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

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,309. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, September 11th, 1885. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

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.

Money.

£300 TO LEND on Mortgage of Good FREEHOLD PROPERTY.—Apply, ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 526

Contracts.

SANITARY PIPES.—TENDERS given for SANITARY PIPES, BRICKS, and FIRE CLAY GOODS of all kinds.—Apply to R. CURRY & Co., Delves Lane, Consett.

TO CONTRACTORS.

WANTED, TENDERS for LEVELLING A PIECE OF GROUND, for Lawn Tennis, 105ft. by 40ft.

For particulars apply to J. JOHNSON, The Lodge, Derwent Hill, near Shotley Bridge. 19v

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the SEVERAL WORKS required in the ERECTION OF TWO FIVE-ROOMED HOUSES and OFFICES, at Whickham, for Mr. WIGHAM, Byermoor.

Drawings and Specifications may be seen at our Offices, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders, sealed and Endorsed, may be delivered to us up to 4 p.m., on Wednesday, September 23rd, 1885.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

September 7th, 1885. 18v

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE GUARDIANS of the Poor of the Lanchester Union invite TENDERS FOR SUPPLYING THE WORKHOUSE, at Lanchester, with FLOUR, GROCERIES, BUTCHER MEET, COFFINS, &c., for Twenty five Weeks from the 30th instant; and also for the SUPPLY OF NEW MILK for Twelve Months from the same date.

Forms of Tenders, specifying the quantities of the various articles required, may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom Sealed and Endorsed Tenders, with Samples (so far as practicable) should be sent not later than Wednesday, the 23rd instant.

The Guardians do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any of the Tenders.

WM. HENRY KITSON, Clerk to Guardians.

Lanchester, September 10th, 1885. 42v

Lost.

LOST, between Blackhill and Fieldhead, a GOLD WATCH KEY, and SEAL, marked "Margaret"—Any one returning the above to Mrs. WILSON, Fieldhead, will be rewarded. 24v

LOST, from Healeyfield, an Old Black CUR DOG; name "Toss."—Any one returning him, or giving information to E. LEYBOURNE, Castleside, will be rewarded. 3?v

2s. REWARD.

LOST, in the last week of August, between Stanley and Consett, a PHÆTON CUP.—Any one returning the same to Mr. GREEN, Oxhill, will receive the above Reward. 21v

Found.

FOUND, a young Black RETRIEVER DOG, at Annfield Plain. If not claimed in three days will be sold to pay expenses.—Apply to THOMAS BROWN, Happy Land. 23v

FOUND, since May last, TWO SCOTCH HOGGS.—Any person applying to JOHN GALLEY, of Stuart Field Lodge, and giving the proper marks, can have them again by paying the expenses. If not claimed within seven days will be sold. 39v

Wanted.

WANTED, AGENTS to push first class Machinery Oils. Liberal Commission.—Box 22, Post Office, Liverpool. 771u

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, accustomed to Bake and Wash; age 17 to 19.—For references, apply to B. ARMSTRONG, Newsagent, Havannah, Stanley. 27v

ON COMMISSION.—WANTED, for the Counties of Durham and Northumberland, a respectable person to represent one of the leading Lubricating and Machinery Oil Firms in the Trade.—Apply by letter to Box X., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 793u

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.

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

WANTED, LADIES and YOUNG MEN, to take pleasant Work at their own homes; 2s. to 5s. a day easily made; work sent by Parcels Post; no canvassing; no stamp for reply.—LORRAINE and FORRESTON, Hastings. 662u

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

To Let.

TO LET, a HOUSE of Five Rooms, situate in Sherburn Terrace, Consett.—Apply to GEORGE HAWDON, Consett. 9v

TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP, suitable for Butcher, Grocer, or any other Business; Rent, £14.—Apply to WM. WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate.

TO LET, FURNISHED BED-ROOM and SITTING-ROOM.—Apply to Mrs. DAVISON, Harvey Street, Consett. 978u

TO LET, with immediate possession, a HOUSE and SHOP, situate at 54, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer, Durham Road, Blackhill. 31v

TO LET, with immediate possession, a comfortable Five-roomed HOUSE, situate on Iveston Road, Leadgate.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer and Agent, Blackhill. 310u

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—SWISS COTTAGE TO LET. Part of the above Cottage is in first rate order, and newly drained.—Apply to Mrs. BELL, on the Premises. 470u

TO LET, with immediate possession, the BUSINESS PREMISES in Front Street, Leadgate, comprising large SHOP and spacious SHOW-ROOMS above, as occupied for upwards of Twenty years by R. W. SHAW, Draper. moderate Rental.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 960u

TO LET, and may be entered on the 28th inst., the HOUSE and SHOP and STABLE, &c., situate at 20, Durham Road, Blackhill, long occupied by the Owner, the late Mrs. Green.—The present Owner, on the Premises, will show the House and Shop, &c., and as to Letting, apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer, Blackhill. 37v

TO LET, at Catchgate, a HOUSE and SHOP, lately in the occupation of Mr. J. W. Davison, Furniture Broker. These Premises were originally built for a first-class Butcher's Shop, having an excellent Slaughter House, fine dry Cellar (cemented, well-aired, and adapted to keep meat in warm weather). There is also a good Two stalled STABLE, and all necessary Conveniences. The Shop is well situated, and suitable for any business. A capital opening for a Pawnbroker or Auction Mart.—Apply to GEO. HOBSON, Harperley Mills, Lintz Green. 677u

For Sale.

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, at 1d. per lb.—Apply at the *Guardian Office*, Consett.

FOR SALE, a HOUSE, containing Four Rooms, in Sherburn Terrace.—Apply to JOSEPH MURRAY, Consett. 974u

FOR SALE, a HOUSE, containing Four Rooms, with large Cellar, in Edith Street, Consett.—Apply to JOSEPH MURRAY. 975u

FOR SALE, a fine LITTER OF YOUNG PIGS.—Apply to JOHN G. JACKSON, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain. 22v

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a Useful MARE and FOAL; good worker; quiet in all harness; six years old.—Apply B. ARMSTRONG, Havannah, Stanley. 26v

FOR SALE, a fine LITTER OF PIGS.—Apply to ROBERT ANDERSON, Mosswood Farm, near Consett. 34v

FOR SALE, a grand MILCH COW, newly calved.—Apply to JAMES WALKER, East Stobbs House, Dipton, *via* Lintz Green. 38v

FOR SALE, several Incalving HEIFERS, close to profit, good quality, and one Calved.—Apply to Mr. GEO. HOBSON, Harperley Mills, near Catchgate.

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.

DRESS GOODS DIRECT FROM THE FACTORY.—Any quantity from One Dress Length upwards SOLD at Manufacturers' Prices. Samples sent Post Free.—HENRY PEASE & Co.' Successors, Railway Mill, Darlington. 840u

TO BE SOLD, by Private Contract, all that Valuable DWELLING-HOUSE, situate at No. 1, Cemetery Road. Blackhill, containing Front Sitting-room, Front and Back Kitchens, and Pantry, on the Ground Floor, and Four Bed-rooms on the Second Floor, Garden in Front, and Kitchen Garden to the Back, together with all necessary Conveniences. The House is substantially-built, in excellent condition, and the situation is healthy, pleasant, and desirable.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer, Blackhill; or to the OWNER, on the Premises. 30v

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 Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

Business Announcements.

AUSTRIAN FLOUR.

UHL AND CO.'S VIENNA FLOUR.

PURVEYORS TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

THE BEST FLOUR FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IS UHL'S VIENNA FLOUR

NUTRITIOUS. DIGESTIVE. WARRANTED PURE.

Yielding an unusual quantity of Bread, and unequalled in quality by any other Flour known. Delivered to all parts of the United Kingdom, in 5 or 20 stone Bags.

For samples and quotations for single or more Bags, apply to

EDWARD FRYD, Sole Agent,
WHITE HART YARD,
(Entrance opposite North-Eastern Bank, Grey Street),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
THE TRADE ALSO SUPPLIED.

UHL'S VIENNA FLOUR

NOW ALSO SOLD BY ALL LEADING GROCERS AND FLOUR DEALERS IN 6LB. COTTON BAGS.

Retailers not yet supplied, please apply to
EDWARD FRYD, SOLE AGENT,
WHITE HART YARD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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.

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.

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; 32, 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

BRICKS! SANITARY PIPES!

FIRE BRICKS, 2½in. and 3in., Quarls, various sizes, Ground Fire-Clay, Common RED BRICKS, RIDGE TILES, FIRE BACKS for Glendinning Ovens, FLUE BRICKS, CHIMNEY TOPS, KITCHEN SINKS, GULLIES, JUNCTIONS, BENDS, ELBOWS, TAPERS, GARDEN EDGING, CEMENT, PLASTER, LATHS, HAIR LIME, TACKS, SAND, COALS, COKE, &c., &c., can be Supplied in Large or Small Quantities by applying to

R. CURRY AND CO.,

☞ DELVES LANE, CONSETT. ☜

STOCK of BRICKS, PIPES, &c., at DELVES LANE DEPOT.

824t CEMENT, PLASTER, &c., at WAREHOUSE, GIBSON STREET.

1885. SECOND ANNUAL SUMMER SALE 1885.

AT

THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS!

9, 9A, AND 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

☞ SALE TO COMMENCE ON FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 7th, AND CONTINUE FOR 21 DAYS,

When we shall offer the WHOLE SURPLUS STOCK OF SUMMER GOODS, together with some SPECIAL PURCHASES FOR CASH, at Prices which must effect a speedy Clearance.

SPECIAL PRICES!

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS!

SPECIAL VARIETY!

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CASH BUYERS!

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR.

CONSETT. 892u

THOMAS H. BATCHELOR

ANNOUCES THE PURCHASE OF THE STOCK OF MR. R. W. SHAW, LEADGATE, AMOUNTING TO OVER £1,030.

☞ LAST WEEK OF SALE.

SPECIAL CLEARANCE OF REMNANTS, AND BALANCE OF R. W. SHAW'S STOCK.

9, 9A, AND 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 919u

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. 583r

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

Business Announcements.

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

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

INDIA RUBBER STAMPS,

FOR Endorsing Envelopes, Cheques, and Postal Cards, Heading Notepaper, Marking Linen and Pigeons, Stamping Monograms, Crests, and fac-similes of Signature.

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Price and Pattern Sheets Free on application.
WILLIAM COLDICOTT,
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WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

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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.

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Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; R. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; WM. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law. 85u

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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.

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ADAM BRODIE,
20u Town Hall Consett.

☞ GREAT BARGAINS!

AT

C. F. COOKE'S,

NOTED CHEAP SHOP,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

ARRIVAL OF SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF NEW GOODS FOR THE SEASON.

NEW DESIGNS IN MEN'S SUITS, FROM 14s. 6d., 30s., and 39s. 6d.

BLACK WORSTED SUITS, FROM 24s. 6d.

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GRAND LOT OF MEN'S FELT HATS and CAPS, IN ALL THE LEADING SHAPES, ALL AT LOW PRICES.

C. F. COOKE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

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JOINER, UNDERTAKER, AND FURNITURE BROKER.
SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT, SOLD OR EXCHANGED.
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MANUFACTURER OF
RUBBER, STEEL, AND BRASS STAMPS, SELF-INKERS, DATERS AND NUMERATORS,
PEN AND PENCIL STAMPS,
SELF-INKING LINEN MARKERS,
EMBOSSING PRESSES, METAL-BODIED RUBBER TYPE,
AUTOGRAPHS, MONOGRAMS, CRESTS, &c. 809t
9, GRAINGER ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

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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.

ROBERT JACKSON'S,

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY

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STREET, CONSETT.

☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

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THOMAS MILNER,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,

☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT,

Respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the

TAR ELIXIR PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP

Prepared by Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.

PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

Also, the THYMO CRESOL UNIVERSAL PURIFIER, most excellent as a Disinfectant and Wash for Cattle.

Price 6d. and 1s. per Bottle, or 2s. 6d. per Quart.

☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S McDOUGALL'S, LITTLE, & CO.'S, JEYE'S, COOPER'S, and WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips.

ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS AND PURGING BALLS FOR HORSES.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

☞ HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Milner's Dandelion and Podophyllyn Pills. Excellent for the Stomach, and all diseases of the Liver.

Sarsaparilla Blood Purifying Mixture.

HOP BARK AND TONIC BITTERS IN 6d. PACKETS.

FINEST COD LIVER OIL. TASTELESS ITALIAN CASTOR OIL.

ORANGE QUININE WINE. QUININE AND IRON TONIC, &c.

CHOLERA AND DIARRHŒA MIXTURE, 1s. per Bottle.

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON WINE MIXTURE, 1s. PER BOTTLE.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

HAIR RESTORERS' PERFUMES, POMADES.

TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

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

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MILNER, CHEMIST,
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, CONSETT. 984t

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 1885.

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.

MR JONES AND HIS CRITICS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I beg to declare my opinions of your correspondent of last week in connection with Mr Jones and the blasphemy laws. You will admit that, in a free country, we all have a right for a free speech; but while the Blasphemy Laws exist a sceptic, &c., dare not avow their opinions in honest speech. I say it is monstrous and illogical to administer any laws with such impartiality to free people in a free country. The Blasphemy Laws are only the remnant of mediæval cruelty and arrogance, and are used nominally to punish blasphemy, but really to punish outrages on men's feelings, and so are used hypocritically and dishonestly to revenge man's feeling, under cover of jealousy for God's honour. It is not in accordance with justice to place any man in gaol for either declaring in public, or publishing in print, what are honestly and seriously his opinions on the subject of religion, and he is a bigot and tyrant of the first water who would prevent such because it violates his religious feeling, and it is irrational for him to presume to punish men, not for offences against his fellow men, but for offences against his Maker—offences which none save God is competent to judge. If it be true that there is an omniscient and omnipresent being who will judge us according to our acts in this life, then it is irrational and hypocritical of man to presume to take God (whom we are told is omnipotent) under his protection. Your correspondent says that if Mr Jones goes to Parliament he will simply be the mouth-piece of a class. I think that your correspondent has taken a wrong conception of Mr Jones, for almost every question that has been asked him has been answered to the satisfaction of the questioner; and I think he will almost entirely represent the wishes of the whole constituency. Can a man who befriends the blasphemer have the confidence of a religious community, if they are of the class we generally meet with? No. But if they are men who believe in allowing their fellow-men the liberty of forming their own opinions on such matters? Yes. I think your correspondent is of the former. Why should a man be punished for an honest expression of opinion? An indecent expression of opinion ought to be punished simply for its indecency without regard to the truth or falsity—the popularity or unpopularity of the opinion. I think your correspondent is deluded as to what a blasphemer really is. I would advise him to consider before he shows to the public the superstitious bigotry and selfishness of his creed. Furthermore, he thinks that all professing Christianity (what a noble title, I am glad to know that he acknowledges there are some who only profess) should join as one man, and send to Parliament a man who would not pledge himself to give an equal right to his opponent in the matter of religion. Was ever such a selfish proposal known to be made? What a glorious religion it must be that has to be defended in such a manner. He quotes a great authority, who says:—"Serious arguments are fair on all sides. And that Christianity is but ill-defended by refusing audience to the objections of unbelievers." I will quote an equally eminent authority, the Rev Dr Eddy, who advises "ministers not to answer the arguments of infidels, and gives this wonderful reason, that the hearers will get more doubts from the answer, than from the original arguments." Also the Rev Hawkins admits that he cannot defend Christianity from infidel attacks without creating more infidelity. Sir, I feel it is my duty, as one of the party who put the question, to say a few words in answer to the epistle signed "True Blue," in last week's *Guardian*. The question was put not with a view to draw him, but because we honestly believe that the blasphemy laws are but the remnants of mediæval cruelty and tyranny, and that the time has come when these odious relics of past bigotry were decently buried out of the sight of men.—Yours, &c., TYRO.

White-le-Head, Sept. 8th 1885.

MR ATHERLEY JONES'S POLITICS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—To one who has attended very few political meetings, and who obtains his ideas of things political from books and papers, the Radical meeting at Dipton last week was an excellent comedy. It illustrated how far a "carpet-bagger" may go with safety in his deception of men ready and willing to be deceived. One is sorry indeed to find that the cry, "Down with everything and everybody" meets with so earnest a response in this Division. Well may every well-wisher of his country strive that the fruits of education may show themselves, and that early. One of the most sublime of our candidate's doctrines is that concerning Peasant-proprietorship. Agreeing with Mr Jones that the Land Laws require altering, permit it to be said that that scheme which suits France where the people do not increase "in almost geometric ratio" would not suit this land with its huge and ever-increasing population. A land-owner has four fields, he dies, and, by law, leaves a field to each of his four sons. Can those four sons support themselves on a field each? But supposing the owner of one of these fields should die, and leave that field to be divided among *his* three sons? What then? We should speedily have the descendants of the original owner with as much land as they could stand upon! Well do some of those wicked Tories laugh in their sleeve, and say, "What dreamers those Radicals are." The Liberal candidates in the county are striving with all their strength that Englishmen may forget the faults and crimes of the late Gladstone ministry, and may only remembers their one righteous act, the giving of a vote to the new electors. By all means ought this kindness of theirs, to be returned. By all manner of means return to them with good wishes the vote they have bestowed It was a noble gift, although one which might have been given a little earlier. The King of Spain received a German uniform, and a position in the Prussian army some time ago. Is he, therefore, because of this gift to forget the terrible insult the Germans have offered his nation by seizing the Caroline Islands. Mr Gladstone has given to his countrymen that priceless gift to a freeman, an honest vote. Are we therefore to forget that for four years it was a disgrace to call oneself an Englishman? Are we to remain blind to the fact that the astute German Chancellor simply laughed at British diplomacy, and insulted in his White books our trembling Cabinet? Five more years such as we have passed through would utterly demoralise the nation. Was not the cry then, "What crime, what blunder next?" The world laughed, while British statesmen, sitting at home at ease, played at soldiers in the Soudan. Civilisation wept when it was found how easily the tyrant of North-East Europe played with and deceived the statesmen of Britain. When the Radicals later on in the year record their votes for Mr Gladstone's Government, let them remember with an uneasy conscience that every vote is a vote for Russia. She is quiet now. She waits the election, when our lambs will return once more to office, if the nation wills. Should the late Premier be returned, can we expect anything better than a disaster as ignoble as that which occurred when he attempted to extract heavy metal out of a beer-barrel? Very loud and outspoken are the promises made by our candidate in different parts of the county. They are ever so before elections. But the voice which rings so loudly through our village halls will sink into less than a whisper in the House of Parliament. After all, the coming struggle best appears in this light: "Is a man to permit his enemy to shoot him, if that enemy has given him £100.—Yours truly, DERWENTDALE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Mr A. Jones told us at Stanley, that he believed "Free education would not add a single penny to the burdens of the ratepayers." Free education means Universal School Boards, and the closing of the voluntary schools Let me ask Mr Jones, and my fellow electors to study the following from the *Chronicle* of Sept. 9th:—"Mr A. Mills, a prominent member of the London School Board, has been making this calculation, it is worth considering. Of the nearly 19 000 efficient elementary schools in England and Wales, about 4,000 are Board Schools, and over 14,000 voluntary. Of the 3½ million children in attendance, two-thirds at least are in voluntary schools. The remaining one-third are in Board Schools, at a cost of nearly five millions a year. If from any cause the two-thirds now in voluntary schools were thrown into Board Schools, an additional sum of seven or eight millions sterling would have to be provided from some source" In order to have free education, a sum at least equal to the present education grant, would need to be added to the "seven or eight millions," to make up for the loss of fees and voluntary subscriptions. Will Mr Jones tell us how this large sum can be provided without adding a "single penny to the burdens of the ratepayers?" This is an age of certificates and examinations. I hope the next educational move will be the establishment of a National College for our would-be legislators, where they may obtain certificates assuring us that they have some knowledge of the subjects upon which they speak.—Yours, &c.

AN ELECTOR OF NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

Sept. 9th, 1885.

MR JONES ON DISESTABLISHMENT AND DISENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Mr Atherley Jones, in the course of his political progress through North-West Durham, has, I believe, on every occasion on which he has addressed the electors of this Division advocated the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England. And among the reasons he has given in support of such a measure he has urged that the Church of England ought to support itself as is done by Wesleyans and other Nonconformist bodies. I ventured to state at a recent Conservative meeting that the Church of England did support itself, and publicly offered to give £5 to any Nonconformist minister Mr Jones might name if he could put his finger on £1 which was contributed by the state to the support of the Church. Mr Jones, in answer to this, when addressing the electors at Esh, said it was a quibble to say the Church was not supported by the State, but declined to put his finger on the *requisite* pound because it was a bet, and that it was illegal to bet. I am not in the habit of betting, and I think Mr Jones is hardly complimentary to the intelligence of the people in North-West Durham in so characterising my offer. A bet, I have always understood, is a transaction in which both parties to it venture something and both are liable to lose. In my offer, made seriously, and with a desire to test the accuracy of Mr Jones, he could possibly lose nothing except his reputation for accuracy, which no man is generally unwilling to stake. "But," says Mr Jones, "it is an ingenious quibble for any one to assert the Clergy are not State paid." If in making the assertion I am guilty of a quibble, I am guilty, as Mr Jones will allow, in very good company. Mr Gladstone would hardly be expected to quibble on the subject, and yet we find him saying, through his secretary, in answer to a correspondent at Accrington, who put the question of July, "Mr Gladstone, in reply to your letter, desires me to inform you that the Clergy of the Church of England are not State paid." (See the *Daily News* of 15th February last.) Then Mr Jones in the same address (I quote from report) says, "A large amount of the property of the Church, about five millions, was realised by tithe-rent charges, which had been commuted by Act of Parliament, and this came from the State." Mr Jones surely does not wish the electors of North-West Durham to believe this large sum was provided by the State, and by the State paid to the Church. All that Parliament did in commuting the tithes was to substitute for tithes formerly rendered in kind an equivalent fixed money payment. The tithes were the property of the Church long before; indeed they existed in England before Acts of Parliament. This is Lord Granville's statement, not mine. See the same issue of the Liberal organ I have already quoted. It is a notorious fact that of the five millions of tithes more than half of that sum is in the hands of laymen and paid to them. If the portion which is paid to the Church is taken away from the Church, on what principle is the remainder to be left with the lay impropriators? Probably the answer is it must go too, and then we have confiscation pure and simple. No, Mr Jones, I venture to think you will not find this Disestablishment and Disendowment a wise cry in North-West Durham. In no part of the county of Durham do members of the Church and Nonconformists live more harmoniously together than here. There are few of our Churches built in recent years which, on their erection, have not had the helping hand of the Nonconformists, and there are few chapels which have not equally had the helping hand of the Churchmen. There is room for the labours of all, and all are doing their work nobly. I am glad to find the electors at Esh have your testimony to the great work accomplished by the Church of England, but take care that you do not dig at the root of bitterness, and trouble us with wild schemes of Church Disendowment, which will only engender strife among those who wish to be at peace.—Yours faithfully, JOHN BOOTH.

P.S.—Mr Atherley Jones, at Esh, much over-stated the gross value of the property of the Church of England. Such a figure as he mentioned, over 180 millions, can only be arrived at by valuing all our parish Churches, over which during the last 40 years, 40 millions, or at the rate of one million a year, have been spent as the voluntary offerings of Churchmen. It has been calculated and never disputed that if the income of the Church were equally divided among its ministers there would be a little over £200 a-piece, a sum not greater than the average stipends of Nonconformist ministers.

CONSERVATISM AT MEDOMSLEY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Would you allow me space to correct a statement made by the Chairman of Mr A. Jones's meeting held at Medomsley on Monday night? Mr Walton, on submitting a motion to the meeting in favour of Mr A. Jones being a most suitable man to bring forward to represent the Liberal electors of this Division in Parliament, seeing it was carried unanimously, made the following remarks:—"I think Mr Mills, the Conservative lecturer, was greatly mistaken when he said they had got all the Liberals of this village converted to Conservatives." I beg to state that Mr Mills said nothing of the kind. At the close of his lecture, seeing there was a goodly number of eloquent supporters of the Liberal cause present, and on asking them if they had any questions to ask or to contradict what he had said during his lecture, and being very much surprised that none of them got up, led him to the expression of words like these:—"Has Mr Pyle, Mr Waddington, and those other Conservative speakers you have had here, converted you to the Conservative faith? If so, I am very glad." These were Mr Mill's remarks, and I hope the Chairman of Mr Jones's meeting will be more careful what he says to suit his companies of so-called Liberals in future, and not make remarks with reference to gentleman who attend their meetings.—Yours, &c.

A YOUNG CONSERVATIVE.

Medomsley, Sept. 8th, 1885.

THE "SPLIT" AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Seeing that the electioneering campaigns are going on in real good earnest in the various districts, I am sure you will agree with me that it is a pity the collision between Mr James Joicey and Mr Lloyd Jones has taken place. Mr Jones has been a good supporter of the British workmen, no one will deny, but how he can support his mode of procedure in the Chester-le-Street Division I cannot for one moment conceive. Unity is strength, is Mr Jones's motto; trades' unions are the "one thing needful" to raise British workmen to such preaching we heartily agree; they have done much good, and are very much needed, especially at the present time. Woe to the working men of this kingdom if combinations were done away. Then looking at "unity" or working men combining for their support and for their protection relative to labour, surely "unity" or working men combining to support the Liberal cause, from whence we have, and are now receiving, all the political advantages we enjoy. If "unity" or combination is good in one case, surely it holds equally good in the other case. Take the Consett Division; what a contrast we find. Mr Atherley Jones attended the Council, and stated he was quite willing to be subject to its ruling. Mr L. Jones was asked prior to the Council in Gateshead: "Will you abide by the decision of the Council?" his answer was—No Is Mr Atherley Jones less patriotic than Mr L. Jones? Is Mr Atherley Jones less earnest for the Liberal cause, and for the advance of Britain's sons of toil, if he retains the blood of his father? "and we have evidence that he does." In answer to those two questions we say he is equally as anxious as Mr L. Jones. But, apart from those matters, how can the Liberal cause prosper without Liberals uniting and discussing their cause. Tories do so. Miners hold lodge meetings, and hold their centre in Durham or Newcastle and the same has been done with the various sections of the two divisions—viz., Consett and Chester-le-Street; but in one division one gentleman abides by the Council's decision, in the other things are quite the contrary. Quite apart from the above, take the Joicey family, to say the least, they will compare favourably with any other family or firm of such magnitude. I need only to refer to the late Colonel J. Joicey, when no other Liberal could be got to champion the Liberal cause in Durham, he entered the field and won the day, not only heading the poll, but carried Mr Palmer, M.P., with him. We ought not to forget this. Where was Mr L. Jones at this time? Why did he not come to the Liberal rescue?

Mr L. Jones has frequently been employed by the Durham miners to do office for them. I admit he did his work well but we must remember we had him to support for so doing. I don't complain of this at all, but we must remember our funds would not have been what they are to-day had it not been for the Joicey firm working so practically with their workmen. Again, take the acts of kindness they have done as a firm, the assistance they have given in so many different ways to assist workmen, their works are also in the Division, or mostly so. Mr Joicey has also lived all his life in the Division. his views are the same as Mr Jones's, his age is only about one-half of that of Mr Jones, surely this cannot be any drawback when we consider the position he now holds as head of his firm. Without fear of contradiction, there cannot be a man who will take his seat in the House of Commons with a greater knowledge of commerce than Mr Joicey for his age. He is not a young man either; I suppose he is about 40 years old, and Mr Jones over 70. I do think if Mr Jones and his friends look things fairly in the face he would resign, which, I conclude, would confer more honour upon him than by allowing himself to go to the poll and perhaps allowing a Tory to get in. There is quite a wide difference between Mr Jones and Mr Michael Davitt; when Mr Davitt was asked to stand as a candidate for Parliament he said: "No; people would conclude this was what I have been fighting for," hence his refusal. Concluding with due respect for Mr Jones.—I remain, yours &c.,

ONE FAMILIAR WITH THE PICK.

TOW LAW SALVATION ARMY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I suppose we may expect to see a report in your next issue, about the special services that the Army have had here this week end; and as some of your readers may think that these services have been productive of much good, I wish to say that they have done much more harm than "Billy, the Rope performer," or "The Converted Clown," will be able to overcome for some time to come. On Sunday, very early in the morning when the inhabitants of Tow Law were gently wrapped in sleep, they were aroused from their slumbers by the Army, trumpets and drums, parading the streets. I think, sir, if they wish to attend the knee drill, they ought to do so without disturbing others who wish to remain in their homes; they have made fathers and mothers give vent to language that I dare not mention here and then I am told that during the forenoon they took another tour around the town, and came past the Primitive Methodist Chapel just as the preacher was in the middle of his prayer. I suppose they will say they were on the highway and have a right to do as they choose. I think they would do well to take the advice of the writer who says, "Let all things be done decently and in order," and not cause confusion in other places of worship with their confusion.—I am, yours truly,

ORDER.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST DEMONSTRATION AT ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

MR JONES ON CHURCH AND DISSENT.

The Primitive Methodist Society at Allendale Cottages held a public demonstration on Saturday afternoon, in a field at the rear of their place of worship, kindly placed at their disposal by Mr John Hunter. Although the weather was favourable, the attendance was not so numerous as might have been anticipated, presumably owing to various counter attractions, in the shape of flower shows, being held in different parts of the district. The principal feature of the afternoon was the speaking in the open-air, which commenced about half-past three, the chair being taken by Mr Adam Brodie, of Consett (secretary of the Liberal Council for North-West Durham). After the usual devotional exercises,

The CHAIRMAN briefly opened the proceedings. He remarked that he belonged to a Primitive Methodist family—his father at the time of his decease being the oldest Primitive Methodist in the northern counties. When he saw that Mr Atherley Jones and other gentlemen with whom he was accustomed to associate—not at religious gatherings, but on political platforms—he was rather at a loss to know what shape that meeting should assume—religious or political. Some people maintained that politics and religion ought to be kept apart; but glancing back at the history of this Empire, they would find that the religious movements which had done so much for the development of this country have progressed step by step through the instrumentality of the Liberal party, and religious men—especially the Nonconformists—could not help in some measure being interested in politics. (Cheers.) Their esteemed minister, Mr Yool, had informed him that the speakers were quite at liberty to speak upon politics or religion, as they thought proper, so long as they kept within the bounds of reason. Perhaps some of them would like to hear Mr Jones touch upon political topics; but that point must, of course, be left to that gentleman himself. The Chairman concluded by regretting the absence of two of the speakers—Messrs D. Reed and Patrick Carling—but pointed out that an excellent substitute had been provided in Mr Dennison, solicitor, of Newcastle. (Cheers.)

The Rev H. YOOL, in addressing the assemblage, was glad to represent a community which had always wrought in the direction of elevating the condition of the working classes, and the party to which he was connected had secured some of the noblest triumphs amongst the masses of their fellow-men. (Cheers.) As a Liberal in politics, he believed that those measures which such men as Cobden, Bright, Gladstone, and others of high character, have advanced, and the policy they have pursued, has certainly tended in advancing and elevating the masses of the people very much more than the so-called Tory Democracy (laughter) or Conservative Administrations. He did not know whether, as a minister of the Gospel, he should attempt a political speech, but so far as the spirit of religion was concerned, it always pointed to a state of freedom, and the elevation of the people—morally, socially, and spiritually. (Cheers.) He thought the working-men of North-West Durham would honour themselves in supporting Mr Jones, whose father was the most able advocate of their rights and the most self-sacrificing reformer of the past generation. (Loud applause.) He was glad to find his son was following nobly in his father's footsteps, and he knew that Mr Jones was a "chip of the old block." (Laughter and applause.) One of the greatest discoveries of the age was the finding of the working man. A favourable sign of the times was the spreading aversion to war. He certainly did not advocate peace-at-any-price; but believed that there might occasionally be a prudent and wise course adopted in respect to avoiding a war. A war, which is simply aggresive and has behind it the motives of vain glory, must assuredly bring down the wrath of heaven upon its promoters. Mr Gladstone's labours in connection with the late impending war with Russia will certainly be appreciated in a practical manner by the people at the coming election. (Loud applause.) It is high time working men took their stand against commencing wars for war's sake, and advocated the principles of arbitration in adjusting all disputes and differences between nations. (Cheers.) Slavery had been abolished, but there were many races which were suffering from the tyranny exercised by despotic Governments. Although they did not sympathise with Nihilism in Russia, Socialism in Germany and Spain, Anarchism in France, and Agrarianism in Ireland, still behind these movements they saw the outward form of an oppressed people, who were yearning for the freedom and liberty they were entitled to. He made bold to assert that the Liberal party upheld the principles of justice and freedom, and were the true friends of the working classes; and Mr Chamberlain, at Hull, had sketched out a splendid programme, and he thought they would have to wait a long time before the Tories presented them with such a policy of reform. One of the great measures of the Liberal party was Local Option, which he hoped would soon become the law of the realm. (Cheers.) He believed there was a great desire amongst the masses for the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England, and she ought to be placed on an equality with other sections of the churches. (Cheers.) What would this County of Durham have been, spiritually and morally, had it not been for the amount of good wrought by Methodism during the past 50 years? He did not approve of robbery and spoilation in regard to the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England. Out of the 185 millions of property belonging to the Church, only 100 millions were vested in the life interests of the Church, leaving 80 millions to be devoted to educational and other purposes, or the cultivation of waste lands. This reminded him that there ought to be a thorough reform of the Land Laws of this country. (Applause.)

