ARRIVAL OF
JUBILEE CAPS. Also, TWO PEAKED CAPS
Prices from 4½d. up to 1s. 6d.
KID GLOVES,
For Ladies and Gentlemen, 2, 4, and 6-Buttons, Black and Coloured, 1s. 11½d. to 2s. 11d. per pair.
Largest assortment of Ladies Lisle, Taffeta, and Pure Silk Gloves, from 2½d. up to 1s. 11½d. per pair.
BAIN & CO'S
DRESS AND DRAPERY MART,
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

ARRIVAL OF
NEW HATS,
Prices 1s. 11d. up to 5s. 9d.
SCARFS AND COLLARS,
Prices from 2d. up to 1s. 6d.
BRACES AND FRONTS.
Prices 3½d. up to 1s. 6½d.
BAIN & CO'S
DRESS AND DRAPERY MART,
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

No. 1,423. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, November 18th, 1887. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

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

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY,
From £10 to £2,000,
in town or country, on approved note of hand alone, at 5 per cent. Also upon furniture, trade or farm stock (without removal), and to assist persons into business.

No sureties required. Strictly private, and no delay. Write or call on actual lender,
Mr. F. DUNBAR,
Kent Villa, St. Mary's Road, Harlesden, London

Contracts.

TENDERS will be received up to the 1st of December, 1887, for the WINNING and LEADING of Ganister Stone. Price per Ton separate.

For particulars apply to Mr. T. J. Muse, Castleside. 674y

Lost.

£1 REWARD.

LOST, on Tuesday night, November 8th, 1887, between Burnopfield and Rowlands Gill, one brown paper Parcel, containing a LADY'S WHITE LACE DRESS, directed "Steam Laundry Company, Percy Street, Newcastle."—The above reward will be paid on the same being returned to P.C. Rogerson, Burnopfield. 683y

Wanted.

WANTED, a STRONG LAD; one who has been in the trade preferred.—Apply to T. D. Dryden & Co., Grocers, Consett. 690y

WANTED, a strong country GIRL, for housework only; age, from 16 to 18.—Apply at *Guardian* Office, Consett. 666y

GOOD GENERAL SERVANT, aged from 18 to 20, WANTED at once.—Royal Hotel, Blackhill. 687y

DRAPERY.—WANTED, at once, Several Smart ASSISTANTS.—Apply T. H. Batchelor, Consett. 640y

GREENCROFT SCHOOL BOARD.

WANTED, for the above Board School, a CERTIFICATED ASSISTANT MISTRESS (Mixed Department). Salary, £50 per annum, with a Bonus at the discretion of the Managers should the Sewing Grant be good.

Applications, with three recent testimonials, to be sent to me on or before the 30th inst. Duties to commence on the 5th December next.
W. W. THOMPSON, Clerk to the Board.
Lanchester, November 4th, 1887. 660y

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

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

LADIES REQUIRING SERVANTS and SERVANTS SITUATIONS will do well by applying at Mrs. Cooke's Registry, 38, Durham Road, Blackhill. 889w

Under Distinguished Patronage.

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

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

WATCH CLUBS.—Foremen, Timekeepers, and others WANTED, for the supply of BENSON'S "LUDGATE" WATCH at £5 5s. A three-quarter plate English Lever, now superseding all others. Terms very liberal. Particulars post free. J. W. Benson, the Originator of the Club System, 62 and 64, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. 623y

FREE PASSAGES to Queensland, Australia.—50 Female Domestic Servants WANTED for Queensland every Month. Free Passages granted by Mail Steamers. Immediate employment on arrival. Wages £20 to £50 per year. No Passage Money to re-pay.—Apply only to Wm. J. Johnson, 96, High Street, Gateshead (Queensland Government Agent). N.B.—Cheap Fares to Australia, £12 12s.; America, £3 10s; Canada, £3; South Africa, from £15 15s.

SPECIAL EMIGRATION.—50 Passengers WANTED to sail from Newcastle Quay every Tuesday, for New York and Philadelphia, at specially reduced rate of £3 10s. Cheap fares to all inland towns.—Apply to Netherlands Emigration Co., 32, Blackett Street, Newcastle, Head Booking Office for County of Durham. Cheap fares from Liverpool, £3 335y

To Let.

TO LET, a good JOINER'S SHOP, now occupied by Mr Thomas Raine, Blackhill.—Apply to Richard Murray. 636y

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, in Derwent Street, Blackhill; a good Stable attached.—Apply to M. Frankland, Blackhill. 637y

TO LET, SITTING-ROOM and BED-ROOM, with use of Bath; pleasantly situated.—Apply *Guardian* Office, Consett. 633y

TO LET, a Six-roomed HOUSE, 19, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.—Apply to D. Martin, Fell Farm, Consett. 649y

TO LET, TWO Two-Roomed HOUSES, in Castleside.—Apply to John Drummond, Hole House, Blackhill. 574y

TO LET, a Four-Roomed HOUSE, with Yard, in Wood Street, Shotley Bridge.—Apply to Robert Bell, Watling Street, Leadgate. 235y

TO LET, a Comfortable COTTAGE, with good Garden, at Castleside.—Apply for particulars to Wm. Milner, Castleside (opposite Church). 501y

TO LET, and entered on November 11th, 1887, all that good HOUSE and SHOP, situate at 56, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Apply to William Raw, Auctioneer, &c., Blackhill. 455y

TO LET, the TEMPLARS' HALL, Medomsley, for Lectures, Concerts, and Public Meetings and Entertainments.—Apply to Mr Wm. Robinson, Grocer and Draper, Medomsley, Lintz Green. 383y

TO LET (November 11th) a HOUSE containing Seven Rooms, with every Convenience, situated in Medomsley Road, Consett.—Apply to C. Routledge, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 522y

TO LET, Well Fit-up DINING ROOMS, doing a fair business, near Armstrong's Works, Scotswood Road, Newcastle. Moderate Ingoing.—For particulars apply at *Consett Guardian* Office. 363y

CASTLESIDE.—TO LET, a HOUSE, containing Four Rooms, Large Garden, Small Close of Land, Byre, and every Convenience. Also, a Two-roomed COTTAGE.—For particulars apply to Mr. T. J. Muse, Castleside House. 673y

For Sale.

FOR SALE, TEN £1 SHARES in the Consett New Town Hall Company. What offers?—Apply, "Iota," Local Board Offices, Consett. 641y

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. Bowman, Hole House, Lanchester [illegible]

FOR SALE, 3 VIOLINS, VIOLA, 2 PICCALOS and FLAGALETT. Good.—Apply to J. W. Taylor, Printer, Dipton. 684y

FOR SALE, a YOUNG COW; third calf, time up on 26th.—Apply to John Hunter, Medomsley Grange. 682y

For Sale.

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

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

FOR SALE, an excellent Short Horn MILCH COW, newly calved.—Apply to Robert Bruce, Greenhead Inn, near Shotley Bridge. 679y

FOR SALE, by Private Contract, a GOTHIC COTTAGE VILLA, with Large GARDEN attached, situate behind Wesleyan Day-Schools, Consett.—Apply to the Owner upon the Premises.

FOR SALE, 4 WHITECHAPELS, &c.; 8 sets of new and second-hand HARNESS; 3 SADDLES, BRIDLES, &c., &c., at Brodie's, Shotley Bridge. 174y

PROPERTY CATALOGUES.—If you wish to Buy, Sell, Let, or Rent Property of any description, see Mr H. M. Furness's Catalogue, sent post free on application. Entries solicited. No charge for insertion.—Office: Forth House close to Central Station), Newcastle-on-Tyne

TO SMALL CAPITALISTS.

FOR SALE, a current-going BUSINESS, which has been successfully carried on for 20 years by the present proprietor, who is now retiring from the Furniture, Hardware, and Fancy Trade Stock. Can be greatly reduced to suit purchaser; this being a rare chance for one or more pushing men seldom to be met with. Stock and Fixtures taken at valuation, and every instruction given to new beginners.—Apply to Wm. Wilkinson, Furniture Broker and Ironmonger, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green, Co. Durham. 321y

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE.

HARMONIUMS, Gothic style, Fret Front, Holder and Music Desk, £6. Burr Walnut, 7 Stops, £6; Burr Walnut, 5 Stops, £5; solid American Walnut, by Gilbert Bauer, £5 10s; Kelly and Co.'s Burr Walnut, 8 Stops, £10; American Organs, from £5; Bell and Co.'s and Estey and Co.'s from 13 to 70 guineas.—Dawson and Co., 142, Northumberland Street, Newcastle. 942x

Business Announcements.

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 920

CHAS. F. SANDS,
GAS LIGHTING ENGINEER, AND MAKER OF THE DEXTER LIGHT, AND LAMPS FOR SHOPS.
Chandeliers, from 16s.; Hall Lamps, 5s. 6d.
42, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE.
WORKSHOP—50, High Friar Street.

H. GUTTERIDGE,
SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER,
BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.
Repairs done on the Shortest Notice.

Note Address:—33, WESTGATE ROAD (near Central Railway Station), NEWCASTLE. 450

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

CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT

A LARGE and Choice Assortment of Fancy and other Useful Goods, Presents, &c., suitable for the Season. Desk and Pocket Diaries, Annuals, &c., 1887, Account Books, Pocket Books, &c.,
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J. COCKBURN,
GENERAL AND FANCY STATIONER,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Schools Supplied. Books Bound. Books not in Stock, may be had on a short notice. Newspapers &c., delivered to order. 248x

QUEENSLAND.
ROYAL MAIL LINE STEAMERS.
PASSAGE £17 ONLY.
LAND ORDER WARRANTS, value £20, are PRESENTED FREE TO all approved PASSENGERS travelling BY THIS LINE.
This young and promising Colony is now offering Special Advantages to all Classes.
FARMERS and OTHERS may obtain FREEHOLD LAND under the Homestead Clauses of the present Land Act up to 160 Acre Blocks, for 6d. per annum per acre, being paid as Rent for Five Years, making 2s. 6d. per acre in all, when payment ceases and the Land becomes Freehold.
LARGER FREEHOLDS and LEASEHOLDS, on specially favourable conditions, may be had under the recently-passed Land Act.

For further Particulars apply to A. BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT; GRAY, DAWES, & Co., 13, AUSTIN FRIARS, LONDON, or the Brokers, Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, & Co., London; Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow. 30y

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Shortest and Best Route to the West.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO. 19 and 22 Water Street, Liverpool ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. Anderson & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. Johnson, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; James Potts & Son, 26, Sandhill Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SOMETHING FOR HARD TIMES.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE
IS NOW GOING ON,

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS IN THE PRICES OF
DRAPERY GOODS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING, &c.

SEE OUR SPECIAL
MEN'S BLACK WORSTED SUITS, AT 16s. 11d.
BOYS FROM 2s. 6d.

SOME RARE BARGAINS TO BE OBTAINED AT
C. F. COOKE'S,
CHEAP DRAPERY WAREHOUSE
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

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

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(Over 60 Set-up to Select from),
STOVES OF EVERY KIND

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

DENTISTRY.
MR. R. COLLIER,
SURGEON DENTIST,
Supplies PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH at Moderate Charges.
PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED. CHILDREN'S TEETH REGULATED WITH GREAT CARE
Teeth Stopped, &c. Consultations Free. Nitrous Oxide Gas administered if desired.
50, GRAINGER STREET, NEAR ART GALLERY, NEWCASTLE

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST STOCK OF CALICOES, LINENS, HARNS, RED, WHITE, BLUE FLANNELS, SHIRTINGS, FLANNELETTES, HOLLANDS, DIAPERS, PRINTS, TOWELLINGS, SATEENS, COTTON & WOOLLEN DAMASKS, CRETONNES, TABLINGS, AMERICAN LEATHERS, OILBAIZES, COSEYS, DAMASK CLOTHS, ANTIMACASSARS, FRINGES, WINDOW HOLLANDS, LINOLEUMS, FLOOR CLOTHS, FELT and TAPESTRY CARPETS, MATTINGS and HEMP CARPETS, HASSOCKS, TAPESTRY CURTAINS, CORNICE POLES and RINGS, HEARTHRUGS, AXMINSTER RUGS, DOOR MATS, TICKINGS, COLOURED FANCY DRESS MATERIALS, in all the Newest Shades and Patterns for the present Season, BLACK CASHMERES, CRAPE CLOTHS, CORDS, ALPACAS, DRESS LININGS, DRESS TRIMMINGS, SKIRTINGS, COLOURED PLAIN and FANCY CASHMERES, WOOLS, HOSIERY, GLOVES, HABERDASHERY, SMALL WARES, FEATHERS, FLOWERS, RIBBONS, BRAIDS, FANCY TRIMMINGS, CORSETS, STAYS, FUR BOWS, HATS, LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING, MILLINERY, SERVANTS' CAPS, APRONS, PINAFORES, COMBS, MANTLES, DOLMANS, for Ladies and Children; JACKETS, TUNICS, SHAWLS, SHAWLETTES, Men's and Boys' CAPE OVERCOATS, JACKETS, VESTS, TROWSERS, SUITS, PIT CLOTHING, SWANSDOWN and COTTON DRAWERS, LINSEY DRAWERS, MILITARY TROUSERS, MOLESKINS, CORDS, CLOTHS, in the Newest Patterns for Suitings and Overcoatings, WATERPROOF COATS, CARRIAGE RUGS, HATS, CAPS, TIES, SOCKS and STOCKINGS, GLOVES, in all makes, FRONTS in all Shapes, COLLARS, Men's and Boys' CAPS, COTTON, WINCEY, and WOOLLEN SHIRTS, PIT SHIRTS, CARDIGAN JACKETS, STRIPED JERSEYS, WOOL and MERINO PANTS, and TROWSERS, WOOLLEN BODY SHIRTS, MUFFLERS, &c.,

ARE KEPT BY

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR,
9, AND 9A, MIDDLE STREET, AND LUTON HOUSE, CONSETT.

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR, 639y

WANTED!
People who wish to save money to Purchase their Groceries and Provisions at
R. WILLEY'S,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERY AND PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT,
20, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

WILLEY'S TEA AT 2s, DEFIES COMPETITION.
WILLEY'S COFFEES ARE OF THE FINEST QUALITY.
WILLEY'S BACON, LARD, CHEESE, BUTTER, &c., are of the Finest Brands only
WILLEY'S SOAPS ARE USED EVERYWHERE.
WILLEY'S FLOUR AND FEEDING STUFFS, at Lowest Market Prices.
WILLEY'S FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS, from several Prize-taking Dairies. Fresh three times every week.

Orders by Post punctually attended to. Goods delivered daily by our own cart.
Bottler of Bass & Co.'s Pale Ale and Guinness's Stout. Mild and Bitter Ales on draught. The Trade supplied.

Note the Address:—R. WILLEY, 20, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 615y

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

South Acomb, Stocksfield-on-Tyne,
June 7th, 1887.

Messrs. John Hume & Son,
Gentlemen,

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

During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7½ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7¼ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which, with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16½ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.

I am, yours faithfully,
W. TROTTER.

OPENING OF NEW PREMISES.

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER,
BOOKSELLER, STATIONER, AND BOOKBINDER,
59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
Respectfully announces to his Friends and the Public generally the
OPENING OF NEW PREMISES
Which have been specially erected to suit the requirements of his Business.

THE BOOKSELLING DEPARTMENT
Contains a Large and Choice Selection of BIBLES, PRAYER BOOKS, CHURCH SERVICES and HYMN BOOKS in every variety of Style and Binding, and at all prices.
BIRTHDAY BOOKS and BIRTHDAY CARDS in great profusion.
BOOKS SUITABLE FOR REWARDS.
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SCRAPS FOR SCREENS in endless variety.
DIARIES in all sizes for the ensuing year.
Mathematical Instruments, Pocket Knives, Inkstands, &c., &c.

IN THE STATIONERY DEPARTMENT
Will be found WRITING PAPERS, ENVELOPES, PENS, and PENCILS by the best makers, and at remarkably moderate prices.
MOIST AND DRY COLOURS. PURSES, POCKET BOOKS,
ACCOUNT BOOKS of every description, from the large and comprehensive Ledger to the small and concise Memorandum Book.
THE LARGEST STOCK IN THE DISTRICT TO CHOOSE FROM.
BOOKBINDING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION NEATLY AND PROMPTLY EXECUTED AT MODERATE PRICES.

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FOR FELT HATS, from 1s. 11d.
FOR WOOL SHIRTS, from 2s. 11d.
FOR THE LATEST IN SCARFS, from 6½d.
FOR MEN'S SUITS, from 18s. 11d.
FOR YOUTHS' SUITS, from 10s. 6d.
FOR BOYS' SUITS, from 2s. 11d.
FOR MEN'S AND BOYS' OVERCOATS
GO TO
THE 2 W.'S,
15 NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, AND AT NEWCASTLE

W. T. SMITH,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and the readers of the *Guardian* that he will visit at Mr. F. JONES', No. 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, EVERY MONDAY, FROM 11 A.M. TO 5 P.M., where he has every accommodation for receiving his numerous Patrons, and is performing the very highest class operations that can be done in the Dental Profession, in all its branches both Operative and Mechanical, (having received a most thorough dental education in America). Also, all diseases of the oral cavity (the Mouth), facial neuralgia, &c.

Decay can be arrested in the Teeth by stopping them with Gold, Silver, and other Materials, whereby they can be preserved to last a lifetime, if proper care is taken by keeping them cleansed from all foreign matter, such as animal, vegetable, and tartar, which is so often allowed to collect round the necks of the Teeth.

Artificial Teeth inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They can be retained in the mouth by Suction (an American Invention), without the aid of springs, wires, or clasps of any description, which [illegible] destroy the remaining Natural Teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principal, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia, or effect the eye and ear. As diseased Teeth and roots is one of the principal reasons of the various ailments of these most valuable organs [illegible] the Teeth are once inserted they fit perfect without the least pain in any way.

Teeth may be extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas, and other means by which the operations become painless.

All fees for services will be most reasonable, especially for Artificial Sets. 963x

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
GEORGE RICHARDSON,
WHOLESALE DRAPER AND GENERAL OUTFITTER,
Begs to announce to his Customers and the Public the Arrival of NEW GOODS for the WINTER SEASON.
New Dress Materials, New Mantles, New Jackets, Fur Boas, Fur Capes, Wool Shirtings, White and Scarlet Flannels, Wool Blankets, in Witney and Cloth, AT SPECIAL PRICES.
GENT'S SUITINGS AND OVERCOATINGS.
DRESSMAKING AND TAILORING CARRIED-ON IN THE PREMISES by Experienced Workpeople.
November, 1887. 685y

VISITED BY OVER 2,000 PERSONS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29th.

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NEW SHOP AND SHOW ROOMS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
ARE
NOW OPEN WITH ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKS OF HOUSE FURNISHINGS EVER SEEN IN THE DISTRICT, AT REDUCED PRICES.

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN.
GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE
MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, FIELD SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF
PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.
INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.
OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED:
Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

HOBSON'S AROMATIC CALF FOOD, REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.
This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for Milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save Calves from that Inflammatory Fever commonly called Quarter-ill or Black Leg.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF
PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-eight years.
PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 427z

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

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS.

T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the
TAR ELIXER PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP
Prepared by Messrs Ness & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.
PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

T. M. is likewise Agent for Bell & Riddle's, McDougall's, Little & Co.'s, Jeye's, Cooper's, and Wilson and Kitchen's Sheep Dips.

Alterative Condition Powders and Purging Balls for Horses.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES
For the speedy production of a Delicious Temperance Cordial. Ginger, Pine Apple, &c. 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

The excellent qualities of these Pills are too well known to be enumerated here, while the increasing demand under the Popular Name of Milner's Own Pills, is the best Proof of their efficacy. In Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

MILNER'S AFRICAN INSECT POWDER, IN TINS, AT 6d., 1s., AND PACKETS.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.
An excellent Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c. and all Diseases of the Chest and Stomach. 1s. per Bottle.

HAIR RESTORERS PERFUMES, POMADES.
TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANSING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.
TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr Lamont's Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c. &c.

MILNER Chemist
Opposite the Post Office, Consett.

ROBERT JACKSONS
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
Agent for Dipton:—MR. THOMAS CLARK
South Medomsley Cottages.

CONTINUED
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LAMONT'S MAGNETIC BELTS.

BELTS for Rheumatism, Lumbago, and Sciatica.
BELTS for Liver and Kidney Complaints.
INVIGORATORS for Bronchitis and Asthma.
INVIGORATORS for Weak Lungs and Debility.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs.
THROAT PROTECTORS for Sore Throats, &c.
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COUNTY COURT BUSINESS.

The annual return of the registrars of County Courts in England and Wales, dated 1st October, has just been issued by order of the House of Commons. This gives the number of plaints entered for trial, the amount of debts claimed, and the results. We give the statistics relating to local county circuits:—

Consett.—In this court there were 743 plaints entered for trial, representing £2,4[illegible], against 962, and £2,352. Of the former 554 were determined, and judgments obtained for £1,549; exclusive of costs £107; and fees, £529. The amount paid in to the credit of suitors was £1,102, against £1,320; and that paid to them £1,074, against £1,350 in the preceding year.

Wolsingham.—In this court there were 193 plaints entered for trial, representing £1,[illegible], against 245, and £934. Of the former 117 were determined, and judgments obtained for £[illegible]; exclusive of costs, £97; and fees, £127. The amount paid in to the credit of suitors was £3[illegible], against £437; and that paid to them £333, against £[illegible]22.

Durham.—In this court there were 2,9[illegible]3 plaints entered for trial representing £3,[illegible], against 2,916, and £8,274 in the preceding year. Of the former 1,866 were determined, and judgments obtained for £4,908; exclusive of costs, £[illegible]14; and fees upon all proceedings, £1,227. The amount paid in to the credit of suitors was £4,052, against £[illegible],511; and that paid to them £7,671, against £[illegible],405.

Gateshead.—In this court there were £1,551 plaints entered for trial, representing £[illegible], against 1,501, and £4,888. Of the former 1,101 were determined, and judgments obtained for £2,[illegible]83; exclusive of costs, £203; and fees, £576. The amount paid in to the credit of suitors was £1,627, against £1,721; and that paid to them £1,626, against £1,[illegible]9.

In the circuit presided over by His Honour Judge Meynell there were 13,415 plaints entered for trial, representing debts £52,[illegible]. Of these 13,098 were determined, and judgments obtained for £27,5[illegible]; exclusive of costs, £2,06[illegible]; and fees, £7,74[illegible]. The amount paid in to the credit of suitors was £2[illegible],922, and that paid to them £25,556.

CELERY SHOW AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

The annual celery show was held at the house of Mr G. A. Greener, Annfield Plain, on Saturday week. The show was one of the largest ever held in the neighbourhood of celery and red cabbages, there been exhibited 60 stands of celery and 16 of cabbages. There was a keen competition among the growers of celery for the 1st prize, which was awarded to the old cottage gardener, Mr William Dawsan, Crookgate. The show was brought to a close on Monday night, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. Through the generosity and kindness of Mr and Mrs Greener towards the members, numbering about 40, sat down and partook of splendid celery and biscuits. Several very amusing comic and sentimental songs were sung, and recitations were given by the following gentlemen:—Messrs Greener, Cockburn, Robson, Bates, and other local gentlemen. The evening was brought to a close by Mr Mason proposing "The health of the host and hostess," which was given with musical honours amid some enthusiasm; also, "Success to the next show." Mr F. Brewis, as judge, gave general satisfaction. The following is a list of awards:—

CELERY.

1st, William Dawson, shirting piece, 7s 6d, and 2s 6d.
2nd, Henry Bates, 9s.
3rd, Daniel McGregor, 8s.
4th, Jos. Henderson, 7s
5th, Edward Charlton, 6s 6d.
6th, M. Bates, 6s.
7th, M. Conderon, 5s 6d.
8th, J. Lumley, pair shades, value 5s.
9th, G. Grey, pair sheets, 4s 6d.
10th, W. M. Handcock, silk handkerchief, 4s.
11th, Thos. Dodds, 4s.
12th, B. Mason, sen., spade, 3s 6d.
13th, Wm. Powell, 3s 6d.
14th, J. Shanks, 3s.
15th, Wm. Porter, 3s.
16th, B. Mason, lamp, 3s 9d.
17th, J. Pattison, 3s.
18th, R. Holland, 3s.
19th, W. Nichol, 3s.
20th, H. Wilkinson, 2s 6d.
21st, Geo. Pace, 2s 6d.
22nd, Jas. Mason, 2s 6d.
23rd, W. Grey, 2s 6d.
24th, R. Nicholson, bottle whiskey.
25th, R. Holland, teapot, 2s 6d.
26th, J. Whitfield, tongue.
27th, M. Parkin, brush, 1s 6d.
28th, J. Stoddart, tea caddy, 1s.
29th, W. Payne, 1s.

RED CABBAGE.

1st, Thos. Dodds, 6s.
2nd, Wm. Rowell, 4s.
3rd, Sam Northey, pan, 3s.
4th, R. Holland, 2s.
5th, Thos. Holmes, pair pails, 2s.

THE LIFE OF MOZART.

[SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED.]

(*Continued.*)

When Mozart outgrew his boyhood he ceased to be a "phenomenon" in the eyes of the public. Every year, almost, produces its phenomenal child—how few of these children maintain in after life the promise of their early years! Young as he was, he was at this time appointed director of the Archbishop of Salzburg's Concerts, but the office was almost a purely honorary one, the total emolument being about a guinea a year. Dissatisfied with his prospects at Salzburg he tried to establish himself at Munich, Augsburg, and Mannheim respectively, but failed to secure a sufficient livelihood at any of these places. He now went with his mother to Paris, exciting the same enthusiasm as before, but at the same time stirring up the jealousy and opposition of the older musicians, and receiving very little in the way of payment. It is pathetic to read his letters from Paris in which he expresses his delight at having succeeded in obtaining two or three pupils. After the death of his mother at Paris he left that place and settled at Vienna. Here he made a proposal of marriage to his future wife, Constance Weber, but was rejected by her friends on the ground of the insufficiency of his means, whereupon he composed his "Idomeneus," in which, on its production, she was one of the performers. The success of this opera was very great, and secured for him the young lady's hand. His musical labours at this period were incessant. For four or five successive years scarcely any pianoforte player was thought of in Vienna but Mozart; and his engagements to play at the parties of the chief nobility were very numerous. His wife, however, was attacked by an illness which clung to her for a year and a half, and their means were so small that he was constantly being dunned by his creditors. The most striking fact in this career of alternate success and adversity is the production in such profusion of the imperishable works of the composer, under circumstances of great depression, and frequently in opposition to the demands of nature for relaxation and repose. Before Weber, Ries, and Mendelssohn had contributed to the stock of chamber music for the pianoforte, violin, viola, and violoncello, the pianoforte quartets of Mozart formed the sole resource of musical families who found pleasure in that kind of instrumental combination. In 1786, he produced his opera, "Le Nozze di Figaro." This work, which has maintained its place on the stage and in the drawing-room for a hundred years in continuation, is justly considered, for its extraordinary wealth of melody, the variety of its style, and the perfection of its concerted music, as one of the most wonderful trophies of human skill. It is second only to his *chef-d'œuvre* "Don Giovanni." This latter work was received with much jealousy by the musical critics of Vienna. Their criticism tried Mozart's patience to the uttermost. He had heard it said of "Figaro" that it was "too difficult," and "too much spun out for comic opera," and how he heard of "Don Giovanni" that for romantic opera it was "too learned—too much crowded with effects of scientific harmony." Criticism of this kind was bestowed on "Don Giovanni" by an assembly of composers and dilettanti at the house of Prince Radziwill, where that work was performed soon after its production. Haydn, who was at the party, and who had long sat silent, was at length appealed to for his opinion. "All I know," he replied with energy, "is that *Mozart is the greatest composer now existing*"—praise nobly given by the only rival of Mozart then living. Alas! at that age nothing was to be made out of opera, at least by the composer. The profit went to the director of the theatre and the publisher. The music shops, as a source of income, were almost closed to Mozart, as he could not submit his genius to the dictates of fashion. Hofmeister, the publisher, having once advised him to write in a more *popular* style, or else he could not continue to purchase his compositions, Mozart answered with unusual bitterness, "Then I can make no more by my pen, and I had better starve and go to destruction at once." He began to experience fits of defection, which were partly the effect of bodily ailments, but more of weariness with the perplexity of affairs, and of a prospect which afforded him but one object on which he could gaze with the certainty of relief, and that was death. In 1791, he composed "Die Zauberflote," and after this the cloud of melancholy settled heavily upon him. And now comes the most curious incident in his life. Early in August, the composer was one day surprised by the entrance of a stranger, who brought him a letter without any signature, asking him to compose a requiem, and at what time he could be ready with it. He was to follow the beat of his own genius in the work, but to give himself no trouble to discover who employed him, as it would be in vain. Mozart could not divest himself of the idea that he was writing this requiem for himself. While he was engaged on it his illness assumed the gravest character, and eventually he was removed to the bed from which he never rose. The score of the requiem was kept continually on his counterpane, and he was engaged on it till the last, giving instructions as to its rendering. As he looked over its pages for the last time, he said, with tears in his eyes, "Did I not tell you that I was writing this for myself!" He passed into a delirium, and expired at midnight on the 5th December, 1791. His funeral was unostentatious to meanness, and far from such as befitted the obsequies of so great a man. The mortal remains of the great composer were deposited in the cemetery of St. Marxer Linie, near Vienna, the same in which his intimate friends, Albrechtsberger and Joseph Haydn, were afterwards buried. A common undistinguished grave received the coffin, which was then left without memorial, almost forgotten, for nearly 20 years, and when, in 1808, some enquiries were made as to the precise spot of the interment, all that the sexton could tell was that it was somewhere or other in a certain row of unmarked mounds; and as the contents of these graves were from time to time exhumed, nothing could ever be determined with certainty concerning the last resting place of Mozart. So died Mozart, at the age of 35, one of the greatest composers that ever lived.

PRUDHOE LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday night, a public meeting was held in the United Methodist Free Church School-room, Prudhoe, under the auspices of the Liberal Association. Mr S. Little occupied the chair, and was supported by Rev. F. Raine, Mr T. Y. Strachan, H. P. Corder, and Mr W. Robertson, secretary. There was a large attendance.

Mr STRACHAN dwelt on Socialism and stated that although co-operation might do much, it was no remedy for competition. There was not the slightest chance of it; there would still be village against village, county against county, and kingdom against kingdom, and there still would be competition. The poor we should always with us, and the amount of misery that prevailed in our great cities was matter for reflection, but how to amend it was not so easy to see. Every change was not a cure, and when the Socialists tried to upset the present order of society they must show that out of its ruins they could raise something better than at present existed. Did it never occur to them that we might get into a state of society even worse than the present one? Therefore, unless Socialists could show us something better than mere destruction, then Socialism provided no remedy. (Applause.) Socialists and Fair Traders were far more likely to lead them astray than to mend their condition. There was another sort of economy besides political economy to which Liberals ought to direct their attention. Their old programme had been "Peace, retrenchment, and reform." The reform they had got—at least a large instalment of it—but he should like for a moment or two to say a few words about retrenchment as leading up to peace. If the English democracy were to make their voices felt, they must insist upon there being great retrenchment in the expenditure of this kingdom. We had a national debt of £750,000,000. One hundred and fifty years ago the national debt was but £16,000,000, and then because we went into those wars on the Continent for the balance of power, as our forefathers believed it was exceedingly dangerous that one Power should be too big, this soon increased to £127,000,000. Then, because we attempted to coerce America into obedience to our laws, we lost the brightest gem in the British Crown, and added 160 millions of pounds to our national debt. Afterwards Nemises came with our wars with France to hinder her having a republic, and to-day she had a republic. Altogether we had incurred a national debt of £750,000,000 in our endeavours to cut the throats of our fellow-men, and for this we had nothing whatever to show except what was called honour and glory. (Laughter.) There had got to be raised in this country every year £29,000,000 in interest and charges on this debt. That was the price we paid for the past bloodshed of the country.

