. He used to have the rheumatism so bad he couldn't lift his arms or dress himself." The story was fairly started now, and the reporter had only to take it down in rapid shorthand.

"Ay, that's right enough. I had the rheumatism off and on, you know, for three or four years and had to stop at home. Work! how could a fellow work when you can't lift yours arms up! But I did suffer, I can tell 'ee."

Mr. Hawker again interrupts the conversation. "But, you know, sir, I saw something in one of the little books about rheumatism being cured by Dr. Williams' pink pills and, as poor Jim couldn't get anything to ease him, I thought he should try the pills, as it said they were good for that. He'd tried nearly everything and been doctoring for years."

"Well, did he take them?"

"Take 'em! Yes; but I looked on it more as a joke than anything, and said to the missis I'd take the box and all."

"Ah Jim laughed at me, but it turned out right. I used to have a job with him, and got anything I could. I got him some embrocation, but nothing did him any good, and I began to feel he never would be right. I got anything I could, and it was a blessing I saw that little book about Dr. Williams' pink pills."

"That's right enough, and you can't think how I feel about those pills. I felt easier after the first dose. I said, 'By Jove, missis, I believe they're the thing for me now, for I seem looser about the shoulders already!' That was a day of two after I began taking 'em and so I went on, and, would you believe it, when I had taken two boxes and a half I was as right and as well as ever I was. I'd been bad for years, and some mornings I couldn't heave my arms up to my head. I hardly knew myself when I got rid of the pain. The change the pills brought about was wonderful, and I tell everybody about it, because I think if folks knew more about 'em it would be better for 'em and save a lot of pain and expense in doctoring."

The mother here said, "Ah, Jim, it wasn't only the rheumatism, but they stopped the nose-bleeding."

Mrs. Hawker said that was so, as her husband couldn't stoop to chop a stick without his nose bleeding. "And you know, sir," she added, "I got frightened about it, because I've heard it brings on fits. Besides, he was never safe anywhere, and it kept him so weak. If I have anything wrong with me I take some of Dr. Williams' pink pills, and they soon pull me together again."

It is upon such evidence as this that Dr. Williams' pink pills have built up their immense reputation. Merit alone has made them a household word: people have used them and told each other of their value. Consequently there is hardly a village and certainly not a town in England where inquiry will not bring to light some local celebrity who has become the talk of the neighbourhood, through being cured as if magically by Dr. Williams' pink pills. Along with the severe cases cured (consumption, paralysis chronic rheumatism, gout, and so forth) go thousands of milder cases, where such ailments as erysipelas, scrufula, eczema, St. Vitus' dance neuralgia, and anæmia have been cured, or where weak, languid invalids have grown well and strong, thanks to Dr. Williams' pink pills. The only danger is that substitutes are sometimes pushed by unscrupulous shopkeepers. The genuine pills are safe, and perfectly free from all purgative effect. Substitutes may be dangerous and they have never been shown to cure anyone. The way to avoid them is to deal with honest tradesmen who do not try to sell you substitutes; to ask carefully for Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people, and take care to see that all these words are printed on the wrapper of the pills; to take no notice of anything that may be said about substitutes being "as good" or "the same" as Dr. Williams' (which is wickedly untrue); and if there is any doubt, send direct to Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Holborn Viaduct, London enclosing the price—two and ninepence for one box; thirteen and nine for six boxes.

ROWLAND'S GILL.

CRICKET CLUB SOCIAL.—The members of the above club held their third annual social on Friday evening, 3rd inst., in the Rowland's Gill Board Schools. A substantial supper was well patronised, about 60 couples partaking thereof. During the evening to Mr. G. W. Gray, of Sherburn Tower, was presented with a handsome silver-mounted umbrella by the members of the club as a slight acknowledgement of his kindness in granting the use of his field free, for the cricket club. The presentation was made by Mr. Thomas Robinson, of Low Thornley Farm, who performed the ceremony ver yereditably. Mr. Gray suitably responding. Mr. T. Ford, vice-captain, having won the bat presented by the club with an average of 13 runs per match, was presented with the bat by Mr. Gray. Mr. Ford in accepting the present thanked the members. The Gill during the past season played 14 matches—won 8, drew 2, and lost 4. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

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.

ELSDON'S

MINERAL WATERS

Require no bush.

Hundreds of dozens always on hand; also SYPHONS.

ASK FOR

"TIDLEY" THE NEW DRINK.

It will Invigorate and Refresh You.

NATHAN ELSDON & SONS,

DELVES LANE (near the New Consett Station.)

ESTABLISHED 1869.

INTERESTING PRESENTATION AT LEADGATE

On Saturday night an interesting presentation took place at the house of Mr. Wm. Smith, Black Bull Inn, Leadgate when a few of the personal friends of Mr. Anty Burnhope assembled to make a present to that gentleman on the occasion of his marriage. The idea was only mooted some three or four weeks since, but it was warmly taken up, with the result that the committee were enabled to purchase a handsome black marble clock, supplied by the firm of Lister and Co., Newcastle. The recipient has always taken an active part in the sports and social functions promoted in Leadgate, and is deservely popular with the inhabitants. Mr. John Kershaw (the chairman of the committee) was voted to the chair, and amongst those present were:—Dr. Henley Coun. W. J. Foreman, Mr. A. Burnhope, Mr. F. Lockey (hon. sec.), Mr. W. Ker (treasurer) Mr. J. Burnhope, Mr. Jas. Muse, Mr. J. Green, Mr. W. Smith Mr. T. Muse Mr. T. Walton, Mr. J. E. Kinleside, Mr. M. Speeding Mr. J. Suddes, Mr. T. Kinleside Mr. J. Usher, Mr. J. Day, Mr J. Ross, Mr. J. Hall, and others.

The Chairman gave the usual loyal toasts, which were duly honoured.

Mr. Ross proposed "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces," to which Mr. Walton responded.

The Chairman said the company would be all aware of the reason of their meeting that night, which was to make a presentation to their old friend, Anty Burnhope. (Applause.) He would now call upon Dr. Henley to make the presentation. (Applause.)

Dr. Henley in responding to the Chairman's call, said he felt inadequate to the task of performing this duty as it should be performed. However he considered it a great honour to be called upon to make this presentation to Mr. Burnhope. When it became known some few weeks since that Mr. Burnhope was going to get married it was felt that they ought to give him something in recognition thereof. (Applause) The difficulty was as to whether they should make it a general presentation or limit it to a few personal friends. It was decided to adopt the latter course, and he thought the committee had acted wisely as in limiting it to a few personal friends it interfered with no one else. It was not for his popularity in the football field or the cricket field that they were making this presentation to Mr. Burnhope, but because of his popularity with them. (Applause.) They felt that they could not allow this important event in his life to pass by without giving him some token of their esteem and goodwill. He understood that Mr. Burnhope was going to take up his residence at Consett, but they all hoped that it would be only a short time before he came back to Leadgate. (Applause.) Mr. Burnhope, by his genial disposition and manly bearing, had won for himself a large measure of popularity. (Applause.) It gave him (Dr. Henley) very great pleasure to hand over that handsome clock to Mr. Burnhope, and he hoped that he and Mrs. Burnhope would enjoy long life and happiness, and that it would serve to remind them of their friends in Leadgate. (Applause.) He also hoped that Mr. Burnhope's family would become as popular as their father. (Laughter and applause.) He handed over the present with the good wishes of the whole company and he hoped that Mr. Burnhope would never "sleep the caller." (Renewed laughter and applause.) The clock bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. A. Burnhope by a few friends on the occasion of his marriage. Leadgate, October, 1899."

Coun. Foreman, in supporting, said it afforded him great pleasure to be there that evening as one of Mr. Burnhope's friends. He heartily endorsed the remarks of Dr. Henley. He had been associated with Mr. Burnhope in various undertakings and had always found him genial and willing. (Applause.) Even yet they could not do without him in the football line. (Applause and cries of "Good old Wednesday.") If he went to Consett he would have to come and see them now and again. He thought that, although Mr. Burnhope went to Consett, his mind and his footsteps would wander back to the place where he had made so many friends. (Applause.) That night they were honouring him with a token of their regard, and as time rolled on he (the speaker) hoped it would remind Mr. Burnhope of his friends in Leadgate. (Applause.) He wished Mr. and Mrs. Burnhope every happiness and prosperity, and felt sure that he was only echoing the sentiments of all present. (Loud applause.)

Mr. James Muse also supported, saying that he had known Mr. Burnhope since he was born. He had always been a good citizen, and a right good up-and-down fellow. (Applause.)

Mr. Smith also spoke to the toast, remarking that he looked upon this as a "red-letter day." Their honoured friend, Mr. Burnhope, by his indefatigable endeavours in the cause of sport, by his genial presence and unblemishable uprightness, by his buoyant nature in the face of what had sometimes seemed insuperable difficulties, had deservedly won for himself their unstinted admiration and approbation. (Applause.) They rejoiced that he had entered the matrimonial state, and their conviviality that evening was eminently appropriate. He (the speaker) felt perfectly convinced that when after a short interval, they united in singing "For he's a good fellow" the words would find a responsive echo in the hearts of all present. (Applause.) Mr. Burnhope possessed a magnanimous spirit, was the essence of courtesy, and wherever he ventured, his presence seemed to diffuse a glow of warmth all around. (Applause.) Mr. and Mrs. Burnhope had launched their bark upon the matrimonial sea, and he trusted that they would have a pleasant and prosperous voyage, and that a safe port would always present itself to them in a storm. (Loud applause.)

The toast was musically honoured, after which Mr. Burnhope (warmly received) rose to reply. He said he could hardly find words to express his feelings on that occasion. He felt very grateful to all who had subscribed to the testimonial. His heart was full, but as long as he lived he would remember their kindness and when he gazed upon that clock it would always bring back memories of his youthful days. (Applause.) He was going away from Leadgate, but he was pleased he was not going far and as soon as he could get a suitable house in Leadgate he would not be long before he was back. (Applause.) People might say what they liked, but give him back dear old Leadgate. (Applause.) He thanked all present and likewise those not present, who had contributed to that present, which would ever bring back recollections of his many dear friends in Leadgate. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Henley next proposed "The committee," and referred especially to the good work of Messrs Kershaw, Lockey and Ker. Perhaps their task had not been very hard, because there had been no refusals. (Hear, hear.) The money had simply flowed in, and some were perhaps somewhat offended because they had not been asked to subscribe; but, it was simply a presentation amongst a few personal friends. Their thanks were due to the three gentleman he had mentioned, and he thought all would agree that they had made a spendid selection. (Applause.)

The Chairman replied, saying that when he was asked to act as chairman of the committee he willingly did so, as he thought he was working for a worthy object. (Hear, hear.) He had always found Mr. Burnhope a true and upright man, and citizen. (Applause.) The whole of the committee had worked hard and he was pleased that their selection had met with the approval of the subscribers, all of whom had contributed willingly. (Applause.)