Mr DENNISON, as an old Primitive Methodist, said he was always pleased to visit the colliery villages, and was gratified to notice the substantial and nice-looking cottages erected for the workmen by (he presumed) the colliery-owners of the district. About 25 years ago, he was accustomed to be amongst the miners of the county of Durham, and a more honest or intelligent set of men he never came into contact with. (Applause.) In selecting Mr Atherley Jones as their Parliamentary representative, they had certainly got the "right man in the right place." (Applause.) He was a total abstainer of long standing—(Voice: "Where's the blue ribbon" and laughter)—he was blue ribbon all through—(laughter)—and he strongly advocated the closing of the public-houses on Sundays, and the passing of the Local Option measure, granting the people the power of vetoing or limiting the drink traffic. He favoured the Disestablishment of the Church of England, and would like to see greater liberties extended to Nonconformists in regard to services held in churchyards; also that marriages should be conducted in Methodist chapels in the same way as in Churches—without the necessity of having the registrar to attend, to certify that a Dissenting minister had properly discharged his office. (Applause.)

Mr ATHERLEY JONES, the selected Liberal candidate for North-West Durham, who was cheered on rising, said he had been twitted a good deal, as some of them knew, because he advocated the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church. No one knowing the history of the religious movements in this country, having the religious welfare of the people at heart, will say that Disestablishment will result in evil to the cause of religion, and that whatever of religious principles and Christian feelings that have been implanted in the hearts of Englishmen is due, not to the influence exercised by the English Church, but may be attributed to the efforts made, under most adverse circumstances and most unpropitious conditions, by the Dissenting sects in this country. (Cheers). Prior to the advent of Methodism, they found the people—not only the lower classes, but all classes—were sunk in the slough of immorality, vice, and profligacy. These were not his words, but the statements of the greatest historians and preservers of individual life during the last and the beginning of the present century. From eloquent lips they learnt that there was no such thing as a religious feeling pervading the community at large. With the advent of the two Wesleys, the founders of Methodism, this state of things was changed. These apostles of Christ went down amongst the coalmines in the neighbourhood of Bristol, and in eloquent words spoke what had hitherto been strange to these men—the true principles of Christianity—until the tears trickled down their grimy cheeks. (Cheers). He would ask—Did the Church of England reach the masses? The answer was—Most emphatically not. (Cheers). In the wealthy suburbs of their large towns the churches were crowded, both on Sundays and on week-nights, by fashionable congregations. In many of the rural villages, however, they would probably not find a church; but if they saw any place of worship it would most likely be a Primitive Methodist chapel. (Loud cheers). It was the Dissenting churches that had been instrumental in instilling the principles of religion and piety in the hearts of the working population. It was the Nonconformists that had achieved most towards the promotion of temperance. What has the Church itself done in support of the temperance cause? With the exception of a few hard-working clergy, the bishops, deans, canons, and other dignitaries, have hardly associated themselves with this popular and wide-spreading movement. He declared emphatically that it was to Dissent, and not to the Church, that the people were to look for their spiritual, moral, and social elevation. (Cheers.) The Disestablishment of the Church was a question of the immediate future, and although the Conservatives were almost to a man opposed to such a scheme, it was a measure that would have to be dealt with in the next Parliament. (Cheers.) With whom is the great Dissenting party in this county going to cast their lot—Liberals or Conservatives? (Voices: "With the Liberals," and cheers.) He failed to see how a Nonconformist could honestly and conscientiously be a Conservative. All measures tending to give the Dissenting bodies greater liberty and freedom has been due to the efforts of the Liberal party. (Cheers.) They abolished Church rates; passed an Act allowing Nonconformist ministers the privilege of conducting their own burial services in churchyards; and also abolished the University Tests Act, despite the opposition offered by the Conservative party. (Cheers.) It was somewhat remarkable that since the passing of this latter measure, many of the cleverest men at Oxford University and the Senior Wranglers at Cambridge, were generally Dissenters or sons of Dissenting parents. (Applause.) He did not mean to imply that Nonconformists possessed more brains than their Church brethren; but there the fact remains. He (Mr Jones) looked forward to the result of the battle—and he supposed there was to be a battle fought in North West Durham—with the hope that they would not dishonour the cause of Liberalism, and he counselled them to carry out the coming contest frankly, fairly, and honestly. He felt convinced that Liberalism would triumph in the future as it had done in the past. (Prolonged applause.)

On the motion of Mr CLARKE (Westwood), seconded by Mr T. MACKEY (Benfieldside), a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, Mr Jones, and the other speakers.

The speeches were interspersed with hymns rendered by the Hamsterley Colliery, Leadgate, and Allendale Cottages Primitive Methodist choirs; and this portion of the proceedings terminated with the singing of the doxology.

During the course of the afternoon, cricket, football, and other innocent games and amusements were resorted to. One of the great attractions was the band of the Newcastle Workhouse boys. A tea for the public was also provided in the schoolroom beneath the chapel. The total proceeds were in aid of the trust funds.

THE SCAFFOLD ACCIDENT AT BLACKHILL.

ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE OF WORKMEN.

On Monday morning, an inquiry was opened before Mr Coroner Grahm, at the Royal Hotel, Benfieldside, into the circumstances attending the death of John Proud, aged 56 years, of Bishop Auckland, who succumbed on Friday night from the effects of injuries sustained by the recent scaffold accident at St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, as recorded in our columns last week. The jury having been empannelled, and Mr Wm Raw selected as foreman, proceeded to view the body, and likewise inspected the precincts of the church, where the calamity occurred. On their return, the following evidence was taken:—

William Proud, mason, living at Whitehaven, Cumberland, but lodging at Sunderland, said his father was a mason, employed by Mr Wm. Ridley, of Tow Law, contractor for the erection of St. Aidan's Church. He expired about eight o'clock on Friday night, at his lodgings, 33, Roger Street, Blackhill, from injuries received by him on the 31st August.

William Ridley, jun., son of the contractor, joiner, employed by his father, said that he was not in charge of the works, but he understood that Robert Wilson had an extra wage for acting as foreman over the joiners. The scaffold poles, three in number, were put up on the Friday previous to the accident in the chancel of the new Church, having ledgers tied to them reaching from the scaffold poles to the wall. The poles were chosen by Wilson himself, who superintended the erection of the scaffold. Wilson also examined the poles and said he thought they would carry. Witness was looking round himself, and told Wilson that one of the poles had not a very good appearance about it. It seemed rather black, indicative of age, but he did not suspect that it was unsound. He did not examine the pole very closely himself. Wilson simply said, in reply to his remark, "I think it will carry us." There were a score of other poles that Wilson could have used had he so desired. There were ledgers from wall to wall; but no ledgers from pole to pole down the centre; only planks laid loose. They worked on the scaffold on the Friday and Saturday with perfect safety, five men being thereon each day. On Monday, August 31st, there were again five men upon the scaffold—John Proud (deceased), Robert Wilson, Harrison Dobson, William Barron, and himself. They started work at 6·30 a.m., and the accident occurred a little after ten o'clock. The scaffold fell, and all the men except himself were precipated upon the ground, witness saving himself by catching hold of a pole and gliding down. When he reached the ground, he saw that Proud and Wilson were lying amongst the *debris* and appeared to be much hurt; but the other two men escaped without material injury. He discovered that the middle pole had broken about 2½ feet below where it was tied to the ledger, and in consequence of this defect the scaffolding gave way. The pieces of wood produced were the corresponding parts of the pole. This was the identical pole he drew Wilson's attention to, as he did not like the appearance of it. He should think, after examination, that about one-half of the pole was quite rotten.

The Foreman: Then you called Wilson's attention to that pole as being imperfect?—Witness: Yes; I did.

Were there any other poles on the ground handy?—Yes, there were any number if Wilson had a mind to use them.

What quantity of material was there on the scaffolding?—There were not many joists at the time of the occurrence, and very few stones for the mason. Proud was "beam-filling" at the time, and a labourer came up occasionally bringing him lime and material, which was used as fast as it was carried up.

By Jurymen: Do you know whether Harrison Dobson was working on the top of the saw-stool when the accident occurred?—I could hardly tell you that.

You will not know whether anybody jumped down off the saw-stool upon the scaffolding?—No, During the Friday and Saturday, was Wilson's attention called to the condition of the platform?—Not that I know of.

The platform was noticed to be swinging to and fro more than usual. Was Wilson's attention directed to the oscillation of the scaffolding?—Not to my knowledge.

William Barron, joiner, in the employment of Mr Ridley, living at Cutlers Hall, stated that he did not say anything to Wilson when he was selecting the scaffold poles, and never heard young Ridley tell Wilson anything All he knew was that he was on the scaffold engaged in pannelling the ceiling, when it fell, and he was thrown upon the ground. Dobson was on the top of a sawstool working at the time the scaffolding collapsed.

By the jury: There was very little material on the scaffold, except a few lathes, and not beyond two or three stones for the mason to work up. Never noticed the scaffold vibrating from one side to the other.

Harrison Dobson, joiner, Consett, said he never examined the scaffolding before it was put up, as he came on to the platform through the roof, expecting that it was all safe. Never heard Ridley's son say anything to Wilson respecting the stability of the poles. He was working on the saw-stool putting in ceiling lathes, and was in the act of descending from the stool on to the scaffolding when it fell.

Cross-questioned by the jury: He believed that he was just in the act of getting off, having placed one foot on the scaffolding, when it suddenly gave way. The saw-stool was only 28 inches in height, and he did not spring off it, but stepped gently down. He did not observe the scaffold oscillating more than was usual with other platforms.

William Ridley, sen., contractor, Tow Law, said that Robert Wilson was his acting foreman. He did not give Wilson any special instructions about erecting the scaffold in the chancel, except that he was to see that everything was done right, and to push on the work.

In answer to questions put by the Coroner and jury, Mr Ridley stated there was a mason's foreman on the works, but he had nothing to do with the erection of the joiners' scaffolding. The scaffold was fixed by Wilson, who was assisted by a labourer named Temperley, now working elsewhere. He saw the scaffold on the Saturday before it broke down, but as he was busy with other matters, and as his attention was not specially directed thereto, he did not pay any particular attention to it. There were three scaffold poles—one 22 feet long, and the other two about 30 feet in length. The chancel was 34 feet in breadth, and the poles occupied that space in four divisions. The middle pole was rotten, and had caused the scaffold to fall, and smashed one of the upright posts. There was not the slightest restriction as to the number of poles or the quantity of timber used. He supposed Wilson had taken this pole because it was handiest, and it was probably the right length for his purpose. Wilson had evidently thought the platform was perfectly secure, otherwise he would not have worked upon it himself.

Mr Raw contended that the scaffold posts were at too great a distance apart, and that the platform was so constructed as to throw all the weight on the centre pole.

A gentleman, who said he represented Wilson, asked young Ridley if the scaffolding was secure for the number of joiners alone? to which he replied that he thought it would carry the weight.

Did you consider it was secure for the joiners' if the masons had not been working upon it?—I had no doubt but that it was perfectly secure for the joiners.

Rev T. J. Storey enquired of Dobson if the scaffold gave way just as he was getting off the saw-stool; and Dobson replied in the affirmative.

John Richley; of Blackhill, who officiated as clerk of the works at the new erection, stated that he was on the scaffold about three or four minutes before it fell. There was a vibration from end to end when they walked along the "planking." There were then six men, besides himself, upon the scaffold. Proud was sitting on the north side of the chancel, "beam-filling." The other men were busy putting up the ceiling joists. After the scaffold fell, he rescued Proud from under some timber—a portion of the scaffolding that surrounded him.

By the jury: He considered the scaffold was perfectly safe, and did not think that any danger was to be apprehended in consequence of the vibrations. He did not watch the scaffolding put up, and failed to observe anything defective about the erection. Wilson and a labourer called Temperley affixed the scaffolding, and as they were experienced men, he took it for granted that the scaffold was perfectly substantial. The broken pole was not a very good one, and he would not have selected it had he being erecting the scaffold himself. He expected that it was the length of the pole that induced Wilson to use it. Dobson was nailing on laths on the principals when he left him a few minutes before the catastrophe.

In answer to Wm. Proud, witness stated that he did not hear the deceased say to his labourer that the scaffolding was unsafe. Was not aware that his (Proud's) father mentioned the fact to Wilson, when the latter laughed in his face.

The Coroner pointed out that if Proud entertained any doubts as to the stability of the scaffold, he ought not to have ascended it; and Mr Ridley stated that he should in that case have laid a complaint to Richardson, his foreman.

Several members of the jury suggested that if Proud had refused to mount the scaffold it might have resulted in his instant dismissal.

Dr Geo. Renton described the nature of the injuries received by the deceased. Shortly after ten o'clock on the morning of the 31st ult., he was called in to see Proud beside St. Aidan's Church. He was in a state of collapse, and was evidently suffering from concussion of the brain. There was a compressed wound on the right side of the head. He subsequently examined the injured man at his lodgings, 33, Roger Street, and also discovered an injury to the substance of the lung, which prevented the irrigation of air and blood. Being unable to detect any fracture of the ribs, he formed an opinion that the injury was by compression of the chest. In the course of 24 hours, the concussion of the brain passed away, and Proud recovered consciousness. The injury to the lung resulted in the inflammation of that organ, from which he died. The injured to the lung, in his opinion, was produced by the weight of material falling up the chest of the deceased, causing his death.

The Jury expressed their dissatisfaction with the evidence before them, believing that the men who erected the scaffolding were guilty of culpable negligence, and with the permission of Dr Renton, it was agreed to proceed to the house of Wilson and cross-question him on certain points. In reply to questions put by the Coroner and the jury, Wilson admitted that he acted as foreman over the joiners, and had charge of the erection of the scaffolding. He selected the material used, and the scaffolding was erected by Nicholas Temperley and himself.

The Coroner: Do you remember Mr Ridley's son calling your attention to the fact that the middle pole was unsafe?—Wilson: I do not recollect.

Did the deceased ever direct your attention to the fact that the scaffold was insecure? Proud never said such a thing to me.

Wilson explained that he selected the pole because it was the right length, and thus saved him the trouble of cutting another prop to suit him. He had not the least idea that the scaffold was not of sufficient strength, as the pole had hitherto been utilised for the same purpose by the builders in the erection of their scaffolding. It was never calculated that the masons as well as the joiners intended to work upon the platform.

On the return of the jury, the coroner again interrogated Wm. Ridley, jun., upon the point that Wilson did not remember ever calling his attention to the faulty scaffold pole, or stating that he thought it would carry them, but Ridley adhered to his assertion, and added that the labourer (Temperly) acknowledged to him that morning that he heard him tell Wilson so.

The coroner informed witness that if he had any doubts as to the substantiality of the pole referred to, he ought to have insisted (as the son of the contractor) that it should be substituted by a fresh post.

The Foreman looked upon it as gross culpability and carelessness for any workman to use a pole which had the appearance of being defective; but Mr J. Eltringham reminded the jury that there was some excuse for Wilson, as the pole had previously been used by the masons and had supported them with safety.

The Foreman contended that all scaffoldings should be erected of sufficient strength to be able to support three times the pressure estimated to be put thereon; and the Coroner thought it ought to have been taken into consideration that the builders would require to utilise the scaffold as well as the joiners.

Mr Eltringham entertained a different opinion, maintaining that it was the duty of the masons and the joiners to erect their own scaffoldings.

After further conversation, the Jury discussed the matter in private for about 20 minutes.

Eventually, a verdict was returned to the effect that the deceased met with his death from injuries received (through the collapse of the scaffold) to his lungs by the weight of material falling upon him and pressing upon his chest; and added a declaration that the scaffold fell in consequence of not having been properly erected—that is to say, through want of ledgers lengthwise, and also owing to the centre pole being defective.

The Coroner entrusted Sergt. Cruickshank (who had charge of the enquiry) with the custody of the broken scaffold poles, &c., in case they might be required at any future period.

TOW LAW FLOWER SHOW.

The twenty-sixth annual exhibition of the Tow Law and District Floral, Horticultural, and Poultry Society was held on Saturday, amid alternations of sunshine and rain, and before a large public attendance, and proved most successful. The exhibits were superior to those of any previous year, and 450 prizes were offered for plants, flowers, fruit, vegetables, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, butter, eggs, and bread, and for industrial, lady amateurs', and school work. Other attractions included a lawn tennis tournament, Professor Hull's Punch and Judy, and brass band selections. There was a choral contest, six choirs competing. The judge (Mr John Tuke, of Durham), gave his decision as follows:—1, £8, Gloucester Street (Newcastle) Part Song Choir (conductor, Mr W. H. Thwaites); 2, £4, Tow Law Choral Society (Mr J. Hughes); 3, £2, Billy Row Wesleyan Methodist Choir (Mr G. Chipchase). The unsuccessful choirs were Crook Methodist New Connexion, Bowden Close Wesleyan Methodist Choir, and the Stanhope Primitive Methodist Choir. The Tow Law New Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr James Mackintosh, also gave a selection of music. The prizes in the horticultural marquee went chiefly to old-accustomed prize-winners. The judges were—Plants, flowers, fruit, and vegetables—Mr T. Green, Castle Gardens, Stanhope; Mr J. Jackson, Willington. Poultry, pigeons, rabbits, butter, eggs, and bread—Mr E. Hutton, Pudsey. Industrial department—Mr R. H. Oughton, Pease West. Lady amateurs' section—Mrs Schofield, Mrs J. E. Learoyd, Mrs W. A. Smith—all of Tow Law. School section—Mr T. C. Brown, Stanhope. Choral contest—Mr John Tuke, Cathedral Choir, Durham.

In the flower department (open) the principal awards were secured by Messrs William Hodgson, Etherley; John Watson, Little Broughton, Northallerton; Thos. Love, Sunnybrow; W. Heseltine, Tow Law; John Elliot, Stanhope; Thos. Burrell, Waterhouses; Thos. Harle, Tow Law; C. Wales, Auckland Park; G. Moses, Stanhope; C. B. Teasdale, Thornley Grove. Amongst cottagers' exhibits, and restricted to residents within three miles, the chief winners were Messrs J. Jackson, J. Walliker, W. Heseltine, G. Hindmoor, R. French, T. Harle, W. Glenton, W. Waugh, W. Craggs, J. Ayton, T. Harle; vegetables, W. Heseltine, J. Fryer, T. Harle, J. Ayton, C. Spedding J. Naggs, W. Craggs, W. Glenton, T. Dowson, jun., J. Walliker, J. Moore, W. Waugh, and J. Graham. The prizes for plain butter were secured by 1, Mrs J. Johnson, Great Broughton, Northallerton; 2, Mrs Hardy, Wheatley Grange, Satley; 3, Miss Reed, Newlandside Farm, Stanhope. Hen eggs—1, R. H. Ashton, Mottram, near Manchester; 2 and 3, Mrs Horne, Castle Bank, Tow Law. For white loaves, Mrs G. Robinson, Dan's Castle, was first, and Mrs R. Rawes, of Tow Law, for brown.

The awards in the industrial department were as follows:—Open.—Fender—1, J. P. Whitfield, Grahamsby; 3, N. Dawson, Tow Law. Article in iron or brass—1, N. Dawson, Tow Law; 2, N. Muse, Darlington. Model engine—1, J. Bates, Bowden Close; 2, J. Young, Hamsteels Colliery; 3, R. Collinson, Hamsteels Colliery; special, R. Crowther, South Hetton. Model church, castle, &c.—1 and 2, J. Ward, Crook; 3, W. A. Smith, Tow Law. Mechanical drawin—2, J. Kipling, West Bitchburn Colliery. Painting in oils—1, F. Hare, Crook; 2 and 3, J. Davidson, Tow Law. Water or crayon drawing (coloured)—1, Miss Simpson, Vicarage, Tow Law; 2, A. Hare, Crook; 3, F. Hare, Crook. Folding screen—1, Mrs T. Hall, jun., Tow Law; 2, L. Bamborough, Bowden Close. Case of stuffed birds—1 and 2, J. Ayton, Thornley.

Lady Amateurs Department.—Quilted quilt and quilted skirt—1, Mrs A. Simpson, Frosterley; 2, Mrs J. Bainbridge, Wear Valley Junction. Knitted ribbed stockings—1, Mrs W. Greener, South Pontop; 2, Miss A. Ayton, Crook; 3, Mrs Little, Witton Park. Darned stockings—1, Mrs Simpson; 2, Mrs Franks, Langley Moor; 3, Mrs T. Armstrong, East Hedleyhope. Crewel work in silk—1, Miss Skelton, Darlington; 2, Miss Heppell, Hedleyhope; 3, Mrs Hood, Tow Law. Crewel work, any other kind—1, Miss Skelton; 2, Miss J. Allison. Hearthrug, hand-made—1, Mrs A. Mills, Crook; 2, Miss Collingwood, Darlington; 3, Mrs A. McKenna, Wishaw. Wool antimacassar or wrap—1, Miss Crawford, New Shildon; 2, Miss M. Crofton, Esh Villa; 3, Miss Collingwood. Tea cosy—1, Miss Crofton; 2, Mrs Hood; 3, Mrs T. C. Hughes, Tow Law. Woolwork not classed—1, Mrs Hood; 2, Mrs Gardiner, Sunniside; 3, L. Kellett, New Shildon.

In the poultry classes, the first prize takers were John J. Christison, Tow Law; J. Christison, Tow Law; T. and G. Kidson, Norby, Thirsk; W. Gray, Tow Law; H. Shorrock, Darwen; R. H. Ashton, Mottram, near Manchester; Urwin and Frankland, Eaglescliffe Junction; John A. Gott, Horsforth; J. and T. Currah, Frosterley; J. Dargue, Crook; Thos. Barkess, Crawley Side, Stanhope. Pigeons—John W. Cuthbert, South Stockton; F. W. Heckle, Guisbrough; H. A. Dowson, East Park, near Tow Law; T. Dinsdale, Fighting Cocks; Blair and Hawdon, Middlesbrough. Rabbits—R. Jamieson, Northallerton; E. Hunt, Ryhope Colliery, Sunderland; T. Dowson, Pickering; G. E. Calvert, Darlington; and J. Webb, Pendleton, Manchester.

WARNING TO MINERS.—The following warning was issued on Monday;—Barometric pressure has lately been very changeable and unsettled through the arrival of several disturbances from the Atlantic. These are now being followed by a brisk rise of the mercury, but the change is not sufficiently advanced to indicate whether it will prove lasting. With these doubtful conditions, it is incumbent on miners to beware of dangerous gas accumulations.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The attention of all sufferers is drawn to these well-known remedies, for they possess conspicuous advantages as a safe and reliable aid in all those emergencies to which travellers, emigrants and sailors are so especially liable. They have been largely patronized by wayfarers by land and sea, and, in fact, by all classes of the community, to their very great advantage. The Pills are beyond all doubt one of the most effective remedies ever discovered for cases of obstinate constipation, confirmed indigestion and colic, complaints which are engendered by exposure and irregular feeding. The Ointment will be found of the very greatest service in cases of piles, abscesses, erysipelas, and all kinds of local ulcerations.

The most wholesome and nutritious of confections is far less consumed than it would be were it not for the great 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.

DR. BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For radicating 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.

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.

NORTH-WESTERN DURHAM.

Under the heading, "Among the New Electors," the following sketch of the North-Western Division of the County of Durham, written by the Special Commissioner of the *Newcastle Daily Journal*, has been published this week :—

Before proceeding to sketch the political aspects of a district which, although rich in its historical associations, has only sprung into existence as a commercial centre within the past fifty years, it may not be out of place if I say a few words respecting its early history, its geographical features and peculiarities, its mineral resources, its huge industries and its people. In the early years of the present century, the greater portion of the vast tract of country lying north-west of the city of Durham was barren moorland, where nought was heard save the whir of the partridge and the call of the moorcock ; but now it is the home of thousands of England's hardy sons of toil.

North-Western Durham was mapped out of the ancient parish of Lanchester, which has an area of 67,181 acres, and in a recent return its rateable value was set down at nearly a quarter of a million. As an illustration of its growth since 1821, it may be mentioned that the population of the entire parish then was 4,979 ; whereas the number of inhabitants at the last census was 57,852. Of this number 1,423 were on the old register.

From the fact of the ancient See of Durham being governed by a Prince Bishop, the Parliamentary history of the county is of comparatively recent origin. The people of this country enjoyed Parliamentary representation before the Norman era, but after the conquest the Government of the Saxons was terminated, and the Conqueror established a Council of his own Barons. It was in the reign of Henry III that writs were first issued for summoning knights and burgesses to Parliament, but the county of Durham had no share in political representation until the time of Oliver Cromwell. In the last Parliament of the Commonwealth, however, no members were admitted to represent either the county or the city, and it was not until after the Restoration, in 1675, that an act was passed to empower the freeholders to elect two knights for the county, and the Mayor, aldermen and freemen of the city to elect two burgesses to represent them in the Council of the nation.

The poll books for the county election in 1675 give us an approximate idea of the number of freeholders at that time. There were three candidates, namely, John Tempest, Esq., who received 1,034 votes ; Thomas Vane, Esq., who polled 856 votes ; and Sir James Clavering, Bart., who received 747 votes. In their struggle for Parliamentary representation the freeholders met with great opposition from Bishop Cosin, who adhered to his rights of *jura regalia*, and it is to be inferred that all who could do so availed themselves of their newly-acquired privilege. The above figures, therefore, may be taken as representing the total strength of the electorate at that time. In connection with this subject it may be added, as a remarkable fact, and as showing the slow growth and development of the county, that the total number of freeholders polled at the election in 1820 was 2,712, being an increase of 75 only on the number polled a century and a half previously. After the passing of the Reform Bill, twelve years later, there were 4,267 on the register for the Northern Division ; while the register for the Southern Division contained the names of 4,386 voters. The number for South Durham last year was 11,540, while North Durham had 13,321, making a total of 24,861 for the two constituencies.

The North-Western Division comprises some 18 townships, the largest in point of acreage being Lanchester, which used be regarded as the metropolis of the district ; but the sun of its existence, as we shall see hereafter, has been gradually eclipsed by the modern town of Consett, although it still remains the centre of the Poor-Law system. Extending from the chapelry of Esh in the east to Hunstanworth in the west, and from Cornsay and Satley in the south to Burnopfield and Tanfield in the north, the division includes, in addition to these named, the towns and villages of Consett, Lanchester, Edmondbyers, Muggleswick, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Leadgate, Medomsley, Dipton, Iveston, Annfield Plain, South Moor, Ebchester, Lintz Green Colliery, and Langley Park. With coal pits scattered pretty equally over its surface, it is essentially a mining district.

When the new division was created a hope was expressed by the Liberal party that the representation would be entrusted to some one connected with the industries of the district, and all eyes were at once turned to Mr David Dale, who is almost as popular among all classes as was the late Colonel Joicey, and whose candidature the Conservative party agreed not to oppose. It is generally believed that Mr Dale was not then averse to representing a division which is much indebted to him for his extraordinary devotion to its interests for a period of a quarter of a century ; and it is to be feared that the indiscretion of the operative ironworkers in wishing to bring forward a man of their own led to his subsequent refusal to do so. Mr Trow, as we know, refused with praiseworthy taste to stand in opposition to Mr Dale, and the latter also declining the proffered honour, the constituency was left without a string to its bow.

It is said that a train of misfortunes usually follows one mishap, and the truth of this has been exemplified by what has taken place since. Failing to secure the candidate of their choice, the party cast about for another. The junior member for Durham city was mentioned, but Sir Farrar had already pledged himself to North Lonsdale. Sir Edward Grey had given his word to the electors of Berwick-on-Tweed, and Mr James Joicey, who, like Mr Dale, would probably, from his popularity, have been unopposed by the Conservatives, had committed himself to Chester-le-Street, where, with the characteristic pluck of his family, he intends to stand or fall. It was rumoured once that Mr Smith, of Greencroft Park, intended coming forward, but his nomination is said to have been rejected.

The Liberal party had by this time formed themselves into a Representative Council, but their deliberations since have not been characterised by harmony and good feeling. In the early part of July Mr Atherley Jones, barrister-at-law, and the Hon. Hedworth Lambton, R.N., both expressed themselves willing to undertake Parliamentary duties, but the electors, or rather the delegates representing them, were difficult to please, and insisted on hearing the political views of the candidates and judging for themselves before declaring for either. Accordingly both gentlemen met the Council by appointment, and after much angry discussion, in which one speaker exclaimed that the working men were being bamboozled by the leaders of the party, and another declared that the miners would not submit to be led by the nose by the ironworkers, their choice fell on Mr Jones, who received 51 votes against Mr Lambton's 35.

In the constitution of the Representative Council, each district is allowed a number of delegates proportionable to the number of inhabitants. The council's selection has caused great dissatisfaction throughout the district, especially in the large centres of Benfieldside, Consett, and Lanchester, it being alleged that the voting by no means represents the wishes and feelings of the great body of electors. The result has been that many leading delegates have absented themselves from the deliberations of the council, and there is a woeful lack of cohesion among those that remain. In fact, Mr Jones' candidature is so unpopular in many quarters, that the advent of a second candidate would be regarded with relief by some and pleasure by others.

Having thus briefly sketched the general political aspects of the division, I shall now proceed to lay before the readers of the *Journal* a few facts respecting the chief places comprised within its area, and my impressions of the people during a few days' sojourn among them. The district is intersected by what is known as the Consett Branch of the North-Eastern Railway. The route from Newcastle, with its series of panoramic views of the Derwent Valley to Shotley Bridge, is familiar to pleasure-seekers ; but the approach by the Lanchester Valley is probably less known to your readers. Leaving Witton Gilbert Station, where one can just discern Mr Bell's pretty little villa nestling among the firs, we approach the easternmost boundary of the division at Langley Park Colliery. The royalty here was purchased of Lord Durham by the Consett Iron Company about a dozen years ago, and, under the management of Mr Logan, it has become one of the most successful concerns in the county. The workmen, both at the pit and the extensive coke ovens, have had constant employment for many years past, and this may account for the indifference that is shown there respecting matters political. The manager throws in his lot with the Liberals, but, if rumour may be relied on, he is not an enthusiastic supporter of the nominee of his party. This feeling, I found, prevails to a large extent in other parts of the division, and may be taken as the result of what has been described as a split in the Liberal ranks.

With the ruins of Langley Old Hall on the slope of a lofty hill to our right, and the village of Esh towering above us on the left, we proceed three miles further up the valley to Lanchester, just catching on the way a glimpse of Burnhopeside and The Ford. Mr Hedley, the owner of the first-named estate, is a firm supporter of Church and State, but at three score and ten he finds the improvement of his home-farm and the beautifying of the Village Green at Lanchester more congenial than participating in the excitement of an election campaign. Mr Kearney, of The Ford, is taking no part in Mr Jones' candidature, although he was one of Colonel Joicey's staunchest supporters at the last General Election for North Durham. The people of Lanchester are all under the Conservative banner, and the interest they take in the political questions of the day makes up for the lack of enthusiasm shown by the miners further down the vale. The Blue Bell Inn is the head-quarters of the party ; and from what I saw and heard it is evident that Mr Jones' political programme does not accord with the tastes of the people there.

But it is only on reaching Consett, four miles further up the hill, that one is enabled to gauge public feeling. Consett is a remarkable place in many respects. It used to be said, forty years ago, that it was made on a Saturday night, after everything else had been created. And if half of what is alleged against its appearance be true, it must have been a queer place indeed. So recent as 1837, the only habitations in the neighbourhood were Delves House, Carr House, Barr House, a couple of thatched houses in what is now known as Sherburn Terrace, and one or two other buildings of a similar description.

