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NOTICE. — Mr. Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends same hotels as for last twelve years. Suttles' Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Monday, Oct. 2nd; Hours, 12 to 4·30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, Sept. 20th; Hours, 10·30 to 4·30. Imperial Hotel, Hull, Friday, Sept. 22nd; Hours, 11 to 4·30.

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The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted. 217f

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PLAIN COOK WANTED, in small Family in Consett.—Address, Box 30, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 209f

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WANTED, for the above Society, a Young MAN to go with Greengrocery Rolley; must not be under 18 years or over 19 years of age; Wage commencing at 18s. per week, and rise according to the Society's scale; confined to Members trading at Annfield Plain. — Application to be made to the Committee, on Monday night first at 7 o'clock.—WM. R. PIGG, Secretary. 271f

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FOOTBALL.

MATCHES.

STANLEY v. ALLENDALE PARK.

These teams met in a friendly encounter at Dakey's on Saturday in favourable weather, and before a fair number of spectators. The two teams were fairly representative, but the play throughout was only of a moderate character. The visitors showed greater energy in the opening stages, but were easily held in check, and as Stanley did not exert themselves the first half was drawn blank. In the second stage the Park men showed lack of staying powers, and the homesters continued to take matters easily. From a corner Masterman notched a goal, and this being the only point scored Stanley won an uninteresting game by a goal to nil.

HOBSON UNITED v. WEST PELTON UNITED.

Played at West Pelton, before a large gate. The opening exchanges were even, but the visitors finding their feet soon began to make things hum, and C. Lown after a fine piece of play scored the first goal after eight minutes' play. Goals followed quickly from Forster, Lown, and Hallam. The half-time result showed Hobson 5 goals and Pelton nil. With the wind in their favour Pelton were confident of rubbing off some of the arrears, but they were quickly deceived for the visitors forced the game, and after Forster had hit the cross-bar Lown sent through the sixth. Goals followed from Forster (2), and Hallom. Then the homesters opened their score through a misunderstanding. From now till the finish the visitors had all the game, C. Lown adding the tenth just before the whistle blew for time with the result:—

Hobson .... Ten goals
Pelton .... One goal

The following did duty for the winners—Goal, T. W. Trewick; backs, R. Patterson and J. Doran; half-backs, A. Batey, G. Wilkinson, and A. Wilkinson; forwards, D. Campbell, R. W. Hallam, W. Lown, C. Lown, and H. Forster.

SHILDON v. TOW LAW.

This friendly game was played at Shildon, before a good crowd. The Tow Law team was not well represented. Gill es Wright kicked off for Shildon, who had the sun full in their eyes. Bennett took the leather and he and Wright did a little neat passing, till Milburn changed the venue. Tow Law pressed, and Wheelhouse worked the leather out. From the throw in the visitors pressed hard, but only got a goal kick. Devine and Bennett had a bad collision, and the former went down. Shildon now in turn made a strong effort. Several shots were sent in. One went into the net, but was disallowed on account of off-side. Tow Law retaliated with a will. Hymers scored after half-an-hour's play. Just on time Lear, with a long, flying shot scored for Shildon from the centre line. Half-time:—

Shildon .... One goal
Tow Law .... One goal

On resumption, a little more energy appeared to be put into the game. The Tow Law forwards did some smart passing, and Milburn succeeded in netting the ball, but it was disallowed for off-side. Lear, Robinson, and Bennett, of Shildon, put in some splendid passing. Robinson shot in, but it was repulsed by Devine. Lear, however, returned the ball into the net and scored a beauty. Juts before the whistle sounded time the visitors forced a corner. Brown received a pass from the place kick, and put across to Dolphin, who scored. Final:—

Shildon United .... Two goals
Two Law .... Two goals

SACRISTON CHURCH ATHLETIC v. WITTON GILBERT UNITED.

These teams met at Sacriston in fine but windy weather, before a good company of spectators. The teams lined up under Mr Bulmer's charge as follows:—

Sacriston—Goal, Rickerby; backs, Hayes and Parker; half-backs, Holmes, Warne, and Liddle; forwards, Round, Stephenson, Greener, Henderson, and Brass (capt.)