"The Host and Hostess" concluded the list of toasts. During the evening songs were rendered by the Chairman, Messrs Speeding, C. Burnhope A. Burnhope Day Foreman, Lockey, Ross, &c., whilst Mr. J. E. Kinleside proved an able accompanist. The singing of the National Anthem terminated the successful proceedings.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

The popular manager of our snug little Thespian temple (Mr. Lloyd Clarance) is to be warmly congratulated upon the fare he is providing for patrons during the present season. "Saturday Night in London," the drama which occupies the boards of the New Theatre this week, is proving a big attraction to those who appreciate sensationalism of a pronounced type. Thrilling scenes and hair-breadth escapes abound. The play is from the pen of Mr. Matt. Wilkinson and deals with modern life in the great metropolis. It is exceedingly well written, and whilst there are many touches of pathos in it, the humourous side of life has not been neglected. Then the scenery is splendid, and in Act 3 we have a most realistic prize fight between the "Houndsditch Chicken" and "Badger Purvis." The drama is admirably pourtrayed by Mr. Wilkinson's own company, and the acting leaves little to be desired. Mr. Cliff Page has a part that fits him like a glove as "Roy Wilton" (the hero of the piece), and his spirited exposition of the character does much to secure the success of the play. As the villain "Edward Mordaunt," Mr. E. D. Nicholls gives a splendid impersonation. Mr. Wilkinson (the author) is seen to great advantage as "Jack Dorrincourt," a pavement artist etc., whilst Mr. Dan Mining makes an excellent "Nicky Nobbs," and creates any amount of fun, being ably assisted in this respect by Miss Lottie Pearce, who appears as "Poll Hawkins," and fills the part to perfection. Mr. W. R. Winning is quietly effective as "Sir Jasper Wilton," whilst Mr. J. Ottaway, Mr. Edwin Firth, Mr. Sidney Herbert, and the other gentlemen of the company ably sustain their respective characters. Mdlle. Gabrielle de Bonheur gives a very artistic rendering of of the role of "Sarah Shabner," her performance being a feature of the play. Miss Alvina Mining leaves nothing to be desired as "Mona Clayton," and Miss Fanny Groome does full justice to the part of "Maude Somerton." Those who admire a good drama well acted should not neglect to see "Saturday Night in London" at the New Theatre this week.

"BOERS AT BURNOPFIELD."

Police Court Proceedings

On Saturday night, about 7.15 p.m., the inhabitants of Burnopfield were startled by hearing the loud report of some explosives which had been set off in Gibside Terrace. Soon after the explosion, hundreds of people flocked to the place from which the sound had emanated, and found that some gelatine had been ignited. It would appear that there had been a wedding celebration in the Terrace, and a lodger, in harmless diversion having known the wedding party, had wished to give them a welcome by firing a salute. Although no bodily injury was sustained, the panes of five or six house windows suffered severely, no less than twenty-eight of them being smashed to atoms. So loud was the report of the explosion that it was heard for miles around in the direction of Marley Hill, Swalwell, and Newcastle. One old lady taking a very pessimistic view of affairs, declared with great grief that the Boers had landed at Newcastle Quay, and it was after considerable difficulty that her fears were allayed by her neighbours. The damage was estimated at £2.—On Monday morning at the Consett Police Court—before Messrs Potts and Aynsley—Joseph Turner, formerly of Quality Row, Swalwell, the lodger referred to above, was charged with having done wilful damage by the explosion of gelatine on Saturday night at Burnopfield.—Inspector Best said the defendant was charged with having, on Saturday night, set off a quantity of dynamite, doing wilful damage to five houses, by breaking 28 panes of the windows. He wished to apply for a remand for eight days.—P.C. Robson, of Burnopfield, said he was on duty at Busty Bank Burnopfield on Saturday night, and heard an explosion in Gibside Terrace. On going there he found twenty-eight panes of glass had been broken out of five houses. On going to the lodgings of the defendant, he found he had eight charged bobbins of compressed powder, and the quantity of gelatine (produced) in his possession.—The defendant pleaded guilty to harmless diversion. It would do no harm to anybody, and he was willing to pay for the broken glass. He did not do it with any animosity, and was very sorry for it; in fact he had cried almost ever since.—Defendant was remanded for eight days in the sum of £10 in his own recognisances, and two securities of £5 each.

LOCAL PATENT APPLICATIONS.

The following list is specially compiled by Mr. J. A. Harvey, chartered patent agent, 3, St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whom all information concerning patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained:—

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"THERE'S A CHIEL AMONG YE TAKIN' NOTES, AN' FAITH HE'LL PRENT 'EM," has now become a saying so familiar that no apology need be made for introducing it; especially as it is intimately associated with the Press, which has helped in publishing the value of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. "The chiel that had been takin' notes" for the past fifty years of the cures effected by these wonderful remedies, has frequently informed the public that they have no equal. He has noted where they have been successful when other medicines failed, and he has been particular in stating that at this period of the year they are especially useful, as they cure or relieve dysentery, diarrhœa, all stomach and bowel diseases, bile, and indigestion.

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SYPHONS.
THE NEW DRINK.
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& SONS,
e New Consett
1869.

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WHICKHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Thursday evening, in the Board Offices, Whickham—Coun. R. Winship, J.P., presiding. The other members present were—Councillors Wm. Walls, G. H. Snowball, Wm. Blackbird, Ed. Taylor, R. Rutherford, George Forster, R. T. Swinburn, and R. W. Berkley; Mr. J. Dobson (Deputy-Clerk), Mr. J. McGregor (Surveyor), and Mr. J. Dinsdale (Inspector.)

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee reported that after all cheques had been paid there would be an overdraft of £159 7s 9d. The rates collected during the past month amounted to £20 5s 7d, the recoverable arrears being £2,258 10s 6d.

The report was adopted.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The Medical Officer (Dr. A. W. Attwater) reported that during the past month there had been 24 deaths—five at Whickham, five at Swalwell, three at Marley Hill, and eleven at Dunston making a death-rate of 27.38 per 1,000 per annum. The number of births were 29—four at Whickham, fourteen at Swalwell, none at Marley Hill, and eleven at Dunston, which was equivalent to a birth-rate of 34.27 per 1,000 per annum. The epidemic of measles at Byer Moor and High Row was reported to have greatly abated, whilst diarrhœa was nothing like as prevalent as it was last month. Only three cases of infectious disease had been notified, viz., three cases of erysipelas at Swalwell. The death-rate was high, but there was a great improvement in the general health of the district since the previous month.

The report was adopted.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr. J. Dinsdale) reported as follows:—

FEVER CASES.

On Sunday he received notice from the Medical Officer, of a case of enteric fever at Bute Hall Dunston, the sufferer being Mary Ridley. The necessary disinfectants had been applied. (Satisfactory.)

DITCH AT CROOKGATE.

The offensive ditch and watercourse at Crookgate remained in the same condition as before.—This matter was allowed to stand over.

OLD PROPERTY AT DUNSTON.

He had nothing to add to his last report in reference to the dwelling-rooms in Asylum Lane, Dunston, occupied by Ann Swaddles.—This was allowed to stand over for one month.

BUILDING WITHOUT PLANS.

On Monday last he found some workmen engaged erecting a new stable and dwelling-house for Ald. John Lucas, and for which no plans had been submitted.—The Clerk was instructed to write Ald. Lucas drawing his attention to this fact.

ASHPITS.

The ashpits and privies were reported to have been kept in a very fair sanitary condition. (Satisfactory.)

WHITEWASHING OF COW-BYRES.

The Inspector reported that George Taylor, Robert H. Forster, Joseph Clark Elizabeth A. Ord, Sarah Noble, Andrew Hopper, John Jobling, George Edward Robson and Wm. Tweddell had not carried out the regulations as regards the whitewashing of their cow-byres.—The Clerk was instructed to write these persons, drawing their attention to the regulations.

WHICKHAM HILL COTTAGES WATER SUPPLY.

He had nothing to add to his last report in reference to a supply of water for Whickham Hill Cottages.—This was allowed to stand over.

SWALWELL WATER SUPPLY.

The Inspector submitted a list of houses at Swalwell, which had no proper water supply, having to carry the same from some taps further away, or from a well.—This was allowed to stand over.

The report was adopted.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr. J. McGregor) reported as follows:

BROOM LANE FOOTPATH.

The work in connection with Broom Lane footpath was reported to be going steadily forward.

Coun. Swinburn said in regard to this Broom Lane footpath there seemed to be a great misunderstanding existing somewhere, in regard to what the Council ordered to be done, and not only as regards Broom Lane footpath, but also the Whaggs Lane. In March, a committee of the Council recommended that a footpath should be built from Millfield road-end to the Whaggs, with a sod kerb. They also ordered that a sod kerb should be laid from the Whaggs to the Crown Hotel. They further ordered that the Whaggs Lane footpath should be constructed during the summer months, and put right for this winter. As a matter of fact Whaggs Lane had not been touched—at least the last time he saw it. He wanted to know why the work had not been done. He then read a copy of a report from the "Guardian," substantiating his remarks.

Coun. Rutherford said he had a distinct recollection of the recommendations made by the committee.

The Surveyor said he had received no instructions as regards the footpath from the Whaggs Lane to the Crown Hotel. He got instructions to take the posts down, which was done.

WIDENING OF ROAD NEAR NORWOOD.

During the month the Surveyor had made a commencement with this work, and should the weather keep favourable he hoped to get a good deal of the excavation done next month. (Satisfactory.)

APPLICATION FOR AN INCREASE IN WAGES.

The workmen attending upon the carts, and casting out ashpits, had asked him to make application for an advance of 2/- per week.

Coun. Snowball asked what the wages were at present?

Coun. Walls said the cartmen were receiving 25/- per week; the men attending upon the carts 24/-; and the permanent roadmen 22/- per week. The cartmen for Sunday work received in addition 1.6.

The Surveyor stated that the other workmen had asked him that evening for the same advance.

The Chairman: Two shillings per week?

The Surveyor: Yes. The horsekeeper had not made an application.

After further discussion, it was decided, on the motion of Coun. Walls, that the Clerk should write to a number of local Councils with a view to ascertaining what wages they paid their workmen, so as to help the Council in their decision.

The report was adopted.

PROPOSED NEW CHAPEL AT DUNSTON.

Plans were submitted by Messrs J. Potts and Sons for a proposed new chapel and school to be erected at Dunston.

Coun. Walls said the structure was for the Independent Methodists.

The Chairman: Who are the Independent Methodists?

A Member: Messrs Whitfield and Company. (Laughter.)

The plans were rejected, as they did not show who were responsible for the erection of the building, but the Clerk was instructed to write Messrs Potts and Sons, asking them to supply the name of the person or persons responsible, upon receipt of which the Dunston committee were empowered to pass the plans.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Tenders were received for the repairing of the Keelman's Bridge, Swalwell, and the erection of a urinal at Swalwell and Dunston. Only two tenders were received, one from Mr. W. B. Collin, Whickham who agreed to carry out the work for £249—Dunston urinal £77, Swalwell urinal £77, Keelman's Bridge £95. The other tender was from Messrs W. and J. Lant, Dunston, who quoted as follows:—Keelman's Bridge £125 new conveniences £95 each.

The tender of Mr. W. B. Collin was accepted.

THE EXTINGUISHING OF FIRES.

The Chairman reported that he had been in communication with the Chief Constable of Gateshead (Mr. Trotter), who had agreed to visit the parish any time and give his advice as to the best places where to erect fire-plugs. He asked the committees for the different villages to notify the clerk when it would be convenient for them to receive the Chief Constable.

This was agreed to.

WHICKHAM AND DUNSTON SEWERAGE.

Coun. Rutherford asked how the work was progressing as regards the Whickham and Dunston Sewerage?

The Chairman replied that Mr. Spencer was busy getting out the details.

DUNSTON STREET PAVING.

The Deputy-clerk reported that a communication had been received from Messrs Lambton and Co., stating that they would be pleased to advance the necessary amount of money required by the Council for the purpose of carrying out the work in connection with the Dunston street paving. The terms to be same as before, viz. 3½ per cent.

This offer was accepted.

THE DRAINAGE OF SUNNISIDE.

The committee appointed to settle this matter met a committee of the Chester-le-Street Council as arranged, at Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday, 25th ult. The members of the Whickham committee present were Councillors Brabban and Berkley. It was agreed subject to the consent of the Local Government Board, that, for the right to discharge the sewerage from Prospect Terrace into the new sewer to be laid by the Chester-le-Street Council, Whickham Council to pay £1 2s 6d per annum; that in case of stoppage of this sewer, Whickham should pay £1 2s 6d out of each £7 16s of the cost of repairing and of the less sums in the same proportion; and that this arrangement should stand for five years, and then to be subject to revision. The committee added that Mr. Dickinson was to set these terms in writing to the Whickham Council.

It was resolved that upon receipt of a written agreement the same should be sealed.

THE LIGHTING OF CROOKGATE AND MARLEY HILL.

The seal of the Council was affixed to an agreement with the Burnopfield Co-operative Society for the lighting of Crookgate and part of Marley Hill, by electricity.