The town owes its existence to the ironworks started there in 1840. The first inhabitants were drawn from all quarters of the land, and an "old standard" whom I was fortunate to meet during my sojourn in the neighbourhood gave me a most characteristic description of the early settlers and their quarters. There was a time when beer was more plentiful there than water. There was but one beerhouse, and I have it on the authority of the brewer himself that he sold to the tenant more than 15,000 half barrels of beer during the twelve months of his tenancy. Roads there were none, and during the rainy season, huge boulders (or "stepping stones,") as the late John Murray used to describe them, were placed here and there for the convenience of pedestrians who ventured abroad. Mr Murray was a well-known character in his day, and his name will long be honoured and remembered as the Grandfather of the Consett and Besmish Agricultural Society, and as the founder of a colony of Conservatives in the district. When in the prime of life, Mr Murray often presided at local social gatherings, and at one concert, where the fair sex predominated on the programme, he electrified the company by exclaiming, "Hoots, hoots, with that caterwauling ; let's have a good comic sang !"

But the Consett of to-day is very different from the Berry Edge (that being the name by which the place was then known) of forty years ago. New and handsome streets have sprung up everywhere, chapels, schools, and public institutions abound, and there is a fine church, built twenty years ago by the present incumbent, Mr Steggall, whose block of school buildings, raised by voluntary contributions, is the finest in the diocese. In the matter of education, Consett is far ahead of many places of greater size and pretentions. Two or three winters ago, when a course of lectures in favour of university extension was inaugurated, the average attendance there was higher than in any other place in England ; and it says something for the Catholic schools when they can boast of having gained the largest percentage of passes in the county of Durham. During my visit I had the pleasure of being introduced to Mr John Tait, a septuagenarian master of a flourishing private school, who is, I believe, the oldest certificated teacher in the county, and who by his writings and speeches during the election campaigns of Sir Geo. Elliot, rendered signal assistance to the Conservative cause in North Durham.

Consett is the headquarters of the Liberal organisation, and whatever may be thought of the results, it is but fair to say that its leaders—such men as Mr Priestman and Mr Jenkins—have so far done their utmost to forward Mr Jones's candidature. Mr Jenkins, as everybody knows, is the general manager of the ironworks, and his career as the head of this great representative of British industry affords an example of what may be accomplished by opposing to all obstacles an indomitable will and a resistless energy. Some idea of the company's operations may be formed when it is stated that they employ between 5,000 and 6,000 hands, and have depending upon them probably a population of 20,000 persons. The wages paid to their workmen amount to about £7,000 per week, and they annually pay in dues to the North-Eastern Railway Company the large sum of £165,000.

I was present at a political meeting presided over by Mr Jenkins, who impressed me as being a very go-ahead individual indeed. I should imagine that he says what he means and means what he says. He is an attractive, fluent speaker, and takes the lead in everything that has a tendency to advance the interests of Consett. "Why don't you send Mr Jenkins to Parliament instead of an alien like Mr Jones?" I asked of a Benfieldside gentleman sitting near me. "So we would," he replied, "But, you see, he would talk of nothing but Consett, and neglect the other places in the division." Mr Jenkins, I learned, has a partiality for the town of his adoption, and evidently thinks that there is no place like it.

In Consett itself, as might be expected, the Liberal element predominates, but, owing to the cause already hinted at, the party is working in a half-hearted way only. The intelligent and thinking portion of the electors do not approve of the advanced and extreme views enunciated from time to time by Mr Jones ; others think that the representation ought to be entrusted to some one connected with the district, whilst large numbers of the miners themselves regard Mr Jones's candidature as a mistake. "Since we have obtained the Franchise," they argue, "Why should we choose an alien to represent us? Have we not in our midst men who know our wants and requirements, who have lived among us all their lives, and who would faithfully watch over our interests?"

I must not take my leave of Consett without saying something of its situation. Standing on the margin of the Derwent vale, at an altitude of upwards of 860 feet above the level of the sea, it commands a fine and extensive view of the surrounding country. Below it, and sheltered by its overhanging ridge of hills, lies the flourishing little town of Blackhill, with the majestic spire of St. Mary's Catholic Church towering above it. Lower down, but concealed in the bosom of the valley, is the ancient village of Shotley Bridge, with the rippling waters of the Derwent hurrying through it towards the still more ancient and historic hamlet of Ebchester. Immediately opposite, and rising with a gradual ascent, are the Northumberland hills, graced here and there with a variety of woodlands. In the far distant north, with their bleak and barren summits seemingly saluting the sky, are the Cheviots ; whilst to the west, as far as the eye can reach, the landscape is bounded by wild and rugged heather-clad hills. Beneath this chain of mountains, however, the eye discovers the river Derwent winding its way through deep, enchanting valleys, whose slopes are decorated with hanging woods and scattered enclosures.

The people of Blackhill are mostly in the employment of the Consett Iron Company, and they are not less pronounced in their political opinion than their neighbours, the Consettonians. Whilst the bulk of the electors are decidedly Liberal, they by no means see eye to eye with Mr Jones, in his advocacy of Disestablishment and Disendowment, and they are, indeed, practically demonstrating their loyalty to the Establishment by erecting a new church. Blackhill has several chapels, but it was not until recently that an endeavour was made to establish a church there. The place has just been formed into an ecclesiastical district, with the Rev Mr Storey as its first incumbent, and a handsome church is now being built in the centre of the town. Blackhill, so I was informed, was originally in favour of the Hon. Hedworth Lambton's candidature, and one leading Liberal declared to me that he would rather vote for a Tory than for one who advocated such an act of spoliation as Disestablishment and Disendowment, which, in his opinion, would be the forerunner of the downfall of this country. This feeling, I found, is shared to a great extent by the moderate Liberals at Shotley Bridge, Tanfield, and the other large centres which I visited.

But let us turn to the Conservative party. They are not a whit less active than the Liberals in this division of the county, and perhaps their position is rather to be envied by their opponents, seeing that they are not pledged to any candidate, nor has any gentleman yet been named as a candidate in the Conservative interest. Contemporaneously with the formation of a Liberal Association, a Conservative Association, with Mr Booth, Shotley Bridge, as president, was formed. The Central Association has a branch in each polling district, and when the moment for action arrives the party, it is believed, will be well organized for battle. In speaking to a leading Conservative in the district as to the prospects of their party, he said, "Why should we despair of having the vote of the working man, and it is admitted that the political future of North-West Durham is in his hands? Has he found the Conservatives in or out of office less considerate of his welfare? Have the Conservatives opposed one single measure calculated to advance his interests? The schoolmaster, my friend, has been too long abroad to allow them to be led by the nose by party leaders, who hold up Conservatives before them as their sworn enemies, and the Liberals as their truest and only friends."

From all I could learn of Conservatism in North-Western Durham, it seems of a robust character. Leave them their Church and its endowments and constitution unpatched, and there is no question between them and the Liberals, which may not be considered an open one, but still not a crucial question on which to divide the two parties and send them into hostile camps. The battle in North-West Durham, I am firmly convinced, will not be between Conservatives and Liberals, but between Conservatives allied with those who think with them and the Radicals.

NORTH-WEST DIVISION OF DURHAM

MR ATHERLEY JONES'S CANDIDATURE.

MEETING AT LEADGATE.

Last Friday night, Mr Atherley Jones, barrister, who is seeking the suffrages of the electors of this Division, delivered an address before a crowded meeting, held in the Miners' Hall, Watling Street, Leadgate. The Chairman was Mr Daniel Reed, miners' delegate, and was supported by Mr Alex. Blyth, secretary of the Durham and Northumberland Miners' Permanent Relief Fund ; Mr Denison, of Newcastle ; Mr John H. Hudson, of Castle Dene House ; Mr Adam Brodie, of Consett ; Mr P. Carling, of Lintz Colliery, &c.

The CHAIRMAN, in briefly opening the proceedings, felt assured that Mr Jones had the working men element to support him, and he would certainly be returned as their Parliamentary member at the forthcoming election by an overwhelming majority. (Cheers.) He firmly believed that Mr Jones would represent that constituency far better than any other living man. (Renewed cheers.) There were three qualifications which every candidate for Parliamentary distinction ought to possess—first, that he must be acquainted with the needs and requirements of the people he goes to represent ; second, he must not only know, but feel with and for his constituents ; and third, every candidate should have ability when he enters the House of Commons to represent his people, as they did not desire to see any dummy representatives such as there was in the late Parliament. (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr JONES, who met with a hearty reception, urged upon the working men of the county of Durham not to be deceived by the specious leaders who were from time to time put forward by the Conservative party. They must rally round the flag of Liberalism, to whom they owed all the beneficial and useful legislation hitherto passed. (A voice : "No.") His friend said "No," but he was prepared to stake his reputation as to the truth of this assertion, and it was not within the power of such a shrewd and acute politician as Lord Randolph Churchill to put his finger upon a single measure of reform which had contributed to the material advantage and prosperity of the people which had not for its fountain head the Liberal party. It was the custom of the Tory orators, both inside and outside the House of Commons, to charge the working classes with being drunken and dissipated. He (Mr Jones) submitted that the working classes were no more drunken than the upper or middle classes. On the contrary, they found that working men were becoming thrifty, having by means of friendly societies and trades union organisations accumulated an immense amount of funds. (Cheers.) The temperance movement did not find its supporters amongst the wealthier classes, but was promoted almost solely by the working classes of the community. (Cheers.) People who made those charges against the lower classes knew nothing whatever about them, and what was more, they did not wish to know anything. They knew what had been achieved by organisation in the county of Durham. He supposed there was no grander union in existence than the Miners' Union of Durham. (Cheers.) Without such organisations, men could easily be broken into fragments by the organisations of the masters. By means of the union, however, the working population had been able, not to injure trade and industry, but to improve it. (Cheers.) The miners had not raised dissensions between employers and employed, but allayed such dissensions. (Cheers.) He spoke as a man of great experience when he declared that many a strike, or many a dispute which must have culminated in a strike, had been avoided by means of the judicious action of the officials of the Durham Miners' Association. (Cheers.) He knew from personal knowledge that so far as the Durham Miners' Union was concerned, it had been the medium of making the relations between employer and employed more satisfactory than they otherwise would have been. (Cheers.) Having said these few words in reference to the changed position of the working classes, he would ask them, having received so many benefits from the Liberal party, whether they were going to desert them at the next election. ("No") Mr Jones then described his political convictions. Speaking of the reform of the land laws, he felt convinced that legislative measures must be introduced affecting this question in the next Parliament, if not through the instrumentality of Mr Gladstone, probably by Mr Chamberlain. (Cheers.) After reiterating his views on Land Reform, Mr Jones reviewed the temperance question, throwing in his support with some measure of Local Option, and approved of relegating the powers of dealing with the liquor traffic to elective Boards, to be chosen by the people themselves. (Cheers.) He would not advocate any measure of confiscation or spoilation without compensating the parties so affected, and he did not desire to deal more harshly and unjustly with the publicans than with any other class of individuals. He hoped, if returned to Parliament, to be enabled to assist in promoting any legislative measures tending to mitigate the evils and horrors of drunkenness. (Cheers.) In advocating the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the English Church, Mr Jones had no desire to act unfairly or unjustly to the clergy, but would treat them in the same way as Mr Gladstone had the clergy of the Irish Church, when she was disestablished. After conferring with very many leading clergymen, he (the speaker) had come to the conclusion that the reason the parsons objected so strongly to the Disestablishment of the Church was that they believed it would impair the social condition of the masses, and injure the social *status* of the Church. The only means of reducing the dignataries and clergy of the Church of England, and placing them on an equality with the ministers of the Gospel of other denominations, was by Disestablishment, which of course must be accompanied by Disendowment. The property belonging the Church reached about £183,000,000, and he would ask the people of Leadgate if they received their approximate value of this amount from the clergy in spiritual instruction, moral influence, and social upraising? He thought the working classes would reply that the clergy have not given a good account of their stewardship in regard to the training and instruction of the great masses of the people. Why is dissent so strong? A man does not become a dissenter simply from mere caprice ; he becomes a dissenter because he believes that he will more effectively perform his duty to his God and to his country. (Cheers.) They found that dissent, without the advantages which the State-Church enjoys, has been able more effectually and thoroughly to reach the hearts of the poorer classes—has been able to fulfil the command of the Great Master far more perfectly and efficiently than the Bishops, Deans, Canons, Rectors, or Vicars of the Church of England (Cheers.) A very large number of the Liberal candidates now asking the confidence of the country to return them to Parliament are in favour of Disestablishment. He (Mr Jones) found that hard words were being used against him because of his opinions on this important question. They said that he went in for spoliation and robbery, and even had the audacity to say that this money rightly belongs to the Church of England. (A voice : "So it does," and cheers.) It struck him forcibly that that ejaculation came from the same individual who said "No" at an earlier stage of the proceedings. He would ask that gentleman to turn over in his mind this question : What was the origin of the property the Church now possesses? (Cheers.) He (Mr Jones) would not for a moment deny that a certain amount of property did absolutely belong to the Church of England, having been bequeathed by men or women who specifically directed that the money should be used solely for the purpose of the Church, and it would therefore be unjust for Parliament to deal with these funds. But this is not the case with most of the possessions of the English Church ; and if there is any Church that is entitled to the funds of the State-Church it would be the present Roman Catholic Church. (Loud cheers.) Proceeding further, he would remind them that the nation had a right to deal with funds which had been given to certain institutions for a specific purpose. A dead man's will was never intended to consecrate for ever the destination of any property. This point has been debated in Parliament in hundreds of instances, and has been dealt with by means of our Charity Commissioners, and Acts of Parliament empowering them to deal with funds bequeathed to schools, &c., where the property has enormously increased in value. It was absolutely ridiculous, for instance, in cases where a few acres of land had been granted to the maintenance of a certain school, in providing a master, and furnishing the education of a few children, that when the value of this land should increase a thousand fold, the master should receive a corresponding advance of salary, when the number of scholars had not increased. Parliament has dealt with these questions, and he submitted that Parliament had the same right to interfere with the funds of the Church of England, seeing that at the time the property was bequeathed to her there was practically unanimity in religious belief, but now the Church did not represent one half of the population of England. (Cheers.)

At the conclusion of the address, Mr ALBERT STEGGALL asked if Mr Jones was aware that of the revenues at present enjoyed by the Church of England, £1,950,000 is derived from property given before, and £2,250,000 from property given after the Reformation, and to this latter sum, of course, no Roman Catholic would lay any claim? Mr Jones, in reply, denied the accuracy of these figures, and recommended the questioner to correct himself by referring to any statistics on the subject. Mr Steggall was proceeding to put a series of questions in argumentive style to Mr Jones, whereupon the Chairman interposed and begged of the questioner to confine himself simply to asking questions. A slight commotion ensued, in the midst of which Mr P. CARLING arose and declared that the gentleman was an interested individual, as he was a clergyman's son. (Laughter and cheers.)

No further questions being put, a resolution expressive of confidence in Mr Jones as the suitable Parliamentary representative for North-West Durham was proposed by Mr STEPHEN NICHOLSON (Leadgate), seconded by Mr GEORGE WALTON (Medomsley), and supported by Mr J. H. HUDSON and Mr PATRICK CARLING (who delivered an able address in denunciation of the tactics of the Tory party in regard to their Irish policy), and Mr DENNISON, solicitor. On being tested, the resolution was unanimously carried, only 10 hands in an audience consisting of 500 persons being opposed thereto.

MEETING AT MEDOMSLEY.

A public meeting was held in the Templars' Hall at Medomsley on Monday evening, to hear a political address by Mr Atherley Jones. There was a large audience, ably presided over by Mr Wm. Walton, who briefly opened the proceedings.

Mr JONES, having been received with much applause, said he had read the speech which Lord Randolph Churchill delivered at Sheffield in the hope of finding some outline of the policy to be pursued by the Conservative party, but he turned from a perusal of that address a sadder but certainly not a wiser man (Laughter and cheers). Lord R. Churchill had yet to learn the elements of Statesmanship—to learn that abuse is not argument, and that denunciation of the Radical party will do no good. He discovered at that speech an adroit and ingenious, if not exactly an honest, attempt to withdraw a detach from the advanced Liberal party under Mr Chamberlain—to which he (Mr Jones) had the honour to belong—from the moderate section of the Liberals—the party following more closely on the lines of Lord Hartington. There was also an attempt to detach that distinguished Statesman, the Marquis of Hartington, from the Liberal party, by inviting him to come over amongst the Conservatives. (Laughter). He did not mean to say that Lord Hartington was *au taut* with all questions of Mr Chamberlain, but he knew that, notwithstanding the tactics of Lord R. Churchill and the Conservative party, the Noble Marquis had been an unflinching and unswerving supporter of the principles of Mr Gladstone and the Liberal party. (Cheers). Lord Randolph had failed to formulate any future programme of the Conservative party, but he had unjustly arrainged Sir Wm. Harcourt (the late Home Secretary) from not answering enquiries addressed to him by his constituents. It may be the duty of Statesmen to answer questions which may specifically be put to them, but if so, how much more is it the duty of the candidates now before county asking the confidence of the electors or of a party seeking to retain power for a term of five or six years, to ask the authority of the British empire the policy that party intended to pursue. (Cheers). Lord R. Churchill had accused the Liberal Government of having failed to perform their duty both in regard to home and foreign politics ; but does not give the slightest indication of the course proposed to be adopted by the Conservative party, upon the heads for which he has arraigned the Liberal administrations. He (Mr Jones) was prepared to vindicate the foreign policy of the Government, not from a view in which a Conservative regards it, but for the very things which a Tory dispraises them ought a Liberal to praise them. (Cheers). He found that the foreign policy of the late Government was to be the grand point the Conservatives were about to attack at the forthcoming election. Mr Jones recapitulated his defence of the Government's policy in the Transvaal, Egypt and the Soudan, and Afghanistan, and pointed out that Mr Gladstone, throughout his career, had always advocated the doctrines of peace, and endeavoured to induce this country to look upon war as a last resort to be adopted in attacking other nations. Speaking of the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England, Mr Jones observed that he had the authority of Bishop Fraser (Manchester), and Bishop Ryle (Liverpool) for stating that the fact that the Church was endowed by the State was the means of preventing a large flow of private or individual munificence (Cheers). The great mass of the funds of the Church came from the State as much as any other taxation drawn from the country, and he was prepared to prove these assertions (Cheers). Mr Jones wound up by a short reference to the temperance question and the reform of the Land Laws, his views being received with marked approval.

Mr JONES, in answer to questions asked by Mr Albert R. Steggall (Consett), stated that in some counties as far as £16,000 or £17,000 annual value of land was given by the State to the Church.

Mr MITCHELL (Leadgate) desired to know if it was necessary for the English army to sustain three defeats before the Government recognised the rights of the Boers in the Transvaal?

Mr JONES replied that it was fortunate our army received those defeats, as it probably prevented further mischief in the Transvaal ; he considered it was a noble act on the part of Mr Gladstone to grant the Boers their liberties in the face of these defeats, when they might easily have crushed their enemies (Cheers).

Mr STEGGALL : Does Mr Jones know that Mr Gladstone, Lord Hartington, and Earl Granville have all asserted that the Clergy are not State-paid?

Mr JONES : I have seen a bill which is being industriously circulated purporting to give the opinions of these Statesmen on this subject. Technically, the Clergy of the Church are not State-paid—but, mind you, *only* technically (laughter and loud cheering).

A Voice : That answer's unsatisfactory.

Mr STEGGALL would like to know why Mr Jones omitted to mention that Lord Northbrook was Viceroy of India before Lord Lytton, and that it was during Northbrook's term of office that the mischief arose in Afghanistan?

Mr JONES rejoined that there was no friction between England and Afghanistan until Lord Lytton was appointed to the Vice-royalty of India. Lord Northbrook returned home because he would not carry out the behests of the Conservative Government, and so cause hostilities between England and Afghanistan (Cheers).

A resolution declaring Mr Jones to be a fit and proper person to represent this constituency was moved by Mr Jos. Hodgson, miner, Westwood ; seconded by Mr Piele ; supported by Mr Samuel Clarke (secretary of the Leadgate Polling District Liberal Association), and Mr J. Priestman, J.P., the last-named gentleman remarking that he entirely concurred in the views of Mr Jones on the foreign policy of the late Government, and explained that they went astray by diverting from the policy of the Liberal party. (Cheers).

On being tested, only some half dozen hands were held up against the motion, the result being received with deafening applause, and the meeting broke up with cheers for Mr Gladstone.

MEETING AT WEST STANLEY.

In continuance of his electoral campaign, Mr Jones was present at a numerously-attended meeting of miners, held in the Primitive Methodist School-room, West Stanley, on Tuesday night. The chair was filled by Mr Wilson Ritson, a pioneer in the cause of Liberalism, and the CHAIRMAN inaugurated the proceedings by enumerating a long list of the beneficial measures which had been strenuously opposed by the Conservative party.

The rising of Mr JONES to address the assemblage was the signal for a hearty outburst of applause. He began by stating that, testing the Conservative party by its actions in the past and its promises for the future, he could not conceive how any careful-thinking, reasonable, and intelligent working man could be a Conservative. He could understand landed proprietors, clergymen, and, to some extent, what was termed the middle classes, should be Tories. Still, considering that the Liberal policy of peace, retrenchment, and reform had contributed so much towards the welfare and property of this county, he could not help thinking there were many derelictions and desertions from the Liberal party due to the impression upon the minds of the middle classes that there was a certain amount of respectability attached to Toryism—a certain measure of the odour of sanctity in being identified with the grand old Constitutional party. (Laughter and applause.) Could any one tell them what was to be the future programme of the Conservative party? ("No.") He had read speeches from itinerant Tory lecturers up to the Cabinet Minister, Lord Randolph Churchill—(hisses and laughter)—and failed to find any programme to be adopted by the Conservative party in the future tending to the benefit and welfare of the community at large. Lord Randolph Churchill, in an address the other day, confined himself to criticising the action of the late Government, and averred that there was one question which Liberal politicians ventured to place in the forefront—the reform of the Land Laws (cheers) ; but Lord Churchill declares that it is not the intention of the Conservative Government to deal with that subject. He (Mr Jones) would invite Lord Churchill's attention to this curious fact—his Lordship distinctly said at Sheffield that the Land Laws had reached such a state of perfection that in the course of a few years the progress of agriculture—whatever that means—would find everything happy and prosperous ; and no one ever dreamt there was anything wrong in the Land Laws! (Laughter and cheers.) At the same time, Lord Churchill must have borne in mind that very large and substantial measures of land reform have been constantly advocated by the Liberal party, one of these being the establishment of a peasant proprietary in this country. (Cheers.) Lord Churchill professed to agree with Lord Hartington's views—that "it is not just or prudent or politic to introduce any measures which will go towards establishing a peasant proprietorship in England." He (Mr Jones) invited Lord Randolph's attention to the fact that one of the first Acts introduced in the last Parliament was the shred of a measure previously submitted by the Liberal Government—by whom, he hoped, a larger and more comprehensive measure will shortly be formulated. (Loud cheers.) One of the first measures introduced by the Conservative Government was for promoting a peasant proprietorship in Ireland. He was not going to ask the motives for that concession ; but he would like to know that if a peasant proprietorship is a benefical scheme for Ireland, why a similar measure should not do good in England, seeing that there was little distinction between the two countries. Mr Jones explained that, if the men of Durham honoured him by returning him to Parliament, he would represent them loyally and faithfully in the House of Commons. (Cheers.) One of his first actions would be to advocate the establishment of a peasant proprietary in this country, and he was in favour of the cultivation of waste lands, which, he had good authority for asserting, were originally purloined from the people. In supporting the principle of free education, Mr Jones believed such a system would not add a single penny to the burdens of the ratepayers. The revenue from school pence was so infinitisimal as not to be worth the trouble and annoyance of collecting. Besides, he asked them to look at the humiliation of little children before the whole school, whose parents were not in position to pay the pence. He would likewise vote for higher education for the working classes. (Cheers.)

- Answering various questions, Mr Jones said he would vote for Local Board and Guardians elections being conducted by ballot. He would abolish the game laws, and leave the question of the closing of public-houses on Sundays in the hands of the people themselves. Being asked to give his opinion as to whether coalowners should be exempt from damages for the subsidence of houses on Lanchester Common, Mr Jones said that not having considered the matter he was not able to give an answer, but promised to look into the question, believing it unjust that mineowners should be privileged to damage property without compensation. (Cheers.) Insomuch as the Church is paid by a tax levied on the lands of this country, which tax is paid and must be paid out of these lands whether the owners are Dissenters or not, and which tax is enforced by the State, the Church is to all intents and purposes State-paid. The amount which is so levied is between four and five millions of money, and the revenues of the Church amount to seven millions ; and they might reasonably say that the Church is a State-paid Church. (Cheers.)

The usual resolution expressive of confidence in Mr Jones as a Parliamentary representative, proposed by Mr WM. INDIAN, seconded by Mr R. LAMB, and supported by Mr MATTHEW ARMSTRONG, was carried with unanimity and tremendous cheering.

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., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."—Also, makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence.

Sporting Items

RABBIT SWEEPSTAKE AT TANTOBIE.—The rabbit sweepstake, promoted by Mr W. Elliott, Tantobie, was concluded on Saturday. There were 60 entries for the sweep, which made a good afternoon's sport. Results :—Final—Bell's Kate's Monkey, 1 ; Surprise, 2 ; Moonshine and Busy Body third and fourth. Mr W. Elliott was referee, and Mr W. Carter pistol firer.

HOBSON HOTEL BALL ALLEY.—At these grounds there was a numerous attendance of spectators to witness a double game at fives, 31 points up, for £30, between Neilson and Laverick, of Stanley, on the one side, and R Gardener and Oakby, of Seaton Moor, on the other. The betting ruled at 6 to 4 on the former, and they ultimately won by 22 chalks. S. Young was referee.

LOCAL BANDS AT JARROW.—A brass band contest was held on Saturday in connection with the Jarrow Sports. There were entered for the contest the following eight bands : Dennison Band, Jarrow Band, Annfield Plain Band, Blackhill Band, Hebburn Band, Darlington Volunteer Band, West Pelton Band, and Ascombe Band. The judge, Bandmaster H. Bartley, 3rd West York Regiment, stationed at York, awarded the Darlington Volunteer Band the first prize, £14 14s, which consisted of a cornet value £9 10s and £5 4s in money. Ascombe Band received the second prize, £7, and Annfield Plain Band the third prize, £3. The judges notes on the playing of each band will be read with interest. First band (Dennison's)—Cornet a little unsteady, euphonium rather rough in tone, a slight slip in the euphonium, and slightly out of tune, euphonium and cornet together out of tune, euphonium not decided enough in tounging. Second band (Henderson's)—Opening cornet well in tune, but player might have used his tongue a little more, bass passage very fine and well in tune, cornet got a little sharp, alto a little unsteady, euphonium and cornet very well together ; very well played in last movement. Third band (South Derwent)—Opening movement very decided, cornet solo rather rough, the two cornets rather a little painful (but difficult passage, being top notes), alto not quite decided enough, euphonium rather rough, the accompaniment very decided and well together, but might have been a little clearer, in march from the "Prophet," band played splendidly. Fourth band (Consett)—Cornet made a great mistake in coming in late, a flat saxhorn very well played, last movement very well played. Fifth band (Hebburn Colliery)—Opening movement out of tune, the accompaniment notes a little too short, the band rather out of tune, cornet in second movement played very nicely, but rather unsteady in the callence, cornet solo and horns not in tune, second cadence by cornets played very well, euphonium out of tune and somewhat rough. Sixth band (Darlington Operative)—In opening movements basses a little rough, baritone solo very well played, and cornets played well together, a slight waver in the bass passage, band perfectly in tune, played very well. Seventh band (West Pelton)—Opening rather rough, second movement slightly out of tune, saxhorn slow, bad, cornet and saxhorns not in tune together, euphonium solo not very well played, but cornet was very fair. Eighth band (Acomb)—In opening a slight mistake in the saxhorn, basses rather rough, cornet and trombone cadences splendid, and trombone very well played, trombone and bass passages very well played, euphonium cadence very well played, but euphonium solo second time a little stiff. The judge added that had the fourth band (Consett) not made the slip with the cornet at the beginning he must have placed it amongst the first lot.

Football.

RYTON FOOTBALL CLUB.—At the annual general meeting there was a fair attendance, and the secretary's and treasurer's reports were adopted. Matches have been arranged with the leading clubs in the district, and with a large membership the club has every prospect of a successful season. Three teams will be regularly played. Mr Stowell, who has been captain of the club since its formation, sent in his resignation, as he did not intend to play during the ensuing season, but so much pressure was put upon him that eventually he consented to be captain for another year. The following were elected as office-bearers :—President, Ald. J. Cowen, M.P. ; vice-president, Mr H. Laws ; vice-captain, J. Stobart ; treasurer, G. Bates ; hon. secs., T. Maughan and R. H. Lauder ; committee, R. Bennett, R. Lishman, C. Simpson, G. Laidler, R. Lawson, A. Benson, and J. Taylor.

Cricket.

LOCAL FIXTURES.

Sept. 12th.—Consett v. Tanfield, at Consett.
,, 19th—Consett v. Hamsterley, at Consett.
,, 19th.—Tanfield v. Blaydon, at Tanfield.
,, 26th.—Consett C.C. Liberals v. Conservatives.

STANLEY ROVERS v. SOUTH MOOR LILIES.—Played on the ground of the former on Wednesday last, and resulted in a victory for the home team by two runs and four wickets to fall. Score :—Rovers, 48 ; Lilies, 46.

WHICKHAM v. MARLEY HILL.—Played at Marley Hill on Saturday, and resulted in an easy win for the visitors, none of the home team being able to make any stand against the excellent bowling of T. Atkinson, who took seven wickets for seven runs. On Whickham going in to bat the score was quickly raised to 44, when the captain was well caught for 24. Messrs Burn, Carr-Ellison, and Atkinson also played well. Score :—Marley Hill 22 ; Whickham (for five wickets only), 104.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v MEDOMSLEY.

The third meeting between these two teams took place on the Consett ground on Saturday last, and ended in a draw in favour of the home team. Score :—

CONSETT.		MEDOMSLEY.	
Dr Short c Taylor b Dales	7	J. Murphy b Raw	1
I. Richards c Taylor b Dales	17	M. T. Milburn at Turnbull	0
W. Turnbull run out	19	T. D. Dales c Raw b I. Richards	32
J. Richards retired hurt	15	W. Pallister st Turnbull	1
T. Jameson b Snowdon	3	F. Robinson b Jas. Richards	8
G. T. Hylen c and b Dales	4	A. Little c Jameson b Foggon	15
H. Foggon run out	11	G. E. Milburn b Foggon	6
P. Gibson c Murphy b Dales	0	W. B. Charlton not out	4
W. Foggon not out	5	J. Snowdon b Foggon	0
R. Stuart b Snowdon	0	G. Walton c Raw b Foggon	10
N. Raw c Milburn b Dales	4	R. Taylor not out	2
Extras	9	Extras	12
Total	94	Total	81

TANFIELD v. BURNOPFIELD.

Played at Tanfield on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the home team by 25 runs. Score :—

TANFIELD.		BURNOPFIELD.	
E. Reay b Hogarth	21	J. Langley b Laidler	3
W. T. Brown b Hogarth	7	W. Jefferson c Nicholson b Laidler	0
T. Jewitt b Lamb	5	G. Cooper c Smith b Laidler	13
H. Nicholson c Cooper b Hogarth	6	W. Hogarth run out	5
J. Robson b Hogarth	0	J. Cuthbertson b Jewitt	4
J. Laidler b Hogarth	0	G. Finlay c Jewitt b Laidler	14
T. Swinburn c and b Lamb	3	J. Curry b Bowes	3
G. Jones b Hogarth	13	W. Charlton b Bowes	1
M. Pattison b Lamb	0	G. Lamb not out	1
R. Bowes b Hogarth	4	J. Potts c Nicholson b Laidler	[illegible]
T. H. Smith not out	1		
Extras	13	Extras	[illegible]
Total	73	Total	48

WEST STANLEY v. HAMSTERLEY.