Witton—Goal, Loates; backs, Belleby and Bainbridge; half-backs, Roberts, Bailey, and Mitchell; forwards, Dixon, Oxley, Jones, Renwicks, and Raynor.

The home captain won the toss and elected to kick towards the entrance goal, Mr Graham set the ball rolling for the visitors. The home forwards soon got down, and Greener caused Loates to kick away. Round tried to get through, and forced a corner off Belleby. Round took the kick, and Greener headed into the goal, forcing a corner. The home team bombarded the visitors' goal, Loates having to give four corners to save his side from downfall. At last the ball was sent behind. From the goal kick Stephenson got going and centred finely, and Brass notched the first goal. The Witton men playing against the wind were hard pressed, and Loates only having half cleared from Greener, Henderson scored a second point. The visitors took up the running for a short period, Hayes stopping Raynor, and Henderson shot wide at the other end. The home team now taxed the visitors' defence. Loates saved many difficult shots, but was subsequently beaten by Greener, who was playing a fine game. At the interval the score stood:—

Sacriston .... Three goals
Witton .... Nil

On resuming the visitors at once worked their way down, but were always beaten by Hayes. Holmes made a fine run, but his centre went a-begging, none being up to take advantage. Although playing with the wind, the visitors could make no headway, Dixon and Raynor alone making a creditable show, but Liddle and Holmes were too good for them. Further attacks by the home men followed, but their shooting was bad. Greener once ran through all his opponents, but shot wide with only the goalkeeper to beat. From the goal kick Oxley got away, but Parker robbed him of his shot, and Round ran up and centred, and Stephenson banged the ball past Loates for the fourth time. The home team now took matters easy, and after working about the goal Brass scored a fifth, and the game ended in an easy win for the home lads. Final:—

Sacriston Church Athletic ...... Five goals
Witton Gilbert United .... Nil

CRAGHEAD RANGERS II. v. BLACK HOUSE.

Played at Black House, before a very moderate attendance of spectators. The teams lined us as follows:—

Craghead—Goal, Davidson; backs, Old and Cooper; half-backs, Dodds, Donkin, and Hussey; forwards, Richardson, Allison, J. Hauxwell, Grix, and Donkin.

Black House—Goal, Carr; backs, J. Souter and Laycock; half-backs, R. Hauxwell, Bedell, and R. Marwood; forwards, R. Wood, J. Kindred, Wakefield, Short, and Pine.

Craghead were successful with the spin of the coin, and made a start with the wind in their favour, and were soon in the home goal, but were pulled up by Laycock. A free kick to Black House made matters look dangerous for Craghead, and a good shot by Wood nearly beat the visitors' custodian. The pace had been hard and fast from the start, but renewed vigour was shown as the game became more even. Grix and Allison threatened danger, but Souter came to the rescue, and Dodds getting away down the wing centred, and Donkin shot for goal, but it went wide. From the goal kick the Rangers pressed very hard, but were beaten by the splendid defence of Souter and Laycock. The leather then travelled from end to end. Grix made a good run, but was checked by Bedell. The home team were quickly on the aggressive and exerted strong pressure, and a fine pass went to Kindred, who centred, and the ball was put through, thus scoring the first point for Black House. Craghead, who now showed nice combination, had the better of the game, and looked very likely for scoring when Dodds shot by the post. Half-time arrived with the score:—

Black House .... One goal
Craghead .... Nil

On resuming Black House had the wind in their favour and forced two corners, but nothing came of them. Bedell and Hauxwell then made a run, but were pulled up by Old, who sent the ball flying to the other end of the field. Allison then shot for goal, but Carr saved well. The home side gradually got into their stride, and after forcing a corner from Hussey, Wakefield received from Wood and sent to Hauxwell, who put the ball through, making the second point for Black House. Give-and-take play without any particular incidents ensued. The Craghead men had several chances which were not made anything of, and Souter sent down the field, and Allison shot for goal, but the ball went over the bar. From the goal kick Short gave to Wakefield, who sent over to Pine, who over-ran the ball and it went into touch. From the throw-in Grix made a hard attempt to score, but the ball went wide. Play was now principally confined to the Rangers' territory, but no further score came. Final:—

Black House .... Two goals
Craghead .... Nil

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

CONSETT UNITED v. LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS.

