ADAM BRODIE, AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENT,
TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
CONDUCTS
SALES BY AUCTION ON REASONABLE TERMS.
ONLY AUTHORISED AGENT for ASSISTED PASSAGES QUEENSLAND, every Month by Steamer from London and Glasgow; and to CANADA every week from Liverpool. Passages Booked by every Principal Line to America on Lowest Terms.
☞ WANTED TO PURCHASE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE FOR CASH.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

ADAM BRODIE,
SHARE AND INSURANCE BROKER,
TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
LOCAL GAS, WATER, AND OTHER SHARES BOUGHT AND SOLD.
☞ DEALER IN STEAMSHIP SHARES. ☜
FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE AGENCY.
ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurances of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt Settlement of Claims.
NOTE.—The Oldest Insurance Agency and the only Share Broker in the District.
ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

No. 1,264. (REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.) FRIDAY EVENING, October 31st, 1884. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

THE INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMPANY advances Money from £5 to £500 to respectable House holders, at a moderate rate of interest and easy payments. Applications personally or by letter (strictly private), 20, Clayton Street East, Newcastle.—Manager, I. TURNER. Business hours, 10 till 5.

MONEY WITHOUT SECURITIES.—The Monetary Advance Company Lends Money from £10 to £500 to respectable householders, farmers, &c., on their own security, at moderate interest and easy repayments. Applications, personal or by letter, receive prompt attention, with the strictest privacy. Offices, Neville Street, (opposite Central Station Hotel), Newcastle-on-Tyne.—H. S. SCOTT, Manager. 539s

MONEY ADVANCED, in large and small sums in Town or Country, on Personal and Household Security, Farm Stock, Second Mortgages, Deeds, Life Policies, Building Society or any other Shares or Interest, repayable to suit borrowers' convenience, as may be arranged. Write or call on M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 64, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (opposite Angus, Coachbuilder.) Established 1860. 674t

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite Separate Tenders for the performance of the following Works:—

1.—Finding and Setting about 250 Lineal Yards of Kerbing and Channelling, on Medomsley Road.

2.—Excavating, Finding Materials, and Making about 920 Superficial Yards of Footpath, on Medomsley Road.

Specifications, &c., may be seen at the Office of the Local Board, on and after Saturday, October 11th.

Tenders for Kerbing and Channelling, marked "Kerbing," and Tenders for Footpath, marked "Footpath," will be received up to Twelve o'clock on Wednesday, the 5th November next.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.—By order of the Board,

THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Jun., Clerk.
Local Board Offices, Parliament Street, Consett,
9th October, 1884. 680t

Lost.

5s. REWARD.—LOST, on Tuesday Night last, between Mount Pleasant and Tyler Bros., Middle Street, a LADY'S GOLD WATCH GUARD.—Whoever will return the same to TYLER BROS., will receive the above reward. 751t

Wanted.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the Millinery.—Apply to ENGLISH & MILBURN, Consett.

SHOP.—WANTED, a GOOD SHOP, in Consett.—Address Box B, *Guardian Office*, Consett. 738t

WANTED, at the Term, a SERVANT GIRL; one who can milk.—Apply Box H., *Guardian Office*, Consett. 753t

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT for November Term; where there is a business.—Apply at the Ebchester Post Office. 758t

BOARD and RESIDENCE offered to Ladies and Gentlemen. A comfortable, quiet Home.—Mrs. J. PROUD, Derwent House, Shotley Bridge. 499s

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.
LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations.—Apply to Miss COCKBURN, at the S. R. O., 13, Front Street, Consett. 828s

MRS. ARMSTRONG'S REGISTRY OFFICE, 15, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle.—Ladies requiring Servants can be suited daily with Cooks, Housemaids, Nurses, and good General Servants; and Servants of all classes with good situations, by applying at above address. 515t

COLLIERLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

WANTED, for the above School Board, a Female Ex-P.T. Salary—Thirty Pounds per annum. Duties to commence on November 17th.

Applications, with recent Testimonials, to be sent to me on or before the 10th day of November next.—By order,

W. W. THOMPSON, Clerk to the Board.
Lanchester, October 16th, 1884. 693t

AUSTRALIA and AMERICA.—Reduced Fares.—500 Workmen of all classes wanted for Queensland and Canada. Work immediately on arrival at Highest Wages. Assisted Passages granted. Employment guaranteed in Canada. Passages Booked to United States, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney at specially Reduced Rates.—Apply to the Great Northern Emigration Co. (Queensland Government Agents), 96, High Street, Gateshead. 184t

EMIGRATION! EMIGRATION! EMIGRATION.
WANTED, at once, for America, Canada, Australia, Queensland, New Zealand and South Africa, Mechanics, Artisans, Labourers, Agriculturalists, Miners, Domestic Servants, and others. Assisted Passages to eligible Persons. Free Passages granted to South Australia to a limited number of Domestic Servants. Send Stamped Addressed Envelope for Particulars and Rates to DAVIES & COMPANY, House, Estate, and Emigration Agents, 23, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Handbooks on the different Colonies, price 6d. each, or 6½d. by post. 628t

To Let.

TO LET, a Four-roomed HOUSE, at Iveston.—Apply to JOHN ARMSTRONG, East Castle.

TO LET, a Superior HOUSE of 5 Rooms, with Gas in Rooms and Kitchen.—Apply to T. DUNN, Grocer, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 694t

TO LET, a good HOUSE and GARDEN; within twenty minutes' walk of Consett Works.—Apply to JOHN STEPHENSON, Todd Hill, near Consett. 717t

TO LET, SITTING-ROOM and BED-ROOM, with use of Bath-room with Hot and Cold Water.—Apply at No. 8, East Parade, Consett. 564t

SHOP and HOUSE TO LET, in Wesley Terrace, Dipton, now in the occupation of Mr. Beck. Possession at November Term.—Particulars can be had of Mr A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 723t

TO LET, WESLEY COTTAGE, Green Street, Shotley Bridge, containing Five Rooms, Yard, and Out-buildings.—Apply to J. OLEY, Auctioneer, 10 Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 46t

TO LET, a DOUBLE HOUSE, or 2 COTTAGES, at Castleside, with Garden; rent 2s. 4d. and 2s. per week respectively.—Apply at the Vicarage, Castleside. 682t

LANCHESTER, CO. DURHAM.

TO BE LET, with a good current-going Business attached thereto, a small WATER CORN MILL, with Two Pairs of Stones, Oat Crusher, Corn Cleaner, and all other necessary Machinery; also good HOUSE, Garden, Stable, &c., within five minutes' walk of Railway Station. Possession at November Term.—For further particulars apply to JOHN JAMES HUTCHINSON, Urpeth Mills, Birtley Station. 616t

TO LET, the OFFICES OF THE CONSETT FIRE BRICK WORKS, consisting of large Rooms, well-lighted and furnished; also, a Four-stalled STABLE, with Hay Loft above, and a Two-stalled Stable with Granary or Hay Loft above. Gas and Water laid in all the Premises.—Apply to Mr. WILLIAM RUTHERFORD, South Derwent Colliery Offices, Annfield Plain. 635t

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a young GELD COW; forward in condition.—Apply to Mr. GEORGE H. GILL, Stoney Heap, near Leadgate. 749t

TO FARMERS.—FOR SALE, a large IRON ROLLER.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office Consett. 85

FOR SALE, a useful PONY, 13 hands, perfectly honest, and a good worker.—Apply to Mr. A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 724t

FOR SALE, 8-Stop Walnut HARMONIUM, by Alexandre, in perfect order and condition, cheap. Also, a small HARMONIUM, in Oak Case, by Cramer; no worse than new; a bargain.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 725t

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.

A GOOD PLAN.

£10 AND upwards invested, under the non-liability system, in carefully selected Stocks and Shares often returns handsome profits in a few days. Full details in Explanatory Book (fourth edition), gratis and Post Free. Address GEO. EVANS & Co., Stockbrokers, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C. Best and safest plan ever devised. 275t

FOR SALE, an unlimited supply of PIANOFORTES, in Black and Gold, Walnut, and Rosewood Cases, by English and Foreign Makers, on our SPECIAL HIRE SYSTEM, from 50s. per quarter for three years, when the Instrument becomes the Property of the Hirer. Every Instrument warranted for seven years. HARMONIUMS from 10s. 6d. per month, on the same system.—DAWSON & Co., Pianoforte and Harmonium Warehouse, and Music Sellers, 1 and 2, Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

Business Announcements.

STONE and COAL BORING MACHINES from the best makers, from £1 to £7 10s. Also, COPPER GEAR. A Stock always on hand.—Sold by GEO. HUNTER, Medomsley Colliery, Lintz Green. Repairs attended to. 826s

J. BATES,
JOINER, UNDERTAKER, AND FURNITURE BROKER,
SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT, SOLD, OR EXCHANGED.
☞ HARVEY STREET, CONSETT. 305t

EMIGRANTS! EMIGRANTS!!

EMIGRANTS Booked to and from all parts of AMERICA and CANADA, also to AUSTRALIA, at the most reasonable rates, compatible with accommodation. Recent Pamphlets on Canada and its Prospects free on receipt of stamp for postage.
JOSEPH WETHERALL, Emigration Agent, Oxhill, Chester-le-Street, Durham. 326

R. VON DIX,
THE PHOTOGRAPHER,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.
HALF-DOZEN CARDE-DE-VISITES AND ONE CABINET FOR 3s. 6d. SPLENDID FINISH.

JOHN WALKER & Co.,
BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS TO THE QUEEN, GLASGOW,

BEG particularly to call the attention of the Public to the superior quality of their Biscuits, which are manufactured only from the finest machines.

They submit a few of their Specialties, which are well worthy of a trial, viz:—Alberts, rich Tea, Wine, Shaughran, Water, Ginger Nuts, extra Toast, Digestive (rich and royal); also, their famed Scotch Farls (rich) and Scotch Oat Cakes (plain). These can be had from all Grocers, and from their Wholesale Agents,
CURRY & CO, CONSETT. 119

JOHN JOHNSON,
JOINER, AND CONTRACTOR,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD (near the British Schools), CONSETT,

PREPARES Plans of Houses, together with strict and exhaustive Written Specifications for each Branch of the Building Trade.

Specimens of both may be seen at any time.

Charge moderate, being 2 per cent. on the value of the property to be built.

N.B.—Beams, Rafters, Posts, &c., subject to heavy strains, will have their dimensions determined by Mechanical and Trigonometrical Formulæ, instead of trusting to mere guess work. 276t

JOHN W. DAVISON
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT AND CATCHGATE,

HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER

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

Informs the Farmers and Graziers of Consett, Lanchester and vicinity, that Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington, have received the Gold Medal at the International Health Exhibition, London, for their Celebrated Tar Elixir Sheep Dip, &c. Full descriptive Circulars, with recent Testimonials, may be had from T. M., Sole Agent Consett.

T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S Sheep Dip, Foot Rot Bottle, Concentrated Cattle Spice, COOPERS, MCDOUGALL'S, MORRIS, LITTLE, & Co.'s, WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips, &c., &c.

PURGING BALLS,
ALTERATIVE POWDERS FOR HORSES.
FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.
☞ HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. PER BOTTLE
Sarsaparilla Blood Purifying Mixture. Dandelion and Podophyllyn Antibilious Pills.
QUININE WINE PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒA.
Invigorating Hop Bark and Columba Bitters.
QUININE AND IRON TONIC.
MILNER'S EFFERVESCING SALINE, &c. &c. Dennis's Pig Powders.
Agent for Mr. LAMONT'S Magnetic Appliances.
SPECTACLES AND EYE GLASSES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES, IN GREAT VARIETY.
COOPER'S SEED PROTECTOR.
MILNER, CHEMIST, 563t
7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART 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 AND SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 50 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. 691n

☞ YOU WILL SAVE 5s. IN THE POUND
BY
PURCHASING YOUR CLOTHING, DRAPERY,
AND
MILLINERY,
AT
J. GOODFELLOW'S,
19, AND 24, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 562t

THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS,
9, 9A, AND 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
☞ SPECIAL DISPLAY
OF
CHEAP BLANKETS,
CHEAP SHEETS,
CHEAP COUNTERPANES.
WOOLS, AT ALL PRICES. SEE WINDOWS.
WINTER CLOTHING AND GENTLEMEN'S MERCERY.
THOMAS H. BATCHELOR,
SUCCESSOR TO
JOHN THURLOW POTTS. 757t

QUEENSLAND.

This young and promising Colony offers Special Advantages to all classes, and the QUEENSLAND ROYAL MAIL LINE convey Passengers

☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

MAIL or other Steamers will be despatched from LONDON or PLYMOUTH fortnightly, by which ASSISTED PASSAGES will be granted to eligible Persons, such as Engineers, Farmers, Fitters, Engine Drivers, Railway Carriage Builders, Blacksmiths, Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Sawyers, Carpenters, Wheelwrights, Shoemakers, Tailors, Shipwrights, Farm Labourers, Domestic Servants, Gardeners, Vine Dressers, Road Makers, Miners, Quarrymen, Navvies, at the following rates:—

SECOND CABIN..£21 10s. | THIRD CLASS...£7.

Children under 12 years, half-price. Infants under 12 months, free. Persons not eligible for assisted passages will be taken at the following rates:—Second Cabin, £31 10s.; Third Class, £17.

For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to the Local Agent, A. BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 237t

MORISON JOHNSTON,
8, BIGG MARKET, NEWCASTLE,
Begs to announce that he has commenced the Business of AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
in conjunction with his present business, which will be carried on as usual. He trusts to receive the support of his friends and the public generally.
☞ All Accounts of Sales settled promptly. 396t

REVELY AND KELL,
IMPORTERS OF
FOREIGN WINES AND SPIRITS,
WHOLESALE AND FAMILY MERCHANTS,
No. 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET, NEWCASTLE.

CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT.
JASPER COCKBURN,
STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER, CONFECTIONER, AND DEALER IN FANCY GOODS,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
ACCOUNT BOOKS, DIARIES,
POCKET BOOKS, BIRTH-DAY CARDS.
And STATIONERY of every Description in Stock.
Books not in Stock to be had on a Short Notice. 613t

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR
HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW,
SHOULD USE THE
"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.
IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.
PREPARED ONLY BY
JOHN HUME AND SONS
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
BRANCH—MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 683r

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

DONALD BAIN, DRAPERY WAREHOUSEMAN, begs to notify his many patrons that he has removed to his NEW WAREROOMS, 71, WESTGATE ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, for the express purpose of devoting his whole time and energy to the COUNTRY AND WHOLESALE TRADE only. Wools, Yarns, Smallwares, and every description of Drapery Goods supplied at List Prices.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER ESTABLISHMENT.

N.B.—Mr. MATTHEW WILLEY, Iveston Road, Leadgate (late with GEORGE HAWDON, Rate Collector), will be happy to wait upon you, on receipt of Post Card, and submit Patterns and Prices of our well-known Dress and Drapery Goods. All Parcels forwarded at once. CARRIAGE PAID 879s

Business Announcements.

INDIA RUBBER STAMPS,
FOR Endorsing Envelopes, Cheques, and Postal Cards, Heading Notepaper, Marking Linen and Pigeons, Stamping Monograms, Crests, and fac-similes of Signature.
POCKET AND DATING STAMPS,
Price and Pattern Sheets Free on application.
WILLIAM COLDICOTT,
BRIDGEMAN STREET, WALSALL. 783s

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER,
HOUSE AGENT, AND APPRAISER,
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.
PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 860

GREAT SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE
OF
READY-MADE CLOTHING,
AT
C. F. COOKE'S,
THE CELEBRATED CLOTHING MART,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

In order to make room for WINTER GOODS, the whole of the SUMMER STOCK will be offered at TREMENDOUS REDUCTIONS.
A SPLENDID TWEED SUIT, AT 14s. 6d.
SEE OUR BEAUTIFUL BLACK WORSTED SUITS, at 25s. 6d.
BOYS' AND YOUTHS' SCHOOL SUITS AT REMARKABLE LOW PRICES, FROM 2s. 11d.
FELT HATS AND CAPS, IN ALL THE LEADING SHAPES. 403t

HUGHES & CO.'S
PHARMACY,
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL.
CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH & LIVER PILLS.
CURRY'S TOOTHACHE DROPS.

HUGHES' Cough, Rheumatic, and Neuralgic Pills. The IXL Blood Purifying Mixture and Pills. Rheumatic and Gout Mixture. Hop, Dandelion, and Mandrake Bitters. Concentrated Sweet Essence of Senna. Compound Decoction of the finest Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla. Tonga, the new Specific for Neuralgia. Raspberry Beer Powder.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.
Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCES.
AGENTS FOR THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OPTICAL ASSOCIATION.
☞ SPECTACLES IN GREAT VARIETY.
OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES.
HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES
ALTERATIVE POWDER FOR HORSES.
SHEEP DIPS—COOPER'S, BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, AND OTHER KINDS.
HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT

CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE IMPROVED
MAGNETIC BELTS
For Lumbago, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Liver Complaints, &c.
INVIGORATORS for Bronchitis and Asthma.
INVIGORATORS for Weak Lungs and Debility.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs.
THROAT PROTECTORS for Sore Throats, &c.
KNEE CAPS for Sore and Weak Knees.
SOLES for Pains and Cold Feet.
Shoulder, Arm, Leg, Ankle, and Wrist Appliances.

THE ENORMOUS NUMBER OF APPLIANCES sold by Mr. Lamont during the past Six Years, and the numberless encomiums bestowed upon them as to QUALITY, CHEAPNESS, and SURE CURATIVE POWER, proves the immense popularity they have attained, and also "Their SUPERIORITY over the Dozens of Imitations that are continually being thrust upon the public."

MR. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following TESTIMONIALS, recently received. Further particulars will be found in DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET Gratis on application or sent POST FREE.

CHRONIC BRONCHITIS AND ASTHMA.
H.M. Prison, Durham, September 6th, 1884.
DEAR SIR,—I have worn your Magnetic Invigorator for nearly two years, and am happy to say that I now feel much better than when I commenced to wear it. My complaint—chronic bronchitis and asthma—is of long standing, and I do not expect a permanent cure. You can use this as you choose.—Yours truly,
Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN ROBINSON.

MAGNETISM FOR LOSS OF VOICE.
Eslington Inn, Teams, Gateshead, Aug. 26th, 1884.
DEAR SIR,—Towards the end of last year I procured one of your Magnetic Throat Protectors for my wife's sister, who had been suffering for nearly three years from entire loss of voice. It gives me the greatest pleasure to inform you that she has now completely recovered her voice, and is as well as ever she was. She was under treatment by several doctors; but there was no good done by all the means recommended, and this makes me all the more anxious to inform you of the success of your Magnetic Appliance, and to allow you, if you wish, to publish this as a Testimonial for the benefit of other sufferers.—Yours truly,
Mr. D. Lamont J. MADDISON.

ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.
Prudhoe-on-Tyne, June 21st, 1884.
DEAR SIR,—My wife was a great sufferer from shortness of breathing left after a severe attack of Bronchitis. She had also since than been slightly Asthmatic. It gives me great pleasure to tell you that the Magnetic Invigorator purchased from you has been of wonderful use to her, and she has now worn it nearly two years. She feels altogether improved in health, and bids me say that she has found the Invigorator of the greatest value, both as regards the relief it has given her and in keeping her well.
I may also tell you that my wife's father, who suffered from Rheumatism, and spent pounds and pounds without relief, has derived astonishing good from your Appliances. Use this in any way that will be the means of making your Appliances more widely known.—Faithfully yours,
Mr. D. Lamont. JAMES R. GREEN.

THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 21s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., (formerly sold at 30s.), continue to give unbounded satisfaction. In sending for Belt, please state WAIST MEASURE OVER FIRST GARMENT. Sent Post Free on receipt of 21s.

☞ CALL OR WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET GRATIS AND POST FREE
D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT,
(PERMANENT AND ONLY ADDRESS).
44A BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
NOTE.—The Appliances are forwarded Post Free. 573t

Business Announcements.

HERBS, ROOTS, AND BARKS.
W. J. SMITH,
270, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD.
WHOLESALE and Retail Customers supplied in any quantity of the best quality, at the lowest prices. 573t

JOHN FREEK,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.
HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.
N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 384o

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.
VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.
Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.
☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

PRESENTS! PRESENTS!!
THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND FOR
CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATED GOODS,
CUTLERY, AND FANCY GOODS,
IS
BUNN AND DICK,
10, WEST GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 458s
☞ WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
9, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK, SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

KANGRA VALLEY TEA!
AS SUPPLIED TO OFFICERS' MESSES IN INDIA.
Packed on Plantations, chiefly in Tinfoil-lined Packets, containing ONE POUND, and guaranteed to be absolutely pure. Can be obtained in any quantity, Wholesale and Retail, not less than One Pound.
The pure Hill Teas of India are superior to the blended China and India Teas, and are acknowledged to excel those of China.
KANGRA VALLEY INDIAN TEA GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.
☞ FREE OF CARRIAGE.
NORTHERN AGENCY,
6, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
To whom apply for Agencies. 50t

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., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, via Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 833p

THOMAS RAINE,
JOINER, CABINET MAKER, UNDERTAKER AND GENERAL CONTRACTOR,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL,
BEGS to thank his numerous Customers and Friends for their past support and patronage, and hopes by strict attention to business, to merit a continuance of their favours.
T. R. wishes to inform his customers and the public generally that he has now on hand a Large Stock of IRON and BRASS BEDSTEADS, at remarkably low prices. Also, FURNITURE of every description Made and Supplied to Order, and of the best Workmanship.
T. Raine also desires to inform the inhabitants of Leadgate and surrounding neighbourhood that he has arranged with Mr. JOSEPH SLATER, at Mr. H. Lee's, Front Street, Leadgate to take Orders for Undertaking. Black Cloth Coffins Mounted from 35s. All Orders received shall have prompt attention. 878s

NORTHUMBERLAND CUTLERY EMPORIUM.
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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 1884.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

THE anomalous hostilities between France and China have for some time been a cause of concern to the other great Powers of the world. European and American merchants see their business menaced, if not actually injured; while the artisan classes in the various countries must expect to feel the effects of any disturbance of commerce. Of course, any war regularly declared and prosecuted between two great countries must injure other nations trading with either of the belligerents. But then the parties to a war are expected nowadays to come quickly to a real trial of strength, and not unnecessarily to prolong the inconvenience inflicted on neutrals. According to the still barbarous law of nations, any Power is its own judge as to what provocation from another may constitute a *casus belli*, and is entitled to take execution into its own hands. Still it may so exercise this right as to give reasonable cause of complaint to neutral Powers. And France seems just now to be making herself liable to this charge. In the first place, without declaring war at all, she has entered upon a course of very decided hostilities against the Chinese Empire. It may, indeed, be pretended on behalf of the French Government that China is a semi-barbarous country which does not come within the ordinary scope of international law. But on the other side it must be remembered that France, when it suited her purposes, treated China as a civilized Power by receiving an ambassador from her and making a formal treaty with her. It is out of an alleged breach of such a treaty that the present hostilities have arisen; and these ought therefore to be as formal as the treaty was. The inconvenience of a course of irregular reprisals between two great countries is that the rights and duties of both combatants and neutrals are placed in considerable doubt. Recently our Government had to complain of French war-vessels assuming the right of search over British ships, and only received the unsatisfactory explanation that French commanders had mistakenly exercised a belligerent right under the impression that they were engaged in actual war. More recently the complaint has been telegraphed to this country that the French have declared a blockade of the Formosan ports, which would be another usurpation of belligerent right without a belligerent status to justify it. Such an assumption would, of course, not be endured by this country; but even rumours of proceedings like these are disturbing to British trade. If France judges herself to have a grievance against China, she ought either to declare war against the latter as an equal, and to prosecute it with reasonable diligence; or to inflict sharply and shortly a certain amount of punishment on her aggriever as an inferior; or else to submit the whole dispute to arbitration. But what France seems to be aiming at, while nominally taking into her own hands the punishment of an alleged aggressor, is to create such an uncomfortable state of things for neutrals that these may be induced to co-operate in inflicting such punishment. We should hardly venture to impute such an expectation to our neighbours, only that we find it formulated in some expressions which General MILLOT, the ex-commander of the French forces in Tonquin, is reported to have used at an interview on the 25th inst. This general holds, we are told, that "the French have no need of reinforcements, as they are strongly fortified, and are able to repel any attack. The occupation of Formosa will," he thinks, "suffice to bring China to terms. At all events, China will not be allowed to prolong the war indefinitely, because the consequence to international commerce would be so disastrous that the Powers interested would be compelled eventually to intervene, and force China to accept peace." General MILLOT is probably quite right in supposing that the Powers would be provoked to intervene by the inconvenience of prolonged and desultory hostilities, but when they do intervene, it will be as impartial judges between the contending parties, and not as prejudiced partisans on either side.

Parliamentary Summary.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr E. Ashley, in reply to Colonel Dawnay, said he was glad to state that the position of affairs in and near the Reserve Territory in South Africa had of late much improved. Replying to Mr Ruston, Mr Fawcett said the sixpenny rate for inland telegrams would be brought into operation on the 1st August next. Sir F. Milner asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he was correctly reported to have said, alluding to the disgraceful conduct at Birmingham at the time of the visit of the Leader of the Opposition, that Lord Randolph Churchill was indignant that the working men of Birmingham had taken him at his word and had pulled off the coping of a wall to get admission to the meeting to which admission was denied, but which was to be represented as expressing the opinion of the working men of Birmingham. Mr Chamberlain said the question was substantially correct. It was, however, incomplete, because he had quoted from a speech made by Lord R. Churchill at Edinburgh in 1883, in which he had declared that he would not assent to the Franchise Bill unless the working men showed their desire for it by pulling down the railings of Hyde Park. Lord R. Churchill rose to order, and asked whether it was in order for a Minister of the Crown to put words into the mouth of a member of Parliament which he had not used. The Speaker said that as the noble Lord repudiated having used the words, perhaps the right hon gentleman would withdraw. Mr Chamberlain contended that the quotation was substantially accurate. Sir H. Wolff called the attention of the Speaker to the fact that Mr Chamberlain had insisted on the substantial accuracy of the words. Mr Chamberlain considered that the proceedings at Birmingham were to some extent a matter of discussion. He believed the men who caused the riot had been hired as "chuckers out" by the Tory party. Lord R. Churchill asked why the President of the Board of Trade had deliberately refused the previous night to go into the matter. Mr Chamberlain said he did not reply to the member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Wolff) because he thought he was acting as a jackal to the noble Lord. Sir S. Northcote hoped the right hon. gentleman would withdraw that expression. Mr Chamberlain said in referring to the hon. gentleman figuratively as a jackal his intention was precisely the same as when the right hon. baronet had refered to Lord R. Churchill as a "bonnet" for the Opposition. The subject then dropped, and Mr A. O'Connor resumed the debate on the Address. On the motion of Mr Parnell, the debate was adjourned. Mr Gladstone, amidst loud cheers, moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to the representation of the people of the United Kingdom. After the lengthened statements made last session on the subject, he did not think it necessary to enter upon the merits of the Bill on the introduction. It was the intention of the Government to lose no time in pressing the Bill through its various stages, having due regard to the convenience of hon. members and the sufficiency of opportunities for discussion. Lord R. Churchill gave notice that when the Bill was put down for second reading he should move as an amendment that any measure purporting to provide for the better representation of the people in Parliament must be accompanied by a provision for the proper arrangement of electoral areas. After a few words from Mr Raikes and Mr Parnell, Mr Gladstone stated, in answer to Lord Geo. Hamilton, that the Bill was in the shape in which it was introduced last session. The motion was agreed to with two dissentients. Leave was also given for the introduction of some other Bills, including Mr Stevenson's Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday. Representation of the People Bill was brought in by the Attorney-General and read a first time.

MONDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr T. Brassey, replying to Sir H. Wolff, said the report of the Departmental Committee appointed to consider the recommendation of Lord Ravensworth's Committee on building ships in dockyards and private establishments was now under consideration. Mr Ashley said the Government had telegraphed to Sir Hercules Robinson to take speedy steps to bring the murderers of Mr Bethell, Acting-Chief of the Frontier Police in Bechuanaland, to justice. Mr Chamberlain, in reply to Lord R. Churchill, said he had no authority to interfere regarding the preservation of order at railway stations, and he did not propose legislation to prevent political demonstration at those places. Lord Hartington said he was afraid there could now be very little doubt but that Col. Stewart was on board the steamer wrecked on the Nile. Lord G. Hamilton asked Mr Chamberlain when he intended to reply to the charges made against him with regard to riots at Aston. Mr Chamberlain said he was waiting until he was directly charged. Lord R. Churchill had made charges against him outside but not inside the House. An angry personal discussion ensued and Sir D. Wolff had to withdraw unparliamentary words addressed to Mr Chamberlain. Lord R. Churchill said at the proper time he would do all in his power to "draw the badger." The adjourned debate on Mr Hartington's amendment to the Address was resumed. Mr Parnell insisted on further inquiry into the murders. He said the Prime Minister had not shut the door against any further inquiry into this matter, and until he did so he should not believe that such was his intention, because until it took place the people of Ireland would cease to have any respect for the administration of law in Ireland. Sir William Harcourt said that after a careful investigation and consideration of the facts proved in this case he had no hesitation in telling Lord Spencer that there was no justification for interfering with the sentence of the law. The Crown Solicitor, the Governor of the Gaol, and others said the statements made by Thomas Casey were untrue, and he believed such men before an admitted murderer. Mr E. Clarke, Mr Labouchere, Mr Mitchell-Henry, and Mr Macfarlane supported the amendment; and Mr Gregory and Mr Roundell opposed it, the latter speaking of the charges brought forward by Mr Harrington as trumped up. Mr Harrington desired to know whether that expression was in order. The Speaker did not think the hon. member would be in order if he attributed to the House the trumping up of charges. Mr Roundell withdrew the words; and subsequently, on another ruling of the Speaker in response to appeals from Mr Callan and Mr Gorst, withdrew a statement that the object of the mover, and those who supported him, was to discredit the administration of justice in Ireland. On the motion of Mr M'Carthy the debate was adjourned, and the House rose.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr Ashmead Bartlett gave notice that on the earliest day possible he should call attention to the proposed abandonment of Khartoum as dangerous to Egypt and discreditable to the Government. Mr Cross, replying to Mr Fowler, said there was not the slightest shadow of foundation for the report that the Government of India had made large contracts with Belgian firms for the supply of rails for Indian railways. Lord E. Fitzmaurice, replying to Mr Hubbard, said the consequence of there being no declaration of war either by France or China, Her Majesty's Government were in communication with the Government of France as to the blockade of Formosa, and the rights of British vessels entering the ports. Lord R. Churchill gave notice to move the following amendment to the Address:—"That we humbly assure your Majesty that we regard the recent speeches and actions of one of your Majesty's Ministers, the President of the Board of Trade, as an inducement to interfere with the freedom of political discussion and justification of riot and disorder." The adjourned debate on Mr Harrington's amendment to the Address for further inquiry into the Maamtrasna murders was resumed. Mr Justin McCarthy said all the Irish representatives asked of the Government was to have an independent inquiry, as they had done in the Kilmartin case, with respect to the four men now suffering penal servitude for having participated in the Maamtrasna murder. Mr Gladstone admitted the great importance of the question involved in the amendment, but when these grave and serious charges were made against Lord Spencer the Government would not shrink from giving him support, but if the charges made against Lord Spencer were true nothing less than impeachment would be sufficient punishment. Lord Spencer was a man who enjoyed the respect, confidence, and veneration of all who knew him—(loud cries of "Not in Ireland" from Irish members)—and he (Mr Gladstone) could not give his support to the amendment which, if carried, would prove him the unworthiest of men. (Mr Biggar: "So he is.") He then went minutely through the facts of the trial, and insisted that the identity of the men had been proved beyond all doubt, and to retreat would be to set aside the verdicts of three juries, and such a step would be fatal to the clemency of the Crown had been in this instance shut out by the procedure that had been adopted. He objected to found a court of criminal appeal totally inferior to the tribunal whose decision it was proposed to supplant. Mr Hopwood urged Irish members, if they had fresh evidence, to submit it to Lord Spencer, who would not refuse an inquiry, if necessary. Sir J. McKenna thought the men had been unjustly convicted, therefore he supported the amendment. Mr T. C. Thompson gave his support to the amendment, as he did not see why the convicted men should be refused the right they would have had had the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill passed. Sir E. Wilmot, after giving the utmost attention to statements made during the debate, had come to the conclusion that a great wrong had been done the men now in penal servitude. He did not believe the Lord-Lieutenant had entered into a conspiracy to supply evidence; he had made a mistake. The Attorney-General, speaking on behalf of the Government, deprecated the strong language in which Lord Spencer had been denounced as in the opinion of the Irish people a judicial murderer, and pointed out that such accusations by no means tended to lessen the responsibility resting on the House in the vote it would be called upon to give. But for the retraction of the evidence he gave at the trial by one of the informers, there was nothing that had come to light since the trial that in any way altered the then aspect of the case. Mr O'Gorman Mahon and Mr Callan spoke in support of the amendment; and the House divided—For Mr Harrington's amendment, 48; against, 219; majority for the Government, 171. The House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, the adjourned debate on the Address was resumed. Sir H. Holland brought forward the condition of affairs in South Africa. He complained that they had no information of the mission of Mr Rose; the murder of Mr Bethell; the outrages that had been inflicted on Montsioa, or the sham treaty wrung out of him. The policy of the Government in South Africa was most unsatisfactory, and pointed out that no words in the Royal Speech gave indication as to what was to be the course in future. He thought that Montsioa and other chiefs in Bechunaland were being exterminated by the Boers for the assistance they had given the British Government during the disturbance in the Transvaal. Without sufficient steps being taken for their protection and to restrain the action of the Boers, peace, he said, patched up could not stand. Mr Wodehouse thought the efforts to establish a protectorate in Bechuanaland would fail, without means were taken to restrain the Boers, and to maintain British supremacy in South Africa. Sir F. Milner urged the Government to take steps to avenge the death of Mr Bethell, which had been brought about by his efforts to protect natives against the Boers. As representing Bethell's family, he demanded the arrest and trial of his murderers. Mr Cropper wanted to know what steps the Government proposed to take in order to protect Montsioa against the Boers? and expressed a hope that Sir C. Warren would be adequately supported in the demands he might have to make on the Boer race. The Lord Mayor thought the Government had made a great mistake in giving up Pretoria. Sir D. Currie said affairs in South Africa were now in a very critical condition, in a great measure owing to the action of this country. He advised that the Government should at once take up a clear and firm policy, and boldly carry it out. Mr Dawnay adversely criticised the Government's policy. Mr Ashley, replying, said the impression made on him by the present discussion was that the policy of the Government was in accord with the House, and the attacks that had been made were those of a former Session. They could not demand the arrest and extradition of Bethell's murderers until they knew who they were. The Government had consistently acted upon the advice of Sir H. Robinson, and refused him nothing and they would act in conjunction with the Cape Government in removing the freebooters from Montsioa's land. Sir C. Warren would leave England soon, and the House might rely that he would have sufficient force at command. The Transvaal Government had withdrawn the proclamation establishing a protectorate, and if the freebooters refused to withdraw in a peaceful manner, only one course remained, and that was force, which the Government would not hesitate to adopt. Sir H. M. Beach said that had the Government adequately supported Mr MacKenzie in his endeavour to save Montsioa's land the serious expedition now announced might have been avoided. Mr Foster expressed gratification that an expedition was to be set out under Sir C. Warren, but anticipated matters would end peacefully when it was known the expedition was on its way. The debate was again adjourned.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The stage play of "No Surrender" on both sides is played out with great spirit; but the audience knows that the curtain is soon to descend on a general compromise. The terms are not settled, but the outline is this: the Ministry will bring in their Redistribution Bill before Christmas, and then adjourn until a date in January for which the second reading would be fixed, the Lords on their part passing the Franchise Bill before the adjournment. This will satisfy susceptibilities on both sides.

Report says that even at the last moment there was nearly a Ministerial crisis between Mr Trevelyan resigning one office in the Ministry and accepting another. Mr Gladstone and one or two members of the Cabinet were nearly persuaded to consent to an enquiry on the Maamtrasna murder. This Mr Trevelyan resisted, and finally it was left to Lord Spencer to arbitrate. His decision was final, but it saved the Cabinet from a compromise with the Parnellites fatal to its character for independance.

The story goes that Sir H. Wolff met Mr Chomberlain in the tea-room after the "jackal?" remark at which Lord Randolph Churchill had poured out such affected indignation. The sight of Mr Chamberlain was too much for Sir H. Wolff, for he turned on him with a serio-comic look to ask him "how a Wolff could ever be a jackal?" For my part, I fail to see the point of the comparison, as if Lord Randolf is a lion, it must be only as a certain animal was which put on a lion's skin, and was mistaken for one till he began to roar. If public men in Parliament indulge in many more such pleasantries, we shall have *Punch* illustrating for us a modern bear-garden, and the High Court branded with the undignified *soubriquet* of political menagerie!

The South Eastern and the Chatham by Dover will have to look to their monopoly of the route to Italy *via* Paris and Mont Cenis. Already it is threatened by the St. Gothard route; and now the shilling tax on landing passengers at Calais and Boulogne has come still further to disgust the public. The new day-route by Harwich and Flushing to Cologne, the settled arrangement for which have been somewhat too prematurely disclosed, will, if carried out, give another serious blow to the monopoly long enjoyed by the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean route. As one might suppose, Great Eastern went up and Chatham and Dover went down on the announcement of the change of the Flushing Dutch Mail route from Queenborough to Harwich; and although I have reason to know that the arrangements have not as yet been finally completed, every Continental traveller wishes the Great Eastern success on the line indicated. No railway of late years has done so much for the travelling public, and its arrangements at Parkeston new quay, near Harwich, are a model of what should be done elsewhere, but is not.

The *Times* had a leader on Monday on Deans, it is usual "no fellow can understand fashion." This Dundreary way of writing on clerical matters is now worn to death, and might be changed with advantage. For instance, the writer, as if ignorant of the true stymology of the Deans, who was a kind of sub-prior in a monastery, and had charge originally of ten monks (hence the name), affects that it is some occult mystery past finding out. Deans may be useful or useless, but poking fun at these harmless creatures serves no useful purpose that I can see.

This is by no means exclusively the age of make-believes, or of the encouragement of good objects by grandiose and tinsel organisations. We are apt to think that it was left for this generation to adopt such machinery in the cause of religion, or education, or temperance, or charity as sham armies with sham uniforms, pretended Parliaments with pretended debates, lodges and paraphernalia in tawdry imitation of Freemasonry, self-created ordens of chivalry after the distant pattern of that of the Hospital of Jerusalem. But we have not an exclusive monopoly of such things. There are not many men whose memories carry them back to the Trafalgar Lodges, which were formed during the first decade of this century. These Institutes had nothing to do with the Navy. They were simply founded for the purpose of benevolent assistance to the poor of London. It seems to have been hoped to popularize—it certainly was not necessary to perpetuate—the memory of Nelson's great victory by associating it with almsgiving. Ordinary members were called by the ridiculous name of Knights of Trafalgar; officials took the titles of naval officers, such as Commodores and Admirals. Most of these lodges soon died out. I believe only one remains, and this has been compelled to continue its existence by having received some considerable endowments. The Lodge was established in Spitalfields. A few days ago the members gave a dinner to Earl Nelson in compliment to the memory of his uncle, and conferred on their guest the dignity of a "past Admiral" of their "order." Apart from the unnecessary tomfoolery of the society, for which, indeed, its present members are not responsible, it does a good work among the poor, and there is nowhere in London where such work is more necessary than in Spitalfields, which since the beginning of this century has sunk from a highly prosperous manufacturing quarter to a huge network of slums, infested by the worst class of Jews and the poorest and most wretched of costermongers and tramps.

Scarcely second, if at all, to Talleyrand's Memoirs are the Diaries and Correspondence of Wilson Croker, which has at last seen the light. Croker was a little to be loved and as little to be trusted as Talleyrand; but he had the knack of making himself feared, and it is well-known quite as many people pay poojah to the devil from fear as to God from love. There were a few, however, who refused to be devil-worshippers, chief of whom were Macaulay and Disraeli, both of whom hated and distrusted Croker.

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.)

ELECTION OF GUARDIANS AT LANCHESTER

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In reference to Mr John Buckham's address to the ratepayers, I find he is going to call on those whose interests are identical with his own, that is, "direct ratepayers," he (Mr Buckham) not being in the happy position of having his rent and rates paid for him, will better able to do so, than an indirect ratepayer. Now, I take it that Mr Buckham considers that occupiers have no right for a seat on the Board. Will he (Mr Buckham) have the nerve to ask the occupiers for their votes and support? If so, I hope the miners of the district will give him the answer he deserves. Our neighbours in Northumberland (at great expense) settled this question in the Borough of Morpeth, and now Mr Fairley has settled it for the Lanchester Union and I maintain that we, as working men and occupiers, ought to show the Lanchester Authorities that we have the power, and we know how to use it, and return Mr Fairley to the seat which he was so shamefully deprived of, and then, if Mr Buckham has any desire to be in the happy position he says we are in, he had better apply to some of the colliery agents in the district, who, I have no doubt, will oblige him.

AN OCCUPIER.

October 29th, 1884.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—We are on the eve of an election of Guardians for the township of Lanchester, though almost at the close of the year. It is well known to all why this is so, and I for one do not think that the ratepayers should be saddled with expense unnecessarily in this way. We had two good and tried Guardians who could well have represented us on the Board till the close of their year, when Mr Fairley might have come forward; but he seems to fear that the Board will come to a standstill if he is not there, and to wonder how it has existed without him. I was glad to see in your issue of the *Guardian* of the 17th inst., that "Rambler" and "A Ratepayer" pointed out the inaccuracies contained in the wide-spread and profuse circulars of Mr Fairley. I might add that if a full report of the proceedings of the Board had always been given during Mr Fairley's term of office, I am afraid that his sayings and doings would have clearly shewn that the interests of the ratepayers were, with him only secondary to party interests—to wit, Crathead Sewerage question. He was not qualified according to the rate-book, and the Returning Officer very properly disqualified him, but as a result of the late enquiry the Inspector in his report says, "Having regard to the *evidence* given at the inquiry," and it is on this ground that the Local Government Board acknowledge his qualification. I maintain sir, that this election is altogether uncalled-for so far as the interests of the ratepayers are concerned, and I trust that Messrs Wilkinson and Buckham will again offer themselves for re-election, and that the ratepayers will shew by returning them triumphantly at the head of the poll, that they were satisfied with things as they were, and resent such needless agitation and expenditure for the aggrandisement of a single individual.—I am, yours, &c.,

ANOTHER RATEPAYER.

Oct. 30th, 1884.

THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The right of surface support is the most valuable and the most valued right of every surface owner. For of what worth comparatively can the surface on which he lives and moves be to him unless he has a right to have that surface stably supported?

Hence by the law of England the right of surface support is held to be not a mere *easement* but an *inherent right*. No surface owner need attempt to prove that he has it. He has it simply because he is the owner of the surface.

Can this *inherent right* be effectually lost by any surface owner?

Formerly it was held (it was the ruling of the late Lord Denman in Hilton *versus* Glanville, 5 Queen's Bench Reports, 701) "that even if the grant could be procured in specie, reserving a right in the Lord to deprive his grantee of the *enjoyment* of the thing granted, namely, the surface of the soil, by causing subsidence, the clause must be rejected as repugnant and absurd."

However, that ruling has since be overruled, and the law now is that a surface owner may be deprived of his *inherent right* of having his surface supported in its natural state at its ancient and natural level either by deed or by an Act of Parliament, or by any other equivalent assurance, provided that the language of the deed, Act of Parliament, or other equivalent assurance to that effect is *clear, cogent*, and *convincing*.

Now has the owner of allotments within the Manor of Lanchester been deprived of his inherent right of having his surface in its natural state supported?

Firstly, it is most *strongly implied* that he has not been deprived of that right simply by considering the object which all parties had in view when making the inclosure. That object was to augment to the greatest possible extent the capacity of the Common for the production of cattle, corn, and other fruits of the soil.

Secondly, it is most strongly implied by the consideration that many of the provisions made for executing the object of the inclosure would otherwise be downright illusions.

Thirdly, no *clear, cogent*, and *convincing* language can be found in the reservations depriving the surface owner of his right. Nor can any *general words* used in the reservations be taken to do so, if read by *the right of all the most modern authorities*.

Lastly, damage done by subsidence usually occurs long after the working of the mines has been completed. The compensation clause, the surface owners' soothing syrup, by using present participles *searching, winning, working*, points to damage done *there and then*, and not to *future damage*, and so *implies* the same.

It does so, too, by omitting to name remainder—man or reversioner as one of the persons to be compensated. His interests being generally much more injuriously affected by subsidence than those of a life tenant; but chiefly am I led to conclude that it does so by the consideration that £30 a year with the rate to be imposed upon the owners of allotments now and then when the fixed fund failed to flow would be sufficient to compensate the damage done by the Lord when exercising the rights *expressly* reserved—but would be wholly insufficient to compensate the *excessive and wide-spread damage done by subsidence* without setting the rate machinery in motion in a way wholly repugnant to one natural sense of justice.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN DUNN.

Cambridge, October 27th, 1884.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 Stamps by the maker E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham.

DR. BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For eradicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.—Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

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

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel, and Pains in the back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s 6d each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, BARCLAY & SONS, London, and all the Wholesale Houses.

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by JOHN I. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S. European depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road.

THE WEEK.

IT is exceedingly difficult to gather from the imperfect reports which appear in the papers what Mr. Ruskin really said at Oxford, and it is assumed that he spoke more on social economics and historic purpose than upon his own theme of Art. So far, however, as we can glean his meaning from the scant report of his address, we should say that he was preaching his old gospel. His mission as a prophet of the dispensation of Art has been to create the feeling that it is a moral duty—an individual social duty, a national duty, to create beauty where it is not and to sustain where it is. The man who destroys what is beautiful, whether in nature or in Art, commits in Mr. Ruskin's eyes a crime; if he does not work to the sustenance and increase of beauty, he is guilty of the offence committed by him who hid his talent in his napkin. With Mr. Ruskin art is connected with the moralities. Squalor means moral squalor, and produces a sordid life; and a nation destroying its beautiful scenes is given over to a lower kind of polity founded on a baser ideal, than the nation which surrounds itself with ever-increasing loveliness. Beauty is the parent of worthy joy, and Mr. Ruskin believes that such a worthy joy not only quickens the imagination of a people, but purifies its heart. Only a hint of this meaning appears in the reports of Mr. Ruskin's speech. But the hint is there. No place is more impressive in all England than the hill where St. Martin's church overlooks the ancient city of Canterbury. One who stands by the grave of Dean Alford and recalls the history of that famous spot, must be dull indeed who is not moved. The church behind him was once a Pagan temple. Roman tiles go to frame its walls. The road which winds up to the churchyard is that along which the procession of Roman monks, chanting as they walked before St. Augustine, came to found the Christian Church in Kent. To that very spot Queen Bertha brought her kingly consort to be baptised. Visible in the city are the towers of the Metropolitical Church of England—the cathedral which holds the throne of the Archbishop of Canterbury. English Christianity gets its main stream, from its source in St. Martin's-hill. Mr. Ruskin regards it as a national duty to maintain in beauty all the view which can be had from that acclivity. What has happened? "He believed that the principal prospect from St. Martin's-hill, Canterbury, would not be thought by even the most cheerful of his audience to be one of the most inspiriting in the world, for recent progress had entirely accommodated the architecture of the scene to the convenience of the present instincts of English civilisation, and the Cathedral, the Monastery, and the history in the tomb of Bertha reposed in base subservience under the colossal walls of the all-invincible county gaol." The nation which thus defaces an historic landscape is, in Mr. Ruskin's view, worthy of all condemnation.

What Mr. Ruskin says (as usual) is extravagant eccentric, and bordering on the absurd. What he means is right enough. With a growing democracy and an increasing complexity of national life, unless the sentiment of the people is fed with proper food, we shall have danger in the future. It is by Art in every sense—the widest sense—that such popular sentiment can be created. The degradation of a monument, consecrated by some great historic scene, is a crime against Art. Mr. Ruskin passionately desires to make the English people, as a whole, and not only the few, cherish high and inspiring memories; his purpose for them is that they shall not live wholly in the present, but gain in reverence by remembrance of the past and regard for the future. He is all wrong scientifically about political economy, and can be proved to be wrong. But the political economists are also wrong who vaunt that theirs is the science of ethics; and it is in moral purpose that Mr. Ruskin excels. The price paid for beautiful lace, for elaborate tapestry, for a masterpiece of painting, for a great statue, is in one sense wasted. The painting is not like a machine for making cotton goods which is productive and clothes men that they may work. But after all a great picture is a greater work than a machine. Or (as Mr. Gladstone once put it to the horror of the Duke of Somerset), the violin is more precious than the steam engine. People understand these paradoxes when once they are imbued with something of Mr. Ruskin's spirit; and we cannot bring ourselves to say that he is abusing the rights of his chair as Professor of Art by trying to fill people with these worthy notions of a better, more dignified life than that with which we have been content.

IN William Duke of Brunswick perishes the last of the true Guelphs; with him dies in all probability the separate Duchy of Brunswick. Our Queen belongs to the house, but of course her children are of the Saxe-Coburg line. The house of Brunswick is extinguished. True, the Duke of Cumberland, who would wish to be called King of Hanover, has some title to claim the duchy and estates; but he is regarded as a traitor to the German Empire, and Brunswick having fought on the side of Prussia and having acknowledged the imperial authority of the Emperor William, is very nearly certain to be absorbed. His Grace of Cumberland raises the old divine right resolution so high that he may be expected to stand out against his own future. On the whole the adoption of Brunswick by Germany is not to be regretted. The last of Brunswick's dukes was a Sybarite, one who used his fortune mainly for his own enjoyment, and who in return for being left pretty much to his own pleasure, gave his people great liberty. Content with his palace, his theatre, and his gardens, Duke William had no weapons against the politicians of his own land. He let them agitate and write as they pleased—much to Bismarck's disgust and annoyance. Once, indeed, he resented their interference. They wanted him to marry. After a deputation had waited upon him begging him to place himself in the nuptial noose, he gave answer by placarding the town with the notice of a play called, "I Stay Single." Nobody asked him to marry after that. He was an eccentric bachelor, and very obstinate. He would not visit England because he was not acknowledged as of superior rank to members of the English Royal Family; nor did he give in to Berlin with that personal grace which would have made him a great favourite. Still he took the right line about German unity, and maintained in his own duchy political liberty. Such praise cannot be given to all the German princes.

IT is the weakness of most lord mayors to think that unless they can introduce some more or less extravagant novelty into their state procession on the 9th of November they will be disgraced in the eyes of their constituents. Hence, doubtless, the absurdities, the anomalies, the flagrant anachronisms which disfigure every Lord Mayor's Show. The Lord Mayor Elect, Mr. Alderman Nottage, appears to be no whit less ambitious in the matter of his pageant than any one of his predecessors; and in seeking for some novelty by which to mark the inaugural day of his office, he has, we are told, "turned to the pages of history." His selection of a historian does the utmost credit to his aldermanic intellect. He has betaken himself to that great player and brief chronicler of his age, Mr. Augustus Harris, of Drury Lane Theatre. "It is no breach of confidence," says a City contemporary, "to state that he lately called on Mr. Augustus Harris to ascertain if the kings and queens procession from the Drury Lane pantomime could be revived, but, owing to the enormous expense it would entail, the idea had to be abandoned." It was the boots that did it. "The bill for boots alone, my lord, would be £200," said Mr. Harris; and the Alderman trembled visibly at the thought of presenting such an account to his entertainment committee. He went away troubled but not defeated, and conferred with Mr. Sanger, the eminent circus proprietor, who agreed to let him have, "as cheap as it could be done, counterparts of the kings and queens who granted charters to, or conferred singular benefits on the citizens of London." With the "counterparts of kings and queens," and an assortment of elephants which Mr. Sanger was willing to throw in as a make-weight, Alderman Nottage may have thought he had done as much as could reasonably be demanded of him, but with such an honest zeal to win distinction on the glorious 9th, we cannot but think that he has thrown away a great opportunity in rejecting the offer of a well-known firm of soap-makers, who were willing to pay £500 for the privilege of painting all the elephants white, with the name of the soap in red letters on their sides. This would have made the Nottage Show memorable in civic annals for all time to come. The white elephants with the soap in red letters on their sides would have carried everything before them. They would have had the suffrages of the mob all along the route, and would certainly have out-done in popularity my Lord Mayor himself, cocked-hat and gilt coach notwithstanding. This consideration it was, doubtless, which determined the Lord Mayor not to close with the offer of the enterprising soap-makers. We could have wished it had been otherwise; but as it is we must e'en be content with Mr. Sanger's counterparts, and the elephants in their natural state without the embellishments of red and white paint. The show may, and no doubt will, be very nearly as ridiculous a spectacle as any that have preceded it, and as it is evidently the earnest desire of Mr. Nottage that it should be, we cannot but reproach him for wantonly sacrificing a unique chance of sending his name down to posterity in connection with the most foolish display of all.