Mr P. CORDER also addressed the meeting, dealing with the Irish land and Home Rule questions.

On the motion Rev FOSTER RAINE, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the speakers.

WHICKHAM LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of the Whickham Local Board was held in the Board-room on Thursday week, under the presidency of Mr Hy. Wallace.—Cheques were issued for £228 5s for the past month's expenses.—The Medical Officer (Dr Attwater) reported a birth-rate of 37·43, and a death-rate of 12·38 per 1,000 per annum.—The seal of the Board was affixed to a general district rate of 10d in the pound.—The Clerk (Mr T. Lambert) read a letter from the Town Clerk of Newcastle (Mr Hill Motum) referring to the occupation of a portion of the foreshore and bed of the River Tyne by the sewage outlets of the Board at Dunston. Unless some amicable arrangement was entered into with regard to the occupation of the foreshore, the Corporation would have no alternative but to commence an action against the Board. The Corporation requested to be favoured with a communication upon the subject within two months from the date of the letter.—The Chairman said in his opinion they had a perfect right to have their sewers there. It was a very serious thing if they were deprived of their right.—On the motion of Mr Garbutt, the matter was referred to the Chairman.

THE ALLOTMENTS ACT.

A deputation of agricultural labourers, headed by Mr Brabant, waited upon the Chairman, and presented the following requisition:—"We, the undersigned, do hereby make an application under the Labourers' New Allotments Acts to you, as agent to the Right Hon. the Earl of Ravensworth, for six acres of arable land, situate in the parish of Whickham, county of Durham, now in the occupation of Mr Ralph Atkinson, as tenant thereof.—Signed, Wm. Brabant, sen., John Ismay, Wm. Brabant, jun., Thomas Ismay, Wm. Collier, Saml. Allander."—Mr Wallace said that their application would have his full consideration, and the deputation withdrew.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. Their effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

Foot ball.

FIXTURES.

Nov. 19.—Consett v. North Elswick, at Elswick.
" 19.—Consett 2nd v. Shotley Bridge St. Cuthberts, at Shotley Bridge.
" 19.—Burnopfield Temperance Rangers 2nd v. Leadgate 2nd, at Leadgate.
" 19.—Rendel Swifts v. Medomsley, on Rendel ground.
" 19.—Burnopfield Temperance Rangers v. Leadgate, at Leadgate.
" 19.—Elswick Harriers v. Ouston Juniors, at Ouston.
" 19.—Tantobie 1st and 2nd v. Gateshead 1st and 2nd, at Gateshead.
" 19.—Burnopfield v. St. Cuthbert, at Sunderland.
" 19.—Shotley Bridge St. Cuthbert's v. Newcastle Rangers, at Shotley Bridge.
" 19.—Leadgate Exiles v. Consett Sextons, at Consett.
" 19.—Milkwell Burn Royal Blues v. Washington, Milkwell Burn.
" 19.—Mickley v. Corbridge, at Corbridge.

ASSOCIATION.

BIRTLEY 2ND V. SOUTHWICK B TEAM.—Played at Birtley, and resulted in a draw of one goal each.

LEADGATE EXILES JUNIORS V. NEWCASTLE NORTH-EASTERN APPRENTICE JUNIORS.—Played on Newcastle ground, when the Exiles won by six goals to nil.

OUSTON V. WEARMOUTH C BLACK WATCH.—Played at Ouston, and after a very interesting and fast game resulted in a victory for the home team by two goals to one.

CALLOWGATE LEATHER WORKS 2ND V. CHOPWELL ROVERS.—Played on the ground of the former, which won by two goals to one, after a very fast game.

ST. SILAS B V. BURNOPFIELD RANGERS 2ND.—On the ground of the latter, and, after a pleasant game, resulted in a win for the "Saints" by five goals to one. After the match the visitors were entertained to tea, and afterwards spent a pleasant evening.

TURNDON HEROES V. PELTON FELL HARRIERS.—Played on the ground of the latter, resulted in a win for the visitors by one goal to none. The second teams of the above clubs also played an exciting game, which resulted in a draw, no score being made.

WALDRIDGE SCHOOL V. CHESTER-LE-STREET CO-OPERATIVE SWIFTS.—Played at Waldridge on Wednesday, and resulted in a draw of one goal each.

CHESTER MOOR V. HASWELL.—Played on the Chester Moor ground, the home club winning by three goals to one.

CHESTER MOOR 2ND V. HASWELL 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former, and ended in a victory for the home club by three goals to one.

PASTON GATE V. BEARPARK 2ND.—Played at Paston on Saturday, and after a good game ended in a draw, no goals being scored.

ST. MARK'S JUNIORS V. CLARENCE DARTS.—Played at [illegible] borough. The Saints won by four goals to one.

DELAVAL WANDERERS JUNIORS V. SWALWELL RANGERS JUN ORS.—Played at Delaval, and after a fast and exciting game resulted in a win for the home team by six goals to none.

MILKWELL BURN ROYAL BLUES JUNIORS V. CONSETT PARNELLITES 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by two goals to nil.

SWALWELL RANGERS B V. WALBOTTLE B.—Played at Swalwell, in two twenties, the Rangers winning by three goals to none.

CONSETT SHAMROCKS V. MEDOMSLEY ROVERS.—Played on the ground of the former, on Saturday, and after a hard contest the Shamrocks won by three goals to none.

DIPTON TRIERS V. SOUTH MOOR.—Dipton Triers played with the South Moor Mashers on the ground of the former, and ended with four goals for the Triers, and one disputed for the Mashers. Played in two half-hours.—The second teams started, but darkness setting in, they had to give up.

LEADGATE V. [illegible] ATCHGATE.—The junior teams of the above clubs met on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for Catchgate by one goal and one disputed to nil.

SNOWS GREEN JUNIORS V. PAPER MILL JUNIORS.—Played on the grounds of Shotley Spa, and after a pleasant game the home team got an easy victory. Score:—Snows Green Juniors, 1 try, 2 minors, and 1 dead ball to nil.

BURNOPFIELD TEMPERANCE RANGERS V. ELSWICK ORDNANCE.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a well-contested game resulted in a win for the Rangers by two goals to nil. G. Bell, one of the Rangers' backs, kicked the first goal for the home team. W. Hogarth scored the next goal from the right wing.

LEADGATE EXILES V. HEBBURN ALBIONS.—These teams met on Saturday last on the Bill Quay ground, and after a hard and well-contested game ended in a draw of three goals each. The Exiles were four of their first team men short.

SWALWELL RANGERS V. WALBOTTLE A.—Played at Swalwell in two thirties. Walbottle scored once in the first half, and again in the second, thus winning by two goals to none. The goals were scored by Bellerby and Browell. The visitors played a fine passing game, which was very effective. Gregory, home captain, was seriously injured in the beginning of the second half, and had to be carried from the field.

BIRTLEY V. HEBBURN.—Played at Birtley, in two thirties. The home team kicked off, and for about ten minutes Hebburn had a lively time of it. Soon after a shot was made by Birtley, but nothing resulted, until Bolam made a capital shot and scored first goal for Birtley. With the exception of a splendid piece of passing by Standley, Bolam, and Hedley from the centre of the field to the mouth of the goal, nothing of note took place during the remainder of the first half. But just before the whistle sounded the visitors sent the ball through, but it was disallowed. After changing ends, the Birtley forwards played with remarkable dash and speed, Bolam and McAvoy each scoring, the record at the call of time standing:—Birtley, 5 goals; Hebburn, none. For the visitors, who played one man short, Anderson, Pigg, and Eckford played a really good game; Anderson being deserving of special mention. Birtley:—G. Smart, goal-keeper; L. Gray and R. Ellis, backs; E. Bell, Potter, and W. Murray, half-backs; A. Stanley, J. Bolam, Downie, W. Hedley, and P. McAvoy, forwards.

DURHAM CUP TIES.

BEDE COLLEGE V. ESH STAGS.—This match was played at Esh on Saturday before a good attendance. Jackson kicked off for the visitors, and Robinson scored for them after two minutes' play. The home team then worked well together and prevented the Collegians from scoring again during the first half. In the second half the visitors played splendidly, and added four more goals to their credit, thus winning a good match by five goals to nil. For Esh, Harrison and Heath played a good game; whilst Millar, Chatt, Taylor, Thompson, and Robinson were the pick of the College. Teams:—Esh Stags: W. Harrison, goal; T. Pooly and C. Heath (captain), backs; G. Shaw, W. Liddle, and S. Groucutt, half-backs; J. Thompson, W. Allison, T. Parker, J. Shaw, and T. Kidd, forwards. Umpire Mr J. Trotter. Bede College: J. Charlton, goal; G. Millar and J. Young, backs; E G. Chatt, G. Levison, and J. Cockburn, half-backs; A. W. Taylor, J. Thompson, A. Jackson, and J. Robinson, forwards. Umpire, Mr E. Thompson; referee, Mr T. Hull, D.U.A.F.C.

MEDOMSLEY V. ASHVILLE, SUNDERLAND.—This tie in the first round of the Durham Cup was played at Sunderland on Saturday last. The kick-off, as advertised, was 1·30 at which time the visitors were on the ground ready but were kept waiting by the non-arrival of the home players till 2·30 when the game was started. Ashville lost the toss and kicked off from the Sunderland end. The game at once became fast and exciting, though the visitors from the first seemed to have the advantage. Accurate passing and dribbling was impossible owing to the rough ground, and the forwards on each side had to be content with play of the kick and rush description. G. and W. Walton on the Medomsley right became prominent but were well looked after by Hall, and seige was laid to the visitors fortress. Beadling, who throughout played in grand form, assisted by Hornsby, Barron, and Campbell, raised the seige and G. Walton gaining possession sent in a 70-pounder which the goal-keeper had no chance at (1 to 0.) On resuming Beadling and his backs had all their work cut out to prevent a score. On one occasion it seemed a guinea to a gooseberry on the home team scoring, but Beadling saved marvellously, Barron put in a huge kick and the chance was gone. After some desultory play in which Little, Hunter, Taylor, and Caut were prominent, Buckley gained possession for Ashville, and passed to Hogarth, Campbell however dispossessed him and sent to Little, who put in a fine dribble and passed on to Hunter, and a fine piece of play was finished by Hunter shooting past the post. This brought about half-time. On the kick off Medomsley at once took the aggressive and Wilson had to use his hands on several occasions. Ashville men woke up and the game grew fast and furious. Hornsby was hurt and went full back, and Barron came half. Lafey for Ashville was very prominent, at this time kicking grandly. Caut relieved and passed to Hunter, and Little who received finished a fine dribble by scoring with a grand shot but the score was disallowed by the referee—"off-side." On the kick out W Walton at once secured the leather and dodging half and full backs in grand style shot through amid the applause of the spectators who had increased their numbers. Score, (2 to 0). From this Medomsley continued to press and G. Walton received from Taylor put in a magnificent centre across the goal mouth. Little took charge of the goal-keeper beautifully, and Dales headed through. Though Ashville were defending till time was called, the score remained unaltered and Medomsley entered the second round. Score, (3 goals to 0.) All the Medomsley team played well though the forwards were too often out of their places. Ashville have a very good back team but are wanting in forwards. Medomsley team:—Beadling, goal; Barrow and Campbell, backs; Taylor, Hornsby, and Caut, half-backs; G. Walton, W. Walton, Little, Hunter, and Dales, forwards. Referee, Mr Grundy, Whitburn.

RUGBY.

CONSETT 2ND V. RYTON 2ND.—Ryton 2nd journeyed to Shotley Bridge, and arrived two short, but obtained the services of two of the Shotley Bridge club men, and a most pleasant game in the Spa Grounds resulted in a draw in favour of Consett 2nd. Score:—Consett 2nd, one try and two minors; Ryton 2nd, one try and one minor.

RYTON V CONSETT.—These teams met on Ryton Willows, before a large company and in beautiful weather. The visitors turned up with only ten men, while the home team played their full complement. Kempster set the ball in motion, and for the first few minutes play was confined to the centre, but the Ryton forwards came with a rush, and took the ball near the visitors line, where a lot of passing took place among the home backs, but no further headway could be made against the splendid tackling of the opposing few till Thompson kicked the ball over the line and score a minor point. After the drop-out, the game was of a very even character, and notwithstanding there were nine of the home forwards against five of the visitors, the scrimmages were every inch contested. In the loose, the Consett men more than once held their own, while in tackling they were equally effective, but in passing the superior numbers told against them. From a line-out, Stobbart knocked the ball forward, and his opponents under the impression it would be brought back, he ran in uninterrupted, but to the general surprise the referee allowed a try. During the second period, some grand form on both sides was shown, the fine kicking of the backs being the feature of the latter part of the game, and from some loose play Thompson got over the line, from which Stobbart kicked a goal. The Consett men played on with greater determination than ever, and once or twice, by good kicks and combined play, they got near the home territory, when the whistle blew to cease play. The game throughout was fast and pleasant, and the result of one goal, one try, and one minor for Ryton was much less than expected, considering they had the advantage of five more men than their opponents. Consett:—Back, A. Wood; three-quarter backs, J. Todd and Wm. Kempster (captain); half-backs, J. Anderson and G. Urwin; forwards, W. Fiddes, Walter Fiddes, J. Fiddes, C. Dibley, and F. Moss. Umpire, Mr T. H. Kirkup.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

Medomsley have now to meet Bede College in the second round at Medomsley, on or before Saturday, Dec. 10th.

WELL DONE CONSETT!—At the Durham County match competition, Mr T. Jameson (captain of the Consett club) kicked three goals and also obtained a try. He was selected as a "probable" county player.

DEATH OF A LOCAL FOOTBALLER.—At a meeting of the Tanfield Lea Association Football Club held on Monday night, owing to the death of N. Carr, who was killed at East Tanfield Colliery, and was a member of the above club, it was resolved to wear a black band on the jerseys in token of respect for the deceased.

Sporting Items.

WRESTLING AT PRUDHOE.—At Mr Tully's Halfway House, the wrestling for 10-stone men was resumed. There was 16 entries. C. Tinn, Mickley, won W. Proudlock, Carlisle, second. A prize for youths under 14 years of age (to be won three times in succession, or four times in all) eight entries, and John Christer, Mickley, won.

DOG COURSING NEAR CHESTER-LE-STREET.—At Mr B. Dickenson's, Plough Inn Grounds, High Flatts, on Saturday, a match for £10 a-side, the best of thirteen courses, was run between Wardle's Mother's Pet, Pelton Fell, and Coxon's Little Fred, Pelton, the latter receiving two yards start. Score:—Mother's Pet, 5; Little Fred, 8.

RABBIT COURSING AT WINLATON.—A large company assembled in a large grass field adjoining the house of Wm. Rayne, Commercial Hotel, Winlaton, to witness a rabbit coursing for small dogs, promoted by Robert Westley. The rabbits ran stout and well, and after some good coursing it was agreed to run the event out. Six dogs are still standing.

PIGEON SHOOTING NEAR CHESTER-LE-STREET.—In fine weather the pigeon shooting handicap promoted by Mrs Emmerson at the Newfield Inn, commenced on Saturday, was concluded on Wednesday. At the end of the fourth round, owing to darkness setting in, a division was agreed to amongst those who had killed four birds each. Tipiady was handicapper and scorekeeper; W. Wishart, referee; and Ben Everitt, trapper.

BLAYDON A.C.C. DINNER.—The first annual dinner in connection with the Blaydon Amateur Cycling Club was held on Tuesday night at the Douglas Hotel, under the presidency of Dr. R. Brown.—After an excellent dinner the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were suitably honoured.—"Success to the Blaydon A.C.C." was proposed by Mr Tait, and suitably acknowledged by Messrs J. Atkinson (captain) and R. Moorhead (secretary).—The chairman then presented a gold medal to Mr B. Reed, and highly complimented him upon his success in winning the club road race.—The proceedings, which were of a most harmonious character, were enlivened by songs from Messrs T. Biggins, M. Aiston, J. Cooke, Patterson, and Eyre, Mr J. T. Ramsay presiding at the piano.—A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman was followed by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," after which the gathering separated.

WRESTLING IN WEARDALE.—The second contest for the silver challenge cup offered by the Atheletic Club for ten-stone men took place at Weardale on Saturday night in the presence of a large company, E. Rowell, the previous winner, securing a second verdict cleverly with the left foot and back from last year's winner, Wm. Bell. Appended are results:—First round—W. Bell, Hill, threw Tom Harrison, Sedling; John Peart, Burnhope, threw Bayne Robinson, Burnhope; George Burdess, Cowshill, threw Alfred Carr, Cowshill; Emerson Rowell, Burnhope, threw Jim Pattinson, Weardale; Wm. Thompson, Burnhope, threw Joe Peart, Wearhead. Second round—Wm. Bell threw G. Burdess, E. Rowell threw Wm. Thompson, J. Peart odd man. Third round—Bell threw Peart, Rowell odd man. Final—Bell threw Rowell, who then threw his opponent twice in succession and won.

WOLSINGHAM.—The handicap-pigeon shooting promoted by Mr David Coates was brought to a successful issue on Saturday, in a field near Mr J. Price's, Grey Bull, Score:—John Proud, 18, 1 1 1 0; Butcher, 18, 0; N. Raw, 20, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; N. Raw, 2nd lot, 1; J. Price, 19, 0; Late of Coming, 20, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; W. Watson, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0; Grey Bull, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0; Just in time, 0; Gateshead, 21, 1 0; Althorp, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0; Gip, 22, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; Old Jack, 22, 0; L. Wearmouth, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; E. Shotton, 22, 1 0; Capt. Webb, 22, 0; Butcher, 2nd lot, 21, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; Letherine, 18, 1 0; N. Brow ley, 19, 1 1 0; Dead Hook, 21, 0; Summer, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; E. Shotton, 2nd lot, 22, 0; Crown and Anchor, 22, 0; Just in Time, 2nd lot, 21, 1 1 1 0; Capt. Webb. 2nd lot, 22, 0; Gateshead, 2nd lot, 21, 1 0; Rowlands Gill, 22, 0; Tow Law, 19 0; Geo. Wright, 22, 1 1 1 1 1 0; J. J. Raine, 21, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1. Stake divided.

CONSETT ROYAL GROUNDS.—The concluding heats of the £7 10s foot handicap promoted by Mr Edward Wylam, of the Freemasons' Arms, were run at the above grounds on Saturday afternoon before a very large concourse of people. Result:—Heat 1—J. Haggerstone, Leadgate, 18 yds, 1; M. Wilkinson, Blackhill, 24, 2; J. J. Allan, Blackhill, 18½, 3; M. Siddle, Blackhill, 21, 0. Won by a yard. Heat 2—J. Ashman, Castleside, 18, 1; W. Wilson, Durham, 6, 2; W. Turner, West Stanley, 18, 3; R. Milburn, Shotley Bridge, 17½, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 3—J. Johnson, Blackhill, 25, 1; W. Parker, Consett, 21, 2; J. Eltringham, Dipton, 11½, 3; A. Collinson, Waterhouses, 19½, 4. Won easily by two yards. Heat 4—T. Nelson, Crook, 18, 1; J. Farrage, The Spen, 24, 2; F. Williams, Benfieldside, 21, 3. Won by a yard. Final heat—Johnson, £6, 1; Nelson, £1, 2; Haggerstone, 5s, 3; Ashman, 5s, 4. A close and exciting race won by six inches only, a similar distance dividing second and third, while the fourth man was a foot behind. Johnstone, having a good start, was favourite at 5 to 4 on him, 6 to 5 being laid against Nelson, 12 to 5 Ashman, and 6 to 4 Haggerstone. Mr Joseph Dodds acted as judge and handicapper, while Mr N. Lamb was pistol-firer.

Trade Notes.

WARNING TO MINERS.—The following warning was issued on Tuesday night:—The attention of miners is directed to the increase of barometric pressure now in progress, the centre of a large anticyclone having advanced from the westward, with a cold, dry atmosphere, necessitating careful dealing with gas escapes and coal dust.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight—Mr Thomas Robson in the chair. There were also present: Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J.P., J. Humble, Ed. Nicholson, P. Oswald Wm. Ironside, J. Hodgson, C. Robson Peter Hay, J. Chrysal, R. J. Coxon, G. Swinburne, E. T. Swallow, and the clerk (Mr R. Dickinson).

THE ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

A letter from the King's Lynn Union was read asking the co-operation and assistance of the Board in procuring an order from the Local Government Board making it incumbent upon any person nominating a candidate for the Board of Guardians to obtain the consent of his nominee, in writing, before sending the nomination to the returning officer.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not think that it would make much matter as the person nominated could always withdraw if he did not wish to stand an election.

Mr HUMBLE: It is sometimes very annoying and troublesome to be nominated against one's wish.

Mr HAY gave a case in point in which a gentleman had been nominated for Chester-le-Street without his consent having been obtained, and who would not give himself the trouble to come up and declare off. In that case, if the Clerk had not given himself a great deal of trouble, there would have been the expence of a needless election in the township of Chester-le-Street.

The CHAIRMAN: That is a very forcible argument, and probably the King's Lynn people may have had some similar trouble.

Mr COXON moved, and Mr HAY seconded, that the support of the Board be given to the resolution.

This was carried unanimously.

THE PRESERVATION OF ORDER.

A letter from the Bridgewater Union respecting the maintenance of order in Guardian's meetings at Mitchelstown and elsewhere, was ordered to lie upon the table for six months.

THE FORTHCOMING POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

A letter was read stating that the usual Poor Law Conference would be held on the 7th proximo at Kensington Hall and asking for a subscription.

The CHAIRMAN: We have never subscribed. Shall we begin?

Mr HUMBLE: No, sir, times are too bad.

This was agreed to.

PAUPER STATISTICS.

Mr Robert Turnbull, relieving-officer for Harraton sub-district, reported that he had, during the fourth and fifth weeks of the quarter, relieved 427 persons, at a cost of £56 7s.

Mr Joseph Armstrong, for Chester-le-Street, had, during the same period, and for the same purpose paid away £73 11s 5d to 465 persons.

The Master's journal stated the number of inmates in the House to be 147, as against 121 for the corresponding period last year. The number of vagrants relieved during the fortnight was stated to be 182, shewing an increase of 31 over the same period for last year.

THE POOR-HOUSE CROWDED.

The Master's journal further stated that the men's and girls' wards were crowded, and the Master wished to know what he was to do if any more orders were made for admission to those wards?

Mr OSWALD asked if there was really no more room?

The Master replied they had already extra beds in wards complained of, and they were all full.

Mr OSWALD thought it was a matter for a sub committee to take up thoroughly, and to report to the next meeting of the Board.

This suggestion was adopted.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The Guardians afterwards sat as the Sanitary Authority, Mr P. Oswald (in the absence of the the Chairman) presiding. There was only a small attendance.

POLLUTION OF A BURN.

The Clerk read a communication from the Local Government Board, drawing attention to the polluted state of the burn which flows through Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, and Chester-le-Street Sanitary Districts, and emptying into the Wear near Lumley Castle, and the state of which had been complained of to their lordships by Mr H. V. Tippet, agent for the Earl of Scarborough. Communications from the Houghton-le-Spring Rural Sanitary Authority had also been received by the Local Government Board asking for a special inquiry to be instituted. The Local Government Board, however, objected to this course, until some definite scheme and an application for a loan had been submitted to them.

The CHAIRMAN said that if a joint scheme was entered into, the proposition of Chester-le-Street would be very small. There did not seem to be anything in which they could take immediate action. It seemed to be a very complex subject, and the members would have observed how thoroughly they seemed to be in difficulties at Houghton-le-Spring. That the matter was an urgent piece of business was beyond question, but there was one consolation—the share of the Chester-le-Street Authority was very small, their proportion of the population being only 1,000 out of a total of 39,900. He thought they could not do better than let the matter stand over till next meeting, when the Chairman of the Authority (Mr Robson), who was thoroughly versed in the whole matter, would be present.

The consideration of the question was accordingly adjourned.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr Duncan, medical officer of health, reported that the mortality in the Board's district during the past fortnight was 20·6, and the birth-rate 37·6 per thousand per annum. The damp, cold weather had increased the number of deaths from chest affections. On visiting Lumley, he found three cases of typhoid fever, and learned that a lad named Parkin had come to the Seven Stars Inn, Lumley, to recruit his health. Dr Renton found that he was suffering from typhoid fever, which he had contracted before leaving Antwerp. Mrs Duffy, his aunt, had caught the contagion whilst nursing him, and she had given it to her husband. The servant girl at the house had also contracted the disease. Precautions had been taken to prevent the spread of the disease, and disinfectants were freely used. One case of scarlet fever, at New Washington, was progressing favourably, and no further case had been observed. The report further stated that 35 children out of a possible 70 were absent from school at Springwell, owing to an epidemic of measles. The officer had advised Mr Swallow to close the schools for three weeks.

Mr SWALLOW said that it had been decided to close the school, which had been done.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr T. Barras) reported that a complaint had been made to him respecting a drain at Witton Gilbert. He had attended to the matter, and the drain was now right.

PELTON NEW CEMETERY.

A letter was read from Mr Turnbull, agent for Mr Fenwick, intimating that that gentleman would no doubt be willing to sell three acres of land instead of two at the price previously named (£150 per acre), in accordance with the recommendation of the sub-committee for the formation of a new cemetery at Pelton.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The Clerk read a letter from the Secretary of the Consett Water Company, requesting the completion of the payment for the construction of a reservoir for the Board, the work having now been executed. The amount required is £750. The reservoir in question is situated in the Lanchester district, and has been constructed to procure a sufficient pressure at Chester-le-Street.

Mr Burns was instructed to see the reservoir, and report as to whether the work is complete, and has been properly executed.

LEEK AND VEGETABLE SHOW AT TANFIELD.

A leek and vegetable show was held at the house of Mr R. Johnson, Peacock Inn, Tanfield, on Nov. 5th. The show closed with 25 members, and was a real success, being confined to a radius of two miles for leeks, and open for vegetables, which were three varieties, and 31 stands of vegetables were set up. There were 29 stands of leeks. Mr Robinson was judge, and gave every satisfaction. Awards:—

LEEKS.

1st, Thomas Scott, 10s.
2nd, W. Fawcett, 8s.
3rd, M. Handcock, 7s.
4th, J. Summerbell, 6s 6d.
5th, E. Charlton, 5s 9d.
6th, N. Watson, 5s 3d.
7th, W. Bruce, 4s 9d.
8th, R. Johnson, 4s 3d.
9th, W. Dawson, 4s.
10th, T. Holmes, 3s 9d.
11th, L. Dodds, 3s 6d.
12th, J. Bruce, 3s 3d.
13th, E. Elean, 3s.
14th, W. Proudlock, 2s 9d.
15th, H. Wilkinson, 2s 6d.
16th, R. Pattison, 2s 3d.
17th, W. Rowell, 2s.
18th, W. Lake, 2s.
19th, J. Hand, 1s 6d.
20th, T. Potts, 1s 3d.

VEGETABLES.

1st, R. Johnson, bed rug, 12s 6d.
2nd, L. Dodds, cruet stand, 15s.
3rd, M. Handcock, meerschaum pipe, 12s 6d.
4th, W. Gibson, pair of lustres, 6s.
5th, W. Proudlock, silk handkerchief, 5s 6d.

Besides 20 other useful articles too numerous to mention.

A large number of spectators visited the show on Saturday and Monday, and was a credit to Mr Johnson for the manner in which he had the room decorated, and pleased the spectators. The prizes were distributed on Monday night—Mr Rowell in the chair. There is a curious coincidence between the chairman and this show. This being the Queen's Jubilee year, it has been a fortunate one for Mr Rowell, who had his son and heir christened on Sunday and visited the show at the time. Mr Rowell and Mrs Rowell's and son's health were drunk in musical honours, and brought the enjoyable evening to a close.

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.)

AN ANSWER TO "TOM OF COVENTRY'S" QUERIES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian

SIR,—In answer to Tom of Coventry's queries of last week:

It is not true that the Blaydon Local Board's Surveyor has not visited Ramsay's Cottages this summer; as the official in question has been twice a-week in the Spen these last three months.

It is not true that there is a sow and nine young pigs so near the house mentioned; and the queries in connection therewith are therefore *not true*.—

I am, &c., PETER McGOWEN.

Ramsay's Cottages, Spen,
November 14th, 1887.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD: THE EXPENDITURE AND THE NEW RATE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian

SIR,—Allow me a word, please, in the discussion which has been raised by Mr Calvert at the last Local Board meeting held at Consett. It may be, as Mr Calvert asserted, that the new rate is illegal. It is not difficult to see that one party wants to enact laws to bring more revenue in, while the other is contemplating to lighten the burden of the overtaxed ratepayers. I am not contending for or against any form of Local Boards, nor for or against any party here or elsewhere. That which the owners and the ratepayers choose to do has a perfect right to be done; but, sir, from what or from whence do the Consett town councillors prove the the right to expend £50 of the ratepayers' money for the benefit of a Baptist church, intended to be built some time in Aynsley Terrace. If a system of Local Boards can be introduced, less expensive and more productive of general happiness than those which have existed, all attempts to oppose their progress will in the end be fruitless. Reason, like time, will make its own way; it may therefore be of use in this day to discriminate between those things which are the effect of councillors' meetings and those which are not. This will be best done by taking a review of the past Local Boards. By beginning with this investigation we shall be able to assign effects to their proper causes, and analyze the mass of common errors.—I am, yours &c., TAXPAYER.

Consett, Nov. 13th, 1887.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—When inclement weather checks to a considerable extent the action of the skin, an alterative is required to compensate the body by means of other channels. Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended as the easiest, surest, and safest means of attaining this desirable end without weakening the most delicate or incommoding the most feeble. When from frequently recurring chills or the inhalation of impure air the blood becomes foul and the secretions vitiated, these Pills present a ready and efficient means of cleansing the former and correcting the latter. By this salutary proceeding disease is arrested at its outset, its pains and inconveniences averted, and the nervous structures saved from the depressing effects entailed upon them by an illness.

HOLINESS CONVENTION.—A meeting for taking into consideration the best means of promoting a revival and enriching prosperity in the various Primitive Methodist societies in the dale was held on Saturday afternoon in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Stanhope, representatives from various parts of the dale being present. A public meeting was held in the evening, when addresses were delivered by Messrs W. Burns, W. Elliott, and T. Smith. A good company was present.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY MEETING.—The annual missionary meeting of the Stanhope Wesleyans was held on Tuesday—Mr Robert Ward presiding. Addresses were delivered by Revs H. Beeson, G. B. Glover, and D. Jones (deputation). The total income of the Wesleyan Missionary Society for the year was £135,000, of which the Weardale circuit raised £63 6s 2d.

"HOW TO BEHAVE," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions, 6½d. and 1s. bottles.

LECTURE BY DR LEES.—On Wednesday night, Dr J. R. Lees, delivered a temperance lecture in the Wesleyan Mission Room, Ryton. Ald. Swan, of Sunderland, occupied the chair, and was supported, in addition to Dr Lees, by Mr J. Cowen, jun., Rev R. M. McClumpha, and Messrs J. Cocks, W. Simpson, R. Watson, W. Paxton, H. Wilson, W. Whitehead, C. W. Holmes, R. Fell, and J. N. Parker. There was a large attendance.—Dr Lees, after a few appropriate remarks from the chairman, was received with enthusiasm on rising to deliver his address. His object that night, he said, was to show the wisdom of temperance, and the right of the prohibition of the cause of intemperance.—Mr H. Wilson moved a hearty vote of thanks to Dr Lees for his interesting lecture.—Mr W. Paxton seconded the resolution, and it was carried with cheers.

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, Nov. 14th. — Before JON. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (in the chair), JAS. ANNANDALE, Esq., J. W. WALTON-WILSON, Esq., and W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq.

THE MASTER AND SERVANT'S CASE.