Coun. Swinburn asked the Chairman if he could give him any idea when these places would be lighted? He said that he had been informed that the Burnopfield Co-operative Society had not sufficient power to supply the light at present. Of course, this was unofficial, but he had been told so.

The Chairman: We will see after the agreement is signed what the powers are.

Coun. Rutherford raised the point: would the Council get any dividend? (Laughter.)

The Chairman: These are not groceries (Renewed laughter.)

The matter then dropped.

PROPOSED NEW FOOTPATH.

Coun. Walls pursuant to notice given, moved "That a footpath with stone kerb and channel, be formed from the top of Carr's bank down to the four lane ends." He did not think it needed any arguments from him to prove the necessity of the same. It would be a great convenience to people travelling between Dunston and Whickham, especially in the winter time. With a view of making the same he suggested that one of the double hedges on the left side of the road might be removed.

Coun. Blackbird: Have you any idea what length would be required?

Coun. Walls: I think about 300 yards.

Coun. Rutherford: Is it your idea that it should be done by our own men or let?

Coun. Walls: Either way.

Coun. Rutherford: It will be a question to the Surveyor whether he can.

Coun. Walls: All I want to do is to establish the fact, and to get it put into the next estimate.

Coun. Swinburn seconded the motion. At the same time, he said he would like to make a suggestion in regard to the footpaths generally, and which he thought was a matter which ought to go about in a systematic way and have their footpaths put right in a certain number of years, and would it not be desirable to have a return taken out showing the roads that had no footpaths, and to distinguish parish from county roads and set apart £50 or £100 for the carrying out of the work?

After discussion Coun. Walls' motion was passed, and the Surveyor was instructed to get out the probable cost of the same, together with the return asked for by Coun. Swinburn.

The Council shortly after rose.

Hamsterley and Westwood Women's Liberal Association

Lecture on "Old Age Pensions."

On Thursday night, Miss Garland, of Dartmoor, lectured on the above subject in the Co-operative Hall, Low Westwood. The chair was occupied by Mr. Irving Clark, Low Westwood who was supported on the platform by Mrs. Pumphrey (vice-president of the association), Mrs. Ridley (secretary), and Mrs. Clark.

The Chairman, in a few opening remarks, complimented the members of the Association on their choice of a subject. He also referred to the present Transvaal crises, and hoped the war would speedily terminate to the satisfaction of all concerned. He then introduced Miss Garland, who was cordially received.

The Lecturer dealt at great length on the present system of relieving the poor. She said it took between 19 and 20 millions to relieve paupers and others receiving public charity. For every £1 that was spent in the relief of the same £1 was paid in salaries to relieving officers, etc. She pointed out the various ways in which this sum could be reduced. With regard to the 154 millions of money spent annually on strong drink, by taxing beer alone to the extent of 4/8 per barrel, they could save 6¼ millions per annum towards establishing an old age pension fund. She also said that the £108,000 spent in parochial charities (in London alone) would add largely to the same scheme. The lecturer, in her concluding remarks said that the sooner the women of this country were enfranchised the sooner would the money of the Imperial exchequer be spent with economy. (Applause.) She considered it was being spent in the most extravagant way possible.

Discussion was then invited, in which Mrs Pumphrey, Mr. Brown, and others took part.

Mrs. Ridley, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said she had enjoyed the lecture very much indeed and hoped that everyone in the meeting had done the same. It had been very instructive, and she hoped Miss Garland would pay them another visit at some future time. (Applause.)

Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which was carried amid acclamation, and the meeting then terminated.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

FARM STOCK SALE AT COXHOE.—Mr. J. Turnbull, auctioneer, Chester-le-Street, offered for public sale, at Park Hill, near Coxhoe, the whole of the live stock, farm implements, hay, straw, and poultry, the property of Mr. R. S. Palmer, who has recently sold the farm. There was a large attendance. Eighteen black polled Angus cattle, 18 months old, were disposed of at prices ranging from £6 17s 6d to £7 7s, the principal buyers being Bearpark Coal Company, Mr. J. Sweeting (Hart), and Mr. T. Oswald (Byers Garth). Mr McLaren, Brancepeth, purchased three shorthorn heifers at £10 2s 6d each, other buyers in this class being Mr. G. Brown, Nesbit Hall, at £10 15s; Mr W. Fleming, Tudhoe, at £10 2s 6d; and Mr James Luke at £12 each. Mr Wearmouth, Sherburn, was the purchaser of five bullocks, ranging from £7 15s to £12 each. Lambs ranged from 16s to 18s, the buyers being Messrs English, Harper, Scur, and Bellerby. A bay horse, aged, was bought by Mr Burns for £9. Mr Joseph Lowes, Dean House, purchased a brown mare, Nellie, aged 10 years, for £24 10s. Forty tons of mangel wurzels were sold to Mr W. Fleming, Tudhoe, at £1 2s 6d per ton. Messrs Bellerby, Washington; Jackson, Durham; John Oxley (the incoming tenant), and Hind, Durham, purchased the stacks of hay. Barley straw averaged £1 per ton, oat straw reaching £1 3s. Swede turnips averaged £7 15s per acre; white turnips reaching £3.

SWALWELL.

FEMALE BELLIGERENTS.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Mary Mitchell was charged with assaulting Annie Ellis at Swalwell, on the 24th ult.—The defendant said she was guilty "in her own defence."—The Clerk: That is not guilty.—The complainant said that on the date named the accused came and hung her clothes upon her line, and refused to remove them when requested. The accused afterwards pulled her hair and then struck her.—The Chairman: What did she strike you with?—Prosecutrix: With her clenched fist.—The defendant in her defence said the complainant struck her first and she struck the complainant every time she struck her. (Laughter.)—After hearing further evidence the Bench dismissed the case. As the parties were leaving the Court the Chairman (Mr. Redmayne) requested an officer to escort them out of the Court to see that they did not quarrel.—Supt. Rutherford: They will watch them outside here; they are sure to quarrel.

CONSETT.

THE CONSETT WOUNDING CASE.—At the Consett Police Court on Monday—before Messrs J. T. Potts and W. Aynsley—on the application of Inspector Best, Thos. McTurnay, a labourer, of Consett, was further remanded for eight days on the charge of having unlawfully wounded Joseph Haley, of Consett, on October 28th, 1899, at Consett on the ground that the prosecutor was still unable to appear at Court.

A PITMAN BARD: ALEXANDER BARRASS

It is not by those pitmen alone, who live and work in the neighbourhood where Alexander Barrass spent most of his days, that his writings should be most appreciated. The volume called the "Pitman's Social Neet" has a somewhat local tone about it, and on that account will warmly appeal to the mining community of North-West Durham. Nevertheless, the driver, the putter, the hewer, or deputy, in any mine, in any part of the country, cannot read the humorous and racy poems of Barrass on their callings, without having stirred within them lively recollections of their daily work.

The driver, when he reads the poem on himself, will be inclined to repeat:—

"Aw remember the very first mornin' aw yoked
Hoo the landin' lads laff'd an' the han' putters joked!
But a shift of two myed me se used to the wark,
Aw cud yoke'm or lowst'm or drive i' the dark.
For aw knew ivory corve, ivory way-end an' switch;
Where te grape for the dregs, when aw com ti a hitch;
Hoo te splice a gud whup, hoo te use a one tee!
Ay, we didn't de badly: and Smiler an' me.
When the men had ne coals, or thor'd been a big faal
Aw've swapt midgies, played drappie candle an aal.
An' wi' lads like mesel, when nowt else cud be deun,
Aw've tossed up me put cap and aw've fitten for fun.

Long after the driver has grown to be a man, having been in turn driver, putter, hewer, and even overman, with all he could have desired in the way of bad tops, low tramways, and bad air, even then the poems of Barrass will revive fond memories of his younger days. Barras himself, a miner, understood the miner, and his songs and poems teem with that humour and good cheer which the pitman, like a philosopher, never allows to desert him, even in the hardest times. What humour and light-heartedness he shows in the poems on the "Putter" and the "Hewer." He had been a putter, he had been a hewer, and he wrote with that experience of, and intimacy with, the work which the putter and hewer, alone, can read and understand.

Barrass's poems of "Derwent Valley" are characterised by that elegance of diction, that harmony of rhyme, and copiousness of ideas which make them truly worthy of the genius of the man. We have had our Shelley, Longfellow, Byron, and Tennyson, and many other great and worthy poets indeed; but even amongst them, with their classic learning, may be raised up a humble miner in all the gracefulness of rugged splendour, unaided by the embellishments of art. His songs are the throbbings of a poet's heart; his verses are marked by that strength and beauty which lift them far above the paltriness of mere rhyme. Can we peruse his poems and not detect the fineness of his nature? He writes with a poet's hand: the most trifling emotion of the human breast does not escape him. He writes as if his hand were on the pulse of his fellow-creatures, noting every vibration of his soul—every pleasure, every pain. Unfortunately for himself, and all lovers of his writings, Alexander Barrass was too generous and free with those gifts which God had given him, and the willing mind was driven beyond its power. Mr. Atherley-Jones, in his preface to the "Pitman's Social Neet," speaks truly indeed, for had his brilliant mind been spared we should have had even greater proofs of his genius. Notwithstanding, what was written to give pleasure has not lost it's virtue, and whether we read "Geordie's Reminiscences," or "Aw'm a poor aud shifter noo," which overflows with mirth, and is tinged with philosophy, we read with amusement and resolve to read again:—

"Aw've gien the maistors soond advice
When things war gaan' astray;
At kanches work'd at bargain price,
Myed mair than they wad pay;
Aw've sketch'd thor plans for ingin' plains,
Aw've put thor hitches taroo;
An' thus they've paid me for maw pains—
Aw'm a poor aud shifter noo."

The song of the "Putter," runs in a light and happy vein, full of the life, gaiety, indifference, and pluck of the putter, and which may be read in his face as we meet him on his way home from work—work which requires the use of every muscle of his body, and all the ingenuity of his mind, though a great many people, not knowing the work of a putter, would be slow to think so. Barrass in his Derwent Valley poems reveals his deep-thinking powers, and his fund of rich and melodious language, from which he can so readily turn aside and paint his word pictures in the dialect of the mine, almost enhancing the merit of his work. Alexander Barrass stands out a landmark amongst north-country poets, and the affliction which has evoked commiseration for himself has also caused regret that those talents have been crushed which gave to us such a happy and charming book as the "Pitman's Social Neet."

J. EVERARD.

MARLEY HILL.

MISSIONARY SERVICES.—These services were held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel on Sunday, and continued on Tuesday night. The deputation consisted of Rev. J. Taylor and Messrs J. Bell and J. J. Spoor.

STANLEY.

SACRED CONCERT.—On Sunday night Dr. Walford Bodie and the members of his company, who have been appearing at the Victoria Theatre, gave a sacred concert in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley. There was a very large audience, and an interesting programme was ably gone through, several of the events being illustrated by limelight views.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—The attraction at this Theatre during the present week is J. K. Murray and Emilie Dawson's standard Dramatic Company in the four-act play entitled "Driven from Home." The drama is well written and punctuated with good and, at times, pathetic points. It has the advantage also of being acted by a very capable company of artistes, and is by no means the least of Mr. Lindon's list of engagements during this, his most successful season. Next week there will be a great draw, when "How Money's Made" will be staged. When theatrical managers, who know the secret are willing to impart it, the public should pour in in crowds.

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 8d per dozen, from PATTRICK, CHEMIST, 5, Front Street, Consett. 150a

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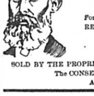

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LEADGATE LADIES' CYCLING CLUB.

ANNUAL DANCE.