Played at Hamsterley Colliery on Saturday, resulting in a draw in favour of the visitors. Score :—

WEST STANLEY.		HAMSTERLEY.	
P. Harkness b J. Wood	14	J. Greener b Harkness	2
J. Dixon c Richardson b J. Wood	0	F. Richardson not out	14
J. Hunter c W. Wood b J. Wood	9	J. Holden c W. Dodds b Harkness	0
J. Dodds c Brown b Chaytor	5	J. Wood run out	7
W. Dodds b Holden	13	R. Chaytor b Dyson	1
W. Dyson c McNastry b J. Wood	5	J. Brown c Dyson b Harkness	5
R. Gibson b J. Wood	5	M. Goodwin run out	5
I. Harkness b Goodwin	13	W. Wood c P. Harkness b Dyson	0
R. Knox c McNastry b Holden	16	P. McNastry to bat	
S. Dunnwiddie run out	2	J. Ward ,,	
J. Benfold not out	4	T. Storey ,,	
Extras	7	Extras	2
Total	93	Total	31

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 pm.

ESTABLISHED 1830. 962p

ARRIVAL OF ANOTHER
MONSTRE STOCK OF
PAPER HANGINGS!
AT 2D. AND UPWARDS.

J. W. DAVISON'S,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.
PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

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. 384c

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.

YOU ARE INVITED
TO
BUY YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES
AT
JOHN GIBSON'S NEW SHOP,
CORNER OF
FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET,
BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station),
As they are unsurpassed for FITTING and DURABILITY.

A Well-selected Stock always on hand.
All Goods marked in plain figures, at the LOWEST READY-MONEY PRICES.

BOOTS MADE TO MEASURE, AND REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS DONE AS USUAL. 539u

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT for the CONSETT CAGE-BIRD and PIGEON SHOW, to be held at A. PARKER'S, Black Horse Inn, on October 31st, 1885. 972u

BAPTIST CHURCH, CONSETT.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY SERVICES will be will be held in the above, on Sunday, Sept. 20th. Preachers—Morning, 10·30, Rev. W. HANSON; Evening, 6, Rev. W. G. LUMSDEN. 46v

MUSIC!

J. SURTEES, Organist of Christ Church, Consett, GIVES LESSONS IN HARMONY, and on the PIANO, HARMONIUM, and ORGAN.
Pianos at low prices; direct from the best English and Foreign Makers.

ADDRESS:—
2, CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL. 674u

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

CONSETT & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

SESSION 1885-6.

THE GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Gibson Street School Room, Consett, on Wednesday Evening, September 16th, 1885, at 7·30 p.m., when New Members are requested to enrol their names. Gentlemen, 2s.; Ladies and Juniors, 1s. per quarter. J. L. HATTON'S "Robin Hood" is the work for rehearsal.
CHRIS STELLING, Conductor.
43v ALEX. RUSSELL, Jun., Hon. Sec.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT TEMPERANCE CONFEDERATION.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the PRIMITIVE METHODIST SCHOOL ROOM, CONSETT, on Wednesday Evening, September 16th, 1885, at Seven o'clock.

ADDRESSES by Messrs. BECKWITH and TOMLINSON, of the United Kingdom Alliance.

All Teetotallers are earnestly invited for the purpose of Organising the whole Temperance Party in the District, and Forming a United Temperance Association.

NOTICE.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY beg to intimate to their Patrons in Consett and District that they have just OPENED A SHOP in the TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, Middle Street, Consett, where they have on Sale or Hire an Assortment of their well-known Sewing Machines for every class of Sewing. LATEST AND HIGHEST AWARD GOLD MEDAL HEALTH EXHIBITION, LONDON. All kinds of Sewing Machines Repaired or Exchanged. Every requisite for Sewing Machines and Cotton Oil Silk, &c., always in stock.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 941u

MEDOMSLEY FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ELEVENTH
EXHIBITION
OF
PLANTS, FLOWERS, FRUITS, AND VEGETABLES,
Will be held at MEDOMSLEY, in a Field kindly granted by Mr. JOHN MINTO,
ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th, 1885.

The MICKLEY BRASS BAND will be in attendance and play a Choice Selection of Music.

Various Sports will be held during the Afternoon. For particulars see Bills.

NOTICE.—The Sports will be open to Residents in Medomsley Parish, as well as to all Workmen under the Consett Iron Company.

A GRAND BALL in the Evening. Admission—Gentlemen, 1s.; Ladies, 6d.

Admission to Show and Sports, 1 to 3 p.m., 1s. after 3, 6d.; Children under 10, Half-price.

Schedules of Prizes, &c., to be obtained on application to the Secretary, Medomsley. 41v

Public Notices.

Re ROBERT HEDLEY, of Consett, Butcher, Deceased.

THE BOOKS of the above-named deceased are now in my hands, and all persons owing accounts to the estate, are requested to pay the same to me—the person duly authorised—at my Office, Town Hall, Consett.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A.
Dated May 28th, 1885. 718u

LINTZ GROUNDS, SEPTEMBER 19th and 26th, 1885.

FOOTRUNNERS
REMEMBER THE ENTRIES FOR THE 110 YARDS FOOT HANDICAP CLOSE ON SATURDAY FIRST. Monday's Post in time. Entrance, 1s., to
W. TURNBULL, Hon. Sec., Lintz Green.
Cards out on Thursday. 20v

NORTH-WEST DURHAM REGISTRATION.

LIBERAL OBJECTIONS.

ALL PERSONS who have RECEIVED NOTICES OF OBJECTION FROM THE LIBERAL PARTY, and whose Notices are signed by JOHN FORSTER, BIGGIN TERRACE, QUEBEC, DURHAM, are requested to forward the same, without delay, to one of the undersigned, with particulars of their qualification, with a view to their right to Vote being defended in the Revision Court.
J. J. THOMPSON,
Lanchester,
THOMAS WHINNEY,
Cemetery Cottage, Blackhill,
17v Secretaries to the North-West Durham Conservative Association.

THE NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES, ESQ.,
Of London (Barrister-at-Law),
WILL ADDRESS
MEETINGS
OF THE
ELECTORS OF THIS DIVISION,
AS FOLLOWS:—

TEMPERANCE HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, on Monday, September 14th, 1885, at Half-past Seven o'clock p.m. J. PRIESTMAN, Esq., J.P., Chairman

CO-OPERATIVE HALL, TANTOBIE, on Tuesday, September 15th, 1885, at Half-past Seven o'clock. Rev. W. T. SYMONS, Chairman.

SCHOOL ROOM, QUEBEC, on Wednesday Evening the 16th September, 1885, at Half-past Seven o'clock. Mr. ERNEST FORSTER, Chairman.

SCHOOL ROOM, HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY, on Thursday, September 17th, 1885, at Half-past Seven o'clock p.m. J. PRIESTMAN, Esq., J.P., Chairman.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

AUDITOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

18, Bolton Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
3rd September, 1885.

To the Chairman and Members of the Local Board of the Local Government District of Leadgate.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to inform you that I audited the accounts of your Local Board, for the year ended at Lady-Day last, on the 17th of last month.

I found that during that period you had made two General District Rates, viz:—One on 13th August, 1884, at 8d. in the £, and the other on the 14th day of January, 1885. The following are the particulars of their collection:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13th August, 1884, at 8d.		345 1 2	
Collected	319 10 5		319 10 5
Irrecoverable	25 10 8		
		345 1 2	
14th January, 1885, at 8d.		316 4 3	
Collected	268 9 11		268 9 11
Irrecoverable	47 14 4		
		316 4 3	
Total collected on both Rates			£588 0 4

Your Collector had not kept the Collecting and Deposit Book, which by the order for accounts he is required to keep. His excuse was that the book had been lost shortly before the last audit, and that he had not since been supplied with one. This excuse I think you will agree with me in considering a very unsatisfactory one. It was his duty to have reported the loss, and to have applied for a new book.

The Order Check Book I found had been kept by your Surveyor. This book should be kept by the Clerk or "other officer" duly authorised. No authority for the Surveyor keeping it was produced to me, nor indeed is "other Officer" meant to include the Surveyor, but a person standing in a similar position to the Clerk, such as the Accountant of the Board where one is appointed.

I noticed that your Surveyor had also been in the habit of keeping the Highway Repairs Expenditure Account. No authority for his doing so was produced to me. Unless otherwise directed by you, this book should be kept by your Clerk. If it is your wish that this should be kept by the Surveyor, you should pass a resolution authorising him to do so.

Your Treasurer had not caused the Orders for Payments made on him during my year of audit to be in readiness for me at the opening of the audit. Your Clerk subsequently procured and produced them to me; nor had he balanced his Book as required by the Order for Accounts at the 25th day of March, but not till the 14th day of April. I observed that he had not made a single entry in his book since the second day of June. This is very irregular and improper. His Book should be "*punctually* and accurately" kept.

The Bonds of your Collector, Surveyor, and Treasurer were produced to me, and verbal proof was given to me that the sureties therein named were alive and solvent. The Collector's Bond was given to you by your Clerk. It should have been given to you, the Local Board.

There was a balance in your Treasurer's hands at the close of the year under audit of £214 7s. 9d. A balance in your Surveyor's hands of £0 0s. 0½d. And a balance in your Collector's hands of £0 0s. 9½d.

By Section 197 of the Public Health Act, 1875, every Urban Authority is required to provide, and maintain, such Offices as may be necessary for transacting their business and that of their Officers and Servants. The place at present provided by you is in itself wholly unsuitable, in addition to which a number of persons have free access to it. The consequence is that Books and Documents which should be kept and deposited at your Office have to be taken backwards and forwards at inconvenience and risk of loss.

I am informed that the Collecting and Deposit Book before referred to was missed from your Board Room on the occasion of it being deposited there previously to the last audit. I trust that you will give this matter your serious consideration.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
CHAS. LUCKMORE HOCKIN,
28v District Auditor.

Public Notices.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

JUBILEE SINGERS will appear for One Night, on Wednesday, September 30th, 1885.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!!

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN FIFTH ANNUAL RACES will be held on Wednesday, September 16th, 1885.
45v JOHN LUMLEY, Railway Inn, Secretary.

COUNCILLOR CAMERON, J.P., of Sunderland, will LECTURE in the Primitive Methodist School-Room, Consett, on Saturday, September 12th, on "The New Democracy." Chair will be taken by JON. PRIESTMAN, Esq., J.P., at 7 p.m., supported by L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES, Esq. SERMONS on Sunday following, by Mr. CAMERON. A Collection at close of each Service in aid of Trust Funds. 44v

MRS. CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL,
WEAR TERRACE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

MANY PUPILS from this School have passed in Honours the Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham Local Examinations, Trinity College of Music, &c.
Masters for Arithmetic; a French Governess Diplomée; Music—by a Pupil of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett. 4v

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

THE old Members of this Society are informed that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the National Infant School, Consett, on Tuesday Evening, September 15th, at 7·30 p.m., to Elect Officers for the next Session.
The House will Re-assemble on Tuesday Evening, the 29th September, at 7·30 p.m., when Visitors will be admitted as during last Session.
11v BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

PARISH OF ST. JOHN'S, SHOTLEY.

A SALE OF WORK, in aid of the Organ Fund for the Parish Church of St. John's, will take place in the Old Hall, Shotley (by permission of J. W. WALTON-WILSON, Esq.), on Friday and Saturday, September 11th and 12th, 1885.
The doors will be opened at Twelve o'clock.
The Stalls will be held by
MRS. CARR,
MRS. RENTON,
MRS. WILSON, and
MRS. WALTON-WILSON.
The Grounds will be open on these days.
ADMISSION—Friday, 1s.; Saturday, 6d. 994u

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Shakespeare Square, Consett.—Preliminary Advertisement.—Wednesday, September 31st, 1885.—Sale of Horses, Cattle, Harness, and Sundry Effects.

ADAM BRODIE is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in Shakespeare Square, Consett, immediately adjoining the Railway Hotel Stables, on Wednesday, September 31st, HORSES, CATTLE, and other EFFECTS, belonging to Mr. GEORGE BROWN, and others. Particulars in Posters and future Advertisements. 10v

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, has arranged that from July 6th, 1885, he will be assisted in the business of Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, by his Son, ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, who has for the last ten years acted as his Clerk, and trusts that with his co-operation he may still further be favoured with the confidence and support of his friends and the general public, and can promise the same careful attention to instructions which has hitherto secured for him their patronage. 713u

ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Consett, undertakes the Sale by Public Auction or otherwise, of Houses and Land, Farming Stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, or other Effects, on reasonable terms. Valuations for Probate, Dissolution of Partnership, and Settlement of Claims under Fire Insurances, or in Disputes. Fire, Life, and Accident Assurances arranged without delay. Shares of every description Bought and Sold on Commission. The Victoria Sale-Rooms are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale.
Postal Address—ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Loft House Farm, near Lintz Green Station.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above Farm, on Friday, September 11th, 1885, all the AWAY-GOING CROPS OF CORN growing thereon, belonging to Mr. RALPH PERMELLA,
MR. JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer,
Comprising—3 ACRES OF WHEAT.
4 ACRES OF BARLEY.
20 ACRES OF OATS.
The Sale will commence with the Barley—Close to Lintzford Station—at Three o'clock p.m.
Conditions will be stated at the time of Sale. 2v

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

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

Royal Auction Mart, Benfieldside.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1885.
12 to 15 Prime Fat Cattle.
196 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
Cows and Store Cattle, numbers uncertain.
63 Grey-faced Keeping Lambs, very fresh, and grand quality.
Calves, Poultry, &c.
150 Flour Bags.
A lot of Hams, Bacon, Cheese, &c.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
40v NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

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

By Mr. J. Vickers.

Tow Law Auction Mart.—Weekly Sales.
MONDAY FIRST, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1885.
Present Entries—
20 Dairy Cows and Heifers.
A number of Store Cattle.
8 Fat Cattle.
150 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
350 Mule Lambs, from Heatherlea, Lumley Ling, Red House, Wolf Cleugh, &c.
400 Black-faced Wether Lambs, from Messrs. Bousfield, Sleightholme, Bar Gap, &c.
Draught Horse, aged.
Spring Carts.
A number of Weston's Patent Pully Blocks, new, &c.
Entries up to day of Sale.
Sale to commence at 12·30.
JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Partridge Close, Tow Law. 25v

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Andrew's House.
Sale of Superior Furniture—Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; 6 Grand Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; French Polished Chairs; Three-quarter Chest of Mahogany Drawers; Walnut Drawers and Bookcase; Mahogany Folding Table; 4 Capital Bedsteads; 3 Down Beds; Handsome Eight-days' Clock; Mantle Mirror; Carpets; Patent Wringer; Singers' Sewing Machine, and Cover; also splendid American Organ, in Walnut, with 10 Stops, 2 Knee Swells, by Reed, and no worse than new.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, specially favoured with instructions from Mr. GEORGE COULSON, who with his family are leaving England for Australia, will SELL BY AUCTION, at Andrew's House, on Monday, September 14th, 1885, the whole of his very Valuable FURNITURE, BOOKS, ORGAN, &c.
See all particulars in Bills.
Sale to begin at Twelve o'clock prompt.
N.B.—Lots are numerous, and of exceptional merit, and well worthy of public patronage. 997u

CHEAP EMIGRATION.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FARES TO AMERICA, QUEENSLAND, &c.

Liverpool to America, £2 16s. and £3, by the best Lines.
To Australian Colonies at the Lowest Rates.
For reliable information, apply to
269u A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton.

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket
The Oldest Established in the City.
SALES BY AUCTION of HORSES, CARRIAGES and SADDDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, Two o'clock.
Entries respectfully solicited.
A. T. CROW, Auctioneer.
JOHN PEEL, Proprietor

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. William Raw.

No. 20, Durham Road, Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, instructed by Mr. JOSEPH MARTINDALE, who is about to Emigrate to America, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of his Household FURNITURE, SHOP FIXTURES, CARTS, &c., on Thursday, September 24th, 1885, comprising—Mahogany Press; Mahogany Double Chest of Drawers; small Mahogany Drawers; Mahogany Couch; Oak Tea Table; Kitchen Table; 2 Small Tables; Clock, in Oak Case; Alarum Clock; 6 Chairs, in Hair-seating; 6 Cane-bottomed Chairs, new; Arm Chair; 3 Kitchen Chairs; Child's Chair; Cradle, new; 14 Yards of Oilcloth; Cocoa Matting; Hearth-rug; Stair Carpet and Brass Rods; Sitting-room Carpet; Cornice Pole and Shades; Polished Desk Bed; Iron Bedstead and Mattress; Towel Rail; 2 Mahogany Swing Dressing Glasses; Chamber Ware; Pictures and Ornaments; Fenders and Fireirons; Poss-tub and Staff; Washing Tubs; Pans, Ware, &c.
Also, a First-class Sewing Machine, nearly new.
SHOP FIXTURES—3 Counters; Flour Bin; Shelving, with 13 Drawers; 2 Pairs of Scales and Weights; Coffee Mill. A New Flat Cart, for a Greengrocer; Market Cart, Body, and Wheels.
Sale to commence at One o'clock 35v

Important Notice.

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

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
Business done promptly and on reasonable terms.

Business Announcements.

SAFETY BICYCLES! SAFETY BICYCLES!

THE latest Novelty in Safety Bicycles is the—"NORTHERN,"
Manufactured by the NORTH OF ENGLAND BICYCLE Co., 44, High Bridge, Newcastle. Send for Price List FREE. Second-hand Bicycles from £2 0s. 0d. 228u

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.

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EDITORIAL NOTICES.

We are compelled to hold over several letters.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 1885.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

People in almost every relation of life are subject occasionally to the influences accruing from trade depression. Even grave-diggers have been known to murmur when there was little doing in their way. A physician known to the writer sent his man "Friday" to collect outlying debts last week-end. The man called upon no fewer than forty ex-patients, who, owing to the exigencies of the times had not been able to pay their medical adviser. The man returned all weary and footsore, his takings all told amounting to three shillings and sixpence! To working-men, the system known as the "doctor's club" is a great boon; and it is best carried out when it is rendered compulsory, the subscriptions being stopped off by the district firms. This system works admirably in the Consett district. A few coppers weekly is of small moment; but a big Bill at the end of the year weighs upon many a family like a nightmare. There are people who imagine that by being in the club professional attendance must in their case be of a second-rate order; but I never found it so in my experience. I have heard of people who, on the other hand, satisfied themselves by making periodical calls at the surgery until they had laid up a stock of salts and stomach-pills. It is a good thing, of course, to make some provision for a rainy day.

The Scotch press has published excellent reports of the sittings of the Iron and Steel Institute, held this year in Glasgow. Several valuable papers have been published in detail. I observe that among the distinguished members and visitors introduced to the *elite* of Glasgow, the name of Mr Jenkins, of Consett occupies a prominent place. It was not altogether a course of business routine with the members of this important organisation. The visit to Glasgow was varied by moments devoted to the fitful fancies of pleasure. An hour with His Grace the Duke of Argyle under the historical roof of Inverary Castle could not be other than entertaining to a degree. The good Duke showed his visitors a brass cannon, a relic of the Spanish Armada, fished from the sea a century ago. The quern, or handmill, which ground the corn to make crowdy and bread for the stomach of the daring outlaw, Rob Roy, was also well worth seeing, and could hardly fail to call up memories of the days when Southern visitors were wont to meet with a slightly different reception when they honoured Scotia's castles with their presence. Musing on Rob Roy's grave, Wordsworth wrote:—

And had it been thy lot to live
With us who now behold the light,
Thou wouldst have nobly stirred thyself,
And battled for the right.

The prospect of opening the line for passenger traffic to the West Stanley and the intervening villages is not very promising. The outlook is to be regretted, because the advantages arising from the introduction of modern communication would be very great, both to the dwellers in Consett and to the industrious denizens of the plains. There seems to be a hitch in the negotiations at the present juncture, the outcome of which does not seem to be very clearly understood. The members of the Consett Local Board have broached the subject, and beyond that they are not, of course, prepared to go. The people are naturally anxious for the realisation of this day-dream; but there seems no help for it but as Longfellow puts it—
"Learn to labour, and to wait."

The price of iron has recently shown an upward tendency, but whether the hopeful token is the hopeful token is the result of a momentary fluctuation, or the first break in the commercial cloud, it would be premature to conjecture. Should the present rise in the selling figure become firmer the masters will reap the benefit of the change much earlier than they used to do in former years. This arises from the fact that in view of better times there was a spirit of precaution abroad. Small contracts has been the order of the day; and as these can be completed early, the manufacturers will be in a position to utilise the favours of the passing hour. In a falling market large, long-standing contracts are, of course, a gain; but small profits and quick returns seems now to be the watchword in every branch of business.

The outlook in the shipbuilding line is still very discouraging. Crowds of men are unemployed, and many families are very badly off. "It is to a rise in freights that we look for improvement—not to a rise in the price of iron," said a local shipbuilder the other day. The observation may be sound and logical enough, but one would naturally suppose that the one industry would very soon affect the other. Whichever way events may turn, the steamers lying idly in half-dozens on the Tyne is a gruesome memento that the fact is there. I had a good look at some of them last Saturday afternoon. On the lower reaches of the river they are moored in threes and fours, ghostly companions in solitude. I say ghostly because I reviewed them in the evening, just as night was silently resuming the reins of power. The bare spars stood out against the evening sky like a leafless forest, and the wind whistled a wierd, unearthly dirge as it swept through the motionless spars.

Things are in much the same position at Elswick as they were a week ago. Employers of labour all round are against the action assumed by the men, and thousands of working men themselves hold a similar opinion. There is much talk of workmen from a distance being called in to do the work, and small bodies have already turned up. The men have wired to the Continent with the view of acquainting the artisans in that quarter with the state of matters here; but that may not prevent them from coming to this country. I had many a look at the Germans who came to Elswick during the struggle for the nine hours system. They may have had good heads, but they were certainly very flimsy fellows to look at. I was most amused with their legs, which were so skinny and badly-shaped that the impression was forced upon me that they had left the great Vaterland in a hurry, not having given Dame Nature time to give the finishing touches.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION at the *lowest* possible prices by ROBERT JACKSON "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates furnished.

TREAT TO WORKHOUSE CHILDREN.—Last Friday afternoon, the children belonging to the Workhouse, accompanied by the master (Mr Brotherhood), and the schoolmaster (Mr Dunn), walked from that institution to Broadwood Park, the residence of the Chairman of the Board of Guardians (Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P.), where they were regaled with tea. Afterwards, they adjourned to a field, where they were joined by Mr, Mrs, and Miss Taylor Smith, and Mr and Mrs Holdsforth. Sweets were distributed amongst the children, and various games were indulged in, a good day being spent.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

"THE NEW DEMOCRACY."—Such is the title of a lecture to be delivered by Councillor R. Cameron, J.P., of Sunderland, in the Primitive Methodist School-room, Consett, to-morrow (Saturday) evening. Mr Priestman, J.P., will preside, and Mr Atherley Jones is also announced to speak.

Yesterday (Thursday), at the Shotley Bridge Courthouse—before Mr Jas. Annandale, J.P.—*Thomas Robinson Pickshall* (40), a tramp, lodging at Green's lodging-house, who is blind in the right eye, was charged by P.C. Newton (195) with being drunk and disorderly at Consett at one o'clock that morning.—Committed, in default, to goal for a week.

TEMPERANCE ORGANISATION.—A meeting of those interested in the temperance cause was held on Wednesday evening, in the Primitive Methodist School-room, Consett, to consult together with a view to the more complete organisation of the teetotal element in the community, when it was decided to issue a general invitation to a meeting already arranged to be held next Wednesday evening, in the same room, which will be addressed by two agents of the United Kingdom Alliance.

CHRISTIAN LAY CHURCH.—On Saturday, the members of the above church, situate in Trafalgar Street, Consett, held their first public tea, when about 140 persons partook of the rich things provided. Misses McWilliams, Hayward, Soulsby, Williams, Jenkins, and Harris ably presided at the tables. After tea, an entertainment of a high-class character was given, songs, duets, and anthems being capitally rendered by Messrs W. Davison and Kirkup, of Blackhill; the Misses Turner, of Blackfine, performed their parts exceedingly well. Readings and recitations were ably given by Messrs T. Westhorpe, T. Williams, T. Smith, and J. Westhorpe. Master Davison, of Blackhill, presided at the harmonium. Mr G. Huntley occupied the chair.—On Sunday, two interesting and impressive sermons were preached by Mr G. Huntley, Lay Churchman, of Sunderland. The whole of the proceedings proved to be a glorious success.

DIABOLICAL OUTRAGE AT THE IRON WORKS.—Yesterday (Thursday), *John Smith*, aged about 30, a painter, was remanded for a week before Mr Jas. Annandale, J.P., at Shotley Bridge, on a charge of attempting to cause grievous bodily harm to Thomas Coates, another painter, on Wednesday last. The circumstances of the alleged outrage are of a most serious character. The parties are travelling painters, lodging at Mrs McElhone's, the Zetland Hotel, Blackhill, and are engaged in painting the buildings and erections connected with the Consett Iron Works. Prisoner was discharged from his employment on Tuesday night, and it is stated that he used a threat towards Coates and his brother, hoping they would break their necks by falling. The painters were stationed on a scaffolding, about 25 feet in height, painting the large blast furnaces. On Wednesday it was discovered that the ropes from which the platform was suspended had been cut in two by some malicious persons, and the defective parts of the tarred rope had been patched up by twisting pieces of string round the rope. On ascending the scaffold, Coates detected that something was wrong, and as soon as the scaffold began to give way, he and his brother adroitly caught hold of some of the pulley ropes, thus escaping a headlong fall of nearly 30 feet. As Smith was the only person who had been observed in the vicinity of the scaffold prior to the accident, he was arrested yesterday morning by Sergt. Cruickshank at his lodgings, and handed over to Sergt. Pratt, of the Consett Iron Company's police force. Smith is now in custody.

BLACKHILL.

At an early hour this (Friday) morning, a man named Ellison, residing at Blackhill, died very suddenly whilst following his employment in the Consett Tinmill Works.

FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370TH STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.—The 26th appropriation meeting took place on Monday evening, at the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill. Mr M. Noble presided, and Messrs Reed and Elsdon were appointed scrutineers. Register number 150 was drawn, held by Mr Wm. Davy, gardener, Snows Green, who, holding one share, is entitled to an advance of £100, free of interest, for 12½ years.

SAD DROWNING CASE.—We have just received intelligence of a sad drowning case which happened at Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, on July 5th, and by which Master Heymer Burkitt, late of Cemetery Road, Blackhill, lost his life. Master Burkitt was engaged fishing with two friends on the day in question, when a gigantic wave washed him into the sea. His friends hastened to the rescue, but he had sunk before they could give any help. The body had not been recovered on July 15th, the date on which the news was sent from Sydney. The deceased, who was 18 years of age, and a young man of great promise, was the eldest son of Mr George Burkitt, late plate-mill manager at Consett Iron Works. The parents were both well-known and highly respected in this district, and their numerous friends will no doubt sympathise with them in their sore bereavement.

BENFIELDSIDE STOCK AUCTION MART.—On Saturday, Messrs Nicholson and Murray held their second special sale of keeping lambs, when they had forward upwards of 2,100 half-bred, mule, black-faced, and Cheviot lambs. The sale opened out at the commencement slow, and bids were very languid; but as the sale advanced bidding became more spirited, and towards the close the whole were disposed of, although at a considerable reduction from the prices of last year for the same class of lambs. Half-bred ewe and wether lambs, 12s 6d to 17s; mules, 11s to 16s; Cheviots, 10s to 12s; B.F. ewes, 9s 6d to 13s; wedders, 5s to 11s each.—On Monday, Messrs Nicholson and Murray held their weekly sale of fat cattle and sheep, cows, store cattle, &c., when they had forward 17 fat cattle, 235 fat sheep and lambs, 9 cows, 31 store cattle, 3 calves, 30 geese, a quantity of poultry, hams, &c. Trade for fat cattle was good, but sheep had a downward tendency; and with the exception of about a dozen, the whole were sold at fair market prices according to the times. Top prices for fat cattle, £17 10s, Mr John Robson, Healeyfield; followed by £16 10s, Mr J. Stephenson, Newbiggen House; top for fat Scotch kyloes, £14 10s, Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., Broadwood Hall.

BIBLE STUDENTS' SOCIETY.—The subject of "Baptism" being the topic of consideration on Saturday evening, a lively interest was manifested. The question assumed a threefold form. 1st,—Was it essential? 2nd,—Was immersion its only true form, or did it include as equivalent, dipping and sprinkling? That is, were all three forms equally admissible and sacramental? 3rd,—Did the command "Go ye and baptize all nations" include infant Baptism, or did it limit the ordinance to adults only? That Baptism was essential as the *external* symbol of the free adoption and acceptance of the Christian faith, met with no question, with the exception of a suggestion, that Baptism now was a necessity with the heathen or those outside of Christianity, and with those only, as the rite or external and visible sign of their new faith (in Christ); but that for Christians by rearing, by education, by the continuity of Christian life, it might not be essential, but might be left to the discretion of the believer himself. On the second point, namely, as to the form of Baptism; although there was general unanimity as to immersion being its original form, as practised in Apostolic times, yet, as other forms (but all using water as the element) had been adopted by perhaps the greater portion of the Christian churches, which churches manifested all the visible signs of the Spirit's operation in their daily life and work, and progress—the form, after much excellent discourse thereon, was left as an open question to be determined on by the individual believer. The third aspect of the question, or infant baptism, excited a strong interest, and called forth quite an intellectual appeal to scriptural, patriotic, and traditional authority, both affirmative and negative. The scriptural affirmatives rested chiefly on the "gaoler and his household" (in the Acts) all receiving the Baptism; the negative on the bare fact of no infant or child ever being specially named in any part of the New Testament as having received the ordinance.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

REDUCTION OF WORKPEOPLE.—Mr John Tucker, miners' secretary, Chopwell Lodge, writes informing us that on Friday last, intelligence unexpectedly reached Victoria Garesfield Colliery from the manager, ordering cavils to be put in for 40 men to leave the pit, owing to the depression of trade. The notices date from Saturday last, September 5th.

TOW LAW.

A largely-attended ball, in connection with the flower show, was held in the Mechanics' Institute on Saturday night.

Yesterday (Thursday), the teachers and scholars connected with the Church Sunday-school had their annual tea and entertainment in the rooms of the Mechanics' Institution.

Successful meetings were held in the Salvation Army Barracks during the last week, conducted by "Billy the Rope Performer," and on the Saturday and Sunday by Capt. Newton, of Hartlepool.

On Monday night, a very interesting and instructive lecture was given in the Mechanics' Hall, by the Rev B. Wilkinson, Durham, subject: "How to take care of Number One;" the chair being occupied by Dr G. Johnston. At the close, there was a coffee supper in connection with the "Beacon of Hope" Lodge, when a fair number partook of the good things provided.

CONSERVATIVE LECTURE.—A lecture was given on Wednesday night, in the Mechanics' Institute Hall, by Mr Oliver Young (Newcastle)—subject, "Conservative principles and their effect upon the working classes." Mr J. Turnbull, miner, occupied the chair, and the Hall was filled. The lecture, which lasted over an hour, was listened to with great attention, notwithstanding that three-fourths of the audience were Radicals. A vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr Hy. White, and seconded by Mr Jas. Hutton (West Thornley).

ORDER OF DRUIDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—BISHOP AUCKLAND EQUALIZED DISTRICT.—The officers and delegates of the above society held a special district meeting on Saturday, at their registered place of business, the Station Hotel, Tow Law. After the business was concluded, a splendid ham tea was provided by the host, Mrs M. E. Dixon; and, subsequently the meeting proceeded with the harmonious part of the proceedings, after which votes of thanks were given to the chairman, also to Mrs Dixon for the able manner in which she provided for the delegates, and more especially to Mr R. Murray, of Benfieldside, for his most liberal donation towards the expenses of the gathering, bringing a very pleasant evening's enjoyment to a close.

BURNOPFIELD.

HONOURS TO A LOCAL GENTLEMAN.—Mr John Pickering, overman of Byer Moor Colliery, passed his examination for a colliery manager's certificate at Darlington, on the 21st and 22nd July. He has also passed in the science and art examinations for mining and applied in the elementary and advanced stages in the examinations of the last two sessions. He was a pupil of Mr W. Tate, of Sunderland.

PELTON FELL.

FATAL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday afternoon, about four o'clock, John Blackett, (25), a miner, was killed by a fall of stone at Pelton Fell Colliery. Deceased had only been married six months.