These teams met on the ground of the former on Saturday afternoon, under the auspices of the above league. The visitors were only poorly represented, and played with nine men. When the whistle sounded the teams lined up as under:—

Consett United—Goal, Dodds; backs, T. Jones and T. Wilkinson; half-backs, C. Bradshaw, J. Emmerson, and Connor; forwards, J. McCone, R. Page, Murphy, Bridgewater, and R. Johnson.

Leadgate—Goal, Lockrane; backs, Thompson and Overall; half-backs, Johns, Winter, and Calvert; forwards, Kelly, Birtley, and Davison.

Referee, Mr Bell, Allendale Cottages.

Consett won the toss, and elected to kick to the entrance goal, with the wind at their backs. After a few exchanges in midfield the home lads broke away in a body, and forced a corner, which was well placed by McCone, but Johnson shot high over the bar. From the goal-kick the visitors tried hard to make headway, but were driven back, and another chance fell to the lot of the United, Bridgewater shooting past. The ball was returned from the goal-kick, and not until Bridgewater had scored the first goal was the pressure relieved. From the centre kick Kelly got possession, and was making off down the wing when he was pulled up by Connor, who returned, and once more the visitors' half was the scene of action. A penalty was awarded to Consett, Jones being entrusted with the kick, but he shot wide. From the goal-kick Davison got hold and was making good progress when he was pulled up by Wilkinson, who returned, and McBone added a second for his side, which was immediately followed by Page adding a third. Half-time sounded shortly after with the score:—

Consett United .... Three goals
Leadgate Park .... Nil

Immediately the ball was set in motion again McBone and Page indulged in a sprint down the wing, and when the former was in a grand position he was robbed by Thompson, who placed the ball into mid-field, where play raged for a while. The home front rank again broke away in a body, which ended in McCone adding a fourth. From the centre kick the Juniors got away, a free kick falling to their lot, but Jones [got] the ball out of danger, and Bridgewater getting possession indulged in a single-handed sprint down the field, which ended in him beating Lochrane for the fifth time. Leadgate now got up, and from a free kick Kelly beat Dodds for the first time. Final:—

Consett United .... Five goals
Leadgate Park .... One goal

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC RESERVE.

Tantobie opened their League fixtures with a visit from the Plain on Saturday. The ground was in good condition, but a rather strong wind was blowing down the field. The home team won the spin of the coin, and choose to play down the hill with the sun and wind behind them. After a few exchanges in mid-field the home team got down, and with a good shot from Bell scored No. 1. From the centre kick the Tantobie forwards came away, and a good shot from Fletcher scored No. 2. Not long after Fletcher was presented with a fine centre from the left. He passed to Burns, who scored No. 3. At the interval the score was:—

Tantobie .... Three goals
Annfield Plain .... Nil

On resuming play became more even; but after a while Tantobie got away, and a good shot from Burns was well stopped. The Celtic got away and made a good run, but the home defence proved to be too good for them. A free kick for the Co-operators brought the ball well up the field, but it was soon back again, but the Tantobie defence could not be beaten. The ball was brought to the Celts' goal, but Atkinson was ruled off-side. After the free kick Fletcher got the ball and scored No. 2. From the centre [kick] the Celts got down, and a good shot from Muse was well stopped by Lishman, who gave a corner, but it came to nothing. The Celts tried hard, but could not beat the home defence. They again forced a corner, but could not score. Tantobie was then awarded a free kick, which was well placed by McKever, but the Celts' goalkeeper played well. He put the ball well down, but the Celts could not break the defence. Tantobie were awarded another free kick, which was well placed by Adamson, but the Celts' goalkeeper got it away, and Bell put it back, but could not beat Lishman, who played a splendid game. Tantobie forced their way to the Celts' goal, and after a good run scored No 5. Shortly after the whistle sounded time with the score:—

Tantobie .... Five goals
Annfield Plain .... Nil

TANFIELD LEA CÆSARS v. BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S.