Mary Eccles, a farm servant, now in place at Fatfield House, near Chester-le-Street, was brought up on a judgment summons in default of having obeyed an order of the court, and paying to Mrs Peacock, a farmer, of Arkingarthdale, North Yorks, the sum of £3 18s as compensation for breach of contract. It will be remembered that in May last defendant was hired (through the medium of Mrs Scott, of Dene Howl) as servant to Mrs Peacock; but as she subsequently obtained a situation nearer home, she declined to go to Mrs Peacock's place. She was accordingly summoned before the court, and the Bench assessed the damages at £3 18s, which had not been paid.—Mr T. W. Welford represented plaintiff, and called defendant, who stated that she was prepared to pay the money now.—An order was therefore made for £1 1s 5d, which was forthcoming.

THE AFFRAY AT A CATTLE MART.

George Thompson, a cattle dealer, of Allansford, appeared to answer a summons charging him with having assaulted Michael Barron, also a cattle dealer, of Consett, on the 24th ult. A cross-summons was issued, on which Barron was accused of assaulting Thompson at the same time and place.—Barron recapitulated the evidence he tendered at the previous court, and alleged that Thompson hit him three or four times on the head and face with his fist.—Defendant declared that Barron was not telling the truth. The latter had "scandalised" him about a piece of business he had nothing to do with.—John Crawford, butcher, Consett, said that Barron uttered some nasty expressions about Thompson, and when the latter asked him about the use of such language, Barron struck at Thompson with his stick, hitting him across the head as hard as he could. Thompson merely warded off the blows by swinging his light overcoat around. One of the blows that Barron dealt Thompson would have felled a 50-stone bullock. (Laughter.) Barron thought he had killed Thompson, and ran off. (More laughter.)—Barron stoutly denied that he ever hit Thompson, but the latter affirmed that he raised a big lump on his head, that he could not put his hat on, and it was swollen at present.—The magistrates dismissed both summonses, believing that each party was open to blame, and they considered that the cases ought never to have been brought into court.—Mr Crawford again applied for his expenses, but was told that he must look to the person who had brought him as a witness for his costs.

NON-PAYMENT OF RATES.

John Johnson, formerly the landlord of the Wheat Sheaf Inn, Front Street, Leadgate, but now residing in the vicinity of Edmondsley, failed to enter an appearance upon judgment summonses taken out by Mr R. Robson, for 15s 6d due as poor-rate for the township of Iveston, and Mr T. [illegible] for [illegible], owing as rates to the Leadgate Local Board.—In both instances the Bench sentenced the defendant to 14 days' imprisonment without hard labour.

ALLEGED ASSAULT IN THE THEATRE.

William Dover, a young man, was placed in the dock charged with assaulting Francis Tinney in the Theatre Royal, Consett, on the 29th Oct.—Complainant stated that he was sitting in the back seats when he remonstrated with Dover for creating a noise. The latter thereupon knocked him down and his companion kicked him.—Defendant denied the allegation, and called several witnesses to show that Tinney first attacked him with his fists, and that his companions had to carry him (complainant) away.—P.C. Richardson stated that he was sent for to go to the Theatre, and he met Tinney in the passage. His face was scratched and bleeding, and he complained to the officer that he had been assaulted. Witness also saw Dover, but he never made any complaint.—The Bench, after a lengthened consultation, also dismissed this summons.

PATHETIC CASE OF THEFT: A SCENE IN COURT.

Jane Sanderson, a young married woman of 18 years, who presented a careworn and delicate appearance, and carried an infant in her arms, pleaded guilty to charges of stealing a bed-sheet and a girl's chemise, valued at 2s 9d, the property of Thomas Edwards, at South Medomsley, on the 25th Oct.—Prisoner, it transpired, rented a room from the prosecutor, and she pilfered the articles when they were sent out to be washed. She pledged the things with Mr J. A. Carey, Bradley Lodge, for 1s 2d. When Sergt. Thornton subsequently arrested the woman and charged her with the theft she replied: "They were given to me."—Mr Welford, who defended, urged upon their Worships to take a lenient view of the offence. Both the father and the husband of the young woman were very sorry that this had happened, but the family were in a deplorable and destitute condition, and it was because they were on the verge of semi-starvation, and almost driven to desperation, that the prisoner had taken the articles. He thought a small fine would meet the case.—The magistrates, however, decided not to inflict a penalty, but bound the woman over to be of good behaviour for the space of twelve months, her husband (James Sanderson) consenting to become bondsman for his wife, and he was told that if she broke her pledge within a year, she would be called up for judgment, and punished for the offence already committed.

NO APPEARANCE.

Joseph Batey, miner, of Milkwell Burn, was summoned by his wife, Elizabeth Batey, for committing an assault upon her, on the 30th ult.—Neither party responded to their names, consequently the case was dismissed.

THE ACTION AGAINST CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

The action preferred by Mr William Rippon, surveyor to the Consett Local Board, against *Jesse Hall*, secretary to the Consett Industrial and Provident Society — which was adjourned from that Court a month ago—for contravening the bye-laws enforced in the district, by reason of the Stores Committee having erected in Newmarket Street a block of buildings which were not in accordance with the plans previously approved of by the said Board, was again brought forward. Mr T. W. Welford (clerk) appeared for the Local Board, while Mr C. H. Dix (Newcastle) represented the Co-operative Society.

Mr Welford explained that a fresh set of plans had been submitted to the Local Board by the Society, and they had been passed, therefore, the Board did not desire to press for a penalty, but considered that they were entitled to the costs incurred at the last hearing and also for that day.

Mr Dix submitted that their Worships could not grant the costs asked for, for several reasons. This was a case which, if settled, had not been decided upon its merits. The Court had only listened to an *ex parte* statement, and had not heard the defence of the Co-operative Stores. Therefore, it was not a case which had been fully investigated, and the losing party mulcted in the costs. There were reasons to be submitted in defence which he (Mr Dix) felt sure would have satisfied the justices, and led to the summons being ultimately dismissed. Even if the case had been decided upon its merits, he contended that no one would have been allowed costs. He considered therefore that each party should bear their own expenses. He raised several technical objections at the last Court—(Mr Welford: And they were all over-ruled. Mr Dix)—and still they had a thoroughly good defence to the action. He trusted the Local Board would treat this matter in a fair and reasonable spirit.

Mr Welford pointed out that it was at Mr Dix's request that the summons should be adjourned for the purpose of allowing the Society to submit amended plans to the Board.

Mr Dix replied that it occurred to him that that course would be the best to avoid these two bodies from coming into conflict with each other. The plans had been amended and passed, and they had done all that was required of them.

Mr Welford: But the case was adjourned on the express understanding that the question of costs would be considered to-day.

The magistrates having deliberated a few moments, the Chairman said: We have carefully considered the question, and have come to the conclusion that the Local Board have only fulfilled their duty in this matter, therefore we cannot see our way of doing anything except to order that the whole of the costs be borne by the Stores.

Mr Welford: You will allow me two guineas for my two days expenses as well?

The Chairman: Oh, yes.

Mr Dix objected, and declared that it came to the question that his clients should be heard.

The Chairman: It is rather late in the day to take that question up. We understood that the points had been already settled, and that it was only for us to determine the question of costs.

Mr Welford: It was adjourned so as to decide about the costs.

Mr Dix: There cannot be an order, because you have not heard the defendants.

Mr Granger (Clerk of the Court): The case has been compromised.

Mr Dix: It is not compromised. We are charged with an offence, which in the first instance has not been proved.

Mr Welford: We called evidence to prove it on the previous court day.

Mr Dix: We have not had an opportunity of answering the charge.

The Bench: We have already given our decision and see no reason to alter it.

Mr Dix enquired if defendants case was gone into, what would be the result?

The Clerk: It would mean a conviction, and probably a penalty inflicted. But the case has already been settled.

Mr Dix submitted that the case had not been settled.

Mr Welford: Defendant was summoned because he contravened the Local Board bye-laws. Now, he has remedied his defect, and we do not press for a conviction.

Mr Dix maintained that the costs up to the adjournment were only to be decided. They had not been charged with any offence, therefore their worships could not give any order as to costs.

The Chairman: We have given our decision upon the point, and we absolutely decline to say another word about it.

Mr Dix: Very well. I must ask your worships to state me a case for a Superior Court.

The Clerk: Yes, if you only make proper application.

SERIOUS WOUNDING CASE AT DIPTON.

A powerfully-built married woman named *Margaret Connolly* (45) was brought before the Bench on a charge of unlawfully wounding Richard Brett, a pitman, at Dipton, on Sunday night.

A witness stated that the prosecutor and his mother came to high words respecting his landlady. They went to the prisoner's house, when the woman ordered them out. Witness left the place; but immediately heard a "horrible noise," made by pots flying about, followed by cries of "Murder!" Witness re-entered the house, and saw the prisoner in the act of felling Brett with a coal-rake which she swung in her hands. Witness ran off and brought Sergeant Thornton, who found the unfortunate youth lying in a pool of blood. He apprehended the prisoner and detained her in custody.

Dr Eeeley, of Dipton, stated that he was called in to attend Brett at eleven o'clock on Sunday night. He found him bleeding profusely from three scalp wounds—one being quite three inches in length, and another two inches long, both being cut right to the bone. He was likewise suffering from a wound on the nose, the end of which had been almost detached from the remainder of the flesh. Brett suffered great bodily pain. He was certainly in a weak and feeble state, and would not be able to come to court for a week or a fortnight.

In answer to the Bench, the doctor did not consider that any serious danger was to be apprehended from the wounds, unless erysipelas set in.

Prisoner denied that she either used the poker or coal-rake to Brett, and alleged that in a scuffle with her husband he fell on the fender and injured himself.

Supt. Oliver asked for a remand, but objected to bail being granted.

The Bench remanded the woman, but agreed to liberate her on substantial sureties being forthcoming.

THE CHARGE OF ROBBING AND ASSAULTING A FATHER AT DIPTON.

EXTRAORDINARY REVELATIONS.

Thomas Henderson, of South Medomsley, surrendered upon his recognizance to answer charges of stealing a silver watch, valued at £4, and a sovereign, from his father, George Henderson, a greengrocer, living at Hill Top, Dipton, on the 25th October. He was further accused of assaulting and beating his father at the same time and place. Mr Welford appeared on behalf of the defendant.

Complainant stated that previous to the 25th ult., his son lived with him and helped him in his business. They had quarrelled and separated, and the defendant went into lodgings at South Medomsley. On the night referred to, about seven o'clock, his son, while under the influence of drink, came into his house. His daughter warned complainant of defendant's approach, and advised him to hide himself somewhere. His son appeared to be in an infuriated state, and rushing into the house he exclaimed, "You old b——, turn that watch up." Complainant told him that it did not belong to him. Defendant angrily retorted that if he did not hand over the watch he would knock it out of him. He then commenced to abuse his father, kicking him about the kitchen, and knocking him over a table on to the middle of the floor. He also struck and kicked the old man upon the face and stomach, inflicting a number of bruises. His daughter advised complainant to seek refuge in a neighbour's house, but he shouted out, "For goodness' sake do not stir, as I have some money lying about the house." Henderson, however, left the dwelling, being followed by his son, and he entered the house of a neighbour named Rust. Defendant thereupon locked himself in the complainant's house, and placing the key in his pocket, began to ransack the premises. He broke the furniture to pieces, smashing a table, chairs, and delf-rack. He then wrenched open the drawers in the press, and extracted therefrom the watch and a sovereign. Subsequently the son held the watch up in one hand, and doubling his other fist as if threatening to smash it, asked the complainant: "Whose watch is this?" Henderson was so terrified that he thought defendant would destroy the article that he was forced to answer "The watch belongs to you." His son then beat him up and down the house, and declared that he would "clear the deck." (Laughter.) The old man was laid across the table, and defendant "punched" him so much that he was badly bruised and disfigured. Complainant, however, managed to protect his face from rough usage by shielding it with his hands. Eventually, the neighbours came and chased the defendant out of the place. After he had gone, complainant found that a sovereign, as well as a watch, had been taken away.

Cross-questioned by Mr Welford: His daughter kept the keys of the drawers, and had sole access thereto. Defendant possessed a greyhound, and bought a goat last year, but complainant never "swopped" his watch for the goat. (Laughter.) He recollected being in Forster's "jerry" on a particular Saturday night about seven weeks ago, along with a man called Jackson. He did not remember, however, "swopping" a small watch for his son's goat (laughter), nor did his son reply, "I'll take the big watch [the stolen article produced] instead." It was possible he might have made this bargain, if he was under the influence of liquor. The goat belonged to him. Complainant gave him 6s to "boot" and the watch for the goat. (Laughter.) Defendant resided with him till he was 24 years old. Complainant had been a horse dealer, pig jobber, &c., as well as a greengrocer. His son assisted him in the business, and had even made exchanges for him, and had furthermore paid for stuff which he had bought. Defendant had never acted in partnership with him. Some time ago, complainant asked his son to leave the house, and subsequently he returned and badly used him. Prosecutor had a sup of drink in him on the night of the 25th Oct. It was possible that his son asked for his watch, and he might have refused to give it to him. Complainant denied ever telling defendant that it was not in the house, or that it was away at the watchmaker's. He informed defendant that the watch did not belong to him. It was then that his son beat him out of the house, and struck him several times. He might sometimes get "on the spree" for a week or a fortnight together, and his son might transact the business on such occasions. His son never carried the keys of the drawers. Defendant had been telling people in the village that he intended coming back to the house for the purpose of "clearing the deck." (Loud laughter.) After the affray, he sent for the police; but when P.C. Sanderson came, he refused to arrest his son. Complainant admitted that he might have been playing at dominoes in a public-house on the preceding (Monday) night, but he did not come home in a very intoxicated state. He never fell over a stile in crossing the fields, nor had some women to escort him home. He might perhaps have a sup of drink in him. He had been "on the spree" with Jackson for a week at a stretch. His daughters carried on his business in his absence. His son went to Newcastle on Saturdays, and bought vegetables, which he hawked about the district. He had several pounds in the house, but the sovereign lying beside the watch had only been received by his daughter that afternoon. The money was safe at two o'clock the same afternoon.

Beta Henderson, complainant's daughter, likewise spoke of the attack upon her father by the defendant. She endeavoured to get her father out of the house, and pushed him into a neighbour's house. She hurried off for Sergt. Thornton. She counted the money at 2.30 that afternoon, and found that it was all right. The sovereign was then lying in the drawer beside the watch.

Cross-examined: Defendant had worn the watch a few days, but it was not his own. Her father came home very drunk on the previous night, and was led by Mrs Ledger.

Robert Rust, a neighbour, gave evidence to the effect that he heard a loud disturbance in Henderson's house on the night in question, and on looking into the place, he perceived the son holding his father down on the end of the counter in the kitchen, and striking at him several times. The old man was crying out "murder!" Witness took the prisoner off the prosecutor, and left him in the house, and he subsequently locked himself inside. Witness saw the son in the act of demolishing the furniture.—In answer to Mr Welford, Rust stated that he did not observe the daughter lead her father out of the house. She quitted the place as soon as the disturbance began. There were three of the neighbours in the house before he entered. Witness had observed Henderson come home under the influence of drink, but was not aware that he had been "on the spree" for a fortnight at a time.

Sergt. Thornton deposed that he inspected the prosecutor's house on the night referred to, and found the furniture broken and the drawers turned out. He apprehended the prisoner on coming out of a private house, and charged him with stealing the sovereign and watch. He answered: "I never had the sovereign, but I have the watch." Defendant was slightly under the influence of liquor.

Prisoner, on being charged with stealing the watch and sovereign, now declared that he was not guilty.

Mr Welford detailed the defendant's version of the affair as follows:—

"On Monday night 24th October, about 10.15, I went home. My two sisters were in, and my father was sitting down near the fire. I was getting my supper. My father asked me "Could I work for myself?" and I replied "Yes." He asked me "Would I leave the house?" and I replied "Yes." I then put on my clothes and asked for my watch. He replied that there was not a d—— thing there belonging to me. I then went towards the drawers, and he and my sister Hannah said that the watch was at the watchmaker's. I came out and went to a "lodge." They sent part of my clothes to my lodgings at 11.15. I asked Beta if my watch was inside, and she said "Yes." On the following day I went into the house about six o'clock for the rest of my clothes and the watch. Father was sitting in the house and I said "I could not get them." I told him I would have the things. He came out, and we [illegible] the money drawer and got the keys. I went and looked for my clothes and found the watch in a drawer, and lifted it and one pound under. I could not find any more clothes but a shirt. I came out, and he went in. I went in and showed him the watch and £1, and I said I would keep these till I got the remainder of my clothes. He answered "Very well, I will try and get them." I insisted upon having them. He looked, and said I had to wait till my sister came home. I replied that I wanted them as I had lost one day already. I used threatening language, and the candle fell down. I bought a goat for 9s 6d, about August, and kept it a week. He parted with the goat and watch, and gave 7s to boot. He gave the watch to my younger brother. I had worn it four or five weeks, and I asked for it, and he took it from where it hung in the kitchen. Then I wore it some time, and then he got another, and he wanted to give it to me. I replied "It is no use to me," and he replied "Very well, I will give you the big one." John Jackson heard him say so about seven weeks ago, on Saturday afternoon, about four o'clock. He replied "I will give it to you."

John Jackson, cartman, Dipton, deposed that he heard a conversation in Forster's "jerry," between the father and son one Saturday night, about seven weeks ago. The father exchanged a watch for his son's goat, and also proffered 6s "to boot." The father told his son that he had "swopped" the watch for the goat, and that he could wear the small watch. The son stated that he would rather have the bigger watch, and his father ultimately handed it over to him. Prosecutor and himself had often been "on the spree" for a week or a fortnight together. The son had been in the habit of transacting the business in the absence of his father.

The Bench exonerated defendant of the charge of stealing the watch with any felonious intent.

Henderson was then accused of the theft of the sovereign only, and admitted his guilt; Mr Welford explaining that he took the sovereign because he could not get a portion of his clothing. It was merely a family squabble, which had fallen into the hands of the sergeant, who had made the case much stronger than even the constable, who refused to apprehend the prisoner.

After a brief deliberation, the Chairman informed defendant that whatever quarrels might have passed between himself and his father, that did not justify him in treating his father as he had done. He was fined 20s, including costs (£1 2s 6d) for the assault, and ordered to a further penalty of £2 for stealing the sovereign.

Mr Welford asked the Bench to direct the police authorities to hand over the watch to the defendant; but the magistrates stated that only a County Court action could determine the question of ownership.

SECOND COURT.

Before Col. A. B. WILBRAHAM (in the chair) and W. GREEN, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Edmund Cush was charged by Sergt. Davidson with being drunk at Consett, defendant having been found lying sleeping in the Duke of Wellington Inn, Medomsley Road, 5th November.—Defendant had been drinking two or three halves of rum.—He was fined 5s and costs.

Elizabeth Gunn, a married woman, was also charged with drunkenness.—She caused a disturbance in Farnworth's butcher's shop, Victoria Street, Consett, on Nov. 5th, and on emerging into the street she continued to make an uproar.—She was fined 2s 6d and expenses.

John McDonald failed to appear to answer a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Scott, of having been inebriated and kicking up a disturbance at Consett, on Oct. 31st.—The Bench imposed a fine of 10s and costs, with the alternative of seven days' hard labour.

John Battie and *Charles Grant*, young men, were summoned by P.C. Metcalfe upon a charge of having been drunk and disorderly at Consett, on the 27th and 29th days of Oct.—In each instance, a fine of 5s and costs was inflicted.

Patrick Longaran was found guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Mahon, of being drunk and riotous at Consett, on the 31st ult., and was similarly dealt with.

Sergt. Tate proceeded against *Felix Crawley* for drunkenness at Blackhill, on the 9th, and *Samuel Hooper* for having been guilty of a like offence on the 5th.—Both defendants were mulcted in a penalty of 5s and expenses.

Patrick Foster was accused by P.C. Phillipson of having been intoxicated at Blackhill, on Nov. 5th, and was ordered to defray a fine of 5s and costs.

Margaret O'Toole, for having been guilty of drunkenness at Blackhill 31st Oct., was let off on payment of a fine of 2s 6d and costs.

William Grayson and *Alexander Concy* appeared to answer charges, made against them by P.C. Stubbs, of having committed similar offences at Leadgate, on Oct. 28th and 29th.—Fines of 5s and expenses were imposed in each case.

William Pritchard was summoned at the instance of Sergt. Tate, for having been drunk and causing a disturbance in the streets of Blackhill, on the 29th ult., and was fined in a like sum.

Hugh Gallagher, miner, Blackhill Mill, was brought up by P.C. Lawson for having been drunk and guilty of disorderly behaviour at Consett, on Saturday last.—Fined 5s and costs.

James Vivian, Blackhill, and *Silas Musgrove*, Hamsterley Colliery, were severally charged by P.C. Scott with being guilty of drunken offences at Consett, at 11.30 on the previous Saturday evening.—Musgrove neglected to appear, and he was fined 10s and costs or seven days' imprisonment. Vivian was mulcted in the usual penalty.

Michael McLeer was charged by P.C. Richardson with having been drunk and quarrelsome at Consett, on the same night.—He was likewise fined 5s and costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Thomas McKenna and *Felix McIvor* were summoned by Mr Alex. McKenna, on behalf of the Benfieldside School Board, for their children's neglect in attending school. — Both cases were eventually adjourned for fourteen days.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Edwin Blyth, *Richard Peel*, and *John Uren* were summoned for wilfully causing damage to a door, to the amount of sixpence each, the property of James Dobie, at Burnopfield, on October 11th.—Defendants were ordered to pay 6s 6d each, which amount included damage and costs incurred.

Anthony Crane and *Robert Kirkup* were further summoned by the same complainant for damaging his door, on the 25th ult., but the defendants were discharged without costs.

ARREARS IN BASTARDY.

Joseph Bell, of Blackhill, was brought up to show cause why he had failed to contribute £1 10s, due to Ann Britain on an affiliation order.—Defendant was released on promising to pay half the amount forthwith, and the remaining part in a fortnight.

AN ADMIRER OF MR MILVAIN, M.P.

Elizabeth Young, wife of a platelayer, living at Saltersgate, near Tow Law, was charged by Sergt. Tate with having been drunk and disorderly at Blackhill, on October 29th.—About 12.30 p.m. the defendant came on to the platform at the Railway Station, Blackhill. She was very drunk and indulged in some frightfully abusive language to Mr J. Harker, station-master. She was ultimately removed from the platform. About 7 p.m. the woman went to the New Town Hall, Consett, still being under the influence of drink. The great Conservative meeting was being held, and on reaching the doors defendant shouted out that she wanted to hear Mr Milvain, M.P., and she had to be put away.—Defendant flatly denied that she was drunk, but she admitted, however, having a few glasses at a wedding party that morning.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

THIRD COURT.

Before JAS. ANNANDALE, Esq. (in the chair), and COL. WILBRAHAM.

THE MURDEROUS ATTACK ON A WIFE AT TANTOBIE.

A powerfully-built man called *Robert Brown*, a miner, living at Clough Dene, near Tantobie, was again brought up on a charge of unlawfully wounding his wife, Margaret, at midnight, on Saturday, 5th inst. The facts of the case have already been reported fully in the *Guardian*.—Evidence as to the assault was tendered by the prosecutrix, who appeared in the court in a very weak and exhausted state, and her head was covered up with bandages. She seemed to be somewhat reluctant to offer any testimony against her husband. Her story was partially corroborated by Robert Lynn (a neighbour) and P.C. Bain.—Dr Eeeley, of Dipton, described the nature of the injuries sustained by the unfortunate woman, and stated that she was lying in a rather precarious condition for several days. She was now weak and feeble.—The charge was eventually reduced to one of aggravated assault, and the chairman said it was one of the worst instances of wife-beating that had ever come before them.—Prisoner pleaded guilty to this offence and was sentenced to undergo three months' hard labour and pay the costs, or be further imprisoned for a term of 14 days. The magistrates also granted a judicial separation (although this was not applied for by the prosecutrix) and ordered the prisoner to contribute 10s weekly towards the maintenance of his wife and family of five children.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE OCCASIONAL COURT.

TUESDAY, Nov. 15th.—Before JAS. ANNANDALE, Esq.

SERIOUS WOUNDING AFFRAY NEAR EBCHESTER.

BATTERING A MAN'S HEAD TO A PULP.

A powerfully-built man, named *George Manuel*, a steel-smelter, employed at the Consett Works, living in Middle Street, Blackhill, who was apprehended early that morning by Sergt. Tate, was brought up, charged with unlawfully wounding John Outram, at Derwentcote, on Sunday night.—The facts, as far as can be elicited, seem to be that the two men drove to Swalwell on that day. On returning home at night, they called at the complainant's house, when a few words passed which culminated in blows, Outram first setting upon the prisoner. The latter, in return, savagely attacked the complainant with the fender, and afterwards used a stick, pummelling his head so brutally that it was reduced almost to a pulp. Prisoner subsequently resumed his journey to Blackhill.—A certificate was produced, from Dr Marshall, of Blackhall Mill, who is attending the injured man, which sets forth that Outram was lying in a critical condition, with little hopes of his recovery. The [illegible] dangerous symptoms of erysipelas setting in.—Prisoner was remanded in custody till next Monday.

GATESHEAD COUNTY POLICE.

Tuesday, Nov. 15th.—Before R. S. NEWALL, Esq. (in the chair) and others.

SUBSTITUTES AT THE COURT.

Several substitutes appeared in answer to "drunk and disorderly" summonses. The chairman remarked that on the last occasion that Lord Ravensworth was at that court he remarked that they could send defendants to prison without the option of a fine, for their non-attendance. He thought one or two examples of that kind would do some good. Defendants must answer to their summonses, or strong measures would have to be used to prevent the practice of not attending.

POACHING AT THE SPEN.

Thomas Pooley and *George Grandison* were jointly charged, under the Poaching Prevention Act, with being found coming from land at The Spen, having in their possession rabbits and nets, which the constables detained, and with having used the nets unlawfully for killing game.—Prisoners pleaded guilty, and were fined 2s 6d and costs each.

SETTING OFF FIREWORKS AT WINLATON.

Richard Luxwell, boy, for setting off fireworks on the highway at Winlaton, on 2nd inst., was fined 2s 6d., including costs.

ALLEGED GAME TRESPASS AT WINLATON.

Thomas Spark (35) was charged with trespassing in search of game on land at Winlaton on the 5th inst.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—P.C. Cox stated that about 3 p.m., his attention was drawn to a shot fired on Lawrence's Field. He proceeded to the place, and saw someone crossing the field with a pointer dog. When the man saw witness, he ran off into the wood. Witness followed him, but could not find him in the wood. Shortly after, on looking along the road, he saw the defendant. After overtaking him, he searched him and found a wood-pigeon in his possession. He also had a gun and pointer dog with him.—Defendant called witnesses, who stated that the constable at the time referred to met them on the road and charged them with having a dog in the wood.—Another witness said the dog which the constable saw did not belong to defendant, but to him (witness).—The gamekeeper said that they had frequently made complaints about game trespass.—The case was dismissed.

THE SUSPICIOUS DEATH AT RYTON.

AN OPEN VERDICT.

Mr Coroner Graham held an adjourned inquest at the Cross Inn, on Tuesday, on the body of Hannah Dinning, 17 years of age, single woman, who died when in the service of Mrs Isaac Benson, Ryton, on 8th Oct.—Mrs Benson, who gave evidence on the opening of the inquest, said in reply to a question by a juror, that one of her sons, Joseph, had been apprenticed to a chemist; but had been a farmer for the past six years.—Dr Smith said he was called to see Dinning about three o'clock in the afternoon. He found her in a condition of collapse. Her face was of a dusky colour, and the pupils of her eyes were dilated. The pulses of the wrist were absent, and the body was cold. He was told that she had been ill since Friday, and had been vomiting. He made an examination, and satisfied himself of the existence of pregnancy. In about half-an-hour a dead female child was born, apparently at full term. There was no hæmorrhage, but after one or two convulsive fits the patient died. When witness saw her first she was only partially conscious, and her mutterings were quite unintelligible. On the following day witness made a *post-mortem* examination, the result of which aroused his suspicions. He removed portions of the body, and on the 11th Oct., with Dr Oliver, Newcastle, he made another examination. They found that the stomach and part of the intestines presented appearances of acute inflammation. The abnormal appearance described pointed to the action of an irritant poison, which they thought was the cause of death.—In reply to a juror, Dr Smith said he was first sent for at one o'clock on the Saturday afternoon; but he did not go at once, as from the message which was left he concluded that it was an ordinary case of colic.—The Coroner summed up, and said it did not show whether it was a case in which the woman had taken poison to bring about abortion, or to destroy her life, or whether it was a case in which the woman's life had been destroyed by another. A very careful analysis had been made of the contents of the stomach, and he might say that tests had been made for the discovery of every known poison, and the result was the non-discovery of an irritant poison or corrosive poison. If the jury felt it desirable to make further examination he should be glad to assist them, though after all that had been done he confessed that, as far as they were concerned, he did not think it desirable that the inquiry should be prolonged. It would not prevent anything being done in another quarter, but he did not think the jury could assist further. He pointed out that the result of the analysis was not opposed to the view taken by Drs Smith and Oliver.—Dr Smith stated, in reply to Mr Wm. Benson, that if he had been called in on Friday the deceased would have had a better chance of recovery, and something might have been seen to throw more light on the matter.—The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict to the effect that death was due to poison, but that there was no evidence as to when or by whom it was administered.—The Coroner said the jury wished him to add an expression of regret that medical assistance was not obtained sooner; and they thought it a pity that a doctor was not sent for at the moment she appeared to be ill.

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NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

The angling season in Weardale has been the worst which has occurred for years, in consequence of the prolonged dry weather. Good takes have been few and far between.

Great anxiety is felt in and about town in reference to Mr John Johnson, who left Wolsingham for Brisbane (Australia), in December, 1886; he arrived safely, but nothing further has been heard of him since, either by his wife (who he left behind him) or any other relatives.

The disbursers of the late Mr Charles Attwood's charities for Stanhope have just received the sum of £168 9s, the accumulation of the annual sums from the date of his will up to the last year or so. If this sum were invested in 3 per cent. consols it would increase the amount annually to be distributed among the Stanhope poor from £25 to £30.

With reference to the late fatality at Rookhope Smelt Mills, we are informed that the recommendation of the jury at the inquest on John Parker for more exits in the chimney of the Mill where the accident occurred will be fully carried out by the Lead Company's manager (Mr Blenkiron), who, in addition to adding the asked-for doors, has contrived an ingenious moveable grate which will effectually prevent the carrying away of any engaged in sweeping beyond a short distance, while the fume can pass through it to the receptacle at the base.

ALLEGED ATTEMTED RAPE NEAR LANGLEY PARK.