WHAT is known as the "Smitherman Case," which at different times and in different places has been occupying the attention of the law-courts for five years past, has just been brought to an end, and public sympathy with the plaintiff, Mrs. Smitherman, as against the South - Eastern Railway Company, who were the defendants, has found expression in the presentation to her of a sum of £750, which has been collected by general subscription. It may be as well briefly to recall the facts of the case. They are interesting and instructive as shewing how small a measure of sympathy widows whose husbands have been killed on railways should look for at the hands of the company. On December 26, 1878, Henry Smitherman, a journeyman painter, was killed at East Farleigh Station, near Maidstone, while crossing the line, the accident being caused by an engine and tender which passed through the station in advance of an expected passenger train. At the inquest the jury found that the accident arose through the culpable negligence of the company. The company, however, had their own opinion on the subject, and contended, both at that time and through the whole of the litigation which followed, that Smitherman himself was negligent. In July, 1879, an action was tried at Maidstone assizes, in which Mrs. Smitherman sued, on behalf of herself and four children, for damages, when the jury found for the plaintiff, awarding her £900, of which £400 was for herself and the remainder was to be equally divided among the children. The company appealed against the verdict, which was set aside by the Divisional Court. The case was then taken to the Court of Appeal, who reversed the decision of the court below, and upheld the original verdict. The company thereupon carried the case to the House of Lords, who, in turn, reversed the decision of the Court of Appeal, and ordered a new trial. We shall not follow the case through its subsequent wearisome stages, for there were two or three more trials after this. In 1883 the company suggested arbitration, which was agreed to, and the case was finally closed by an award of £500 damages and £500 costs to Mrs. Smitherman. Never was a just claim extorted by harder means, and the courageous insistence of Mrs. Smitherman on the fulfilment of her fair and proper rights, is not more noticeable than the exceeding, and almost unequalled, shabbiness of the railway company.

Sporting Items

LOCAL HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.—The North Durham Foxhounds will meet on Monday, Nov. 3, Newton Hall, breakfast 10·30, friends expected; Wednesday, 5th, Byers Garth; Friday, 7th, Cornsay—10·45.

RABBIT COURSING NEAR DIPTON.—Above 300 paid admission on Saturday, at Hill Top, to witness Mr J. Oates's sweep. Results—Third ties—Allendale Lass beat Wandering Nun, Allendale Lass beat Cushion Dance, Nelly Smith beat Nelly at the Well. Darkness set in and the stakes were divided.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT CATCHGATE.—The pigeon shooting sweep promoted by Mr John Foster, and held near the house of Mr Robert Wheatley, Catchgate, has been shot off, with the following result:—R. Smith, 19, 1 1 0; T. Walton, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0; Clogger, 19, 1 1 1 1 0; Jackey's Lad, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; Jos. Irwin, 18, 1 1 0; 2nd lot, 1 1 1 1 0; T. Foster, 20, 1 1 1 0, 2nd lot, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; R. Wheatley, 18, 1 1 0; Newby, 19, 1 1 1 1 0; 2nd lot, 0; Novice, 19, 1 1 0; Bob Laybourne, 19, 0; 2nd lot, 1 1 1 1 1 0; J. Turnbull, 18, 1 0; Little Bill, 18, 1 0; R. Wheatley, 20, 1 1 1 0; R. Smith, 19, 1 0; Jos. Wilkinson, 19, 0; 2nd lot, 1 1 1 1 1 0; Duty, 17, 0; T. Walton, 19, 1 1 0; John Irwin, 18, 0; 2nd lot, 1 1 0; Duty, 17, 0; Ben Irwin, 18, 0; J. Dawson, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; M. Dawson, 18, 0; E. Taylor, 18, 1 0; Little Bob, 18, 1 1 0; R. Smith, 19, 0; S. Dart, 17, 1 1 1 0; R. Smith, 1 0; J. Turnbull, 18, 1 1 0; W. Seaman, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1; Rap, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0; J. Irwin, 18, 0; B. Irwin, 18, 0; T. Walton, 18, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0.

Small-pox is still spreading in the city of Durham and outlying districts. Two fatal cases occurred in one family on Saturday.

STAGSHAWBANK EWE FAIR.—This old-established fair was held on Friday in beautiful autumn weather, on the usual stance at Stagshawbank. There was a large and splendid show of Irish cattle on offer, which sold at a decline in price compared with previous markets. The best classes were in fair demand, but the secondary and smaller sorts were difficult to sell. The general figure for the better descriptions would be about £15 a head, and, according to quality and age, down to as far as £5. The market may be described as a dull, stiff, slow selling one, several lots being still unsold in the afternoon. Sheep: This market was almost nominal, there being a very meagre show on the ground.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Sleeplessness, flatulency, acidity, nausea, and all dyspeptic indications may be speedily relieved by these famous Pills, of which large quantities are shipped to all parts of the world. The constantly increasing demand for Holloway's medicine proves its power over disease, and its estimation by the public. In weakness of the stomach, in diseases of the liver, and in disorders of the system caused by cold or a sluggish circulation, no medicine is so efficacious, no remedy so rapid, as these Pills, which are altogether incapable of doing mischief. By quickening digestion, they give refreshing sleep, sharpen the appetite, impart tone to the digestive organs, purify and enrich the blood, regulate the secretions, and strengthen the whole physical frame.

NORTHERN LIGHTS.

XXIX.—MR WILLIAM HEDLEY.

William Hedley was born at Newburn, on July 13th, 1779. He received his education at a school in Wylam, kept by a celebrated teacher named Watkins. Mr Hedley was an excellent mathematician, and, when little over twenty-one years of age, received an appointment as viewer at Walbottle Colliery, and soon afterwards viewer at Wylam Colliery. The Continental wars having increased the price of horses and their food, Mr Hedley began to consider the possibility of devising some cheaper mode of removing the coal from the pit's mouth to the river Tyne. When Mr Hedley took the management of Wylam Colliery, the waggon-way was formed of wooden spars or rails, and was laid down between the colliery and the village of Lemington, about five miles down the Tyne, where the coals were loaded in keels or barges, and floated down the river past Newcastle, thence to be shipped for the London market. Each chaldron waggon was originally drawn by one horse, with a man to each horse and waggon. The rate at which the journey was performed was so slow that only two journeys could be performed by each man and horse in one day, and three on the day following, the driver being allowed sevenpence for each journey. About the year 1808, the wooden rails were taken up, and cast-iron plate-rails laid down. This method was adopted on the recommendation of a Mr Thomas, of Newcastle, subject to a slight alteration in the line of traction, which presented great undulations, and was therefore difficult to work. After this change, the horses pulled two waggons each; but the extra labour was so great, that it was deemed necessary to keep spare horses. Such was the condition of this primitive waggon-way when Mr Hedley began to study the question: how can I reduce the cost of conveying the coals to Lemington? In the year 1811, two oxen were tried for several weeks on the railway; but the result was very unsatisfactory, as the animals were much slower than horses. In the following year matters came to a crisis. Mining labour was high, and colliery materials unreasonably dear. Hedley saw that something must be done to reduce the working expenses of the colliery, and, as the delivery of the coals at the river was a large part of the cost, his attention was directed to economy in that direction. He was pained at the thought of the colliery having to be closed, and he determined to build a suitable locomotive to draw the waggons. The proprietor of the colliery, Mr Blackett, had already ordered an engine to be made on Trevithick's plans. It came to Newcastle; but for some cause or other, probably on account of the imperfect construction of the waggon-way as compared with the weight of the engine, it was never put upon the road. Mr Blackett ultimately sold it to a Mr Winfield, of Gateshead, who used it for several years in his iron-foundry. Still determined to make the experiment of working his plate-way by locomotive power, Mr Blackett, in 1812, ordered another engine, after Trevithick's patent, which had yet two years to run. In the meantime, however, Mr Hedley took the matter into his own hands. The circumstances were altogether discouraging. Trevithick, Blenkinsop, and the Chapmans', had all tried in vain to manufacture an engine that would supersede horses on colliery railways. One of the greatest difficulties was the prevailing idea that successful locomotion could only be obtained by having some fulcrum upon which to operate with steam, or to propel by rack-work, pulling, or thrusting. A writer in the *Newcastle Chronicle* said: "Like that of many other inventions, the progress of the locomotive was arrested by an untenable assumption. To William Hedley, of Wylam, belongs the merit of exploding this assumption, and getting quit of the racked rails and toothed wheels previously deemed necessary for the efficient traction of loaded waggons. Mr Hedley, instead of resting satisfied with a crude preconception, interrogated nature, and in due course demonstrated that the weight of the engine produced sufficient adhesion to render all these elaborate appliances superfluous."

How Mr Hedley made this important discovery and demonstrated the truth of his idea, we will allow him to tell in his own words. Dr Lardner, the great scientist, while lecturing for the Literary and Philosophical Society in Newcastle, in December, 1836, gave George Stephenson the honour of being the "father of the locomotive." The statement was challenged by Mr Hedley in the following letter, which was inserted for three successive weeks in the Newcastle papers of the time:—

"Shield Row, December 10th, 1836.

"Sir,—I respectfully beg to call your attention to the following circumstances connected with the establishment of the locomotive engine in this district. In October, 1812, I had the direction of Wylam Colliery; at that period I was requested by the proprietor (the late Mr Blackett) to undertake the construction of a locomotive engine. The celebrated Trevithick had previously been applied to for one; in reply, he stated that he had declined business. Amongst the many obstacles to locomotion at that period, was the idea entertained by practical men, and which was acted upon, viz., that an engine would only draw after it, on a level road, a weight equal to its own. To obviate this, Trevithick and Vivian proposed to make the wheels rough and uneven, &c. Mr Blenkinsop, in 1811, effected the locomotion by a toothed or rack rail. In December, 1812, W. and E. Chapman, by means of a chain; and in May, 1813, Mr Brunton, of Butterley, by moveable legs. I was, however, forcibly impressed with the idea, and which was strengthened by some small preliminary experiments, that the weight of an engine was sufficient for the purpose of enabling it to draw a train of loaded waggons. To determine this important point, I had a carriage constructed; this carriage was placed upon the railroad, and loaded with different parcels of iron, the weight of which had previously been ascertained; two, four, six, &c., loaded coal waggons were attached to it, the carriage itself was moved by the application of men at the four handles; and, in order that the men might not touch the ground, a stage was suspended from the carriage at each handle for them to stand upon. I ascertained the proportion between the weight of the experimental carriage and the coal waggons at that point when the wheels of the carriage would surge or turn round without advancing it. The weight of the carriage and the number of waggons also were repeatedly varied, but with the same relative result. This experiment, which was on a large scale, was decisive of the fact that the friction of the wheels of an engine carriage upon the rails was sufficient to enable it to draw a train of loaded waggons. An engine was then constructed, the boiler was of cast iron, the tube containing the fire went longitudinally through the boiler into the chimney. The engine had one cylinder and a fly-wheel; it went badly, the obvious effect being want of steam. Another engine was then constructed, the boiler was of malleable iron, the tube containing the fire was enlarged, and in place of passing directly through the boiler into the chimney, it was made to return again through the boiler into the chimney, now at the same end of the boiler as the fire-place. This was a most important improvement. The engine was placed upon four wheels, and went well; a short time after it commenced, it regularly drew eight loaded coal waggons after it, at the rate of from four to five miles per hour, on Wylam railroad, which was in a very bad state; in addition to this, there was a great rise in the direction of the load in some parts of it; the road itself was of that kind termed the plate rail. It is needless to pursue the subject further than to state, that for a length of time, each new engine went better, and took more waggons than its predecessor. I should not have troubled you with the preceding exposition of facts, but in your lecture you stated that Stephenson was the father of the locomotive engine. Now, I do not wish to detract one iota from the celebrity to which Mr Stephenson is entitled—he has done much for the locomotive engine; but by referring to Mr Wood's book on Railroads, and which, as respects Mr Stephenson's exertions, may be considered good authority, it appears that a locomotive engine was not constructed by Mr Stephenson before 25th July, 1814. Long before this period the use of the horses on the Wylam Railroad was superseded by the locomotive engines, and a large annual sum in the course of being saved to the colliery from the reduced charge in conveying the coals. My patent bears date 13th March, 1813.

"In conclusion, I beg to say, I am the individual who established the principle of locomotion by the friction or adhesion of the wheels upon the rails and, further, that it was the engines on the Wylam Railroad that established the character of the locomotive engine in this district as an efficient, and, as put in competition with horses in the conveying of coal waggons, an economical prime mover. After this statement, and which can be verified by many professional men in the district, I trust you will see the propriety in your future lectures of not designating Mr Stephenson the 'Father of the Locomotive Engine.'—I beg to subscribe myself, sir, your obedient servant, "WILLIAM HEDLEY.

"To Dr Lardner, Newcastle."

The locomotive referred to by Mr Hedley appears to have been built at Wylam, under the direction of Mr Thomas Waters, who was engaged by Mr Hedley for the purpose. This engine was constructed in the course of three months-and-a-half, and the difficulties encountered in its manufacture are too numerous to mention in this article. The engine, which began work about the beginning of 1813, was deficient in steam-power. Hedley therefore determined to construct another. Mr Blackett deserves honourable mention for the way in which he supported Hedley at this time.

Smiles in his "Life of George Stephenson" says: —"Mr Blackett did not obtain any credit amongst his neighbours for these expensive experiments. Many laughed at his machines, regarding them only in the light of costly crotchets—frequently quoting the proverb of 'a fool and his money.' Others regarded them as absurb innovations on the established method of hauling coal; and pronounced that 'they would 'never answer.'" To some, indeed, they were the cause of considerable apprehension and alarm.

"A story is still current at Wylam, of a stranger who was proceeding one dark evening down the High Street Road, as the 'Black Billy' was seen advancing, puffing and snorting its painful and laborious way up from Newburn. The stranger had never heard of the new engine, and was almost frightened out of his senses at its approach. An uncouth monster it must have looked, coming flaming on in the dark, working its piston up and down like a huge arm, snorting out blasts of steam from either nostril, and throwing out smoke and fire as it panted along. No wonder that the stranger rushed terrified through the hedge, fled accross the fields, and called out to the first person he met that he had just encountered a 'terrible deevil on the High Street Road.'"

If either Mr Blackett or Mr Hedley had flinched, the locomotive would doubtless have been abandoned. Fortunately, however, a distinct understanding existed between them, and they decided to make another, one that should have plenty of steam. When this engine was built it was placed on four wheels, but ultimately on eight wheels, on account of the weakness of the rail-road. Notwithstanding the numerous difficulties encountered, the engine was a complete success, and created quite a sensation in the district. It began work in May, 1813, and drew regularly, eight loaded waggons at the rate of four to five miles an hour.

After this engine was found to work so well, others were built by Hedley which were even more superior, so that the engines running on Wylam Railway, in 1815, possessed all the requirements necessary for successful work on public railways. Mr Hedley's labours were not confined to the invention of the locomotive. In 1808, he became interested in the shipping trade, and at the time of his death was the owner of four ships—the *Burnhopeside*, *Amphitrite*, *Newburn*, and *Dibden*. While at Wylam, he was a member of the Duke of Northumberland's Yeomanry Cavalry, which was under the command of Earl Percy.

In 1824, he leased Crow Trees Colliery, situated about five miles from Durham, and two years afterwards, he took Callerton Colliery, near Wylam. At the latter Colliery, he put into operation a plan by which he made the pumping beam of the rotating engine do duty at both ends. Up to this time, 1828, the beam pumped from one end only; Mr Hedley, however, fixed a staple for the reception of another set of pumps, which were worked from the other end of the beam, thus making the beam do double duty. Several eminent engineers examined the arrangement, and all declared against it, but its success soon silenced criticism, and the system was eventually adopted at other collieries.

In 1832, Mr Hedley took Coxhoe Colliery, and three years later, the first locomotive engine was put upon the Clarence Railway by him. It was named the "Tyneside," and was the second engine that was constructed with the four fast eccentrics for the reversing motion. Mr Hedley sold Coxhoe Colliery in 1837, and Crow Trees in the following year.

He then confined his labours to Holmside, Craghead, and South Moor Collieries, which still belong to his surviving sons, Mr William Hedley, of Beech Grove, Chester-le-Street, and Mr George Hedley, J.P., of Burnhopeside Hall, Lanchester.

Mr Hedley died at Burnhopeside Hall, on January 9th, 1843, in the 63rd year of his age, and was buried in the family vault at Newburn. He has left behind him a character for probity, manliness, and mechanical genius, of which his descendants may well be proud.

HISTORICUS.

FRANCHISE DEMONSTRATION IN NEWCASTLE.

The miners of Northumberland held a demonstration on Newcastle Town Moor on Saturday in favour of the Franchise. The men from the collieries marched in procession through the streets, and despite the inclemency of the weather about 10,000 people joined in the demonstration, including 300 bandsmen. There were fully 15,000 on the Moor. The arrangements were made by a large committee, of which Dr R. Spence Watson was president, and there had been every exertion to ensure the demonstration being a great success. The weather during Saturday morning was very unfavourable for any out-door gathering, but in the afternoon the rain ceased, and the weather, though cold, was fine. A great many excursion trains brought crowds of people into the city; and those who intended to join in the demonstration proceeded to the streets in the neighbourhood of Rye Hill, where they formed into a procession. It was intended that the procession should start on its journey to the Town Moor at three o'clock, but it was not until about twenty minutes after that hour that a start was made. Headed by Councillor James Birkett (on horseback), as chief marshal, the procession marched slowly from Scotswood Road, by way of Neville, Collingwood, Mosley, Grey, Market, Pilgrim, Northumberland, and Black Eldon Streets to the Moor. The first portion of the procession was composed chiefly of members of trade societies in Newcastle and district, and the second, by far the larger portion, consisted of miners of the various Northumberland collieries. The men from each colliery were preceded by banners and bands of music, there being nearly 30 bands present. The procession walked slowly, and several halts were made. Including the stoppages the processionists were twenty-five minutes in passing a given point. No member of Parliament took part in the proceedings, though Mr George Howard, M.P., Mr W. B. Beaumont, M.P., and Mr Charles Bradlaugh, M.P., were announced on the programme to support resolutions. The two following resolutions were proposed at each of the five platforms and carried unanimously:—1st. "That this meeting thanks Mr Gladstone and his colleagues for their loyal endeavours to pass the Franchise Bill, and earnestly trusts that they will reject any compromise which may be offered, and that, adhereing to the principle which has hitherto actuated them with regard to it, they will resist by all constitutional means any action on the part of the House of Lords which may tend to delay the operation of this much-needed measure of justice." 2nd. "That this meeting, believing that the existence of an hereditary and irresponsible Chamber at the present day is in principle indefensible, and in practice both a danger to our national progress and a constant incitement to mischievous agitation, respectfully urges upon Her Majesty's Government the importance of taking steps at an early date so to amend the constitution of the country that the free and orderly action in it of the representative principle many no longer be frustrated by the House of Lords."

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete, permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. 7½d. and 1s. bottles.

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

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, Oct. 27th.—Before JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq.

HIS THIRTIETH APPEARANCE.

James Evans, a youth of 17 years, was charged by Sergt. Tate with being drunk and guilty of disorderly conduct in Middle Street, Consett, shortly after eleven o'clock on Saturday night, 18th inst.—The same defendant was also brought up on a charge of having been drunk and creating a disturbance at Consett, on Saturday night last.—P.C. Jamieson deposed to having been called into a private house in Pit Street, about ten o'clock, to eject the prisoner, who was exceedingly drunk and quarrelsome. When in the street, Evans positively refused to go away, and as he was very disorderly, the officer was obliged to lock him up.—Prisoner admitted both offences and was fined 5s and costs in each instance, with the alternative of fourteen days' hard labour.—This makes the prisoner's thirtieth appearance.

DRUNKENNESS.

A respectable-looking person named *John Mulgroom* likewise pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness, at Blackhill, on the 17th inst.—While on duty near to the Royal Hotel, P.C. Philipson observed the defendant very intoxicated in Cort Street, and he declined to go into the house.—A fine of 5s and expenses was also imposed.

Patrick McNearney, a young man, was found guilty, on the evidence of P.C. Stubbs, of knocking pedestrians off the footpath while in an intoxicated state, and also shouting and swearing, in Derwent Street, Blackhill, about 6·30 on the night of the 18th inst.—Defendant was fined 5s and expenses, but he preferred the alternative of seven days' imprisonment.

GATESHEAD COUNTY POLICE.

TUESDAY, Oct. 28th.—Before the Earl of RAVENSWORTH (chairman), J. JOICEY, and U. A. RITSON, Esqs.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Christopher Wilkinson, of West Kyo, was summoned by P.C. Green on a charge of having been drunk and disorderly at Whickham, on October 19th.—He was fined 9s 6d, including costs.

Nicholas Brewick, of Swalwell, charged by Sergeant Maxwell with being drunk and disorderly at Swalwell, on 18th October, was fined 1s and costs.

Christopher Boyd and *Thomas Scott*, of Winlaton, were summoned by P.C. Bland for having been drunk and causing a disturbance at Winlaton, on the 18th inst.—Each offender was fined 2s 6d and costs.

William Walker, of Victoria Garesfield Colliery, who was charged by P.C. Pattison with having been drunk and disorderly near the beerhouse at Blackhall Mill, on October 18th, was fined 1s and costs.

James Whitfield, of Winlaton, charged by Sergeant Clark with having been drunk and disorderly at Winlaton, on the 18th inst., was fined 9s 6d, including costs.

Anthony Winn, of Blackhall Mill, was summoned by P.C. Farrar for having been drunk and disorderly at that place on October 18th.—Fined 1s and costs.

Terrace Rogers and *John Bruce*, both of Winlaton, were charged at the instance of Sergeant Clark with having been drunk and disorderly at Winlaton, on October 18th.—Fined 2s 6d each and costs.

ASSAULT ON THE POLICE.

James Armstrong, of Swalwell, was charged with assaulting P.C. Lambert at Swalwell, on October 18th.—A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed.

ASSAULT.

Mary Brophy, of Derwenthaugh, was summoned by Elizabeth Rayne on a charge of having assaulted her at the above place, on October 18th.—Fined 16s, including costs.

ALLEGED ARSON BY BOYS AT WARDLEY COLLIERY.

Two boys, named *Thomas Percival* and *William Shanks*, each seven years of age, were charged with setting fire to a stack of hay at Wardley Colliery, the property of John Bowes and Partners.—Evidence was given to prove that the boys were together, and that Percival set fire to the hay with a match. On account of the youth of the defendants the magistrates fined each of them 2s 6d, and expressed a hope that the parents would see that the boys did not offend again.

CHILDREN'S FASHIONS FOR NOVEMBER.

Children's fashions are in many cases merely a repetition of those for grown-up people. The fashionable full skirts and bodices so popular during the summer months for little girls will continue through the winter months in heavier materials, such as serge and fine cloth. They are so simple and easy for growing girls, that they are consequently in great favour at the present time. The skirts are in all cases tucked, but the arrangement of the tucks is quite a matter of taste. When extra warmth is desired, the tucks are continued to the waist, others are tucked in a series of three and five, and occasionally folds of velvet laid between. Velveteen is largely used as a trimming for the winter materials and as complete suits for little girls. A pretty costume of velveteen and cashmere is arranged with alternate tucks of the two materials on the skirt, blouse bodice, with collar and cuffs of velvet. Polonaises are much worn; these are made in various ways, but the favourite shape seemingly is that with the fronts draped into small paniers, a full plastron tied in at the waist, and the back arranged in a fussy little drapery. The skirts to be worn with these polonaises are invariably tucked, or if kilted have a series of tucks at the edge. Children under four years still wear frocks in the princess shape. The material as a rule is arranged full round the shoulders or in fine pleats, back and front, and a wide sash is worn round the waist; the lower edge of the skirt shows a series of tiny frills. Pelisses for infants are made in much the same form, the colours are decided and the favourite trimming is the rich ribbed plush, or borders of soft feather trimming. Pretty little hoods of the same plush completes the costume.

Coloured waistcoats are a marked feature with all the winter dresses; sometimes they are buttoned in the centre, with coat simply closing over the bust; again, we have the bodice buttoning over the vest on both sides, and ornamented at the neck and waist with metal clasp; but in almost every form the vest is to be seen, and forms the most striking part of the dress.

Out-door garments are cut quite short for young people; the ample skirts of the longer mantles are reserved for older people. The brighter shades of velvet and plush are employed for millinery purposes. The newest shape is the "Tam o' Shanter," with gilt arrow passed through the folds in front. The high-crowned straws and felt still prevail; the trimmings are shaded feathers, wings, and ornaments of the most curious description.—*Mrs Leach's Children's Dressmaker for November.*

"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, &c. 7½d. and 1s. boxes.

Mrs Leach's Family Dressmaker is to the front, as formerly, with intelligence regarding the fashions, and also with much excellent guidance concerning domestic matters generally.

The traffic receipts of the North-Eastern Railway Company for the week ending October 25th show a decrease of £7,370 as compared with those of the corresponding period of last year.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF RINGERS.—On Monday, the annual meeting of the members of the above association was held in Newcastle. During the morning peals were rung by the visitors at St. Nicholas', St. Stephen's, and All Saints's steeples, and in the afternoon on the bells of St. John's Church. In the latter edifice a service was was held, at which the vicar, the Rev W. E. Houldey, preached. The annual dinner of the association was held at Mr Tait's, Crown and Mitre, Grey Street, and was well attended. Canon Blunt, Chester-le-Street, presided. The Rev F. N. Thicknesse, St. Peter's, Jarrow, afterwards presided. The secretary (Mr G. J. Clarkson) read the seventh annual report, which was unanimously adopted. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr R. S. Storey; vice-presidents, Messrs Lee and Whitfield; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr G. J. Clarkson.—The Hon. Secretary read the annual report, which gave an elaborate history of the association since its commencement. The association had now held 24 general meetings, at 11 places, but there are still four peals of eight and twelve peals of six which have not yet been included at any meeting. After referring to the additions which had been made to peals in different churches throughout the two dioceses, the report stated that during the year the peal of six at St. Andrew's, Newcastle, had come to grief, the tenor and fourth being both cracked, a matter which should receive the attention of Churchmen in this wealthy city. The report further stated that an income of £30 per annum had become inadequate to the requirements of the association.—It was decided by vote to hold the next annual meeting at Winlaton.