The above teams met in a game under the auspices of the above League at Shotley Spa, before a good attendance of spectators. The teams were nearly an hour late when Mr Milligan lined them up as follows:—

Blackhill—Goal, S. Johnson; backs, Robinson and Moore; half-backs, Rogers, Taylor, and Jackson; forwards, Higgins, Watson, Carr, Richards, and Robson.

Tanfield Lea—Goal, W. Carr; backs, G. Shield and H. Green; half-backs, J. Scott, H. Christopher, and J. Milburn; forwards, J. [Gard]ner, T. McCann, M. Smith, F. Christopher, and G. Thompson.

The home team won the toss, and Smith kicked off before a blazing sun. The Cæsars at once pressed and Gardner shot by. From the goal-kick McMann got possession and forced a corner off Robinson. Gardner placed well and Smith headed just over the bar. A fine run by the home right ended in Taylor shooting wide. Higgins was nicely robbed by Milburn when looking dangerous, and Carr saved a hot shot from Robson at the expense of a corner, which proved abortive. Smith got possession, and when in a good [position] was robbed by Robinson. The homesters came away with a rush, but Green frustrated all their efforts. They kept up the pressure, and Carr saved well from Robson, being fouled by Higgins in saving. Huge kicking by Shield again put the Cæsars on the aggressive, and McMann just missed by inches. Taylor fouled Christopher and Milburn placed well in, Johnson saving well. At the other end Higgins when about to shoot was tackled by Shield and shot by. A good run by the visitors ended in Thompson shooting yards wide. The visitors kept up the pressure, but could not score. Half-time—

Blackhill .... Nil.
Tanfield Lea .... Nil.

After the re-start the homesters pressed and forced a corner off Green, which was well placed, Carr saving marvellously with four players upon him. This aroused the visitors, and Moore kicked out to save from Gardner. From the throw-in Gardner got possession, and when tackled by Moore passed nicely to McMann, who opened the scoring with a grand shot, giving Johnson no chance. Mid-field play followed, and Robson got possession and shot across goal, and Carr headed through, equalising the game. The excitement was high, and both teams strove hard for the winning point, which Smith succeeded in gaining for the visitors from a grand pass by Gardner. With only a few minutes to go the visitors kept up the pressure, but could not add to their score, the final being—

Tanfield Lea .... Two goals.
Blackhill St. Cuthbert's .... One goal.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE v. LEADGATE PARK RESERVE.

This was the first match of the season on the Vicarage field at Consett. The attendance was small. There was a strong wind blowing up the field when the teams lined up as follows:—

Swifts—Goal, J. Sheeky; backs, J. Wilson and S. Ellwood; half-backs, P. McNally, D. Marshall, M. Page, T. Boyle, and G. Wood.

Park—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, A. Aitken and G. Temple; half-backs, J. Birtley, C. Todd, and D. Cartmell; forwards, Harper, M. Robinson, W. Crowther, P. Hughes, and G. Milburn.

Referee, Mr W. Hodgson, Tantobie.

It was very late before a start was made, Crowther kicking off for the Park against a strong wind and sun. The visitors immediately carried play to the low end, but were repulsed by Marshall, who transferred the leather well up the field, the ball going bye. The Swifts soon got to work, and McNally caused Calvert to kick away. Wood was lying handy for the return, but missed badly from an easy position. Temple relieved close in, and Ellwood was forced to kick into touch to save. Marshall made a very erratic attempt for Consett, who were having most of the play, but the ball was continually going into touch. Calvert gave a corner in saving a good shot from Page, but McNally placed badly. Wood forced another corner, nothing, however, resulting. Dodds tried hard for Consett, Aitken being obliged to give another corner. Boyle placed splendidly, but the homesters failed to take the chance, and so missed a grand opportunity of scoring. Leadgate again visited the low end, but only for a short while, as the Swifts returned, and getting near the visitors' goal, Boyle let fly and completely beat Calvert with a dropping shot. This reverse wakened Leadgate up a bit, and immediately on the re-start the right wing worked the ball down, when Hughes shot wretchedly, only about six yards off goal. The Park were once more driven back, and Marshall and Page both missed for Consett, the score at half-time reading as follows:—