At the Durham County Petty Sessions, *Edward Keen*, a tailor, and a pensioner in the army, formerly residing at Durham, was charged with an indecent assault on a girl aged 12 years, named Harriet Hardiman of St. John's Wood, Witton Gilbert, on Saturday morning, 5th inst. Mr Oliver defended.—The girl stated that she was sent a message by her mother to Langley Park Stores, when she met the defendant coming from the direction of Browney Bridge. He turned and followed her along the road. He asked her where she was going, and she told him she was going to a shop at Langley Park. He then said he would give her 6d and a Bible, which he had, if she would go round another road by the Witton Gilbert Church with him, and she went. When they had got close by the church he threw her down and proceeded to indecently assault her. She shouted out, and then her mother came up, and the prisoner ran away.—Cross-examined by Mr Oliver: Was there any building near?—Complainant: No. I was going by the town, and he made me come by the church. He knocked me down on my back, and committed the assault complained of. His clothes were disarranged.—Sarah Hardiman, the mother of the child, said that when she sent her daughter along the road to Langley Park, she saw the prisoner going along too, and so she followed her daughter. She saw the prisoner join her daughter, and then they went round the road by the church, which was not the proper road. She continued to follow, and then the prisoner and her daughter were hidden from her by a bush. Soon after she heard a shout, and on hastening to the spot she saw the prisoner near her daughter, but she could not say whether he was standing or kneeling. As soon as he saw her he ran away, and she called to some men and they stopped him.—The Clerk: Why did you follow your daughter?—Witness: Because we have had our suspicions of him for some time.—The man who stopped the prisoner when Mrs Hardiman called to him and kept him till a policeman came was next called, and deposed to that fact. Witness was present when the man was brought to Mrs Hardiman's house, and said that when the girl was asked if he had ever gone after her before, she replied, "Many a time."—Thomas Hutchinson, labourer, Witton Gilbert, stated he heard Mrs Hardiman shouting, "Stop him! stop him!" and he detained prisoner, and they walked about until the police came. Prisoner's clothes were not properly adjusted.—P.C. Carr deposed to going to Mrs Hardiman's house on the day named from information he received, and got from the woman an ulster and a frock which her daughter had worn that morning. They were all covered with wet soil, and the frock was torn. He also took the girl to be examined by a surgeon. He also examined the place where Mrs Hardiman had found her daughter, and found marks of a struggle.—Cross-examined: The frock was covered with mud in front, and very much torn.—Robert Forsyth, assistant to Dr [illegible], of Quebec, said when the girl was brought to his surgery he examined her, and found marks consistent with an assault having been committed, and the marks were recent. He examined her again on the following Sunday, when he noticed a slight improvement.—P.C. Johnson said he apprehended the prisoner, and charged him with an indecent assault upon the child, and at the same time told him that the charge might be more serious after she had been examined by a doctor. He said she ought to be examined by a doctor. He admitted that when the mother came up he was standing near the girl, and as soon as she saw her mother coming she went away. He also went away, and shortly afterwards began to run, because he had "a reason for it." Witness examined the man's clothes, and he found no dirt on them. Witness again charged him on the 9th of November with attempting to commit a rape on Nov. 5th, to which prisoner replied, "Good God, how are you going to prove it? I never touched her."—This was the case, and Mr Oliver asked if there was sufficient evidence to make out a charge of an attempt to commit the full offence?—The Chairman said there was.—Prisoner was committed to the assizes to take his trial, bail being allowed, himself in £100 and two sureties of £50 each.

GRAND CONCERT AT CONSETT.

PERFORMANCE OF "MOZART'S TWELFTH MASS."

On Monday evening, in the New Town Hall, Consett, a concert of an exceptional and fashionable character was given by the St Aidan's (Blackhill) Church choir, assisted by several of the leading members of other choirs, with full orchestral accompaniments by Mr J. H. Amers popular and well-known band, from the Newcastle Art Gallery, the occasion being the third annual concert promoted by St. Aidan's choir. The leading vocalists were Miss Cairns, soprano; Miss Lumsden, contralto; Messrs C. Davison, J. Anderson, and C. Stephenson, tenors; Messrs Ward Davison and R. Lowes, bass. The members of the orchestra were arranged as follows:—

First violins: Mr Lee (principal), Miss E. Nixon, Mr T. Jones, Mr G. Reed, and Mr C. Ridley.

Second violins: Mr Sanderson (principal), Miss A. Nixon, Mr W. Hoe, and Mr C. Stelling.

Violas: Mr Collins (principal) and Mr W. A. Hoe.

Cellos: Mr McGall (principal) and Mr T. Worsnop.

Contra-bass: Mr Baker (principal) and Mr Nixon.

Oboes: Mr Newrick (principal) and Mr Vincent.

Bassoons: Mr Cunnington (principal) and Mr Auckland.

Trumpets: Mr J. Palliser and Mr S. Brodie.

Horns: Mr T. Patterson and Mr Dodds.

Piano: Mr E. J. Sloane.

The chorus, &c., were under the efficient guidance of Mr Jon. Stephenson, the leader of St. Aidan's choir, and he merited the warmest praise for the painstaking and skilful manner in which the choir had been trained, and the arrangements for the entertainment so admirably carried out. The ladies and gentlemen assembled on the platform presented an imposing aspect, the majority of the ladies being dressed in white, while the gentlemen, with few exceptions, were arrayed in full evening costume. The first part of the programme was entirely devoted to a performance of Mozart's sublime composition—"Twelfth Mass." The second was composed of a miscellaneous selection of music. Part I, with the exception of a single item which was omitted, was given in a masterly style, the pieces being ably and successfully rendered both by the choir, orchestra, and soloists. The performances of Mr E. J. Sloane, a local musician, were of a highly creditable character, and worthy of note. Part II. was introduced by a string quartet, which being exceptionally well rendered, evoked the approbation of the whole company. Miss Cairns, soprano, of local fame, was undoubtedly the star of the evening, being received with rounds of applause; and after a magnificent rendering of "Killarney," the enraptured audience insisted upon her re-appearance. She well deserved the *encore* so cordially given, her voice being far above the average of local talent; strength and command of voice—combined with a most musical tone—at once proclaiming her as *the* lady vocalist of the evening. Miss Lumsden, contralto, another of our local lady vocalists, likewise accepted a most prominent part in several of the pieces, and was fully deserving of the hearty applause accorded to her. Her singing was both sweet and melodious. Mr J. Stephenson, as conductor, was the leading gentleman of the orchestra. He fulfilled his task with great ability, and, considering the number of voices under his control, he was worthy of the highest econiums. Amongst the vocalists, however, we notice Mr C. Davison, tenor, whose fame as a singer has long gone the round of the district. His performances on this occasion were fully equal to, if they did not actually surpass, his former achievements. Messrs J. Anderson and C. Stephenson also did creditable service, Mr Stephenson fully meriting the hearty *encore* with which his rendition of "The death of Nelson," was greeted. Mr W. Davison, as a bass singer, undoubtedly stood foremost. His deep and sonorous voice was plainly heard above the rest, and he accomplished his allotted parts in a most able manner. Mr R. Lowes is also deserving of special attention, taking his part in several of the pieces in a most acceptable style. Amongst the instrumentalists Mr Cunningham was one of the most conspicuous, his efforts of the evening being a solo on the bassoon—a most ungainly-looking, and at the same time a very difficult instrument to manage. The solo, which was at times a curious combination of the two extremes of sound, caused a good deal of merriment amongst the audience, who accorded the performer a most enthusiastic *encore*. Last, but not least deserving of praise, are the members of the choir, who executed their several parts in a most excellent manner, undoubtedly putting forth every nerve and effort for the success of the entertainment.

The following was the arrangement of the "Twelfth Mass":—"Kyrie," Miss Cairns, Miss Miss Lumsden, Mr Anderson, and Mr Lowes; "Gloria," choir; "Qui Tollis," Miss Lumsden, Mr Anderson, and Mr Lowes; "Cum Sancto Spiritu," choir; "Credo," choir; "Et Incarnatus," Miss Cairns, Miss Lumsden, Mr C. Davison, and Mr W. Davison; "Et Resurrexit," choir; "Sanctus," choir; "Benedictus," Miss Cairns, Miss Lumsden, Mr C. Davison, and Mr W. Davison; "Dona Nobis," Miss Lumsden. The second part of the programme is given below: String quartett, Messrs Lax, Sanderson, Collins, and McCall; song, "Death of Nelson," Mr C. Stephenson (with band accompaniment); bassoon solo—burlesque, "Lucy Long," Mr Cunnington; song, "Killarney," Miss Cairns (with band accompaniment), singing "Caller Herring," on being *encored*; waltz, "Swinging," band. The concert, we are glad to learn, was a most successful venture, and the large and appreciative audience, which embodied the elite of the town and district, separated after listening for the space of over two hours to a rich and rare musical treat so seldom afforded in Consett. The thanks of everybody are due to Mr J. Stephenson for his plucky and spirited enterprise, as this, we believe, is the first occasion the "Twelfth Mass" has been presented in its entirety before a purely local auditorium. Let us therefore hope that it will not be the last.

PRIMROSE LEAGUE MEETING AT WHICKHAM.

On Monday night, in the presence of a large company, the new Primrose League hall at Whickham was opened by Lady Glamis, Dame President of the Clamis (Whickham) Habitation. The hall, which has been taken over by the habitation, was at one time used as a drill hall, but has undergone a pleasant change at the hands of its new occupiers. Great taste has been shown in the decorations, and over the platform is displayed the motto of the Primrose League "*Imperium et Libertas*," this being surmounted by a portrait of Her Majesty. The portrait is flanked by two Union Jacks, and the whole is crowned by a scroll bearing the inscription, "The Primrose League; Glamis Habitation." Upon the walls are painted texts in favour of the Constitution, and there are suspended the and arms flags of various parts of the British Empire. Portraits are also shown of Lord Beaconsfield and the Marquess of Salisbury. The Ruling Councillor (Mr J. J. Hunter) presided, and was supported on the platform by Lord and Lady Glamis, and Mrs J. J. Hunter. There were also present Rev. J. M. Hick (hon. sec.), J. Ingham, H. B. Carr and Mrs Carr; Dr Attwater, Dr Taylor, Messrs H. Taylor, A. MacIntyre, J. Fenwick, W. P. Grace, T. Lambert, and A. D. Carr.

The CHAIRMAN, having introduced

Lady GLAMIS, she said she was not a public speaker, and trusted they would forgive her saying a very few words. She wished every success to that habitation, and with great pleasure declared the hall open. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said he was sure he would carry with him all their sympathies and heartfelt wishes when he thanked Lady Glamis for her presence, and gave her a most hearty and cordial welcome. The objects of the Primrose League were—first, the maintenance of religion. Who could object to that? They all professed and called themselves Christians, and therefore he appealed to them as to whether that could be a cause of objection to the League. He thought it should rather act as an inducement to all to become members of it. The next object was the maintenance of the state of the realm; that was the power of the Queen, the Lord and the Commons, as established in the country for centuries, and under which state of Government the country had obtained so remarkable a degree of prosperity, and power, and influence. The third and last object was to promote the unity and ascendancy of the empire. That was most important, especially when some of their old statesmen were trying to divide instead of unite the empire.

Mr W. B. LYON gave an address on current politics, and spoke of his experience in a recent visit to Ulster.

A programme of music was then given by Misses Noble, A. Hunter, Stevenson, A. Carr, Revs. J. M. Hick, C. R. Green, Messrs Smith, W. Lyall, E. J. Gibbon, and the members of the Newcastle Harmonic Union.

Rev. H. B. CARR moved a vote of thanks to Lord and Lady Glamis, to the honorary secretary, and to the vocalists. He expressed a hope that the visit of Lord and Lady Glamis might be taken as a harbinger of their dwelling in their midst. They would all be pleased if some representative of the Strathmore family should take up their residence at the grand historic seat at Gibside. (Applause.)

The motion was carried with acclamation.

Lord GLAMIS acknowledged the vote of thanks on behalf of his wife and himself. Though they should both very much like to live at Gibside, he feared that it must be some time before they could do so.

Rev. J. M. HICK also gave a short address on the objects of the Primrose League.

RYTON CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

The members held their annual dinner on Friday night, at the Lane Head Inn, Ryton. A large number sat down to the repast, which was well served by the landlord, Mr Potts. Mr R. Nicholson, Oakfield, president, occupied the chair, and Mr J. C. Joel, barrister, the vice-chair. Amongst those present were: Messrs R. J. Milburn, Newcastle; J. G. and R. M. Weeks, G. Bource, J. W. Courtney, S. Hebden; J. McIntyre, The Towers, J. Sisson, chairman of the executive; F. Oliver, secretary; L. Parsons, treasurer; J. T. Salter, J. Tate, J. Bailey, W. J. Jobson, I. Taylor, A. Tucker, C. Chantler, &c.

The Chairman having proposed the loyal toasts, Mr J. G. WEEKS gave "Her Majesty's Ministers." When they saw the ship of state, he said, manned by such officers as they had in the Cabinet Ministers of the present day, they who were the crew of that ship, might rest in a fair amount of safety and comfort. (Hear.)

The VICE-CHAIRMAN submitted "The Conservative and Unionist cause." (Applause.) He felt assured that in that room they had a strong indication of the fact that the Conservative and Unionists cause, bit by bit and little by little, was growing in the estimation and approval of the people of this country. (Applause.) He was extremely glad not only to meet the Conservatives of Ryton, but also to meet there gentlemen whose faces it had not hetherto been there pleasure to see in that room. (Applause.)

Mr R. J. MILBURNE, said that though they might have chosen some one more able to have replied, they could have found no one who could have responded with more heartfelt thankfulness for the success of the Conservative and Unionist cause than he did. (Applause.)

Other toasts followed.

Business Announcements.

FIFTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

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

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

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB, MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1830.

THE COVENTRY CYCLE CO., LIMITED,

WHITEFRIAR LANE, COVENTRY.

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

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

PRICE LISTS, 3 STAMPS. 876v

WATCHES! WATCHES!! WATCHES!!!

MARSHALL & SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

CONSETT AND BLACKHILL,

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

KINDLY NOTE ADDRESS:—

MARSHALL AND SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

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

JOSEPH MARSHALL

Begs to call attention to his Large and CHOICE STOCK of

CLOCKS, WATCHES & JEWELLERY,

All of which are of the Newest Designs, and will be found, in point of Quality, Price, and Completeness, to be unequalled by any similar Establishment in Town.

WATCHES: Ladies' and Gentlemen's Silver Lever, Geneva, Chronograph, Keyless, &c. Nickel Silver, from 11s. 6d.

JEWELLERY: Gold and Silver Dress Rings, Keepers, Bracelets, Bangles, Necklets, Scarf Pins, Solitaires, Brooches, &c., &c., in Great Variety, at the Consett Jewellery Emporium.

CLOCKS: American, English, Swiss, French, &c., in Wood and Nickel Silver Cases. Alarums, &c.

☞ Watches and Jewellery of every Description Repaired. Clocks Cleaned in Town or Country.

PRESENT of Half-Dozen Nickel Silver Tea Spoons given to purchasers of a Gold Wedding Ring.

PLATED ALUMINIUM AND STEEL JEWELLERY.

Articles for Presentation at Reduced Rates.

JOSEPH MARSHALL,

Watchmaker, Jeweller, &c.,

15, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, and LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

BIRTHDAY AND WEDDING PRESENTS.

Aneroid Barometers, &c.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST IN NEWCASTLE.

MRS. GRAVES, late of Bedale, Yorkshire, will be pleased to see her Friends at her YORKSHIRE DINING ROOMS, 43, Bigg Market, (just above Town Hall.) Good Beds. Don't forget to call.

E. J. SLOANE,

PRACTICAL PIANOFORTE TUNER,

POST OFFICE, BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

MUSIC!

MUSIC LESSONS given—Pianos, Harmoniums, and American Organs Tuned and Repaired. Dealer in Harmoniums, &c.—T. JONES, 4, Gibson Street, near Co-operative Store, Consett 927w

THOMAS HENRY KIRKUP,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

Respectfully announces that he supplies, on the shortest notice, and at the lowest prices, BRICKS, SANITARY PIPES, CHIMNEY TOPS, LATHS, HAIR, CEMENT, PARIS PLASTER, &c. 31x

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MRS. FRANCES CHRISTOPHER, widow of the late ROBERT CHRISTOPHER, Hackmaster, Delves Lane, Consett, in returning thanks for the liberal patronage accorded to him during the many years in which he carried on Business, respectfully intimates that the same will be conducted as usual, and trusts that by keeping a superior turn-out of Horses and Conveyances, she may be able to secure a continuance of the favours of her friends and the public of the district. 662x

WHITER THAN SNOW.

What! Why Clothes, Linen, Floors, &c., when Washed with

HARRISON'S

MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP,

Which does twice the Work of any Soap with half the labour. It also Cures Scurvy, Ringworm, Corns, and Sores, and when used with FURNIVAL'S MAGIC WASHING FLUID, Robs Washing Day of half its troubles.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL OF

J. W. BERRY,

NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

EVENING CLASSES.

MR. J. W. MULCASTER, Principal of the HIGH SCHOOL, CONSETT, begs to announce that he has arranged for the holding of EVENING CLASSES for Young Men, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., in the Primitive Methodist School-Room, Consett, commencing on Monday Evening next, the 2nd May.

Mr. MULCASTER's long experience and success in the Public Examinations of the day, enables him to guarantee thorough Preparation for Cival Service and other Examinations, as well as for General Commercial Life, and the higher branches of a sound English Education.

FEES, according to requirements, in all cases payable in advance.

Consett, April 27th, 1887. 804x

S. SWALWELL,

TAILOR AND DRAPER, DIPTON,

IS now showing a splendid range of the most Fashionable CLOTHS, comprising SCOTCH AND WEST OF ENGLAND TWEEDS, WORSTED AND OTHER COATINGS, suitable for the present Season's wear, which have been bought on the most advantageous terms, and will be made up much below ordinary trade prices. Patterns of which will be forwarded by post or otherwise on application.

The quality of our Goods have been tested for the last 20 years, and have given the greatest satisfaction.

A FASHIONABLE STYLE, CORRECT FIT, AND GOOD WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.

N.B.—Liberal Discount allowed for Cash. 973x

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

SPECIAL NOTICE AS TO PRICES.

Mr G. RICHARDSON, SURGEON DENTIST, Inserts his well-known "Superior Quality" of ARTIFICIAL TEETH (by a New Painless Process) at less prices than usually charged for common quality and inferior workmanship. For comfort, durability, and natural appearance they are unsurpassed. Every Tooth Guaranteed.

☞ Please Note the only Address—

6, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE,

Third door from Northumberland Street.

NOTE.—Rail Fare allowed to Country Patients.

TEETH!

MR. SUTCLIFFE,

DENTAL SURGEON.

Dentistry in all its branches. ARTIFICIAL TEETH at all prices, made so as to attain the natural functions in each case, at 2s 6d, 5s, 7s 6d, and 10s per Tooth. All work guaranteed. Misfits by other Dentists adjusted. Nitrous Oxide Gas for painless operations.

Note the Address: } 4. NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE.

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

HONEY! HONEY!!

BEE HIVES! BEE HIVES!!

STANDARD SIZE.

J. J. SINTON, of Lanchester, IS MAKER OF THE BEST BAR FRAME HIVES IN ENGLAND, now ready for Sale at the following prices complete:—Telescope, 6s. 6d.; Association, 7s. 6d.; Sinton, 8s. 6d. Burgess, 10s; Dixon, 10s. HONEY, Finest Sections, 1s. 308y

O JOE! O JOE!! O JOE THE SWEEP!!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

Clean the flues, clean the flues,
Let it be your end and aim
The same to ever keep clear;
For should they get into a flame,
At Court they'll cost you dear.

—Faithfully yours,
HARRISON, Sweep, Shotley Bridge.

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS. 360x

Mayor's Chambers, Shotley Bridge.

PRESENTATION BIBLES.

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

ROBERT JACKSON'S,

GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET,

AND

9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET CONSETT.

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LARGE DELIVERIES AT HEPWORTH'S.

DIRECT FROM THEIR OWN FACTORY TO THE PEOPLE AT HEPWORTH'S.

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NO SECOND PROFITS AT HEPWORTH'S.

SEE WINDOWS AT HEPWORTH'S.

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12, SHAKESPEARE STREET,

CONSETT

Business Announcements.

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

☞ PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

Evening School, from 6d. to 1s. per week. Commence on Monday, 18th October. 854w

Public Notices.

SUFFERERS from Stammering, Sleep Walking, Fits, St. Vitus' (or St. Agnes') Dance, Hypochondria, or any affection of nervous system.—Apply by letter to Box X, Office of this Paper. Treatment free. 632y

AN EVENING IN THE HOLY LAND.

LECTURE, on Saturday First, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allendale Cottages, by Mr. G. PARKINSON, of Sherburn. See Bills. 676y

NOTICE.—WILLIAM JOHNSON, Carrhouse, will DELIVER ALL HEAVY GOODS from Delves Lane Siding to any Shop in Consett, at 1s. per ton. 569y

NOTICE.

HAVE YOU SEEN these WONDERFUL WATCHES price 12s. 6d., Good Timekeepers, at T. MCCOURTY'S, Watchmaker, Newmarket Street, Consett, and only Practical Spectacle Maker in the County of Durham. 679x

MRS. A. SHIPLEY is prepared to supply a Choice Lot of NEW GOODS for the Season, with a New Stock of Perforated, x Stitch, and other things. BABY LINEN and UNDERCLOTHING kept always in stock, with a really good choice of LADIES' MOB and DRESS CAPS, SERVANTS' CAPS, and a Choice Selection of WOOLS. 614y

ROOFING PANTILES.

DRAINING PIPES, all sizes. PRESSED and COMMON BRICKS.—Good quality; Low Prices.

DEARNESS BRICK CO.,

7, WADDINGTON STREET, DURHAM. 635y

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

OPENING OF NEW PREMISES.

THE NEW PREMISES WILL BE OPENED OUT on December 17th, and not as advertised in the *Record*: on November 26th. Particulars will be given in bills and future advertisements.

683y BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,

M. RICHLEY, Secretary.

MUSICAL TUITION.

JOHN SURTEES, Organist of Christ Church Consett, gives thorough instruction in Piano Harmonium, Organ Playing, Harmony, &c. Special preparation for examinations. Lessons given at pupil's or his own residence. Orders for Tuning promptly attended to. Terms moderate.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 644y

TESTIMONIAL TO THE FAMILY OF SERGEANT NORMAN.

A MEETING will be held in the Infant School-Room, Leadgate, on Monday evening, November 21st at Seven o'clock, to open a Subscription List to assist the wife, and family of nine children, of the late Sergeant Norman. All parties interested are respectfully invited to attend. Chair to be taken by the Rev. J. W. MITCHELL. 661y

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

Lessee, Mr. T. B. Appleby. Acting Manager, Mr. Henry Sale.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, November 18th and 19th, BUFFALO BILL.

MONDAY NEXT, 21st November, for Six Nights only, The most successful Drama of the times—GRELLY'S MONEY, WITH BRINSLEY SHERIDAN in his old and Original Character—SOFT TOMMY SHUTTLEWORTH. 675y

REV. HUGH GILMORE

WILL

PREACH AND LECTURE

IN THE

CONSETT PRIMITIVE CHAPEL,

ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd, 1887.

Subject of Lecture—"Principles of Social Progress."

For particulars see Bills. 645y

CONSETT DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

A GREAT REMOVAL

CLEARANCE SALE

OF

DRAPERY GOODS.

WILL BE COMMENCED ON

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 1887,

And continued for fourteen days.

2s. in the £ returned on Non-Members' purchases.

All Goods reduced for absolute clearance previous to removal into new premises. 634y

LOOK OUT FOR RICHARDSON'S CASH DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT, BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.

"Ken when to spend, and when to spare,
When and where to buy, and thou shalt never be bare."

W. R. begs to inform the inhabitants of Blackhill and District that he will OPEN in a few days the above PLACE OF BUSINESS (lately occupied by Mr J. Gibson as a Boot and Shoe Shop) with an entire New Stock of Winter Goods of the Newest Style, and having bought in the best Markets for Cash enables him to sell at the very lowest possible prices.

By strict attention to Business, W. R. hopes to gain a fair share of public patronage. 626y

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT WESLEYAN CIRCUIT.

GRAND TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE

A PUBLIC MEETING

WILL BE HELD IN THE

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHAPEL,

ON

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST, 1887.

ADDRESSES will be given by the Rev. W. W. WALTON, Gateshead, (Newcastle District Temperance Secretary), and the Rev. JOSEPH DAWSON, Newcastle.—The Revs. A. BAILLIE, E. W. JENKINS, J. ALDERSON, J. MARTIN, H. PARKES, and J. W. KETWORTH will also be present and take part in the meeting.

SELECTIONS OF MUSIC will be given by the united Wesleyan Choirs of Shotley Bridge, Consett, Blackhill, and Leadgate.

Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock p.m., by JOSHUA LAX, Esq., of Shotley Bridge. 597y

A Collection will be taken to defray expenses.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

REGISTRATION OF COWKEEPERS, DAIRYMEN, AND PURVEYORS OF MILK.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under Article VI. of the "Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885," it is not lawful for any person to carry on, in the District of any Local Authority, the Trade of a Cowkeeper, Dairyman, or Purveyor of Milk, unless he is registered as such therein in accordance with that Article, and that under the "Contagious Disease (Animals) Act, 1886," the Consett Local Board, acting as and being the Urban Sanitary Authority for the District of the same Board, are the Local Authority for that District; and Notice is Hereby also given that every person carrying on the Trade of Cowkeeper, Dairyman, or Purveyor of Milk within the district of the said Urban Sanitary Authority, who is not already Registered as such with the said Authority, can be Registered on application to me, the undersigned and that forms of application can be obtained at the Office of the said Board, Parliament Street, Consett.

Dated this 17th day of November, 1887.

THOMAS WM. WELFORD, JUNR.,

631y Clerk to the said Board.

Public Notices.

GRAND CONCERT in Temperance Hall, Burnopfield, on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 7·15 p.m, Vocalists and Instrumentalists:—The Misses Watson (Piano and Harp), Dr Johnson (Banjo), Dr. Duncan, Rev. C. H. Newman, Messrs Saunders, Chaytor, Abbott, Hogarth, Ross, Allan (Violin), and others. Admission—1s.; few back seats, 6d For Church Choir Fund. 669y

RE-CHRISTOPHER FOSTER, DECEASED.

22 AND 23 VICT., CAP. 35.

ALL PERSONS having Claims against, or owing money to, the Estate of CHRISTOPHER FOSTER, late of No. 13, Sunniside Old Row, near Tow Law, in the county of Durham, miner, deceased, (who died on the 29th day of July last, and to whose personal Estate and Effects letters of Administration were granted by the Durham District Registry, on the 25th day of October last, to JOHN FOSTER, the brother, and one of the next of kin of the Deceased,) are required to send particulars of such Claims, and to pay such Debts to us, the undersigned, on or before the 15th day of December next, after which date the Administrator will proceed to distribute the Assets having regard only to the Claims then received.

Dated the 15th day of November, 1887.

FORSTER, BROWN, and FORSTER,

29, Grainger St. West, Newcastle-on-Tyne

668y Solicitors to the said Administrator.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs A. & R. J. Brodie.

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

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

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

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, 1887.—Sale of High-class China, including Breakfast, Dinner, and Dessert sets, Single and Double Chamber sets, and Art Pottery of every description.

MESSRS A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed by Mr HOBSON, of the Bath Street China Works, Hanley, Staffordshire, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, a choice selection of High-class CHINA and other WARE.—Particulars in posters and future advertisements.—Sale to commence at two o'clock in the afternoon, and six o'clock in the evening of each day.

Monday, November 28th, 1887.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Important Sale of Superior Mahogany and Walnut Household Furniture, Fine-toned Cottage Pianoforte, Good Harmonium, Domestic Sewing Machine, Choice Library of Books, and other Effects.

MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed to remove and SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, November 28th, 1887, the Superior Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, belonging to a Gentleman declining housekeeping, including:—Handsome Walnut Sideboard, with Plate Glass Back; Superior Drawers and Bookcase; Mahogany Bookcase; Mahogany Couch, in Hair-Seating; Easy Chair, in Hair; 2 Easy Chairs, in Leather; 6 Hair-seated Chairs; Mahogany Centre Table; Mahogany Bedstead and Mattresses; 2 Brass-Mounted Bedsteads; 3 Iron Bedsteads and Mattresses; 2 Spring Mattresses; Feather and Down Beds; Bolster and Pillows; 2 Handsome Mantelpiece Mirrors; Carpets and Hearthrugs; Fenders and Fireirons; and all the Miscellaneous Effects and Sundries. Also, the following, with other Valuable Books:—Fordyce's History of Durham, 2 Vols.; History of Northumberland; Ireland; its Scenery and Charater, by S. C. Hall; Tomlinson's Cyclopædia, 3 Vols.; The World as it is, 3 Vols.; Life and Times of Sir Robert Peel, 12 Vols.; and a great variety of other useful works. Superior Fine-toned Thirty Guinea Cottage Pianoforte; good Harmonium, in perfect order; Music Stool; Family Washing Machine; Domestic Sewing Machine, &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt, as the lots are numerous. No Reserve. 672y

Monday and Tuesday, November 28th and 29th, 1887.—Consett Co-operative Society, Limited.—Important Sale of Surplus Stock of Linen and Woollen Drapery.

MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed by the Committee of the above Society to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on their Drapery Premises, at Consett, on Monday and Tuesday, November 28th and 29th, the Surplus Stock of LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERY.

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock each evening.

No reserve. 667y

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Freehold Property for Sale at Hill Top, Dipton.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY is honoured with instructions from Mrs SUSAN CHEESMOND (the Owner), to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Wednesday, November 23rd, 1887, at Three o'clock p.m., and subject to such Conditions as will be read at the time of Sale, all that

FREEHOLD

FULL-LICENSED PUBLIC-HOUSE,

Called the Grey Horse Inn,

Situate at Hill Top, in the Parish of Tanfield, County of Durham; containing Bar, Tap-Room, and Kitchen on ground Floor, with a good Cellar; Three Bed-rooms on the Second Flat; a Two-stalled Stable, and other Out-Buildings. Also, a Two-Roomed COTTAGE-HOUSE, adjoining the same, with 1680 square yards of Land, more or less.

The Property may be viewed on application to the OWNER, on the Premises; or to Mr JOHN COATES, who will show the Property; and to the AUCTIONEER, Shotley Bridge. 638y

Kyo, near Catchgate.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, instructed by the Representatives of the late Mrs. ANN HERDMAN, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Kyo, on Thursday, November 24th, 1887, all her very Valuable Household FURNITURE, &c., comprising—Sitting-Room Suite, in Mahogany, including Oval Three-quarter Chest of Drawers, Centre Table, Couch, in Hair-seating, Spring Bottom, 6 Chairs, in do.; Lady's and Gentleman's Easy Chairs, in do.; Green Cloth Table Cover; Mahogany Card Table; Splendid Brussels Carpet, with Border, and Hearthrug; Mantel Mirror, in Rosewood Frame; Oil Painting, in Gilt Frame; 3 Cromos, in do.; Portrait of Sir Wilfred Lawson, in do.; 2 Pictures, in Black and Gold Frames; 3 Ancient China Ornaments; Steel Fender; Steel Fireirons and Ash Pan; 2 Hassocks; 2 Spittoons; 2 Mahogany Window Cornice Poles; 2 Pairs of Lace Window Curtains; 2 Window Blinds and Rollers.

No. 1 BED-ROOM contains—Mahogany Three-quarter Chest of Drawers; Painted Chest of Drawers; Dressing Table and Wash-stand, Double Set of Chamber Ware; Four-poled Bedstead and Mattress; Feather Bed; 4 Cane-bottomed Bed-Room Chairs; Mantel Mirrors; Chimneypiece Ornaments; Carpet and Hearthrug; 5 Pictures; Pair of Lace Window Shades; Blind and Roller.

ATTIC BED-ROOM consists of Camp Bedstead, Hangings, and Mattress; Painted Chest and Frame; 6 Chairs; Jewellery Box; Bed-Room Carpet; Window Blind and Roller.

KITCHEN FURNITURE comprises Birch Press; Four-poled Bedstead and Mattress; Twenty-four Hours' Clock, in Oak Case; 1 Kitchen and 1 Tea Table; Form; 6 Kitchen Chairs; Windsor Arm Chair; American Lock-stitch Sewing Machine; Glass and Earthenware, including a Splendid Set of China Tea Ware; 2 Large and 2 Small Mats; Kitchen Fender and Fireirons; Metal Pots and Pans; Wringing Machine; Washing Tubs, and other Sundries; 2 Metal Fire Ranges.

Also, at the close of the above,

A PLOT OF LAND,

Containing 1140 Square Yards more or less, will be Sold subject to such Conditions as will be stated at time of Sale. 71y

Sale to commence at Twelve o'clock at noon.

☞ JOSEPH OLEY,

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,

10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

JOHN LOWES,

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

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

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC. 653y

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

Annual Sale of Shrubs, Flowers, Table and Window Plants, Evergreens, Bulbs, Fruit Trees, Rasp Canes, &c., &c.