LEADGATE.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY.—In the Wesleyan Chapel, Leadgate, on Sunday, the Rev Henry Parkes, of Consett, the newly-appointed minister, preached excellent sermons in the morning and evening, to large congregations. In the afternoon, a children's service was held, addresses being delivered by the Rev H. Parkes, Messrs T. Hardy, J. Batey, and E. R. Foster.—There was a public meeting, held in the chapel, on Monday night, presided over by Mr T. J. Muse, of Castleside. Interesting speeches, mostly of a hopeful tone, were given by the Revs Hy. Parkes, William Taylor (Annfield Plain), M. J. Elliott (Consett), and Mr John Oliver (West Stanley). There was a good audience, and the collections were in advance of last year's.

KILNPIT HILL.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.—This anniversary has just been celebrated. On Saturday afternoon, an excellent tea was gratuitously provided, gracefully presided over by Mrs Brown, Mrs Pearson, Mrs Dickinson, and Miss Bell. In the evening, a numerously-attended public meeting was held. The Rev F. Raine (Prudhoe) presided, and interesting addresses were given by Mr H. Criston and the chairman. Selections of music were efficiently rendered by the choir, under the able leadership of Mr Lowrie; Master Rutherford presiding at the harmonium.—On Sunday sermons were preached in the morning and evening to large congregations, by the Rev F. Raine, the evening service being numerously attended. A children's service was held in the afternoon, and was addressed by Mr G. Armitage (Greenside), Mr J. Dickinson (Shotley Field), and Mr Raine.—The Sunday-school, which became defunct a year ago, was re-started with every prospect of success. At all the services, the choir rendered valuable aid, and the whole anniversary was a great success.

PELTON.

SHOOTING BY A GIRL.—On Wednesday, at the Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions, *Isabella Elliot* was charged with unlawfully wounding with intent to kill Andrew Maddison, at Pelton East House Farm, near Chester-le-Street, on Aug. 5th.—Complainant, who is evidently of weak intellect, made a very rambling statement to the Bench to the effect that defendant, who is a very respectable looking girl, was in the garden, and that he was in the yard at the other side of the wall, and that after some conversation between them, the girl went into the house, brought out a gun, pointed it at him, and shot him.—Dr Atkinson deposed to finding complainant dangerously wounded, the left shoulder being severely shattered, and that owing to some of the shot-corns having penetrated the lungs, causing inflammation, combined with the shock to the system, he did not think at the time that the man was likely to live until the next morning. He was now, however, comparatively well.—P.C. Marshall said that on charging prisoner with the offence, she stated that she was in the garden when complainant came and looked over the wall. He said, "Fenwick Maddison comes here." I said, "Yes he does," and defendant said, "Then I will give him a bullet, not a black one, but a lead one." I asked him where he would get the gun. He replied that the master was going to lend him one. She came out of the garden and he followed her up to the house. She got the gun and was holding it carelessly in her hands when it went off.—The Chairman (Colonel Sheppee) severely reprimanded prisoner for her careless conduct in meddling with the gun. As the man did not bear an over good character, and they were satisfied there was no malicious intentions on her part, the case would be dismissed.

WOLSINGHAM.

AGRICULTURAL SHOW.—The annual show of the Wolsingham and Wear Valley Agricultural Society, one of the oldest in the dales, was held on Tuesday, in two large fields close to the village. With fine weather prevailing the society again scored a success, and with the increased number of entries and a large attendance from the inhabitants and the residents in the dale, the society will be able to carry a substantial balance forward to next year's gathering. The show is one of the good old-fashioned sort, and though aspiring to nothing beyond their own locality, the breeders in the dales produce such a good class that only first-rate animals can compete against them. Unlike some shows of greater pretensions, they extend their prize money to nearly all classes included in the broad term—agricultural. Cattle, sheep, horses, dogs, poultry, and produce all found a numerous entry in excess of last year of about 150. Cattle and horses were the principal feature of the show, and included some really first-class animals, several of which have taken the premier prizes at the shows already held in the north. Dogs were also a good class, especially in the greyhounds; and poultry and produce were a numerous and excellent entry. Luncheon was presided over by Mr John Rogerson, Croxdale Hall, who proposed the toast of the Wolsingham and Wear Valley Agricultural Society in a very happy speech, the toast being responded to by Mr Vickers. The general arrangements of the show were of a very satisfactory character, and Mr Pickard, secretary, deserves every credit.

LANCHESTER.

Meetings of the Joint Hospital Board and the Assessment Committee were held yesterday (Thursday) at the Board-room, Lanchester, but there was no business of public interest transacted.

On Wednesday, at Sunderland Police Court, a young woman named Minnie Pearson, belonging to Lanchester, was remanded on a charge of attempting to commit suicide by jumping into the South Dock, and was with the greatest difficulty rescued by the police. Prisoner said she had been in town four months. Her parents resided at Lanchester, but she had not written to them since she left, nor did she care to return. She declared that Gunner Gordon, an artilleryman, was to blame for all she had done.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.—The monthly meeting of this Committee was held yesterday (Thursday) morning, under the presidency of Rev Canon Kearney. There were were also present—Messrs W. Logan, Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., J. Beckham, W. Wilkinson, and Wm. Brown.—The attendance-officer (Mr W. Ward) submitted the following report:—"To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee. GENTLEMEN,—During the last month 707 absentee visits have been made in your district, viz:—123 in Tanfield, 210 in Conside and Knitsley, 92 in Lanchester, 84 in Iveston, 103 in Esh, 22 in Hedleyhope, 51 in Cornsay, 16 in Ebchester, and 6 in Satley Parish—total, 707. Two notices under your bye-laws have been served at Tanfield, 5 at Tanfield Lea, 14 at Consett, 2 at Burnopfield, 3 at Lintz Colliery, 7 at South Moor, 16 at Craghead, 1 at Burnhope Colliery, 2 at Leadgate, 2 at Low Friarside, 1 at Hobson Colliery, 2 at Tantobie, 5 at West Stanley, 2 at Shield Row, 5 at Quebec, 1 at Newhouse Cottages, 11 at Cornsay Colliery, 10 at Tow Law, 1 at Fines House, 1 at Esh, 10 at Ushaw Moor Colliery, 2 at Ebchester, 1 at Medomsley Edge, 2 at East Hedleyhope, and 3 at Cowsley Cottages—total 112. Jane Hall, of Tanfield, Wm. Monaghan, of Consett, and John Rumney, of Leadgate, have been summoned for failing to cause their children to attend school regularly. Rumney was fined 5s, and the other two 2s 6d each. Mr Brears, of the National School, Leadgate, has sent to me a list of children who, although in attendance at school, have not paid their school pence, and are, therefore (according to the decision in the case of the London School Board v. Wood) not attending school. The list will be laid before you. Fifteen cases are also entered in the report book to be submitted to you.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, WM. WARD.

Iveston, Sept. 10th, 1885."

SLALEY.

DEATH OF A FARMER FROM THE KICK OF A HORSE.—On Wednesday, an inquest was held at the Rose and Crown Inn, Slaley, by Mr W. B. Elsdon, deputy coroner, touching the death of Septimus Ormiston, who died on Monday evening. Deceased, who was 46 years of age, was a farmer, and lived at the Flothers, near Slaley. It appears that on Saturday evening the deceased led his horse by a halter to a field near to his house. While in the field the horse kicked him and he fell down. The accident was witnessed by William Ormiston, seven years of age, a son of the deceased. Mr Ormiston was found lying in the field unconscious, bleeding severely from the left side of the head. The halter was found by the side of the deceased. Mr Ormiston was removed home, and attended by Dr McLean and Dr Heath, but died from his injuries on Monday night. Dr McLean was of opinion that the deceased sustained a fracture of the skull.—The jury returned a verdict to the effect that Mr Ormiston died from fracture of the skull resulting from a kick by a horse accidentally received.

WEARDALE.

FAIR AT ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL.—This autumn mart was held on Wednesday. There was a very large amount of stock on offer owing to the light crops of hay. There was a fair demand for young cattle and sheep, and also for calving cows, at current rates, the later inclining downwards owing to the supply being in excess of the demand.

DIPTON.

SAD SUICIDE OF A WOMAN.—On Monday afternoon, Mr Graham, coroner, held an inquest at the Prince of Wales Inn, Flint Hill, Dipton, on the body of Eliza Gilbert, aged 36, the wife of William Gilbert, a miner, employed at Tanfield Lea Colliery. It appears that a week ago an altercation took place between Mr Elliott, insurance agent, Leadgate, and the woman's husband, in Gilbert's house, when the latter attacked the insurance man with a rolling-pin, felling him to the ground. After further maltreatment Elliott succeeded in getting away, and the assault is the subject of police court proceedings, which are now pending. Ever since the affray it has been perceived that Mrs Gilbert has been going wrong in her mind. During her husband's absence from home for three or four hours on Friday last, it was ascertained that she had made away with herself, having been found hanging by a silk handkerchief to a ladder five feet in height inside the dwelling-house.—A verdict of "Suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity" was returned.

WEST STANLEY.

With pleasure we record the success of Mr J. Clarkson, Commercial Inn, West Stanley, at Wolsingham Agricultural Show. His splendid foal by Forster's "Billy" obtained first prize, and the grey mare (which carried him seven seasons) second prize. The foal also took the first prize at Chester-le-Street Show.

SALE OF FREEHOLD PROPERTY.—Mr A. Phillipson offered for sale by auction at Mr Clarkson's, West Stanley, on Wednesday evening, four two-roomed cottages belonging to Messrs Simpson. The bidding was begun by Mr Clarkson at £350, and followed by several others until it reached £500, when the property was knocked down to Mr Jonathan Green, butcher, Stanley.

NORTH-WEST DIVISION OF DURHAM.

MEETING AT CORNSAY COLLIERY.

On Wednesday night, a political address was given by Mr Atherley Jones, in furtherance of his candidature for this Division, in the British School-room, Cornsay Colliery. Prior to the meeting, the colliery brass band met the candidate and his friends on the top of the hill *en route* to the village, and escorted them to the place of meeting. It had originally been the intention to take the horses out of the conveyance and drag it into the village, but acting upon the advice of the chief colliery officials, this course was not adopted. The building was crammed to its fullest extent by a highly enthusiastic and intelligent audience, presided over by Mr Chas. Davison, colliery manager for Messrs Ferens and Love. The CHAIRMAN, in a few terse sentences, introduced

Mr JONES, who met with a hearty welcome. He pointed out that, in giving them a *resume* of his opinions on the principal political topics of the day, he could not expect everybody to agree with him on all material points. He asked the electors to judge him according to the opinions he held generally on current politics, and not to test him by any fad or crotchet which he he might entertain in regard to any special questions. (Cheers.) A few weeks hence, two millions of men, who have hitherto been deprived of any voice whatever in directing the affairs of the nation, will for the first time exercise the highest functions of a citizen—the right of selecting Parliamentary representatives. (Cheers.) The chief question which naturally occupied the minds of thoughtful politicians is: What way will the new electorate vote—Liberal or Conservative? He had not the least doubt that the miners of the county of Durham, nay the inhabitants of the United Kingdom generally, will be in favour of the great principles of the Liberal party, which have done so much towards promoting the material prosperity and welfare of this country in the past. (Cheers.) The very measure of Reform which they now enjoyed was opposed by the Conservative party, who by a disgraceful subterfuge, demanded that the Franchise Bill should be accompanied by a measure for the Redistribution of Seats. Speaking of Land Reform, Mr Jones explained that a peasant proprietary had been created in France by the aid of an Act passed by the Napoleonic Chamber of Deputies, specifying that when a man dies, he may divide the land equally amongst his children, with the exception of one child share. By a similar process, a peasant proprietary could be established in this country, without any revolutionary schemes, without any violence to existing institutions, and without taking from any single individual a brass farthing. (Laughter and cheers.) There were eight millions of landed proprietors in France—that is, peasants farming from 10, 20, or 30 acres of land, and enjoying the privileges of absolute ownership; and in England there were but 30,000 owners of the soil, and side by side with these men, were 1,500,000 farm labourers earning miserable pittances of 8s, 12s, or 14s per week, the goal of their existence, when old age or disease prevents them from working, being the parish Union. ("Shame.") Although the Conservative party, headed by Lord R. Churchill, hounded on the late Government to resort to Coercive measures for Ireland, the Tory Government, since it came into power, had coquetted with the Irish party, and had entered into partnership with Mr Parnell, because they intended to pursue a different policy to the course adopted by the Liberal Administration. The conversion of the Tories in favour of Ireland has been extremely rapid, and was accomplished in a short space of time occupied in the division which led to Mr Gladstone's resignation (laughter), and soon after they turned round and spoke soft words to the Irish people. He (Mr Jones) did not think that Irishmen will be insensible to the many good measures the Liberal party had passed, despite the opposition of the Conservatives, for the prosperity and welfare of that country. Would the Irish people therefore accept the Tory party in preference to the Liberals? One of the measures which he hoped the next Liberal Government would propogate would be to grant a comprehensive scheme of local self-government for Ireland (cheers), and if Mr Parnell and his colleagues desired more, he did not think they would receive it at the hands even of the Conservative party. (Cheers.) Lord R. Churchill, in his great speech, was careful to avoid any lengthy reference to the Irish question, and did not give the slightest indication of the policy the Conservatives intended to pursue in regard to Ireland. After adverting to the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the English Church, Mr Jones dwelt fully on the temperance question. At one period—he did not know the exact date—a holy alliance was entered into between the Tory party and the publicans, and they might rest assured that the Conservatives would never lay a sacrilegious hand upon a beer barrel. (Laughter.) It is impossible to make people sober by Acts of Parliament, but still he believed legislation would do much in the direction of remedying the evil effects of drunkenness and vice. He favoured the idea of allowing the liquor traffic to be dealt with by the popular voice of the people (cheers), as he considered that magistrates—speaking with all due respect to the "Great Unpaid"—were most unfit persons to have the control of these matters. (Cheers.) If for nothing else, the people ought to signify their adherence to the Liberal party at the forthcoming election, because of what they intended to accomplish in the promotion of temperance, hitherto opposed by the Conservative party. (Cheers.)

In response to many questions, Mr JONES, referring to the House of Lords, believed a second chamber was unnecessary, therefore he advocated the abolition of the Upper House. A carefully-considered measure for the reform of the House of Peers would receive his support, but at the same time, if they did away with the hereditary element, and created fresh peers, they must be cautious not to make the House of Lords a stronger body than the House of Commons. It was urged that a second Chamber was requisite to prevent hasty or panic legislation; but he thought the system of relegating the consideration of the details of measures to the Grand Committees, as instituted by Mr Gladstone, would obviate all this. Instead of legislation being too hasty, he thought that during the past 50 years the numerous beneficial measures now before the country were being passed through Parliament much too slowly. (Cheers.) Regarding free trade *versus* fair trade, Mr Jones, being a student of the rudiments of political economy, was a free trader pure and simple (cheers), and he could not conceive how any man, in his serious and sober senses, should desire to return to the absolutely absurd and barbarous system as that of imposing a tariff upon all imported goods. (Loud cheers.) As to the secularisation of the Sabbath day, there was no man breathing desired more than he did to see the Sunday kept holy; but at the same time the Sabbath was regarded as a sort of high holiday in our cities and large towns, and the majority of the people had no other place to spend their leisure hours (when not in church or chapel) except in the public-house. In the crowded towns especially, the inhabitants had not the means of disporting themselves as the rural population could into the country for the purposes of recreation, consequently he thought that the opening of public parks and museums on the Lord's day, would provide a counter attraction to the public-houses, and such a concession could not do the slightest harm to the cause of religion, and would achieve incalculable benefit towards the promotion of temperance and morality. (Cheers.) He was glad to notice that the leading clergymen and ministers accepted this view. Respecting Mr Burt's amendments to the Employers' Liability Act, he thought it most unjust that masters could force their workpeople to contract themselves out of the measure; and although he was happy to learn that this clause had not been taken advantage of by a single mineowner in the County of Durham, still in some parts of the kingdom it was rigidly enforced. Concerning the legalisation of marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Mr Jones had the greatest respect for the deceased's wife's sister (laughter) although he had not the pleasure of her acquaintance. (Loud laughter.) He failed to see any reason why a measure, which was approved of generally by the people of the country, and only opposed by the Bishops of the Church of England (for what reason he knew not), should not pass into law. (Cheers.)

It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr ALLAN BROWELL, seconded by Mr RAINE, and supported by Messrs STOTT and JOHN HILL ("*Multum in Parvo*"), that the candidature of Mr Jones was acceptable to the electors of North-West Durham, the result being greeted with loud acclamations, bringing to a close a most successful and harmonious meeting.

MEETING AT LANCHESTER.

In support of the candidature of Mr Jones, a meeting took place yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, on the Village Green at Lanchester, under the able presidency of Mr William Logan, colliery viewer, Langley Park. There was a pretty large gathering, composed of miners from the neighbouring collieries, but the principal element consisted of many prominent Conservatives, who frequently produced some merriment by their hostile demonstrations. The CHAIRMAN introduced

Mr JONES as the future member North-West Durham. On rising to speak he was received with faint signs of approval. Mr Jones stated that, on proceeding to Lanchester that day, he had some misgivings that no inconsiderable amount of hostility would be shown to him, and although he anticipated that their opposition would not be of a serious character, he expected that a few casualities might occurr (laughter and cheers), but the reception they had given him had somewhat reassured him. He noticed in that assemblage that the agricultural interest was predominant, and doubtless they desired to return to Parliament a man who would carefully and justly watch their interests. (Hear.) The agricultural industry was the most permanent in this country, and it was to that interest the population were mostly dependent upon. He held it to be the duty of the legislature to advance all measures tending to promote the agricultural industries, as well as to watch the interests of trade and manufacture. He did not refer to the landed proprietors, but to the farmers and agricultural labourers. It had been said that the Liberal party had not supported the agricultural interest, and that the farmers as a class were Conservative. No doubt that was true to a great extent in the past. As a large addition had been made to the electorate, it was a matter of some speculation as to how the agricultural labourer will vote. He had little doubt that the farm labourer would vote the Liberal ticket. (Cheers.) He did not deny that the landed aristocracy are in the main Conservative, yet there was a growing affection amongst tenant farmers that it is to Liberal legislation they have derived most benefit. There have been two measures passed by the Liberal Government, in the face of Conservative opposition, which have been of great benefit to the farming industry—he referred to the Agricultural Holdings Act, granting farmers compensation for unexhausted improvements; and the Ground Game Act, passed in 1883, which would in course of time confer a great boon upon agriculturists, especially in the South of England. The Liberal party therefore deserved well of the agricultural interest, although it was repeatedly asserted that the farming classes were going to vote Conservative. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to find there was one Tory amongst the company—he was the first Conservative he had met with since he came into the County of Durham. (Laughter.) It is reputed that the Conservative party were going to do something for the farmers, but what that "something" was no one could tell. He learnt, however, that it meant getting a better price for their crops—it is only a "pious opinion" at present (laughter), according to Sir Stafford Northcote—or in other words, to impose a tax upon all corn imported into this country.—Mr J. J. Thompson (secretary of the Conservative Association for North-West Durham) denied that Sir Stafford ever said so.—Mr Jones: I say that Sir Stafford Northcote only stated that it was a "pious opinion." (Laughter.)—Mr Thompson: It was Mr Lowther.—Mr Jones replied that Jemmy Lowther would tax all articles imported into England. The Government had appointed a Royal Commission, consisting of fair traders, to enquire into the causes of the depression of trade.—Mr Thompson (again interrupting): Why didn't Forster sit upon it?—The Chairman: Order, please. You will have an opportunity of questioning Mr Jones at the close.—Mr Jones felt much obliged to the Chairman for exercising some reproof, but he was accustomed to be interrogated in this fashion, and could answer the questions as he was speaking. (Laughter and cheers.) The reason Mr Forster would not sit upon the Commission was because he refused to have anything to do with an enquiry which had for its leading principles the idea of taxing the bread of the people. (Cheers.)—Mr Thompson: Why did Goschen decline to serve upon it?—Mr Jones: Mr Goschen, as a gentleman connected in a most eminent degree with trade, refused to associate with Protectionists and Fair-traders. (Renewed applause.)—Mr Thompson: What did Mr Storey say about the Commission?—Mr Jones: I am not the father confessor of Mr Storey (laughter), and will let him answer for himself. (Cheers.)—Mr Thompson: Mr Storey's letters are public property ("Order").—Mr Jones: I wish the gentleman would permit me to answer his enquiries. I do not deny that there are on that Commission a certain number of eminent Liberals; but the greater portion are eminent fair-traders. (Laughter.) Possibly if Mr Dale (who is a member of the Commission) had considered the matter more carefully he would have taken the same stand as Mr Forster and Mr Goschen. (Cheers.)—Mr Thompson: Mr Palmer is on.—Mr Jones: Yes, and Mr Palmer is one of the gentlemen upholding the great principles of free trade.—Proceeding, Mr Jones said it was absolutely useless to place a tariff upon corn, unless they taxed cotton and iron ore from Spain, to show any appreciable effect upon foreign nations, and to enhance the revenues. The question of free trade is almost an insult to the intelligent population of this country to speak upon; and he advised the farmers not to be deluded by the mockery of fair trade and protection. (Cheers.) What benefit would it be to them if they received a penny more profit on their corn if this money eventually found its way into the landlord's pockets by means of increased rents? (Cheers.) For some time past, an agitation has been raised in the southern counties—especially in Kent—against what are termed the extraordinary tithes—that is, the extra tithe upon garden produce, fruit lands, and hop crops. Whether the farmers wished an extra price for their corn or not, they were not strong enough to get it, inasmuch as the great teeming population could not be dominated by the interests of any one class; therefore there is no more chance of a tax being levied upon corn than there is of reverting to an absolute monarchy in this country. (Cheers.) Mr Jones next dilated at considerable length on his views on the land reform, and the advocacy of a peasant proprietorship as established in France. It was the Conservative party, by the mouth of Lord Randolph Churchill, that declared that the land laws of this country were most satisfactory. (Voice: "Never.") Mr Jones advised that gentleman to get a paper and carefully read Lord Randolph's speech. (Cheers and laughter.)—Mr Thompson: If you allude to me, I have read that speech. (Laughter.)—(Voices: "Read it again," and more laughter.)—Mr Jones: Then I think your memory must be defective. (Laughter.)—Mr Thompson: It is not defective. (Renewed laughter and commotion.)—Mr Jones: If I have not given the precise words used by Lord R. Churchill, I have quoted fairly I think. (Cheers.)—Mr Thompson: But you have twisted it. (Laughter.)—Mr Jones: If I have twisted the quotation, it must be a moral twist (laughter), because I have always regarded Lord Randolph with the greatest benevolence. (Loud laughter and cheers.)—Resuming, Mr Jones averred that the reform of the land laws was one of the measures which the Liberal party were prepared to undertake, and he questioned if Mr Thompson could tell him what harm the Liberals had done in the past. (Cheers.)—Mr Thompson: I belong to a pure race serene. (Laughter.)—Mr Jones replied that Mr Thompson had evidently flourished during the better portion of his life under the Government of the Liberals (laughter), and he could not point to a single measure contributing to the welfare of the country at large which had been rejected by the Liberals; while on the other hand, the Conservatives had strenously opposed all such measures. Even the last Reform Bill was passed by the Liberals in spite of the objection of the Conservatives.—Mr Thompson: Did you read the *Daily News*, which admitted that this was a Conservative as well as a Liberal measure? The Conservatives supported the Reform Bill.—Mr Jones: Well, the Conservative party adopted a very peculiar attitude in showing their interest in it. (Laughter.)—Mr Thompson: Perhaps so.—Mr Jones: The Tory party first met us in a fair fight, but after defeat, they took to striking below the belt (laughter); but notwithstanding all opposition, the Liberals succeeded in carrying the measure. (Cheers.)—Mr Thompson (sarcastically): That's somewhere near the mark. (Laughter and cheers.)—Mr Jones, in conclusion, promised that, if returned to Parliament, he should not go to represent any particular class, but all sections of his constituents. He would endeavour to serve to the best of his ability, the interests of the people, not only of the County of Durham, but of the country at large. (Cheers.) He would be a faithful and consistent, but not a slavish, follower of Mr Gladstone. (Continued applause.)

In replying to questions, Mr JONES pointed out that he had no desire to encourage blasphemy by repealing these laws, but their existence rendered it a penal offence to hold fair discussion in the interests of religion. The common laws of the realm, he thought, were sufficient to punish such offences as foul language, obscene publications, &c. He was of opinion that, in the face of recent events, the common laws might be more rigidly enforced as regards filthy publications. (Cheers.) Referring to the letter signed "True Blue," in last week's *Guardian*, Mr Jones stated that the writer admitted that if they were framing a fresh code of measures, the blasphemy laws need not be included, but why on earth should he object to the same laws being repealed? (Cheers.)

Mr THOMPSON: Was Mr Jones correctly reported, when he said at Leadgate that Tory orators, both inside and outside the House of Commons, charged the working classes with being drunken and dissipated? (Cheers.)

Mr JONES: I am fairly reported, and I plead guilty to the soft impeachment. I said that Tory orators had accused the working people of being drunk and venal; but of course I did not include the whole of the Tory orators in this category. (Laughter.) But they urged that the working classes were not fit to exercise the franchise. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr THOMPSON: Will Mr Jones favour me with the names of any of the Tory orators in the House of Commons who applied these expressions to the working classes?

Mr JONES replied that he did not carry about with him a repertory of the speeches delivered in the House—(Mr THOMPSON: "No, you never do"—laughter)—but he used the term in a general sense. If he was tied down to the precise words expressed—"drunken and venal," then he would give way; but if they accepted the words in a figurative sense, then he would substantiate what he had said. (Cheers.) If the gentleman would kindly give him his name and address, he (Mr Jones) would supply him, after his return to London, with the list he asked for. (Cheers.)

Mr THOMPSON: I shall be happy to receive it. (Laughter.)

A Voice: Ask him another question.

Mr THOMPSON: No; I have had quite sufficient. (Chorus of voices: "Yes, I should think so," and prolonged laughter.) I could ask a good few questions yet, but I don't like. (More laughter.) You have the happy knack of lawyers of twisting your arguments. (Loud laughter.)

Mr JONES (humorously): I think it is a case of "Greek meeting Greek." (Laughter and disorder.)

Mr FITZPATRICK, miner (Annfield Plain), was called upon to propose a resolution of confidence in Mr Jones, but his rising was the signal for great disorder. He was greeted with shouts of "Let's have a Lanchester man," "You've imported him into the place for the purpose," "Knock him off the platform," "Come down, sir," &c.

Mr FITZPATRICK maintained his position, and defied anyone to knock him off the platform.

After the turbulence had subsided, the CHAIRMAN called upon a resident of Lanchester to propose the motion, but no one responded; a voice exclaiming "They're all Tories." (Laughter.)

Mr BRODIE (Consett), who met with exclamations of "Get down," "Go back to Consett," "You've imported him from Consett," denied that they had brought Mr Fitzpatrick on purpose to move the resolution. He did not come with them. He (Mr Brodie) got this gentleman to move the resolution simply because he could not find anybody in Lanchester willing to propose it. (Derisive cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: I shall be very glad if a Lanchester man will come up here to propose the resolution. There is an old saying—"You must first catch your hare." (Laughter.)

Mr THOMPSON: I will move a resolution, but not of confidence in Mr Jones. (Cheers.)

Eventually, Mr FITZPATRICK proposed his resolution, adding that he had intended saying a few words, but after what had transpired he would cut his speech short——

Mr THOMPSON: That's just what you have to do. (Laughter.)

Mr FITZPATRICK: I should have to cut it wide if I cut it for you. (Roars of laughter.)

Mr THOMPSON: I should think so. You have said a lot. (Derisive cheers.)

The proposal was briefly seconded by Mr J. A. CURRY (Dipton), and supported in an eloquent speech by Mr D. REED (Leadgate), both gentlemen being repeatedly interrupted with interjectional remarks.

Mr THOMPSON: I think there must be no Liberals about. I consider it is an insult to the people of Lanchester to import foreigners to move this resolution. (Further cheers.)

The proposition was submitted to the test, when about an equal number of hands were held up in favour and against it; and the CHAIRMAN declared the motion carried, the result being received with much applause.

Mr JONES, in acknowledging the compliment, said that Lanchester had been unjustly termed the hot-bed of Conservatism—(A voice: "So it is. There's not a dozen Liberals in it"—laughter)—but after the support accorded him that day, he felt there was still some hope for the Liberal party even in Lanchester. (Laughter and applause.)

The proceedings were highly edifying to the company surrounding the platform, and the meeting accepted the badinage good-humouredly.

The meeting concluded with an expression of thanks to the Chairman.

MEETING AT CASTLESIDE.

Last (Thursday) evening, another address was given by Mr Atherley Jones in the Board Schools, at Castleside, before a very large and attentive audience. Mr T. J. Muse, of Castleside House (Chairman of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board) presided. We are obliged to hold over our report, but we may remark that at the close of a hearty and demonstrative meeting, a vote of confidence in Mr Jones was passed without opposition amid stormy applause.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, Sept. 7th.—Before JON. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (chairman), and J. W. WALTON-WILSON, Esq.

REFUSING TO PAY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FEES.

Supt. Oliver made application on behalf of Her Majesty's Inspector of Industrial Schools for the magistrates to make an order on *Hugh Agnew* to pay the sum of £1 19s, arrears towards the support of his son. Their Worships made an order on the 10th September last year for him to pay 1s 6d per week, and although he had been summoned and sent to gaol several times, he had not as yet paid anything towards the maintenance of his son. Every Saturday night Agnew could get almost drunk, and from the wages he received, he (the Superintendent) thought he was in a position to pay the money.—The order was granted.

FRACAS BETWEEN WOMEN: CROSS-SUMMONSES.

Annie Temple, a married woman, was placed in the dock charged with assaulting another married woman named Elizabeth Godfrey at the North Pit, Dipton, on the 29th ult., to which she pleaded not guilty.—Dr Carr, barrister, prosecuted; and Mr McCartan, solicitor, Consett, defended.—Complainant stated that on the day in question she was standing at her door, when Temple came up and asked her if she had seen her husband, to which she replied that she had not, whereupon defendant said, "You b—— w——, you have," at the same time striking her a blow in the eye. She then took her by the throat with her two hands and pushed her against the wall, and almost choked her. Then she (defendant) took up a piece of wood from a water-barrel near by, and said, "You b——, I'll murder you." Complainant picked up a broom lying by and held it up to ward off the blow aimed at her by Temple, the force of which broke the handle. At that time, defendant's husband was standing at his own door, and she called of him to take his wife away, but he told them to settle the matter amongst themselves. Defendant next took up a can, and threw it two or three times full of water at her. Complainant next ran into the house and locked the door, whereupon Temple got a plank and struck the door several blows; but finding this would not bring complainant out of the house, she deliberately broke all the panes in two windows, 30 in number. Then she put her hand through the window and tore a musk and other trees to pieces, besides destroying two window curtains. After venting her rage in this manner, she went away, and complainant heard Mr Temple say to his wife, "Now that you've done it; you must stand by the consequences," to which she replied that she was prepared to do so. In the midst of a quarrel between them, Mr Temple went away followed by his wife who was throwing stones at him. Temple turned on his wife, hit her in the face, and knocked her down. This be repeated, at the same time kicking her upon the body. During the affray, she (complainant) never said or did anything to defendant but ward off the blow aimed at her with the piece of wood.—In answer to Mr McCartan, complainant said she did not break the broom shank over defendant's head, nor did she throw a flower pot at her, she never molested her whatever. The cut on defendant's head and hand and black eye were all given by her husband; and if the latter said he did not he would be swearing falsely. She knew nothing of defendant's hens getting amongst her son's: and that did not cause the disturbance.—Dr Carr called a married woman, named Ann Thomson, who testified that between four and five o'clock on the day named she saw all that complainant had stated had transpired, and during cross-examination explained the reason for the row commencing was the manner in which defendant accosted Mrs Godfrey. In the first instance she asked her if she had seen her husband, to which complainant replied that she had not. Defendant then said that Mrs Godfrey had him inside her house for an immoral purpose. She would swear that complainant never struck defendant; the only thing she did was to lift up the broom to ward off the blow.—A young girl named Sarah Jane Herring gave similar testimony to that adduced by the complainant; and in answer to Mr McCartan, she said that she had never spoken to Mrs Godfrey since the affray took place. It was false that Mrs Godfrey had trimmed her a hat to get her to give evidence for her. Mrs Godfrey never touched defendant: the wounds and marks upon the defendant were all caused by the defendant's husband.