Swifts .... One goal
Park .... Nil

There were some slight alterations in the composition of the teams when they lined up for the second half. Wood for Consett played left back, Ellwood centre half, and Marshall inside left, while the positions on the Leadgate side were altered by Todd playing right back, and Temple centre half-back. Everybody expected Leadgate would pile on a score with the assistance of the wind but matters turned out quite different, although immediately after the start the visitors swarmed round Sheeky, who was penalised for running with the ball. He, however, saved the shot splendidly, and the Swifts took up the running, a shot by Boyle just skimming the cross-bar. This was very hard lines, as it should certainly have been a score, the shot coming from such a short range and a capital position. This, practically speaking, lost Consett a point. Leadgate soon got to work again, and from a scrimmage in the Consett territory Wilson conceded a corner, but the ball went by off Milburn. There was a slight stoppage owing to Page getting hurt in a collision with Milburn. When the game was resumed Cartmell got dangerously near the home goal, Sheeky saving a shot from this player by giving a corner. Milburn, however, placed behind. Several corners fell to Leadgate, but they failed to score from any of these, as Sheeky was playing a safe game for Consett, getting the ball away on several occasions, one shot from Temple being saved in a marvellous manner. McNally also effected a clever save in the goal-mouth. The second half was well advanced before Leadgate penetrated the Consett defence, the scorer and equaliser being Temple. This aroused the Swifts, who made strenuous efforts to secure the lead, and were successful in gaining a corner, which came to nothing. When the final whistle blew the result was a drawn game with the score as follows:—

Consett Swifts Reserve .... One goal
Leadgate Park Reserve .... One goal

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

BIRTLEY v. HEBBURN ARGYLE.

This Northern Alliance engagement took place at Birtley, before a good "gate." Teams:

Birtley—Goal, Danskin; backs, Greene and Martin; half-backs, Hills, Dover, and Monaghan; forwards, Patterson, Wilson, Doyle, Dixon, and Carr.

Hebburn—Goal, Collins; backs, Hi[ll] and Scott; half-backs, Pearson, Walker, and Moralee; forwards, Bianchi, Bradshaw, Henderson, Howe, and Robertson.

[Doy]le kicked off for Birtley against a strong wind, and Hebburn immediately took up the attack, showing very pretty combination from the start. The visitors pressed, but the ball was sent past. Robertson put in a beautiful centre, right in front of the goal, but none of the Hebburn men were sharp enough to accept the chance. The Birtley left wing then got away, and they attacked for a short period, Patterson sending the ball past, and Dover immediately after sending over. Hebburn then got down the field and forced a corner, which was cleared. Patterson and Wilson tried to take the ball to the Hebburn goal, but Moralee intercepted them, and then Hebburn swooped down upon Danskin's charge, and with a terrific shot Bianchi opened the scoring. Hebburn continued to press the Birtley defenders, and Greene miskicked the ball and put it right into his own goal-mouth and Bradshaw, who was just standing nice and handy, banged the leather into the net, scoring the second goal. Up to the interval Hebburn continued to have the best of matters, and at half-time the score stood—

Hebburn Argyle .... Two goals
Birtley .... Nil

Upon re-starting Hebburn ran up the field, but Birtley were the aggressors, and Dixon put in a [shot] for some time. Once Hebburn forced a corner, but it was cleared, and at the other end Dover sent over. Fouls were pretty numerous, Hebburn being the chief offenders. Scott made a big mis-kick, missing the ball altogether, and Dixon made a rush for it, but Scott retrieved his position by reaching the ball first and putting out of danger. Doyle sent in a fast ground shot, but Collins saved splendidly. From a bully in the Birtley goal-mouth, Howe scored the third goal for Hebburn. From this time onwards Birtley were the aggressors, and Dixon put in a splendid shot which Collins was lucky to tip over the bar. Shortly after time arrived, with the score—

Hebburn Argyle .... Three goals
Birtley .... Nil

LEADGATE PARK v. NEWCASTLE UNITED A.