WEARDALE BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

Last Friday's meeting was attended by Messrs C. Bainbridge (chairman), G. R. Wooler, J. Y. Walton, H. Maddison, W. Snowball, W. Rippon, G. Curry, M. Reed, T. Robinson, and George Stephenson.

FUNERALS OF PAUPERS.

On the suggestion of the Government Inspector, the Relieving Officer was authorised to furnish the means for the funerals of pauperised persons taking place between the meetings of the Board.

The Government Inspector suggests this formal course in view of the fact that an auditor, if so disposed, might surcharge the Relieving Officer for expenditure not formally sanctioned by the Guardians.

THE RELIEVING OFFICER.

The Local Government Board acknowledge receipt from the Guardians of a communication explaining the temporary arrangements for the discharge of the duties of Relieving Officer, and offer no observation or objection. Mr Harrison, whose deputy is Mr Bainbridge, is still incapable of duty, and in feeble health.

INSPECTION OF THE HOUSE.

On the proposition of Mr MADDISON, the Visiting Committee and the Inspector were commissioned to make a thorough inspection and report of the closets, sinks, and all sanitary appliances in the Workhouse, and to inquire into the sleeping arrangements there—the number of beds, &c.—the Government Inspector (Mr Knollys), having raised these points after an inspection of the House.

NUMBER OF INMATES.

The number of vagrants in the Workhouse during the past week was 76, the number of inmates being 83 against 70 in the corresponding week last year.

SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The membership was the same as the Poor Law meeting.

THE FROSTERLEY WATER SUPPLY.

Mr Morgan, of Bishop Auckland, declines responsibility for certain sewage irregularities at Frosterley, the condition of which village is engaging a good deal of attention.

Eventually, the Inspector (Mr Egglestone) was ordered to examine the present sewage drains, with a view to arranging a complete drainage system.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Typhoid has been fatal at Daddryshields, and the Medical Officer can give no explanation or suggestion for the outbreak of the disease there.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The monthly meeting took place at Lanchester on Thursday se'nnight, and was presided over by Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. Present:—The Rev C. Gillow, Messrs W. Logan, T. Siddell, W. H. Hedley, Geo. Hobson, T. Pringle, Thos. Taylor Smith, T. J. Muse, J. Eltringham, W. Shell, J. W. Hodgson, William Rutherford, H. Hornsby, J. Collinson, W. Bell, W. Cumming, W. Brown, J. Nicholson, J. Bowey, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The recurrence of typhoid fever at Templetown has again drawn attention to the unhealthy surroundings of that place. It will be remembered that the positions and constructions of the ashpits and privies are, in the majority of cases, such as to cause continually recurring nuisances, unless the said offices are constantly attended to. With two ranges of these conveniences separated only by a narrow back street and each range but eight or ten feet from the back windows and doors of the houses, it is not difficult to understand the cause of the complaints received. Some improvement might be made by the Authority ordering a general reduction in size, together with proper cementing out, covering and ventilation of the ashpits, but the most effective change would be to do away with the ashpits altogether, and order the provision of a small privy only at the outer corner of each yard—said privy to be constructed with cemented bottom, either for moveable receptacle or not, and with side opening for dry ashes so arranged that they would be shot immediately over the soil [see sketch attached hereto]. These places to be emptied once a week. All vegetable matter to be burnt.

In accordance with your instructions, the accompanying analysis of the Esh well water has been obtained. Since last meeting further letters and complaints have been received as to the scarcity of water at this village. The want of main sewers, ◦ is also a cause of complaint from some one almost every time I visit the place.

For the assistance of the Committee appointed to deal with the Medomsley Edge and Broomhill water supply I have prepared the accompanying table of particulars shewing among other things what owners are desirous of having the Consett Company's water, present source of water supply, &c. Some calculations have also been made as to the probable revenue which may be counted on from those who are willing to take the water in case the pipes are laid in, but these are as yet incomplete.

Notice was served on Richard Jackson, of Satley, the owner of Greenfield Cottages, on the 9th February last, to abate nuisance at that place by putting in two trapped sinks and 6in drains from ditto. He has not complied.

Nuisance notices served during the month	—
Letters written with respect to nuisances &c.	53
Plan approval notices sent out	6
Plans received and examined	3
Habitation certificates sent out	3
Villages, hamlets, &c., inspected	38

The following new buildings are now completed—or nearly completed—and fit for habitation, and certificates are required for the same:—

276.—John Bowes and partners, 4 houses at Greencroft Cottages.

509.—Thompson Allen, additions to house at Flint Hill.

511.—John Weddell, two houses, Medomsley Edge.

521.—Matthew Henderson, one house, Wilks Hill.

528.—William Collier, one house, Wilks Hill.

532.—Rev T. Archdall and Committee, additions to school at Flint Hill.

538.—Consett Iron Co., additions to school at Langley Park.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE.

Lanchester, 23rd October, 1884.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

October 23rd, 1884.

Your Committee recommends that the following plans be approved, subject to the matters marked on each plan being attended to, viz:—

558.—Wm. Wilkinson, two houses, West Kyo.

560.—Thomas Hedley Bros, additions to house, Wagtail.

That the following plan be disapproved, being contrary to bye-laws, viz.:—

559.—Hugh Spark, conversion of byre into dwelling house at Catchgate.

That the accompanying letter from Messrs James Joicey and Co. be referred to the whole Board.

That the field at Dipton, in which the outlet works are situated, be advertised to let from November 23rd next.

ESH WATER SUPPLY.

The Inspector reported that according to instructions at the last meeting he had had a sample of water, taken from the well at Esh, analysed by Mr Stock, of Darlington, who certified that it was not satisfactory drinking water, being discolored by a considerable amount of iron, and the microscope revealed certain matters, the presence of which he attributed to bits of rags being deposited therein, or the water being contaminated with sewage. He (Mr Stock) could not state whether or not the water was really dangerous to the public health without a knowledge of the surroundings of the well. If the discoloration was caused by sewerage contamination, then the water was not fit to be used for domestic purposes.

In reply to a request sent by the Clerk, on the 16th October, to the Weardale and Shildon Water Company, to lay their pipes from Hill Top to Esh, the Secretary wrote that if the Authority would arrange for a deputation to meet their engineer (Mr Askwith) in Durham, at an early date, the question could be discussed.

Mr LOGAN observed that none of them would like to use the water at Esh, as it was so much discoloured by the iron.

The Inspector said there were no drains near the well, therefore the water could not be polluted by sewerage.

Mr T. TAYLOR SMITH enquired if it was not a fact that it had since been ascertained there is not a level to carry the water from Hill Top to Esh?

Mr CUMMING replied that such was not the case, as Mr Askwith could convey the water right into Esh village.

Mr LOGAN understood that the engineer could contrive, by means of simple mechanical appliances, to get the water into the village.

Eventually, the Rev C. Gillow, Messrs Logan, Cumming, and Hornsby were appointed a committee to confer with Mr Askwith upon the subject, and report thereon.

THE WATER SUPPLY OF EBCHESTER.

Relative to the defective water supply of Ebchester and the surrounding villages, Mr SHELL observed that the committee appointed by the Authority had held two meetings—a preliminary one at Consett, and the other meeting at Ebchester which was attended by the most influential ratepayers in the district. Mr Hedley and himself attended and laid the subject before the ratepayers, and he thought there would not be the less difficulty in raising the guarantee sum of 10 per cent. demanded by the Consett Water Company. Accordingly a deputation was appointed to meet the directors of the Water Company at their next meeting; and pending such interview, he thought it would be necessary to pursue the subject further, as the inhabitants were not so badly situated for water now as they were during the drought last summer.

After the name of Mr Siddell (who replaces Mr R. W. Shaw, a director of the Water Company had been added to the deputation, the question was again postponed.

WATER FOR USHAW MOOR.

The Rev C. GILLOW produced a letter from Mr Henry Chaytor, owner of Ushaw Moor Colliery, who wrote promising to lay the Weardale and Shildon water into the village of Ushaw Moor forthwith.

ALLEGED NUISANCE AT WEST STANLEY.

Mr Joseph Watson, butcher, of the Havannah, West Stanley, complained of the stench of gas air arising from a ventilator recently fixed in the sewer near to his shop. He had previously written to the Inspector on the subject, and no received any reply.

The Inspector denied that he had been the means of creating any nuisance at Stanley, but alleged that the nuisance was caused by someone emptying gas water into the sewer; and a very offensive smell issued from the ventilators, which Mr Watson and other proprietors at the Havannah bittterly complained of. The ventilator in question was placed several feet away from Mr Watson's shop, and he might say that the sewer itself was working satisfactorily.

In reply to Mr HOBSON, Mr Routhwaite explained that the open ventilator would be a distance of 25 feet from the nearest point of Mr Watson's premises; but no nuisance would arise unless it was caused by the reprehensible practice of discharging gas water into the sewer.

Mr HOBSON affirmed that if the Sanitary Authority placed open ventilators close to a man's house they were to blame if a nuisance existed.

The Inspector denied that the fault lay with the Sanitary Authority.

Mr HOBSON: What! not when you stick a nuisance right under a man's nose? (Laughter.)

Mr RUTHERFORD assured the members that this question was one of the greatest importance to Mr Watson, who was a butcher; and if his meat was affected by the taint of the gas air from the sewer, it involved a serious loss to the owner.

The Inspector pointed out that he had set the ventilator as far away as possible from Mr Watson's house. Properly speaking, the ventilator ought to have been fixed at the junction of the pipes; but he had carried it away a short distance by means of a horizontal shaft.

Mr LOGAN (to the Inspector): Can you prove that gas is emptied into the sewer?

The Inspector: No.

Mr RUTHERFORD: But there *is* gas in the sewer.

Mr LOGAN said that there was only one place in the village that the bad air could come from—viz., the gas works.

The Inspector said that this complaint had cropped up now and and again ever since he came into the district.

Mr COLLINSON always thought that ventilations could be carried to such a height that they would not prove a nuisance to anyone.

The Inspector said that this idea could not be carried out in the present instance.

Mr SHELL suggested that a committee should be appointed to inspect the premises, and ascertain the source from whence the gas enters the sewer; and Messrs Pringle, Hobson, Bell, and Rutherford, together with the Inspector, were elected to act as a deputation.

THE SANITARY CONDITION OF TEMPLETOWN.

Touching the first paragraph embodied in the foregoing report, the Inspector maintained that the only way of dealing effectively with the sanitary condition of Templetown, Consett, was to carry out the above suggestion, which was also recommended by Dr Bolton.

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the sewage accumulating in the gutter along the road-side below Templetown, which he considered a filthy nuisance.

The Inspector stated that Mr Dolphin, farmer, had promised to lay pipes across his fields as soon as he had taken his crops off, and take the overflow water away.

Mr COLLINSON understood there was an arrangement between the Authority and Mr Dolphin that he accepts the overflow, and the Inspector was directed to see that Mr Dolphin fulfils his contract.

The Inspector said that if the ashpits at Templetown were emptied every week they could not be kept clean; and he suggested the substitution of small earth or ash closets in the place of the privies.

It was at length determined that a notice be served upon the several proprietors that the recommendation of Dr Bolton be carried into effect.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The Medical Officers submitted the following reports:—

Lanchester District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The following are the fresh cases of epidemic diseases that have appeared in this district since my last report:—

Two cases of measles at Railway Terrace Hamsteels. Six cases of diarrhœa and one of typhoid fever at Hamsteels Colliery. Twelve cases of diarrhœa at Quebec. Eight cases of diarrhœa and three of scarlet fever at Langley Park. Six cases of typhoid fever at the Lizzie Colliery. Three cases of whooping cough at East Hedleyhope and three of typhoid at Hedley Fell. There have been two deaths from diarrhœa at East Hedleyhope—one a child and the other an adult. Ten cases of scarlet fever and one of typhoid fever at Ushaw Moor. Five cases of scarlet fever at Broadgate. Fourteen cases of measles at Esh Winning, and two cases of scarlet fever at Esh.

The drainage of and a good supply of water to the village of Esh should be taken into consideration by the Sanitary Authority as soon as possible.—I am, Mr chairman and gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN WILSON.

October 23rd, 1884.

Medomsley District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—For the quarter ending September 30th, 101 births and thirty-two deaths were registered. Five deaths were from diarrhœa, two from enteric fever, two from scarlatina, two from bronchitis, two from phthisis, and the rest were from various diseases I need not refer to.

In the Medomsley district several fresh cases of fever have come under notice, and at Templetown two cases of fever have come under notice during the last month.

Ebchester is free from febrile disease, and the sanitary condition is very good.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. T. BOLTON.

October 22nd, 1884.

Eastern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The number of cases of zymotic diseases notified to me during the month is as follows, viz:—Small-pox, 1; enteric fever, 17; scarlatina, 4; diarrhœa, 4.

The small-pox case is a young man, residing at Shield Row. Four weeks ago, he spent a few days in the city of Durham, where I understand the disease prevails. It is there he undoubtedly caught the infection, as from the date of his visit to the attack corresponds entirely to the incubative period.

Enteric fever has appeared at the following places, viz:—Annfield Plain, Annfield Place, Catchgate, Kyo, Dipton, and Stanley. There was one case only at the last-mentioned village. How it originated I have not been able to discover. The remainder of the cases resulted from those previously reported.

Scarlatina is disappearing; all the cases are well isolated in premises on the extreme outskirts of the district.

Diarrhœa of a contagious type has ceased.

The mortality for the month is rather above the average. 32 deaths were registered, being equal to an annual ratio of 22·5 per 1,000. Zymotic diseases caused 2 deaths, viz.:—Enteric fever and diarrhœa.

I wish to direct your attention to a nuisance at Stanley. The sewer from Messrs Joicey's houses, where it passes through the school-yard, has been opened the length of a pipe, and left in that condition. The smell is not only very offensive, but the opening is dangerous to the school children. The damage is trifling, and could be easily repaired, but as there is a great quantity of filth lodging, I don't think anything short of lifting the whole of the pipes can be satisfactory.

I would suggest the addition of another ventilator to the Havanna sewer, at its highest part.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

T. BENSON Medical Officer.

October 21st, 1884.

THE PRIVATE SEWER AT WEST STANLEY.

A letter was also read complaining of the nuisance caused by breaking into the private sewer belonging to Messrs Joicey and Co. at West Stanley.

The Inspector stated that he had not given directions for the sewer to be interfered with; and a communication was read from Mr Langton, the contractor for the Authority's works, explaining that Mr Nicholson, of Beamish (manager for the Messrs Joicey) and Mr Ridley instructed him to open-out the sewer referred to.

The subject, however, was relegated to the committee chosen to inspect the alleged nuisance near Mr Watson's house at Havannah.

THE OLD QUARRY AT CATCHGATE.

Mr RUTHERFORD, as one of the members deputed to examine the nuisance arising from the accumulation of filth and rubbish in an old quarry at Catchgate, recommended that the place be filled up. Besides, the cavity was unprotected, and was exceedingly dangerous to children when playing around it.

Mr HOBSON observed that there was the body of a pig, fully four stones in weight, lying on the bank of the quarry, in a partially decomposed state. There were, in addition, the carcases of another pig and a dog to be seen; and the stench arising from the place was really most abominable.

Mr SIDDELL (jocosely): Are these animals all alive? (Laughter).

Mr HODGSON: They have escaped from the pork shops. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr BELL was of opinion that the Authority might fill up the quarry at a trifling cost.

Mr HOBSON said he did not ask the Authority to fill up the quarry; but merely to remedy an intolerable nuisance.

It was ultimately resolved, on the motion of Mr HODGSON, and seconded by Mr LOGAN, that the old quarry at Catchgate be filled up by the Authority.

This concluded the business.

ANGLING AT LANCHESTER.

Owing to the absence of rain all through the summer, the season which is fast drawing to a close has been highly unfavourable to piscatorial pursuits. At the beginning of the year, anglers promised themselves and their friends abundance of sport, and baskets of trout in plenty, without reckoning, however, with Jupiter Pluvius, whose favours were invoked in vain, to the disappointment of many honest men and true. Anglers say that the season has been one of the droughtiest on record. In places, springs which never failed before were dried up, and in many streams, as in the Browney for instance, the poor troutling must have been put to sore straits to find water wherewith to cover his head. And such water, too! If fish have memory, and records, and all that sort of thing, they must lament the filthiness of the times in which they swim out their miserable existence. Fifty years ago, the stream we have named would have yielded a creelful of beauties in an hour's fishing anywhere between Wallnook Mill and Lanchester; but now, with poisoned streams and over-fishing, it is difficult to find trout in these waters. "Fishing, sir," quothed the Mayor of Lanchester to the writer a few weeks ago, "why you might as well try to shoot shrimps with leather guns as fish for trout in the beck here. You'll not catch one." And his prophecy was right. The beck, as our worshipful friend put it, had been "regularly cleaned out." And no matter for wonderment, either, when I learnt that several enthusiastic disciples of the gentle art (save the mark!) had bagged and carried off from the Ford waters in one day as many as four dozen fish. Why, the unprincipled vagabonds deserved thrashing with a horsewhip. But this encroaching on the good nature of a gentleman who is always ready to afford a day's sport to any honest angler has met with its own reward, Mr Kearney having since discharged all save his immediate friends from fishing on the Ford waters. But what shall we say of the Wear, nearer home? Fish there are, without doubt, but what with the constant swishing and splashing of countless lines, from Cumming's best silk and hair to Charles Ebdy's celebrated treble cord, the denizens of the deeps, or rather shallows, must have had quite a lively time of it. One noted angler, who has haunted the Sand's streams all summer, avers that he knows the size and colour of each individual fish thereabouts; and it may be safely said that they in turn have any equally perfect and concise knowledge of himself and the lures which, alas, he has night after night held out to them in vain. The river, in short, has afforded no sport whatever to the ticket-holder. It would not, however, be correct to say that it has yielded no sport at all. The Framwellgate urchins and the representatives of the law have had their fill of it. Armed with every conceivable engine of destruction, these mischevious young rascals have considerably thinned the shoals of bull or sea-trout, which for a couple of months have lain between Framwellgate and Kepier, in anticipation of the freshet whereby they were to surmount the city barriers. This came on Saturday se'nnight, and though the river did not rise more than two or three feet, it enabled large numbers of fish to proceed on their journey to the spawning grounds in the West country.—*Durham County Advertiser.*

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.—According to the most recent reports received by the Privy Council, Great Britain is now for the first time for four years entirely free from foot and mouth disease, the recent outbreak in the extreme North of England having proved to be pleuro-pneumonia.

ADVANCE IN PRICE OF DURHAM COALS.—It was on Tuesday finally arranged, after some previous negotiation, that the Durham household collieries which supply what is known as the depot trade, and which includes a district within thirty or forty miles radius of South Durham, including Tees-side and North Yorkshire, should advance prices 1s per ton from the end of the present month. This will probably be for the duration of the winter season only, and will be in consequence of the extra demand.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London.' — Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence.

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. There 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]

Business Announcements.

THIRTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 a.m to 3 p.m.

Established 1830. 962p

STEAM TO WEST AUSTRALIA, &c. AMERICA, AND AFRICA.

PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.

FIRE, LIFE, AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

WILL. ELLIOTT,

ASSISTANT OVERSEER,

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T. C. CAMPBELL,

SURGEON DENTIST,

8, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

With all the greatest improvements of modern Dental Science. They are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour for a lifetime, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. Every set is adapted to the mouth without the stumps being extracted, is warranted to fit perfectly, and guaranteed for five years. The prices are so reasonable they are within the means of all classes.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SETS FROM 30s. TO £4 10s.

FROM 3s. to 10s. PER TOOTH.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed. All Charges strictly moderate.

Country patients visiting Mr. Campbell's Establishment in Newcastle, will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, which a travelling dentist cannot possibly offer.

HALL'S for OIL CAKE and COTTON CAKE.
HALL'S for HORSE FEED.
HALL'S for CATTLE SPICE.
HALL'S for FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST CALIFORNIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW PROCESS FLOUR.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the BEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST TEAS.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW SEASON TEA.
HALL'S for BEST ASSAM TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST DARJIELING TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST BUTTER.
HALL'S for BEST LARD.
HALL'S for MANNA CAKE.

☞ HALL'S is the RIGHT SHOP for all who want a good Article combined with Cheapness.

STARCHES, BLUES, PATENT MEDICINES, and all PACKETED GOODS 10 to 50 per cent. Cheaper than the usual Prices.

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE GROCER,

ANNFIELD PLAIN. 298t

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 427r

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

J. McINTOSH,

(Cutter for the late Mr. T. S. Atkinson, of Consett),

HAS REMOVED his Business to JESSAMINE COTTAGE, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL.

☞ ALL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION

ROBERT SAVILLE,

HAIRDRESSER,

13, NELSON STREET, CONSETT.

UMBRELLAS COVERED AND REPAIRED ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

☞ GRINDING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

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. 920t

THE SCIENTIFIC DRESS CUTTING ASSOCIATION,

Have appointed Miss Elliott, 49, Durham Road, Blackhill, sole Agent for Consett, Blackhill, and District. Classes daily from 10 to 12, and 2 to 5, or as arranged for. Lessons also given to Classes of Ladies at their Residences if desired. To commence March 31st. Send Address for Circular. 871s

FURNITURE AND HARDWARE SOLD UPON THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM.

DISCOUNT 2s. IN THE POUND FOR CASH ONLY

WILLIAM WILKINSON,

CATCHGATE,

BEGS to inform his friends that owing to the great increase of business he has had to take the whole of his premises to meet the demands of his customers, and is now prepared with a well selected Stock of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, in all its Branches. Also, HARDWARE, GLASS, CHINA, CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY. WEDDING RINGS from the best makers—Wholesale and Retail.

Agent for the New Patent Table Wringing and Mangling Machine, Hickman and Clar Coffin Furniture, and Patent Horse Nails. 371r

ROWATT'S PATENT LAMPS.

Be sure and ask for one of ROWATT'S LAMPS, & have no other.

Their Patent SPLIT-WICK ANUCAPNIC and LORNE Lamps are the most Economic Light Producers from Paraffin or Petroleum Oil. They require no Chimney, and keep the Flame full up till the last drop of Oil is consumed. None Genuine but those Stamped

ROWATT'S PATENT.

RETAIL FROM IRONMONGERS AND LAMP-DEALERS.

Wholesale only—

ROWATT & SONS,

699t EDINBURGH, LONDON, & DUBLIN.

Public Notices.

A HE GOAT, ON HIRE. Terms, 2s.—Apply to William Lax, Bantling. 734t

TO PIG BREEDERS.—A BRAWN, of Superior Breed, at Allansford Mill. Terms, 3s. each. 756t

SHOTLEY BRIDGE MARTINMAS HIRING, for Single Servants, will be held on Wednesday, November 5th, 1884. 727t

SHOTLEY GROVE SCHOOL.

THE EVENING CLASSES, for the Winter Months, will be resumed on Monday Evening next, October 27th, 1884, at Seven o'clock. 711t

DISTRESS ON TYNESIDE.

"THE OCTOROON,"

By St. Mary's Amateur Dramatic Society, in Agricultural Hall Benfieldside, ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1884.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND 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

Gas Office, Shotley Bridge. 148q

Public Notices.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

CANTATA—"WRECK OF THE ARGOSY," New Town Hall, on Wednesday, December 3rd, 1884. Orchestral Band. Chorus of 80 Voices. 750t

FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE & DISTRICT 370th STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

19TH APPROPRIATION will be held on Monday, 17th November, 1884, at Seven p.m., when all Members clear on the books on the 11th of November will participate in the Ballot.—By order,

7046 GEORGE MATTHEWS, Chairman.

CONSETT WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

THE REV. H. W. JACKSON, B.A., Chairman of the District, will Preach in the above Chapel, on Thursday, November 6th, at Three o'clock.

A PUBLIC TEA in Nelson Street School-room, at Half-past Four o'clock.

The Rev. RICHARD ROBERTS, of London, will Preach in the Town Hall, at Seven o'clock.

A Collection at the close of each Service in aid of Wesleyan Schools.

Tickets for Tea, 1s. each, which will admit to Reserved Seats for Evening Service. Entrance by Front Street.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

A GRAND Performance of the Oratorio, entitled, "BENJAMIN," by John Charles Grieve, Esq., F.E.I.S., will be given in the above Church, on Tuesday Evening, November 11th, 1884, by the Choir, under the Leadership of Mr. William Bain, assisted by Miss Shield, Soprano; Mr. J. H. Anderson, Tenor; Mr. Charles Stephenson, Baritone. Organist, Miss Prescod.

Doors open at 7; Concert to commence at 7·30, when the Rev. Alex Baillie will take the Chair.

☞ Admission — Reserved Seat, One Shilling; Unreserved Seat, Sixpence.

Tickets may be had from Members of the Choir, and at the Door. 706t

TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE PARISH OF LANCHESTER.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—You will be aware that the Local Government Board has, after a lengthy correspondence and official inquiry, decided that Mr. Fairley is legally entitled to be rated for some plantations near Craghead, for which the Colliery Owners under whom he is employed pay the rent and all rates, and that to give the ratepayers an opportunity of saying whether they prefer their interests on the Board of Guardians to be represented by the person they selected in April last or by Mr. Fairley, a Special Election has been ordered to be taken in the first week of November.

I have had the honour to be your representative with Mr. Wilkinson at different times during the last twelve years, and in again soliciting your votes in my favour, I must remind you that, being heavily rated in two parishes of the Lanchester Union, I shall in all questions of expenditure be able to look after your interests, which are identical with my own, not being in the happy position of having both rent and rates paid for me.

If elected, I shall in the future as in the past strenuously oppose any attempt at extravagance or waste of the public money in any form; but I shall always exert myself to relieve the wants of the poor who are found to require assistance.

The liberty of the press is in no danger of being curtailed by any person, nearly the whole of the Board being in favour of the fullest reports of their discussions being published, excepting on rare occasions when publicity would do no good but might be harmful.

It is my intention to call upon as many of the Ratepayers as my business engagements will permit; I shall, therefore, be obliged if you will be kind enough not to promise your votes until I have the opportunity of seeing you.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Your obedient servant,

JOHN BUCKHAM.

Lanchester Oct. 17th 1884.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT.

THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN"

AFTER ATTAINING

A LARGE AND INCREASING CIRCULATION

HAS BEEN

CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED,

AND MAINTAINS ITS POSITION AS

THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Full and Impartial Reports of all Meetings in the District (by its own Reporters). The General News is carefully condensed, and special attention is given to Local News, by Agents of known ability and character.

☞ TO ADVERTISERS.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN

Has now been established upwards of twenty-four years, and has gained a most extensive circulation in Consett, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Lanchester, Annfield Plain, Medomsley, Ebchester, Castleside, Burnopfield, Lintz Green, Rowland's Gill, Iveston, Dipton, Tow Law, Burnhope, South Moor, Stanley, Tanfield, Tanfield Lea, Tantobie, White-le-head, Hobson, Clough Dene, Swalwell, and the adjacent locality.

The large and increasing circulation of the *Consett Guardian* renders it invaluable as an advertising medium, and current Advertisements are inserted in its columns at moderate charges. Advertisements for lengthened periods are subject to considerable reduction

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON

AT

59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Where Advertisements are received up to Nine o'clock on that morning.

JUST ISSUED.

Super Royal Quarto, handsomely bound, gilt and bevelled edges, Price £1 1s.

SUITABLE FOR A SCHOOL PRIZE OR GIFT BOOK.

VIEWS

OF

MANSIONS & PLACES OF INTEREST

IN THE

LANCHESTER AND DERWENT VALLEYS,

AND

PORTRAITS OF LOCAL MEN

BY GEORGE NEASHAM, DURHAM.

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Mr. Robert Jackson, proprietor of the *Consett Guardian*, has been appointed Sole Agent for the Sale of the above Work in the Consett District, and will send a copy to any address on receipt of a Postal Order for One Guinea. 825t

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT!! LOOK OUT!!! for an OPEN LEEK SHOW, to be held at Mr. S. Mack's, Royal Oak Inn, Medomsley, Ebchester Station, on the 15th of November, 1884, when the following Prizes will be given:—For the 3 Best Leeks, 1st Prize, £1; 2nd Prize, 10s.; 3rd Prize, 6s; 4th Prize, 4s. Also, for the Best Collection of Vegetables, 5 Varieties, 2 of each variety, a Patent Posser. Also, 5s. for the 3 Best Heads of Celery. Entrance free; for Leeks, 1s.; Vegetables, 6d. Entries taken up to 12 o'clock on the day of Show. 737t

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

☞ 5,000 Magnificent Presents to be Given Away.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH JEWELLERY COMPANY, in order to introduce their business before the public, have, at enormous expense, resolved to PRESENT to every person applying for the same, a

FRENCH POCKET TIME INDICATOR (Patented),

This admirable little article is the size and shape of an ordinary watch; has strong metal cases (gold colour), steel works, balanced action, enamelled dial, crystal glass dome, patent adjusting swivel ring for attaching to watchguards; each denotes solar correct time, and in fact no one, either male or female, should want for a watch when such an opportunity as this offers—a chance will never occur again. The time indicator is warranted for five years. To secure one of these little articles the sum of 1s. 6d. must be forwarded either in P.O.O. or Stamps, or two will be sent for 2s. 8d., with the full name and address filled in the form below, and enclosed to the Anglo-French Jewellery Company, Matlock House, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A Free Gift to every Purchaser for this week only.

To every gentleman purchaser we will Present a handsome Cyprus Gold Albert Chain. These are very massive and heavy, and in wear, appearance, and pattern are equal to 18c gold chains costing £20. To every lady we will present a superb suite of rich Cyprus Gold Brooch and Earrings of the newest design. These being intended as a free gift to our customers we were determined to present something new and elegant that will delight all. None sold without this coupon.

CONSETT GUARDIAN.

This Coupon entitles sender to Pocket Timepiece, with handsome Present, on receipt of 1s 6d; or two for 2s 8d, 3 for 4s, or 4 for 5s.

Name ....

Address..........

Town..........

Address—The Manager, Anglo-French Jewellery Company, Matlock House, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

IMPORTANT.—As the quantity is limited, intending purchasers are requested to send at once. Orders received after those are sold out will be returned. 740t

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

☞ Royal Auction Mart, Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside.

ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1884.

MESSRS. NICHOLSON & MURRAY will SELL BY AUCTION,

15 to 20 Incalving Cows and Heifers, including several good country Cows.
8 to 10 Fat Cattle.
130 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
15 Pigs.
20 Prime Young Hens.
Grazing Cattle, Calves, &c.
2 Tons of Potatoes.
100 Empty Sacks.
Other Entries taken up to time of Sale.

Sale at One o'clock. 758t

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY, AUCTIONEER, VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT, ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

Tow Law Auction Mart.

THE NEXT FORTNIGHTLY SALE will be held on Monday, November 10th, 1884. Early Entries respectfully invited.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

Partridge Close, Tow Law. 739t

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Dipton.—Saturday and Monday, November 1st and 3rd, 1884

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, honoured by instructions from Mr. William Clish (who is declining business) will SELL BY AUCTION at his Premises, Dipton, on the above date, all his Valuable STOCK OF HARDWARE; Crockery; Glass Ware; Fancy Goods; great variety of Toys; Iron Bedsteads, &c.; Wringer and Mangle; Shop Counter and Fixtures; Scales and Weights; Show Cases and Bottles; Gas Fittings, &c. See Bills. 708t

Sale to begin each day at Half-past One o'clock.

31, Joicey's Square, Stanley.—Saturday Morning, November 1st, 1884.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. John Davison (who is emigrating), will SELL BY AUCTION, all his superior Mahogany FURNITURE, &c See Bills. The Goods are just New, and rare good design and quality.

Sale to begin at Nine o'clock in the Morning. 710t

Catchgate.—Wednesday, November 5th, 1884.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, invited by Mr. John Robinson (who is emigrating), will SELL BY AUCTION, at Mr Wheatley's Catchgate (Goods being removed from Moor Pit Cottages, for convenience of Sale), all his Excellent Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE, and other APPOINTMENTS. See Bills. Furniture is good, and of a useful class.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 722t

Cross Row, Delight Cottages, Dipton.—Monday, November 10th, 1884.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. John Robinson, Sen. (who is Emigrating), will SELL BY AUCTION, all his excellent Mahogany and other FURNITURE and EFFECTS. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 742t

Sportsman's Arms, Dipton.—Saturday, November 8th, 1884

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, invited by Mr. John Robinson, Jun. (who is Emigrating), will SELL BY AUCTION his Household FURNITURE, &c., removed from the Square to above Address for convenience of Sale. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Half past One o'clock. 743t

CHEAP EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.

EMIGRANTS WANTED BY THE 1,000

FARES REDUCED—£2 16s. 0d. from Liverpool to America, by the Best Lines. Children Half-price.

Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mountsett, near Lintz Green.

MR. J. CRAWFORD will SELL BY AUCTION, at Mr. Armstrong's, Mountsett, on Wednesday First, November 5th, 1884, at Four o'clock, a Bay Mare, 15-2 h.h.; Foal, by "Peterac," 3 months old.

The above were sold at the sale last week, but owing owing to purchasers failing to pay for them, will be resold without the least reserve.

There will be 5 Incalving Cows and 2 Fat Beast sold at the same time and place.

Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street Consett. 755t

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND FURNITURE AUCTIONEER, 25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly and on reasonable terms.

Mr. H. Brown.

Front Street, Consett.

GROCERIES, CHEESE, BACON, SHOP FIXTURES, and part Household FURNITURE for SALE BY AUCTION, on Monday, November 3rd, 1884, belonging to Mr. John Patterson, who is declining the Grocery Business, at Front Street, Consett,

MR. HENRY BROWN, AUCTIONEER,

Comprising—Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Pickles, Jams, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Currants, Raisins, Barley, Rice, Tapioca, Blue, Starch, Cheese, Butter, Bacon, Lard; 4 Sets of excellent Weights and Scales; large Slate Slab Counter; Flour Bin; Counter; together with a great variety of other goods connected with the Grocery Business.

The Furniture consists of Large Mahogany Table; Small Do.; Kitchen Table; 3 Iron Bedsteads; Wringing Machine; Butcher's Table; Chiffonier Closet; Metal Pots and Pans; Pictures, &c.

An early attendance is respectfully solicited, as the lots are numerous, and must be cleared out without the least reserve. The SHOP TO LET.

Sale to commence at One for Two o'clock. 745t

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket. The Oldest Established in the City.

SALES BY AUCTION of HORSES, CARRIAGES and SADDDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, at Two o'clock.

Entries respectfully solicited.

A. T. CROW, Auctioneer,

JOHN PEEL, Proprietor

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Lintz Colliery.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, instructed by Mr. James Weedy, who is about to Emigrate, will SELL his Household FURNITURE, at Lintz Colliery, on Monday, November 10th, 1884, at One o'clock in the Afternoon. 736t

Consett Fire Brick and Sanitary Pipe Works, and Plant at Carrhouse Colliery, Consett, Co. Durham

MR. JOSEPH OLEY is instructed by Messrs. R. Dickinson & Co., to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on the Premises, on Thursday and Friday, November 20th and 21st, 1884, the whole of the Valuable Fixed and Loose PLANT, Machinery, Engines, Boilers, Sanitary Pipe Machine, Brick-making Machine, Brick Press, Water Cisterns, Pit Tubs, Cages, Pumps, Sanitary Pipes, Bends, Junctions, Tapers, &c., &c.; also the OFFICE FURNITURE and FITTINGS.

For full Particulars see Catalogues, which may be had from Mr. W. Rutherford, South Derwent Colliery, Annfield Plain; Mr. Douglas Cooper, South Derwent Colliery Office, Lombard Street, Newcastle; Mr. John T. Curry, Delves Lane, Consett; and the Auctioneer, Sale Office, 10, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge.

Sale to commence each day at Eleven o'clock prompt.

JOSEPH OLEY, THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, 10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE

By Mr. J. Jenkins.

Trafalgar Street Sale-rooms, Consett.

MR. JOHN JENKINS will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, November 3rd, 1884, a large quantity of Valuable Household FURNITURE consisting of Mahogany Press; Mahogany Drawers, of various sizes; Desk Beds, and Chiffoniers Beds; Easy Chairs; Mahogany Sofa; Longsettle; Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase; Iron and Brass Tester Beds; Pole and Camp Bedsteads; Down and Flock Beds, with Mattresses; 2 Cornice Poles; 3 Scarbro' Trunks; Centre Tables; Kitchen and Tea Tables; a large quantity of Pictures and Picture Frames; Clock; Poss-tub; Tubs; Pails; Pots and Pans; Fenders and Fire-irons; together with a large quantity of other useful goods.

Sale to commence at One o'clock. 752t

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 447e

Business Announcements.

THE NEW COAL AND STONE BORING MACHINE

From 20s. and 25s. each, complete with Drills; also Bury's and Hardy's PATENT STEEL PICKS and SHAFTS, DRILLS, JUMPERS, and STEMMING GEAR, Wholesale and Retail at

THOMAS BOSTON'S,

NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

CARRIAGES.

J. COWEN,

CARRIAGE BUILDER,

HEXHAM,

HAS FOR SALE, NEW DOG CARTS and WHITECHAPELS of most substantial make, elegant designs, and fine finish. For quality and price they are the cheapest in the market, and never fail to give satisfaction.

Carriages of any description built to order.

Repairs of all kinds well and cheaply done.

Gentlemen waited on, and Estimates given. 668s

MOST MONEY LENT

On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &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 and Silver GUARDS, ALBERTS, &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.

MEDICINES!

One of the most severe and protracted trade struggles, within memory of the oldest resident in Newcastle continues to disturb the peace, profits, and prospects, of north-country Chemists and Druggists. An interesting circumstance (inseparably associated with this struggle), that cannot too frequently or too forcibly be impressed upon public attention, *is the irrefutable fact* that

J. ROBERTS,

1, New Bridge Street, and 97, Clayton Street, was the first Newcastle Chemist to adopt and advertise the most extraordinary concessions in the price of popular Patent Medicines ever attempted in Newcastle, which fact (when known) *at once determines intelligent purchasers whereat to procure this class of preparations, as well as other forms of Medicine.*

☞ 1, NEW BRIDGE STREET, 97, CLAYTON STREET. 685t

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, October 31st, 1884.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[By "Incedo."]

"Anything is good enough for swine and servants," said a farmer's wife, and more than one contractor in West Durham seems to think that anything is good enough for the inmates of Lanchester Workhouse. The flour sent in has been metamorphosed into something very unlike the sample, and the milkman, unsophisticated innocent, believed there was no harm in skimming the milk!; but his superiors thought different, and a fine of £5 will tend to dispel the shadows from his sluggish intellect. The "jolly miller" has also been called to order, and should he fail to reform his ways his goods are to be sent the way they came, and the best market purchased at his expense! There are many ways of making money in the world; but that ground from the stomachs of the incarcerated poor is certainly the most reprehensible. It is gratifying to know that at Lanchester at least that sort of thing cannot be done with impunity. Mr Brotherhood—the master—is the right man in the right place. I made a flying visit to the Workhouse some years ago, and I have since held a very high opinion of that gentleman; both as a man and a disciplinarian. The orphan children regard him with feelings akin to affection; but the denizens of the tramps' quarters seem to view him from a different standpoint. Few men could keep so large and diversified a family in order; but, strong in mind and body, Mr Brotherhood has the good sense to rule the shorn lambs by love; and the more mischievous of his wandering flock by the only method such gentry can be managed—the stern, unbending lines of rectitude and duty.

The prevailing winds will lend an additional sting to the many woes of the unemployed. There is as yet no indication of happier times; and how the people are to get the winter over is a mystery. The machinery in operation will, of course, lighten many a burden and cheer many a weary spirit, but all such aids have a ring of unreality about them; and the soul faints under a burden of unredeemed obligations. The Committees entrusted with the distribution of the funds have some curious experiences to record, and it is well understood that many deserving cases never come under their observation. The tradespeople are also complaining loudly, owing to their customers not being able to keep up their payments. One Tyneside grocer told me the other day that certain of his customers drew upon him in the form of specie as well as goods. There was Mrs So-and-So, who broke her teapot yesterday, and forthwith sent her little girl along for ninepence to buy a new one. Another gentleman, in the same line of business, informed me that not a few people, who had dealt formerly with the Co-operative Stores, had expressed their willingness to be numbered among his credit customers. The Stores had doled out the wherewithal so long as the balance was on the right side of the books; and stopped the supplies when it leaned to the left-hand side. Unable to procure employment, and consequently unable to pay their bills, several working men had in their extremity applied to this gentleman, promising that, should he tide them over the difficulty, they would in future deal with him through storm and sunshine. He had, he said, yielded to the solicitations of those of them whom he thought were most to be trusted; but he was not very sanguine that they would go out of their way to keep their promise.

I am not in the habit of taking a gloomy view of things; nay, the very reverse is my usual, but I have been musing on the condition of the iron trade lately, and I have come to the conclusion that while that industry may drag out a miserable existence for a few more years, it is, as far as shipbuilding is concerned, in the sere and yellow leaf. The cause is obvious. The quality is wretched; and the iron manufactured to-day is no more like what iron was ten years ago than black is like white. Fancy malleable iron going to pieces like a lot of old crockery through the mere action of falling some three or four feet. The public were told the other week that two first-class steamers had a tilting bout on the mouth of the Clyde, and that three minutes later one of them bade the world farewell and sank to rest in the ocean wave. Had the craft been made of steel or good iron she would very likely have floated till land was reached, but, brittle as plate glass, she was an easy prey to the hungry sea. Addressing the public in a district where so many live by the manufacture of iron, it might not be out of place to explain that the foregoing remarks relative to the quality of iron have no reference whatever to Consett iron. Consett has a good name in the market; and that, says Solomon, is rather to be desired than riches. Indeed, a friend of the writer's, who has been for some time on the staff of a well-known Tyne shipbuilder, has often told me that it was no uncommon thing that when plates which had been ordered of superior quality failed in working the officials almost invariably had recourse to a Consett plate of the ordinary brand, and seldom are they disappointed. This, and such like, is doubtless the sequel to the success of this prosperous and ever-developing concern. Hence, when ironworks in divers parts of the country are at a standstill, the wheels at Consett are trundling day and night. This is just as it should be; and if the measure of success was commensurate with the deserts of the case the contrast would be even more marked. Iron for ordinary purposes is rarely tested, and as far as the outside goes, a fool can see as far into an iron plate as a philosopher. It is only when accidents occur that the real test takes place, and then it is, unfortunately, too late to mend. Another proof of the speedy decay of the iron trade is the comparatively low price of steel. I know full well that steel ships are being built on the Tyne at a cost of only about 10s more per ton than was paid for iron little more than a year ago. The difference in price between the relative products—steel and iron—is now about £2 per ton; but in reality the difference is much less. According to Lloyd's requirements, ships constructed of steel may be 20 per cent. lighter than those constructed of iron. The disparity in price is not, therefore, so great as it may at first sight appear. When steel can be had upon so advantageous terms, it is to be feared that iron is on what the world calls its last legs. Well, every dog has his day, says the proverb, and if the puddler finds his occupation gone he must needs cast about for something better. It was thought that the introduction of railways would give the quietus to that willing slave—the horse; but men were mistaken, for there are more horses in the country now than there were in the days of carriers and stage coaches, whilst their value has increased something like 50 per cent. So will it be with the puddlers and others engaged in the iron industry. They will find another outlet for their labour, just as others have done before.

ROUNDABOUT NOTES.

[By "Rambler."]

One of the smartest "Local anecdotes" I have seen for some time is the following, which appears in the last issue of the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, under the title of "A Question of Route:"—"At a railway station on the Consett Branch of the North-Eastern Railway, an Irish lady applied for a ticket for Belfast. The booking-clerk asked whether she wished to travel *via* Tebay or Barrow, to which she replied, "To the devil wid yer barrer; it's the train I want te gan by!" The incident actually transpired at Consett Station, and I am informed that, after all, the witty dame journeyed *via* Barrow.

When men intend to leave their employment at collieries they are required to give fourteen days' notice of such intention. Amongst the notices sent in there are sometimes some very laughable pieces of composition. The following is a copy of one received at a colliery near Durham a short time ago, and published in a local contemporary under the heading "A Miner's Notice to Quit:"—"To Mr ——. This notis is to sartisfy that i will be free from your himployment 14 day's notis from this dayte.

Take this notis if you please,
For in your Pit their is no ese,
'Visions i, and wages low,
So on the rode poor George must go.
Your bedient servant,
George ——.

Poor "George" has considered the "Visions i, and wages low," and turned into a "role."

Apropos the existing distress, it is quite possible, I think, for charitably-disposed persons to carry this "relief" business a little too far. At a meeting recently held of the men employed at the Consett Tinmill Works, in support of the local distress, an ironworker from Sunderland, who had only just started work at Consett a short while before, astonished those assembled by exclaiming "Talk aboot distress. I only wish I hed enuff money to tak' me back agyn te Sunderland. Why I cood get mair munny theere for deeing now't than I can earn here by working a hard day's work!"

An excellent suggestion has been made to me, which, if carried into effect, will prove a great boon to the inhabitants of Blackhill, and in fact the district generally. The idea is that the Benfieldside Local Board should be asked to bear the nominal sum required for illuminating the clock in the tower of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Seeing that an enterprising tradesman has furnished Consett with a brilliantly-illuminated clock, and the Consett Iron Company have provided a similar convenience in their New Offices, I think the Benfieldside Board cannot do otherwise than favourably consider this recommendation at their next meeting.

The election for Guardians for Lanchester promises to be an exciting affair. Mr Fairley has, I understand, had a meeting at Burnhope at which Mr Wilkinson and himself were unanimously accorded the positions of honour by a large and enthusiastic audience. Now, personally, I have no objection to any of the three candidates, either of whom would make excellent representatives. I may be wrong, but I have an impression that it was scarcely consistent with modesty for Mr Fairley to state at the meeting that he was a superior man in every respect than Mr Buckham to represent the ratepayers. Opinions upon that point are very far from unanimous. There is no doubt but that the voting power behind Mr Fairley is very strong, and he is therefore a dangerous opponent. It will be a difficult matter for the opponents of Mr Buckham to make out that he is not more interested in keeping down the rates than Mr Fairley—the former being a direct while in the opinion of ratepayers generally the latter is an indirect ratepayer. Either of the gentlemen would do very well "were t'other dear charmer away." Mr Buckham, I am given to understand, has not come forward in furtherance of his own interests; but allowed himself to be nominated at the urgent solicitations of a numerous body of the most influential residents in the district; therefore he is really fighting the battle of the ratepayers; and will, if elected, represent to the best of his ability the whole of the parish, and not any particular section of the community. It must also be borne in mind that Mr Wilkinson—who is vice-chairman of the Board of Guardians—is an old and faithful servant of the ratepayers.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Band of Hope.—The monthly meeting of the Consett Wesleyan Band of Hope was held on Tuesday night.

Wesleyan Schools.—Our readers are reminded that sermons in aid of the funds of these schools will be preached on Thursday next by the Chairman of the District (Rev W. H. Jackson, B.A.), in the Wesleyan Chapel, Consett, at three o'clock, and by the Rev R. Roberts, of London, in the New Town Hall, at seven. A public tea will be held in the school-room, Nelson Street, at half-past four.

Merit Award to P.C. Robson, of Bacup.—We are glad to state that, on the recommendation of Mr Henderson, late superintendent of the division, the Chief Constable has awarded P.C. Robson a good-conduct badge for many years of faithful service. The reward has been well earned by the officer in question, who, during his long residence in Bacup, has won many friends by the courteous and conscientious performance of his duty. Mr Robson is a stepson of Mr Richard Pearson, engineman, of Consett.

The Wages Arbitration in the Iron Trade.—Some delay has occurred in laying the ironworkers' wages question before the arbitrator, Dr Watson, and although the date has not been fixed, it is probable that the Arbitration Board will not be able to meet for this purpose till at least the middle of next month. The delay has unfortunately arisen through the operative secretary, Mr Trow, having been out of health, and being at present absent from the district through medical advice. As, however, we learn that Mr Trow is improving, the probability is that he will be able in the course of two or three weeks to undertake the presentation of the case of the men before the arbitrator. The Standing Committee, under these circumstances, have decided that as probably two months will have elapsed before the settlement of the wages question can take place, and that it was only for that period that it was arranged for Dr Watson to arbitrate, it is desirable that a further two months should be covered by his decision, and consequently he will have to adjudicate upon the wages rate for four months instead of two. This arrangement will save a good deal of trouble to the Board in preventing two arbitrations, and also to the arbitrator, but it will somewhat disarrange the calculations of some of the other iron districts which were waiting for their wages settlement till they knew the result of the decision in the North of England.

Parliamentary Debating Society.—Another meeting in connection with this society was held in the British Schools, Consett, on Tuesday evening, when Mr Teare, schoolmaster, Benfieldside, was again voted to the chair. About 40 persons were present.—The revision of the rules enforced by the Jarrow Debating Society was resumed, a lengthened period being taken up in formulating regulations for the conduct of the society, the tedium of the task being occasionally relieved by some animated discussions, which augurs favourably for the future debating power of the class, the principal speakers being the Rev F. Steggall, Messrs G. T. Hyden, J. Kelly, A. Jackson, W. Hoe, C. C. McColvin, J. S. Redmayne, B.A. (treasurer), J. B. King (secretary), &c. One of the rules adopted is that in the event of the Government being defeated on any question, the Opposition shall come into power. After deciding that the society meet in the British Schools every Tuesday evening at 7·30 o'clock, the duly-elected members of the different political parties proceeded to organise their forces—the Liberals (having the majority for the time being) to form the Ministry, and the Conservatives to select the leaders of the Opposition. The following gentlemen were elected as officers of the House:—Speaker, Mr Philip Teare; Chairman of Committees, Rev F. Steggall; Clerk of the House, Mr S. J. Brodie; treasurer, Mr J. S. Redmayne, B.A.; hon. secretary, Mr Arthur Jackson. The Government is as follows:—Premier, Mr W. Hoe; Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Adam Brodie; Secretary of State for the Home Department, Mr Wm. Elliott; Under-Secretary, Mr T. B. Davies; Foreign and Colonial Secretary, Mr J. S. Redmayne; Secretary of State for India and for War, Mr James Hardy; Secretary for Ireland, Mr J. B. King; Under-Secretary, Mr R. J. Brodie; Board of Trade and Local Government, Mr W. H. James; President of Board of Education, Mr C. McColvin; Attorney-General, Mr J. G. Cooke; Liberal Whip, Mr W. E. Gough. The Rev F. Steggall was named as the Leader of the Opposition, and it was arranged that the Queen's Speech should be read on Tuesday night first, when, we understand, a lively debate may be expected. It is hoped that many gentlemen interested in educational matters will show their appreciation of this movement by adding their names as members of the House at the next sitting. We understand that arrangements will be made for admitting strangers for a trifling charge to witness the proceedings.

Hospital Sunday.—Sunday last was observed as Hospital Sunday, on which occasion collections are made in the different churches and chapels in the North of England, in aid of the charities of Newcastle, and Sunderland. On the afternoon of that date, the members of the various friendly societies in Consett—viz., Free Gardeners, Oddfellows, Mechanics, Foresters, Sons of Temperance, and Orangemen—marched in procession through the principal public thoroughfares of the town to the Primitive Methodist Chapel in Front Street, where a special service was held, an appropriate discourse being preached by the Rev T. Elliott, of Blackhill, the superintendent minister. At the close thereof, a collection was made in aid of the Newcastle Hospitals.

BLACKHILL.

A Local Horse Case.—At the Newcastle County Court, on Wednesday, an action was brought by Richard Murray, Benfieldside, against John Riddell, auctioneer, Newcastle, for £12, in respect of a horse transaction. Mr Clark was for the plaintiff, and Mr Sewell for the defendant. The plaintiff stated that he bought a horse of the defendant in July for £13 10s, plus commission. It was described as sound. He sent it to Mr H. Lee, of Staleybridge, who found that it had an unsound foot. The defect was concealed with wax. The defendant refused to take it back unless a brake bought at the same was also returned, but plaintiff refused to accede to this. The action was for the loss on the re-sale of the horse.—Mr Sewell, for the defence, contended that his client did not fraudulently represent the horse, further than it was described in the catalogue, and he further stated that plaintiff had not complied with the conditions of the sale.—His Honour found a verdict for the defendant.