The members of the above flourishing club held their first annual dance on Tuesday night, in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate. The spacious room had been nicely decorated for the occasion, and presented a charming appearance. The windows were tastefully draped with white curtains, whilst suspended from the roof were numerous Japanese lanterns. These, with the brilliant and varied costumes of the ladies, made up a dazzling and pleasing spectacle. The arrangements were admirably carried out by a committee consisting of Miss Curry, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Gladders, Miss E. Keenleyside Miss A. Nicholson, Miss A. Robson, Miss A. Teasdale, Miss E. Teasdale, with a courteous and able hon. sec. in Miss A. Heslop. The duties of M.C.'s were efficiently discharged by Mrs. Dixon, Miss A. Nicholson, Miss A. Teasdale, and Miss Heslop. The refreshments were of first-class quality, being catered for by Mrs. Varley, of New Elvet, Durham, and they gave the utmost satisfaction. The committee had been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. R. J. Sloane, Mus. Bac., of Blackhill, and, it is almost superfluous to add that the music was perfect, Mr. Sloane performing a high-class and up-to-date selection in splendid fashion. The programme was as follows:—

Polka	"Les Gendarmes."
Waltz	"L'Etoile D'Amour."
Lancers	"A Greek Slave."
Schottische	"Caprice."
Waltz	"Hochzietslieder."
Lancers	"Remus."
Polka	"Les Petits Soldats."
Washington Post	"Original."
Lancers	"British Melodies."
Waltz	"Santiago."

INTERVAL.

Waltz	"River of Years."
Lancers	"A Festive Scene."
Barn Dance	"Celiebte."
Polka	"Edenia."
Schottische (H)	"Lucinda."
Waltz	"Golden Slumbers."
Lancers	"The Belle of New York."
Polka	"Novelette."
Circassian Circle	"Electric."
Waltz	"Bon Soir."

There was a flattering response to the invitations issued by the committee, in spite of the very unpropitious state of the weather, and we should say that the members of the club will be able to congratulate themselves upon having scored as big a success financially as they undoubtedly did from a social standpoint. Dancing was kept up with much vigour until about three o'clock on Wednesday morning. The proceedings were viewed with great interest by a large company on the platform. Amongst those present we noticed the following:—

Mr. W. G. Varley, Durham.
Mr. H. Varley, Durham.
Mr. Geo. Stephenson, Consett.
Miss Riddle, Dipton.
Miss Carrick, Dipton.
Mr. W. Bell, Leadgate.
Mr. F. Walker, Leadgate.
Mr. J. Smith, Consett, and Miss Ker, Leadgate.
Miss Walton, Consett.
Miss C. Teasdale, Leadgate.
Mr. Glair and Miss Tones, Dipton.
Mr. Grey, Annfield Plain.
Mr. and Mrs. Gladders, Leadgate.
Miss Arkless, Tantobie.
Miss E. Teasdale, Leadgate.
Miss A. Teasdale, Leadgate.
Mr. F. Moss and Miss Mooney, Blackhill.
Miss Curry, Leadgate.
Miss Smith, Leadgate.
Miss B. Lumley, Leadgate.
Mr. Dawson, Catchgate.
Mr. Howarth, Annfield Plain.
Misses Kinleside, Leadgate.
P.C. T. H. and Mrs. Dixon, Leadgate.
Miss James, Sunderland.
Mrs. and Miss Best, Consett.
Mr. Walton, South Benwell.
Miss A. Nicholson, Leadgate.
Mr. A. Mathieson, Templetown.
Mr. and Mrs. Stokoe.
Miss Dawson, Leadgate.
Mrs. Elsom, East Law.
Mr. T. Allison and Miss Harris, Consett.
Mr. J. O. Todd, Leadgate.
Mrs. Lee, Durham.
Miss Harris, Consett.
Mrs. Wortley, Durham.
Mrs. Addison, Durham.
Mr. John and the Misses Temperley, Consett.
Miss Greenwood Blackhill.
Miss Marshall, Blackhill.
Mr. J. Kershaw, Leadgate.
Mr. J. B. Nicholson, Leadgate.
Mr. J. Tolson, Leadgate.
Mr. R. Robson, Leadgate.
Miss Matthews Consett.
Mr. E. Rawes, Consett, and Miss Aitchison, Annfield Plain.
Mr. R. Wylam, Consett, and Miss Aitchison, Annfield Plain.
Mr. Richards and Miss Forster, Blackhill.
Mr. N. Newbould, Blackhill and Miss Browell, Crookhall.
Mr. T. Browell, Crookhall.
Miss E. Browell, Crookhall.
Mr. and Mrs A. Burnhope, Consett.
Miss D. Burnhope, Leadgate.
Mrs. W. Black, Leadgate.
Miss Nicholson, Annfield Plain.
Mr. J. Thompson and Miss Matthews, Consett.
Mr. F. Lowes, Blackhill.
Miss Cooper, East Castle.
Misses Wood, Consett.
Miss Tate, Leadgate.
Mr. Barron, Blackhill.
Mr. H. Walton, Medomsley.
Mr. F. Caswell, Medomsley.
Mr. Yates and Miss Robson, Blackhill.
Mr. W. H. Graham, Leadgate.
Dr. Boland, Burnopfield, and Miss A. Todd, Leadgate.
Mr. C. V. Todd, Leadgate.
Mr. E. Pratt, Consett.
Mr. T. Coltman, Dipton.
Mr. J. Winter, jun., and the Misses Kate and Lillie Winter, Leadgate.
Mr. G. Murray, jun., Dipton.
Mr. A. Murray, Dipton.
Miss M. Wilkinson, Leadgate.
Miss E. Robson, Leadgate.
Miss E. Keenleyside, Leadgate.
Mr. J. Day, Leadgate.
Mr. Brooks, Leadgate.
Mr. J. Turner, Consett.
Miss M. Jackson, East Castle.
Mr. J. Thompson, Catchgate.
Miss E. Greener, Leadgate.
Mr. R. Ward, Consett.
Mr. E. Hall, Leadgate.
Miss Rose, Durham.
Miss A. Robson, Leadgate.

LOCAL STOCK MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr J. S. Murray had forward on Monday the following supplies:—9 fat beasts, 7 calves, and nearly 200 sheep and lambs. The attendance was fully up to the average. The best class of stock sold fairly well, but for the inferior sorts trade was not brisk. Last week's quotations, however, were maintained. Prices:—Sheep up to 41s, top Mr J. T. Hedley, Woodside House, Langley Park; lambs up to 28s 6d, top Mr G. Bolam, Pontop. Fat cattle from £9 17s 6d to £14 5s, top Mr J. Anderson, Black Hedley; calves from 9s to 19s each. Sundries also sold well.

TOW LAW.—Special sale of store cattle.—Mr Vickers held a special sale for store cattle on Thursday, when nearly 700 very choice cattle were forward, comprising 55 geld cows, 12 short-horned bulls, 384 short-horned steers and heifers, 70 blue greys, and 156 kyloes. A large company of buyers were present from all parts, and the demand was spirited from beginning to end, and an upward tendency f prices was perceptible upon previous sales held here this autumn. Nearly the whole of the stock were of a very choice quality and well bred. Geld cows made from £9 to £13 10s; short-horned heifers, £11 10s to £14 2s 6d; short-horned steers, £12 10s to £14 10s; short-horned stirks, £6 10s to £10 12s 6d; bull stirks to £12 10s; blue grey heifers, £9 10s to £15; Highland kyloe heifers, £5 5s to £9 12s 6d.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Mr James Turnbull held his fortnightly sale on Monday, and in conjunction with the same a special sale of grazing cattle and sheep was held. The numbers forward comprised 25 fat cattle, 130 fat sheep and lambs, 4 calves, 30 SH incalving and newly-calved cows, 25 SH and polled steers and heifers, 130 Cheviot and black-faced keeping ewes, 40 mule gimmers, 28 three-quarter bred lambs, 15 pork and bacon pigs, 50 young pigs, horse, Whitechapel trap, coup cart, poultry, harness, &c. There was a large attendance of butchers and farmers, and trade for fat cattle was on a par with last week's market. A lot of good cattle was offered, ad met spirited bidding. Fat sheep were short in quality and numbers, and nothing equal to the requirements of the district. The milch cows were a good show, but the supply was over the demand. Good cows made good prices. Trade for grazing cattle was much better than recent marts at a rise of from 20 to 30s a head. Prices as follows:—Incalving and newly-calved cows to £23 for a very grand cow from Mr F. Harrison, Street House, Ponteland. Grazing cattle: Bullocks to £15; heifers to £12 10s. Mule gimmers, 31s; black-faced ewes, 10s; Cheviot ewes, 10s; three-parts-bred lambs, 18s. Fat cattle: Bullocks to £15 10s, top Mr S. P. Austin, Cocken Hall; heifers to £20, top from the north; fat cows to £18 5s, top Mr Tomlinson, Millfield, Sunderland. Fat sheep: Shearlings to 32s, top Mr Burn, Bells Hill, Rainton Gate; fat ewes to 36s 6d, top Mr J. Watson, White Hill. Fat lambs to 23s 6d, top Mr V. Corbett, Chilton Moor. Pork pigs to £2 8s; young pigs to 19s.

Burnopfield Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club.

On Saturday evening, the monthly meeting of this club was held in the Temperance Hall, Burnopfield—Mr G. Ord, Deputy-President, presiding. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the evening was profitably spent in listening to and conversing upon the subject matter of two instructive papers which were read by Mr Ord and Mr Robinson. The title of Mr Ord's paper, which was read first, was.—

THE FRESH-WATER MUSSEL (ANODONTA CYGNEA.)

The common pond, or swan mussel is an inhabitant of fresh-water ponds, canals, or slowly running rivers. It imbeds itself in the mud or sand at the bottom by means of a muscular vebractile foot, and always in such a position that the axis of the animal forms an acute angle with the surface. In shallow, clear, unshaded water with a soft bottom it sinks in the mud until nothing is left exposed but the extreme posterior dorsal end of its shell; in deep or shaded water a much larger portion is left uncovered. By means of its foot it can move slowly about from place to place. The mussel feeds on minute organisms, both plants and animals, suspended in the water. It is incapable of rapid movements to seize its prey, and it is not furnished with any organs of pretension, but by means of the vibratile cilia, with which large portions of its body are covered, it produces a current in the water which brings to its mouth the minute organisms on which it feeds, supplies it with ærated water for respiration, and carries away from it fæcal matter.

External Appearance.—The bivalve is four to six inches long; its valves are equal and united in a dorsal hinge by an elastic ligament, an uncalcified part of the shell; on the ventral surface when the valves gape the foot protrudes; the anterior end is rounded, the posterior end is more pointed, and it is there that the water currents flow in ventrally (and out dorsally). In bivalves the ligament is generally posterior to the dorsal know or umbo—the oldest part of the shell—and the umbo generally points towards the anterior end. The greenish-brown soft ("horny") layer of the shell is often worn away near the umbo on each side, and then displays the medium "prismatic" layer of lime. Internally there is a pearly layer. Lines of growth on the shell mark the position of the margin in former years, the youngest part being obviously at the edge. The shell is a cuticular structure, i.e., it is made by the epidermis of the mantle. It consists mostly of calcium carbonate plus an organic substance called conchiolin.

Internal Appearance.—When the right half of the shell is folded back, the anterior and posterior closing muscles being carefully cut close to the gently raised valve, the mantle folds are seen lining the shell and forming posteriorly the ventral inhalent and dorsal exhalent lips. The ventral lips have papillary processes. Internal to the mantle two gill plates lie on each side; projecting from between these is the foot, muscular ventrally, softer dorsally; the medium dorsal pericardium is just beneath the ligament; the ventricle shines through its walls, and the dark coloured ridneys are seen through its floor. Below the anterior closing (adductor) muscle, the large mouth will be found, bordered beneath by two lip processes (labial palps) on each side; above the posterior closing muscle the food canal ends. The whole space between the two mantle flaps is called the mantle cavity. On the valve of the shell folded back are seen a number of concentric lines, marking the gradual extension of the mantle and the consequent growth of the shell. A few small pearls may also be seen; they are formed by the enclosure of some minute grains of sand in the prismatic layer. The following muscles are inserted on the shell and leave impressions:—(a) The anterior adductor; (b) the posterior adductor; (c) the anterior retractor of the foot continuous with (a); (d) the protractor of the foot, a little below (a); and (e) the posterior retractor of the foot continuous with (b). As the shell grows the insertion of the muscles and the attachment of the mantle change, and the traces of this shifting are visible. The shell is closed and kept closed by the action of the two adductor muscles. When these are relaxed under nervous control, the elasticity of the hinge ligament opens the valves. A book with an elastic binding, stretched when the book is closed by clasps, would in the same way open when unclasped. It is easier for the mussel to open the valves of its shell than to keep them shut. The foot is a muscular protrusion of the ventral surface, under the control of three muscles—a retractor and a protractor anteriorly; and a posterior retractor. Its upper portion contains some coils of grit and the reproductive organs; its lower region is very muscular. The protrusion or extension of this locomotor organ is mainly due to an inflow of blood, which is prevented from returning by the contraction of a sphincher muscle round the veins. In moving, the animal literally ploughs its way along the bottom of the pond or river pool, and leaves a furrow in its track.