MR. JOHN S. MURRAY will SELL BY AUCTION, in Middle Street, Consett, on Saturday, November 19th, 1887, a Large CONSIGNMENT OF THE ABOVE, including among others: Roses, Rhododendrons, Weeping Willows, Scarlet Thorns, Coniferous Evergreen and Deciduous Shrubs, Fruit Trees and Bushes; Rasp Canes, consisting of Baumforth Seedling, Semper Fidelis and Carter's Prolific, and Rhubarb Stott's Monarch; very large exhibition variety. Also, several Table and Window Plants, including—Chrysanthemums, well set with bud; Ficus Elastica India Rubber; and Aralea Seiboldii.

J. S. M. has pleasure in drawing attention to the above, as they are vigorous and well-rooted, and can with confidence recommend them to the public.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock. 659y

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,

AUCTIONEER,

AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1887.

Present Entries.

14 Fat Cattle.
120 Fat Sheep.
3 Veal Calves.
A number of Pork and Store Pigs.
6 Fat Turkeys.
12 to 15 Calving Cows.
6 S.H. Stirks.
Calves, Poultry, &c.
Powerful Brown Cart Horse, 16 h.h.
Grey Colt, 2½ years old, by 'Highland Laddy.'
Potatoes, prime quality; 20 Bags of Oats.
Pig Nets; Coup Cart, with Shelvings; &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

638y NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

By Mr. W. Richardson.

Tow Law.—Freehold Dwelling-Houses for Sale.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mr. RICHARD MEWS, the Mile Stone Inn, Tow Law, on Friday, December 2nd. 1887, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon,

Mr. W. RICHARDSON, Auctioneer.

All those

THREE FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSES,

One containing 6 Rooms, and Two containing 2 Rooms each, with Enclosed Yard, and all Conveniences, situate in the High Street, Tow Law, as now occupied by Messrs. Hodgson, Armstrong, and Moses.

The Property is well built, and in good repair.

The Tenants will give inspection, and further particulars can be obtained on application to the AUCTIONEER, Tow Law; or of

Messrs. TROTTER, BRUCE, & TROTTER,

665y Solicitors, Bishop Auckland.

By Mr. Biggs.

Ousterley West House Farm.

MR. BIGGS, favoured with instructions from Mr. ROBT. WOOD, will SELL BY AUCTION the whole of the FARMING STOCK on the above Farm, on Monday, November 28th, 1887.

HORSES.

Brown Mare, Blossom, by "Bismarck," (S.B. 50), in foal to "Sovereign."
Brown Colt, 2½ years, by "Doddington."

CATTLE.

Roan S.H. Cow, due January 16th next.
Roan and White Cow, due April 8th next.
Red S.H. Cow, Milking.
Roan Heifer, "
Roan and White Heifer, due to Calve June 9th.
White Heifer, due to Calve March 15th.
2 Shorthorn Heifers, 2 years old.
2 " " 1½ "
3 Heifers, 5 to 8 months old.
1 Fat Heifer, ripe and neat.

SHEEP.

52 Cross Leicester Ewes, in lamb to "Oxford Down."
7 Fat Ewes, good quality.
2 Tup Lambs.
Sundry Poultry.

IMPLEMENTS.

2 Coup Carts, with harvest bodies; Pair of Harrows; Two-Horse Grub Harrows, little used; Three-Horse Grubber; 1 Hay Rake (Ransome and Sims), nearly new; Metal Roller; Turnip Drill; Mowing Machine, nearly new; Hay Shed; Small Plough; 2 Scufflers; Milk Cart, with Barrels complete; Four-wheeled Dog Cart, with Lamps, &c., neat; Long Ladder, and the usual small Implements and Harness; Stack of Well-won Hay, under cover, insured, and can remain to May 11th, 1888; Small Stack of Well-won Hay.

Sale to commence at One p.m. prompt.

Terms—Cash.

A Brake runs from Chester-le-Street Station.

23, Grey Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 670y

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

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

JOSEPH VICKERS Auctioneer.

Grove Villa, Tow Law. 454x

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

JOHN CRAWFORD,

AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,

25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

GEORGE R. HOBSON,

AUCTIONEER & VALUER.

OFFICES:—

CATCHGATE *VIA* LINTZ GREE 0?

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

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

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

Business Announcements

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY

TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY

Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.

428u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

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

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

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT

☞ 36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Bottle. ☜

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

W. GLENDENNING,

WINE MERCHANT,

9, GRAINGER STREET (between Nun Street and Newgate Street) NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Business Announcements.

TEETH AT ALL PRICES.

MR. D. POWELL,

SURGEON DENTIST,

2, NUN STREET (Corner of Clayton Street), NEWCASTLE,

May be personally Consulted every Week Day, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

CONSULTATION FREE.

IMPORTANT ADVICE.—Before seeking the aid of the Dental Profession, ask the people where to go and have the recommendation of the many, they are the best judge. Don't go by one or two persons, or paid agents; have the advice and experience of at least a dozen individuals. If you act according to the above advice you might save yourself endless pain and disappointment.

OBSERVE LARGE BLUE LAMP AND SEE THAT YOU GET INTO THE RIGHT DOOR.

Over 20 Years at the same Address. 506x

MOST MONEY LENT

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

J. & E. WILSON'S,

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

12, PILGRIM STREET

FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)

PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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

THE THRILLING TALE

ENTITLED

"THE SILENT WATCHERS,"

BY

MISS DORA RUSSELL,

APPEARS IN THIS ISSUE.

HIGH CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL

SURGEON DENTIST,

9, GRAINGER STREET,

NEWCASTLE.

☞ ARTIFICIAL TEETH AT REASONABLE PRICES COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET

From 30s. to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS OR SINGLE TEETH

From 3s. to 10s. per Tooth.

Every Set is adapted to the mouth on the most improved principles, without extraction of Stumps or other painful operation, guaranteed to fit perfectly and warranted.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas.

Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed, and all charges strictly moderate.

☞ Country Patients visiting Mr. CAMPBELL's Establishment in Newcastle will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, and whenever possible will be allowed their railway far

TO ADVERTISERS.

ALL Orders for Advertisements for insertion in the *Consett Guardian* must be WRITTEN, and sent in not later then NINE o'clock on Friday mornings to ensure publication.

WE use great care to secure the correct printing of advertisements; but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies nor from any consequences arising therefrom.

PARTIES making inquiries by letter respecting advertisements must enclose an addressed stamped envelope.

IT is contrary to Post-office Regulations for letters to be addressed to initials or fictitious names at any Post-office. Advertisers are desired to bear this in mind.

APPLICANTS for situations and others who reply to advertisements are recommended to forward copies of their testimonials, and not the original documents.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH, 1887.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

WINTER.

"O, winter, ruler of the inverted year."
—*Cowper.*

There is an old saying to the effect that the devil is not so black as he is painted. Rather a rude form of expression certainly; but it serves to illustrate a popular truism. Winter may not be lovely in itself, but its associations are hallowed by the pleasing, social features they tend to cultivate. I was alarmed to learn from the last issue of the *Guardian* that the dull November weather was exercising a depressing influence on Her Majesty's subjects in the Annfield Plain district. No antidote was spoke of, the return of good weather being hopefully looked forward to as the only sure panacea for this form of melancholy. To speak of the welcome voices of the Spring before we have well tasted of the less joyous presence of the Winter requires a keener sense of imagination than the majority of people are endowed with. It will be a long time before better weather need be expected either at Annfield Plain or elsewhere. People who feel out of sorts in dreary weather are usually those who have very little to do. There is nothing like application for keeping ennui at a respectable distance. Much might be said in praise of winter. The days are short and the air keen and bracing. Unpleasant to some extent it may be, but the discomforts of the day are more than compensated by the social and domestic pleasures of the evening. Let me speak peace to my Annfield Plain readers, and others of similar temperament, if such there be. The man who becomes peevish because he cannot revel in perpetual sunshine ought to be ashamed of himself. We are explicitly told in Holy Writ that the sun shines on the evil and on the good, and as our kinsmen at the Antipodes have quite as much claim on the monarch of the day as we have, it would be ungenerous on our part to seek, even in thought, to deprive them of seed time and harvest. People who are troubled with suicidal thoughts in gloomy weather should treat themselves to a course of medicine. The general reader may, preadventure, imagine that I am disposed to be cynical. I have no desire to treat so important a subject with indifference. Medicine has long been regarded as a remedy for a mind disordered, no less than for a disordered stomach. It is recorded that it was a common practice among the philosophers of antiquity to take copious doses of an aperient as a needful preparation in order to refute the dogmas of their opponents. To come to latter times, Dryden, the poet, thought no shame to inform posterity that he made preparation for a course of study by a course of purgative medicine. Lord Byron declared that the thing that gave him the highest spirits was a dose of salts! My task is now done, having prescribed a sure cure for melancholy, and, if all tales be true, there will be a ready sale for salts next week at a spot known in local parlance as the "Plain."

PRESENTATIONS.

There is a spirit of benevolence abroad, and so general and far-spreading is its influence that one is almost led to conjecture that a latent chord has stirred, the dulcet notes falling in inspiring numbers on the impressible hearts of those who have and to spare. In scanning the columns of the weekly newspapers of late, the word "presentation" meets the eye at every glance. It is gratifying to note that this spirit of appreciation, the more so that it seems not to be confined to any one particular section of the community. It is well to encourage the deserving, for many a noble spirit has drooped through lack of an approving voice. The man who has no friends is a curious animal, and two admirers are quite capable of originating and carrying to a successful issue any testimonial scheme, assuming, of course, that the central figure has some standing in the social scale. It sometimes happens that men who have striven to benefit nobody but themselves, awaken some fine morning to find themselves famous. They are feasted and made the recipients of gifts for which they never toiled, whilst the vastly more deserving are permitted to go their way, without having earned the cheap, but scarce commendation "Well done." There is abundant room for improvement in these presentation observances. It is a curious feature in our social life that a man must either die or leave a locality before anybody thinks it worth their pains to speak of his usefulness, unless at the tea table. Modesty forbids that sort of thing, besides it is not in keeping with the usages of modern etiquette, whispers the conscientious soul who has hitherto sinned against the light in this respect. I could point out some two or three local gentlemen who have served the public gratuitously, if not for all the days of their lives, at least long enough to have deserved some token of recognition; but the fatted calf has not yet been killed on their account.

KILLED THROUGH KINDNESS.

Dr Renton has just drawn the attention of the Leadgate Local Board to the high rate of infant mortality within their jurisdiction. The worthy doctor has put on record the astounding statement, that six out of eleven deaths are the result of improper feeding. I am at a loss—and I dare-say many of my readers are in exactly the same position in that respect—to understand the literal rendering of the term "improper feeding." Dr Renton is not a man of many words; but if the evil complained of is to be guarded against, it is of the utmost importance that its cause and cure should be very clearly put before the public. Improper feeding is a phrase capable of being rendered much as the preconceived ideas of the reader may determine. It may be that the fault is wholly on my side, not being gifted with the requisite power of apprehension essential to grasp the full purport of the terms employed. As I read it, "improper feeding" may imply that the infants are not provided with sufficient food, or it may mean that they get too much; and lastly, to use a pulpit phrase, it may imply that the quality of the food supplied is not what it should be. I draw public attention to this question, not for the sake of mere criticism, but purely on the ground of information. It is evident that there is urgent need for reform in the very interesting business of baby culture; but the nature of the disease must first be ascertained before the skilled physician can prescribe a remedy. It is true that the members of the Board hinted that the use, or rather the mis-use, of "boiley" is the chief cause of the infantile mortality complained of; but with all deference to their skill in family matters, I would much prefer to have a professional definition of the evil, its cause and cure. The doctor will please pardon this ebullition of inquisitiveness on the part of his humble servant. The last time we met he read me a lecture anent one or more sins of commission on my part, but I fancy that now I have found him napping! Eh, doctor?

WESLEYANISM AND TEMPERANCE.

I see by the advertising columns, that the district Wesleyans intend having what they call a "Grand temperance demonstration" at Blackhill on Monday evening. A good feature in the proceedings is the number of the speakers. "Many hands make light work," is an old saying, and it is quite as true in its application to mental exertion as it is to physical toil. Plenty of speakers and short speeches is now the order of the hour. Truth is many-sided, and its effect is heightened when presented with divers natural tints—the individuality of the respective speakers. The propagation of temperance habits amongst its members has long been a cardinal feature in Methodist preaching and teaching. There is no halting in Methodist circles. The fire is never allowed to burn low, they believe in keeping up the steam. A large gathering is expected on Monday evening—a central meeting-place having been chosen in deference to the claims of the friends in Shotley Bridge, Consett, and Leadgate—for I know by experience that Methodists, and notably Wesleyan Methodists, welcome the stranger quite as heartily as they do the lambs of the flock. The same is to some extent true now-a-days of most sections of the Christian Church, but I am pretty near the mark in saying that the Methodists were the first to show the example. So good a lesson is worthy of imitation.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC JOTTINGS.

[By the "Old Crow."]

Mr Jonathan Stephenson is to be congratulated on the success, artistically and financially, of his concert on Monday night. Mozart's *Twelfth Mass* was rendered very creditably. To say that it was rendered faultlessly would be to go, perhaps, a little out of the way. It way be remarked, however, that the faults were more than made up for by the good points. In the second part of the programme Miss Cairns (Consett) was undoubtedly the success. This young lady has wonderfully improved in voice and method, and it is not too much to say, that in the particular style of ballad she selects to sing she is far in advance of other lady-amateurs in the district. Her songs were rendered with charming effect. Altogether the concert was more pleasing than any "Old Crow" has attended for some time past.

This week at the Theatre Royal, Consett, Mr Charles Hermann's *Buffalo Bill Company* occupy the boards. Without speaking of the play itself which is quite unnecessary, from the fact that it has been so recently produced, "Old Crow" feels bound to say that the various *rôles* are very creditably rendered, special praise being due to Messrs Thos. Paxton, Edward Chester, and C. J. Burber, and to Miss Andrey Canning and Miss Nellie Akhurst.

—o—

For next week is promised Mr Brinsley Sheridan's Company in *Grelley's Money*, a play in which Mr Sheridan has shone for very many years. It is quite unnecessary for "Old Crow" to speak in favour of a company so well known.

—o—

Mr T. B. Appleby has appointed Mr Henry Sale to look after his interests here, in the capacity of acting manager, and a right business-like and courteous gentleman he is too! Mr Sale informs "Old Crow" that no expense will be spared to bring to the theatre from time to time really worthy companies. Some of the prospective engagements he named quite surprised your old bird. It will not do to anticipate the many good things in store, as, to do so might tend to detract from their effect later. Suffice it to say, that Mr Appleby, subject of course to proper and fitting patronage, will do for Consett in a dramatic way, what has never previously been attempted in the town. May his efforts to please meet with the success they deserve.

—o—

The theatre, too, is to be structurally altered in order to meet the views of the Board. There are proposed to be two entrances, one to the boxes and gallery, the other to the pit and back of the building. The staircase to the boxes is to be made more easy of ascent and descent; seats in the gallery will have backs put to them, as well as those in the pit; and many other alterations and improvements are to be made with a view of increasing the ease and comfort of the audience. The theatre is at present badly lighted outside, and not the least noticeable of the improvements, will be the fixing of three good lamps in front of the building. This will meet a long-felt want.

—o—

Time and want of space forbade a notice in this column last week of Mr Mulholland's company in *The Unknown*. It is the more to be regretted as two or three of the company deserved more than a passing notice. Miss Edith Blanche, who hitherto has been better known in another branch of the profession than as an actress viz.—as a clever singer and dancer—was very happy in the part of Bessie Merrybright. She was charming alike in her vivacious, as in her more sober and dignified moments, and proved herself a clever actress. Mr J. W. Ryder, as Jack Salt, was equally successful; the boisterous, affectionate sailor to the life. Mr Preston Marchant, as Harold, gave an effective rendering of the part; Mr Royston was capital as the villainous lawyer, Arnold Tyson, and scored heavily; whilst Mr Nat Wallace (Pat Mahony) Mr F. L. Arthur (Jimmy) and Miss Lizzie Stirling (Louise) made the most of their respective parts.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

A report of the Wesleyan Missionary Meeting at Consett this week is unavoidably held over till our next issue.

SNOWSTORM. — A heavy fall of snow was experienced in Consett district on Monday and Tuesday, the ground being covered to a depth of several inches.

THE NOMINATION OF SHERIFFS.—Mr D. Dale, Darlington; Mr L. Wood, Chester-le-Street; and Mr W. J. Joicey, Chester-le-Street, have been nominated as sheriffs for the county of Durham for the ensuing year.

A CANARD. — A rumour was circulating in Consett on Saturday night and Sunday, to the effect that a woman with a child had committed suicide by throwing themselves into the Tinmill pond. It appears that a tramp had threatened to end the lives of herself and child in this manner; but it was proved beyond doubt that she did not fulfil her intention.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741ST STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.—The ninth appropriation took place on Wednesday evening, in the Small Hall, New Town Hall, Consett. The number drawn was 307, representing Mr John Potts, Shotley Field, who held two shares, and, being clear on the books, is entitled to the use of £200, free of interest, for 10 or 12½ years.

MR ATHERLEY-JONES AT WORK.—Last (Thursday) night, Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., addressed a large public meeting in the Good Templars' Hall, Low Spennymoor. The meeting was also addressed by Mr W. H. Patterson, Durham, &c., and besides resolutions condemning the action of the present Government in Ireland, a vote of condolence with Mr Crawford, M.P., in his illness, were unanimously carried.

It will be seen from our advertising columns that the Rev. Hugh Gilmore, of Preston, is coming to Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Wednesday next. To those who have heard him, or read his productions on "Democracy," "Ireland," and kindred subjects, he needs no introduction; to those who have not, we only say he equals in ability the best men in that Connexion, and is well worth hearing.

TRAP ACCIDENT.—Between nine and ten o'clock on Sunday night, as Mr Wm. Aynsley and family were returning from Leadgate to Consett, they met with a slight mishap. Their phaeton was standing in the "slack," when it was run into by a party of gentlemen driving in an opposite direction. The phaeton was damaged to the extent that one of the wheels was smashed, but the occupants luckily escaped without injury. The party in the conveyance drove onward without staying to ascertain the result of their negligence.

THEATRE ROYAL.—At this place of amusement the performances announced for next week are of an unusually interesting character. The piece is "Grelley's Money," which has had a gigantic success after a run of 1,600 nights in the provinces, has been pronounced by the London Press the greatest success in London. The principal character—"Soft Tommy Shuttleworth"—will be taken by Mr Brinsley Sheridan, of whom the London Press said—"High praise is due to Mr Sheridan for his really excellent acting of 'Shuttleworth.'".—During the present week, Mr C. Hermann's "Buffalo Bill's" Company having occupied the stage, and have attracted very fair audiences.

CHRISTIAN LAY CHURCH.—Anniversary services in connection with the above Church took place at Consett, last week. On Saturday, there was a public tea, to which a good company sat down. The tables were ably presided over by Mesdames Williams, Coleman, Sanderson, and Sheldon. In the evening, an entertainment was given by the church choir. Songs and solos were nicely sung by Messrs Sinclair, Sheldon, Bothwick, and the Misses Sheldon and Dunne. Recitations were given in capital style by Messrs Davis, Unsworth, and Sheldon. Master Thos. Elsdon was harmoniumist, and Mr Thos. Sinclair conducted. Mr T. Williams occupied the chair.—On Sunday, two sermons were preached by Mr James Mowitt, Newcastle, to good congregations. Collections were taken in aid of the church funds.

BLACKHILL.

It may not be generally known that, through the instrumentality of Mr David Dale, J.P., the foot-bridge crossing the line at Consett and Blackhill Railway Station is now open to the public on Sundays. The gates have been removed, and the bridge was open for the first time all day last Sunday.

BENFIELDSIDE STOCK AUCTION MART.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray had forward on Monday 13 fat cattle, which sold up to £18, from Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen; 135 fat sheep, up to 38s, from Mr Towns, East Law; 4 pork pigs, to 63s; 2 calves, to 54s 6d; 14 small pigs, to 20s; 7 stirks, to £5 each; 4 geld cows, £3 12s 6d to £8; and a quantity of poultry, potatoes, harness, and traps, which sold at fair prices.

FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370TH STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.—The 45th appropriation was held on Monday night, at the office, Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill. Mr Mr Noble presided, and Messrs Gillies and Smailes were appointed scrutineers. The first three numbers drawn—102, 8, and 145—were disqualified on account of subscriptions being in arrears and shares withdrawn. The next number drawn was 93, held by Miss Ann Gibson, Durham Road, Blackhill, who, being found clear on the books, and holding two shares, was declared entitled to an advance of £200, free of interest, for 12½ years.

TO OUR READERS.

THE OPENING CHAPTERS
OF A
NEW AND THRILLING STORY
ENTITLED

CRŒSUS' WIDOW

By Miss DORA RUSSELL,
Authoress of "The Silent Watchers,"
APPEARS IN THIS ISSUE.

WESLEYAN CIRCUIT TEMPERANCE MEETING.—We beg to draw the attention of our readers to the Wesleyan circuit temperance meeting to be held in the Blackhill Wesleyan Chapel, on Monday evening next. The speakers will be Rev W. W. Walton, Gateshead, and Rev Joseph Dawson, Newcastle, both of whom are ministers of some standing in the Wesleyan body. Mr Walton is the temperance secretary of the Newcastle district, and has travelled in Gateshead since the Conference of 1886, previous to which he did three years' acceptable service in Sunderland. Mr Walton combines evangelical zeal with refinement of diction, and a good measure of intellectual power. Wherever he has travelled his name is mentioned with respect, and his preaching is generally admired. Mr Dawson is a north-country man, and entered the Wesleyan ministry in 1865, spending next seven years in Bishop Auckland, Gateshead, and Sunderland. Upon his appointment to Newcastle at the last Conference, the *Newcastle Daily Leader* said: "Mr Dawson is an earnest preacher. His sermons have backbone and brain, and carry weight." The ministers of the circuit, and the Nonconformist ministers in Blackhill, are also expected to take part in the meeting. The chair will be occupied by Mr Joshua Lax, one of the circuit stewards, and choice selections of music will be rendered by the united Wesleyan choirs of Shotley Bridge, Consett, Blackhill, and Leadgate. The meeting, which we believe is the first of the kind held in this district, promises to be of a most interesting and instructive character.

LEADGATE.

YEARLY CLUB SUPPER.—The yearly fund held at the house of Mr T. Longstaff, Miner's Arms, Front Street, Leadgate, broke up on Saturday night, when an excellent repast was served up before a large number of members under the able superintendence of the host and hostess. After the cloths had been removed, Mr Geo Nicholson was appointed chairman, while Mr Richardson Smith (Tanfield) occupied the vice-chair.—Mr John Forster, secretary, submitted a report, which was extremely satisfactory. Another yearly club had been established that night, and over 30 members had joined.—After disposing of the loyal toasts, the Chairman proposed "The health of the society," and expressed the gratification it afforded him of seeing so many working men formed into such societies for the purpose of helping one another in times of difficulty and distress. It was their duty to assist each other in the time of need. (Applause.)—Mr Joseph Ridley, a steward, replied in suitable terms.—Other toasts were given, the speeches being interspersed by a number of songs, which were well rendered and heartily received, thus making a very enjoyable evening.

LOCAL BOARD.—At the last ordinary meeting of the Leadgate Local Board, subsequent to the proceedings reported in last week's issue, a memorial, signed by six rated inhabitants, was read, asking the Board to take measures to provide them each with allotments of an acre of ground.—After some discussion, the Clerk (Mr M. Coupland) was directed to make enquiries regarding the matter, although it was generally believed that the application should have been made to the Board of Guardians.—Mr J. H. Hudson called attention to the fact that Mr George Nicholson (a member of that Board) had again taken the liberty of ploughing-up the footpath crossing his fields towards Iveston. He urged upon the Board to take legal proceedings against Mr Nicholson.—A long conversation ensued between the Chairman (Mr W. H. Hedley), Mr Hudson, and the Clerk, during the course of which Mr Nicholson and most of the members left the room.—The result was that the Clerk will prosecute further enquiries touching the matter of complaint.—The Board, after a protracted sitting, adjourned after six p.m.

IVESTON.

CONCERT AND SUPPER.—On Wednesday evening, a concert of miscellaneous music was given in the Iveston Wesleyan Chapel by several friends from Leadgate, comprising: Miss Annie Bell, Miss M. Bell, and Miss P. Power; Messrs P. Hedley, G. Hedley, J. Stewart, and W. F. Lane, the latter gentleman being down for a recitation. Mr J. W. Hedley, Leadgate, acted as organist. The chair was occupied by Mr W. Robson, Dipton. The concert was fairly well attended, the number of *artistes* down on the programme being sufficient—exclusive of the supper following—to warrant a good company. The singing was decidedly good, the Misses Bell and Power doing much to augment the local fame they already possess as vocalists; while the gentlemen, who are well known in the vicinity, did every credit by their performances to the reputation they have achieved. The organist (Mr J. W. Hedley) fully succeeded in satisfying the company by the manner in which he played the various pieces. After the concert, a supper, which was fairly well attended, was held in the school-room, the ladies of the congregation kindly giving their services in the carrying-out of the same, winning the good-will of the whole company by their courteous and attentive manner. The proceeds were in aid of the trust funds.

MEDOMSLEY.

SERVICE OF SONG.—On Monday night, a service of song, entitled "Eva," was given by the choir of the Medomsley Wesleyan Chapel. There was not a large company present, owing, no doubt, to the inclement state of the weather. Mr T. Teasdale (Medomsley) occupied the chair. After the opening hymn and prayer, the chairman gave a short address. He felt exceedingly happy to meet with the friends that night, and hoped that the service would prove beneficial to each of them. He had acted as reader at the rehearsal on the previous Monday night, and was much interested in the piece. He was confident that the audience, both young and old, would be quite satisfied after hearing the various pieces performed.—The opening hymn was a well-known tune out of Sankey's collection, "Scatter seeds of kindness," which was rendered in splendid style; and the whole of the music, from beginning to end, was gone through in a most creditable manner. The solo, "Thou art passing away," was taken by Miss [illegible] Robinson, who deserves special mention for the able manner in which she executed the piece. This young lady not only has a rich soprano voice, but also sings with much taste, and was well received by the audience. The choir was under the leadership of Mr J. A. Adamson, who conducted the various pieces in a very praiseworthy manner. The connective readings, which were of an impressive character, were given by Mr Wm. Robinson, in a very excellent and distinct manner, and it was quite evident that the proper gentleman had been chosen upon to take that part of the proceedings. At the conclusion, the "Vital spark" was rendered in very good style by the choir, the audience expressing their feelings by continued applause. Mr T. Adamson presided at the harmonium.

BLAYDON.

LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting was recently held at Blaydon, at which there was a good attendance. The report showed the association to be in a sound condition, having a balance to its credit. Mr Wm. Paxton was re-elected president. It was resolved to hold a series of meetings during the winter months. A resolution condemning the policy of the present Government was passed.

PRUDHOE.

CURIOUS ACTION RESPECTING A GREYHOUND.—On Friday, at Hexham County Court, before Judge Holl, Q.C., John Robson, the younger, sawyer, Prudhoe, claimed from Ralph Hodgson, mason, the sum of £50 for personal injuries caused to him by a greyhound belonging to or in the care or custody of the defendant on the 12th Nov., 1886. Mr Freeborn appeared for plaintiff, and Mr Clark (Newcastle) defended.—The facts of the case were not called in question, but Mr Clark submitted that there was no cause of action shown on the face of the particulars.—His Honour decided to hear the evidence before coming to a decision on the point of law involved. It appeared that in the afternoon of 12th Nov. plaintiff was walking along a narrow field, through which a public footpath runs, on his way home. There were three dogs in the field. One of them went past him, and another came against his leg and knocked him down, breaking his leg. The three dogs came away from two men named English and Latham; the latter, it was alleged, being employed by defendant, Hodgson. Plaintiff said he could not say that the men urged the dogs to run.—His Honour said he did know that there was any law against taking out greyhounds.—Mr Freeborn: I will show your Honour as a matter of fact that these dogs were started to race.—Mr Clark: There was nothing to race.—English was called, and denied that he was there for the purpose of racing the dogs. He met Latham accidentally, and while they stood and talked they let three of the dogs loose, there being four altogether.—His Honour dismissed the case, without costs, remarking that there was no cause of action, and struck out the hearing fee.

WHICKHAM.

PRESENTATION.—On Wednesday se'nnight, Mr John Turnbull, who is leaving the north to occupy a position in London, was presented with a travelling bag and a gold albert and scarf pin. The presentation was made in the Young Men's Church Institute, where a large number of members and friends were assembled. Mr Thos. Reed, one of the vice-presidents of the society, made the presentation, and in doing so spoke very highly of Mr Turnbull, and regretted the loss which the place would sustain by the removal of such a valuable and able officer. He further wished him every success in his new undertaking.—Mr Turnbull, who has been connected with the institute for upwards of eleven years, having been present at its formation, suitably responded; thanking the subscribers for their kindness, and the high compliment paid to him.—The meeting was enlivened by sundry songs and instrumental music, and, altogether, a very pleasant evening was spent. The usual vote of thanks was passed to the chairman for the amiable manner in which he had presided over the meeting. The company dispersed after having sung "Auld Lang Syne."

DIPTON.

During the heavy rains of last week, some water got into the pipes which ordinarily supply gas to Dipton Church, interfering with the supply, and as a consequence the regular week-night service on Wednesday could not be held.

A SCHOOL BOARD FIASCO.—The first meeting of the recently-elected School Board for Collierley should have been held at Dipton, on Wednesday afternoon, but only two members—Messrs J. A. Curry (ex-chairman) and E. Wilkinson—put in an appearance. After waiting fully half-an-hour, and despatching Mr Mole (attendance officer) to hunt up another member to form a quorum, without success, the gentlemen present signed the necessary cheques, and then went on their way—not rejoicing.

PLEASANT EVENING.—The second of the winter entertainments connected with St. John's church, Dipton, took place on Saturday evening in the Free Church school-room, when a full, orderly, and demonstrative audience were treated to a very good programme of songs, duets, glees, and readings, Rev R. Tuson (vicar) leading off with "The anchor's weighed," and later on in the evening giving "Johnny Sands"—in which he succeeded in rousing the risible faculties of the audience—and the reading, "The tattie machine." The glee class sang "Laugh and grow fat," and the chorus to the "Fire in the grate," in which latter pieces Misses G. Powell, G. Chaytor, and M. Thornton sung the solo, as also the song "The snow man," the latter gaining a well-deserved *encore*. In addition to these local performers were Dr Duncan (Catchgate) who sang "Tom Bowling," and the "Friar of orders grey"; Miss Bamborough (Stanley) with "Maggie's secret," and "Auld Robin Gray"; Miss Harkness (also of Stanley) with "Killarney," and "The low-thatched roof"; and Mr J. W. Humphrey, of The Loud, who sang the "Englishman," and "Nancy Lee," and also joined Miss Harkness in the duet, the "Larboard watch." All the pieces were ably rendered, and evoked a flattering reception. Mr W. Daglish, organist, and Mr T. Simpson were the accompanists. A vote of thanks to the performers being proposed by Mr Marshall and seconded by Mr Daglish, was responded to with rounds of applause.—At the close of the above entertainment the authorities of the Free Church held a coffee supper, which was well patronised.

ENTERTAINMENT.—An entertainment was given in Dipton Primitive Methodist Chapel, on Monday night, in aid of the school funds, by friends from Stanley and Catchgate. In the absence of Mr Sasbury, Annfield Plain, Mr Pace presided over the meeting. The following programme was given in a highly creditable manner:—Quartette, "On to victory," Stanley friends; recitation, "Drunkard's boy," Master Reay; solo, "Drunkard's child," Miss Bailey; reading, "Pitman and Magistrate," Mr Batey; solo, "I'm the landlord of the Crown," Mr Spark; recitation, "New boots," Miss Stephenson; solo, "Gipsy Jane," Miss Copen; recitation, "Visible ghost," Master Reay (*encored*); solo, "Whistling Tom," Mr Batey (loudly applauded); recitation, "One-legged goose," Mr Ross (*encored*); duet, "When ye gang awa', Jamie," Miss Copen and Mr Harvey (*encored*); recitation, "The drunkard's vow," Miss Stephenson; solo, "Home again," Mr Spark; recitation, "The quarrelsome pair," Mr Ross (*encored*); solo, "Poor married man," Mr Harvey. The harmonium accompaniments were played by Mr Pearson. After votes of thanks, a pleasing and instructive entertainment was brought to a close.