This was the case for the prosecution, and Mr McCartan asked the Magistrates to hear the cross-summons before giving their verdict. *Elizabeth Godfrey* was then placed in the dock charged with assaulting Annie Temple.—Mr McCartan having detailed the circumstances of the case, he called upon the complainant, who said that on the morning of the day in question she made a bargain with a man named Charlton to sell him eight hens and a cock. In endeavouring to catch them they got amongst the defendant's, and of course she had to go into their midst to secure the ones she had sold. Whilst in this act defendant came out and said, "What are you doing among my fowls, you b——; I'll let you know that I am here." Complainant went away with her poultry and said nothing. In the afternoon, as she was returning from Leadgate, she saw Mrs Godfrey standing on her doorstep, and she asked her what she meant when she said that she would let her know that she was there? Complainant then commenced to use language of a disgusting nature which she said defendant had used against her, but Mr McCartan asked her to desist; and she then went on to detail that Mrs Godfrey struck her across the head with the broom, and broke the shank over her body. Of course she did the best she could to defend herself, and confessed that she did break one or two of the panes, although it was after defendant had thrown a flower pot at her through the window. She never flung any water at her. As to the two witnesses, Ann Thomson, she said, was the "busy-body" of the village, and no faith could be put in her; she knew everything about everybody, and she only gave evidence against her that day for spite. As to the girl Herring, Mrs Godfrey had trimmed the hat she had on and gave her a pair of boots to come to Court in in order to swear against complainant.—In answer to Dr Carr, she said that the evidence given by Mrs Godfrey and her witnesses was entirely false; and that her husband never touched her at all that day.—Dr Carr said he would not add any more to the oaths she had taken.—John Temple, husband of the complainant, gave corroborative testimony, and swore that he never touched his wife on the day in question. He saw the whole affair, and the marks that were upon his wife were all given by defendant. His wife took hold of Mrs Godfrey, but it was after she had knocked her down with the broom.

This was the case for the counter-charge, and Dr Carr asked that a wilful damage case in connection with the occurrence might be heard. On the Bench consenting, Robert Godfrey preferred the charge against *Annie Temple*, and claimed £1 11s as damages, which included 30 broken panes of glass, two flower pots and trees, two window curtains, and a broom.—Mr M. Cawthorn, engineer, proved the damage to the windows to be £1 10s 2d.—Mr McCartan said it would be useless to have a repetition of the evidence. His client admitted having done part of the damage; but he thought as Mrs Godfrey had done part as well, the cost should be borne between them.

After a lengthy consultation, the Chairman said that the first case would be dismissed; Mrs Godfrey, the defendant in the counter charge would be fined 10s and costs; and in the last case Mrs Temple would be fined 1s and costs, and 20s damages.

A PALTRY CHARGE.

A young girl named *Mary Jane Keenan* was brought up, charged with assaulting a girl named Margaret Lamb on the 24th August.—Complainant was walking along a street in Consett with another girl named Hannah Bell, and without any provocation she struck her in the mouth and knocked her down; after she got up she again hit her.—Hannah Bell corroborated.—Defendant denied the charge; but during cross-examination, she admitted having hit the complainant, but it was on account of her calling her a w——.—The Chairman said defendant should not have taken the law into her own hands, and for striking the complainant she would be fined 2s 6d and costs.

ALLEGED DRUNKENNESS: CASE DISMISSED.

Pattinson Heslop and *Thomas Pattinson*, two respectable-looking young men, were brought up, charged with being drunk and disorderly.—Dr Carr defended.—P.C. Laverick deposed that between twelve and one o'clock on the morning of the 23rd ult., his attention was drawn to a noise made on the road leading from Allensford to Castleside. Turning his steps in that direction he met two men, who were going quietly home, but on getting further down, he found the two defendants standing in a fighting attitude, using language towards each other that was most disgusting. They were very drunk, and it took him some time before he could get them off home.—Dr Carr: Have not you made a contract to break two or three hundred tons of limestone?—Officer: No; my sons have it.—Dr Carr: Ah, then of course you help them?—Officer: No.—Dr Carr (sarcastically): That's very likely (laughter); but is it not a fact that you get jeered and taunted at for doing this sort of thing, and just brought these young men up for a bit of revenge?—Officer: No.—Dr Carr: Has Pattinson ever complained to you about fowl belonging to you going into his garden?—Officer: No.—Dr Carr: Then I suppose it is no use suggesting that you singled out Pattinson to "pay him up" for his numerous complaints?—Officer: I never thought of such thing.—Dr Carr: Did you ever see them drunk?—Officer: Yes, but I never charged them before.—Dr Carr, in defence, submitted that the officer had been labouring under a great mistake. There was no one deserved the protection of their Worships more than a police officer when he carried out his duty legitimately; but when he so far exceeded his functions as to attempt to blight the characters of innocent young men, he was deserving of the most rigid reprimand. He would prove that his clients were not in the least intoxicated; and that they had been for years the best of friends and boon companions. Why Laverick brought his clients up they could not make out, without it was that he had singled them out on whom to vent his spleen for the taunting he received for being, as he was told, a "policeman stonebreaker."—He then called Joseph Ashburn, who said that on the 22nd last month he went to Shotley Flower Show, and there joined the two defendants. After leaving the Spa Grounds at night they with another young man named John Nattrass all went into the Bridge Inn and had a glass of beer and a small lemon each. At eleven o'clock they left Shotley Bridge, the two defendants being perfectly sober. During the time he was with them, they were the best of friends, and always had been such. As they neared home, Nattrass and witness were about ten yards in front of the defendants, and here they met Laverick. If there had been any noise they could have heard it.—In answer to P.C. Laverick, he denied being further than ten yards away from defendants when they met him.—John Nattrass gave similar evidence.—John Proud adduced that he walked part of the way home with the defendants from Shotley Bridge, and they were perfectly sober.—An old woman, named Mrs Ashburn, said that Heslop lived with her, and between twelve and one on the Sunday morning, he came into her house, where she had supper provided for him. He was not the least intoxicated, she would swear.—The Chairman announced that the Bench thought the men were not drunk, and therefore dismissed the case.

DRUNK AT CASTLESIDE.

A young man, named *Matthew Clark*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Castleside on the 23rd ult.—Dr Carr defended.—P.C. Laverick adduced that on Sunday, the 23rd August, he was on duty at Castleside, and about ten o'clock in the evening he observed a crowd in one part of the village, in the midst of which some person was making a disturbance by shouting and swearing. On going towards them, someone said, "Here's the 'bobby,'" whereupon Clark, whom he noticed to be drunk, got into one of the houses before he (the officer) could lay hands on him.—Dr Carr: What made you think he was drunk?—Officer: Because he was swearing, and making a disturbance.—Dr Carr: Oh, then I suppose every time you hear him swear, you will take him up for being drunk. (Laughter.) Have you ever seen him drunk before?—Officer: No.—Dr Carr: And I'll prove that you didn't see him drunk this time.—The learned doctor then called Isaac Hopper, who testified to being with the defendant, his brother-in-law, on the night in question. The only drink they had was in the Fleece Inn, and defendant only had a half of whiskey and a bottle of lemonade whilst he had two glasses of beer. He went home with the defendant, and both were quite sober at the time.—P.C. Laverick: Did he go all the way home with you?—Witness: No; he followed me home.—Officer: You said just now that he went home with you. Did you not know that he slept on a pike of hay all night?—Witness: No; I expected he came home after me.—Officer: Will you swear that you did not know he came home next morning?—Witness: Yes.—Miss Phillipson, Mrs Hall, and Thomas Pattinson all corroborated as to the sobriety of the defendant on the night in question.—The Bench found the charge proved, and fined defendant 5s and costs.

A FATHER FINED FOR NOT SENDING HIS CHILD TO SCHOOL.

John Gibson, school-attendance officer to the Medomsley School Board, brought a charge against *Isaac Lonsdale* for allowing his daughter Jane Lonsdale, aged 12, to stay from school for six months. On the 5th June last, he was fined 5s, including costs, for the same neglect.—Dr Carr, who defended, said that the father had been placed in rather peculiar circumstances since the death of his wife, and accordingly made application to the School Board to allow his daughter to look after his house until he could find a suitable housekeeper. This request the Board granted. Since that time, however, the child had passed into the sixth standard, and of course his client naturally thought that he was free to take her away from school.—The Chairman (to Mr Gibson): What is the rule upon this subject?—Mr Gibson: Any child is at perfect liberty when he or she has passed the fifth standard; but defendant's child has not.—The Chairman: But we have a note here from the master saying that she is in the sixth standard.—Mr Gibson: Notwithstanding that, she has not passed the fifth. The laws says that they must pass in three subjects, and she only passed in two.—The Chairman: If that be the case, then we must fine defendant 5s including costs.

The son of the Servian Minister, Gudovich, has been sentenced in Vienna to one month's imprisonment for frauds he had committed on several persons. This was not his first appearance before a criminal tribunal.

On Saturday Messrs. Bagnall, ironmasters, Wednesbury, received information that a clerk in their employ, named William Roden, had committed suicide. A portion of the deceased's duties was to pay the ironworkers their wages, and lately he had enforced a reduction of wages, and appropriated the surplus moneys to his own use. Upon deceased ascertaining that a warrant had been issued for his arrest he absconded, and for two days his whereabouts were unknown. He was at length found lying on the canal towing path, convulsed from the effects of poison, and died before medical aid could be obtained.

LADIES' COLUMN.

If the prophetic souls of the West-end milliners may be accepted as sure guides, we are to have an early winter. To see windows full of autumn bonnets and hats before the month of August has expired is little short of phenomenal. Yet we have a great display in Regent-street and Bond-street of novelties essentially wintry in character, which might well have been held back so long as the trees still retained their foliage in brilliant shades of green. Possibly it is something similar to the competition between publishers of extra Christmas numbers of magazines and newspapers, who find it a question of life or death obtaining early possession of the bookstalls and shop counters. It is by no means unusual to have an extra Christmas number offered for sale early in October, and long before the advent of December all the secrets of the surprises in store in illustrations and fiction are public property. Dress materials are more leisurely launched upon the market than hats and bonnets. The former, it is considered, can wait until the peradventure wearers return to town. Besides, it is too soon for ladies to be quite certain how much of last year's wardrobe will be available for next year's wear, for as yet the summer toilettes are doing duty. The cream and écru lace skirts which were so pretty and airy a few weeks ago are beginning to look very cold, and hang with unbecoming limpness. The foundations on which the flounces were mounted being still in good condition, home dressmakers are substituting dark yak laces for light cotton ones, with velvet collars, cuffs, belts, and bows, and thus in the language of the Scotch bard, "Gar' auld claes look maist as well as new." Over the light dresses of almond or biscuit colour dark brown yak is effective. Myrtle green or olive over pale golds and sage greens. Blue shrouds grenat, and over black silk skirts all shades and colours of woollen laces are draped.

Each autumn has its own particular shade of red which comes in with the novelties. One year it is bright scarlet; another it is brick red; a third, deep crimson; a fourth, grenat. This year cherry red is the favourite, and in plush, velvet, and satin, the shade is rich and seasonable. Cherry-colour is used in a variety of ways by milliners. On fancy straw bonnets piece velvet in cherry is the trimming. Bonnets of coarse straw dyed navy blue, olive green, brown, grenat, &c., are to be worn for the intermediate season. These have hard crowns, the fronts setting close to the face and slightly turned up coronet fashion. The trimming consists of a very large rosette made of ribbon in three different colours, startling and courageous contrasts. Réseda, cherry, and tabac are three found grouped. The last is that light brown to which the name of "cigar" is sometimes given, but it is a lighter shade than either tobacco or cigars. Another mixture is navy blue, cherry red, and old gold, or tabac, sage green, and light blue, with a very slight suggestion of red are to be seen on very dark green straw bonnets. In fact, the boldest arrangements in colours seem to be accepted as good style. On the subject of cherry colour, when it takes the form of artificial fruit, the experiences of some ladies at Trouville ought to be a warning to us over here. The Parisian milliners on the very first change of weather sent off to all their best customers who were away from town a fresh supply of dresses and bonnets. The cherry craze broke out on hats and bonnets, and one fine morning on the beach every lady wondered how it was that her particular rival had succeeded in being dressed in the mode so early. By luncheon hour, however, something had gone wrong with all the cherries, and the sun seemed to be in some respects the cause. Of the beautiful tempting-looking artificial fruit only some shapeless lumps remained, and the colour had melted all over the rest of the trimmings. India-rubber, as the composition was asserted to be, could not have melted without some powerful solvent, but wax would have yielded to a sun so hot as we had during the last few weeks.

The greatest novelty in hats and bonnets is the coloured stockingette covering for solid frames. Silk web jerseys have been so successful that the adaptation of the material to other uses has followed as a matter of course. The weaving is done ingeniously, beginning at the edge and narrowing, as the foot of a stocking is narrowed, into a single stitch in the centre of the crown. The hats are by no means so high-crowned as last year's, and, being lower, look broader and flat on the summit. The trimming, usually velvet bows and little birds, or bird's wings, is placed right in front, and is piled so high that the tips rise above the crown. The bonnets differ only in respect to shape, which is the same as the coarse straw described. The colours of both hats and bonnets are very pleasing, especially the greys and cigar browns.

To the new autumn jacket some give the name of "The Louvre," others style it "The Figaro." It is intended as an intermediate muffle for the evenings, now becoming decidedly chilly, and the mornings, until the time comes for mid-winter wraps. The jacket is short, at the back tight-fitting, and the basque only coming a little below the waist. The fronts are double-breasted, straight and loose, turning back *en revers* and buttoning at each side on a row of buttons of some very pronounced design—gold, silver, horn, smoked pearl, enamel, &c. The jacket is only met at the throat, and the fronts falling open reveal the under vest of the dress and the belt with buckle. Fancy cloths in one or two colours, pepper and salt mixture, ribbed cloth, matelassé, velvet broché, &c., are among the materials employed for these jackets. Not the least successful cloth is corduroy, a velvetine corduroy, in fact, a dove colour, slate, brown, and smoke. The intention of the double row of buttons is to allow of the jacket being buttoned across the chest when the weather requires more care to be taken of health.

The shows of cut flowers at the Horticultural Gardens are faithful reminders of the flight of time. This week the dahlias and gladioli are the attractions. Of the former the cactus variety is this year the child of good fortune, and amateurs crowd round the latest varieties, uttering exclamations of wonder and admiration. For delicacy and soft beauty, the single dahlia is as yet unrivalled, and if it were not for the fashion of the thing, many would not desert the old favourite for the new. Perhaps a year or two hence sneers will be levelled at cultivators who coax the cactus dahlia into beauty, as jests are made at the expense of florists still faithful to the ball-shaped old quilled variety.

The description of the palace at Kremsier, in Austria, where the meeting took place of the Emperors of Russia and Austria, is enough to make a good housewife's eyes turn in her head. Think of ten days being allowed for cleaning a mansion on which no brush or duster had passed since the year 1848. The palace of Kremsier, which dates from early in the 17th century, belongs to the Archbishop Cardinal Prince Fürstenberg, and the revenues amount to about a million of florins yearly. The grand courtyard had grass a foot long. The windows looking out upon it were so encrusted with dirt that it was found to be easier to take out the panes and put in new ones than try to scrape off the deposits of 37 years. The crystal chandeliers in the great banqueting hall were in an equally deplorable condition—as black as coal. Workmen from Vienna were hastily summoned to take the chandeliers to pieces, and submit the glass pendants to a chemical process to restore some little appearance of their original condition. The colossal statues in niches on the staircases were in the same state, but as there was no time to clean them the dirt was whitened over. If the spirit of the old artist who modelled the figures still haunts the galleries, how indignant he must feel. To cover up the dirt some thick mixture would be necessary, and we must feel very sorry for the poor statues after such treatment. The rats that had had undisputed possession of the galleries for so many years must regard Emperors and their suites as mistakes—errors of judgment in the arrangement of the affairs of this world. The library treasures had to be rubbed up ready for exhibition, and layers of dust disturbed from the bindings of the books. Even the great treasure, the 13th Century Koran, written so fine that a magnifying glass is required for reading it, had been neglected by the easy-going custodians. The cost of all the preparations must have been enormous, though the visit only lasted 30 hours. The Imperial suites numbered altogether 500 persons, and the cuisine demanded seems to have taxed the resources of Vienna itself for the grand occasion. 10,000 plates must have left a fair margin for breakages.

AURORA.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete, permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions, 1½d. and 1s. bottles.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

HOW A SHIP WAS BUILT.

A man who goes out as a missionary to some heathen land, not only undertakes the task of learning the language of the natives, and preaching the Gospel to them in their own tongue so that they can understand him, but he must also be prepared to turn his hand to almost every kind of work. He may have to build his own house, and make his own implements of husbandry, and, if not, he must feel that he is called upon to be a pioneer of civilisation to the poor ignorant people among whom his lot is cast, and be ready to shew them better ways of doing things than they have been accustomed to. A story is told of one missionary who, with the help of some of his converts, actually built himself a ship.

John Williams was sent by the London Missionary Society to some islands in the Pacific Ocean. He made his station at Raiatea, and from this island he paid visits to several others, among them one called Raratonga. After he had lived at Raratonga for some time and done a great deal of good among the people there he wished to return to Raiatea, but though he waited month after month, no vessel called at the island. At last he determined upon adopting a most extraordinary course—that of building a ship with his own hands.

He was much in want of tools, and had none used for shipbuilding. His first step was to make a pair of smiths' bellows. There were four goats on the island, one of which was giving milk; the other three were sacrificed, and with their skins he succeeded, after three or four days' labour, in making a pair of smith's bellows. But instead of blowing the fire, they drew it in. The bellows soon came to grief. During the night the rats set to work and devoured every particle of goats' skin, so that next morning there was nothing left but the bare boards. Still bent upon accomplishing his object, it struck Williams that, as a pump threw water, it must, if completed on the same principle, of necessity throw wind. After many difficulties he at length constructed a machine which answered the purpose.

With this wind-pipe he did all his iron-work, using a perforated stone as a fire iron, a large stone as an anvil and a pair of carpenter's pincers as his tongs. For coals he used charcoal, made from the cocoa-nut and other trees. As he had no saw he split the trees with wedges, and then the natives adzed them down with small stone hatchets. When he wanted a twisted plank he bent a piece of bamboo to the required shape or sent into the woods for a crooked tree, and by splitting this he obtained two planks suited for his purpose. Having but little iron he bored large augur holes through the timbers and through the outer and inner planks of the vessel, and drove in wooden trenails by which the whole fabric was held firmly together.

Cocoa-nut husk was used for oakum. The bark of the hibiscus was used for ropes and cordage, for which purpose a rope machine was constructed. The mats on which the natives slept were used as sails; and they were quilted together to resist the wind. A lathe was constructed, and the aito or ironwood was turned for the sheaves of blocks. The anchor was of wood, and a cask full of stones was also used. The vessel was between seventy and eighty tons burden. After about fifteen weeks' labour the "Messenger of Peace" was launched. The rudder was then attached. This important work occasioned much difficulty; having no iron sufficiently large for pintles (the hooks on which the rudder is hung) these were made from a piece of a pickaxe, a cooper's adze, and a large hoe. With these promiscuous pieces of ironwork the rudder was mounted and the wonderful ship was ready to sail. In its first voyage, which was to an island named Ailutake, about 170 miles distant, the vessel encountered a strong wind and a heavy sea, but proved herself perfectly seaworthy. Mr. Williams subsequently sailed in her to several groups of islands which he had not visited before and in which he succeeded in destroying idolatry and establishing the worship of the true God.

A NEW NEIGHBOUR.

In a small country village where everybody knows everybody else and things go on year after year in the same way with but little change, the arrival of a stranger will cause quite a flutter of excitement. Throughout the place his appearance, his dress, his style of speech, everything he says and does, are the subjects of eager discussion and wondering surmises. Were he some strange monster brought over for show his coming could hardly make more stir. Occasionally a somewhat similar phenomenon is noticed in the animal kingdom. Here is an instance told by a lady who lived near a colony of sparrows:—

Hearing an unusual outcry one morning, I looked out and saw a great crowd of sparrows perched on the branches of a tall maple tree, shrieking at the top of their voices, craning their necks, and hopping ever nearer to one of the houses so kindly provided for their use. It was not one of the four-story hotel arrangements with which we disfigure our trees, but a single cottage, with room for but one couple, and it was quite high up in the tree. The excitement centred around this house, and for a long time I could not see what was the disturbing cause. Close watching with a glass at length revealed a small reddish head, with very sharp eyes, occupying the doorway of the cottage, and after some time the owner of these features calmly stepped out on the veranda, and shewed himself—a small red squirrel, with a silver collar, which proclaimed him an escaped pet. He looked thin, with a tail almost as bare as a rat's. He had evidently not fared well in captivity, and I rejoiced in his freedom.

But the sparrow world had decided to eject him from the neighbourhood, and faithfully, with true sparrow doggedness, they worked at this problem. No sooner did he appear than they resumed their attack, flying around him, screaming and making quick dashes at him. He was somewhat disconcerted, and ran up a long branch, followed by the whole gang, which grew more bold as he apparently retreated, dashing ever nearer as though to peck him, but never actually touching him. While he was running they were very bold, but the moment he sat up and faced them they drew off a little, though they never went quite away. For several days not a movement of his escaped their notice. It was amusing to see how quickly the smallest stir on his part was announced to the world. "There he is! He's coming out!" one could easily understand, and every sparrow within hearing responded by instantly deserting his business or pleasure, and adding his presence and cries to the mob.

But the squirrel, finding fruit trees with green apples and pears, resolved to stay; and after a week or two they became so far accustomed to his presence as to be less alarmed, though they never lost interest in him. His eating especially seemed to divert and astonish them. I have seen 50 birds at once hovering around an evergreen tree, too small to afford them perching-places, far enough from the enemy, while he gathered and nibbled the small cones. While he sat up on a branch, holding a green pear in his tiny paws, their amusement knew no bounds. They sat around at a safe distance, exchanging remarks, in the amiable manner of some of the human race at the ways of a foreigner.

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—I am a thing of very ancient date,
Tho' when first made 'tis not for me to state;
I cannot tell when I first saw the light,
'Tis more than tongue can tell or pen indite.
I'm made of many substances you'll find,
Say iron, glass and clay of certain kind,
Of any shade or colour I may be,
Rich or common as you'll no doubt agree.
You see me in the morning when you rise,
That I'm a vessel you may now surmise:
I'm on your breakfast table oft n seen,
And take a share of what you leave, I ween.
Part of the sea inclosed in rocks am I,
And in a dock you may my form descry,
As you will surely see that I denote
The place of building either ship or boat.

2.—Eleven letters. My 11, 9, 2, 7 is the better part of man; my 3, 8, 5, 4 is what that part should be; my 6, 10, 1, 11 is what we should shun; and my *whole* is unnecessary.

3.—When *whole*, you'll see I am a name;
Behead me, I am wild or tame;
Behead again, and you will see
An ancient refuge I will be.

4.—I consist of ten letters. My 3, 5, 10, 7 is part of a ship; my 9, 5, 7 is a quadruped; my 3, 5, 4 is a biped; and my *whole* represents a healthy pastime.

5.—On ladies' bonnets see my *first*; boys like to play with it reversed;
My *second* is a curious word. It means permit, as you have heard;
In business *whole* is much in use, and found in nearly every house.
When children in a window spy me, into the shop they go to buy me.

6.—SQUARE WORDS.—To forget; clay; a metal; to take charge.

7.—Far down; a girl's name; to send out; a road.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1.—Sycamore. 2. Report, Porte. 3. "One penny is worth the promise of a pound." 4. Aladdin.

(5)	(6)	(7)
N E A R	S T A R	S O A P
E B R O	T Y R E	O N C E
A R M S	A R E A	A C M E
R O S S	R E A D	P E E L

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LOVE IN A MIST:

A ROMANCE.

BY KENINGALE COOK, LL.D.

Author of "The Guitar Player," "The King of Kent," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XIII.

A BOLT FROM THE BLUE SKY.

Mr. Baringer did not smoke a cigarette between the courses of a meal, as is the depraved fashion among certain foreign peoples, but he was in the habit of lighting one immediately after breakfast.

As he was opening his cigarette case, now well filled with Marcovitch's dainty productions, and Helen and her aunt were rising to leave the table, the double knock of the telegraph messenger was heard at the front door, startling the ladies, who were not accustomed to any more violent appeal than the modest single knock of the suburban tradesman, or the decorous appeal of a friendly caller.

The servant entered the room and gave an envelope to Helen. "A telegram!" said Helen; "how delightful! I have never had one before in all my life."

She read the message, and a hopelessly puzzled expression came over her face. She handed it to her aunt without a word.

Miss Shuttleworth read the message word by word; then she read it all over again. Her face fell. She looked with mournful sweetness and motherly affection towards Helen. Then she turned quickly towards Mr. Baringer, and controlling her emotion, which, nevertheless, made her voice sound harsh and unnatural, she said, "Can you finish your cigarette in the other room, Otto? We have received some very strange and unexpected news, and I feel too much upset through it to be able to leave the room myself."

Mr. Baringer looked her in the face, with a curious, inquisitive gaze; then he cast a rapid glance at Helen, and left the room with a jaunty air, saying to himself, "It can't be anything about me; they would not have looked so concerned. I wonder what the deuce is up; the wire looked like a submarine."

Immediately on his leaving the room, Miss Shuttleworth turned gravely to Helen, and was beginning to speak, when the servant girl, who was quite as curious as Mr. Baringer about so unwonted an arrival as a telegram to this quiet household, opened the door, and asked, "Any reply, Miss? the boy's waiting." "No reply, thank you," said Miss Shuttleworth, promptly. And the girl shut the door, only to open it again in less than a second and say, "Please, ma'am, shall I clear the table?" "Wait a few moments, this morning," said Miss Shuttleworth, in a voice of despair.

"Have I a father, aunt?" said Helen in a low voice. "I did not know I had a father, or anybody but you, dear aunt."

"It seems you have, my child," answered Miss Shuttleworth, gravely. "He left your mother many years ago, when you were little more than a baby. She died soon after of a broken heart. It was thought best not to disturb your mind with anything so sad. You were told you were an orphan; so you have been all these years."

"Except for you, except for you, dear mother-auntie!" exclaimed Helen, ardently, rising and putting her arms round the old lady's neck and kissing her.

"A letter of your mother's is in my keeping, which you would have found addressed to you if I had died. It contains the place and time of their marriage, and the certificate of your birth."

"You have often talked to me of my mother, never of my father. I can never see her, but I have never missed a mother, having you. But a father, I have often thought I should like to have had a father, and now it seems as if I might. But where is he, dear auntie? Let us read the telegram over again, it all seems so unreal. I feel as if something had happened, and yet as if it might all be only a dream. But this message, though it comes from a long way off, I can hold it in my hand; it is something real. 'From Augustin Ashbrook, Polynesian Hotel, Levuka. My daughter, come here and see me and receive your inheritance before I die. Have remitted Coutts hundred pounds for your expenses.' I did a good deal of geography at school, but I don't remember Levuka. I will get out the old atlas and see."

Helen took down the old schoolbook from a shelf, but searched in vain for Levuka. "I wonder whether Polynesian Hotel means that it is in Polynesia," she exclaimed after a pause; "I suppose it must, but that does not seem to help us much to find the place, it only shows it is a long way off. And I think Polynesia means Australia, New Zealand, and an archipelago. No: perhaps that is Australasia. Anyhow, I fancy Polynesia is somewhere about there, and has lots of islands in it."

"I wish I could help you, my child," said her aunt; "but I am sure there was not such a name in my geography book at all."

"Perhaps it's a new name, or perhaps it had not been discovered then," said Helen. "And have I really to go there? I feel quite bewildered." Then, as if a brilliant thought had struck her—"Who is Coutts?" she exclaimed; "Coutts perhaps would know."

"I believe Coutts is a great banker in London," said Miss Shuttleworth; "is it not the name of the lady who gives away so much money."

"Then if—I was going to say papa, but it sounds so strange—if my father has sent her this money for me, she must know where it has come from."

"I have no doubt we can find out from one source or another," said Miss Shuttleworth. "The surprise has been so startling a one that I do not yet feel quite fit for the consideration of details."

"Let us see how far we have gone," said Helen, half to herself, and laying hold of a scrap of paper near to her hand—it happened to be the envelope Mr. Baringer had thrown aside—she took a pencil from her pocket and wrote in a clear, firm hand, as if she were recording the minutes of a learned society: "Augustin Ashbrook—papa; address, Levuka, supposed to be in Polynesia. Coutts—banker; call on her and ask for £100." This she folded up and put in the pocket of a tiny memorandum book. In moments of excitement, high pressure of the feelings which can find no other vent is known to produce a marked access of a sort of automatic precision. If we look back to such carefulness on our part when the excitement is past, we find ourselves wondering how we could have been so systematic at so unlikely a time.

When Helen had made these invaluable notes with such extra accuracy, she looked up suddenly to find the tears slowly running down her aunt's cheeks, and she caught the words which the poor old lady was saying, as if to herself, "She cannot go, she shall not, must not go!"

"Why, auntie dear, what is the matter?" exclaimed Helen. "People think nothing of journeys nowadays. There are American girls who would cross the Atlantic merely to go to a ball, if they had an invitation and knew it was really a grand occasion; and the doctor, you remember, said that this house stands a little too low, and that a complete change would do you good."

"Helen, my darling, you do not know! I could not meet—I mean . . . you must not mind what I say just now, my nerves are overwrought. You do not know the length of the journey; one in my health would not be permitted to undertake . . . I should fail you on the way, and when they had committed my frail body to the deep, you would be all alone then, my poor Helen."

"Yes, dear auntie, but perhaps it is not so far after all. Then he must be ill too; else why did he telegraph? and it says, 'come—before I die.' Oh, it is all very difficult, very difficult; I don't know what to do, or what I ought to do."

Then, as a thought struck her, she exclaimed, "Why not consult Mr. Baringer? He must be wise, having seen so much of the world."

"Perhaps you are right, my child. I thought of not telling him at first, but, after all, he is my mother's son, though he scarcely seems a relative of mine, I have seen so little of him, and people learn such different ways from ours by living abroad. Yes . . . he paid me back some money he had borrowed, which I never expected of him. Yes, I will tell him, and ask his advice. Leave me a moment, Helen; I must compose myself better before I speak to him."

Helen went out into the garden, and when she had got out of sight and amongst her flowers, the reaction came, and she burst into tears. "My dearie flowers," she said to her favourites, "you look quite different; I am going away; you are not going to be the same to me any more. No one will care for you, you will all be dead before I come back again."

She plucked a few of the nobler and taller ones and seemed to become somewhat revived and invigorated from their sweet scent.

Then as she bent over the fragrant beds she laughed amid her tears and said, "I have not watered you, dear blossoms, in this way since I was quite a little girl. Auntie said I should make an excellent gardener if I could manage to cry in dry weather only."

Then she sat down on a garden bench, holding her flowers fondly close to her bosom, and tried to think. But her thoughts were so many that they only jostled and confused one another. Her aunt, her father, and, strange to say, Mr. Urswick too, kept circling round in a solemn, monotonous dance, and she soon dreamed herself into an absent fit, which was the best rest she could have got short of sleep itself.

Miss Shuttleworth found that in activity and method lay the best means of restoring her own equanimity. She rang the bell and ordered the servant to clear the table; then, with the telegram in her hand, she went into the other downstairs room, where she expected to find her half-brother. He had found in a secretaire drawer a pack of cards, which the old lady had used to beguile certain winter evenings in the comfortable pastime of whist, when a friend or two had stayed to tea in their quiet parlour. Mr. Baringer could have astonished her party at whist; at present he was engaged in a few movements of the cards that betokened long practice and delicacy of touch rather than any intellectual effort.

Miss Shuttleworth entered the room and shut the door. He laid down the cards.

"Otto," she said, "you remember the promise you made me before Helen returned home, that you would not in any way whatever refer to her father in her presence. I wish you now to modify that promise, and to guarantee instead that you will suggest nothing more to her than what I have just told her, that her father left her mother when she was a mere child."

"Anything you like," he replied.

"Make me the promise, definitely, then."

"All right; I make it. Have you heard from the vagabond? I supposed he was dead, years ago."

"We have heard from him."

"You have!—where is he?"

"Polynesia, wherever that may be."

"Place where they go to make fortunes when they get free of the other place."

"I suppose from what he says that he has made a fortune."

"The dickens! What does he want then?"

"He wants Helen to go out to him and receive his property, before he dies. I have no means of knowing whether the telegram is to be depended on. I can't let Helen go over the world until I can assure myself on that point."

"Let me see the telegram, if you have no objection."