Benfieldside Stock Auction Mart.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray held their special sale of horses and foals on Saturday, when they offered upwards of 50 lots. There was a very large attendance, but biddings were slow. Most of the horses exchanged hands at prices not quite to the vendor's valuation. Foals, £8 to £10; yearlings, £15 to £17; two year olds, £20 to £32; aged horses at prices from £5 to £15.—On Monday, Messrs Nicholson and Murray held their weekly sale of fat cattle, sheep and lambs, calving cows, and heifers, calves, pigs, corn and potatoes, &c. There was a decided improvement in the fat cattle and sheep prices. The cows were not quite as many in number as generally offered at this mart, consequently the biddings were brisk, and the whole were soon disposed of at satisfactory prices. 16 calving cows, £12 to £19; 9 fat cattle, £11 10s to £18 17s 6d; 5 store cattle, £4 10s to £6 10s; 125 fat sheep and lambs, 26s 6d to 49s 6d; 5 calves, 10s to 45s; pigs, 14s to 32s. Oats made 5s 3d per boll.

LANCHESTER.

It is expected that the village of Lanchester will be illuminated with oil a week hence.

At the Durham Bankruptcy Court, on Tuesday, *Re* James Thompson, farmer, &c., of Lanchester, was before the Registrar.—The debtor appeared to undergo a further examination.—Mr John Patrick, jun., appeared for the debtor. The examination had been adjourned at the last Court, to enable the debtor to produce a deficiency list, and other particulars of his trading transactions.—After further examination, Thompson the official receiver, said the deficiency account was not satisfactory, and a further adjournment was granted in order that fuller information might be given respecting his estate.—Thompson demurred, and said he had given the best account he could. and he could not attend the Court.—He was warned that he could be compelled to attend.

CASTLESIDE.

School Board Meeting.—At the monthy meeting of the members of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board, held in the Castleside Schools, on Monday afternoon, the following members attended—Mr T. J. Muse (chairman), Mr R. Walton, Mr Elliott Leybourne, Mr J. Milner, and the clerk (Mr R. Ward).—After confirming the the minutes of the preceeding meeting, and also of a special meeting, the subjoined report was read from the Master (Mr T. Duckworth):—"We have now occupied the new classroom one month, and find it most useful. We also feel assured that the heating apparatus, after a month's trial, will thoroughly warm the school, if kept on constantly. We are doing our utmost to fetch up for hindrances, caused by workmen, &c. We are taking regular examinations, in which we have been kindly assisted by your Chairman. Nine new desks and one table are to hand."—Appended are the monthly statistics:—

No on Roll: 111 boys; 107 girls. Total 218.
Average in attendance............ 193
Cash banked—fees, £9 8s 4d.

—As the Inspector requires to know the exact reason assigned for each scholar absenting himself on the date of the examination, the Clerk was instructed to request the Attendance Officer to be present at the school on that day, and look up all absentees, or explain the reasons of their non-attendance.—A short leave of absence was granted to Miss Watson, the infant's mistress, who intends to prepare and sit for the teachers' examination to be held at Darlington in December next.—The salary of the caretaker of the schools is to remain as heretofore.—It was decided to insure the enlarged portion of the schools for the sum of £500.—The rest of the business consisted in signing the cheques for the monthly accounts.

LANGLEY PARK.

At the Durham County Court, last week, Richard Nelson, grocer, Langley Park, claimed £2 16s 6d from George Kirkbride, miner, Holmes' Buildings, Easington Lane. Defendant and his two sons were stated to be earning an average wage of £2 11s 4½d per week. He had been ordered by the court to pay the amount off at 5s a month, which if he did not now do he would be sent to prison for 30 days.

SPEN COLLIERY.

Concert.—On Saturday night a concert was held in the old Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, Spen Colliery, in aid of the funds of the new chapel, now being built opposite the old place, and which bids fair to be a very pretty structure. The concert was a decided success, both as regards the excellence of the entertainment, and the numerous attendance. The singing was under the direction of Mr Armstrong, the schoolmaster.

Ball at Barlow.—On Friday night, Mr Harrison Thompson, Green Tree Inn, Barlow, held the second ball of the season in the long-room. The Spen Excelsior Reed Band was in attendance (under the leadership of Mr C. Summerside). A very large company put in an appearance to trip "light, fantastic toe." Dancing commenced at 7·30, under the superintendance of the brothers Maloy, who acted as M.C.'s and musical conductors, and was kept up until eleven o'clock, when all departed, after spending a very enjoyable night.

WITTON GILBERT.

Burning a Hedge.—At the Durham County Petty Sessions on Wednesday, Walter Sedgewick and Frederick Ainsley, boys, were charged on remand with doing wilful damage to a hedge, the property of Philip William Bell, farmer, Witton Gilbert, on the 29th September. The case was adjourned from the last court to give defendants an opportunity of compromising the case by paying the amount of the damage.—Mr Bell now stated that no arrangement whatever had been come to. About five o'clock on the day in question, he went to one of his fields and found the hedge on fire, and he assisted to put it out. Defendant Sedgewick who was then in his employment was working in the field, and witness asked him if he had set fire to it, and he replied that he had not, but that it was done by some boys who had been gathering blackberries. Witness afterwards questioned Sedgewick again in company with P.C. Curran, and he replied that Ainsley had done it. Since the adjournment the defendants had offered him £2, which he declined to accept. Seventy-six yards of hedge (an old thorn and wood fence) had been destroyed, and it would take £4 19s to repair it.—P.C. Crrran said that when he charged the boys with the offence they blamed each other.—A witness named Wilkinson deposed to giving the defendants some matches on the day in question, shortly before the fire was observed.—Defendants were fined 6d, £1 5s damage each, and costs; or a month's hard labour.

CATCHGATE.

Christian Lay Church.—A public meeting was held in connection with the above church on Saturday night, when addresses were delivered by Miss Sarah Peart, of Sunderland, Mr J. G. Ward, of Greencroft, and Mr J. Hetherington, of Annfield Plain. Miss Peart spoke at some length on the great question of the signs of the times, and the progress of Christianity during these late years, and highly interested her audience. She has been holding during the last fortnight special services, which have been very successful, the Lord having blessed her labours in the salvation of souls. The choir was in attendance, and performed some beautiful selections of music, which rendered the service very enjoyable. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Anderson, of Catchgate.—After the meeting, a public coffee supper was held, when a goodly number sat down to partake of the good things provided. The tables were presided over in a highly satisfactory way by the Misses E. A. Anderson, M. E. Armour, J. G. Snaith, and R. Woolcock. This brought a very successful evening to a close.

STANHOPE.

On Friday night a concert was given in the Crawleyside Church School, Stanhope, in aid of reducing the debt on the building. The Rev J. Coseby presided.

The Sunday scholars of Crawleyside, Stanhope, have presented the Rev H. T. Ryan with a silver inkstand, on his leaving for Corton, to which living he has been appointed.

At Stanhope, on Wednesday, Hannah Goodfellow (49), died suddenly whilst in bed. She was found breathing heavily, and died almost immediately.

Proposed Division of the Rural Ward.—Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., having been asked to forward a petition to the Local Government Board from the ratepayers of the consolidated chapelry of St. Michael's and All Angels, Frosterley, asking that the said chapelry be constituted a ward electing its own Guardians, an intimation has been received from the Board that the matter shall have consideration.

Fatal Quarry Accident.—On Saturday evening, an inquiry was opened before Mr Dean, coroner, at the house of Mr Joseph Allison, Crawleyside, Stanhope, touching the death of George Heatherington, of Crawleyside, aged 19 years, who died on Friday from injuries received on the previous Saturday from an explosion of powder at the Ashes Limestone Quarry.—The deceased's father, Thomas Heatherington, is now lying in a dangerous condition from injuries received by the same explosion. The father and son worked together, and whilst a hole in the limestone rock was being charged a second time from a barrel containing a large quantity of powder an explosion took place, when the father and son were blown against the face of the rock behind, their clothes set on fire, and the unfortunate men were otherwise injured. Much sympathy is felt for the family.—The inquest was adjourned in order that the proper notice be lodged with the Home Secretary.

Alarming Trap Accident.—On Thursday week an alarming accident took place at Stanhope. Mr F. Atkinson, of Ridding House, was returning from Westgate fair with his horse and trap, accompanied in the trap by Mr Nicholas Emerson, Mr Wm. Gibbon, and Miss Hodgson. When entering the market-place the mare took fright, and went at full speed down the street, and bolted right into the large window of Mr W. Fenwick's draper's shop. The whole of the window was smashed, the occupants of the trap and the horse were all deposited into the shop to the great danger of the shopman and several customers who were in the shop at the time. The trap was smashed, but the occupants were little the worse. The scene of the accident presented a complete wreck.

Public Funeral.—On Sunday, the remains of Mr Geo. Hetherington, Crawleyside, were interred at the cemetery at Stanhope. Deceased met with an accident in the Ashes Limestone Quarry. The father and he were engaged in firing a large hole, to blast the limestone rock, when the powder exploded (some 40lbs. or more) burning them both severely. Deceased lingered in agony until death terminated his sufferings on the 24th inst. The young man had two severe accidents before. Once he was hit on the head by a flying stone from a shot, the stone penetrating the brain. On another occasion he fell over the quarry face from a considerable height. Both times his life was despaired of. By his recent accident the flesh was burnt off nearly all parts of his body, and the clothes were litrrally burnt off his back. His father lost his eyesight through the accident. Deceased was in the volunteer force and also a member of the Stanhope Band. The funeral *cortege* left Crawleyside a little before noon. The Stanhope Volunteers marched first, in uniform. Next came the Stanhope Band bearing their deceased comrade. Four young women bore wreaths of flowers. Some 600 or 700 people followed the remains to the grave. The Rev J. Crosby and Bishop Ryan, rector, read the burial service, and the Bishop gave a short address to the mourners.

LANGLEY MOOR.

Presentation to a Colliery Manager.—On Saturday night, a number of friends and representative miners met at Mr Reed's, Shafto Arms, Langley Moor, to present Mr James L. Morland, lately underground manager at Littleburn Colliery, with an address and a purse of gold on his leaving, after 8½ years' service, to fulfil the duties of underground manager at Usworth Colliery.

MARLEY HILL.

Cricket Club.—The annual general meeting was held in the Board Schools, on Monday evening. Mr Jas. Gilchrist, president of the club, occupied the chair. The election of officers for 1885 took place with the following result:—President: Mr James Gilchrist. Vice-presidents: Dr Attwater, Messrs J. W. Berkley, R. B. Clark, J. Dodds, W. J. Handcock, W. S. Harris, A. McIntyre, Dr Smith, and the Rev J. A. Wilson. Committee: Messrs G. Barkus, G. Charlton, R. Clark, W. F. Clark, W. Coulthard, W. Foster, J. Hutchinson, E. Reed, T. Robson, and G. Robson. Hon. treasurer: Mr Jas. Gilchrist. Captain: Mr R. B. Clark. Deputy captain: Mr J. Morton. Hon. secretary: Mr E. Saunders. Perhaps the most interesting part of the proceedings was the presentation of the president's bat to the highest scorer for the past season. The winner this year was Mr J. Hutchinson. The financial report of the club was considered very satisfactory, as it showed a balance in favour of £3 12s 10½d. A vote of thanks to the President for his uniform kindness to the club brought the meeting to a close.

PELTON FELL.

Drunk.—At the Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions on Wednesday week, John Howley, John Connolly, and John Keenan were charged by P.C. Smith with having been drunk and disorderly at Pelton on the 5th inst—They were each fined 7s 6d and costs.——Anthony Waller and Thos. Hockley, for having been guilty of a similar offence near Pelton on the 11th inst., were each fined 5s and costs.——Francis McGinn, charged by P.C. Crabb with having been drunk and disorderly on the 5th inst., was fined 10s and costs.

Alarming Trap Accident.—Last Friday evening, an alarming trap accident occurred at the Burnt House Bank, Pelton Fell. An assistant employed by Mr Downey, grocer, Pelton Fell, was driving his trap to Chester-le-Street, accompanied by a friend and two of Mr Downey's children. The horse bolted at the top of the bank. The gentleman jumped out with Mr Downey's children in his arms, and fortunately escaped with slight injuries. The trap ran over the assistant's arm, who also jumped out just as the trap collided against a telegraph post, smashing it to pieces. The children sustained no injury.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Concert.—On Tuesday evening, a very successful concert was given in the Co-operative Hall, Chester-le-Street, by a number of ladies and gentlemen, towards relieving the local distress existing in the North of England. The following took part in the concert:—Mrs Blandford (Newcastle), Miss Blandford (Corbridge); Miss and Miss Grace Crighton, Miss Banson, and Miss Curry, and Messrs Charles Robson, Mather (Newcastle), Legg, F. and G. Pickering, J. Wheatley, H. J. Thompson, J. Thompson, W. Curry, and H. Humble. Mr Hurst was accompanist. Mr H. W. Kirkley Walker, of Newker House, presided.

DURHAM.

Singular Charge of Fraud.—At the Durham County Police Court on Wednesday, Margaret Duncan was brought up on remand, charged with stealing 19s the monies of George Young, of Carville. She went into complainant's shop to buy some bread, and in mistake a sovereign was given her for a shilling, which she kept.—Prisoner was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Diocesan Societies.—Yesterday (Thursday) the half-yearly meeting of the Durham Diocesan Societies was held in Bishop Cosin's Library. There were present the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (in the chair), Archdeacon Watkins, Canon Tristram, Canon Body, &c. The following grants were made:—To Muggleswick school, £5; Stockton, £15; Monkwearmouth, £21 10s; Holy Trinity (South Shields), £21 10s; Leamside, £15. An additional grant of £20 was made to Crook Church, and an additional grant of a like amount was also made to Grindon Church.

The Assizes.—The Autumn Assizes for the County of Durham were opened on Wednesday morning, at the Assize Courts, before Baron Pollock. The names of 37 prisoners were on the calendar for trial. The Under-Sheriff of the County (Mr J. G. Wilson) and the Sheriff's Chaplain (the Rev Dr Rogers) also occupied seats on the Bench. Amongst the gentlemen sworn on the Grand Jury were:—John Lloyd Wharton, Esq., Dryburn (*foreman*); James Annandale, jun., Esq., The Briary, Shotley Bridge; Rev J. P. De Pledge, Satley Vicarage; Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., Broadwood Park, Lanchester. The Assizes are still proceeding.

The Guardians and the Emigration of Children to Canada.—At the usual fortnightly meeting of the Durham Board of Guardians on Saturday—Mr Thomas Crawford presiding—a letter was read from the Rev Lord Archibald Douglas of London, dated Oct. 21st, in reference to the three pauper children, John Thomas Hopkins, Stephen Clark, and John Glen, recently sent out to Canada by the Durham Board of Guardians. The reverend lord stated that he had gone out to Canada in the same vessel in which these children were sent out. They had all the appearance of being very much neglected, and their pinched appearance attracted his attention, and he caused inquiries to be made. He found that they had not been provided with any outfit, and they were certainly half staved during the voyage, and arrived at their destination at Rimouski in a destitute condition. There was no one to receive them, and at Rimouski he (the Rev Lord Douglas) put himself in communication with the Roman Catholic Bishop, in whose charge the boys were left.—In the course of the discussion which followed the reading of this letter, it was explained by the Guardians that the boys were selected and sent out to Canada at the request, and under the care of a Mr John Frederick Boyd, of London. Mr Boyd undertook to place them on farms in Canada, and had received from the Board a cheque of the value of £10 for each of the three boys, £30 altogether, out of which sum he promised to purchase them a suitable outfit and pay their passage money, and any other incidental expenses connected with obtaining them suitable work and homes.—Mr Robinson Ferens observed that Mr Boyd had got several other Boards of Guardians to send children out to Canada, and it seemed pretty evident that he was making money out of them. He understood the total cost of the three boys was only £8, which left £22 unaccounted for.—The Chairman said it was a heartless transaction, and he regretted that the Board had allowed the boys to go.—After some further discussion the Board decided to send a copy of the letter of the Rev Lord A. Douglas to Mr Boyd, and ask him to give an explanation and a detailed account of the expenses he had incurred.—The Clerk (Mr Wm. Lisle) was also instructed to thank the writer of the letter for his information, and further to inform him that the matter would be inquired into.

BLAYDON.

Derwent Rifle Club.—The usual fortnightly handicap competition took place on Saturday, at the Club Range, Bues Hills, Blaydon. There was only a small muster of competitors, the following being the highest scorers:—Private, J. M. Strafford, Hexham; Corporal Herbert, Corporal Munro, and Lance-Corporal Robson, 3rd V.B. Northumberland Fusiliers.

GATESHEAD.

Fatal Accident to an Acrobat.—On Monday afternoon, Mr Graham, coroner for Chester Ward, held an inquest at the Theatre of Varieties, High Street, Gateshead, on the body of James Albert Weightman, acrobat, 23 years of age, of 22, Beswick Row, Manchester, who died on Sunday from the result of injuries received on Saturday night.—Edward Poole, acrobat, of 7, Crossley Terrace, Halifax, said that he and deceased were in partnership, and last week were performing at the Theatre of Varieties, and had with them two boys. At a quarter to nine on Saturday night he was on the stage, and deceased was doing a backward somersault from off his shoulders. After deceased jumped he heard a thud different to what he expected, and turned round and saw deceased lying upon his back on the stage. Deceased said he believed his neck was dislocated, and asked him to pull it, and he pulled it twice, and heard a crack. He was moved to the side of the stage, and he asked witness to stay by his side, and said, "It's all up with me this time." He was removed to his lodging in Ellison Street. On Sunday morning he asked deceased what he was doing to slip, and he replied, "When I left your shoulders I lost all control of my body in the air, and I tried to kick to get round, but I could not."—The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased died from injuries accidentally caused.

Sir Walter James Elevated to the Peerage.—It was announced yesterday (Thursday) that Sir Walter James, Bart., is to be raised to the peerage with the title of Baron. We understand that his title will probably be that of Baron Northbourne, of Betteshanger, in the county of Kent. The baronetcy was created in 1791, and the present baronet succeeded his grandfather as second baronet in 1829. He was born on the 3rd June, 1816, and married on the 17th April, 1841, the youngest daughter of the late Mr Cuthbert Ellison, of Hebburn Hall, Durham. His father, who was at one time Minister Plenipotentiary to the Netherlands, and who married, on 29th June, 1814, Lady Emily Steward, daughter of the first Marquis of Londonderry, died on the 4th June, 1818, in Dublin. The present Sir Walter was the only issue of the marriage. He was member for Hull from 1837 to 1847, was High Sheriff of Kent in 1855, and is now Deputy Lieutenant for the county. He is also a Director of the National Gallery. The present member for Gateshead, Mr W. H. James, Sir Walter's son, and heir to the title, will assume the title of "honourable."—The *Leeds Mercury* says:—Sir Walter James, Bart., has done good service to Liberalism, and the Liberals of the North of England will rejoice that he returns to Parliament in a position to continue their service.

PELTON.

A Liberal Association has been formed for Pelton and district. A considerable number of members have already been enrolled.

A "Spill" on the Road.—At the Durham County Court, last week, before His Honour Judge Meynell, Martin Connolly, miner, Grange Terrace, Pelton, claimed £1 from Wm. Salkirk, sexton and cartman, Old Pelton, for damages to furniture.—There was a counter claim, in which Selkirk sought to recover from Connolly £1 6s 8d, the balance of an account for removing furniture.—Connelly stated that he engaged the defendant to remove some furniture from Ouston to Throckley, a distance of 14 miles, for 18s. The defendant had two horses, and he was to pay all the tolls. On going through Newcastle the defendant's waggon came against a tram car, and a table and four pictures were thrown to the ground and were broken.—Selkirk stated that he was going up Westgate Road with the furniture. He was close to the curbstone, and met a man with a tramcar, and the table and some pictures were broken and thrown off the waggon. Witness told Connolly to go after the tramcar man, but he refused to do so. His charge for removing the furniture was 35s. and he had four horses. Connolly paid him 28s on account, and agreed to pay the remainder at the end of the journey, and then declined to do so, and when he got to Throckley he had to carry part of the furniture to Wallbottle.—Judgment was given for the defendant on the claim, and for the plaintiff on the counter-claim for £1 6s 8d.

EDMONDBYERS.

Mr Geo. Robson (general secretary to the fund) of Edmondbyers, writes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a cheque for £25 from the Duke of Northumberland (per Mr A. Gray, M.P.) towards the lectures in the mining centres of Northumberland.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

Action Against a Lodger.—At the Durham County Court, Wm. Laverick, miner, New Cornsay, claimed £2 10s for twenty weeks' lodgings, and 25s for extra cleaning, &c., done by his wife, from George Clark. There was a counter-claim of 25s. Mr Oliver was for the defendant.—In the beginning of this year the defendant went to lodge with the complainant, who then lived at Hamsteels Colliery. When defendant had lodged with him twenty-four weeks complainant got his leave from the colliery, and went to work at New Cornsay. Before he left Hamsteels defendant paid 10s to complainant and made a present of a pair of trousers to complainant's son, and a dress to complainant's wife, for which he now claimed 25s. Complainant also claimed 25s for extra work done by his wife. For the defence, defendant's daughter was called, who said she saw her father give 30s to Laverick at Brasside.—His Honour found for plaintiff for £2 12s 3d, payable in 28 days. He also found for plaintiff on the counter claim.

TOW LAW.

Science classes at Tow Law, in connection with the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, have been begun for the winter.

Auction Mart.—Mr J. Vickers sold on Monday 34 dairy cows and heifers; 86 store cattle; 14 fat cattle; 205 fat sheep and lambs; 290 store sheep; and 5 finger calves, &c. A keen competition resulted in a decided improvement in prices since last sale; this remark applies more particularly to the store cattle, which were mostly of very superior quality.

Service of Song.—On Monday evening, the Tow Law Presbyterian choir, under the leadership of Mr George Dobson, gave a service of song, entitled, "Little Minnie—a sister's love," in the Wesleyan Chapel, Sunniside, in aid of the funds of the latter place of worship. The Rev E. B. Allen gave the connective readings. There was a good attendance.

WEST KYO.

Kyo School Board Election.—The triennial election of five members to serve on the above Board was conducted at the West Kyo Board Schools on Monday, eight candidates being nominated for the five seats. There was an exceedingly good poll, a great deal of interest being centred in the contest. The votes were counted at Lanchester on Tuesday forenoon, and the result of the poll was declared by the returning officer (Mr Ritson) as under:—

ELECTED.	Votes.
*R. Henderson, blacksmith, Catchgate...	830
*G. Humble, mining engineer, Kyo	482
*G. Ridley, registration agent, Stanley...	391
*H. Walker, overman, Annfield Plain ...	359
G. Hobson, miller, Harperley Mills......	348
NOT ELECTED.	
*R. Holmes, check weighman, Annfield Plain........................	340
P. Reay, weighman, Annfield Plain	216
Thos. Collinson, miner, Catchgate	31

It will be seen that the only change in the composition of the Board is that Mr Hobson replaces Mr Holmes. An asterisk denotes the members of the old Board.

WEARDALE.

A Rich Find.—An important discovery of a lead ore vein in the royalties leased by the Weardale Mining Company has been made to the south-west of the village of Wearhead, in the hamlet of Burnhope. Two miners, acting under the guidance of Mr Thomas Watson, Ling Riggs, an ex-mining agent, and one of the cleverest mining experts in the district, proceeded to a syke or dry ditch on the hillside, cut the sod to only a moderate depth, and there found the vein, which Mr Blenkiron, Mr S. Watson, Mr Thompson, and the directors of the company believe to be one of the largest and richest yet found. During the recent visit of the directors Mr Moxfield cut the first sod of a new level (which has been surveyed and marked out to reach the full resources of mineral which all are sanguine will be found), and christened it the Lynn Syke View. This valuable acquisition to the company's workings will, it is expected, give an impetus to their explorations, and additional employment to those miners who are yet in quest of work. It is also rumoured that the London Lead Company have found a good mine to the south of Swinhope, above Newbiggen-in-Teesdale.

The Proposed Railway.—On Tuesday, a meeting of the committee formed to further the object of the proposed extension of the Wear Valley Railway up Weardale, was held at the Town Hall, St. John's Chapel. The Rev R. Shepherd occupied the chair, there were also present—Dr Hewitson, Rev J. Schofield, Messrs Joshua Dawson, John Maddison, Thos. Elliott, Jos. Harrison, and W. M. Egglestone.—The Chairman, after going over the minutes of the last meeting, stated that he had some correspondence to lay before the meeting, and more particularly a letter from one of the directors of the Weardale Lead Company, Mr Geo. Hopkins—a letter which clearly pointed out, as they would see, how matters stood in respect to the object in view.—Amongst other communications, a letter was read from the Bishop of Durham expressing his pleasure at hearing that a scheme was in existence for the extension of railway accommodation in Weardale. The following letter, dated October 24th, was read from Mr Hopkins:—"Dear Sir,—I received your letter of the 22nd yesterday. Although my son has not been able to come down into the dale, we have not been idle about the railway. In conversation with the chairman of the Lead Company the other day, we came to the conclusion (taking all things into consideration) that it would be impossible to take the matter up this session in a satisfactory manner. He is now in the dale, and you will in all probability see him. There are a great many things to be done in addition to the surveys, that it would be a misfortune to attempt anything and to fail for want of time."—The Chairman proposed, and Mr Dawson seconded, the following resolution, which was agreed to:—"That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Mr Hopkins for his letter of the 24th inst., from which it is evident that there is not only a decided purpose to survey a line for a railway up Upper Weardale, as soon as practicable, but that the Weardale Lead Company intend to take an active part in the formation and construction of the proposed railway."

HEALEYFIELD.

Important Discovery at the Lead Mines.—In sinking the Whitwell engine shaft at Healeyfield Mine the men have cut several strings of galena ore last week. One of the strings is nine inches wide, of ore and lime spar. These strings have been cut in the upper slate hill, and are running in the direction of the main vein, which is about 12 fathoms east of the shaft. The shaft is now down 54 fathoms, and it is important to find ore at this depth in such near proximity to the main vein.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

Postal Notice.—Commencing with 10th November, a morning despatch of letters will be made from the Ryton post-office at 9·50 to fall into the 11 o'clock delivery throughout Newcastle. Replies to such letters may be posted in any of the city letter-boxes before 1·15 p.m. for delivery in Ryton before 3·15 and 4·0 p.m. Rejoiners to such replies, if posted at Ryton before 4·5 p.m. will fall into the 5·15 delivery in Newcastle. On and from 10th November a new delivery will be affected in Ryton village at 8·15 p.m.