BIRTLEY.

The treasurer of the Newcastle Royal Infirmary acknowledges receipt of the sum of £2 from the workmen of Birtley Iron Works, per Mr William Bruce.

WOLSINGHAM.

Last Sunday, two stirring gospel discourses were delivered in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Wolsingham, by Mr S. Stobbs, Page Bank, to good congregations. Miss Peart is still carrying on a series of special religious services in the same place of worship nightly, with encouraging results.

WESLEYAN FOREIGN MISSIONS.—On Sunday, at Wolsingham, Rev S. Mills preached the annual sermons, at which collections were taken in aid of the missionary funds.—On Tuesday, the ladies' sewing meeting was held at Mr J. Parker's, Attwood Terrace, tea being gratuitously provided. Proceeds in aid of vestry (Wesleyan) funds.

CONCERT.—On Saturday night, a grand concert was held in the Town Hall, Wolsingham. The following artistes comprised the whole of the performers:—Rev H. J. Sugden (Tow Law), Mr A. W. Cooke, Mr J. Hughes (Tow Law), Miss J. Fenwick and Miss Ingram (Mayfield), Miss Longstaff (Frosterley), Miss Voke (Wolsingham). The audience numbered upwards of 150. Each of the pieces were received with applause. Proceeds in aid of the chapel funds.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

RENT AUDIT.—The half-yearly rent audit for Messrs Fenwick's estates was held on Monday, at Mr Harry Lamb's, King's Head Inn, Chester-le-Street. On behalf of Messrs Fenwick, Mr John Turnbull, agent for the estates, made substantial returns to the tenants, and afterwards entertained them at dinner at the same hostelry.

CO-OPERATION.—The usual quarterly—being also an annual—meeting will be held in the Co-operative Hall, Cheste-le-Street, when, besides the ordinary business, the following recommendations from the committee will be brought forward:—"The re-consideration of the appeal from the committee of the new National Schools;" also "the consideration of a scheme for educating the members upon co-operative principles."

WATERHOUSES.

YEARLY CLUB SUPPER.—On Saturday night, the annual meeting of the yearly club was held at Mrs A. Dawson's, Flass Inn. There was a full attendance of members, who met at seven o'clock, and sat down to a substantial supper, which was provided by the hostess. There was a good balance from the past year's accounts in the treasurer's hands, which, after supper, was divided equally amongst the members. Mr J. Pinkeney was called to the chair, and Mr R. Wilson to the vice. Several interesting songs were sung by Messrs H. Hays, Sleetburn; T. Vasey, J. Rogers, and William Robinson. The worthy hostess obtained from the authorities two hours' extension for the occasion, which was fully appreciated by the company up till the appointed hour.

WASKERLEY.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM.—Mr E. Turnbull, of Consett, delivered his popular and instructive lecture in the School-room, Waskerley, on Saturday se'nnight, entitled "Asleep behind the scenes, or the deception of things in appearance." There was a large and intelligent audience. The lecturer called attention to the deception practiced in the commercial and religious world, and strongly condemned reading the trashy literature which is being issued by the Press as being demoralising in its tendency, and lowering the moral tone of the people. He denounced theatres as the harbingers of vice and immorality among the young and rising generation. His terse and witty remarks were well received, as evinced by the frequent and hearty applause given. Mr T. G. Egglestone, Consett, presided over the meeting, displaying great tact and ability. A liberal collection was taken at the close towards the extinction of the circuit debt.

TANFIELD LEA.

THE RECENT COLLIERY FATALITY.—On Thursday se'nnight, an inquest was held by Mr John Graham, coroner, at the colliery offices, Tanfield Lea, into the circumstances attending the death of Nicholas S. Carr (24), who was fatally crushed by about three tons of coal falling upon him whilst following his avocation as a hewer at Messrs Joicey and Company's East Tanfield Colliery, on the 8th inst. Mr W. N. Atkinson, assistant inspector of mines, was in attendance.—After hearing the evidence, which bore out the statement appearing in last week's issue, the jury returned a verdict that deceased was accidentally killed by a fall of coal.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY.—At Annfield Plain, the members and friends celebrated their chapel anniversary in the following order:—On Saturday afternoon, a public tea was provided, when a great number partook of the good things displayed.—In the evening, a public meeting was held, under the presidency of Mr C. Graham, who gave an earnest address bearing on "The books we should read, and the effect they would have upon our lives," urging earnestly upon all to make the bible the one book to rule and guide their lives.—Mr J. Sasbury next spoke, and urged all to active service for the Master, and to seek for the baptism of the Holy Spirit as the only true means to attain it.—Rev J. Magee, in an able and soul-stirring address, touched very forcibly on the great work of the church, and how we could best be qualified for it. His prayer was that the power of God might come upon us all as the great qualifier.—Mr J. Harrogate, Newcastle, was then introduced, and said he was glad to be present to take part in the meeting. He was at home, and while the meeting had been proceeding, he had felt it to be good. There was need of earnestness in this great work. Our work was before us, and it must be done. Our forefathers had toiled hard and largely succeeded, and they had entered into their rest, and their works followed them. They must go forward to work, and work earnestly for the saving of men, taking the course marked out for them in the New Testament. They would surely succeed in leading many souls to God, peace, and heaven. The speaker used many illustrations, which carried with force the truth he wished to impart.—The chapel choir sang selections of music, and solos were also given by Mr C. Morgan.—Votes of thanks to the friends who so kindly contributed to the tea, to the ladies for making and serving at the tables, to the choir and soloists, to the speakers for their able addresses, and to the chairman for his services, was moved by Mr P. Reay, seconded by Mr J. Mordue, and carried with acclamation.—The doxology was sung, and brought a most profitable meeting to a close.—On Sunday, sermons were preached—in the morning and evening by Mr J. Harrogate, and in the afternoon by Rev J. Magee. The services were well attended, the place in the evening being filled out. The services have proved a spiritual and financial success.—The society have engaged the services of Miss Hogg, who will shortly commence her work.

CROOK.

Master W. R. Baitey, son of the Rev. W. Baitey, Crook, has passed the preliminary examination of the Incorporated Law Society, held at Newcastle on October 26th, 1887.

TOW LAW

The first touch of winter was felt at Tow Law on Monday, when snow fell during a considerable portion of the day. At night the snow lay on the ground to the extent of two or three inches.

Miss Earl, the lady lecturer of Weardale, delivered a lecture, entitled "Lessons from the life of Ruth," in the Wesleyan Chapel, Tow Law, on Monday night.

On Saturday evening, a temperance free and-easy was held in the Mechanics' Institute, Tow Law, when an interesting programme was given by Mr J. J. Peacock and party, Mount Pleasant. Mr J. Vickers, Tow Law, occupied the chair.

ENTERTAINMENT.—A public meeting and entertainment in connection with Tow Law Church Band of Hope was held in the Mechanics' Institute, Tow Law, on Monday night, presided over by Rev T. C. Hughes. A capital address was given by Rev W. F. Cosgrave, vicar of Hunwick, and a good programme of songs and recitations was carried through by the members of the band.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.—On Monday, Mr J. Vickers had forward 25 cows, which made up to £17; 37 fat cattle, to £15 12s 6d; 13 store cattle, to £6 12s 6d; and 235 fat sheep, up to 42s 6d each.—At a special sale for horses and store cattle, Mr Vickers had forwarded 15 horses, ponies, and foals; also 210 steers, heifers and geld cow, up to £10 2s 6d. There was a large attendance of buyers.

THE ATTWOOD MEMORIAL PORTRAIT.—We are sorry to learn that the following inaccuracies occurred in the above article in our last issue, which we now desire to correct:—First, Hollywood House should have been Holywood House. Second, the word "celebrated" was omitted before "Watling Street," which is the name of the old Roman Road. Third, the colliery added was "West Thornley," not West Hedley. Fourth, "Mr Dale" was substituted for "Mr Ware."

LECTURE.—Rev J. G. Potter, Newcastle, delivered an eloquent and instructive lecture on "Daniel O'Connell, the eminent Irishman," in the Presbyterian Church, Tow Law, on Monday night. The lecturer treated his subject purely from a historical point of view, and succeeded admirably in securing the close attention of his hearers for an hour-and-a-half. The pastor of the church, Rev. G. Samuel, M. A., occupied the chair, and stated that the lecture was to inaugurate the opening of a Mutual Improvement Society in connection with the church.

STANHOPE.

ENTERTAINMENT AT FROSTERLEY.—An excellent entertainment was held in the Bridge End School-room, Frosterley, on Saturday evening, under the auspices of the Frosterley Primitive Methodist Band of Hope. Mr J. Gardner presided.

Mrs C. Arnison, Butt's House, and Mrs Wm. Fenwick, Market Place, Stanhope, are exerting themselves to get up a testimonial to Mrs Coesby, on their leaving Stanhope for Iags, in the lake district. Mrs Coesby has been organist for some time past at Stanhope Church.

CO-OPERATION. — The Stanhope Co-operative Society held a full meeting of members and committee on Saturday evening, to discuss the advisability of altering the property recently bought by them at St. John's Chapel, and opening out a branch store at that place. Mr G. Moses presided. It was decided to alter the property at once, and open out a branch store in upper Weardale as early as convenient.

BURNOPFIELD.

PIGEON SHOOTING.—On Wednesday afternoon, a pigeon shooting handicap, promoted by Messrs R. Johnson and Fewster, was commenced in a field belonging to Mr Callender, adjoining the Black Horse, Burnopfield. Although the weather was cold, a fair number of spectators assembled. Results:—John Turnbull (20yds.), 1 1 1; John Veal (19), 0 1 0; E. Shotton (21), 1 1 0; Handcock (19), 0 0 0; Wm. Stanley (19), 1 1 0; Wm. Shotton (19), 0 0 0. Afterwards, a sweepstake of 2s 6d each was brought off, with the following result:—1st, E. Shotton; 2nd, John Turnbull. The officials were—handicapper, Mr H. Handcock; judge, Mr G. Hope; score-keeper, Mr R. Johnson. The handicap is to be resumed.

WEARDALE.

On Sunday Rev Geo. Eddy, district evangelist, began a fortnight in the High House Mission.

The "Miner's friend" (Mr Walter Beaumont), has offered two guineas for the best specimen of lead ore and other minerals found in Weardale.

FAIR AND HIRINGS.—On Saturday, the annual venue for the sale of stock took place at St. John's Chapel, in fine weather. A large amount of cattle was on offer, but buyers were scarce, and what business was done was at low rates to secure a riddance. A quadrille party was held in the Town Hall, in connection with the hirings, which was well attended.

QUOIT CONTEST AT WESTGATE.—On Saturday afternoon, a quoiting competition, promoted by the local patron of sport, Mr G. Muschamp, Brother Lea, took place by the river side, and secured nearly half a hundred entries. The games were keenly contested, and eventually R. Allison won, R. Dalkin and J. Deighton being second and third.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

We are asked to announce that an Association football club, called the "Greencroft Towellers," has just been formed. John Thompson, Pontop Rows, Annfield Plain, is secretary; R. Pace, treasurer; and P. Boyle, captain.

LEADGATE EXILES v. CONSETT SEXTONS.—These teams will contest to-morrow (Saturday), on the Exiles' ground, when a good game may be expected. The following will represent the Exiles:—M. Clare, goal; W. McGee and P. Hughes, backs; J. Quinn, E. Gaffney, and J. W. Clare, half-backs; W. Costello, J. Costello (left wing), P. Quinn (centre), J. McGee and J. McMahon (left wing), forwards. The names of the Sextons have not been ascertained. Kick-off at 3-10 p.m. Umpire, Mr James Hagan.

STRANGE DEATH AT ESH.

An inquiry was held last week at the house of Mr George French, Stag's Head, Waterhouses, respecting the death of Patrick Conling (28), of Brown's Houses, Esh Colliery. Deceased was a small-runner at Hamsteels coke ovens. He left his work at 9.30 on the morning of the 3rd inst., for a necessary purpose. An hour and a half later, the man was found lying dead in a gutter close to the coke-ovens. Early the same morning, Conling complained of having a pain in his chest; but he had not been attended by a doctor.—The jury returned a verdict that death was caused by failure of the heart's action.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

On Sunday morning, a poor woman was found in one of Mr Robert Umphrey's fields on the west side of Catchgate. When discovered, she was much benumbed, and but for the timely assistance of kind friends who sheltered her, and administered suitable restoratives, she would probably have died of starvation. After being hospitably attended to, she took her departure, with thanks to the good Samaritans.

A fine seasonable change of the weather has come at last. On Monday and Tuesday snow began to fall gently, until there was a covering of an inch or two deep, with a mild frost and a clear atmosphere, and the air much more bracing and pleasant. The youth of both sexes enjoy the pleasure of skating when the ice is sufficiently strong, and this enjoyable pastime and recreation is undoubtedly beneficial, as it exercises their limbs.

The churchyard in connection with St. Thomas's Church, at Hare Law, is fast filling up. Notwithstanding this, the parishioners do not seem to be making any efforts to obtain ground for a cemetery or the enlargement of the present burial ground. The parishioners should make arrangements in time.

The Christian Lay Church at Catchgate has been favoured with the services of Miss Bluett, singing evangelist, from Quebec. This young lady is modest and unassuming, and one of the right sort. During her stay, her labours have, by the blessing of God, done great good, numbers having been added to the Church. This young evangelist is an excellent singer, and her addresses are distinguished for their earnestness. The services were brought to a close on Saturday, by a supper, to which a large number sat down.

I was sorry to learn from last week's *Guardian* of the sad accident which happened to Mr Wm. Dixon, surveyor to the Lanchester Highway Board, whose conveyance came in contact with that of Mr J. W. Armstrong, of Newbiggen. Mr Armstrong appears to be none the worse for his fall, but Mr Dixon's injuries are, I understatnd, somewhat serious. I trust he will soon be restored to his usual health, and be able to attend to his duties.

Man and Duty.—Man is no better than a leaf driven by the wind until he has completely mastered his great lonely duties. If he has no habit of retiring from all that is *world* and of conversing face to face with his inner man, if he does not alone invite the gaze of God, if he does not draw upon his soul "the powers of the world to come," then he is no man yet; he has not found the life of man, nor the strength of man; he is a poor, unhappy man, sporting only with shadows, and affrighted before the real and the eternal. He owns a great house, a wonderful house, but it is shut up, and he lives outside with his fellow *cattle;* the inside is wholly unknown to him, and he has lived outside so long that he is afraid of the inside. Think, my good brothers and sisters, of the great high serene world in which you *might* live, move, and have your being. —*The Rev. John Pulsford.*

Friendly Censors.—There are some people from whom we can bear reproof and not feel at all hurt. They correct us in a kindly way, and we know it is for our good; we accept it in the spirit in which it is given, and, though we may not acknowledge it openly, yet in our hearts we are thankful for the corrections. We never look on these people as fault-finders, for such they never are. They are not watching for every little mistake, and only correct—or, more properly, advise—us on very rare occasions. There are times when advice from these people is of a very great value, often helping us over the rough places. Friends of this kind cannot be valued too highly. They are ever willing to help us in the hour of trial; and our confidence in them is such that they are the first people we call on when we are in trouble, feeling sure that by their assistance we shall be enabled to overcome our every trial. What a contrast these friends present to the fault-finder, to whom nobody would think of going for assistance in time of trouble!

Humility.—I believe the first test of a truly great man is his humility. I do not mean by humility doubt of his own power, or hesitation of speaking his own opinions, but a right understanding of the relation between what he can do and the rest of the world's sayings and doings. All great men not only know their business, but usually know that they know it; and are not only right in their main opinions, but they usually know that they are right in them; only they do not think much of themselves on that account. Arnolfo knows he can build a good dome at Florence. Albert Durer writes calmly to one who has found fault with his work: "It cannot be better done." Sir Isaac Newton knows that he has worked out a problem or two that would have puzzled anybody else; only they do not expect their fellow-men therefore to fall down and worship them. They have a curious undersense of powerlessness—feeling that the greatness is not in them, but through them; that they could not do or be anything else than God made them; and they see something divine and God-made in every other man they meet.—*John Ruskin.*

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CRŒSUS' WIDOW.

BY DORA RUSSELL,

Author of "Footprints in the Snow;" "The Vicar's Governess;" &c., &c.

CHAPTER I.—The Past and Present.

He lived in a great house, the rich man whom his friends and neighbours jestingly called Crœsus. He was very rich, as this jest name implied, for he had money and houses and land, and there was nothing in all the world that could be *bought* which was not his.

But there are some things that no wealth can buy—can a man "add one cubit unto his stature?" Neither could Mr. John Trelawn buy—what perhaps he prized the most on earth—the love of the woman to whom he had been married for five long years.

She was sitting waiting for him, this woman, on the evening when this story of her life begins. She was young still; young, fragile and dark-eyed, and she sighed wearily as she sat alone waiting for her husband, for her thoughts had wandered far away from the present to the past.

Let us for a moment look with her down that long vista. We shall see a girl in her fresh bright youth, though youth and hope were about all the good gifts that fortune had then given her. She was the daughter of a man, who had failed in business and had started afresh with diminished capital and credit. Anxious days and anxious nights had succeeded. With a sickly wife, two handsome girls, and a boy to provide for, carking care had followed and pursued Mr. Henry Sudely, of Warbrooke, like a shadow. But he had one true friend; a friend bound to him alike by bonds of near relationship and love. This was his only sister—a sister many years his senior who had done well in life, and had (in her day) made the most of her charms, and was now Lady Stainbrooke, the wife of General Sir Thomas Stainbrooke, K.C.B.

Thus when Lady Stainbrooke returned from India, after spending the best part of twenty years there, she was able materially to help her oppressed brother, Mr. Henry Sudely.

She went down to her native town, Warbrooke, to stay with her relations, but she did not enjoy her visit. She had left her brother a stout, jovial-looking, prosperous man, and on her return she found him bent, white-haired and care-worn.

"Can it possibly be you, Henry?" she said, gazing at Mr. Sudely's worn face in astonishment; and "Henry" was also looking at her the same moment in sad surprise.

Twenty years had made a great change. She was an old woman now; old, brown and withered, with a front of false hair placed low on her wrinkled forehead, and she also dressed very eccentrically, bringing out "gowns" (as she called them) which she must have had for thirty years. But she was kind, and had a sense of humour and a sharp tongue of her own, of which she made abundant use.

She felt very sorry for her brother. He had been almost a boy in her mind all through the years of her absence, and to see him so care-worn and changed touched her somewhat worldly and hardened heart.

"I will take your two girls by turns and get them off, Henry," she told Mr. Sudely. "Sir Thomas will not object, as they are both presentable, and, poor man, he likes to be seen with pretty girls still!" And Lady Stainbrooke laughed.

Thus it was arranged that Nora Sudely left her father's house and went to live with her aunt, Lady Stainbrooke. She had never seen her uncle-by-law, Sir Thomas Stainbrooke, and felt rather nervous when the cab in which her aunt and she were driving stopped before the house in town, which Sir Thomas and Lady Stainbrooke had taken for the season.

"Now, my dear," said Lady Stainbrooke, as they approached Warwick-square, where this house was situated, "I am going to give you a little advice. I wish Sir Thomas to like you, and therefore you must flatter him and make yourself pleasant to him, for however old a man is he is always open to flattery."

Nora Sudely laughed—a girl's fresh glad laugh.

"Very well, Aunt," she said, "and do you flatter him too?"

"I'm married to him, my dear, so I've no occasion to do so," replied the old lady drily.

But when a few minutes later Nora was introduced to the General, who was a little, shuffling, rheumatic old man, she thought it would be almost impossible to flatter him.

"This is Nora Sudely," screamed Lady Stainbrooke at the utmost extent of her voice, so as to reach her husband's deaf ears.

The General bowed, and then smiled blandly, and showed both rows of his yellow, false teeth.

"Hope you're well!" he said. "Glad to see you—always glad to see a pretty face, ha, ha, ha!" And Sir Thomas laughed a peculiar, cackling, hollow laugh, which, somehow or other, set your teeth on edge to listen to.

Nora Sudely laughed too, and looked with astonishment at the first General she had ever seen.

"Hope your father and mother are well!" continued Sir Thomas.

"They are both very well, I think," said Nora, raising her voice to its highest pitch.

"What do you say?" asked Sir Thomas, coming nearer to Nora. "I don't exactly catch what you say—I've a cold, and that makes me a little deaf, I think."

"You have always a cold, then," screamed Lady Stainbrooke.

"What are you screaming about, madam?" said the little General, sharply. "Ladies should never scream—they look ugly, horribly ugly, when they scream."

"They shouldn't have deaf husbands, then," retorted Lady Stainbrooke.

"I'm not deaf generally, madam," answered the General. "I've a cold; I suppose you sometimes have a cold?"

"Very often," replied Lady Stainbrooke, grimly. "But I want you to hear this even in spite of your cold, as you call it. Nora Sudely, as you know, has come to stay with us, and you must try to make her visit agreeable."

"Charmed to do so, I am sure," said the General, once more looking approvingly at Nora. "Any man would be charmed to have such a pretty young lady to stay in his house." And the General once more emitted the hollow cackling sound which he called a laugh.

"Thank you for the compliment, Sir Thomas," said Nora Sudely.

"No compliment," said the old soldier. "It's truth—I like pretty women, I always liked 'em." And he gave his frightful cackle again.

"We must take her about a little; we must take her to the opera," roared Lady Stainbrooke.

"Certainly," said the General; "any time—sooner the better."

"There, my dear," said Lady Stainbrooke, turning to Nora; "you see what it is to have a good-looking face! If I had told Sir Thomas that any angular, copper-tinted relation of mine was coming to stay with us he probably would have sworn at me, but he's quite delighted to have you."

"What are you mumbling about, madam?" said Sir Thomas, looking at his wife, for he hated not to hear what was going on. "You are one of those women who are always mumbling or screaming. Now if you spoke in a steady, even-toned voice, even with my bad cold I could hear you."

"Very well, I'll try," said Lady Stainbrooke, who was anxious for her niece's sake not to quarrel with her irate little spouse.

"I would be pleased to ride with you, Miss Sudely," said the General, the next minute gallantly, "but the confounded climate of India still affects me, and I'm a little stiff in the joints."

"You are too old to think of riding," screamed Lady Stainbrooke.

"Nothing of the kind! Speak for yourself, madam. Many men, a great many years my senior, ride, but we old soldiers, Miss Sudely—we get battered with hard service before our time."

"Yes," said Nora very loudly, "but it's a noble profession."

"I think so," said the General. "It's a gentleman's profession—not a vulgar, money-making, petti-fogging business like some men, born of good families, now follow. Yes, Miss Sudely, I'm glad you like soldiers."

Poor old man! He was aches and pains all over, yet he had his vanity still, you see, and liked (as his wife had told her niece) to be flattered and made much of.

With this quaint old couple then, Nora Sudely found herself domiciled a few days before she had reached her nineteenth birthday.

She did not find it very lively. Lady Stainbrooke had only a very small circle of acquaintances, for all the General's family and almost all his old friends had passed away during his lengthened sojourn in India. But some old Indians like himself came occasionally to dine in the dull house in Warwick-square. Then Nora would sit and listen to dingy tales, the actors of which had mostly disappeared; she would hear gossip that had tickled ears which now were deaf, and stories of the mischief wrought by bright eyes now dulled or closed.

It was a strange life for a young girl, and while Lady Stainbrooke and her friends were chuckling over lost reputations, Nora Sudely was dreaming her first bright dream of love.

She had not left her father's house heart-whole. About six months before Lady Stainbrooke's arrival in England Nora had made the acquaintance of a young painter who had gone to Warbrooke (the town where the Sudelys lived) for his summer holiday, and for the purpose of sketching some of the neighbouring scenery.

Nora Trelawn now sitting in her husband's grand house, waiting for his return, saw in the past at that moment a picture which love had painted on her heart.

A girl, bright, sparkling and happy; and a man, earnest, impassioned, with a profile like a Greek model standing before her, in a soft evening in June. He was holding her hand, and words, if not of love, at least of tenderness, were on his lips.

The girl turned aside, half coquettishly.

"Ah," she said, "I daresay you have often made these pretty speeches before?"

"Never," answered the painter, "my loves have all hitherto been ideal ones."

"Very different to the real one," laughed the girl.

"Yes, very different," he replied, candidly. "Your face is not quite perfect, you know, Nora, and you are a brown little girl instead of a pink and white goddess, but to me you are——"

"Well, what, sir?"

"Beautiful," said the painter, "for I see thy sweet soul in thy face."

. . . . . .

A brief love scene—a rift of light still shining through the dull, grey, monotonous colouring which now for five long years had surrounded rich John Trelawn's young wife. And how did these love passages with the handsome painter end?

They ended thus. Nora Sudely went, as we have seen, to live with her aunt, Lady Stainbrooke, and Lady Stainbrooke meant conscientiously to keep her word to her brother, and get his penniless girl married as best she could. But one day, at the opening of the Academy, Nora stood so long before a picture in which her aunt saw nothing particular to admire, that Lady Stainbrooke put on her gold-rimmed glasses and glanced at the number and the artist's name in her catalogue.

"Humph!" said Lady Stainbrooke, "W. D. Vyner. Well, I don't think much of him, at any rate!"

"He is a friend of mine, and a very clever artist," said Nora Sudely. And her face flushed.

"He may be a great friend of yours, my dear, but he's not a great painter, I can tell him, with my compliments," answered Lady Stainbrooke.

As these words passed her lips both Lady Stainbrooke and Nora heard a light short laugh from some one in the crowd behind them. Nora turned round and her face flushed more deeply still as she did so.

"Mr. Vyner! You here!" she said, and she held out a little trembling hand.

"Yes," he answered. "So you and this lady were criticising my daub?"

It was the handsome artist who had stood hand-in-hand with Nora on that bright evening in June, which she remembered only too well. He had left Warbrooke, promising to return, but before he had done so Nora had quitted her father's house, but the memory of Mr. Vyner had not faded from her mind.

And now, as the two stood exchanging greetings amid the London crowd, the girl's dark eyes shining and smiling in the artist's face, Lady Stainbrooke, glancing from one to the other, at once guessed their secret.

"My aunt, Lady Stainbrooke," said Nora, timidly. "Mr. Vyner."

"So you think I shall never be a great painter, Lady Stainbrooke?" said Vyner, smilingly looking at the old lady after this introduction.

Lady Stainbrooke felt a little disconcerted. Mr. Vyner was such a handsome man that it seemed impossible to a woman to say anything rude to him. She therefore did not hesitate to make a little invention.

"You mistook my observation, Mr. Vyner," she said, graciously. "It was the painter of this picture" (and she pointed with her glasses at a picture hanging near Vyner's) "that I said would never be great."

"Yet he is great," answered Vyner, somewhat grimly. "But," he added, "will you come and look at another picture of mine? I don't think much of this one myself."

The two ladies followed Vyner's tall, slight form until he stopped before a very striking picture. Here was a wild sea coast, and two brown, stalwart, excited fishermen hauling in a capsized boat.

"These rough subjects suit me best," said Vyner, folding his arms and standing looking fixedly at his work.

Lady Stainbrooke put up her glasses and also examined the picture.

"This is good," she said at length, "very good."

The painter smiled. Praise was sweet to him, as it is to us all, but it was sweeter still because it fell on Nora Sudely's ears.

Then Lady Stainbrooke looked at the handsome painter himself; examining him critically through her gold-rimmed glasses, as she had examined his picture.

"I took my niece to the National Gallery the other day, Mr. Vyner," she said. "I'm an old-fashioned woman, and I like the old painters."

Vyner was now in his element. His large, handsome grey eyes lit with enthusiasm when he spoke of the old masters and their great works, and Lady Stainbrooke listened well pleased to his energetic words.

"We are pigmies," he said, "we modern men beside these giants. Ah, Lady Stainbrooke," and he stretched out one of his white nervous hands, "if I could but portray my dreams."

Lady Stainbrooke nodded her head.

"That is ever the cry of genius," she said, "the imagination outstrips the manual power. But, young man," she added, "if you have the divine fire—the gift which no application or study can give you—you will succeed."

As Lady Stainbrooke spoke, the painter was standing before her with his head erect, and with his eyes fixed apparently on something far away. Perhaps some ideal picture was passing before him—some grand brain shadow that his hand could never produce. At all events, after standing in this rapt attitude for a few minutes, he gave a restless sigh, and looked once more at Lady Stainbrooke.

"I've been unsettled lately," he said, "unsettled and restless—I have not done my work as I should."

"Perhaps you're in love?" said Lady Stainbrooke.

"Perhaps I am," answered Vyner, with an uneasy, little laugh, and he glanced at Nora's bright, blushing face as he spoke.

"Well," said Lady Stainbrooke, "as I am not, I would not at all object to some lunch."

The painter escorted the ladies to the refreshment-room, and was very attentive to Lady Stainbrooke. Her ladyship made herself highly agreeable to him, and invited him to call upon her at her house in Warwick-square. Then, as she drove home with Nora after they had parted with Vyner, she heard all about him. He was poor—a struggling man—and no absolute declaration of love had passed between him and Nora.

But the girl felt, as she told her aunt this, that he cared for her. This knowledge, or rather hope, was very sweet to Nora's heart, but it did not at all suit Lady Stainbrooke's views.

The next day Vyner called at Warwick-square, and her ladyship saw him alone. Nora had been sent out on an errand for her aunt, and the painter had received a little note, asking him to visit Lady Stainbrooke at a certain hour.

"I wished to see you, Mr. Vyner," said Lady Stainbrooke, holding out her hand to him with a very good imitation of frankness, "because I hear there has been some romantic nonsense or other between you and my niece, Nora Sudely."

Vyner's fine skin coloured faintly at this attack.

"I admire Miss Sudely exceedingly," he said.

"Ah, yes, my dear sir," said Lady Stainbrooke, "but you cannot live on admiration, nor love either, for that matter. In fact, the truth is that I have sent for you to appeal to your honour as a gentleman not to disturb the girl's peace of mind any further by the sight of your good-looking face. She is engaged to be married to my friend Mr. Trelawn, who is a very worthy and a very rich man, and the less you see of Nora now the better."

"Engaged!" repeated the painter, and the colour faded away again from his handsome face.

"Yes, engaged," repeated Lady Stainbrooke, quite calmly, "and it is a very good thing, too. My brother is miserably poor, and his girls are penniless, and what would become of them if they did not marry? You see I am quite frank with you, Mr. Vyner. I like you, and shall be glad to see you here by-and-bye and to hear of your success. But let me get my young lady married first. Nora herself thinks it is better not to see you, and I am sure you will not wish to make her unhappy."

The painter rose to take his leave.

"Certainly not," he said, but even Lady Stainbrooke's heart misgave her when she saw the grey, haggard look which stole over the man's face as he said these words.

As he descended the staircase another gentleman was ascending them. He knew him by sight. It was John Trelawn, commonly called Crœsus. A stout, big man, with a pale, heavy face, and a very large nose, was John Trelawn. Not one for a young girl to fancy, nor a fitting mate for a bright, sparkling woman like Nora. But he was *rich*. The handsome painter thought this bitterly as he went down stairs. Rich! And what was beauty, genius, tender love even, to *that*!

CHAPTER II.—The Great Leveller.

Lady Stainbrooke's little scheme prospered. Nora Sudley was not engaged to Crœsus when Lady Stainbrooke told the painter this piece of news, but Nora Sudley was engaged to Crœsus very soon afterwards.