"Here it is."

Mr. Baringer read it, and swift thoughts passed through his mind. "It is easy enough to assure yourself as to the genuineness of the message, and I know of someone who will go with Helen, to see her safe there and back."

"How can you make sure?" inquired Miss Shuttleworth.

"See the bankers, and if the money is there all right, you may reassure yourself. People don't give away a hundred pounds unless they are serious—or intoxicated. You can send to Coutts's and see."

"And whom do you propose as companion for Helen? I am full of anxiety about the matter."

"Myself."

"You!"

"Yes, I! Am I not your brother, and therefore Helen's uncle and natural protector? I have means, I am accustomed to travel, and just now and for several months to come I am without occupation."

The proposal had a plausible sound, and Helen's aunt having been before at her wit's end and in despair, not knowing which way to turn, was attracted by it, as at least offering a solution of her difficulty. So she sat down to think about it.

What had passed through Mr. Baringer's mind was something of this kind: "Here is money and another family secret. Why should it not be made to pay like the other? A prudent course is to have two strings to one's bow. I am getting older, and it is time to make a certainty out of life. *Rouge et noir*, alas, do not make a certainty; but the skilful use of power does. And what is there against the plan? Only a long journey with a girl, who, if rather green and innocent, may yet be put up with."

Miss Shuttleworth finding herself inclining strongly to the plan just proposed, and yet fearing to decide, said suddenly, "I must think it over."

"Had I not better begin," said Mr. Baringer, "by seeing the bankers? That seems the essential preliminary."

"There can surely be no harm in that," responded Miss Shuttleworth.

So he lit another cigarette, put on his hat, the very new one, went to the bank, and claimed the money, stating the amount, the name of the sender, and the place from which the money was remitted.

The clerk absorbed the particulars and retired. After a few moments he returned and said, "From Levuka, in Fiji, yes!" Then he looked inquiringly at Mr. Baringer, as if expecting something of him.

The latter returned his gaze as steadfastly as he could, not being as a rule impervious to scrutiny unless by a distinct effort, and the summoning to his aid of a well-worn suit of brass.

"I have called for the money, the remittance," said Otto cheerfully.

"Do we know you?" responded the clerk politely.

"Not for some years, probably," said Otto, "I have lived abroad."

"Then we shall require Miss Ashbrook's authorisation before we can pay," said the smooth-speaking clerk.

"But I am her uncle," said Mr. Baringer, with an air of dignity.

Bank officials do not like arguments, and are suspicious at once when they find them employed against them. This one was a trifle nettled, too, at the look of superiority assumed by the stranger, for no one is superior to a bank clerk while on his own floor. So he said, with his best interview-terminating air, and in something of a hurry, for customers were waiting, "We could not pay without the lady's personal attendance or specific authorisation even if you were her—grandmother he was going to say, but he altered the word, as being possibly impertinent, to "mother," which seemed rather a flat and feeble termination to his sentence.

However, he had done his duty as a responsible cashier, and though his phrase may have been weak, it induced Mr. Baringer to bow politely, and quit the bank. He would have obtained the money, he felt, in any country but England.

When he returned he found Miss Shuttleworth and her niece together.

"Well, the money's all right," he said.

"I did not expect it otherwise," replied Miss Shuttleworth.

"Now sister, if you don't like my proposal supposing I go alone. I am sure I could make all the arrangements you might wish for Miss Ashbrook with her respected father."

Helen, who had been silent, broke forth with "I should indeed be a heartless girl if I would not travel over all the world to see my father once—and he dying."

So eventually it somehow got arranged that they should go together. Routes were studied, calculations made, and the bustle made Miss Shuttleworth almost forget her fears, and made Helen feel that whatever might happen, no matter how strange, it was to be met as no more than an every day occurrence.

But when each was alone in her room before sleeping, each had her own train of thought, a lonely confusing train. But of these two processions of mental images, neither was at all like the other, or had the same figures in it.

The figures appearing upon the by no means sunny canvas of Miss Shuttleworth's solitary musings were those of a man whom she had not seen for twenty years, of his wife, her sister, of her niece, and of her half-brother; the last, especially if Miss Shuttleworth had been more than usually fatigued, appearing in dark and distorted outline, and generally as deserting Helen on the way, as getting her into unknown and mysterious difficulties, as being an unreliable protector, and one whom she, Martha Shuttleworth, ought to have known better than choose for a niece whom she loved best of all things in life.

Helen's figures could not be said to include her father's, for she had no memories on which to form the faintest sketch for such a figure. They included the picture of her aunt as being the dearest aunt in the world, and grieving for her without a cause and being very lonely without her, and very glad to welcome her home again after a long, long absence.

Helen's phantom also included another image, that of a handsome gentleman in early prime. This phantom, she thought, she kept pushing away whenever it came near, and thereupon it grew smaller and smaller and went further and further away, until nothing was visible of it whatever. Then a grey depressing cloud seemed to settle over the point where it had disappeared, and when this grey cloud prevented itself upon the horizon of her imaginings, Helen usually sighed—very slightly indeed, and without consciousness that she was sighing. But it was a sigh none the less, and whenever it began, the figure that had seemed to disappear came back again with lightning rush, brighter than before, and almost larger than life. Then the process of banishment and reappearance went on over again.

These were the vague forms the future took—these wraith-like forms which are created more mysteriously than Adam, for he was but material dust organised, while these realities of dreams spring out of no solid substance, and have nothing more earthly than memory or more creative than imagination to give them shape. They are the offspring of feelings only—unbidden guests, clinging to passions we cannot banish, phantasmagorical reflections of motives of which we are scarcely conscious, gloomy ghosts led in by fears we cannot suppress, bright fairies introduced by fancies that seem full of hope under the sunlit sky of dreams.

Such forms as these the imagined future presented. What forms it actually took we have yet to see.

CHAPTER XIV.

"IN THE SAME BOAT."

The gallant steamer bound for our most strong-minded and independent colony left London every fortnight, and after quitting the magnificent harbours of Australia, continued its course to the coral islands of the Pacific Ocean.

The dated list of the stations of Sir Butler Brindlay's cruise gave one of the larger islands of the archipelago as the point at which his yacht might now be expected to be found by the mails from England.

By the vessel carrying this mail Sebastian and Lady Katherine Urswick had taken their passage.

Lady Katherine's baggage, though smaller than she had been wont to carry with her on former expeditions extending no farther than the Mediterranean, was still not inconsiderable. Several hours before the starting time the process of conveyance on board had been begun, so that some little time before the start was to take place our travellers found themselves with nothing to do but to look about them.

Lady Katherine went to her state room, saw to the arrangement of the cushions and rugs, which made a sofa to which she could retire during the day, if she were tired of the deck, or the weather proved unpropitious; ordered the unpacking of a small shelf of new novels; and, to tell the exact truth, produced from her stores for her own immediate use one of those innocent-looking baby-house bottles of champagne which hold half-a-pint only.

On deck there was struggle and confusion, due to a large consignment of patent medicines arriving later than was expected, and having to be carefully placed on board and stowed away.

It seemed as if the passengers were to be few, at all events they made no shew on the promenade deck. Sebastian, lugging along a small deck-chair, with a Seydel's hammock thrown over its back, felt even a sense of solitude, having no part or lot in the hurrying into the hold of the cases of patent medicine.

The voices of the country, the songs of the birds, the Æolian music of the wind in the trees, the call of the ploughman to his horses to turn for a fresh furrow, these all seem to form part of one's actual life when one is amongst them. In town, as many have observed, the most vivid life—to those concerned in it—may be transacting itself before our eyes; we stand aloof from the jostling, are not interested at all in the movement, and feel intensely alone.

So it was with Sebastian at the present moment on shipboard; the rattle of the chains, the shouts of the men, might almost have come from a distant planet, and all that seemed to reach his ears was the flop of the water against the stone wall of the mooring place as the vessel swayed almost imperceptibly up and down.

He was not an overworked clerk rejoicing in every trifling incident of holiday. He had travelled before, and realised on this journey what, under the spell of the varied interests of passage through new scenes he had never fully felt before, the obstinate truth of the old proverb, "they change their sky and not their mind who speed across the main." Possibly the climate he needed most to change, could such a revolutionary thought have been entertained, was the connubial climate.

Now that he was purposing to place wide seas between himself and Helen, he could not resist a brief glimpse into that temple of his memory, where, somehow or other, her image had become fondly enshrined. He was given to self-analysis, and such thoughts were foolish and futile, but they came like gleams of sunshine in a sky devoted to the parade of great grey clouds. His musings were reasonable enough. The busy hours since leaving town ought already, he thought, to have produced a hearty appetite and a vast interest in all the trifling happenings that attend the start upon a long cruise. But the facts were not so reasonable. His mind could not pull out of its wearisome harbour against the contrary winds of his baffling dreams. Perhaps the breadth of ocean, he thought, would give him room to shake out the flattened folds of his old ruminations, and so freshen them that he could grasp them with a new control.

It was a soft, mild-aired day, with a thin mistiness in the atmosphere, which diffused the bright sunshine and formed a luminous haze. A few idle folk stood on the pier watching the vessel.

Suddenly Sebastian started violently. The golden powder of the sunshine had been scattering itself over his eyes. But through this dainty and delicate mist, which drew surrounding objects together as into the scheme of a painter's composition, through this aureole of subdued light so sympathetic with his indefinite and irresolute imaginings, there had come suddenly into view an utterly unexpected apparition.

With her eyes, those lustrous, lovely, honest eyes of hers, fixed upon the vessel with a wistful gaze, as if hoping for some one unseen, the figure of Helen stood before him, at a little distance off, as real as life.

"I grow light-headed," he said to himself. "To think one's heart is cured by setting between it and its object any gulf of distance, any distractions or change! Then to be so feebly the sport and mock of the nerves, as to let them place an image on the retina—in all the solemn clearness of a vision—an image that the heart has hugged close to itself while the body has travelled these tedious miles. There, in the midst of unregarding folk gathered to watch a ship off, how serenely and tranquilly she stands—my lovely dream!"

Suddenly she turned, as if the person or persons she expected might have passed her unawares, and scanned the ship, as if she might find there what she sought.

Sebastian's startled imagination was still further excited. He hid his eyes with his hand. "Great heavens! I know the truth," he said to himself. "A ghost is seen at such a time, clocks are common, it was then the death took place. And ghosts manifest themselves to those whom they have loved, loved and lost. Ah, my poor darling! this It was no dream or fond fancy arising out of my wishfulness that you might have loved me, for now in death, revisiting life's semblances, you come to me, and perhaps to me only."

Then as he glanced doubtfully again at the mist-haunted shape, he continued his rhapsody.

"O prize of vanished love! the cruel knot that had come upon the cord of my life is loosened now. Yet at this moment I tremble lest the lines that counterfeit life shall slowly dissolve into nothingness, and I be left gazing on a receding shore, a shore that a ghost deigned to visit, wandering backwards all for love, walking along the sea waves that hide her unseen world!

"Perhaps once having found the way, so his distraught fancy whispered him, "in some quiet evening hour, when I am gazing on earthly surroundings with a lack-lustre eye, and a heart far absent, you may discover what my meditations are, and slipping a gauzy veil upon your heavenly shoulders, you may flit down near to me for one shy moment only. And, alas! by the fate of being irradiated by earthly sunshine, must, it appears, remain unseen and unrecognised. Yet you must be conscious of my presence, else how know the way?"

The figure now moved slowly forward, still with a hesitating attitude, and with eyes turned now towards the vessel, now from side to side as if in expectancy. A sailor passes her, she appears to ask a question of him. He turns, stops, nods, and answers her.

A tremendous re-action and revulsion of feeling comes down at once upon the over-excited Sebastian. All his gossamer pictures were whirled into nothingness under the hot rush of blood which proclaimed him to himself to have been the dupe of his own fancies, and as its current was not yet fevered beyond sanity, told him now that he was the subject of a very unlooked for, but not at all remarkable, accident.

A most beautiful and ideal sculptured fancy, once shattered into fragments, will turn into very prosaic and ordinary-looking bits of stone and particles of dust. All Sebastian's lofty fantasies were utterly broken down, and his rushing thoughts resolved themselves into the exclamation which escaped with an undignified hurry through his teeth, "Well, there's the very devil to pay now!"

There was no mistake about Helen Ashbrook. A very real, palpable, and lovely person, she looked back along the way she had come, then moved briskly towards the gangway leading to the vessel, though not leading directly to the deck where Sebastian was ensconced.

"She's coming to this ship," he soliloquised in his corner. For me to bear it and shew no sign is beyond nature. I fled away once. It is the very spite of fate to bring us two within the reach of each other's arms. Well, I'm not to blame now. As I thought, an ocean or two would roll between this girl and me. Against my will, but according to my conscience, I followed what people call the better part. I wonder whether what people call best, right, the proper thing, and so on, is really what is best, and right, and so on. Here is the shunless fact called fate stepping in upon the arena, dropping over my head the very net I thought to have evaded. Here I am brought into the lawless country of the high seas, enmeshed beyond escape, and made to face temptation's piercing darts with all my soul laid bare, and no society to act as a buckler of morality. O mocking fate! next make me cynical, and so help me to face that ironical jest called life!"

"Here's Helen looking back again and nodding to someone. What kind of a person is fate going to introduce now? Another vision, an embodied ghost! This one has baggage following too. O rare and prudent and foreseeing ghost, needing to be clothed upon, thou bringest thy finery with thee!"

"Who the devil is Helen's friend?" asked he of himself, in this revulsion of feeling. "A jaunty man, dressed in a shooting suit,—the very deuce of a dittos! I seem to know his face, too; who is he? He might be anything!—from a seedy peer to a cheap tailor retiring from business."

Otto Baringer little knew what eyes were upon him, or what a hornet's nest he was innocently entering, or he would not have been all smiles and politeness and encouraging words, as he was at the moment in question. His was plainly not a prophetic soul.

Poor Sebastian felt another surge of feeling press upwards from his heart, and said savagely to himself, "What, and if he be her new-made husband, what is that to me? Women, for-sooth, they must have husbands! What am I, to fall in love with every splendid girl, and be a sort of dog-in-the-manger to the world, saying to each sweet damsel, do not get married, I would not have you get married, for I myself would be your husband to you, if I could. Well, after all, why should I not take my chance? We preach natural selection as the appointed means of grace and growth; it's the new gospel of the old truth, and yet we are afraid of leaving ourselves free to follow it. And a fine set of cowardly mongrel curs we are in consequence."

Sebastian, it will be observed, was discovering a means of relief equivalent to that a woman finds in a flood of tears; he was losing his temper, and lashing out, mentally, if not physically. He would have made a fine spectacle of unshackled Paganism, had there been anyone by with a view into the workings of his mind.

Just then Miss Shuttleworth appeared, with a dim but responsible eye fixed upon the boxes and bags which were following her half-brother upon a truck.

"Another of the party!" said Sebastian to himself. "Then *he's* not Helen's . . . . bah! I rave; what is to me whether she's a maid or not? None the less, I can't meet her just yet; the sight of her now, when I thought she was either an illusion or a ghost, has been a trifle too much for me. Perhaps the timely absorption of a lemon squash will moisten my feverish throat and enable me to fit out my feelings with a suit of steel, proof against that treacherous, unexpected vagabond, Dan Cupid. I'll buckle cold politeness on, and greet her as a friend. Yet, not just now, not just now!" He swung along into one of the side saloons, where he calculated the new comers would not be likely to find themselves yet, and pressed the push of the electric bell, reduced by such a trifling incident to a pitiable cynicism, and become a mere burlesque of himself.

(*To be continued.*)

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THE DEATH OF WOLFE.—It was generally believed by the army which served under General Wolfe at the siege of Quebec that his death wound was not received by the common chance of war, but given by a deserter from his own regiment. The circumstances are thus related: The General perceived one of the sergeants of his regiment strike a man under arms (an act against which he had given particular orders), and, knowing the man to be a good soldier, reprehended the aggressor with much warmth, and threatened to reduce him to the ranks. This so far incensed the sergeant that he took the first opportunity of deserting to the enemy, where he meditated the means of destroying the general, which he effected by being placed in the enemy's left wing, which was directly opposite to the right of the British line, where Wolfe commanded in person, and where he was marked out by the miscreant, who was provided with a rifle piece, and, unfortunately for this country, effected his purpose. After the defeat of the French army the deserters were all removed to Crown Point, which, being afterwards suddenly invested and taken by the British army, the whole of the garrison fell into the hands of the captors, where the sergeant was hanged for desertion, but, before the execution of the sentence, confessed the facts above mentioned.

KILIMANJARO, THE EAST AFRICA MOUNTAIN.—The snow-cap shows here to great advantage, forming a close-fitted, glittering helmet artistically laid on the massive head of Kibo, and at times looking not unlike the aureole, as represented in many old pictures of saints, as it scintillates with dazzling effect under the tropical sun. The resemblance to an aureole is made all the more complete by the manner in which long tongues or lines of snow extend down the mountain side, filling up a series of seams or flutings, formed, doubtless, by the erosive action of the melting snow, which, going on incessantly, counterbalances the continuous fall. Here still more than on the south side is Kilimanjaro, lacking in the picturesque. You are not startled or bewildered by a multiplicity of detail. The magnificent mass only suggests a divine repose and grandeur. It impresses you by its stupendous size. In contemplating it you experience much the same sensation as when you stand by the seaside on a calm day, gazing into the boundless distance, filled by that dreamy, pleasing melancholy rising into awe, with which many aspects of a nature inspire its votaries. Nature, indeed, seems to consider this spectacle too sacred to be always seen, and keeps it as a rule, enveloped in soft, grey mists and stratus clouds. Occasionally its godlike presence is revealed as it greets the dawning sun and bathes in the rich hues and crimson glows of its early rays, to be immediately after hidden by a weird, ghostlike haze, which spreads with remarkable rapidity, till nothing but a black expanse of grey meets the gaze. And yet the scene does not always close thus; for not uncommonly the upper part of Kibo is descried away up in mid-heaven, cut off apparently from all earthly connection, shining clear and bright with dazzling effulgence, suggesting a sight of the very heavens opened, a marvel of whiteness, and most fitting emblem of ethereal purity. This certainly is the most striking spectacle presented by Kilimanjaro. As seen projected against the upper sky like a mirage, it gives the spectator the notion of stupendous height, and, as I have already said, all that he can whisper to himself is the awe-struck words of the Masai warrior, "Praje, Ngai!" (The house of God.)—"Through Masai Land," by JOSEPH THOMSON.

Reason sometimes misleads us, feeling sometimes misleads us; the wise man corrects the one by the other.

The wish that life were over is a sort of internal suicide.

It is a short-sighted policy that would lead a man to offer up at the shrine of labour the very things for which labour exists.

Coarseness in nursing is almost a crime; every duty should be done delicately and lovingly. The presence of heavy-headed and heavy-footed people with hard hands and harsh voices in a sick-room is one of the saddest mistakes.

WHAT SOME POETRY SOLD FOR.—The ultimate sale of the copyright of "Paradise Lost" produced to Milton's widow £8; and Dryden received from Tonson £2 13s. 9d. for every hundred lines of his poetry. In October, 1812, the copyright of Cowper's poems was put up to sale among the members of the trade, in thirty-two shares. Twenty of these shares were sold at £212 a share, including printed copies in quires to the amount of £82, which each purchaser was to take at a stipulated price, and twelve shares were retained in the hands of the proprietor. This work, consisting of two octavo volumes, was satisfactorily proved at the sale to net £834 per annum. It had only two years of copyright, and yet this same copyright, with printed copies, produced, estimating the twelve shares which were retained at the same price as those which were sold, the sum of £6,764.

"AS YOU LIKE IT."—"As You Like It" demonstrates beyond question Shakspere's lack of constructive skill as a plotmaker, but it reveals in every line the hand of the inspired poet. When the world has ceased to remember Julius Cæsar and the Tudors, and consequently takes no sort of interest in the dramatic perpetuation of their life and death, this sweet idyll will probably continue to be as popular as it is to-day, and as it doubtless was 300 years ago. It is, and must remain, a delicious dream, an altogether improbable and impossible, but nevertheless delightful, drifting of dukes and fools, lovers and maidens, about through cool forest glades, to an accompaniment of quaint chants, the murmer of brooks, and the happy song of birds.

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GOODALL'S EGG POWDER.

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LOCAL FLOWER SHOWS.

KYO.

The seventeenth annual exhibition in connection with the Kyo Floral and Horticultural Society was held on Saturday last, in a field belonging to Mr Joseph Irwin, Catchgate. The unsatisfactory state of the elements during the former part of the day augured anything but well for the success of the show; but towards noon the "clouds rolled by," and but for an occasional flash of lighting and a distant peal of thunder, the weather was everything that could be desired. Various flower shows, sports, &c., were held in the neighbourhood, but notwithstanding these, hundreds of people flocked to the field, and as far as the number of visitors was concerned, the success of the exhibition was ensured. The number of stands reached 618, and the quality of the exhibits was equal to any previous year's. In the open class some noted competitors showed, and the competition was very keen. Most interest was evinced in the cottagers' class, as all the year round the villagers prepare to vie one with another at their annual show. It was amusing, after the judges had given their decisions, to see small groups of men looking with glum faces upon the productions of their unsuccessful favourites, and ardently re-judging the exhibits—of course each one placing his especial pet first. The farmers' class proved quite a feature in the show. The butter and eggs were a splendid collection, the winner of the first prize for butter deserving special commendation. Taking all together, the exhibits were good, and with the exception of a few in the cottagers' class, the decisions of the judges were satisfactory. The following were the judges:—Mr Stoddart, gardener to Mr Thomas Taylor Smith, Greencroft Park; Mr Yewdle, gardener to Mr Geo. Humble, Harperley Lodge; Mr T. Atkinson, seedsman, Winlaton; farmers' class, Mr Geo. Hobson, Harperley Mills; butter and eggs, Mrs Handy and Mrs Simpson, Catchgate. Appended we give a complete

PRIZE LIST.

AMATEURS' CLASS.

FLOWERS.

Three stove or greenhouse plants (dissimilar) in bloom—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, J. Rowell; 3rd, C. Holmes.
One pot of liliums—1st, Wm. Ambler; 2nd, Jacob Rowell.
Two fuchsias (dissimilar)—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, J. Rowell.
Two petunias (dissimilar)—1st, John Scott; 2nd, J. Rowell.
Two zonale geraniums (dissimilar)—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, Wm. Armstrong.
Two tric lour geraniums (dissimilar)—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, J. Rowell.
Two balsams—1st, G. R. Hobson.
Two foliage plants—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, W. Ambler; 3rd, C. Holmes.
Best three ferns (dissimilar)—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, Wm. Ambler.
Two cockscombs—1st, Wm. Ambler; 2nd, G. R. Hobson.
Four stands of harbaceous plants (each stand one variety)—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, R. Kirsopp; 3rd, Wm. Ambler.
Best six bloom roses—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six penstemons (three dissimilar)—1st, W. Ambler.
Six French asters (four dissimilar)—1st, John Ward; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Six globe asters (four dissimilar)—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six African marigolds—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, John Ward.
Six French marigolds—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, Jacob Rowell.
Twelve show pansies (six dissimilar)—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
Twelve fancy pansies (six dissimilar)—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six carnations (three dissimilar)—1st, W. Ambler.
Six picotees (three dissimilar)—1st, R. Wheatley; 2nd, Wm. Ambler.
Four stands of cut flowers—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, Wm. Ambler.
Four stocks (dissimilar)—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.

FRUIT.

One bunch of grapes—1st, J. Rowell.
Basket of fruit—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Six kitchen apples—1st, J. Rowell; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Six dessert apples—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, J. Rowell.
Pint of gooseberries (flavoured)—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, Wm. Armstrong.
Six heaviest gooseberries—1st, Wm. Armstrong; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Pint of white currants—1st, W. Armstrong.
Pint of red currants—1st, T. Ridley.

VEGETABLES.

Six kidney potatoes (white)—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, Jas. Wilson.
Six kidney potatoes (coloured)—1st, J. Dawson; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Six round potatoes (white)—1st, J. Ward; 2nd, John Scott.
Six round potatoes (coloured)—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, J. Dawson.
Two cucumbers—1st, Wm. Ambler; 2nd, J. Rowell.
Three turnips—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six summer onions (shown as grown)—1st, J. Wilson; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Six winter onions (shown as grown)—1st, J. Dawson; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Three leeks—1st, J. Dawson; 2nd, J. Scott.
Three carrots—1st, M. Bates; 2nd, J. Ward.
Three parsnips—1st, J. Ward; 2nd, J. Wilson.
Three roots of beet—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, J. Ward.
Two plants of celery (a copper kettle, given by Mr J. Thompson, Newcastle-on-Tyne)—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, J. Wilson.
One early cabbage—1st, R. Wheatley; 2nd, Wm. Simpson.
One red cabbage (first prize, 5s; second, 2s 6d, given by Mr Wm. Taylor, Annfield Plain)—1st, J. Wilson; 2nd, Wm. Simpson.
One savoy—1st, J. Wilson; 2nd, J. Scott.
One cauliflower (a bottle of rum, given by Mr Jos. Lumley)—1st, P.C. Minto; 2nd, J. Rowell.
Twelve pods of beans—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, J. Ward.
Twelve pods of peas—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, Wm. Ambler.
Best twelve eschallots—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, J. Scott.
Three stalks of rhubarb—1st, M. Bates; 2nd, John Dawson.
Collection of vegetables (six varities not named—first prize, a copper kettle, given by Messrs T. A. Moffitt and Co., Central Buildings, High Street, Gateshead; second prize, a watering pan, given by Mr Jos. Irwin, jun., Catchgate; third prize, a bottle of rum, given by Mr Jos. Lumley, Annfield Plain)—1st, J. Wilson; 2nd, J. Ward; 3rd, Wm. Simpson.

FARMERS' CLASS.

Six ears of white wheat—1st, J. Ramshaw; 2nd, T. H. Smith.
Six ears of barley—1st, T. French; 2nd, J. Ramshaw.
Best six heads of early oats (short)—1st, J. T. Mitchinson; 2nd, T. H. Smith.
Best six ears of Tartar oats—1st, J. Ramshaw; 2nd, J. T. Mitchinson.
Best three swede turnips—1st, W. Shipley; 2nd, T. H. Smith.
Best three yellow turnips—1st, W. Shipley; 2nd, T. H. Smith.
Best three white turnips—1st, T. H. Smith.
Best six red potatoes—1st, T. H. Smith; 2nd, Thos. French.
Best six white potatoes—1st, W. Shipley; 2nd, Thos. Smith.
Best six hen eggs—1st, Mrs Bell, Maiden Law; 2nd, John Scott.
Best pound of butter, to be salted (first prize, an electro-plated teapot, given by Mrs Hobson, Harperley Mills; second prize, a silver-plated jelly dish, given by Miss Hobson, Harperley Mills)—1st, Miss Hall; 2nd, Mrs Bell, Maiden Law; 3rd, Mrs Mitchinson.

SPECIAL PRIZES IN FARMERS' CLASS.

A steel grape, given by Mr R. Henderson, for best three swedes, three yellow turnips, and six potatoes—1st, J. Ramshaw; 2nd, W. Shipley.
A steel fork given by G. Hobson, Esq., for best three swedes—1st, T. H. Smith; 2nd, W. Shipley.
A bottle of rum given by Mr M. Handy for best three yellow turnips—1st, W. Shipley; 2nd, J. T. Mitchinson.
1st, a copper kettle, given by Mrs Wheatley, for the best pound of butter to be salted; 2nd five parts given by Society—1st, Miss Hall; 2nd, Mrs Bell; 3rd, Mrs Robinson.
A bottle of rum, given by Mr Jos. Lumley, for the six heaviest hen eggs—1st, Mrs French; 2nd, Mrs Bell.

COTTAGERS' CLASS.

FLOWERS.

Two stove or greenhouse plants in bloom—1st, John Scott; 2nd, R. Kirsopp; 3rd, W. Ambler.
Two fuchsias (dissimilar)—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, C. Holmes.
One light fuchsia—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, C. Holmes.
One dark fuchsia—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Three cut roses—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
One pot of liliums—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, William Ambler.
Two zonales in pot—1st, J. Scott.
One tricolour geranium—1st, Wm. Ambler; 2nd, C. Holmes.
One double geranium—1st, John Scott; 2nd, Wm. Armstrong.
One balsam—1st, G. R. Hobson.
Best window plant, to be grown in window—1st, R. Johnson; 2nd, Joseph Irwin, sen.; 3rd, Joseph Irwin, jun.
Four stands of hardy annuals (each stand one variety)—1st, Wm. Ambler; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Six spikes of antirrhinums—1st, W. Ambler.
Six French asters (three dissimilar)—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six globe asters (three dissimilar)—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd J. Ward.
Six French marigolds—1st, C. Holmes; 2nd, John Ward.
Six African Marigolds—1st, Jas. Wilson; 2nd, Thos. Ridley.
Four stocks (dissimilar)—1st, Jas. Wilson; 2nd R. Wheatley.
Three spikes phloxes (dissimilar)—1st, Wm. Armstrong; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six pansies (dissimilar)—1st, John Ward; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Six fancy pansies—1st J. Ward; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Six picotees (three dissimilar)—1st, W. Ambler; 2nd, R. Wheatley.
Six carnations (three dissimilar)—1st W. Ambler.

FRUITS.

Six kitchen apples—1st, T. Ridley.
Pint of gooseberries (flavoured)—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, W. Armstrong.
Six heaviest gooseberries—1st, W. Armstrong; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Pint of white currants—1st, W. Armstrong.
Pint of red currants—1st, T. Ridley.

VEGETABLES.

Six kidney potatoes (white)—1st, John Scott; 2nd, John Scott.
Six kidney potatoes (coloured)—1st, John Scott; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Six round potatoes (white)—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, J. Ward.
Six round potatoes (coloured)—1st, J. Wilson; 2nd, J. Scott.
Two cucumbers—1st, W. Ambler.
Three early turnips—1st, Wm. Ambler; 2nd, C. Holmes.
Six summer onions (shown as grown)—1st, James Wilson; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Six winter onions (shown as grown)—1st, J. Dawson; 2nd, T. Ridley.
Best three leeks (prizes given by Messrs Henderson, Kirsopp, and Bullerwell)—1st, 7s 6d, John Dawson; 2nd, 5s, R. Johnson; 3rd, 2s 6d, J. Wilson; 4th, 2s 6d, J. Scott.
Three carrots—1st, J. Ward; 2nd, J. Wilson.
Three parsnips—1st, J. Wilson; 2nd, J. Scott.
Three roots of beet.—1st, Thomas Ridley; 2nd, Jas. Wilson.
Two plants of celery—1st, James Wilson; 2nd, John Scott.
One early cabbage—1st John Lawson; 2nd, John Dawson.
One red cabbage—1st, Jas. Wilson; 2nd, W. Ambler.
One Scotch cabbage—1st, P.C. Minto.
One savoy—1st, Jas. Wilson; 2nd. John Dawson.
One cauliflower—1st, Thomas Burton; 2nd, P.C. Minto.
Twelve pods of beans—1st R. Kirsopp; 2nd, Wm. Armstrong.
Twelve pods of peas—1st, Thos. Robson; 2nd, C. Holmes.
Twelve eschal'ots—1st John Scott; R. Johnson.
Three stalks of rhubarb (prize, a bottle of rum, given by Mr Joseph Lumley)—1st, M. Bates; 2nd, W. Armstrong.
Best collection of vegetables (six varieties not named, and to be grown under glass, 1st prize, a pair of blankets, given by Mr Hyslop, Newcastle-on-Tyne; 2nd, a brass kettle, given by Mr A. Brown, Annfield Plain; 3rd, a bottle of whiskey, given by Mr Joseph Lumley, Annfield Plain)—1st, Jas. Wilson; 2nd, John Scott; 3rd, J. Ward.

SPECIAL PRIZE LIST.

OPEN TO AMATEURS AND COTTAGERS.