The Alimentary System.—The mouth lies between the anterior adductor and the foot, and beside it lie the ciliated, vascular, and sensitive palps, two on each side. It opens immediately into the gullet. The short, wide gullet leads into a large stomach surrounded by the digestive gland, whose juices are partly analogous with those of the vertebrate liver and pancreas. Part of the food digested by these juices in the stomach is compacted in autumn into a crystalline style—a mass of reserve food stuffs, and similar but less solid material is found in the intestines. On this supply the mussel tides over the winter. The intestine, which has in part a folded wall coils about in the foot, ascends to the pericardium, passes through the ventricle of the heart, and ends above the posterior adductor at the exhalent orifice.

Vascular System.—The heart lies in the middle line on the dorsal surface, within a portion of the body cavity called the pericardium, and consists of a muscular ventricle which has grown round the gut and drives blood to the body, and of two transparent auricles—one on each side of the ventricle—which receive blood returning from the gills and mantle. The colourless blood passes from the ventricle by an anterior and a posterior artery, flows into ill-defined channels, is collected in a "vena cava" beneath the floor of the pericardium, passes thence through the kidneys where it loses nitrogenous waste, to the gills; where it loses carbonic acid and gains oxygen, and returns finally by the auricles to the ventricle. The blood from the mantle, however, returns directly to the auricles without passing through kidneys or gills, but probably freed from its waste none the less.

At the conclusion of the reading of Mr Ord's paper, the members listened with interest to Mr Robinson's paper, which was entitled:—

THE YEW (TAXUS.)

It is difficult to say how this ancient tree derives its name. Taxus, from the leaves being arranged on the branches like the teeth of a comb, or toxon, a bow being formerly used in making them, or from tosicum poison, so named from the tree being considered poisonous. The term yew is from the Celtic word "iw," signifying verdure—alluding to the Yew being evergreen. The French name is "if," the German, "taxo."

The Sexes.—The yew is almost always raised from seed; the male and female plants may be supposed to be almost equally distributed, both, in natural wood and artificial plantation. Both sexes are sometimes found on the same tree. The male tree becomes much larger than the female one. The male flowers consist of anthers upon short pedicals, at the top of a column that has imbricate scales at the base. Anthers, and with 4, 5, or 6, rarely more, celled lobis attached to the connectivum, whose tip is a horizontal shield, lobed at the edge; its lobes corresponding in number and place with those of anther and covering them, the cells opening longitudinally. Female flowers have an erect ovicle, perfect at the tip, with an unobvious annular disc at the base; and exterior to the investing imbricate scales. The nut or seed, solitary surrounded at its base by a disc which at length becomes fleshy and conceals the greater portion or the whole of the nut, and forms with it what may be called a succulent red drupe. Leaves simple alternate extipulate evergreen, mostly linear, acute, rigid, more or less two-rowed in direction; flowers whitish, fruit red pulpy. The yew is of slow growth, but in favourable situations it will attain the height of 6 or 8 feet in ten years; it will continue for 100 years, after which it becomes comparatively stationary, but will live for many centuries. When planted in masses it takes somewhat the character of a fir, and may be found with a clean trunk of 30 or 40 feet. In a wild state the yew affords food to birds by its bright red berries, an excellent shelter to them during severe weather and at night by its dense evergreen foliage, but no insects live upon it. By man the tree has been applied to various uses both in living state, and when felled and used as timber. The wood is hard and compact, and of a close grain. It is of a fine orange red or brown, the sap of the wood is white, and when green weighs 80lbs. per cubic foot, and when dry 60lbs. It requires a long time to be perfectly dry; it is considered to be the finest European wood for cabinetmaking purposes. Before the introduction of gunpowder it was used for making bows. As an avenue tree they may be considered suitable for approaches to cemetries, mausoleums, or tombs, and as a single tree for churchyards and burial grounds. It also makes excellent hedges for shelter to make a really nice hedge. I should say the plants must be raised from cuttings, all taken from one tree, by this means it will be all of one shade and the foliage all alike. There are many fine specimens to be found in England. A friend writing on trees in the county of Durham, says:—"The Yew ("Taxus Baccata") seems to favour natural woods in rocky districts, and there are a great number of these fine old native trees with gnarled stems, twisted branches and sombre foliage in the picturesque Castle Eden Dene, in the Derwent Valley near Friarside, and in a few localities in Teesdale and Weardale."

The most extraordinary collection of yew trees in England, or perhaps in the world, is at Elvaston Castle, near Derby. About 100 trees between 20 and 30 feet have been transplanted, some of them brought from a distance of upwards of 30 miles, and many of very great age and dimensions, others trained and clipped into hedges, arches, pyramids, cones, spires, bowls, human figures, beasts, umbrellas, cheeses, birds and many other interesting shapes. At Berwyn, in Cheshire, near an ancient Church, stands two yews, one of which is estimated to be from 1,500 to 2,800 years old, the other from 1,000 to 1,400 years old. The former is partly decayed, and from its roots there seem to have risen up two large trees about 30 feet high, containing timber of considerable cubical contents. At the base of the tree the circumference is 27 feet. A venerable and proportionate yew is to be seen in Harwarden Park, owned by the late Mr W. E. Gladstone, it is supposed to be 500 years old. In an inner courtyard at Skipton Castle, Yorkshire, stands another yew supposed to be 600 years old, measuring 6 feet 10 inches in circumference at the base, and rising 20 feet before branching out. At Fountains Abbey, near Ripon, stands a fine old yew, though hollow, yet the space is somewhat filled up by two lesser trunks, probably sent off by the root to give additional security to the venerable mass. The trunk measures 27 feet, and the age is thought to be 1,400 or 1,500 years. History tells us there were several remarkable trees at this place about 1750. They were called the "Seven sisters," and before the abbey was built a small band of monks sheltered, they were left by Bishop Thurston to battle with the wintry weather as best they could; no house to shelter them, no provisions to subsist upon, but were dependent on Divine providence. Under these trees they lay, ate, and prayed, the Bishop for the time supplying them with bread, and the stream with drink. Another ancient yew is to be seen near Dryburgh Abbey, supposed to be planted by the monks who first inhabited the Abbey. It measures 11 feet 5 inches. It is to be hoped this tree may continue to live for many centuries; it is near to sir Walter Scott's monument—a place visited by many from all parts of the world. There are yew hedges at Bishopbourne, near Canterbury, said to have been planted by Richard Hooker about the year 1595, and now about 14 feet high and 12 feet thick. The yew was a great feature of old English gardens, and men loved it with a certain reverence for the service it had rendered them. Dr. Conan Doyle, in his "Song of the Bow," speaks of it thus:—

"Of true wood, of yew wood,
The wood of English bows;
So men who are free
Love the old yew tree—
And the land where the yew tree grows."

When the yew and other trees were cut into cones, pyramids, and shapes of birds, beasts, and fishes, it was known as topiary gardening. This kind of treatment to trees is almost out of date, and not before time. When we look at the very small flowers in March and see the pollen blown like gold-dust, or watch the fruit in September turning to a bright red, do we wonder what the future of this seed will be—will it ever make a living monument, such as we see scattered over the country at the present day?

Whilst men walk the path of life they see, and do not see. The true naturalist paces gently along and enjoys his ramble to an untold degree, revelling in his mental discoveries, while his fellow thinks the journey long and tedious, sees only the milestones, and returns home tired and depressed. The only difference is eyes and no eyes. Every locality has its naturalists, known or unknown, who take the greatest pleasure in their natural surroundings. Fortunate are they who can perceive the natural harmony of life, and can find sermons in stones, music in books, and history in trees.

After votes of thanks had been accorded to Mr Ord and Mr Robinson, the meeting terminated.

THE LATE MR. R. HEWITT.

OF CONSETT.

Above we give a photo of the late Mr R. Hewitt, of Consett, taken from a negative executed whilst he was in California. We might mention that the burial service at Elswick Cemetery was performed by the Rev. W. D. Croudace, Vicar of Consett, whilst the coffin was of best oak, and not of pitch pine, as stated by us last week.

Lanchester Parish Council

The monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Burnhope Schools on Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Coun. J. R. Ritson (Chairman.) There were also present—Couns. W. Payne, J. Chapman D. Champney, G. Thornton, U. A. Ritson, jun., Jas. Gibson, Jewitt W. Johnson, A. Hartley, R. Summerbell; and Mr. H. Knowles (Clerk.)

THE PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE.

Coun. Chapman reported that with respect to the proposal of the Esh Parish Council to erect a footbridge near Mr. Love's house, in the vicinity of Quebec Cottages, the Lanchester Committee had met a deputation from the Esh Parish Council, consisting of one gentleman. They found that the Esh Council had been going by the ordnance map. The old ordnance map gave footroads or tracks across fields as footpaths. Where they wanted the footbridge erected was not a footpath at all. He went to the Workhouse and saw a copy of the award, when he found that the old awarded footpath was 44 yards above Mr. Love's house according to the scale, whereas the place where the Esh people wanted the bridge erected went nearly 66 yards below Mr. Love's house, and through his field. According to the original award Quebec Houses were built on the old footpath. They recommended that a deputation from both the Councils wait upon Mr. Love asking him to allow them to make a footbridge over the road.

The Chairman thought that the Esh Parish Council were not very keen on the subject or they would have sent more than one man. They had not authority to erect a bridge, and he thought they should write the Esh Council stating that they could take no further notice of their request.

Coun. Hartley asked if the Quebec workmen used the footpath in going to and from their work?

Coun. Chapman: Part of the road. Mr. Love said he would have no objection to them erecting a bridge if they would make it strong enough for his carts to pass over it.

Coun. Hartley: How does Mr. Love do now without the bridge?

Coun. Hartley thought that if the Esh Council had had the matter at heart they would have sent more than one representative. He moved that they send a letter to the Esh Parish Council stating that they did not believe they were interested in the matter, and therefore could not take any further steps in it.

Coun. Champney seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

AN IMPROVEMENT WANTED.

Coun. Hartley asked the sanction of the meeting to request the Lanchester District Council to ashphalt the footpath from the King's Head to the Lanchester Railway Station gates.

Coun. Chapman said he would second the motion if Coun. Hartley would include the length of footpath between the two bridges.

Coun. Hartley having agreed to the amendment, the Chairman promised to bring the matter before the District Council at its next meeting.

Votes of thanks to the Chairman terminated the business.

WEARDALE.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—Mr. J. W. Roddam presided over Friday's meeting at Stanhope Workhouse.—Mr. Moses brought forward a suggestion that district committees should be appointed for the purpose of inquiring into relief cases and giving information to the Board, but the suggestion, however, was not acted upon.—A resolution from a neighbouring union to the effect that Boards of Guardians should have the authority to remunerate, dismiss, settle the tenure, and exercise full power over their officials was submitted, and the same was unanimously adopted by the Weardale Guardians.