"My dear," said Lady Stainbrooke to Nora, upon her return from the errand on which her ladyship had sent her to keep her out of the painter's way, "I've had a visit from your friend, Mr. Vyner. Really he is a very agreeable young man. You remember I asked him if he was in love yesterday at the Academy. Well, I made a very shrewd guess. He has just been telling me all about it. It is some parson's daughter in Suffolk—an absurd affair it seemed at first—no money on either side, and, as I told him, living on love went out with the Flood! But the strangest things happen. This girl has come into a small fortune, and so the affair is settled."

Nora Sudley listened to these words, and the bright colour faded out of her cheeks, and the love light out of her eyes. She stood before her aunt, white and trembling, for a few moments—a slender girl, trembling, pale and heart-stricken—and yet the old woman kept to her purpose still.

"Aunt," she said at length, trying to speak calmly, "is this true?"

"True, my dear!" repeated Lady Stainbrooke. "I can, of course, only vouch for its truth as far as the young man told me, and I can't see any motive he could have, unless it was true. By-the-bye, he told me also that he admired you very much, and altogether made himself very agreeable." And Lady Stainbrooke gave a little laugh.

Nora asked no more questions after this. She did not speak again of the painter, but Sir Thomas, a day or two afterwards, said to his wife;

"That girl is losing her looks—she has lost her vivacity, her charm—what is the matter with her, madam?"

"She wants change," replied Lady Stainbrooke. "We must take her more about."

So, when Mr. John Trelawn called the same afternoon to ask his old friend, Lady Stainbrooke, to dine with him at Richmond, her ladyship gladly accepted the invitation.

"The fellow is stupid, and a snob," said Sir Thomas.

"The fellow is rich and that makes up for everything now-a-days," answered his wife; "and besides he is an old friend."

This latter recommendation in one sense of the words was true. When Lady Stainbrooke had been a handsome young girl in her native town, John Trelawn's father had lived there, and made a great fortune there. Queer stories about the commencement of this fortune were not wanting. But the fact remained that vast iron works and vast wealth belonged to Mr. John Trelawn, senior, before he retired from all earthly business.

He left one child only—John Trelawn, commonly called Crœsus. This John Trelawn then had known the handsome Miss Sudely in his awkward boyhood. The handsome Miss Sudely had married an officer and had left Warbrooke while John was at school, but still he had known her. Trouble had come to the Sudelys in the years that had rolled away since then, and greater wealth to the Trelawns. Old Trelawn had been gathered to his fathers, and John Trelawn (Crœsus) was a middle-aged man when Lady Stainbrooke returned to her native town, but still when they met they remembered, or pretended to remember, each other. They remembered each other's names at any rate, and Lady Stainbrooke made herself very agreeable to Crœsus.

Then Crœsus came up to town, and was glad to meet Lady Stainbrooke there. They were in fact mutually useful to each other. John Trelawn knew no one in London, and though Lady Stainbrooke had not a large acquaintance, still she had some friends, and she liked John Trelawn's opera boxes, his dinners at Richmond—in truth his wealth.

And so she fixed that he was to marry her niece, Nora Sudely, and he did marry her. The girl was not a willing victim, but she yielded to her aunt's representations.

"Think how poor your papa is, child; think of what will become of you if you do not marry," urged Lady Stainbrooke; and so sad, silent, almost broken-hearted, Nora Sudely accepted her fate.

She married John Trelawn because she believed that the man she loved was about to be, or was, married to another woman. She married John Trelawn because he was rich, and because she could help her father and her ailing mother, and her young brother and sister. But she never was the same woman again.

John Trelawn bought a grand new house in South Kensington; he bought a villa by the river, and sometimes he took his young wife down to the big house at Warbrooke, where his father had died, and they entertained Nora's family and his old friends there, but everything always seemed very dull to Nora.

She tried to do her duty, and indeed did it, as well as she was able, but she was not happy. A nameless dreariness and dullness always possessed her. Her sister married well, her young brother entered the army, her mother died in comfort, and years passed away, but no children came to her, and there was no brightness in her life Nora told herself, and she often wondered why people cared to live, and why they fretted and fumed about things that seemed of so little worth.

At last one day (on her birthday) John Trelawn presented his young wife with a set of such rich and costly diamonds, that it was scarcely possible for any woman to see them and know that they were hers without delight.

So at least said Lady Stainbrooke, who had helped to choose them, and it must be admitted that Nora felt a slight glow of gratitude and affection for "John" as she gazed upon his magnificent gift.

He gave them to her in the grand house at South Kensington. Sir Thomas and Lady Stainbrooke dined with them on the same day, and after dinner (her ladyship having partaken very freely of "John's" champagne) said to Nora:

"Ah, my dear, you may thank me now, I think, that by a little innocent artifice I parted you from a beggarly painter."

Nora's face flushed, and she put her hand quickly to her side. Then she asked, almost calmly:

"What artifice did you use, Aunt?"

"I invented a young woman, that was all," replied Lady Stainbrooke with a little laugh.

"Then Mr. Vyner never told you that he was engaged—never told you anything at all, I suppose?" said Nora, still calmly.

Lady Stainbrooke nodded her head.

"He told me he admired you, and I told him—had the sense and discretion to tell him—that *you* were engaged, Nora, and you see how well it has all turned out! You have everything—diamonds—in fact, everything a woman can desire."

"Except happiness," said Nora, in a low tone, and she left her aunt—left her diamonds lying in their grand new velvet cases—and the old woman, as she looked at them with her blinking eyes, acknowledged to herself that John Trelawn's champagne had been too much for her, and had stolen away her wit.

"I should never have told her," she thought; but Nora said nothing more to her aunt about the handsome painter.

Yet a few months later (for the first time since her marriage), she met him. Nora was at the Academy with some friends, and in the crowd—just as she had seen him long ago—her eyes fell upon his never-to-be-forgotten face.

She held out her hand to him, and for a moment or two no word was exchanged between them. Then he said—

"It is a long time since we met—Mrs. Trelawn."

"Yes," answered Nora, "a long time indeed—and," she added quickly, her pale face flushing, "you—you are not married, then?"

"No," answered Vyner, and his face, too, flushed, and he sighed restlessly.

"My aunt—Lady Stainbrooke—told me long ago—before my own marriage—before my engagement, in fact—that you were about to be married," hesitated John Trelawn's wife, with trembling lips and moistening eyes; "otherwise, Mr. Vyner——"

She said nothing more, and for a minute Walter Vyner, the handsome painter, made no reply. He stood there, looking at the once bright face which years ago had been his sweetest ideal of womanhood. It was a bright face no longer. Nora Trelawn was scarcely pretty now, with large sad dark eyes, and a hopeless look somehow all over the small, regular features, that the painter remembered so attractive and charming.

"So!" he said presently, still looking at Nora, "that old woman spoilt two lives then!"

"She spoilt mine," said Nora, in a low tone "but—we must not speak of it now."

All around them was the crowd. Other tragedies and comedies were perhaps being played on the same stage, but Walter Vyner and Nora Trelawn thought not of these. They only remembered when they had stood hand-in-hand, that summer evening long ago, and dreamed of a future which was not to be. It was but a common story, but as the painter kept watching Nora's face, he knew he had been regretted with no common regret, and loved with an abiding love that had not passed away.

. . . . . .

They never met again for years. W. D. Vyner rose in fame after this, and John Trelawn (Crœsus) bought one or two of his pictures and hung them up in his big houses, but never knew how often his young wife's dark eyes would wander to the canvas on the walls, which Walter Vyner's hand had made to live.

And so time passed on. Crœsus grew richer and stouter, but there was no other change. They had been married five years on the evening when Nora was sitting waiting for her husband—waiting for him, but not thinking of him—thinking of the past which Lady Stainbrooke's little artifice had spoilt.

Presently a heavy tread was heard on the staircase outside. John Trelawn's wife heard it, and moved slightly, for she knew it was her husband's. A heavy footstep, and a heavy man! A big, dull man was John Trelawn, though not cruel, and kindly-hearted withal, and at times he would indulge in a ponderous sort of jocularity, which his numerous satellites unfailingly pretended to enjoy.

He came into the room now, and laid one of his large hands on his wife's shoulders.

"Well," he said, "and how wags the world with you, my dear?"

Nora smiled faintly.

"Do you expect anyone to dinner, John?" she asked.

"I met Martin and Prosser," answered Crœsus, "and the poor devils looked hungry, and I took compassion. They'll be here directly," continued Crœsus, looking at his watch, "so I must be off to decorate."

He left the room with a kindly nod to his wife, and by-and-bye Martin and Prosser were ushered in.

Martin and Prosser were little men, just in the same sense that John Trelawn was a great man. Martin and Prosser were poor, and John was rich, and that made the difference between them. They had known John Trelawn all their lives, and they smiled and sighed faintly with envy as they entered the big house and saw on every side the signs of great wealth that it contained.

"How well Crœsus is looking," said Martin, facetiously to Nora.

"In splendid condition," echoed Prosser.

Nora just answered them, and that was all. She did not care for these evil companions of John Trelawn, and one of her objections to the large dull house at Warbrooke, where they then were, was that such men were never out of it. Still she could not quarrel with John for being kind to his old friends, but somehow she did not like to live at Warbrooke.

"I will go and see if Mr. Trelawn is ready for dinner," she said, and so left the room, and Martin and Prosser looked at each other and smiled as she disappeared.

"Upish!" said Martin.

"Set a beggar on horse-back," suggested Prosser, with a shrug.

Meanwhile Nora had gone up the broad staircase, and was rapping at her husband's dressing-room door.

There was no response. Then she opened the door and went in. John Trelawn was lying on the soft carpet in the middle of the room, with his face downwards. Nora screamed and ran forward. She lifted his head and turned his face round, and when she saw the dull, half-closed eyes and the ghastly colour of the skin, even inexperienced as she was, she knew what had happened.

In a moment—in the midst of his wealth, in the prime of his life—he had been struck down; the rich man had gone up to dress for dinner, and the grim foe had been waiting for him upstairs. Yes, there was no mistake—Crœsus was dead!

(To be continued).

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Author of "Footprints in the Snow," "The Vicar's Governess," "Quite True," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XVII.—Maud's Answer.

But though Maud thus positively denied any intention of marrying Dalton, during the next few days Mary came to the conclusion that the young barrister really wished Maud to become his wife.

There was something in his manner to her—a change, a gentleness, almost a tenderness—which Mary noticed with an aching heart.

Mary struggled with herself, and tried not to change in her manner to Maud, but it is hard work for either a jealous man or woman to hide that passion. Mary felt angry with herself, and she knew unreasonably angry with Maud. It was a trying position, and as day by day went on it only became more trying.

But if there were a struggle going on in Mary's breast, there was a yet deeper and more passionate one in Maud's. Maud knew that John Dalton cared for her; would marry her, poor and dependent though he knew her to be. And she knew also that she could not marry him. If she had liked him less, if he had been quite indifferent to her, she perhaps might have done so, she sometimes told herself with a bitter smile. But she could not deceive an honourable man. The rugged, untaught instincts of the poor girl's heart were still honest. So she shrank from being alone with John Dalton, and nearly a fortnight passed after the moonlight walk on the embankment, during which he had asked her to be his wife, without any further explanation or agreement between them.

Then John Dalton became impatient. This unsettled state of mind did not suit the young man's arduous work. He had learned to love Maud, but he had another mistress (as Mr. Henley Onslow had told her) to whom he had hitherto devoted all his days, and this was the *law*.

He was ambitious, and he knew that to rise he must work. Amusement and pleasure he had put aside, and love, until he met the dark-eyed girl at Dereham; but even the dark-eyed girl must not be permitted to come between him and his first passion.

So he determined to settle it. Perhaps he had another motive also for this. He was a shrewd, though not a vain man, and Mary was not a very perfect actress. She meant to hide that she cared too much for John, that she was jealous of Maud, but John, and perhaps Maud, noticed the change in her manner and missed the true ring of genuine sweetness, which was one of its characteristics.

After he had made up his mind to ask Maud for a decisive answer, John Dalton went twice to the little house at Chelsea without having an opportunity of doing so. But the third time he succeeded. A sudden and violent thunderstorm was raging when he arrived. This storm had detained Mary longer than she intended to be absent from home when she had started on one of her usual errands of kindness, and thus John Dalton found Maud alone.

The heavens were black with clouds, and the great thunder-rolls seemed to be telling the children of men how small they were, when John Dalton entered the little art-furnished drawing-room. Maud was sitting crouched up in a corner, for the fierce glare of the lightning strangely unnerved her, and she did not move when John Dalton entered.

"This is a sharp storm," he said. "Why, Maud, are you afraid?" And he took hold of one of her cold, chill hands.

"Not exactly afraid," she answered, "but—but in a storm like this, you seem nearer the unseen, don't you? There's something so mighty, so terrible, in those great peals—Ah!—what a flash!" And Maud shuddered and drew closer to Dalton.

"You are nervous," he said quietly, and he still held her cold chill hand in his.

The storm raged round them for a few minutes longer, and then, amid a fierce rain-pour, the thunder-clouds moved onward, but Dalton still stood there by the side of Maud.

"It is passing away," he said presently. "Look up, Maud, now, there is a gleam of sunshine breaking through the clouds."

Maud looked up, gave a long quivering sigh, and would have drawn her hand from Dalton's.

"No, let it stay," he said. "I am glad to find you alone to-day, Maud—for I want you to tell me that you will be my wife?"

Maud did not speak for a moment, and her head fell down until it nearly touched the hand of Dalton.

"Well have you no answer?" he asked.

"What can I say?" she said, looking up and speaking with deep emotion. "But what I told you before—that it cannot, cannot be."

"But why, Maud?"

"Do not ask me, John," answered Maud, rising hastily, and beginning to pace the little room. "There is a secret in my life—a dark, dark secret—I can never marry now."

It was now Dalton's turn to be silent. He stood there watching the girl—pitying her with all his heart.

"You will not confide in me then?" he said after a short pause.

"It would do no good," said Maud. "If you heard this—this—miserable story—you would just say what I tell you now—that I could not marry you; that you would not marry me."

"Yet I wish to hear it."

"I cannot, cannot tell you!" said Maud, and she wrung her hands.

"Is it," said John Dalton, his usual clear and distinct tones growing husky, "is it connected with your unfortunate cousin's death—with the tragedy at Redcote Farm?"

Maud did not speak. She wrung her hands, she flung herself on her knees by a couch, and buried her face.

"Tell me, Maud," continued Dalton, advancing to her side, and laying his hand on her shoulder. "Believe me, you will not regret that you have trusted me—from the first, my poor, poor girl, I knew that sorrow for this young man's death was not alone the shadow that rested on your life."

"What, what, did you guess?" gasped Maud.

"When you were very ill at Dereham," said Dalton gently, "I stood by your bed one night, Maud, and I heard you murmur words which told me—or rather led me to guess—a sad, sad story."

"And Mary heard this, too?" said Maud, starting to her feet, while a terrified look came over her face. "Oh! John, John!" she went on, "I would that I were dead—Oh! if I had only died, before all this sin and shame came upon it. But," she added, "I did it innocently! I will tell you now—I will trust you—but——"

At this moment both Dalton and Maud saw from the windows Mary arrive at the door of the house. She had been detained by the storm, and now drove up in a cab, interrupting the confession that was just about to be uttered by Maud.

"Write what you were going to tell me," said Dalton, hastily. "Do this at once, dear Maud—go to your room now, and write it, and I will stay here and talk to Mrs. Stivers."

Maud hesitated an instant, and then quickly left the room, just as Mary entered the hall. Mary saw the girl leave the little drawing-room, and she saw, too, the marks of emotion on her face, her swollen eye-lids, her disordered hair.

Mary's own heart began to beat very fast a moment later, for John Dalton, grave and quiet as usual, walked into the hall. He also came out of the drawing-room, and Mary knew at once that he and Maud must have been alone together there. Yet his manner was as calm as it ordinarily was when he addressed her.

"You have been caught in the storm, I fear?" he said.

"Yes," answered Mary, but not in her usual sweetness of tone.

"Are you afraid?" continued Dalton. "Miss Eliot seems afraid."

Mary made no reply. "He is acting to me," she thought, and the idea made her feel very angry.

"Have you been here long?" she presently asked, when John Dalton had followed her into the drawing-room.

"Perhaps half an hour," he said.

"And you've had an interesting conversation?" said poor Mary, trying to hide her feelings.

"We have had a very painful one," answered John Dalton, gravely.

"A painful one?" repeated Mary.

"Yes—and let me ask you a favour, Mrs. Stivers. Please say nothing of this conversation to Maud, for it has greatly upset her."

"You have a strong interest in Maud?" said Mary, in a trembling and hesitating voice.

"Yes, a very strong interest," answered John Dalton, yet more gravely, and there was something in his manner that implied more than his words.

Mary's handsome face turned red, and then deadly pale. It was a great shock to her. She had told herself a hundred times that she was sure Dalton liked Maud. She believed he liked her, but then Maud had denied there was anything between them, and perhaps unconsciously Mary had clung to this denial.

But now Dalton's manner in speaking of Maud seemed to end her doubts. And yet she felt she could not ask him anything more. A certain reserve about Dalton forbade this, for he was one of those upon whom it is impossible to encroach.

"I will not detain you any longer just now," he said, presently, and so took his leave. Then Mary went up to her own room and wept some bitter, bitter tears.

"I have been a fool," she thought; "worse than a fool," and on such a subject to a woman this was a very galling reflection.

Yet she had no real reason to envy Maud. That unhappy girl was seated at her desk, weeping blinding tears of regret and shame. She was writing a letter to John Dalton—a letter which she believed would end his regard for her for ever.

This letter reached the young barrister at his chambers on the following morning. His pale face flushed as he read it, and his hands trembled—the confession of the woman he loved—of the woman he had asked to be his wife!

"I write this, John," he read, "because I promised you I would write it; because nothing in this world can make much matter to me now; and because it is better that you should know. After you have read it it will be all over between us, and it is but right that it should be so.

"I will not tell you of my early girlhood; why should I tell you of it? I will only tell you what happened last New Year's Day, and then you will understand the dreadful shadow which ever since has lain so dark and heavy upon my soul.

"On that day then, after I had parted with George Rendall in the kitchen at Redcote, I went up to my own room. You remember I told this in my evidence at the trial, but I did not tell that when I got there I heard George laughing and talking outside. This made me feel very angry, and I went to one of the back rooms and looked out on the stable yard. At the door of the stable George was standing smoking and laughing, and half quarrelling with Jenny Wren. Their familiarity—their apparent utter forgetfulness of my presence in the house, almost maddened me, and with rage and jealousy (of which I was ashamed) burning in my heart, I stood and watched them nearly an hour. Then Jenny came into the house and went upstairs, and I heard her go into my uncle's bed-room to arrange it, and then up to George's room, which was in the front of the house, over mine. When I heard her there, a sudden impulse—a passion I could not control—seized upon me, and I determined to go down to the stable and bitterly abuse George for his heartless conduct to me, and for his disgraceful familiarity with the girl Jenny Wren.

"I ran downstairs, and I ran swiftly across the stable yard, but George was not now in the stable, but in the loft above it, which he had fitted up as a workshop. He was sitting writing at the table by the window when I went up to the loft, and when he saw me he looked very angry.

"Bitter words burst like a torrent from my lips. To these he answered by half-taunting ones. Then, when I went behind him, I saw he was writing out some verses addressed '*To Mary.*' Fury, madness, seized upon me when I saw this. In passionate words I upbraided him, and in vain and idle ones he replied. Then I became mad—mad, John—do you understand?—*mad!* I felt a sudden rush of blood to my head, and I seized a heavy leaden-headed hammer that was standing in the corner of the loft, and with all my force I flung it at him. I saw it strike him—I saw his head fall—but I never looked again. I fled out of the stable loft, fled to my own room; and all the rest of the day—so God help me—I expected to hear George's voice—and I determined to run away—to go anywhere—to drown myself, perhaps—but not to stay at Redcote Farm.

"I never thought I had killed him—never, never! I knew the hammer had struck him, but I thought most likely he would come into the house and be very angry. Then, when he did not come in, I supposed he had gone to Fothergal's farm. Jenny's awful cries first told me the truth—you know the rest, only had the trial gone against Jenny—had the verdict been given against her, I was going to stand up in court and tell the jury and the judge the same story that I have now told you.

"Maud Eliot."

John Dalton read this confession to the end, and then began pacing backwards and forwards in the room, with knitted brows and bitten lips.

Shall we look for a moment into his heart? Into the heart of an ambitious, hard-working man, who meant to rise and win a great name, and who had hitherto put everything aside that could interfere with this purpose.

"Can I marry her?" he was thinking. "Marry a woman with a blight upon her life—such a blight upon her heart? And yet what was she but a victim—an innocent, impulsive victim, of a bad and heartless man? Poor girl, poor child! And she would have stood up in Court, would she, and told her story? Yes, it is her nature—the warm, tender, passionate nature that has been so bruised and broken in the world."

Still he wavered. He loved her, but he had a purpose in his life before he had seen Maud, and he had that purpose still. If this ever leaked out—if men could even point with the finger of scorn to his wife—what use, then, would be his ambition; what use the honours that he himself might win?

But no one knew, he remembered; no one would ever know. The grave had closed over George Rendall, and Jenny had been tried and acquitted of his murder, and no shadow of suspicion had fallen on anyone else. He knew not of the weird warning Maud had received on the night before she had quitted Dereham; knew of no Silent Watchers but the stars, that the unhappy girl had babbled of in her fevered dreams. Maud had not told him of the strange words Jenny Wren had placed in her hands, or perhaps this knowledge might have influenced John Dalton.

For in the end, love, generosity, pity, were the victors in his mental struggle. He would take her to his breast he decided. He would shield this bruised, half-broken heart—forget her blighted youth and the dark stain that almost without any real guilt had fallen upon her.

Before the day was over Maud received the following words:—

"The story of the unhappy accident by which your unfortunate cousin met his death has not changed my love, Maud. Let the subject never be named again between us. No human eye saw what took place on that miserable day at Redcote farm; then let no human tongue ever speak of it. I will call to see you to-morrow evening, and let us not think of the past, but of the bright future which I trust may still be before us.

"Yours faithfully,
"John Dalton."

[To be Concluded in our next.]

Volunteer Intelligence.

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On Sunday afternoon the remains of Priv. John Thompson, of the E Company of the 4th Durham Rifle Volunteers, were buried with military honours at Chester-le-Street. The band of the Birtley detachment played the Dead March in "Saul" from the residence of deceased to the churchyard. Some thousands of spectators witnessed the funeral.

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The *Evening Star* (Dunedin, New Zealand), of 7th September, 1887, states that there can be no doubt that Professor LOISETTE's System of Memory-Training is of great practical utility, and refers to information a Dunedin Student has acquired by the aid of the System in these words: "Mr. W. B. Eyre has demonstrated to our satisfaction that he can answer any questions correctly on the following subjects:—The Kings and Queens of England; the Kings and Presidents of France; the Presidents of America; the names of Shakespeare's plays and the characters in the principal tragedies; the specific gravities of metals; the logarithms of numbers up to 100; when ancient philosophers and modern celebrities flourished; the dates of various inventions; the winners of the English Derby, and the Melbourne, Sydney, and Dunedin Cups; the averages made in batting and bowling by the Australian cricketers in England and the English team in Australia; the results of the Otago and Canterbury cricket matches and the Oxford and Cambridge boat-races; the heights of the notable mountains of the world and all New Zealand ones, as well as of monuments and spires; the average height of European soldiers; and the length of the longest rivers in the world, etc. By the aid of the system Mr. Eyre can also repeat backward as well as forward any list of figures which may be read to him."

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

On Wednesday evening, a regular meeting was held at the Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge, under the presidency of Mr James Annandale, J.P. The members present composed: Messrs T. Siddell, R. Murray, J. Eltringham, J. Lax, W. Wheatley, H. Carss, A. E. Turner, J. Dowson, W. Wilson, F. Priestman, the Clerk (Mr J. Booth), and the Surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

THE VACANCY ON THE BOARD.

Mr Wilson, one of the gentlemen elected on the Board last April, having forfeited his seat in consequence of not signing the declaration within six weeks, and also in not attending a meeting of the Board within the specified term of six months, a communication was read from the Local Government Board calling attention to the circumstance, and ordering that as the Board had not proceeded to fill up the vacancy within the fixed period, the time should be extended beyond six weeks from the 21st October.

The Chairman stated that the Board could elect a member in the same way as if it was a casual vacancy.

On the proposition of Mr Siddell, seconded by Mr Eltringham, Mr William Wilson was unanimously elected a member of the Board, and that gentleman signed the customary declaration prior to re-taking his seat.

THE BLUE BRIDGE: PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

The Clerk mentioned that he was busy obtaining counsel's opinion as to whom devolved the responsibility of repairing and maintaining the Blue Bridge crossing the Derwent at Shotley Bridge.

Mr Eltringham said the bridge was in such a dangerous state that they ought to rail it off at the end, and thus prevent people from crossing it.

The Chairman stated that one-half of the bridge had entirely gone away, and the other half was quite unsafe.

Mr Carss: We cannot legally rail off the end of the bridge. Notices have been posted up by our Surveyor certifying that the bridge is in a dangerous condition.

The Clerk suggested that a rail could be placed at the opening in the wall leading to entrance of the bridge.

Messrs Carss and Siddell replied that the Board would be stopping a public roadway.

Mr Lax: It is not a road in its present condition.

Mr Carss: It is a public road.

Mr Lax: It is no use cavilling over a question when persons' lives are at stake.

Mr Siddell: You had better repair the bridge at once.

Mr Lax: Then we accept the responsibility.

Mr Carss: If people will not take any notice of the warning, they must accept the consequences. There's an end of it so far as we are concerned.

Mr Lax replied that legally the Board might have relieved themselves of any liability in case of an accident, but there was a moral aspect to the question as well.

Mr Wilson: Supposing that people go across in the dark, they will not observe the notices.

Mr Carss: If you are going to enter into hypothetical suppositions then pigs might fly. (Laughter.)

Mr Murray: There are more unlikelier things than that.

Mr Eltringham observed that one man had lost his life by falling off the bridge.

On the motion of Mr Murray, seconded by Mr Eltringham, the Surveyor was authorised to erect a post and rails at the Durham entrance to the bridge to prevent people from crossing over the structure, as it was in a dilapidated and ricketty state.

The resolution was carried, Messrs Siddell and Carss dissenting, the last-named gentleman humorously remarking that they were both rolling in the same boat for once. (Laughter.)

Mr Lax pointed out that the authorities in Northumberland ought to protect the other side of the bridge.

Mr Siddell declared that the motion just passed would encourage Mr Walton-Wilson not to repair the bridge.

Mr Lax: Nothing of the sort.

FINANCIAL.

The Finance Committee recommended payment of a number of accounts, representing a total of £132, and cheques were ordered to be signed.

DALE STREET, BLACKHILL.

The Sanitary Committee reported that they had personally inspected the yards and out-offices in Dale Street, and recommended that the plans prepared by the Consett Iron Company be passed, subject to the whole of the wooden erections being removed from the yards, that they be cemented as soon as the weather will permit, and that the sinks be put into proper order.

These suggestions were agreed to.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Appended is the Surveyor's (Mr Dixon) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the month your workmen have been employed in your district scraping and laying-on materials upon your highways and streets. 80 yards of slag has been laid on to Elm Park Road; 50 tons of whinstone on Grove Road; 100 tons on Durham Road; 60 tons of limestone on Lobley Hill Road; and 50 tons on Cemetery Road. Your stonebreakers are preparing materials for the present season.

Summonses have not been taken out during the month against the North-Eastern Railway Company and Mr Moore, but proper forms of demand have been sent to them for payment of the amount due for making Queen Street, Blackhill.

I have received a letter from Mr Douglas, Consett Iron Company's engineer, asking me to meet Mr Hutchinson (Mr Frank's agent) at Consett Station. I met him, and pointed out to him the line of proposed new street to the station. Mr Hutchinson said he would write to the Board as soon as he had consulted with Mr Franks respecting this land.

Mr W. Westgarth's amended plan as been stamped. Your Building Committee have had a meeting at Dale Street, and examined plans. They will report on this matter.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Shotley Bridge, Nov. 16th, 1887. JOHN DIXON.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the month, I have inspected your district several times. The ashpits are well cleaned out, and the main drains are all in capital order. I consider your district to be in a good sanitary condition.

I have collected and paid to treasurer the following sum:—General district rate, £164 4s 9d.

Mr W. W. Wilson is making certain alterations to a cottage on Benfieldside Road. These are not in accordance with the bye-laws of this Board. I have seen Mr Wilson touching this building, and he has promised to conform to the bye-laws as far as practicable. Mr Southeron has completed the alterations to his property in Wood Street according to the notice served upon him.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, JOHN DIXON.

Shotley Bridge, Nov. 16th, 1887.

The foregoing reports were adopted.

It was proposed by Mr Murray, and seconded by Mr Eltringham, that the Board empower the Clerk and Surveyor to institute legal proceedings against any persons contravening the bye-laws of the Board, &c.

MEDICAL OFFICERS'S REPORT: AN IMPROVED STATE OF AFFAIRS.

The Medical Officer submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

Gentlemen,—The vital statistics of the township of Benfieldside for the quarter ending September 30th, 1887, will be read with interest and satisfaction by your Board, evincing as they do a state of the public health unequalled during my official connection with the district. The contrast with the returns for last quarter is very marked, for it will be remembered that then the deaths exceeded the births, and that the death-rate was as high as 22·2. Now it is at the very low rate of 9·7 per 1,000. The birth-rate also shows an improvement, going up from 20·2 to 25·7.

The infantile mortality and the zymotic death-rate will also bear inspection, the one being 2·8 and the other 5.

Zymotic diseases have been observed in three varieties—viz., scarlatina, measles, and whooping cough.

Scarlatina.—During the month of July, five cases occurred in the Blackhill portion of the district. They were, however, confined to three houses, and being carefully isolated, no new cases have arisen. There was no fatality.

Measles.—This disease was epidemic during the previous quarter, and has continued, to a slight extent, until now. During July and August, it had almost disappeared (nine cases only occurring), but in September it burst out again, and 31 cases came under treatment. It has assumed a benignant character, and no deaths have followed.

Whooping cough has been seen in a few instances, and has caused one death. The foregoing returns tell their own tale, and require no comment from me.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

GEO. RENTON, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Blackhill, Nov. 15th, 1887.

The report was looked upon as being of a highly satisfactory nature. It was referred to the Sanitary Committee, although the convener (Mr Eltringham) stated that there was nothing in the report for them to deliberate upon.

THE DIVISION OF THE PARK:

A LIVELY DISCUSSION.

The report of the last meeting of the Joint Parks Committee suggested that, in accordance with the directions received from the Local Government Board, the respective Local Boards be asked to adopt separate bye laws for the regulation of the public park, and also that each Board be requested to take sole charge and management of the portion of the ground situate in the respective townships.

Mr Carss: If that is carried out, we shall set the Consett people a good example.

Mr Eltringham explained that the Local Government Board advised that each Board formulate a set of bye-laws, as the Benfieldside Surveyor had no power to act upon the Consett portion of the Park, or *vice versa*. They intended to leave the Park free and open, just as it was at present, only that each Board should accept the sole custody of the portion of ground situate in its own township.

Mr Siddell (warmly): I think the best thing you can do is to give the land back to the Consett Iron Company. The way this Board has treated the Park is a downright insult to the donors. It is utterly disgraceful.

Mr Carss said they must arrange the division so as to comply generally with the terms of the lease.

Mr Eltringham stated that all that was contemplated was for the Park to remain just as it stood, only the Benfieldside Board would spend money on their portion of the ground, while the Consett Board would look after their's.

Mr Carss: It will be a union with separation.

Mr Turner: Such an arrangement will save the expense of engaging a clerk, treasurer, park-keeper, &c.

Mr Murray did not agree with Mr Siddell's assertions, and stated that the inhabitants were much indebted to the Consett Iron Company for the Park.

Mr Siddell: The ratepayers' representatives have a strange method of showing their gratitude, then. This Board has behaved, from the outset, in a most disgraceful and abominable manner towards the Company. I would strongly advise the Directors to take the Park away from you. (Laughter.)