The meeting of these teams at Leadgate on Saturday, under the auspices of the Northern Alliance, attracted a very large attendance, upwards of 1,000 people being present, including Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, Q.C., M.P., Mrs Atherley-Jones, and party. The weather was beautifully fine, but a rather strong breeze blew into the entrance goal. Harvie had the good fortune to win the toss, and thus set his opponents to face both a blazing sun and a fairly strong wind. Owing to the train being late, it was about four o'clock when the rival teams faced each other as below:—

Newcastle United A.—Goal, Watts; backs, Birnie and Knifton; half-backs, Proctor, Veitch, and Carr; forwards, Harvie, Smoult, Reid, Milne, and Collins.

Leadgate Park—Goal, Crowther; backs, J. Daly and J. Wilson; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, B. Cook, J. Grant, T. Houston, G. Forster, and P. Daly.

Referee, Mr R. Bland, Pelton Fell.

Mr Thomas Foreman (the worthy president of the club) set the ball in motion for the home men, who at once rushed down, and the ball was shot into Watts' hands. The latter fumbled and dropped the leather, which was rushed into the net amid cheers. However, these were premature, as the referee disallowed the point, although to the occupants of the press-box it seemed to be a perfectly legitimate one. The visitors, after this lucky escape, got away on the left, but Cartmell stopped Collins, and P. Daly and Forster got off, but were pulled up for off-side. The free kick taken by Knifton looked dangerous until J. Daly came to the rescue. Newcastle pressed, and Veitch sent just over with a fine attempt. The wind helped the United, who got in again, and Crowther saved grandly from Smoult following upon a corner. Forster and P. Daly ran down, and the former forced Watts to handle. Two free kicks ensued to Newcastle, from the second of which Birnie forced a corner, which J. Wilson cleared. Crowther saved a good shot from Proctor, and Cook headed away a corner taken by the same player. A foul followed to the Park, which Veitch disposed of, and then the visiting forwards got well in, Crowther throwing away in grand style from Reid. Bowes and Tommy Wilson were here conspicuous for fine tactics, but Birnie returned to his forwards, who had a fine opening, but Milne missed. Grant got away and sent over to Forster, who lost to Proctor. The Park forwards ran down in a body, but Knifton barred their progress, and Collins and Milne indulged in a tricky run, but put the ball out. Cartmell was applauded for good work, but Reid and Smoult came back and put to Collins, who shot past. Cook had a short run, but Carr sent back, and Milne had an abortive attempt at goal. P. Daly got nicely away and put over to Cook, who shot in, and Watts had to save. At the other end Reid shot in finely, but Crowther cleared grandly, and Proctor put past. J. Daly cleared well, and the Park got down, Cook giving a beautiful pass to Grant, who passed on to Houston, but the latter was declared off-side. Milne and Reid got in from the free kick, but Joe Wilson and Cartmell were instrumental in keeping them from becoming dangerous, and Veitch sent past. The Park were here defending grandly against the wind and sun, the halves being chiefly prominent, whilst Crowther was doing good work in goal. Houston receiving from Tommy Wilson seemed to have a nice chance, but the whistle went for off-side, much to the disgust of the home men. Cartmell robbed Milne and Reid splendidly, and sent over to Forster, but the latter let the ball go out. Bowes easily stopped Harvie (who was seldom conspicuous), and then the visitors pressed, and Carr receiving about 15 yards out, scored with a fast slanting shot which found the corner of the net. J. Daly showed good defence, and Grant and Cook had a good run, the former hitting the bottom of the post—a case of hard lines. Just after the half-time whistle sounded:—

Newcastle .... One goal
Leadgate Park .... Nil

The wind had dropped somewhat when Reid resumed operations, but the home men at once got possession and ran to the top end, where Carr drove them back. The United forwards ran down, and from a scrimmage close in Milne scored with a rather soft shot. Several fouls followed to Leadgate, who pressed for a time, and Watts had to clear a long shot from Cartmell. Then Bowes got hold and fired in a terrific shot, but Watts fortunately for his side happened to be standing just in the right place, and held the ball. Cook receiving from Grant put in a fine centre, but it was sent past. Grant nearly scored with a fast grounder, and then Cartmell took a free kick about 30 yards out, but the leather passed into the net without touching a second player. The Newcastle forwards then raised the siege, and Reid sent out to Collins, who centred finely, and Crowther beating the ball down to Harvie's toe, the latter put on the third point for United. The Park did their utmost to open their account, but their herculean efforts in the first half had evidently taken a lot out of them, and the final result was:—

Newcastle United .... Three goals
Leadgate Park .... Nil

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "I. P. S."]