DISTRICT COUNCIL.—Mr. J. W. Roddam presided over Friday's meeting at Stanhope.—The application of the roadmen for an increase of salary was considered. The Clerk (Mr. Thompson) submitted a statement showing the scale of wages paid to roadmen at Barnard Castle, Hexham (South), Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, Alston, Allendale, &c. On the proposition of Mr. Reed seconded by Mr Mainprize, it was decided not to entertain the application of the Council's roadmen for an advance.—With regard to the water rent of Mr. Jos. Waller, of Frosterley, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Clerk to take what steps he thought necessary.—Five cases of scarlet fever were reported from Bollihope, Frosterley, and Rookhope, during the month.—The Westgate sewage scheme was reported to be completed.

LEADGATE DISTRICT COUNCIL

On Wednesday evening, the monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Council Chamber, Leadgate, under the presidency of Coun. H. Palmer, J.P. (chairman.) There were also present:—Couns. W. F. Lane, T. Keenleyside, J. Costello, J. W. Winter, C. Clegg, R. Robson, L. Nicholson, W. J. Foreman, H. Cheesmond, and W. Robson; the Clerk (Mr J. H. Coupland), and the Surveyor (Mr T. S. Longstaff.)

APPROACH TO STATION

The Chairman reported that he had heard nothing further about the approach to the station.

THE GAS BUSINESS.

A letter was read from the Shotley Bridge Gas Company declining to supply gas on any other terms that that of by meter.

The matter dropped.

IMPROVED TRAIN SERVICE.

The Chairman said they would all have seen with great pleasure what the Clerk had given to the local papers with regard to the North-Eastern Railway Company having acceded to the request of the Council respecting the improved train service for Leadgate.

A letter was read from Mr Watson intimating that fact to the Council. He was glad to know that the Clerk had replied thanking him for the kind consideration of their request.

SEWAGE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee appointed to select a site for the new sewerage disposal works had met on October 26th, and, with Mr J. E. Parer, inspected the present works, and selected a site about 100 yards distant from the present works. Before finally deciding upon the present scheme the committee recommended the Council to consider the advisability of approaching the County Council with a view of having the present area increased in the following way, viz:—To increase the present area by the addition of the portion of Medomsley Parish from the Council's boundary at Carr House, on to Number One, then to the deposits 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 Rural District Council was worth consideration if the Council's application for the increased area was not granted.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The Chairman said the Clerk had informed him a few days ago that he had had no reply from the Consett Iron Company with respect to their application for a site for the sewage disposal works. He had had a conversation with the Secretary, who informed him that he was under the impression that a reply had been sent declining to sell the piece of land on the slag-heap side, but if the Clerk would send in an application for a site on the other side it would be entertained.

A small committee was appointed to ascertain information respecting the length of the road and rateable value of the district pending the granting of their application.

LIGHTING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee's report was adjourned until the next meeting to give the committee the opportunity of visiting the urinals at night time.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Mr T. S. Longstaff reported that during the month he had the Pont settling ponds cleaned out, and they were working well. He had received two designs from Messrs Ord and Maddison, of Darlington, for horse road scrapers. The pay-bill for highway and sanitary work for the month was £30 7s 2d.

Coun Winter moved, and Coun Cheesmond seconded, that the road-scraper be obtained at £22, less 5 per cent. discount.

The motion was carried.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr Longstaff considered the inlets to the drain at the back of Mr John Murray's property would do for ordinary water, but not for down falls of rain such as were experienced on July 7th. The same would apply to the inlets of the Consett Iron Company's property at Cragg's and Gedling's corners in Plantation Street, if the owners of the properties did not do any alterations to the above inlets they would have to take the responsibility on themselves as to the damage to their property. Plans would be before them for the enlargements to the Coach and Horses Inn, and for twenty dwelling-houses for the Consett Iron Company at the north side of the railway, also an amended plan from Mr J. Jackson, St. Ive's Road.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee reported that they had examined plans for the proposed addition to the Coach and Horses Inn, Leadgate, for Messrs J. W. Cameron and Co., Ltd., for twenty new houses in Bradley Square and Quarry Street, Leadgate, for the Consett Iron Company, and they recommended that the plans be passed, and that Mr Oliver be asked to meet a committee from the Council with reference to the erection of the privies at the new houses.

NOT PLEASANT.

Coun. Costello said one thing he was a little surprised about in connection with the privies built throughout the squares. It had been mentioned two or three times. Complaints had been continually made from the people who were using them that they could be seen. The Inspector had informed him that they were right. He would like to know whether the Council could not interfere in the matter.

The Chairman replied that the architect had gone by his special request, and he with the builder had tried the privies by putting a lath down. They got it down thirteen inches before it came in view. He had made arrangements with the architect to put on a sufficient plate to act as a screen.

Coun. Costello: The people are blaming the Council.

Coun. Winter found that up to last week the keys had not been given to the people, and in some cases there were as far as four families using one privy, which were in a deplorable condition. His impression was that the inspector should have instructions from the Council to make a very close examination, not only of the outside but the inside of them, to see they were kept right, and that power should be given to him to insist upon those joint occupiers premises to have them in a proper condition. The contractor was pulling down the old walls of the ashpits, and in one or two cases scores of loads of ashes were lying for the wind to blow them about hither and thither.

Mr. Longstaff: I reported it two months ago.

The Chairman: But why don't you tell the contractor not to do so?

Mr. Longstaff: The contractor said Mr. Oliver was his master.

The Chairman: That is all rubbish.

Coun. Winter moved, and Coun. Costello seconded, that the ashes be removed before the walls were pulled down.

This was carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee having examined accounts recommended that cheques be signed for the sum of £42 1s 3d.

THE NEW RATE.

It was resolved that the new rate of 1s 2d in the £ for the next half-year be sealed.

The Council then rose.

HOCKEY.

DERWENT VALLEY v. RYTON.

At Shotley Bridge on Saturday, the following will represent

DERWENT VALLEY.—T. D. Dales (captain), J. H. Thorpe, and T. W. Hanson, backs; A. C. Blunt, J. M. Nicholson, and J. Hamilton, halves; H. H. Wattsford, W. S. Douglas, J. O. Todd, E. Roe, and R. S. Renton, forwards.

Bully-off at 3 o'clock.

North-West Durham Caledonian Socieyt

A social evening and smoking concert in connection with the above Society was held in the Masonic Hall on Monday evening last, when the newly-elected President (Mr. James K. Annandale, Shotley Grove), presided over a large attendance of members and friends. Violin and pianoforte selections were rendered in accomplished style by Messrs J. P. Walton and J. Davison, whilst vocal contributions were rendered by Messrs C. Stelling (who gave "The Thorn," "The Sailor's Grave," and "The Death of Nelson"); Mr J. Mathieson ("Anchored" and "The Skipper"); and Mr Alex. Russell ("True till Death"), all the items being received with enthusiastic applause, especially the patriotic songs. Dr. Moore once more delighted his audience with specimens of his wonderful elocutionary powers in the recitation of Rudyard Kipling's "Gentlemen Rankers" and "The Absent-minded Beggar," the latter poem having been specially written on behalf of the families of the Reservists who have had to re-join their regiments and proceed to the Transvaal, and for which a large sum was paid for the copyright by the proprietors of the "Daily Mail." This sum was generously handed over to the fund by Mr Rudyard Kipling. After the recitation a subscription was made towards the same object, and realised the very substantial sum of £2 7s 3d, the amount to be given to the families of the local Reservists. Supper was served by Mr. Courtney in his usual varied and substantial manner.

At the close a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Annandale for his services in the chair, on the motion of Mr Robt. Park, seconded by Mr J. Mathieson. A similar vote was accorded to the pianist, violinist, singers, Dr. Moore, etc., on the motion of Mr. W. I. Mackay (Catchgate), seconded by Mr John Orr (Annfield Plain), Dr. Moore responding. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions

WEDNESDAY, November 8th.—Before Mr. H. W. Kerrich-Walker (presiding), and Mr. F. S. Newall.

DRUNKENNESS.

There were seven cases for drunkenness, and fines varying from 2s 6d to 5s were imposed, with costs in each case.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Michael Wright, Andrew Jennings, Wm. Harle, Wm. Aynsley, and Jas. Burns were brought before the Bench for playing at pitch and toss at Chester-le-Street, on Oct. 22nd. Harle and Burns were each fined 5s, Aynsley 3s, Jennings 2s 6d, and Wright 1s 6d, with costs in each case.

FIREWORKS.

John Wm. Shaw was fined 1s and costs for setting off fireworks at Pelton, on Oct. 29th.

DRUNK IN CHARGE.

William Jackson, for being drunk in charge of a horse at Birtley, on Oct. 28th, was fined 10s and costs.

KEEPING A DOG WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Thomas Scott was fined 7s 6d and costs for keeping a dog without the necessary license.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

John Jackson and Thomas Scott were charged by P.C. Davison with causing a breach of the peace at Chester-le-Street, on Oct. 29th, by fighting, and were each bound over to keep the peace for six months.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

John Taylor charged George Bell with damaging a fence belonging to him, on Oct. 26th, to the value of 1s.—The defendant, who did not appear, was fined 5s, 1s damage, and costs.

A WEST PELTON ASSAULT CASE.

Mary Oliver and Robert Oliver were charged with assaulting Annie Howe and Jane Eilbeck, and a counter charge was made against Wm. Howe of assaulting Mary Oliver.—From the evidence given it appeared that Mrs Howe had been going to a bazaar at West Pelton when she met Mrs Oliver. The latter passed some offensive remarks about a little boy with Mrs Howe. Mrs Howe said she did not want anything to do with Mrs Oliver. Mrs Oliver then struck her with a key, and pulled her hair. Mrs Eilbeck tried to go to the help of her daughter, Mrs Howe, but Robert Oliver stopped her. Mr Howe came out of his house and Robt. Oliver went to meet him, and they came to blows, Oliver getting the worst of it. Afterwards Mrs Oliver tried to get at Mrs Howe again, but Mr Howe met her and gave her a push, sending her into the gutter. This constituted the charge against Mr Howe.—After consultation the Bench fined Mrs Oliver 20s and costs, and Robt. Oliver 10s and costs, and dismissed the charge against Mr Howe.

AN OLD HAND.

George Winn was summoned for trespassing in pursuit of game at Birtley, on Oct. 31st.—The defendant had been convicted on 15 different occasions for similar offences.—Sergt. Grey said he saw the defendant in a field belonging to Mr Pyburn, on Lord Ravensworth's estate. Winn shot at a bird and he then saw him and ran off.—James Spinks, head gamekeeper to Lord Ravensworth, and Mr Pyburn each stated that the defendant had no right whatever in the field.—The defendant was fined 40s and costs.

A SEPARATION ORDER.

Isabella Cuthbertson applied for a separation order against her husband, James Cuthbertson. She stated that she had been married about twenty-five years. During the last six years her husband had given way to drink. He often struck her and also her daughters. She had three children under sixteen years of age, and asked for their custody. Her husband was a builder.—A separation was granted, and an order of 20s per week was made, Mrs Cuthbertson having the custody of the children.

THE STABBING CASE.

Joseph Pearson was brought up in custody charged with wounding George Brown, at High Flatts, on Oct. 28th. Mr Turnbull prosecuted, and Mr Harle appeared for the defence.

George Brown said on Saturday, Oct. 28th, he was coming from the direction of Breakenbeds in company with Harry Atkin. They were going towards the High Flatts when they saw the prisoner coming along the road, talking to himself about the Boer War. When they reached the prisoner he said something about the war, and he (witness) said that the British would beat the Boers. Prisoner then said he wished he was in South Africa assisting the Boers, and put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a knife. He said he would stab him, and witness said, "You will not stab a man for nothing." Prisoner then stabbed him, and at the same time said something about the Phœnix Park murders. He (witness) turned dizzy and went to the High Flatts, and had his wound dressed, and Dr Brown attended him the same day.

By Mr Harle: Prisoner was in a very excited state, but seemed to be sober.