Mr Murray considered it would be for the mutual advantage of all concerned to adopt the suggested arrangement.

Mr Siddell: I am quite prepared to say that it will be of benefit to the Benfieldside Board, inasmuch as they will only do nothing to the Park—(Mr Murray: No, no.)—What is the object of this separation?

Mr Murray: Economy and efficiency.

Mr Siddell: You have not spent any money on the Park yet. (Laughter.)

Mr Turner: We have spent quite plenty.

Mr Siddell (to Mr Turner): Your remarks at the last meeting implied that you did not care if you never saw the Park-keeper in the place again. (Laughter.)

Mr Turner: I did not say so.—(Mr Siddell: Yes you did.)—I have made up my mind never to attend another Park committee meeting, as it is only a waste of time, and I think that Mr Siddell should be appointed in my place. (Laughter.)

Mr Siddell: Oh give up the Park altogether (Loud laughter.)

Mr Turner: It has certainly been a great boon to the place.

Mr Eltringham remarked that the Consett representatives had agreed to the separation.

My Turner: If the money we spend on extra officers' salaries had only been expended on the Park in laying-out footpaths and a little decoration, it would have been much better. If the Park is divided, our Surveyor can send his own men in summer time to do a bit of work in the Park.

Mr Siddell: Do you mean to say that the roadmen at Benfieldside have not sufficient work to do?

Mr Lax: Mr Turner said in summer time.

Mr Turner: Mr Siddell doesn't see that.

Mr Carss confessed that they were getting a little bit mixed, and he did not know where they started, or where they were going to. (Laughter.)

Mr Siddell: Or where it will end.

Mr Eltringham said that it was proposed to divide the Park in order to enforce the bye-laws in each district, otherwise they could not prosecute offenders against the regulations.

Mr Siddell: Never mind talking about prosecuting people.

Mr Lax (jocularly): The Parks' Committee are a bloodthirsty lot, Mr Siddell. They ought to get a little humanity into their breasts. (Laughter.)

Mr Siddell stated that the resolution to divide the Park had been rejected by the Consett Board. Their reasons for separation were not sensible.

Mr Eltringham contended that they had no option, as they were ordered to pursue this course by the Local Government Board.

Mr Siddell: And the Local Government Board told us at the beginning that there were no objections to the joint Boards managing the Park.

Mr Eltringham: They have changed their minds since.

The Chairman: Does the Local Government Board recommend this separation?

Mr Eltringham: Yes.

Mr Siddell complained that the letter from the Local Government Board ought to have been sent by the Clerk of the Parks' Committee to that Board. Each Board could still adopt separate byelaws, and yet be precisely alike. There was no necessity for separating the Park.

Mr Murray: We don't want to separate the place.

Mr Siddell: Yes you do. This Board is very selfish. You want to take charge of the portion of the Park which is already laid out, and leave the Consett Board to defray the expense of improving the other portion.

Mr Eltringham said if the Consett Board objected to the division, they could take the whole of the Park. (Laughter.)

Mr Turner pointed out that not a single member had ever complained of the fact that the Park-keeper had been engaged almost exclusively in attending to the Consett portion of the Park.

Mr Dowson stated that the Park should have been divided at the first.

Mr Eltringham: I never wanted us to go for a joint scheme. At present we have to keep a clerk and park-keeper, besides a separate set of books. This can all be done away with.

Mr Siddell: For what you have done to the Park you needn't have kept any books at all. (Laughter.)

Mr Eltringham: If we had not had the Park we need not have kept any books.

Mr Siddell stated that for years past deputations had waited upon Mr Jenkins and asked him to grant them the use of these fields to be converted into a public Park.

Mr Eltringham replied that originally plans were prepared by the Consett Iron Company leading the people to believe that they were going to present them with a Park already laid out. The ground had not been exclusively handed over to them, and it would not be advisable on their part to incur a great expense in laying-out the ground and beautifying it.

Mr Siddell: I gave you credit for more discretion. You know the Consett Iron Company cannot give away the land. It is next to giving it away, however, when you get 21 acres for 1s a year.

The Clerk expressed a hope that the new arrangement would be instrumental in improving the present condition of the Park. He suggested, if the Board were going to take charge of their portion, that they should give notice to the Consett Board that they would not require the services of the park-keeper, and would not be answerable for any expenses incurred after a certain date.

Mr Eltringham hoped they would not act rashly. The two Boards might act in conjunction with each other, till the bye-laws were in readiness.

Mr Siddell averred that the Consett Iron Company would never give their consent to the division of the Park. They thought that it was a disgraceful proceeding, and would act greatly to the disadvantage of the Park.

Mr Eltringham: I think the Company will be wrong in assuming that.

Mr Siddell: You have no business to think. (Laughter.)

Mr Eltringham: I can express my opinion as well as you.

The Clerk pointed out that there was nothing in the terms of the resolution that the Consett Iron Company could object to. The Park would remain as it stood, people having the right to go over any part of the ground; only each Board accept the custody and maintenance of the portion in the respective townships. By the arrangement, Benfieldside would possess about 13 acres and Consett 10 acres.

Mr Carss: The thing is as plain as eating bread and cheese. (Laughter.)

Mr Siddell declared that the Benfieldside Board were actuated by selfish motives.

The discussion was of an exciting and animated nature, the Chairman experiencing some difficulty in suppressing the use of violent language.

Ultimately, Mr Murray proposed the following resolution: "That the recommendation of the Parks Committee be adopted, and that the Clerk be instructed to apply to the Consett Iron Company for their approval of separate bye-laws, similar to those which have been passed for the joint Boards, as directed by the Local Government Board; and that after receiving the Company's sanction, the Benfieldside Board take charge of the portion of the park within their own district."

Mr Eltringham seconded, and the proposition was carried, Mr Siddell opposing it.

The Chairman understood that the two Boards had passed resolutions diametrically opposed to each other; but a hope was expressed that the Consett Board would pursue the same course as that adopted by the Benfieldside Board.

FOOTBALL IN THE PARK.

It was agreed that football playing should only be permitted in the east portion of the Park; but Mr Siddell strongly urged that football should be disallowed in any part of the grounds, as it was likely to be a source of great danger to children and females.

Mr Eltringham stated that they had been condemned in the *Consett Guardian* for confining the football players to the east end. He did not know how they would come on if they abolished football altogether. (Laughter.)

Mr Murray: I think the *Guardian* was on the wrong tack last week.

Mr Siddell: Oh the *Guardian* does not always tell the truth. (Laughter.)

The Board afterwards adjourned.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

Thursday, Nov. 17th.—Before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), and Rev J. P. De Pledge.

ARREARS IN BASTARDY.

George Shields, a miner, of Oxhill, was brought up to show cause why he had neglected to contribute the sum of £4 9s 6d due on an affiliation order to Jane Smith, a single woman, living at the same place.—Defendant proffered to pay the arrears in instalments, and was accordingly liberated.

DESERTING HIS WIFE AND CHILD.

Patrick Logan, employed at the Salt Works at Port Clarence, was charged on a warrant with having deserted his wife and child at Esh, thereby leaving them chargeable to the Guardians of the Lanchester Union.—Mr Ralph Walton, relieving officer for the western district, proved that the woman and her baby were admitted into the Workhouse on the 3rd inst., and had since been kept there. He claimed the expenses of her maintenance during that period amounting to 16s, and also asked their worships to make an order for the husband to contribute towards their support in future.—Defendant stated that he could not live with his wife, because she left him for several days together, and he did not know of her whereabouts.—The Bench made the requisite order, and directed the defendant to pay 6s weekly for the support of his wife and child hereafter.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

Wednesday, Nov. 16th.—Before H. W. Kerrich Walker, Esq (chairman), and Geo. Duberley, Esq.

THE DRUNKEN LIST.

James Donnelly, at Chester-le-Street, 12th inst., 5s and costs.—*Samuel Green*, 22nd October, at Chester-le-Street, 10s and costs.—*John Grimes*, at Birtley, 11th inst., 5s and costs.—*George Bragon*, at Birtley, 11th inst., 10s and costs.—*Thomas Lowery*, at Kibblesworth, 7th inst., 10s and costs.—*Michael McGowan*, at Kibblesworth, 5th inst., 7s 6d and costs.—*Archibald Hewison*, at Kibblesworth, 4th inst., 7s 6d and costs.—*Margaret Simpson*, at Lamesley, 7th inst., 7s 6d and consett.

DRUNK ON LICENSED PREMISES.

Michael King, *Joseph Ballantine*, and *John Swift* were charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of John Heath, at Kibblesworth, on the 9th inst.—Defendants pleaded not guilty.—Sergt. Hutchinson visited the house and found all the defendants there in a state of beastly drunkenness. He had to get the assistance of two constables, and ultimately a cart to get them away.—P.C.'s Reynolds and McClymont gave corroborative evidence.—Fined 5s each and costs.

PERMITTING DRUNKENNESS.

John Heath was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 9th inst.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was sorry for what had happened. He knew defendants in the last case were in his house, but did not know they were so drunk until told by the police. They had only been inside about two hours, and came from their work because of the wet weather. Defendant did not think they had sufficient drink in his house to make them as drunk as what they were.—Supt. Harrison said he had had occasion to draw the attention of the police to the house.—Fined 20s and costs, and cautioned as to his future conduct and his license.

PITCH AND TOSS.

William Kelly, *John Wigham*, and *William* and *Michael Humes* pleaded guilty to playing at pitch and toss at Nettlesworth, on 30th ult.—P.C. Johnson proved the case.—Fined 1s each and costs.

DRUNK IN CHARGE OF A HORSE.

James Crane was summoned for being drunk while in charge of a horse at Chester-le-Street, on the 5th inst.—P.C. Reynolds saw the horse straying about the roads, and defendant was too drunk to have any control over it.—Fined 7s 6d and costs.

GAME TRESPASS.

Isaac Crawford was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on the Earl of Durham's land at Harraton, on the 9th Nov.—Mr J. Woodson, head gamekeeper to the Earl of Durham, said that from what he heard he went to where a wire was set; there was a pheasant in the wire. Witness and an under-keeper watched and saw defendant come and take the wire and the bird up. They at once arrested him, and on searching him found other four wires in his possession. Defendant was working at Lambton Castle, but was a stranger.—John Anderson corroborated this statement.—Defendant said he set the wire to catch a rabbit, and never expected to catch a pheasant.—Fined 10s and costs.

EXPLOSIVES ACT.

Elizabeth Lindsley was charged with selling fireworks on the 5th inst.—Defendant did not know she was doing wrong, and stopped selling as soon as she was told.—The Bench said she had rendered herself liable to a fine of £100. She would be fined 10s and costs.

ASSAULTS.

Christopher Stones, for assaulting Hannah King, at Pelton, on the 29th ult., was fined 10s and costs.

Isaac Glasson was charged with assaulting Jane Hall, at Lamesley, on the 6th Nov.—Fined 5s and costs.

PUBLIC-HOUSE FRACAS AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

John R. Middleton, landlord of the Joiner's Arms, Chester-le-Street, was charged with assaulting Frederick Dinning and George Beals, on the 25th Oct. Cross-summonses were also issued against *Dinning* and *Beals* for assaulting Middleton at the same time and place.—Mr E. Clarke (Newcastle) appeared for Beals and Dinning; and Mr J. Turnbull, jun. (Chester-le-Street) for Middleton.—Fred. Dinning said that, along with Beals, he went into Middleton's house on the night in question about a quarter to eleven. There were some people in the room where they went. Beals paid for a drink for all present, and witness believed that the landlord drank with them. It was then closing time, and they all left the house, Middleton going to the door with them. When just outside the door, Middleton asked witness why he did not use his (Middleton's) house more than he did? Witness said he thought he used just plenty of public-houses, and would not turn himself into a "public-house sewer." Middleton immediately seized witness by the throat, forced him back over, and held on to his throat until witness became unconscious. Witness had in the meantime called to Beals, who had walked a few yards away, for assistance. Beals came back and pulled Middleton off witness, and a struggle then ensued between Beals and Middleton, in which the latter came to the worst.—Cross-examined by Mr Turnbull: It was quite true that witness was a sporting man, but it was not true that he lived by betting. He was really a professional billiard player, but lived with his mother, who had enough to keep them both, and witness did not do anything. There had not been any previous quarrel between Middleton and him. Middleton had never prevented him from betting in the Miners' Arms; on the contrary, Middleton had come into the street to back horses from witness. He did not strike at Middleton first, nor did he offer to fight Middleton.—George Beals said that after leaving the house he, Dinning, and Middleton, stood just outside the door. Witness walked away a few yards, but he heard Middleton ask Dinning about coming more to his house. Immediately after he heard Dinning cry out for assistance, he ran back and found Dinning lying on the ground with Middleton upon him, holding on to his throat as if he meant to strangle him. He tried to pull Middleton away, but had used a great deal of force, so much so that Dinning's clothing came away at the same time in Middleton's hands. Middleton then kicked witness, inflicting a severe wound on his left thumb; Middleton then kicked again, smashing witness's watch and chain. Middleton then made a rush at witness, and tried to throw him, but went down himself instead; this was repeated. Witness thought that it was time to do something, so hit Middleton on the nose as hard as he could, knocking him down. Middleton was then taken into the house by his wife and servant-maid.—Cross-examined by Mr Turnbull: Witness could not tell whether Dinning was unconscious or not. He had enough to do just then to look after himself. (Laughter.) Witness was sure that there were no arguing words in the house or outside of it until Middleton attacked Dinning. Witness never had any quarrel with Middleton. Would have gone to the assistance of any man who was being strangled as Dinning was by Middleton. Witness did not kick Middleton, neither did anyone else. Middleton was never on the ground except when thrown twice by witness, and when finally knocked down by the blow on the nose, which was done by witness's hand. The parties then changed places, Middleton going into the witness-box. While Dinning and he stood outside the door of his house talking, Dinning struck him on the face, and in order to defend himself he seized Dinning by the collar. Beals and a man named Dalkin then came up, and witness was knocked down and severely kicked. Half of his whiskers were also pulled out. He had not said or done anything to cause Dinning to strike at him.—Cross-examined by Mr Clarke: Never had any quarrel with Mr Robson, the butcher. It was not true that witness's solicitor (Mr Turnbull) had to interfere between himself and Mr Robson. (Sensation.) It was not true that he had upon that occasion to offer an apology to Mr Robson. (Sensation.) It was not true that he had so injured a man as to lay him up for some time. Witness never had a fight in his life until this one. (Sensation in court).—Jane Cockburn, serving maid with Mr Middleton, said she was inside the house after the company had gone. She heard, from the outside, Dinning offer to fight Middleton for a sovereign. She and Mrs Middleton went out. Middleton was on the ground, and the two defendants and a man named Dalkin were kicking him. When they got Middleton away, Dinning followed and struck him while in their arms.—Sergt Major Hornsby and John Kile also gave evidence, but neither of them saw the row.—The Bench said that, after carefully considering the case, they were satisfied that Middleton was the aggressor in both cases. He would be fined 40s and costs, and the charges against Dinning and Beals would be dismissed.—[The case engrossed considerable public interest, and during the hearing, the court was crowded.]

VAGRANCY.

Bernard Kent was charged with playing at a game of chance at Chester-le-Street, on the 12th inst. P.C. Taylor said that a complaint was made to him on Saturday that prisoner was standing near the old Post Office with an instrument for gambling. Witness went and found the prisoner with two or three hundred men and boys around him, betting on the result of a pointer springing round a circle. He was at once taken into custody.—Fined 20s and costs.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

"I do not see any peculiarity about the Arkansaw people," said an English tourist, addressing his travelling companion, a well-known American lawyer, "I have travelled quite extensively in the State, and I have not as yet found that eccentricity of action and prevarication of reply that have often amused me in the newspapers."

"You have done most of your travelling by rail," replied the lawyer. "This is your first trip away from the main roads. I'll shew you some of our genuine natives. Yonder is a house—call the landlord and hold a conversation with him."

"Hallo!" cried the tourist.

"Comin'!" the man replied, depositing a child in the doorway and advancing.

"How's your family?"

"Children's hearty; wife's not well. Ain't what you might call bed-sick, but jest sorter stretchy."

"Got anything to eat in the house?"

"Ef I had it anywhar, I'd have it in the house."

"How long have you been living here?"

"Too long."

"How many years?"

"Been here ever since my oldest boy was born."

"What year was he born?"

"The year I came here."

"How old is your boy?"

"Ef he had lived, he would have been the oldest until yit; but, as he died, Jim's the oldest."

"How old is Jim?"

"He ain't as old as the one that died."

"Well, how old was the one that died?"

"He was older than Jim."

"What do you do for a living?"

"Eat."

"How do you get anything to eat?"

"The best way we kin."

"How do you spend your Sundays?"

"Like the week-days."

"How do you spend them?"

"Like Sundays."

"Is that your daughter yonder?"

"No, sir—she ain't my daughter yonder, nore nowhere else."

"Is she a relative of yours?"

"No, sir—no kin."

"Kin to your wife, I suppose?"

"No kin to my wife, but she's kin to my children."

"How do you make that out?"

"She is my wife."

"How far is it to the next house?"

"It is called three miles, but the man what calls it that is a liar."

"I've had enough!" said the Englishman, turning to the lawyer. "Drive on. I pity the man who depends on this one for information!"

Only a question of time—Asking the hour.

Noosepapers—Marriage licence and certificate.

The first law of gravity—Never laugh at your own jokes.

A provincial paper says of a rival that "it has doubled its circulation—another man takes a copy now."

Brown: "Hallo, Jones, how's your wife?" Jones (a little deaf): "Very blustering and disagreeable again this morning."

"What a charming woman Miss De Gush is," said Binky; "her conversation is like a glass of champagne." "So it is," growled Fogg, "extra dry."

"Did you ever ask anyone else to be your wife?" she queried in much doubt. "No, darling," he answered, tenderly; "I assure you this is my maiden effort."

During the frost an Irish M.P., observing some confectioner's men at work carting ice out of a pond, observed that there is nothing like making hay when the sun shines.

A rich man one day asked a man of wit what sort of a thing opulence was. "It is a thing," replied the philosopher "which can give a rascal the advantage over an honest man."

Landlady: "The coffee, I am sorry to say, is exhausted, Mr. Smith." Boarder: "Ah, yes, poor thing, I was expecting that! I've noticed for some time that it hasn't been strong."

"Yes," said Miss Pecker, "I rejected Mr. Henn. Nice fellow, but I could not have the announcement of our marriage appear in the papers under the headline Henn-Pecker."

Shopping in the country.—"No, ma'am; those are two articles we don't keep; but the oysters, I think, you will find at the post-office, and onions you can get across the way, at the barber's."

A lady who advertised for a girl "to do light house-work," received a letter from an applicant, who said her health demanded sea air, and asked to know where the lighthouse was situated.

BITS FROM BOOKS.

PUNISHMENT OF PERSIAN HIGHWAYMEN.

One of my travelling companions told me that . . . he saw the skeletons of several robbers who had been seized and put to death. A small round tank of brick had been constructed, as high as to a man's chin. The condemned man was then put into the tank, and newly mixed plaster of Paris poured in, until the tank was full. The man was thus suffocated, and permanently fixed, as a warning to other highwaymen. Sometimes the condemned one is placed with the head down in a tank, or in a hole excavated for the purpose, and the liquid plaster is poured in until the body is firmly fixed; the feet and ankles are left to protrude. . . . A chief of one of the Lores clans entered an Armenian village, at the head of several horsemen, at night, being exasperated at the refusal of the people to comply with his demands, and at the words spoken by some of the people. They took the priest and some of the principal men of the village, and tied them one by one in a sack with a large dog, and then beat the dog until in his rage he killed the man tied up with him. The Persian governor hearing of the affair . . . made a hunting excursion into the territory of the tribe. Etiquette required that the chief should visit the prince. He was sumptuously entertained in the pavilion of the governor, his followers being without. When his suspicions had been dispelled, in a moment an iron band was slipped about his neck and chains put upon his feet, and he was thrown alive into one of the furnaces with which the baths are heated.—*Persia: the Land of the Imams. By James Bassett.*

OLD YEAR MORALISINGS.

"The old year was preparing to depart as all its predecessors had done; it was becoming hoary, weak, and miserable. An old year on the verge of departing has a mournful appearance when one considers that it was once young and has had a childhood like human beings, who are fated likewise to dwindle to dust, unless by some exceptional chance one is preserved in a museum. What becomes of these old years? Somewhere they must surely be. We know, of course, that with the stroke of twelve on New Year's Eve they dip down into the sea of oblivion; at all events, this has been stated often enough in the newspapers, whose truthfulness I have no reason whatever to doubt. Still, it is not very clear to me why the old years do not choose a warmer season for this final dip. That the old years should not return from the past is not to be wondered at; are they not blamed for everything that has gone wrong? It is generally said of them that they were bad, and good for nothing; precisely the reverse of what is said of mankind, who are invariably well spoken of after death, except of course those that are hanged. Yet think of the joy with which a new year is greeted, although all we can possibly know of it at the time is whether it is a leap-year or not, and that is little enough. I know of only one young man who did not speak favourably of new years. He declared they usually began with headaches. This remark has been confirmed by others I confess. But, why, then, find fault with the old years, which generally end so merrily? We must, however, bear in mind that years can never become properly developed; their span of life is too short. I remember having a discussion with a very learned man as to whether it would be possible to make the years three or four times as long as they are at present. He maintained that this could not possibly be done on account of the taxes. This man was a political economist, and must have known. . . He did not, however, pretend to know what became of the old years. I, therefore, appealed to a poet, for, after all, it is the poets who speak of the old years dipping into the sea of oblivion. . . . The poets, however, could not tell me what became of the old years. They said they did not trouble themselves about things which they had, as it were, sung to the grave. The main point with them was correct rhythm. I could not help regarding this assertion as a most heartless one. At last I asked a dear old lady with snow-white hair, and a face still beautiful, although every successive year had of late left another furrow upon it. Her answer was: 'My dear young man, the old years turn into the good old times. They all return again as memory, and then they look brighter than ever before.' 'But what about the dipping?' She smiled and said: 'This is how it is. When the years have dipped into oblivion, they lose all the evil and harshness they possessed, and only their goodness and lovliness remain, however little it may be, and all this is spread out before our inward eye. When a gorgeous sunset is colouring the whole sky, do we think of the dull rain in the morning? No; it seems to us as if the whole day had been beautiful, and we are no longer discontented. So it is with the years, they turn into the good old times.' This is probably the case. For whence otherwise should we have the good old times if they are not formed of the years that have gone? And, as far as I remember, the old days are never spoken of except as good!"—*The Buchholz Family. By Julius Stinde. Translated from the German by L. Dora Schmitz.*

A DANCE IN KAMSCHATKA.

A dance had just ceased as we arrived, and we took our seats in placid ignorance of what was in store for us. Presently the squeak of the fiddle was heard, and instantly the ladies rushed in search of partners. There was a great move in the direction of the two Swedes and the rest of the party, and as became a modest old bachelor I prepared to *faire tapisserie* with the papas and mammas. But it was destined to be otherwise; for on raising my eyes I found that two fair damsels were suing for the honour of my hand. . . . The young women were not beautiful, and as a matter of fact I would just then have hailed the appearance of my old college bed-maker as a third suitor with delight. However, there was no time to be lost, and slipping my arm around the waist of the nearest fair one, I plunged blindly into the dance. The affair was simple enough at first. The dance merely consisted in shuffling slowly round the room side by side; the gentleman with his left arm free, the lady accompanying the music with a sort of monotonous chant. Time was of no particular object, and smoking was permitted; and as we had partaken neither of the cranberries nor the corn brandy, we felt as well as could be expected under the circumstances. It was not for long, however. Suddenly the music stopped; everybody clapped their hands, and short and stern the order rang out in Russian, "Kiss." There are moments in which even the stoutest spirits quail. I turned a despairing glance on my partner, and my heart sank within me. All hope was gone! We all know how in moments of supreme emotion the most trivial details become indelibly stamped upon the mind. The scene is before me now. I saw the red-haired seal-hunter bend down to meet his fate like a hero, his green tie dangling in the air; I saw a gallant officer, who had served her Majesty in many climes, struggle nobly to the last. Slowly my partner's arms dragged me down. . . . the lips stole upwards. I nerved myself for a final effort. . . . and all was over! Before the next dance I had fled.—*The Cruise of the Marchesa. By Dr. F. H. H. Guillemard.*

CROSS QUESTIONS AND CROOKED ANSWERS.

Meanwhile Jenny (a young American lady visiting England) had fallen to the lot of a very High Church, pensive-looking young clergyman, and was converting him, sentimentally, into pulp, while he was trying to gain some insight into her favourite pursuits by putting questions that puzzled her. "Do you collect?" said he, with an earnest look at his pretty neighbour. "He means subscriptions, of course," thought Jenny; then aloud: "No, never. I can't ask people for money—for anything. They either refuse altogether or patronise one for six months afterwards on the strength of a fifty-cents subscription." "You have quite misunderstood me," put in the curate hastily, with a little blush, "I was talking of stamps, and autographs, and that kind of thing, you know." Whereupon Jenny announced that she did not, and never would, "collect," and the conversation trickled feebly in another direction for a while. Presently he said, with a profoundly interested air: "Do you splutter?" "Splutter! splutter!" thought Jenny. "What can the man mean? Do I fall down in an epileptic fit occasionally and foam at the mouth?" Then, aloud: "No, not often. Do you?" "I don't; but they all do at home. My six sisters are always at it." "The whole family! It can't be fits!" thought Jenny, thoroughly mystified. "Dear me!" she exclaimed. "Do tell me how they manage it." The curate, enchanted by her dimpled vivacity, gave a very elaborate description of a process by which, with a comb, a toothbrush, and a bottle of Indian ink, the exact impression of any fern can be transferred to paper, linen, or satin; and Jenny hypocritically promised to "try it some dull day when she had got herself on her hands."—*On Both Sides. A Novel. By Frances Courtenay Baylor.*

A bridge should never be condemned until it has been tried by its piers.

The man who was "moved to tears" complains of the dampness of the premises, and wishes to be moved back again.

Jamie Purdon was a master joiner, and strongly objected to his men smoking in working hours. He had a very keen scent, as his men well knew. On one occasion he entered a room in which one of his workmen was employed, who a short time before had been smoking. "Hullo, my man," he said, "you have been smoking here. I fin' the smell o' tobacco reek." "I doot you're wrang," answered the man. "I'm sure I'm no wrang," answered Jamie. "I could fin' the smell o' tobacco reek in a room a week after ony ane had been smoking in it." "Well," said the man, "I believe noo, that you mention it, I did see a plumber chappie smoking in here about a week since." Jamie went out suddenly.

DEATH OF MRS. GEORGE RIDLEY, OF WEST STANLEY.

Our readers will learn, with sincere regret, of the unexpected demise of Mrs Ridley, the esteemed wife of Mr George Ridley, registrar, &c., of Stanley House. The deceased lady had been somewhat delicate for some time past, but dangerous symptoms never manifested themselves till Thursday so'nnight, when she was confined to her bed. Mrs Ridley was visited by Dr Benson, and although every care and attention was bestowed upon her, she passed away on Saturday morning, at the age of 46 years, from inflammation of the heart. It is supposed that, owing to certain alterations which have recently been effected at the residence, Mrs Ridley caught a severe cold, which terminated fatally. The deceased lady, Miss Elizabeth Mary Young, was a daughter of the late Mr Young, of Urpeth, and was married to Mr G. Ridley about 26 years ago. During her lifetime she was a devoted and affectionate mother, and her general conduct won for her the admiration and esteem of all who were personally acquainted with her. She was also possessed of a charitable and hospitable disposition. Mrs Ridley leaves behind her four sons and two daughters, the family being mostly grown-up in years. Everyone will deeply condole with Mr Ridley and his family in their sad bereavement.

The remains of Mrs Ridley were interred in St. Andrew's Churchyard, Beamish, on Tuesday afternoon, and notwithstanding the boisterous and unfavourable description of the weather, there was an exceedingly large muster of relatives and friends to pay a final tribute of esteem to one so highly respected. The burial service was impressively conducted by Revs J. Crennell and L. M. Chesters, vicar and curate of the parish. The deceased lady was a member of the Church of England, her husband having been a churchwarden at St. Andrew's, and all present seemed to be deeply affected at the sorrowful event. The funeral arrangements were under the management of Mr Geo. Forster, West Stanley.

CONSERVATISM AT BURNHOPE.

On Wednesday night, under the auspices of the Holmside Conservative Association, Mr Isaac Lyons, Newcastle, addressed a largely-attended meeting in the school-room, Burnhope, on the subject "Union or Separation." Mr Lyons, who was attentively listened to, dealt at length with the Irish question, and said they must not be led away by mock sentiment in the matter. They must not suppose that the question would be settled by assisting Mr Gladstone's Home Rule scheme for Ireland. They must make up their minds that the Ulster men would fight to the death, rather than submit to Parnellite domination. After reading extracts from the speeches of leading Parnellite members, he asked them to surmise for themselves what would be the fate of the Protestant minority in Ireland, if the English people were to hand them over to Mr Parnell's miscreants? He asserted that Mr Gladstone's attempt to prejudice trades unionists against the Conservative party on the ground that the Peace Preservation Act was directed against legal combination in Ireland was absolutely dishonest, as the Act distinctly exempted all trade combinations that would be legal under the Trades Union Acts of 1871, 1875, and 1876.—A resolution of confidence in Lord Salisbury's Government was carried unanimously.

Subsequently a dinner was held in Mr Lumley's Inn, Burnhope, when Mr J. T. Forster (Burnhope House) occupied the chair, and Mr Wardle (Craghead) the vice-chair.—A number of toasts were submitted, including "The Cause," which was proposed by Mr Brown, and responded to by Mr Lyons and Mr J. G. Murray, Consett. Songs were also given, and a pleasant evening was spent.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 7½d. and 1s. boxes at Chemists.
"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, 7½d. and 1s. boxes.
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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Greenside House.—12th inst., the wife of T. Dixon, jun., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Shotley Bridge.—At the Wesleyan Chapel, on the 12th inst., by the Rev J. W. Keyworth, John W. Jacobson of Leadgate, to Elizabeth E. Christer, of Consett.

DEATHS

Consett.—20, Constance Street, 15th inst., aged 6, Jane Anderson.
6, Puddlers' Row, on the 13th inst., aged 22 years, Robert Cockburn, beloved son of John and Margaret Cockburn.
Lanchester.—Deanery, 12th inst., aged 80, Margaret, widow of the late Cuthbert Hall.
Hornsby Hill, 9th inst., aged 13 weeks, Wm. Bertie Wilson.
West Stanley.—Stanley House, 11th inst., aged 46, Elizabeth Mary, wife of George Ridley.
(At the residence of Thos. Forster), 13th inst., aged 87, John Oxley.
Chester-le-Street.—12th inst., aged 77, John Curry, painter.
Pit Hill.—15th inst., aged 17, Richard, son of Jos. and D. Gray.
Blanchland.—17th inst., aged 32, Emma Donna Temperley; for upwards of 12 years schoolmistress at Bramley and Pennistone Schools.
Winlaton.—17th inst., aged 60, suddenly, Mary Dance.
Waterhouses.—12th inst., aged 6 years, Annie, daughter of Thos. Rowes.
Weardale.—Cleugh House, 10th inst., Mrs Thomas Milburn.
Swalwell.—13th inst., aged 21, Isabella, wife of Arnold Alfred Fletcher.
15th inst., aged 4 months, Isabella, child of George and Isabella Howey.
Dunston.—4, Athol Street, in his 73rd year, James, husband of Jane Miller.
Lumley.—Sixth Pit, 14th inst., aged 53, Rebecca Ann, the wife of Geo. Mackley Gamble.
Twizell.—16th inst., aged 27 years, George Wilkinson.
Hedgefield.—13th inst., aged 20, Robert Softley Taylor.
Ryton.—12th inst., aged 32, Catherine, wife of Jos. Heward.

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Printed and Published by Robert Jackson, at the Atmospheric Printing Works, 59, Front Street, Consett.—Friday, November 18th, 1887.