A Redistribution of Seats Bill.—Yesterday (Thursday) a Redistribution of Seats Bill prepared and introduced by Admiral Sir John Hay and Mr James Campbell has been issued to the members of Parliament. In this Bill it is proposed to continue the representation of the people at 658 members 469 of whom should represent England, 25 Wales, 75 Scotland, and 89 Ireland. The Bill proposes to disfranchise no borough, but to form groups of small towns for joint representation, especially in Scotland. The number of boroughs returning three members it is proposed shall be 59 in England, instead of 11, and three in Scotland instead of one, and ten in Ireland. A map illustrating the proposed scheme is issued with the Bill.

THE ELECTION OF GUARDIANS FOR LANCHESTER.

The extraordinary election of two Guardians for the extensive parish of Lanchester, in accordance with the order recently issued by the Local Government Board—consequent upon the result of the enquiry touching the alleged improper disqualification by the Returning Officer of Mr James Fairley, of Shafto House, Craghead, at the usual election in April last—is fixed to take place next week: the voting papers being distributed on the 5th November, and collected on the 6th; and the votes will be counted on the 7th proximo, on which date the result of the poll will be declared. The Returning Officer on Wednesday received the following nominations, viz., John Buckham, Lanchester, timber merchant, nominated by W. Leybourne, Margery Flatt, and W. Gibson, Newbiggen; James Fairley, Shafto House, colliery manager, nominated by Geo. Hedley, J.P., Burnhopeside Hall, and W. Hedley, Beech Grove, Chester-le-Street; John Wilkinson, Morrowfield, farmer, nominated by T. Dunn, Lanchester, and W. Leybourne, Margery Flatt. By reason of the peculiar circumstances surrounding the election, it is being watched with the deepest interest by the residents in the district. It is anticipated that there will be a keen and close contest, all the candidates being actively engaged in securing their return.

On Tuesday evening, Mr James Fairley, one of the candidates, addressed the electors in the School-room at Burnhope Colliery, and had a most enthusiastic and successful meeting. Mr Forster, manager of the Colliery, occupied the chair, and briefly introduced Mr Fairley, who, on rising, was received with loud applause. Mr Fairley then went into the matter of his disqualification and read part of the correspondence with the Local Government Board, showing that he was thoroughly qualified to sit as a Guardian, and declaring the last election null and void. He had no objection to a refusal from the ratepayers, but he refused to stay at home through being unfairly disqualified, and he thought himself a superior man in every respect to represent the ratepayers than Mr Buckham. After speaking in highly complimentary terms of Mr Wilkinson, the meeting unanimously decided to vote for Messrs Fairley and Wilkinson. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

We understood that Mr Buckham intends to address a meeting of the electors in the same room at Burnhope Colliery as early as possible.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.

Benfieldside.—The harvest thanksgiving services were held in St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, on Sunday last. There was, as usual, a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m., and being the last Sunday in the month, this was the corporate communion of the Sunday-school teachers. Morning prayer with Litany at 10·30; children's service at 3 p.m.; and evensong at 6·30 p.m. The Rev S. Barradell Smith, M.A., Principal of the Diocesan Training College, and formerly Lecturer at Magdalen College, Oxford, was the special preacher, and his singularly calm and touching sermons will not be soon forgotten. The choral service was exceedingly well rendered by the choir, and the decorations of the church were the most beautiful ever seen in St. Cuthbert's. There were large congregations—the church in the evening being crowded to excess by worshippers desiring to join in the reverent and devotional service of thanksgiving for the blessings of the harvest.

Dipton.—The congregation of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Dipton, is very ambitious. Though only a few months have "waxed and waned" since the Rev R. Tuson, their esteemed vicar, was appointed to the charge of the new parish, it can boast of as much ambition as might, perhaps, only become one founded hundreds of years ago. Though but, as it were, dwelling in tabernacles with no abiding temple, yet at stations on their journey they can rejoice as well as their more fortunate brethren, and at a stated time spontaneously thank the Bounteous Giver, their Rock, the Foundation on which they hope to build, for His goodness and His showers of blessings during the past year. On Sunday last, the congregation held their harvest thanksgiving services, and therein lay their ambition. If the outcome of all ambition were as much for the good of men as their's, that restless spirit which aspires to place man above his fellow-men might sink into oblivion. The result, let us hope, though at present unseen, will be a large increase of spiritual life in the parish. The morning preacher was the Rev W. Cockin, vicar of Medomsley, and in spite of the inclement weather a good congregation gathered to welcome him and hear his discourse on "The World and Heaven without a God," which subject was very ably and convincingly handled. In the afternoon, 150 children, besides parents, teachers, and friends were addressed by the Rev J. Kirk, curate of Leadgate. His subject was: "Reverencing the Sabbath, the House of God, and the Name of God." Concerning the latter part of the subject, the children will long remember the story of the pious pilot, and in their mind's ear will hear the beautiful bells of Tintagel Church chiming over the sea. In the evening the preacher was the Rev F. Steggall, vicar of Consett. In his rich discourse were many gems of thought and feeling and striking allusion, which must have delighted his audience and touched more than one chord of their inmost feelings. His subject was: "Zachæus, the tax-gatherer of Jericho," and the pictures drawn by the worthy Vicar of Eastern scenery of Jericho, and of Zachæus the despised, were very vivid. A large congregation thoroughly appreciated his discourse. The day's offertories given to the Church Building Fund amounted to £4 6s. Before closing the notice of this truly enjoyable festival we ought to mention the high appreciation of the heartiness with which the choir—accompanied on the harmonium by Mr H. Henderson—rendered their portion of the services.

West Pelton.—The thanksgiving services for the safe ingathering of the harvest were held in St. Paul's Church, West Pelton, on Sunday last, the preacher both morning and evening being the Rev Mr Padfield, who has only recently returned from Canada, where he has been labouring as a missionary for the last thirteen years. At evensong the sacred edifice was filled by an overflowing congregation, who seemed to join in the hearty service with a deep sense of gratitude which the present season should doubly command. We think the decorations far exceed anything that has previously been attempted, there being no lack of fruit and flowers, together with a considerable amount of taste. They certainly reflect the greatest credit to the willing ladies who, under the guidance of the energetic curate, the Rev E. J. Day, came so liberally to the front to endeavour to make the harvest home a success. The festival was continued over the Monday night, when the Rev M. Chiswell, Archdeacon of Madagascar, gave an interesting address to a large congregation. The offertories at each of the three services were in aid of the Propogation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The much esteemed vicar of the parish (the Rev J. Mathwin) takes a deep interest in the Church Missionary Society.

Holmside.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held in Holmside parish on Sunday, 19th inst. The collections at the Parish Church and at the Craghead Mission Room amounted to £4 1s 6d, which has been devoted to the Durham Diocesan Special Church Building Fund. In the evening both places of worship were crowded. There were no decorations.

Chester-le-Street.—On Wednesday evening, the annual thanksgiving service held in connection with the Chester-le-Street Wesleyan Circuit was held in the chapel there. The sacred edifice was tastefully decorated. The hymns and anthems were rendered by a choir of over 200 voices. Suitable addresses were given by the Revs M. Baker, Durham; H. Oakley, M. A. Drummond, Chester-le-Street, and the circuit ministers.

On Wednesday afternoon a large and influential meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Newcastle, presided over by the Mayor (Dr Newton), for the purpose of presenting to the city a full-size portrait in oils of Sir William Armstrong.

The Season.—The part for November of this popular journal of fashion fully maintains the high position already secured by the enterprising proprietors of this excellently illustrated and carefully edited monthly. How the work is produced at the nominal price of a shilling is surprising.

UTTERING BASE COIN AT QUEBEC

At the Lanchester Police Court, yesterday (Thursday), the youth *Joseph Barker*, aged 16, surrendered to his bail to answer a charge of unlawfully and knowingly uttering a counterfeit half-crown, with intent to defraud John Marley, the landlord of the Hamsteels New Inn, Quebec, on the 15th inst. Dr Carr again represented the prisoner.

The testimony given at the Consett Court of Mr Marley and Harry Waite (whose mother keeps the post-office at Quebec, from which place the prisoner must have abstracted the coin), was read over, and was substantially the same as published in our columns last week. The facts of the case, briefly recapitulated, are these.—Between three and four o'clock on the afternoon in question, young Waite was examining the half-crown produced, which he showed to Parker, who asked, "Will you give it to me?" He replied, "No, I'll not give it to you, because it is a bad one." Waite laid the money on the ledge of the desk in the post-office, and did not see the coin until Sergt. Nicholson brought it to him the following (Thursday) morning. The same evening, between 10·30 and 11 o'clock, the prisoner proceeded to Mr Marley's house, and asked for a penny cigar, tendering in payment the coin produced. The landlord detected that it was a bad half-crown, so he kept it and retained the cigar. Prisoner said, "I got it at the Hamsteels Colliery offices," adding that Marley might search him to ascertain if he had any more. Prisoner returned the next morning, and asked for the half-crown. Mr Marley took the youth to Sergeant Nicholson, and gave the officer the coin. On the road the prisoner remarked that he had found the coin between Cornsay Colliery and Mr Marley's house.

In further cross-examination by Dr Carr, the witness Waite stated that he had had the coin in his possession for several weeks, and he laid it openly on the desk. He was trying the coin on the counter in the presence of the prisoner and another young man who was engaged in painting the shop. The half crown belonged to his mother, and he had no right to destroy it. Prisoner was sometimes employed at their shop. He knew a Mrs Hall and Mrs Emma Walters, who occasionally dealt at their shop, but were not regular customers. He was not aware that either of these two parties had previously received a bad half-crown at their establishment and returned the money.

The Chairman (to Dr Carr): I do not think the questions you are asking, Doctor, will tend to establish the innocence of the prisoner in any way.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): Are you going to prove that this half-crown was passed before, Doctor?

Dr Carr: I will show that a half-crown was passed previously.

Mr Granger: But you will have to prove that it was the same coin.

Dr Carr: Well, I cannot do that; but the supposition is that this is the identical half-crown.

Mr Granger (to Waite): Have you ever possessed a bad half-crown previous to this?—Witness: Yes, we had another one that my brother destroyed.

Why did you not destroy both of them?—Because I never thought of doing so.

Rev J. P. De Pledge: It is a good thing to nail bad half-crowns on to the counter.

The Chairman: How did Parker get this half-crown?—Witness: I don't know, unless it was stolen.

Dr Carr: Parker says that you gave him the coin?—Witness: I deny that. I have a witness here to prove that I did not give him the half-crown.

Cross-questioned by Dr Carr: His brother destroyed the other half-crown by burning it in the fire. He could distinguish the difference between the half-crown produced and a genuine coin.

Fred Bulman, an apprentice in Mrs Waite's shop, deposed: On Wednesday, 15th October, I was present in the shop when the prisoner was there. A man who was painting the shop and Harry Waite were examining the bad half-crown. Prisoner asked Waite if he would give him the coin, to which the latter replied, "No; it's a bad one, and cannot be passed." I had seen the half-crown laid on the top of the desk for about a week prior to this. I know Mary Hall and Emma Walters. I remember Mrs Hall once bringing a bad half-crown to the shop, and asserting that she had obtained it there, about three months before. Mrs Waite was present, and she told me to give Mrs Hall another half-crown. I remember giving Mrs Hall two half-crowns in change. I was not aware that I had offered her a bad half-crown, but I took it for granted that I had done so. The half-crown was put away by Mrs Waite; and I believe the coin produced is the same. I was aware that a bad half-crown had been previously taken; but that was alleged to have been destroyed.

Cross-examined: I have been acquainted with the prisoner for some time. He formerly worked at the Hamsteels Colliery as a putter. I do not know anything against the youth's character.

Mr James Robert Burnett, silversmith, carrying on business in the city of Durham, deposed: I have examined the half-crown produced, which is a counterfeit coin. It is easy to detect by the colour and moulding, and the coin is composed of lead and zinc.

Mrs Margaret Waite, who conducts the post-office, at Quebec, said: It will be more than four months since Mrs Emma Walters came to make some purchases at my shop; and a quarter-of-an-hour afterwards she returned and stated that I had given her a bad half-crown in "change" at our shop, and which I substituted for another one, the spurious coin being subsequently destroyed. I also recollected Mrs Hall fetching a bad half-crown which my apprentice exchanged for a good one. The woman declared that she had got it at our place, and I directed Bulman to give her another for it. I cannot swear that the coin produced is the same; but I placed it in the desk for safety. The coin was taken out of the desk when the shop was cleaned; and it only laid on the ledge a week or so. There has been a great number of bad half-crowns in circulation at Quebec, but it never struck me as being strange that two half-crowns should have been alleged to have been obtained at my shop. Both the parties were respectable people, and I never doubted their statements. If I entertained any suspicion touching the coins, I would not attempt to pass them at all.

By Dr Carr: About three weeks ago, I detected a bad coin, which I put into the fire myself.

Sergt. Nicholson deposed: On Thursday morning, October 16th, John Marley and the prisoner came to my house, the former stating that the youth had tendered him a base half-crown the previous evening, and attempted to pass it. The prisoner on being charged, said "I found it on the road between Cornsay Colliery and Mr Marley's house last night in coming along." I then detained the prisoner in custody, and went out to make enquiries concerning the spurious coin, and on my return, Parker voluntarily stated to me, before I took him from the house, "Now I'll tell you the real truth about it. I got the half-crown from Waite's Harry, and he told me to pass it, or I never would." I then brought the prisoner to Lanchester, where he was remanded.

By Dr Carr: I did not caution the prisoner before charging him. I understood him to say that he never would have passed the coin if it had not been for Waite.

On being charged in Court, the prisoner declared that the apprentice was not present at the time the coin was being examined by Waite and himself.

Dr Carr thereupon called Emma Walters, the wife of Emanuel Walters, miner, of Quebec, who spoke to receiving a bad half-crown about three months ago in Mrs Waite's shop, which was given to her by Mrs Waite herself. Her husband declared that it was a base coin, and she took it back to Mrs Waite, who gave her another half-crown in its stead.

Ellen Hall, wife of Wm. Hall, miner, Quebec, remembered receiving a counterfeit half-crown from the apprentice sometime during last summer. She did not discover it was a bad coin until two or three days afterwards, when the butcher came round and acquainted her of the fact. She immediately returned the half-crown, which the apprentice exchanged for a good coin in the presence of Mrs Waite.

Dr Carr's defence was that his client had inadvertently tendered the half-crown (which he alleges that young Waite gave to him) instead of a penny at Mrs Marley's house, and he submitted there was no intention on the part of the inexperienced youth to pass the spurious coin as a good one. Under these circumstances, he thought the prisoner had been more sinned against than a sinner himself, and he urged upon their Worships not to commit the youth for trial, but to give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt by discharging him.

The Chairman said that the Bench could not do otherwise, in the face of the evidence before them, than send the prisoner for trial at the next Quarter Sessions; but he was liberated on substantial bail being forthcoming.

LEEK SHOW AT THE SPEN.

On Saturday and Monday, a leek show was held at the house of Messrs Errington, the Bute Arms, Spen Colliery. The entries were exceedingly large when compared with the size of the district, and the exhibits were in excellent condition. The first three prizes were especially good specimens of what huge leeks can really be grown, and reflects great credit on the growers for the care and trouble they must have bestowed upon them. The most difficult task must have fallen upon the judges, as the competition was really very close, but their decisions were conducted in a highly creditable manner, and gave unbounded satisfaction to all concerned. The prizes consisted of useful articles, the alarum clock, quilt, and looking-glass being exceedingly good. An appropriate present was the load of potatoes which fell to Mr Wallace Lee. The alarum, which was awarded to Mr G Wishart, was another very pretty and very useful article. It is estimated that during the time the show was open (from Saturday to the Monday night) some 200 or 300 people visited it from all parts of the district; people coming from as far as Blaydon, Swalwell, Prudhoe, and Stancella to see the exhibition. Great praise is due to the committee and the secretary (Mr G. Wishart, who has been in that office since the show commenced) for the energetic manner in which they have organised the show, and they are highly satisfied in the manner the public have patronised them.

The following is a complete list of awards:—1st J. Armstrong, clock; 2nd T. Bewick, quilt; 3rd W. Seatrey, looking-glass; 4th R. Todd, table cloth; 5th G. Errington, pair of pictures; 6th W. Lee, load of potatoes; 7th T. Minto, alarum clock; 8th J. Armstrong, teapot; 9th John Wishart, pair of sheets; 10th H. Robson, ½-dozen knives and forks; 11th R. Browel, pair of leggings; 12th R. Davison, toddy kettle; 13th W. Gills, set of chamber ware; 14th T. Wilkinson, lamp; 15th G. Wishart, sen., album; 16th Jas. Armstrong, hat; 17th R. Branson, pair of brass candlesticks; 18th E. Wishart, hearth rug; 19th T. Wells, ½-dozen cups and saucers; 20th H. Errington, steamer and can; 21st T. Glendinning, lamp; 22nd J. Young, carving knife and fork; 23rd T. Atkin, gardener's grape; 24th H. Thompson, inkstand; 25th Dr Colquohoun, ½-dozen table spoons; 26th G. Wishart, jun., pipe and ¼lb. tobacco.

WIT AND HUMOUR.

A crystal ghost—A glass shade.

A gasman always sings in long meter.

Parsons who pick up a living—Miners.

A revenue cutter—An order reducing wages.

"I am pushed to the wall," says the bill-poster.

Never despise a small article—A diamond, for instance.

What part of a door is the best preserved?—The jamb.

What dish is like an old proverb?—A saucer (saw, sir).

What makes age unbecoming?—An R, for it makes it rage.

The modern Egyptian "column"—Our own correspondents.

Brass band music goes by the pound, but church music by the choir.

"The good die young," especially during the season of green fruit.

It is a mistake to suppose the sun is supported in the sky by its beams.

A pretty female artist can draw the men equally with a brush and a blush.

Generally speaking, the beggars most ashamed of begging are those that have to beg pardon.

Diogenes very pertinently wants to know who was the husband of the celebrated mother of pearl.

Wherein are a policeman and a rainbow alike?—Both are tokens of peace, and usually appear after a storm.

A married woman says that her husband used to rave over her before marriage. Now he only raves at her.

A girl has been arrested while disguised as an old woman. The old woman disguised as a girl is still at large.

Dobbs says he has one of the most obedient boys in the world. He tells him to do as he pleases, and he does it without murmuring.

Obliging a family—"Malaria?" said the landlady. "Well, no; we haven't got it. Folks hain't asked for it; but we'll get it for your family."

Wife, comfortably in bed: "William dear, wind up my watch, for I always forget." William: "A wunner ye aye keep min' ta forget sae reg'lar!"

"Now bairns," continued a Scotch schoolmistress, "what is the meal you eat in the morning called?" "Oatmeal," promptly replied a member of the class.

In Sweden, at one time, 35 gallons of brandy fell annually to the share of each inhabitant. The custom was discontinued many years ago, hence immigration to Sweden is unknown.

A guileless Western girl wrote to her adorer thus—"Don't come to see me any more just yet, John, for father has been having his boots half-soled and two rows of nails around the toes."

An honest old farmer once addressing a schoolhouse audience on temperance, confessed that he had been a drinker. "But, my friends," said he, in conclusion, "I never drink to *success*."

New variety of apple—Said a boy to a larger one eating an apple, "Will ye gi' me a bite?" "Naw"—discouragingly. "Will ye gi' me the core?" "There ain't goin' to be no core"—annihilatingly.

A farmer recently forwarded a letter to a neighbouring town requesting the postmaster to deliver it "to any respectable attorney." After ten days, it was returned with the significant indorsement, "None here."

The belle of a party was standing in a thoughtful mood, and on being asked in what she was so absorbed, answered,—"I was trying to think which I enjoyed most—to hear myself praised, or my rival run down."

"Why is your hair so gray, mamma?"—Mamma: "Well, because you are such a naughty child sometimes." Infant prodigy: "What a naughty child you must have been! Poor grandma's hair is quite white!"

"Freddie, did you go to school to-day?" "Yes'm." "Did you learn anything new?" "Yes'm." "What was it, my boy?" "I got on to a sure way of gettin' out for an hour by snuffin' red ink up my nose."

We hear there is a book with the dangerous title of "The Pocket Lawyer." We shouldn't much like a book with this title, for we are afraid that if we were to get a lawyer into our pocket, we never should be able to get him out of it.

"Was Early Man a Savage?" asked a magazine writer. That depends. If the early man was dressing to catch the 9 a.m. train, and his collar-button fell behind the bureau, the probabilities are that he was about as savage as they make 'em.

Mr. Franklin thought that judges ought to be appointed by the lawyers; for, added the shrewd man, in Scotland, where this practice prevails, they always selected the ablest member of the profession, in order to get rid of him and share his practice themselves.

Scene—Sunday-school. Lady-teacher: "Now can any little boy or girl tell me who Job was?" Wee boy, after a long pause: "A doctor." Lady-teacher: "A doctor? Oh, dear, no! Where did you read that?" Wee boy: "Did ye never hear o' the patients o' Job?"

A sweet rendering—The wife of a City man who speaks only the French habitually used in young ladies' schools lately rendered into English the familiar *ris de veau* (calf's sweetbread) *à la financière* as "a smile of the little cow in the manner of the female financier."

The deacon's wife wanted to jot down the text and leaning over to her scapegrace nephew, she whispered, "Have you a card about you?" "You can't play in church!" was his solemn, reproving answer; and the good woman was so flustered that she forgot all about the text.

General News.

A pigeon flying race took place from Crawcrook to West Wylam, distance two miles, between Joseph Stoker's American Flanger and William Watson's Lily of the West, which was won by first-named.

Hobson Wanderers v. Sunderland.—A match has been arranged between the above clubs to be played on Saturday on the Sunderland ground, at Fulwell, in aid of the local distress fund.

Waterhouses Parkwood Wanderers v. Oakenshaw.—Two matches were played at Oakenshaw, on Saturday, between the 1st and 2nd teams of the above clubs. The visitors won both games, the 1st team by 2 goals to nil and the 2nd by 1 goal to nil.

Warning to Miners.—The following warning was issued yesterday (Thursday) afternoon:—In the course of the past seven or eight days several barometrical depressions have passed over the country. The general appearance still seems favourable to the passage of other disturbances, occasioning rapid alterations of pressure, and consequently influencing to a more or less dangerous degree the state of the atmosphere in coal mines. All persons engaged below ground should take particular notice of any signs indicating the approach of danger, and act with great caution in the necessary steps taken to ensure safety.

A telegram has been received by Sir Evelyn Baring from Sir H. Stewart to the effect that the last messenger who arrived at Dongola with letters from General Gordon affirms most positively that Lupton Bey had arrived at Khartoum before he left the town, having come down the Nile from Bahr Gazelle with two steamers. Should this news be confirmed, it is evident that the state of the country south of Khartoum is not nearly so bad as has been hitherto believed. Lupton Bey, who is an Englishman, was appointed Governor of Bahr Gazelle in 1880.

During a performance of "Aida" at the German National Theatre, at Prague, the vaulted tomb, which was in readiness behind the scenes for the fourth act, fell in, killing one of the workmen. A panic ensued among the audience, but no one was injured.

The steamer Mento, of London, bound to Spain, came in collision with the Shoreham smack Constance in the English Channel on Monday, and two men belonging to the latter vessel were drowned. The remainder of the crew were picked up in a very exhausted condition and landed at Dover.

A contractor named Lucas has been summoned at Salisbury to contribute towards the maintenance of six grandchildren. They have parents living, but the father is incapacitated by an affection of the eyes, and they are thus chargeable upon the union. Lucas asserted that his business was insufficient to enable him to maintain them. It was true he was assessed for income-tax at £250, but his income was considerably below that, and only allowed him to "rub along." The bench ordered him to contribute 7s. weekly.

A terrible conflagration has occurred in Moscow. It broke out in the Solodownikoff's Passage, or arcade of shops, in the centre of the town, close to the three principal theatres. By the time the German theatre and the shops of the passage were completely gutted the large and small Russian theatres were in danger, and the performances were at once stopped. The large theatre is much injured by water. The damage is estimated at 5,000,000 roubles.

Owing to abuses which have been found to exist among the Pesth police, the Minister of the Interior has ordered the suspension of several officers of the force. A rigorous investigation is to be made into the whole matter, and the documents connected with the case will be handed to the Criminal Court. Many arrests have already been made, including that of Detective Bleyer, who was entrusted with the discovery of the post robbery; and others will take place.

Romantic Marriage.—Here is an extract from a newspaper of 1811. Last week, in Hertfordshire, John Freeman, a chimney sweeper, to Miss Priscilla Thackthwaite, with a fortune of £4,000. Miss T. was a very eccentric character, and on her coming of age declared that she would be married either to a soldier, or a sailor, a cobbler, or a chimney sweeper. In consequence of this declaration, Peter Norman, a soldier, Henry Dalton, a sailor, James Hunt, a cobbler, and John Freeman, a chimney sweeper, respectively paid their addresses to this fair female, and exerted all their abilities to win her heart. After a minute's deliberation on the merits of the different suitors, she gave the preference to the member of the sooty tribe!

The Guillotine.—The real inventor of the guillotine, like many other men who have influenced the course of human events, appears to be unknown to fame. It seems quite probable, however, that he was an Englishman, for the engine in question was in use in England not only before the time of Dr. Guillotin, but before the execution of the French officer in Milan in 1702. In the "History of Halifax, Yorkshire," 12mo, 1712, there is a description of an apparatus called the "Halifax gibbet," which must have been identical in its essential character with the guillotine. In a well-known wood-cut of the same instrument a criminal is seen to be on the point of being decapitated. The blade, laden apparently with heavy weights, is drawn up in grooves in two vertical beams, and kept at a height through the cord being tied to the rails of the scaffold. The executioner is represented as in the act of cutting this cord in order to let the knife fall suddenly upon the neck of the prostrate culprit. In the history mentioned, it is stated that 25 persons suffered death in this way during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and 12 between the years 1623 and 1630.

There is a sort of comfort in the waywardness of discontent, a soothing music to the restlessness of the soul in the deep bass of hearty grumbling.

Handel's Nerves.—Handel had such a remarkable irritation of nerves, that he could not bear to hear the tuning of instruments, and therefore this was always done before he arrived at the theatre. A musical wag, who knew how to extract some mirth from Handel's irascibility of temper, stole into the orchestra, on a night when the Prince of Wales was to be present, and untuned all the instruments. As soon as the Prince arrived, Handel gave the signal of beginning, *con spirito*; but such was the horrible discord, that the enraged musician started up from his seat, and having overturned a double-bass which stood in his way, he seized a kettle-drum, which he threw with such violence at the leader of the band, that he lost his full-bottomed wig in the effort. Without waiting to replace it, he advanced bare-headed to the front of the orchestra, breathing vengeance, but so much choked with passion, that utterance was denied him. In this ridiculous attitude he stood staring and stamping for some moments, amidst a convulsion of laughter; nor could he be prevailed upon to resume his seat until the Prince went in person, and with much difficulty appeased his wrath.