Henry Atkin said he was in the company of Brown on Oct. 28th. As they were coming from the direction of Breakenbeds towards High Flatts they met the prisoner. Before they got up to him the prisoner was grumbling to himself about the Boer War. When they got close to him he said he could pay all the Englishmen living. Brown said, "Oh, no you can't." Prisoner said "Can you do anything?" and Brown said "I don't want to do anything." Prisoner then walked to the middle of the road and pulled a knife out of his right hand pocket, and said he would stab Brown. Brown walked towards defendant and said "You wont stab a man for nothing." Prisoner lifted the knife and Brown tried to grab it but could not, and Pearson stabbed him. Brown opened his breast and said he was stabbed. Prisoner said "Aye, you ——, I'll kill you," and then ran off towards Pelton.

By Mr Harle: Prisoner was not drunk. He was excited.

Eliz. Short said she was walking along the road and saw Brown and Pearson talking. She could not hear anything, but she saw prisoner stab Brown and then run off towards Pelton.

Mrs Bell said she saw the prisoner, Brown, and Atkin standing together. She saw prisoner pull out a knife, but turned round and did not see Brown stabbed. Soon after the prisoner ran past her and said he would stab everyone he came to.

Dr Brown said he was called about 4.30 a.m. on Oct. 28th, to attend Brown. He found him suffering from collapse and loss of blood. He found a wound in the left breast about 1½ inches long and 1 inch broad, and half an inch deep. The wound had penetrated further below the muscular tissues. Before he had seen Brown there had been hemorrhage. Brown's life was then in danger. The knife produced would have caused the wound.

Sergt. McNaney deposed to arresting the prisoner at his residence in Wilfred Street. He brought him to the Police Station and charged him with the offence. The prisoner said "I was at the High Flatts and had three or four glasses of whiskey at the Plough Inn. I never molested anyone and no one molested me." He searched the prisoner and found the knife produced. It had blood stains on the blade.

Mr Harle said that owing to the condition of the prisoner on the afternoon in question he could not give any account of the affair. He asked for bail to enable the prisoner to get witnesses.

The Magistrates send the prisoner to take his trial at the next Durham Assizes, bail being refused.

FOOTBALL.

HIGH HOLD UNITED v. WEST PELTON.

Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the home team.

ANNFIELD PLAIN RED STARS v. BLACKHILL ATHLETIC.

These teams met at Annfield Plain, and a good game terminated in a draw of three goals each.

HOBSON WHITE STARS v. WEST PELTON JUNIORS.

Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a draw of one goal each.

CATCHGATE TEMPERANCE v. MOOR PIT UNITED.

Played at Catchgate, and a good game ended in a draw of two goals each.

DIPTON UNITED v. STANLEY ATHLETIC RESERVE.

This game was played on the Dipton ground, and resulted in a win for the homesters by seven goals to nil. The goals were scored by F. Rumson (3), A. Rumson (1), W. Thompson (2), and H. Panton (1).

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

HAMSTERLEY v. TANFIELD LEA.

Played at Hamsterley, and after a finely contested game the home team won by two goals to one.

DURHAM SENIOR CUP.

THIRD ROUND.

BEARPARK UNITED v. HOBSON WANDERERS.

This game came off at Bearpark on Saturday. Much interest was taken in the match, as last season the Hobson ousted Bearpark from the competition. Crooks won the toss, and elected to play with the wind in his favour. The visitors set the ball in motion, and for a time play ruled fairly even. The Hobson then attacked, and succeeded in putting on the first point. The United now pressed, and were awarded a penalty, which Simmons banged through, thus equalising. The home men again attacked, and Simmons giving to Hope, the latter scored with a fine shot, an appeal for off-side being over-ruled. Up to half-time both teams played a dashing game, the interval finding the score—

Bearpark United	Two goals
Hobson Wanderers	One goal

With the wind in their favour it was expected that the visitors would make things hum. Pope re-started for the "Park," who at once played the better game. Then the Hobson supporters encouraged the players to waken up, and they responded to the call. The visitors attacked severely, but Golightly relieved the pressure. The Hobson, however, came again, and the inside right scored amid cheers from the Hobson supporters. However, the referee declared it off-side. Golightly sent down to Simmons, who gave a neat pass to Hope, and that player just missed by inches with a flying shot. The Wanderers pressed, and Lown sent in a grounder which Crooks had to drop on the ground to save, and whilst doing this it was alleged he was kicked by a visiting player. The referee (Mr Longstaff) ordered the player off, but he refused to go, and the game was stopped three minutes off time, with Bearpark leading by two goals to one. It was a hard-fought game. Final:—

Bearpark United	Two goals
Hobson Wanderers	One goal

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

JOICEY CUP.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agt	Pt
Waldridge	7	4	1	2	11	6	9
Fatfield	7	4	1	2	12	10	9
Chester-le-St.	6	4	0	0	13	4	8
Birtley A.	5	3	1	1	11	7	7
Ouston	6	3	0	3	12	10	6
Pelton Fell	7	2	2	3	7	10	6
Waterhouses	7	2	1	4	2	8	5
Craghead	5	1	0	3	3	12	4
Washington	5	1	2	2	6	11	4
South Moor	7	1	2	4	6	11	4
Pelton Fell U.	3	0	0	3	0	7	0

PETER HAY CUP.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agt	Pt
Tribley Star	5	5	0	0	13	1	10
Birtley Rovers	5	3	2	0	14	7	8
Stanley United	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Chester-le-St. II.	4	3	0	1	10	14	6
Black House	3	1	1	1	4	6	3
Springwell	3	1	0	2	5	8	2
Waldridge II.	3	1	0	2	4	12	2
Pelton Fell II.	3	1	0	2	4	7	2
Waterhouses II.	3	0	1	2	6	13	1
Craghead II.	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Ouston II.	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Fixtures for Saturday, Nov. 11th.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

LEADGATE PARK v. ST. PETER'S ALBION.

This game comes off at Leadgate on Saturday, and should produce a good struggle.

LEADGATE PARK.—Goal, M. Hedley; backs, G. Temple and J. Wilson; half-backs, J. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, B. Cook, J. Birtley, W. Crowther, S. Thompson, and G. Forster.

Kick-off at 3.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

HOBSON WANDERERS v. BLAYDON.

To be played at the Hobson.

HOBSON.—Goal, Randall; backs, Liddle and McHugh; half-backs, Heslin, Bell, and Layton; forwards, Walton, Jos. Layton, Cullen or Smith, Lown, and Andrews.

Kick-off at 3.

CONSETT TOWN SWIFTS v. PRUDHOE.

At Prudhoe.

CONSETT.—Goal, W. Graham; backs, J. Laidler and J. Finnigan; half-backs, B. McKie, W. Harrison, and J. Dempsey; forwards, B. Rafferty, J. Little, Jas. Finnigan, P. Smith, and J. Morgan.

Referee, Mr W. Halliday, Heaton.

Train leaves Blackhill at 12.48.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE v. SOUTH TANFIELD.

To be played at Consett.

CONSETT.—Goal, T. Collinson; backs, J. Wilson and G. Wood; half-backs, P. McNally, R. Bradley, and W. Atkinson; forwards, W. Walton, P. McKie, R. McAlear, E. Pratt, and T. Boyle.

SOUTH TANFIELD.—Goal Patterson; backs, J. McCabe and H. Middlemiss; half-backs, J. Armstrong, T. Clark, and R. Hindmarch; forwards, J. Nessham, W. Clarkson, J. Hunter, R. Palmer, T. Robinson, and R. Smith. Reserve, Jack Armstrong.

Referee, Mr. G. F. Gray, Marley Hill. Kick-off at 2.45.

ANNFIELD PLAIN RESERVE v. HAMSTERLEY.

At Annfield Plain. Teams:—

HAMSTERLEY.—Goal, Rudd; backs, Carr and Seath; half-backs, Dodds, Richardson, and Anderson; forwards, Parker, Johnson, Swinburn, Fenwick, and Seath.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—Goal, Bellaway; backs, J. Foster and J. Vasey; half-backs, T. Reay, J. Cochrane, and G. Watchman; forwards, C. Robinson, W. Bell, J. Hill, T. Young, and E. Rutherford.

Referee, Mr J. Gray, Tantobie. Kick-off at 3.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. LEADGATE PARK RESERVE.

These teams meet at Shotley Spa grounds on Saturday.

PARK RESERVE.—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, M. Willis and W. G. Robson; half-backs, D. Cartmell, C. McAloon, and R. Dawson; forwards, J. Harper, C. Walton, P. Hughes, R. Gleadow, and C. Todd.

Brake leaves head quarters at 1.45.

BLACKHILL (chosen from).—J. Johnson, R. Patterson, J. G. Robinson, M. Robinson, T. Taylor, Cain, A. Aitkin, T. Redshaw, Lumley, Robson, G. Smith, M. Higgins, and D. Dobie.

DURHAM SENIOR CUP.

RE-PLAYED TIE.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. ALLENDALE PARK.

To be played at Tantobie.

TANTOBIE.—Goal, J. Lishman; backs, I. Adamson and J. Gladders; half-backs, T. Hanever, J. McKever, and W. Thompson; forwards, R. Weightman, W. Adamson, J. Jardine, T. Smith and R. Atkinson.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS v. SOUTH MOOR UNITED.

The above game will be played at South Moor, when a hard and fast game will be witnessed. The following will play for the

PARK JUNIORS.—Goal, J. Johns; backs, J. Thompson and D. Overall; half-backs, J. Davison, W. Calvert, and G. Black; forwards, W. Graham, R. Hedley, R. Birtley, T. Walker, and J. Kelly.

Referee, Mr R. Mullen, Consett.

Team leaves Leadgate Station at 1.41 p.m.

CATCHGATE LILYWHITES v. CONSETT UNITED.

At Catchgate.

CATCHGATE.—Goal, J. Riddle; backs, Press and Walker; half-backs, Westgarth, Temple, and Reay; forwards, Wilson, Less, Graham, Armstrong, and Thompson.

CONSETT UNITED.—Goal, Dodds; backs, Jones and Wilkinson; half-backs, Johnson, Overall, and Conner; forwards, Cone, Grant, Emmerson, Bridgewater, and Donnelly.

Team leaves Consett Station at 1.40.

Referee, Mr Turnbull. Kick-off at 3.

CATCHGATE LILYWHITES RESERVE v. ALLENDALE PARK RESERVE.

The following will play for

CATCHGATE.—Goal, T. Simpson; backs, C. E. James and Cox; half-backs, Hunter, Thompson, and Errington; forwards, Rutherford, Balleny, Johnson, Coates, and Cox.

CONSETT UNITED v. STUDLEY.

At Consett.

CONSETT UNITED.—Goal, Frosdick; backs, Longhorn and Dimmick; half-backs, Dimmick, Harris, and Peacock; forwards, Lee, Lewes, Keenan, Kellett, and Robinson.

Kick-off at 3.

FRIENDLY FIXTURES.

DIPTON UNITED v. ALLENDALE PUTTERS.

On the Allendale ground.

DIPTON.—Goal, Curtiss; backs, A. Gill and J. Sables; half-backs, W. Smith, G. Storey, and J. Hall; forwards, W. Thompson, H. Panton, F. Rumson, A. Slater, and A. Rumson.

BLACKHILL ALBION v. BRADLEY WHITE STARS.

To be played at Blackhill.

BRADLEY.—Goal, J. Nevin; backs, J. Smith and R. Matthews; half-backs, R. Nevin, J. Scarr, and T. Scarr; forwards, R. Scarr, Johnson, Secombe, Walton, and Graham.

MARLEY HILL v. BYER MOOR.

At Marley Hill in a benefit match, when the following will represent:—

BYER MOOR.—Goal, R. Hodgson; backs, G. Bennett and H. Lowe; half-backs, T. Young, T. Spoor, and G. Nicholls; forwards, A. Matthew, J. Smith, M. Bell, E. Leighton, and G. R. Weedy. Reserves, R. Hall, and P. Keefe.

Linesman, T. Leighton. Kick-off at 2.45. Byer Moor players to meet at headquarters at 2 p.m.

Leadgate Young United have all dates vacant; ages, 10 to 15. Apply, J. Lee, Richardson's Buildings, Watling Street, Leadgate.