A DISAPPOINTMENT FOR THE PARK.

Had the Park only got one of the two points at issue out of Newcastle United on Saturday the committee would have been a happy family, as they netted one of the best "gates" that has fallen to their lot for some time. However, they cannot have everything, and therefore the large attendance had to console them for a rather unexpectedly severe reverse. From the conversation one heard before the game it was plain to discover that the United were favourites for the event, but still it was not expected that there would be more than a goal (or at the outside two) in it. And no more there shouldn't have been taking the play on the whole. But whereas the visitors had all the luck, none of this desirable commodity seemed to attach itself to the home team. It is not pleasant work finding excuses for a beaten team, but still I think all impartial spectators who saw the game on Saturday will admit that the United did not deserve to win by three clear goals. Only one of the trio was a good one, the others being of the soft order, whilst on the other hand, the Park had the hardest luck imaginable on at least three occasions, and certainly were entitled to a goal or two if only for their plucky display against the wind and sun.

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At the very outset the fates ranged themselves on the side of the visitors, as Harvie won the toss, and this meant that the home men had to contend not only with eleven well-trained men of high reputation, but also against a fierce sun and pretty strong breeze. However, if the United reckoned upon having things their own way they were quickly undeceived. We had a sensational start. Mr. Thos. Foreman (the esteemed president of the club) had not given the opening touch to the game more than a minute when the Parkites swooped down the field, the ball was shot into Watts' hands, that sprightly keeper fumbled and let it drop, and it was promptly rushed into the net. To me it appeared to be a well-won goal, but the referee thought otherwise, and so the point was struck off for some alleged infringement or other. Then the Newcastle boys gave us a sample of their powers, their passing being nicely executed, but they found their match in the Park defence, amongst whom the halves were ever prominent. Harvie was given far too much work, and he was perhaps the least conspicuous of the front rank, Bowes and Joe Wilson having taken his measure early on. Some thirty-five minutes had sped ere there was any scoring, and then Carr getting hold in a good position beat Crowther all the way with a fine shot which passed just inside the post. The Park had scored in the first minute, and it appeared as if they would do so in the last of this half, but Grant's shot struck the bottom of the upright and went past.

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It was considered capital business for the Park to have only allowed their opponents to score once considering the way they were handicapped, and the supporters of the home men were hopeful that the second half would put a more favourable appearance on the game for their favourites. However, I had my doubts concerning this, as it was easy to see that the Park had taken a lot out of themselves in keeping the United at bay, and then it stood to reason that the visitors were much the better trained combination. The home boys re-started as if they meant business but they were repulsed, and the Newcastle men rushing down put on a rather soft point, which may be said to have settled the game. True the home team played up in plucky fashion, but it was plain to observe that that second goal had considerably disheartened them. The forwards were the chief sinners, and went about their work in a sort of go-as-you-please manner, there being little method in their movements. However the halves still maintained their form, and once a tremendous shot from Bowes fully merited a goal, but Watts was placed in just the right place, and managed to hold the ball and then throw it away. Then the Newcastle forwards caused a diversion, and the ball was swung out to Collins, who centred finely, and Crowther beating the leather down on to the ground, Harvie rushed in and completed the work. This settled the matter, and the United were left with a three to nil victory.

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As I have said above, I hardly think that there should have been such a wide margin between the teams. At the same time I candidly admit that the winners were undoubtedly the better side, but they had all the luck, and this counts for something in football. Strange as it may seem, yet perhaps Harvie was the least conspicuous man on the team. Bowes watched him like a hawk, and it was but very seldom indeed that the little man was allowed to make much headway. I liked Milne best of the quintette, and he put in a deal of real good work. Collins chiefly confined himself to waiting well up on the left for a pass from his partner or Reid. The latter did fairly well, but had a number of fouls given against him. He is not particular as to his methods so long as he gets the ball. Smoult did not accomplish anything startling, but gave Harvie numerous chances of which he seldom made much. Proctor took my fancy at half, and the old N.E.R. man is a fine player, both on the aggressive and the defensive. Veitch was as judicious as usual, whilst Carr's goal was perhaps the best piece of work he did. At back Birnie gave an exceedingly fine display, his kicking and tackling being alike good. He had an able partner in Knifton, and further behind Watts gave a grand exhibition of goal-keeping. The United are a good team, and they will beat many more teams beside the Park. At the same time they would be well advised to drop some of the little dodges they possess, which were too patent on Saturday to pass muster.