A Narrow Escape.—M. Boutibouse, the French *savant*, served in Napoleon's army, and was present at many engagements. At the battle of Wagram, in 1809, he was in the heat of the fray; the ranks around him had been terribly thinned by shot, and at sunset he was nearly isolated. While reloading his musket, he was shot down by a cannon ball. His impression was that the ball had passed through his legs below his knees, completely severing them, for he suddenly sank down, shortened, as he believed, to the extent of about a foot in measurement. The trunk of the body fell backward on the ground, and the man's senses were paralysed by the shock. Thus he lay, motionless, among the wounded and dead all night, not daring to move, when consciousness partially returned, lest the loss of blood should be fatally increased. That he felt no pain he attributed to the stunning effect of the shock on his nervous system, and he was still mentally too numbed to be able to reason as to why he had not bled to death. At early dawn he was aroused by one of the medical staff, who came round to help the wounded. "What's the matter with you, my good fellow?" said the surgeon. "Ah, touch me tenderly, doctor," replied M. Boutibouse: "a cannon-ball has carried off my legs!" The surgeon examined the limbs referred to, and then, giving him a good shake, said, with a loud laugh, "Get up with you; there's nothing the matter with your legs!" M. Boutibouse sprang up in utter astonishment, and stood firmly on the legs which he had thought lost for ever. "I felt more thankful," said he, "than I had ever felt in the whole course of my life before. I had not a wound about me. I had indeed been shot down by an immense cannon-ball; but, instead of passing through my legs, as I firmly believed it had, the ball had passed under my feet, and had ploughed a hole in the earth beneath at least a foot in depth, into which my feet suddenly sank, giving me the idea that I had been thus shortened by the loss of my legs."

Market Reports.

Newcastle Flour, Saturday.—Hungarian, 2s 4d; American, 1s 10½; No. 1 superfine, 1s 10d; superfines, 1s 8d; fines, 1s 6d; households, 1s 4d; seconds, 0s 0d; ryemeal, 1s 6d; wheatmeal, 1s 6d; oatmeals, English, 2s 2d; Scotch, 2s 0d per stone; 4lb loaf, 7d.

Newcastle Fruit and Potato, Saturday.—Scotch potatoes, 6d to 8d; English do., 6d; onions, 10d to 1s 6d per stone; figs, 5d to 10d per lb; apples, 1s 6d to 2s per stone; cauliflowers, 1d to 3d each; oranges, 9d to 1s 6d per dozen; plums, 2d to 3d per quart; foreign grapes, 6d to 10d per lb; English do., 7d to 8d per lb; blackberries, 4d to 5d per quart; cabbages, roots, and other classes at late rates.

Newcastle Meat and Poultry, Saturday.—

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Prime large beef	0 9 to	1 0	Pigeons, per couple	1 6 to	1 6
Prime mutton	0 11	1 0	Turkeys, per lb.	0 0	0 0
Small Pork	0 9	0 11	Turkeys, poults	7 0	8 6
Veal	0 8	0 11	Partridge, brace	2 0	2 3
Lamb per lb	1 0	0 0	Pheasants	6 6	7 0
American beef	0 2½	0 7	Geese, per lb	0 10	1 3
" mutton	0 5	0 9	Goslings, each	0 0	0 0
" lamb	0 0	0 0	Hares, each	4 0	0 0
" veal	0 7	0 9½	Leverets	3 6	4 6
" pork	0 8	0 9	Rabbits, couple	2 9	3 6
Hens, each	1 0	1 9	Ptarmigan, couple	0 0	0 0
Ducks, per couple	0 0	0 0	Black Game, brace	5 6	6 0
Ducklings, per cp.	5 6	7 0	English fresh butter, per lb.	1 0	1 2
Chickens	5 6	7 6	Fresh eggs 11 for 1s		
Wild ducks, brace	0 0	0 0	Salmon, per lb.	0 0	0 0
Quails, per couple	0 0	0 0	Do. trout	0 0	0 0
Grouse, per couple	6 0	7 0			

Hexham Provision, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb; eggs, 9 for 1s; black game, 0s 0d to 0s 0d per br.; grouse, 0s 0d to 0s 0d; hares, 3s 0d to 4s 0d; rabbits, 2s 3d to 2s 9d per couple; chickens, 1s 6d to 3s 0d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; potatoes, 6d to 8d per stone; kitchen apples, 1s 8d to 2s 4d per stone; cauliflowers, 3d each; plums, 2d; blackberries, 3d to 4d per quart; lemons, 1d to 4d; cabbages, 1d to 2d each; flour, extra superfines, 1s 10d; superfines, 1s 8d; fines, 1s 6d; maslin, 1s 4d; oatmeal, 2s 4d per stone.

Durham Provision, Saturday.—Bacon, 4½d to 7d; ham, 7d to 8d; cheese, 6d to 7d; lard, 7d; chickens, 1s 6d to 2s; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s 0d each; pigeons, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per couple; rabbits, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per couple; butter, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; eggs, 9 to 10 for 1s; damsons, 8d to 9d per quart; pears 2d to 4d; grapes, 6d to 1s per lb; apples, 1s 6d to 2s; onions 1s 0d to 1s 6d per peck; potatoes, 6d to 7d per stone.

Newcastle Corn, Tuesday.—Arrivals into Newcastle for week ending Oct. 25, 1884:—Coast and rail—Wheat, 1795; maize, —; barley, 242; malt, —; oats, 2216; rye, —; beans, 530; peas, 37; flour, 1405 qrs. Foreign—Wheat —; maize, —; barley, 698; malt, —; oats, —; rye, —; beans, —; peas, —; flour, 5,750 qrs. The arrivals of wheat and flour are small both from the coast and abroad. At this day's market wheat was held for rather more money, but the demand being restricted, only a moderate business was done at last week's full prices. Fine mixed American maize scarce and 6d dearer. Poti steady at late rates. Scotch oats unchanged for fine old, but new sold slowly at about previous prices. Foreign firm. Beans quiet. Peas and feeding barley without change. Malting barley met with a moderate inquiry at recent low rates, but buyers hung back, supplies of foreign are limited. Flour languid, prices rather easier.

Hexham, Tuesday.—Grain of any description was not in large supply at our market this morning, comprising wheat, oats, and barley. Barley sold at prices slightly in advance of those of last week, wheat selling at about late rates.

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £4 0s to £5 0s; this year's growth, £3 5s 0d to £4 10s 0d; new land hay, £5 5s to £6 0s; this year's growth, £4 0s to £5 0s; clover hay, £0 0s to £0 0s per ton; wheat straw, 0s 0d to 0s 0d; barley straw, 1s 9d to 2s 0d; oat straw, 0s 0d to 0s 0d per thrave; carts of hay at market, 132; carts of straw, 37.

Newcastle Cattle, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 23 head of cattle, 21 sheep, and 396 pigs from Aberdeen and the districts in the North-east coast of Scotland; 85 beasts and 117 pigs from Ireland; 578 beasts and 2,000 sheep and lambs from foreign countries; and 35 beasts from Canada.

Respecting quality, that of cattle was not a seasonable average, whilst sheep and lambs were middling.

The supply of beef comprised 1,572 head. The beef trade was better to-day at higher rates, and all sold well up.

The number of sheep and lambs shown was 6,850. The mutton and lamb trade was better at a little more money, and at close, a good clearance was effected.

The number of pigs shown was 1,135. The pork trade was good at higher rates.

PRICES FOR THIS DAY SINKING THE OFFAL.

Beef, prime heifers, per stone	9s 0d to	9s 3d
Secondary sorts	8s 6d ..	8s 9d
First-class oxen	8s 9d ..	9s 0d
Middling	8s 3d ..	8s 6d
Cows and inferior	6s 6d ..	7s 3d
Pigs	5s 6d ..	7s 0d
Sheep, small, per lb.		8½d to 8¾d
" large fat, per lb.		8d to 8½d
Lambs, per lb.		7½d to 8½d.

Nos: Cattle, 2,270; sheep and lambs, 11,080; pigs, 979.

Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH.

Stations.	Week Days. a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
NEWCASTLE Dep.	6 10	9 40	11 0	12 20	2 30	5 30	7 30
Scotswood ,,	6 17	9 47	11 7	12 27	2 37	5 37	7 37
Swalwell ,,	6 24	9 54	11 14	12 34	2 43	5 44	7 44
Rowlands Gill ,,	6 34	10 4	11 24	12 44	2 53	5 54	7 54
Lintz Green ,,	6 40	10 10	11 30	12 50	2 59	6 0	8 0
Ebchester ,,	6 53	10 20	11 40	1 0	3 12	6 10	8 13
Shotley Bridge ,,	6 59	10 24	11 44	1 4	3 18	6 14	8 19
CONSETT Arr.	7 5	10 30	11 50	1 10	3 23	6 20	8 25
CONSETT Dep.	7 10	10 32		1 12	3 25	4 35	6 33
Knitsley ,,	7 21	10 43		1 23	3 36	4 46	6 44
Lanchester ,,	7 30	10 53		1 32	3 45	4 55	6 53
Witton Gilbert ,,	7 38	11 1		1 40	3 53	5 3	7 1
Aldin Grange ,,	7 45	11 9		1 47	4 0	5 10	7 9
DURHAM Arr.	7 50	11 15		1 52	4 5	5 15	7 15
	a.m.		a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
DURHAM Dep.	7 25		11 27	2 35	3 30	5 10	8 10
Aldin Grange ,,	7 32		11 43	2 41	3 37	5 17	8 17
Witton Gilbert ,,	7 40		11 50	2 48	3 45	5 25	8 25
Lanchester ,,	7 50		12 0	2 58	3 55	5 35	8 35
Knitsley ,,	8 2		12 10	3 8	4 5	5 45	8 45
CONSETT Arr.	8 12		12 20	3 18	4 15	5 55	8 55
CONSETT Dep.	8 15	9 10	12 35	3 25		5 56	9 2
Shotley Bridge ,,	8 20	9 15	12 40	3 30		6 0	9 7
Ebchester ,,	8 24	9 19	12 44	3 34		6 4	9 12
Lintz Green ,,	8 34	9 29	12 52	3 44		6 14	9 22
Rowlands Gill ,,	8 39	9 34	12 57	3 50		6 20	9 28
Swalwell ,,	8 47	9 42	1 5	3 57		6 27	9 36
Scotswood ,,	8 54	9 49	1 11	4 4		6 34	9 43
NEWCASTLE Ar	9 5	10 0	1 20	4 15		6 45	9 53

SUNDAYS.

	a.m.	p.m.		a.m.	p.m.
NEWCASTLE	7 30	7 20	CONSETT dep.	8 35	8 20
Scotswood	7 37	7 27	Shotley Bridge	8 40	8 25
Swalwell	7 44	7 34	Ebchester	8 44	8 29
Rowlands Gill	7 54	7 44	Lintz Green	8 54	8 39
Lintz Green	8 0	7 50	Rowlands Gill	8 59	8 44
Ebchester	8 13	8 0	Swalwell	9 8	8 53
Shotley Bridge	8 19	8 4	Scotswood	9 14	8 59
CONSETT arr.	8 25	8 10	NEWCASTLE ar.	9 25	9 10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

First, second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains:—

	a.m.	p.m.		a.m.
NEWCASTLE	7 10	4 15	DURHAM dep.	7 55
Scotswood	7 17	4 22	Aldin Grange	8 1
Swalwell	7 24	4 30	Witton Gilbert	8 9
Rowlands Gill	7 34	4 40	Lanchester	8 20
Lintz Green	7 40	4 46	Knitsley	8 32
Ebchester	7 53	4 59	CONSETT late Benfieldside	8 45
Shotley Bridge	7 59	5 5		8 50
CONSETT late Benfieldside	8 5	5 12	Shotley Bridge	8 55
	9 20		Ebchester	8 59
Knitsley	9 32		Lintz Green	9 9
Lanchester	9 41		Rowlands Gill	9 15
Witton Gilbert	9 50		Swalwell	9 22
Aldin Grange	9 59		Scotswood	9 29
DURHAM arr	10 5		NEWCASTLE dp	9 40

SALTBURN, STOCKTON, & DARLINGTON BRANCH

Stations.	Week Days. a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
NEWCASLE dep.	...	...	9 40	...	...	...	5 30
CONSETT	...	8 20	10 37	...	2 0	...	6 25
Rowley	...	8 30	10 46	...	2 10	...	6 34
Burnhill	...	8 40	10 55	...	2 20	...	6 43
Tow Law	...	8 53	11 8	...	2 33	...	6 56
CROOK arr.	...	9 5	11 20	...	2 45	...	7 8
dep.	7 35	9 7	11 23	1 5	2 52	5 30	7 13
Bishop Auckland	8 0	9 31	11 43	1 29	3 12	6 3	7 37
Darlington	8 30	10 0	12 10	2 0	3 45	6 45	8 8
Stockton	8 56	10 31	12 35	2 29	4 13	7 18	8 36
Middlesbro'	9 5	10 41	12 50	2 38	4 30	7 31	8 47
SALTBURN	9 2	11 15	1 25	3 12	5 5	8 5	9 58

Stations.	Week Days. a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
SALTBURN dp.	5 50	8 5	9 52	...	1 40	3 45	5 40
Middlesbro'	6 27	8 40	10 25	12 50	2 13	4 20	6 5
Stockton	6 37	8 48	10 35	12 57	2 21	4 28	6 23
Darlington	7 8	9 18	10 52	1 22	3 0	4 54	6 55
Bishop Auckland	7 49	9 54	11 21	1 56	3 26	5 33	7 48
CROOK arr.	8 10	10 16	11 42	2 16	3 47	5 55	8 10
dep.	8 13	...	11 44	2 20	...	6 5	...
Tow Law	8 25	...	11 56	2 32	...	6 20	...
Burnhill	8 40	...	12 8	2 45	...	6 35	...
Rowley	8 50	...	12 17	2 55	...	6 45	...
CONSETT arr.	9 0	...	12 25	3 5	...	6 55	...
N'WCASTLE	10 0	...	1 20	...	...	...	...

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LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

Thursday, October 30th.—Before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), the Rev J. P. De Pledge, and Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

In the case preferred by the Lanchester School Attendance Committee against *John Ross*, of Annfield Plain, for not sending his daughter regularly to school—which was adjourned from the previous Court for the production of a medical certificate—the schoolwarden (Mr Ward) stated that he had seen Mrs Ross on that day week, when she informed him that the doctor would not give the necessary certificate, and for the period mentioned in the summons, the mother stated that the child was able to go to school. Mr Ward added that at the present time the girl was unwell, and could not attend.—The Chairman said the magistrates were disposed to take lenient view of the matter, and dismiss this offence; although it must be clearly understood that the child must attend regularly in future.

DRUNKENNESS.

A respectable young man, named *Joseph Hughes*, pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly.—P.C. Wood stated that on the 18th inst., he was called into the house of Mrs T. Lakey, at Cornsay Colliery, to eject defendant, who was intoxicated and very noisy.—A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.—Defendant: I think the publican should be fetched up as well as me—serving a man with liquor until he is drunk, and then put him into the hands of the police.—The Chairman: That case is not before us at present. You are quite right that the publican ought to be brought up; but that fact does not make your conduct any better.

John Moses was charged by P.C. Esson with being drunk and incapable at Craghead, at 9·30 on the night of the 20th October. Defendant was exceedingly quarrelsome, and the officer had to employ two men to escort Moses home.—Defendant admitted the offence, and was mulcted in a penalty of 5s and costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Ten miners, *Edward Herdman*, *William Henderson*, *Patrick Murphy*, *William Grey*, *Henry Wardle*, *Martin McCormick*, *Mark Henderson*, *John Gair*, *John Thompson*, and *John Thomas Irvine* were summoned by P.C. Turner for playing at pitch and toss at Hedleyhope, on the 19th inst.—The officer deposed to seeing the defendants, along with a number of other men, "schooling" on the highway close to the style at Hedleyhope, between eleven and twelve o'clock on the Sunday forenoon. Wm. Henderson was engaged in throwing up the coppers, and the men were betting on the results. Herdman was changing money.—Wm. Henderson, Herdman, and Murphy, admitted the offence, the other offenders pleaded not guilty, alleging that there was no money in the "school" at all.—Turner said that he watched the whole of the men just behind the wall.—The Chairman remarked that it was exceedingly strange that pitmen should select Sunday for indulging in this demoralising pastime. The Bench believed all the defendants to be guilty, and they would have to bear a fine of 2s 6d each, and 5s 6d expenses.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

A single man, named *Patrick Jennings*, a coke drawer employed at Cornsay Colliery, pleaded guilty to a charge of assaulting P.C. Wood while in the execution of his duty, on the 19th inst.—The officer stated that about 9·30 on the evening named, he was standing in the village of Cornsay, when a stone came whizzing close past him and struck the wall. No one else was astir save the defendant, accordingly he followed the man into the public-house, and demanded his name and address. These he refused to give, and the officer took Jennings into custody, when he resisted very violently, and dealt the policeman a blow. Subsequently, the defendant gave his name and address, and he was set at liberty. The man was not intoxicated, although he had partaken of some drink.—The Chairman: Was there any other person who might have thrown the stone?—P.C. Wood: There was no one else in the street.—The Chairman, after consulting with his colleagues, pointed out that the defendant had, upon his own admission, committed a most serious assault upon the officer by throwing a stone at him without receiving the slightest provocation. It was the duty of the Bench to protect the police, and the defendant would be fined 20s, and pay 27s as costs; or one month in case of default.

THREATS.

James Brown was charged with using threatening language to Henry Bell, at Esh, on the 18th inst.—As neither party put in an appearance, the case was dismissed, and the complainant mulcted in the Court fees.

ALLEGED ASSAULT AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Bridget Gardner, an elderly person, charged *Ann Brianton*, a married woman (who figured in the dock carrying a child in her arms) with having assaulted her at Annfield Plain, on the 21st of this month. Defendant was further accused of assaulting the complainant's daughter, Cecilia Gardner, on the same occasion.—Mrs Gardner testified that on the day referred to, she had just been feeding the pigs, when the defendant stood in a door-way close to her, and used a very offensive epithet to her, and as she (complainant) was passing the door, Mrs Brianton threatened that she would take her life. Although Mrs Gardner professed to be afraid of the defendant, she marched past the door-way, when the defendant rushed after her with a mugful of soft water and "flashed" it in her face, the contents being spilled over her clothes. Complainant walked away without uttering a single word; but the defendant again came up and declared that she would take her life. While Mrs Gardner was subsequently standing inside the door of her own dwelling, the defendant ran up to her, and snatched hold of the pail she was carrying, struck her with the "cree," causing her to fall against the door. Her antagonist again threatened to kill her, and thereafter severely attacked her with her fists, scratching her face and neck until she was covered with blood and hardly recognisable. The defendant and her husband had been lodging with the complainant until they could find a suitable house for themselves.—Replying to the defendant, Mrs Gardner denied that she struck at her on the previous day (the 20th), or turned her out of the house and kept her husband inside, while she wandered about the streets with a child in her arms, and ultimately had to seek refuge in a neighbour's house. She never tossed a pailful of water over her as she was going to Mr Weston's shop earlier on in the day.—Peter Boyle, miner, was called by the complainant, but he declined to offer any evidence until his day's wages were granted.—The Chairman informed him that he had better state what he had witnessed, and that question could be decided afterwards. Witness then spoke observing the defendant with a stick two feet long in her hands, while she was "arguing" with the complainant, but he never saw the former molest Mrs Gardner in any way. Defendant, however, struck at the complainant's daughter and her little boy as they were coming out of the house.—Defendant stated that this witness was not present at the beginning of the fracas.—Cecilia Gardner said that on the 21st inst., she was proceeding to Mr Weston's shop for some groceries, when the defendant came and struck at her, and taking hold of her by the throat accosted her with the remark, "You soft bitch; I'll take your life. I'll watch you night and day." Next, the defendant caught hold of her mother by the arm, and also struck her two or three times.—By the defendant: Never picked up half-brick and threw it at her, or tossed any water over her.—Defendant alleged that on Monday, 20th inst., the complainant took a quantity of bread out of the pantry belonging to her, and gave it to her (complainant's) husband to eat. When she remonstrated with Mrs Gardner, both the latter and her daughter assaulted her by striking her; and afterwards turned her out of the house, leaving her to wander about all night with a baby in her arms. She repeatedly returned to the house and demanded admittance, or requested that her (defendant's) husband should be sent out to protect her, but neither of her requests were heeded, and at length she was compelled to seek shelter from the cold blast in the house of a neighbour, Mrs Rook. On the succeeding morning, as she was going past the door, the complainant scattered the contents of a bucket of dirty water over her, which caused her a vast amount of annoyance, as she had just washed herself, and was attired in a clean apron. (Laughter.) Mrs Gardner next appeared with a stick, and hit her, but she managed to wrench the weapon from the complainant and returned the blows. Then the daughter figured on the scene, and hurled half a brick at her head, but luckily the missile missed her. She likewise "settled" this person with a blow from the stick.—Mrs Rook corroborated Mrs Brianton's story, and added, in reply to the Bench, that although the defendant's husband was in Gardner's house, he never interfered or came to his wife's assistance.—P.C. Minto adduced that on the night in question, Mrs Brianton came and informed him that she wanted her husband out of Gardner's house, but they refused to allow him to leave, or let her go inside the place to him. He knew nothing about the assault, but he believed one party was equally as bad as the other. (Laughter.)—The evidence being so contradictory, the Magistrates declined to convict, and dismissed both the charges, ordering the complainants to defray the costs (5s 6d) between them.

WILFUL DAMAGE

Mark Henderson, a boy, was found guilty of damaging underwood, to the amount of 2d, the property of Mr Henry Smith, of Quebec, on the 18th October. When caught, the defendant gave the name of Thompson.—The Bench let him off on payment of the amount of damage and Court costs, —5s 9d in all.

GAME TRESPASS.

John Robinson and *John Dobson*, of Tow Law, were summoned by Walter Phipps, gamekeeper to Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, of The Woodlands, for trespassing in pursuit of conies.—A gamewatcher said that on the 23rd inst., he observed the defendants in the plantation, known as the Sawmill Wood, on the estate of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., of Broadwood Park. They had a number of nets (produced) covered over the holes, and in one of them was a rabbit. The men were right in the centre of the plantation, a long distance from any public road.—Robinson confessed his guilt, and the Bench, believing him to be in all probability an accomplished poacher, imposed the full penalty allowed in such cases, viz., 40s and 9s 6d costs, with the alternative of one month's hard labour. Dobson did not respond to the summons, and a warrant was taken out against him.

A TRUMPERY CHARGE.

Wm. Charlton, *Peter Iveson*, and *Edward Smiles*, of Hedleyhope, were placed in the dock on a charge of trespassing in search of conies on land in the occupation of Mr Wm. Nicholson, auctioneer, of Stowe House, near Cornsay, on the 24th inst.—Dr Carr stated that the defendants were in the fields with the full consent and permission of Mr Nicholson, and as that gentleman was unable to be present that day, he consequently asked for an adjournment.—This course, however, the magistrates declined to pursue, the Chairman remarking that a telegram had been received from Mr Nicholson, to the effect that if Smiles was fined, he would pay the penalty.—Henry Conway stated that the charge had been withdrawn against a fourth person of the name of Knox.—A young lad was sworn, and testified that on the day in question, he saw the defendants go through one of Mr Nicholson's fields, accompanied by two dogs in "leaders." He did not know the breed of the animals, but he believed they were greyhounds. There was a public footroad running accross the field, and the men might be a couple of yards or so from the footpath. Witness gave his evidence somewhat reluctantly, and Dr Carr said there was no charge against the defendants.—Conway said the lad was telling a different story now, and asked for the case to be postponed, as other two witnesses were forthcoming if necessary, but the Bench, amid an outburst of laughter in Court, ordered the defendants to be discharged.

ASSAULT UPON A SHERIFF'S BAILIFF.

William Stobbart, a horse dealer, of Leadgate, failed to appear to answer a charge of committing an assault upon Mr Thomas Wilson, the bailiff for the High Sheriff of Durham, on October 17th. P.C. Symon stated that since the summons was served, he had learnt that the defendant had gone off to Australia.—Prosecutor deposed that on the 17th inst., he was sent from Durham on a warrant by the Sheriff to take possession of Stobbart's goods at Leadgate. When he arrived, the defendant was not at home, but he came in about a quarter to seven p.m. Seeing the prosecutor, Stobbart exclaimed, "What are you doing here?" to which he replied, "I have a warrant from the Sheriff of Durham to distrain upon your goods." Prosecutor produced the warrant, also a bill of sale, which was read over by the defendant's son-in-law. After the items had been enumerated, the defendant said, "I do not owe that money," and straightway ordered him off the premises. Prosecutor refused to leave until he received orders to that effect from Durham. Stobbart thereupon seized him by the coat, tearing his overcoat, and forcibly dragged him across the kitchen floor, finally thrusting him out of the door. Next, the defendant tossed his hat, stick, and overcoat after him.—The Chairman: You gave him no provocation further than to state your business?—Prosecutor: None whatever.—It was decided to issue a warrant for the apprehension of the defendant.

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BIRTHS.

Shotley Bridge.—27th inst., the wife of George Siddle, of a daughter.

South Moor Colliery.—On the 23rd inst., the wife of William Welsh, of a daughter.

Ryton, Ascot.—On the 25th inst, Mrs J. E. Joel, of a son, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

Register Office, Lanchester.—27th inst., Mr T. Simpson, to Miss Margaret Ann Dodds, both of Stanley.—28th inst., Mr John Armstrong, to Miss Ann Potts, both of Quebec.

DEATHS.

Leadgate.—20th inst., aged 27, Elizabeth Jane, the wife of John Hetherington. 754t

Browney Colliery.—28th inst., Elizabeth, infant daughter of Wm. Hill, miner.

Waterhouses.—25th inst., aged 54, Isabella, wife of Mr Henry Archer, miner.

Prudhoe.—Half-Way Houses, 30th Inst., aged 23, James, youngest son of the late Moses and Hannah Douglas.

Auckland, New Zealand.—At his residence, Princes Street, on August 14th, Joseph Robley, aged 71 years, late of Shotley Bridge, Co. Durham. 747t

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