South Tanfield Reserve want games with good juniors or reserve teams. Apply, J. W. Hindmarch, East Kyo, Annfield Plain.

Bradley White Stars are in want of matches; ages, 11 to 14. Apply, J. Matthews, 20, Bradley Cottages, near Leadgate.

West Pelton United have a few dates vacant, namely, Feb 17th, March 31st, away; Feb. 24th, March 24th, April 16th, 21st, at home. Apply, J. Davidson, 12, Grange Villa, near Chester-le-Street.

Hobson Young Wanderers are in want of matches; ages, 10 to 12. Apply, T. Nicholson, 85, Hobson Colliery, Burnopfield.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday afternoon a general meeting of members of the Chester-le-Street Licensed Victuallers' Association was held at the Station Hotel (Mr. G. Levett's), Birtley, to consider matters affecting the trade. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wears, and there were also present—Messrs H. Lamb (secretary), G. Levett, Lowther Anderson, Montgomery, Colledge, Ross, White, Leighton, Hedworth, Roscamp, Winn, Atkin, Gilhespy, Murphy, Barnes, Robson, McAvoy, and Cummings. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

NATIONAL DEFENCE LEAGUE.

Mr. Lamb read a circular issued by the National Defence League in reference to the business transacted at the half-yearly meeting at Great Yarmouth, in September last. He had been in correspondence with Mr. Robinson (the secretary) as to the benefits they would derive. He stated the prevailing impression that a good part of the money had been frittered away in expenses and dinners. Mr. Robinson replied that the money received was expended for the benefit of the retail traders. No money was frittered away in useless deputations or dinner parties. As a matter of fact he had not half enough money for protective and defensive purposes. Mr. Lamb proceeded to say that if the Defence League was any benefit to the trade it was only right they should join. It was not fair that other people should fight for them without their contributing towards the expenses.

Mr. Montgomery asked if anyone present had seen a balance-sheet of the Defence League?

Mr. Lamb said they had not subscribed, and were therefore not entitled to ask for one.

Mr. Montgomery said if they had one before them it might be a little bit of encouragement to join.

The Chairman said there was some correspondence about twelve months ago.

Mr. Lamb said a retail trader had been enabled to carry a case to the House of Lords through assistance from the League.

Mr. Lowther Anderson suggested that the League might be more of a benefit to syndicates than to individuals.

Mr. Gilhespy said at their last meeting there seemed to be a doubt as to whether they would receive any benefit from the Defence League. So far as he could understand the matter the impression was that they were members of a local association, and that that local association seemed to spend their substance in dinners and picnics. He had not been able yet to see clearly that they could become members of the Defence League unless they were members of a local association. If they must be members of a local league first, then he said the thing was not worth the candle.

Mr. Lamb said the circular did not say so.

Mr. Gilhespy said that was a question he wished to be clear upon. They wanted to be clear that when they looked to the League for assistance they would be able to get it without having to apply to a local association. He believed that unity was strength, and whilst they should aim at making themselves as strong as possible, they should be able to join the Defence League independent of any local association or branch. He would be willing to join the League provided it could be done direct. So far as his experience went during their last trouble in reference to the assessment, he was afraid that if they had applied to the Newcastle Society for assistance they would not have received it. They wanted to be assured that in the event of their appealing for assistance from the League it would be forthcoming. He quite saw the broader question that the League worked for the general benefit of the trade, but they should be assured that, if necessary, they would be assisted monetarily. With that assurance he would certainly say let them join the League. They hoped, of course, that there would be no need to apply for assistance in their neighbourhood. What they required was to have some moral support behind them. Their trade was beset with more difficulties than any other trade, and to checkmate these it was necessary to make themselves financially strong, and to be able to claim all the assistance they could possibly obtain.

Mr. Lamb assured the meeting that they could join the National Defence League independent of any local association.

Mr. Levett said as a trade society they were a little bit lacking. They should move more to the front, and if they wanted to be at the top of the tree they should join the leading societies. He was perhaps the oldest licensed victualler present, and his experience enabled him to endorse Mr. Gilhespy's remark that unity was strength. Isolation was no good. As to the statement that money had been squandered in pic-nics and dinners, he could only say that where such an idea originated was a mystery to him. He never knew of a shilling being taken out of the funds for pic-nics or dinners. They had had their pic-nics, but each member paid his subscription towards them.

Mr. Lowther Anderson said he attended a meeting at Hartlepool as a delegate, and his dinner and expenses were paid for.

Mr. Levett said it was only right in such a case.

Mr. Anderson said they were representing themselves, and the dinner was provided out of the funds of Number One district.

Mr Lamb said many of the associations in the two counties were not members of the Number One district. That was a difficulty they had to contend with, and there was never sufficient money subscribed to make a fund for trade benefits. If they wanted such a fund they would have to subscribe to it. He ventured to think that before long there would be need of action, and was it worth their while to stand aloof and allow other people to work for them, and protect their interests? They could manage affairs locally, but when it came to national questions they ought to assist those who devoted their time to supporting the welfare of their trade.

Mr. Levett then moved and Mr Lowther Anderson seconded, that they join the National Defence League.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An account sent in by Mr. Turnbull for legal charges was considered, and agreed to.

Mr. Levett drew attention to the lack of uniformity in charges in the district. They ought to be true to each other, and they should remember that they had heavy calls upon them in the way of rates and taxes.

After a short discussion it was resolved to place the subject on the agenda for discussion at the annual meeting in January.

Mr. Lamb said they were all aware that since their last meeting they had lost their president, Mr. Wilson, by death. They would all agree with him when he said that the association had lost a valuable officer and member. He was sure they would agree with him in paying a tribute to Mr. Wilson's memory.

The proceedings then terminated.

BLACKHILL.
OLD ESTABLISHED POSTING BUSINESS.
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Hearse of the most Modern and Unique Design, Mourning Coaches. Carriages for Weddings, Brakes and Waggonettes for Pleasure Parties.
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Death of Mrs. J. Hope, of Consett.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Mrs. Hope, of Spencer Street, Consett, which took place on Thursday of last week. The deceased lady was the wife of Mr. John Hope, and was a daughter of Mrs. I. Walton and the late Mr. W. Walton, of Medomsley. She was only 34 years of age, and was highly esteemed by all who knew her. The interment took place at Medomsley Churchyard on Sunday afternoon, and was very numerously attended. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. Cockin, M.A. vicar of Medomsley, in an impressive manner, both in the church and at the graveside. The coffin was of polished ash, with brass mountings. The relatives present included:—Mr. J. Hope (husband), Consett; Miss Hilda Hope (daughter), Consett; Mrs. Walton (mother), Medomsley; Miss I. Walton (sister), Medomsley; Mr. Geo. Walton (brother), Medomsley; Mr. and Mrs. H. Cornforth (sister and brother-in-law), Consett; Masters Wille and Charlie Cornforth (nephews), Consett; Mrs. Hope, Hexham; Miss Hope, Hexham; Mr. Wm. Hope, Hexham; Mr. Tom Hope, Hexham; Mr. and Mrs. Jackson; Mr. and Mrs. J. Walton and family, Medomsley; Mr. and Mrs. T. Walton and family; Mrs. J. Walton and family; Mr. and Mrs. J. Minto, Lanchester; Mr. and Mrs. G. Bell, Medomsley; Mr. Richard Wray; Mr. Wm. Alexandra, Hexham; Mr. and Miss Cornforth; Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Annfield Plain. Amongst others present we noticed:—Mr. and Mrs. R. Calvert, Leadgate; Mr. Taylor, Consett; Mr. F. A. Coltman, Consett; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Scott, Consett; Mr. Jackson, Blackhill; Mr. S. Little, Medomsley; Mr. Hetherington, Blackhill; Mr. Renwick, Mr. Martin, Mr. Jas. Gibson; Mr. T. Mason, Medomsley; Mr. D. Turner, Medomsley; Mr. and Mrs. Tweddle; Mr. G. Johnson, Blackhill; Mr. R. Charlton, Medomsley; Mr. Mushens, Mr. Siddel; Mr. W. P. Morris Medomsley; Mr. J. Walton, Langley Park; Mr. and Mrs. R. Hand, Consett; Mr. Grieves, Consett; Mr. G. Armstrong, Medomsley Edge; Mr. Skipsey, Medomsley; Mr. George, Mr. B. Eldon, Mr. White, Mr. Bell, Mr. Hunter, and many others. Beautiful wreaths were sent by Mr. Hope and daughter, Mrs. and Miss I. Walton, Mr. and Mrs. G. Walton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Cornforth, Masters Willie, Charlie, and May Cornforth, Mrs. Hope and family, Mrs. Jacob Walton and family, Mrs. J. Walton and family, Mr. E. G. Kirkhouse, Consett, Miss Snaith, Miss May Potts, Hexham, Mr. Geo. Johnson, Blackhill, and friends at Hexham. Messrs T. C. Rawes and Co., Consett acted as undertakers, and also supplied the hearse and three mourning coaches.

MOURNING CARDS in all the Newest Patterns printed neatly and expeditiously at the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CONSETT.

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OUR Business is not only to supply Oak and Polished Coffins of a superior description at the lowest Prices, but we also Supply Hearses, Coaches, Cabs for Weddings, and Horses and Conveyances of all kinds.
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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

FOSTER—LEE.—Prudhoe, St. Mary Magdalene Church, on the 1st inst., Nicholas Foster, third son of Thomas Foster, Prudhoe, to Sarah Ellen Lee, youngest daughter of Jonathan Lee, West Wylam.

LAWSON—HOWIE.—Burnopfield Church, on the 4th inst., by the Rev. R. Tuson, vicar of Dipton, Robt. Howie, of West Wylam, to Barbara Lawson, of South Medomsley Cottages, Dipton.

Deaths.

ARNISON.—Newcastle-on-Tyne, 4, Fenham Terrace, on the 4th inst., William Christopher Arnison, M.D., D.C.L.

BRABBAN.—Burnopfield Colliery, on the 6th inst., aged 42, Isabella Brabban.

CRONE.—At Edinburgh, on the 5th inst., aged 47, Ed. William Crone, M.E., of Killingworth.

DAVISON.—At 25, Barr House Avenue, Consett, on the 8th inst. aged 65, Joseph Davison. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon, at 2.30. All friends kindly invited.

FEWSTER.—Stanley Bank Head, on the 4th inst., in her 40th year, Mary Elizabeth Fewster.

IRONSIDES.—Kibblesworth, East Farm, on the 4th inst., in his 82nd year, William Ironsides.

MUIR.—47, Durham Road, Blackhill, on the 2nd inst., at the residence of her father, A. E. Turner, Mary Jane, widow of the late Rev. Jos. Muir, Wesleyan Minister.

RICHARDSON.—Blackhill, 5, Queen Street, on the 27th ult., aged 49 years, Thomas R. Richardson, the dearly-beloved husband of Elizabeth Richardson, after a painful illness, borne with Christian patience to the end.

STEPHENSON.—Consett, 46, Park Road, on the 4th inst., aged 46, William Stephenson.

SINDEN.—Hamsterley Colliery, on the 2nd inst., aged 5 years and 1 month, Charles William Sinden.

TAIT.—Consett, 13, East Parade, 4th inst., aged 78 years, Catherine, widow of the late John Tait, schoolmaster.

VASEY.—Stanhope, on the 6th inst., aged 69, Hannah Vasey.

WATSON.—At Ireshopeburn, Weardale, aged 52, Jemima, youngest daughter of the late Robert Watson, Allendale.

YOUNG.—Andrew's House, on the 5th inst., aged 47, Elizabeth Young.

In loving memory of our dear Mother, Mary Whaley, who departed this life on the 10th of November, 1891, aged 61 years.

We have missed her, O how sadly,
Bleeding hearts no tongue can tell,
Earth has lost her, Heaven has found her,
Jesus has done all things well.
Ever remembered by her family.

Mr and Mrs Anderson and family, of Elm Park, beg to tender their sincere thanks to the many kind friends, and employees of the Consett Co-operative Society, for the respect and sympathy shown by them during their sad bereavement.

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