For best group of miscellaneous plants (arranged for effect, space not to exceed 5 feet by 4 feet)—1st, £1 5s, Mr Wm. Ambler; 2nd, 10s 6d, Mr Jacob Rowell; 3rd, 5s, Mr C. Holmes.
(Given by Mr G. R. Hobson, seedsman, 7s 6d worth of garden seeds.)
For best collection of vegetables (six varieties, none to be grown under glass, only open to those that exhibit produce of seeds purchased from his establishment)—1st, M. Bates; 2nd, Geo. Bullerwell.
(Given by Mr Wm Porter, Annfield Plain.)
Best three parsnips—1st, 2s 6d, John Ward; 2nd, Jas. Wilson.
(Given by Mr W. Wailes, Catchgate.)
Best collection of vegetables (six varieties, two each kind) a leg of mutton—1st, John Scott; 2nd, M. Bates.
(Given by Mr R. Gray, Oxhill, a garden spade; also given by Messrs Mawson, Clarke, and Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.)
First prize, 5s, second prize, 2s 6d, for a basket of flowers (not to exceed 9 inches)—1st, T. Ridley; 2nd, R. Kirsopp.
Best six roses—1st, 5s, Mr R. Kirsopp; 2nd, 3s, Mr Jacob Rowell.

OPEN TO COTTAGERS ONLY.

(Given by a Member.)
For vegetables (three varieties, two each kind) a clawed hammer—1st, Jas. Wilson; 2nd, J. Ward.
(Given by Mr J. Robinson, Catchgate.)
Collection of vegetables (six varieties two each kind) a leg of mutton—1st, Mr J. Ward; 2nd, 2s 6d, given by the Society, Mr M. Bates.
(Given by Mr A. Barrass.)
Best two heads of celery—1st, 3s, J. Wilson; 2nd, 2s, J. Scott.
(Given by Mr R. Wheatley.)
Best three heads of beet, a bottle of whiskey—1st, R. Kirsopp; 2nd, J. Ward.
(Given by Mr Jos. Irwin, sen., Catchgate.)
Best early cabbage and two heads of celery—1st, 2s 6d, J. Wilson; 2nd, J. Lawson.
(Given by Mrs Lumley, Annfield Plain.)
Best two cauliflowers and two heads of celery—1st, a bottle of whisky, M. Bates; 2nd, R. Wheatley.
Best bouquet of flowers (first prize, a valuable silk umbrella, given by Messrs Dryden and Co., Cross Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; second, 4s 6d, given by Mr S. Dart, West Kyo; and third, 2s 6d, given by the Society. Winning bouquet to become the property of Messrs Dryden and Co., and Messrs Dart)—1st, J. Scott; 2nd, W. Ambler; 3rd R. Kirsopp.
(Given by Mr G. Temperley, Annfield Plain.)
Best two heads of celery and two leeks—1st, 3s Jas. Wilson; 2nd, 2s, T. Ridley.
Best three leeks (only open to West Kyo)—1st, a steel spade, John Scott.

SPORTS.—120 yards footrace handicap. First prize, £2; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s.—Heat 1: J. Sparks, 15 yards start, 1; J. Almond, 9, 2; C. Gailes, 16, 3. Heat 2: W. Turner, 3½, 1; T. Simpson, 9, 2; T. Robson, 14, 3. Heat 3: J. Thirlwell, 5, 1; G. Brown, 19, 2; S. Ledger, 7, 3. Heat 4: J. Fawcett, 6, 1; G. S. Brown, 10, 2; J. Turnbull, 10, 3. Heat 5: P. Moore, scratch, 1; — Underwood, 18, 2; J. Eltringham, 1½, 3. Heat 6: G. Teasdale, 7, 1; B. Robson, 8, 2. Second ties—Heat 1: J. Sparks, 1; W. Turner, 2. Heat 2: J. Fawcett, 1; J. Thirlwell, 2. Heat 3: W. P. Moore, 1; G. Teasdale, 2. Final heat: W. P. Moore, Stanley, won by a foot; James Spark, Dipton, six inches before J. Fawcett, East Tanfield. Mr G. Ledger was handicapper and pistol-firer.—Boys' race: 1st, 4s, Lambert; 2nd, 2s, Walker; 3rd, 1s, Bates.—Skipping: 1st, 4s, Sarah Robson, 608 times; 2nd, 2s, Jane Wilson, 352 times; 3rd, 1s, divided between Hannah Herdman and Barbara Makepeace, 301 times each.—Football: 1st, 10s 6d, divided between Dipton and Catchgate Rising Stars Clubs; 2nd, 7s 6d, Dipton; 3rd and 4th, 7s 6d, Rising Stars.

Other amusements in the shape of swing-boats, aunt sally, &c., were provided; and during the day the Tanfield Lea Prize Band (which has been very successful in recent competitions) discoursed selections of music, much to the edification of those present. In the evening, a ball was held in the spacious marquee, and to the strains of the Tanfield Lea Quadrille Band, dancing was kept up with much spirit until a late hour. Mr George Bullerwell, secretary, and the committee merit eulogy for the completeness of the arrangements, which were well carried out.

LANCHESTER.

The thirty-fifth annual exhibition in connection with the old-established Floral and Horticultural Society at Lanchester, took place in a field close to the ancient village, by permission of Mr Sanderson, farmer, on Saturday afternoon. The fine weather prevalent, and the notariety gained by this exhibition in preceding years, attracted a vast concourse of people. There was a magnificent display of plants, flowers, fruits, vegetables, &c., arranged in a commodious marquee, and the exhibits, both as regards the extensive variety and the quality thereof, far eclipsed any previous show. The society is controlled by a most efficient and energetic committee, who are ably supplemented in their endeavours by the hon. secretary, Mr H. Dixon. Under such management, it is needless to state that the whole arrangements of the show were carried into effect without a single hitch. During the afternoon and evening, some capital music was discoursed by the Leadgate Saxhorn Band, in uniform. The judges were Messrs John Storey, Morpeth (late of Greencroft Park); Wigham, Burnhopeside Hall; Geo. Suddes, The Ford; and Whiting, Shotley House. Their awards were generally satisfactory, the following being the principal prize-takers:—Stove or greenhouse plants: Messrs J. Moon, Blackhill; Turner, Witton Gilbert; W. Hall, W. Dixon, and R. Toward, Lanchester. Vegetables: Messrs W. Dixon and W. Hall, Lanchester; and Lowes, Quebec. Cottagers' class: Messrs G. P. Parker and R. Toward, Lanchester. Cut flowers: Messrs Dixon, Hall, Turner, and Lowes. A pleasing feature was the exhibition of wild flowers, and devices, a capital collection having been gathered by the children under 15 years. R. Walton, Lanchester, was awarded 1st prize, 6s; Eva Dixon and T. Hamilton, Lanchester, equal 2nd, 2s 6d; H. Smith, Lanchester Workhouse, 4th. Competition in best writing (for boys under 15 years), not less than four verses of poetry (given by Mr W. Dixon, Lanchester): R. Toward, Lanchester, 1st, 3s; J. Carruthers, Consett, 2nd, 2s; J. Innes, Lanchester, 3rd. Special prizes were also offered by Mr F. Lockey, tea dealer, Durham, for the best pair of men's knitted stockings; and by Mrs Humble, Lanchester, for the best hand-sewn gentleman's shirt.

A programme of sports was arranged, resulting as under:—Football—1st prize, £1; 2nd, 10s. Esh 2nd beat Greencroft; Dipton Heroes beat Catchgate Red Stars; Esh 1st beat Dipton Rovers. Esh 1st and 2nd teams and Dipton Heroes divided the stakes, darkness preventing the deciding ties being played off. Cricket: 1st, £1; 2nd, 10s. Lanchester scratch team beat Sacriston, and Quebec beat Lanchester and won. Quoiting: 1st prize £1, won by Lawson, Craghead. Other events comprised climbing the greasy pole for leg of mutton; boys eating treacle rolls (swinging); boy's races, obstacle races, &c. A very successful show terminated with a grand ball.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held yesterday (Thursday) forenoon, at the Board-room, Lanchester, under the presidency of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. There were also present—Messrs W. Wilkinson, Wm. Logan, Tom Taylor Smith, John Buckham, W. Brown, J. A. Curry, G. Hobson, J. Eltringham, W. Bowey, J. Nicholson, W. Rutherford, and Revs Canon Kearney and J. P. De Pledge.

The minutes of last meeting having been read, the relief cases were then considered.

LOYAL TO THE LAST.

An old man, named Roger Parker, who is well-known in this district, applied for relief.

The CHAIRMAN said his case had been considered by the Guardians, and they offered him a home in the Workhouse.

Roger: Ah, but, sir, I cannot think of such a thing. My poor old father lived until he was 88, and worked hard all his life without coming to that; and I will soon be 81. I have worked hard since I was 12 years of age, and I cannot think to finish my days in the Workhouse.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, but Roger, you have not a good home now, and we wish to offer you one.

Roger (plaintively): Ah! but I cannot think of that.

Mr BUCKHAM: You will be far more comfortable in the House. You will have a proper nurse to wait upon you.

Roger: I'm all right as far as that is concerned; if you would just give me a bit of bread to keep life in me, I would be satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN: But we can't do that; you must come into the House.

Roger: Well, you know, sir, I have kept out of the Poorhouse all these years, and I don't want to come in now. In the ordinary course of things, I cannot live much longer, and I don't want to finish my days in the Workhouse.

Mr HOBSON: But it will be far better ending your days in the House than living in the way you are doing now.

Roger: But if I came into the House, my insurance money would be lost. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, no; we would look after that.

Roger: Oh, but I know better.

Mr BUCKHAM: What do you say to trying it for a fortnight, Roger?

Roger: But I have three hens I would have to leave. (Loud laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, you could sell them.

Roger: But I'd have nothing to go back to.

The CHAIRMAN: You will have your money to buy them again.

Mr RUTHERFORD: Mr Brotherhood will take care of them for you.

Roger: But I have a load of coke too. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr LOGAN: Bring them as well. (More laughter.)

Roger: I could not.

Mr BUCKHAM: Now; Roger, look here, just come down for a fortnight, and I'm sure you won't want to go away again.

Roger (with a heavy sigh): If you won't give me anything, I can't consent to come to the House.

With this the poor old man trudged out, loyal to his own independent spirit.

TREAT TO THE CHILDREN.

The Master (Mr Brotherhood) reported that the children in the House had been entertained to tea by the Chairman, at his residence, Broadwood Park, on Friday last.

Mr LOGAN moved, and Canon KEARNEY seconded, that the best thanks of the Board be tendered to the Chairman for his kindness to the children.

FURTHER GIFT OF FLOWERS.

The Master also reported having received flowers &c., from the teachers of the Langley Park Primitive Methodist Sunday-school.

The CHAIRMAN moved, and Mr HOBSON seconded, that the Clerk write to the teachers thanking them for their gift.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAIN.

The Clerk said that now the new vicar of the parish had been appointed, he thought it a fit time to bring forward the question of appointing a successor to the late chaplain (Dr Dingle.)

After a little discussion on the subject, Mr LOGAN gave notice that he would move the appointment of a chaplain at the next meeting, at the salary of £10 per annum.

NEW RATE.

The Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) was ordered to make out a precept of 7d in the £, and a ½d in the £ for School Attendance.

INMATES OF THE WORKHOUSE.

Week ending Sept. 2nd	136
Corresponding week of last year	176
Week ending Sept 9th	137
Corresponding week of last year	175
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	9
" corresponding fortnight last year	5

The Board afterwards adjourned.

"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.

THE JEWELLERY ROBBERY.—Maria Wheatley (17), of Tow Law, was brought up on remand before the Rev G. P. Wilkinson, at Harperley Park, on Saturday charged with stealing jewellery and wearing apparel from Robert Wheatley, cabinet-maker, Tow Law. The whole of the stolen property was found in the possession of the prisoner, who was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions.

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.

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

A CHILD SCALDED TO DEATH.—An inquest was held at Cornsay Colliery, before Mr J. Graham, coroner, upon the body of Mary Elizabeth Myers, aged three years, daughter of T. H. Myers, butcher for Messrs Ferens and Love, who died under distressing circumstances. The child was in the shop which adjoins the house with an apprentice named Raw, who was using a large bowl of hot water. The child was looking out of the window, and was standing near the water, when she suddenly turned round and fell in, scalding her head and back very seriously. Dr Mackey was called in, and the child lingered until Sunday night, when it died.—A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

RELIGION AND POLITICS.

A correspondent, in reference to this, writes:—"'Primitive Methodism and politics.' This was the heading of an abridged report which appeared this week in an evening contemporary. It had reference to a religious demonstration at Allendale Cottages, near Consett. There were several speakers and, strange to tell, they all preached from the same text—Liberalism. Rather curious to be sure; but then it must have been perfectly in order, for was there not a blessing asked on the proceedings? Very true, for the report sets forth that the meeting was opened with devotional exercises. A good start is said to be worth something; but alas! as the day goes on we are apt to forget the good resolves of the morning and listen to the whisperings of our pet ideas and crotchets. It was said in the olden time that there was a time and a place for everything under the sun; but that is a saying which politicians of to-day do not seem to very clearly understand. They believe in moulding time and opportunity, and to render the whole subservient to their mind and will. That, I suppose, is the new version of the Proverbs. The zeal for party must necessarily be amazingly strong when its echo is heard in the pulpit. Ministers have quite enough to do in their own way; they may well leave politics to the keeping of those who have less important duties to perform.

Apropos, to religion and politics is a statement closely allied to this matter, and made recently by the selected Liberal candidate for North-West Durham. It was this: 'It was to Dissent, and not to the Church, that the people were to look for their spiritual, moral, and social elevation.' Such a statement, I need hardly say, has no foundation in fact, and is, moreover, unworthy of a public gentleman. Mr Atherley Jones may be a very clever lawyer, but he is certainly not a philosopher. The Church people in that part of the world from which he hails must be in a sad state of darkness and depravity. This comes of the craze for strangers, who cannot possibly know anything of a district nor its people. Supposing such a statement to have been made in the House of Commons. It would have been taken for granted that the hon member for North-West Durham knew his business, and that his impressions had been drawn from the life. Yet how unreal and unjust would have been the picture. The Church people in this and other districts seem to be quite as anxious to help the world on its way as are their Dissenting brethren. Mr Jones ought to aim at levelling existing barriers between sect and creed—not to create new erections and stir men up against their kind."

Market Reports.

NEWCASTLE FLOUR, Saturday.—Hungarian, 2s 0d American, 1s 9d; No. 1 superfine, 1s 9d; superfines 1s 8d; fines, 1s 6d; households, 1s 4d; seconds, 0s 0d ryemeal, 1s 6d; wheatmeal, 1s 3d; oatmeals, English 2s 2d; Scotch, 2s 0d per stone; 4lb loaf, 6d.

NEWCASTLE FRUIT AND POTATO, Saturday.—Scotch potatoes, 6d; English do, 7d to 8d; onions, 1s to 1s 4d per stone; figs, 4d to 8d per lb; apples, 1s to 1s 6d per stone; New Towns, 0d to 0d per lb; russets, 0d per lb; cauliflowers, 1½d to 2½d each; oranges, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; gooseberries, 3d per quart; cabbage, 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	0 11	Pigeons, per couple	1 6	to	2 0
Prime mutton	0 11		1 0	Turkeys, per lb	0 0		0 0
Small Pork	0 9		0 11	Turkeys, pults	0 0		0 0
Veal	0 8		0 9	Partridge, brace	3 0		4 0
Lamb per lb	0 10		0 11	Pheasants	0 0		0 0
American beef	0 2½		0 7	Geese, per lb	0 0		0 0
" mutton	0 5		0 9	Goslings, each	7 0		9 0
" lamb	0 0		0 0	Hares, each	0 0		0 0
" veal	0 7		0 8½	Leverets	2 6		3 6
" pork	0 8		0 9	Rabbits, couple	2 6		3 0
Hens, each	1 0		1 9	Ptarmigan, cuple	2 6		3 6
Ducks, per couple	0 0		0 0	Black Game, brce	4 0		6 6
Ducklings, per cp.	6 0		7 0	English fresh butter, per lb	1 3		1 6
Chickens	6 0		7 0				
Wild ducks, brace	0 0		0 0	Fresh eggs 12 for 1s			
Quails, per couple	0 0		3 0	Salmon, per lb	1 0		1 6
Grouse, per couple	5 0		6 0	Do. trout	0 9		0 0

DURHAM PROVISION, Saturday.—Chickens, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; ducks, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; hens, 1s 0d to 2s each; pigeons, 1s 0d to 1s 3d; rabbits, 2s 4d to 2s 6d per couple; hares, 0s to 0s 0d each; eggs, 10 to 12 for 1s; butter, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; gooseberries, 2d to 3d; strawberries, 4d to 6d; red currants, 4d; black currants, 8d; cherries, red, 4d to 7d; white, 10d per lb; green peas, 1s to 1s 3d; onions, 1s 0d to 1s 6d per peck; potatoes, new, 8d to 9d per stone.

HEXHAM PROVISION, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s to 1s 3d per lb; eggs, 10 to 12 for 1s; black game, 3s 6d to 5s 0d per br.; grouse, 4s 6d to 6s 0d; hares, 3s 0d to 3s 6d, rabbits, 0s 0d to 0s 0d per couple; chickens, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; potatoes, 7d to 8d per stone; cooking apples, 1s 6d to 0s 0d per store; cauliflowers, 2d each; plums, 6d; gooseberries, 2d to 3d per quart; lemons, 1d to 2d; cabbages, 1d to 3d each; flour, extra superfines, 2s 0d; superfines, 1s 9d; fines, 1s 7d; maslin, 1s 5d; oatmeal, 2s 0d per stone.

NEWCASTLE CORN, Tuesday.—Arrivals into Newcastle for week ending Sept. 7, 1885:—Coast and rail—Wheat, 3,442; maize, 10; barley, 135; malt, —; oats, 512; rye, —; beans, 200; peas, 77; flour, 3,243 qrs. Foreign—Wheat 16,400; maize, 6809; barley, —; malt, —; oats, 1373; rye, —; beans, —; peas, —; flour, 1,600 qrs. The weather has been showery and unsettled since last Tuesday, and harvesting operations proceed very slowly. The arrivals of coastwise wheat are moderate, but large from abroad; the bulk of the latter, however, is not offered for sale. At this day's market there was a fair inquiry for wheat, at fully last Tuesday's prices; the fear of new English wheat coming in in soft condition caused dry foreign to be in better demand. Maize rather dearer. Scotch oats, with small supplies, were steady; foreign unchanged. Beans and peas firm. Feeding barley met with a good inquiry at rather more money. Fine samples of malting barley sold readily, but inferior were quite neglected. Flour inactive, without change in value.

HEXHAM, Tuesday.—Only barley on offer from farmers to-day, and little business doing.

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £4 5s to £5 10s; this year's growth, £3 15s 0d to £4 10s 0d; new land hay, £5 5s to £6 0s; this year's growth, £4 0s to £5 5s; clover hay, £0 0s to £0 0s per ton; wheat straw, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; barley straw, 2s 9d to 0s 0d; oat straw, 2s 10d to 3s 0d per thrave; carts of hay at market, 99; carts of straw, 32.

NEWCASTLE CATTLE, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 76 cattle, 69 sheep and 315 pigs from Aberdeen and the districts in the North-east coast of Scotland; 808 beasts and 966 sheep from foreign countries, 42 beasts from Ireland, and 20 from Canada.

Respecting quality, every description of stock was below a seasonable average.

1 wagon of cattle went South yesterday to Barrow-in-Furness.

The supply of beef comprised 1,738 head. There was a dull time in the beef trade to day, all brands made less money, and nothing or the South. At the close a bad clearance was effected.

The number of sheep and lambs shown was 13,040. The mutton and lamb trade was heavy. The better class of wedders made about late rates, but the middling and inferior sorts were a slow, dragging trade, with a part left over at the finish.

The number of pigs shown was 204. There is no change to note in the pork trade to-day.

PRICES FOR THIS DAY SINKING THE OFFAL.

Beef, prime heifers, per stone	8s 3d to 8s 6d
Secondary sorts	7s 9d .. 8s 0d
First-class oxen	8s 0d .. 8s 3d
Middling	7s 9d .. 8s 0d
Cows and inferior	6s 0d .. 6s 9d
Pigs	4s 6d .. 6s 6d
Sheep, small, per lb	7½d to 7¾d
" large fat, per lb	7d to 7½d
Lambs per lb	7¼d to 8¼d

Nos: Cattle, 1,738; sheep and lambs, 13,040; pigs, 204

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 25	7 30
Scotswood	6 17	9 47	11 7	12 27	2 37	5 27	7 37
Swalwell	6 24	9 54	11 14	12 34	2 43	5 32	7 41
Rowlands Gill	6 34	10 4	11 24	12 44	2 53	5 49	7 54
Lintz Green	6 40	10 10	11 30	12 50	2 59	5 55	8 0
Ebchester	6 53	10 20	11 40	1 0	3 12	6 5	8 13
Shotley Bridge	6 59	10 24	11 44	1 4	3 18	6 9	8 19
CONSETT Arr.	7 5	10 30	11 50	1 10	3 23	6 15	8 25
CONSETT Dep.	7 10	10 32	...	1 12	3 25	...	6 33
Knitsley	7 21	10 43	...	1 23	3 36	...	6 44
Lanchester	7 30	10 53	...	1 32	3 45	...	6 53
Witton Gilbert	7 38	11 1	...	1 40	3 53	...	7 1
Aldin Grange	7 45	11 9	...	1 47	4 0	...	7 9
DURHAM Arr.	7 50	11 15	...	1 52	4 5	...	7 15

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

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held in the Reading-room, Leadgate, on Wednesday afternoon, Mr R. W. Shaw presiding. There were also present—Messrs J. Davison, J. H. Hudson, T. Lammonby, M. Robson, Luke Nicholson, J. J. Hedley, M. Coupland (clerk), and T. Longstaff (surveyor).

The minutes of last meeting, and also of special meeting held 21st August, were confirmed.

POSTAL BOX FOR IVESTON.

The Clerk reported that he had, as instructed, written to the Postmaster-General, drawing his attention to the great want of a postal pillar box at Iveston, at the same time asking that a representative should be sent down to look into the matter, promising that a deputation from the Board would meet him, and render every assistance. He (the Clerk) had received a reply, stating that the subject would receive attention.

Mr HUDSON handed in a memorial from the inhabitants of Iveston and its surroundings, praying that the Board would use every legitimate means to procure for them a postal box at Iveston, and also a much earlier delivery of letters than they had.

The CHAIRMAN thought they would all sympathise with the memorialists, and he moved that the petition be forwarded to the Postal Authorities, thinking that it would add weight to the request.

On Mr L. NICHOLSON seconding the motion, it was carried.

GAS AGREEMENT.

The CHAIRMAN read the gas agreement between the Board and the Shotley Bridge Gas Company, which provided that the 68 public lamps should be lit 30 weeks for £1 15s 6d per lamp.

Mr L. NICHOLSON: I suppose we shall have to sign the agreement, as it is evident we cannot get a reduction.

Mr HUDSON: I think our Surveyor should bring this subject before us next year three months sooner, so that we can give it our full consideration.

The Surveyor having promised to do this, it was moved by Mr ROBSON, and seconded by Mr L. NICHOLSON, that the agreement be signed and sealed, which the Chairman did.

DISTRICT AUDITOR'S REPORT.

This report, which we give in page 4, was read by the CHAIRMAN.

The Clerk said he would be the last person in the world to say anything against Mr Hockin, the new auditor, but after hearing the report read, they would all agree with him "that new brooms sweep clean." (Laughter.) With regard to Mr Hawdon not having a collecting and deposit book, he might say that that gentleman had since been supplied with one. As regards the other books complained of, he could say that they had been properly kept by the Surveyor, and no censure was called forth upon anyone. The Board that day would only have to decide whether the Surveyor or himself had to keep the books in future. He might say further that Mr Hockin in his report had made a clerical error, by saying that the Surveyor had a ½d in hand, and the Collector 9½d, which should have been Surveyor 9½d, and Collector ½d. He had made Mr Hockin acquainted of this fact. There was one thing worthy of notice—there had been no surcharging; which the other Boards could not claim exception to.

After a little conversation on the matter, the report was submitted to the following committee, the same to give their views to the Board at their next sitting:—Messrs the Chairman, W. H. Hedley, J. J. Hedley, and L. Nicholson.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr HUDSON, the report was ordered to be inserted in the *Consett Guardian*.

JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

A communication was read from the above, ordering the Board to pay to Mr T. L. Gledstone, treasurer, the sum of £24 14s 3d, as a contribution towards the expenses of the same.

Mr LAMMONBY: It is a shame to waste money in this manner.

Mr L. NICHOLSON: What is this money for?

The CHAIRMAN: Towards the new hospital. You know we cannot build without money. (Laughter.)

Mr L. NICHOLSON: So long as it is for bricks and mortar and not for red tapes, I am quite satisfied. (Laughter.) We shall have something to look at now for our money.

Mr ROBSON: I suppose we shall only be paying our share.

The CHAIRMAN: There are two others to build yet, and you will be kept paying.

Mr ROBSON: Oh, well, its all for the good of trade. (Laughter.)

On the motion of Mr HUDSON, seconded by Mr J. J. HEDLEY, the amount was ordered to be paid.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

This monthly report is given below:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—Since your last meeting the following work has been done, accounts for which are before you:—

Durham Main Road.—Attention paid to water courses; and rough limestone broken ready for the incoming winter.

Other Roads.—At the beginning of month, the heavy downfalls of rain caused a little manual labour to be done on Iveston Bank, Pont, Brooms, Annfield, Redwell Hills, and Stockerley Lanes; and the remaining quantity of hard slag for Redwell Hills Lane has been broken. The thistles have also been cut on your roads.

I have had the flags taken up in Front Street, from west end of Co-operative Store to east end of Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. The contractor, Mr G. Westgarth, of Blackhill, has got the cement laid down, but on account of it being just lately done, I have not billed him any money as yet.

Mr Wm. Robinson, of Iveston, has got nearly the whole of the kerbstone laid down at Redwell Hills. The accounts for both the above contracts will come before you next month.

The monthly pay bill is only small this time, principally for road repairs and stone-breaking.

Annexed are the monthly pay bills:—

	£ s d	£ s d
Durham Main Road:		
Manual labour	6 11 5	
Team do.	0 6 9	
[illegible]		6 18 2
Other Roads:		
Manual labour		5 12 9
Total		£12 10 11

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

THOMAS S. LONGSTAFF.

Leadgate, Sept. 9th, 1885.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Leadgate Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—At the present, I consider your district in a good sanitary state—the ashes, night soil, butchers' offal, &c., having been expeditiously carted away.

Your streets have been daily attended to in dusty weather, having been well swept and watered; and a large quantity of disinfectants have been freely used.

Your Gas Committee having had two meetings on the gas question, I hope they will report, or give you their opinion thereon.

On going my round of inspection yesterday (Tuesday), I found the carcase of a black kyloe slaughtered in Mr John Parker's slaughter-house, supposed to belong to Mr Henry Stoner, which I did not like the look of. I got Mr Foreman, veterinary surgeon, to inspect it. His opinion will be laid before you to-day. Dr Geo. Renton has seen it this morning, and his opinion also will be submitted to you. I am now in possession of the said carcase, and should like your instructions thereon.

Your new settling ponds at Pont require fencing with rails.

Since your last meeting, the District Auditor has audited the books and accounts, which will be on the table for your inspection.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

THOMAS S. LONGSTAFF.

Leadgate, Sept. 9th, 1885.

THE DEAD KYLOE.—LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TO BE TAKEN.

The CHAIRMAN said he was sorry to think that for the first time that he could remember they would have to take legal proceedings for a case such as reported by the Surveyor. He read the certificates of Drs Renton and Foreman, both testifying that the meat was not suitable for human consumption. He also read a letter from Mr Parker, butcher, of Leadgate, which said:—"I hereby certify that the beef condemned by your inspector was in no way belonging to me, Mr Stoner having had permission to kill in my slaughter-house since his was converted into a dwelling-house by Mrs Lumley. Therefore, I claim to be exonerated from any charge that may arise therefrom."

The Clerk said that proceedings would have to be instituted against the party on whose premises the beast was found.

Mr ROBSON: It would be a pity to bring Mr Parker into the thing when he had nothing to do with it whatever.

The CHAIRMAN: What does the law say on the point?

The Clerk read the 116th section of the Public Health Act, which provided that in whose possession or on whose premises the beast was in were the ones to bring to justice.

The CHAIRMAN: Are we to take it that the beast was in Stoner's possession?

The Surveyor: When I asked Mr Parker if the beast was his, he denied all knowledge of it; whilst Stoner admitted that it was in his possession, although he had not paid anything for it.

The CHAIRMAN: It would not matter to us if he had got it for nothing and a five pound note along with it, so long as the beast was in his possession. This will allow us to prosecute.

Mr ROBSON: Certainly.

The CHAIRMAN: We, as individuals, are very sorry for Stoner; but we are placed here to uphold the law, and we would not be doing our duty if we did not proceed against him.

Mr HUDSON then moved, and Mr J. J. HEDLEY seconded, that the Clerk be instructed to take the necessary proceedings against Mr Stoner.

The motion was carried *nem con*.

After instructing the Surveyor to fence the Pont Settling Ponds with wood rails, the Board adjourned.

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this body was held in the Board-room, Lanchester, yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, Mr Wm. Logan (vice-chairman) presiding. The other members present were:—Messrs R. Hobson, T. Copeland, W. Rutherford, W. Brown, G. Errington, W. Towns, W. Fawcett, and T. Longstaff.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr William Dixon) reported as follows:—"The roads in your district are in good order. The contractors in general are doing their work well. The [illegible] over Pan Burn at Low Mill is completed. The bridge at Bleach Green is also finished, and the barrel arches are being built. The kerbing and channelling referred to in my last report is nearly all completed. The footbridge at Stoney Heap is made, and will be erected in a few days. The County Surveyor has offered to find the pipes to put a culvert through the road at the west end of Lanchester low bridge, on the Lobley Hill Main Road. I think his offer a good one, as the water nearly all comes from the latter road. Orders are required for new scraping machines for Tanfield and one for main roads. The footbridge from Kyo West House to Bushblades requires repairing at the cost of £30. I have had a verbal offer from Mr Joseph Pattinson for reducing Spring Hill, in the township of Muggleswick, viz:—950 c. yds. at 7½d per yard—£30 10s 5d. As this is a most reasonable offer, I beg the Board to accept it."

Mr Crozier's (County Surveyor) offer as to finding pipes for culvert was accepted; the Surveyor was instructed to get the necessary machines, and repair the bridge at Kyo West Houses; and the offer of Mr Pattinson was also accepted.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

The CHAIRMAN said that a printed memorial form had been submitted for their signature, which was a petition to have the next show held at Darlington. There were counter petitions going in from Newcastle, and they could decide between the two. If they wished the show to be at Darlington, then sign it; but if they would rather have it at Newcastle, they would have to let the memorial lay upon the table. As far as he was concerned, it could be held at either place—he could see no difference it would make to them.

Mr ROBSON (jocosely): We can get to Newcastle cheaper. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: Well that is a consideration.

Mr TOWNS: I think we should try to have it in our own county.

Mr RUTHERFORD: I move that the memorial lay upon the table.

Mr BROWN seconded the motion.

Mr TOWNS moved as an amendment that the memorial in favour of Darlington be signed.

Mr COPELAND seconded; but on the vote being taken, Mr Rutherford's motion was carried.

After transacting other unimportant business the Board adjourned.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

STANLEY.—5th inst., the wife of T. Benson, M.R.C.S., of a daughter.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—6th inst., the wife of Arthur A. Tulk, Inland Revenue office, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside, on the 10th inst., Mr John Kidd, of Consett, to Miss Jane Harris, neice of Mr John Dixon, of St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—33, Sherburn Terrace, on the 6th inst., aged 13 months, James Edward Lamb.
11, Constance Street, 8th inst., aged 65, Elizabeth Maund.

CASTLESIDE.—On the 10th inst., aged 72, Jane Coulthard. To be interred on Sunday, September 13th, at three o'clock, at Castleside. Friend, please accept this intimation. 35a

LANGLEY MOOR.—8th inst., aged 55, Mary, wife of Joseph Green, draper.
3rd inst., Luke Narey, miner, aged 28.

SLALEY.—8th inst., aged 46, Septimus Ormiston.

DIPTON.—5th inst., aged 31, Annie Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Bowes.

WATERHOUSES.—4th inst., Edith, daughter of John Evans, miner, aged 8 years.

SACRISTON.—Staffordshire Row, 2nd inst., aged 38, accidentally killed, George Foster, miner.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Brown's Buildings, 7th inst., aged 24, Margaret Jane, daughter of the late Joseph Hemsley, of Waldridge.

CORBRIDGE.—1st inst., aged 30, Isabella, daughter of Elizabeth Turnbull.

BLAYDON.—Bottle House Yard, 5th inst., aged 67, William Henry King.

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