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Most of the praise on the Park side is due to the halves, who played a rattling game throughout, and they were in no wise to blame for the defeat. Tommy Wilson was ubiquitous in the first half, putting in a tremendous amount of work, and seeming to revel in it. Bowes also played one of his best games, as Harvie would probably admit, whilst Tom Cartmell displayed better form than I have seen from him for a long time. He was a trier all through. Johnny Daly did fairly well at back, but neither he nor Joe Wilson kicked so strongly as I have seen them do. Crowther made some grand saves in the first moiety, but a little better judgment would have prevented the third goal from being registered. The forwards were disappointing in contrast with their display at Hebburn. There was not so much to find fault with previous to the interval, but afterwards they went all to pieces. Houston, who was seldom in his place, was dead off-colour, and was more often on the wings than in the centre. The right wing got few chances till after the cross-over, but still they did not come up to expectations. Forster was very slow in getting on to the ball often letting nice passes go into touch in this way. P. Daly was a trier, but was hardly sharp enough for his nimble opponents. My advice to the Park is to go in more strictly for training, as they can hardly hope to hold their own with opponents like the United unless they do.

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ANOTHER WIN FOR CONSETT UNITED.

Consett United are going very strongly in the Consett Junior League, and on their present form they will take a lot of beating. In fact, they seem to possess an excellent chance of securing championship honours. They had as opponents at home on Saturday Leadgate Park Juniors, who were sadly handicapped, inasmuch as two of their players failed to turn up, so that they had only nine men. Taking advantage of this the United rubbed it in thick, defeating the Juniors by five goals to one. Had the visitors been at full strength the game would undoubtedly have been much more even. For the winners Dodds proved to be an able goalkeeper, whilst Wilkinson and Jones were all there at back. Connor was the pick of the halves, his kicking and tackling being good. The forwards played a splendid game. Murphy in the centre put in some fine work, whilst McCone and Page make a grand wing, their passing being admirable, and Bridgewater and Johnson completed an excellent line. For Leadgate Lochrane in goal had not much chance with the shots that passed him. Overall was the best of the backs, whilst all the halves worked hard. Davison was perhaps the most prominent of the forwards. The United have already chalked up 10 goals in the competition, and this is not so bad to be going on with.

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TANTOBIE START WELL.

The "Co-ops." have been fortunate in securing the services of several new men of note, and they have got such a team together as will take a great deal of beating. They received a visit from the Celts Reserve of Annfield Plain on Saturday, but the visitors scarcely ever had a look in, and were badly beaten by five goals to nothing. Tantobie had the wind and sun to aid them in the first half, and put on three goals. The Celts thought they would do better after the change of ends, but they were mistaken, as the "Co-ops." kept up the pressure, and playing in capital form put on another couple of goals without allowing the Plain a single point. The home men think that they should have had another goal, but the referee ruled Atkinson off-side, although many of the spectators thought it was the best goal of the day. The Tantobie halves—Middleton, McKever, and Bell—played a splendid game, McKever using his head to good effect. At back I. and W. Adamson were a treat, whilst Lishman in goal performed grandly. The forwards were very smart and shot well, and if the team can keep up the form they displayed on Saturday they will have something to say concerning the championship. My good friend, William Hodgson, thinks that his boys can just manage to do the trick. Well, no one will begrudge them their success if they do.

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BIRTLEY MAKE A POOR SHOW.

The game at Birtley on Saturday was very disappointing, the homesters only making a poor show. The game was very one-sided, being nearly all in favour of Hebburn, up to the last few minutes when Birtley picked up a bit. However, they were too long in starting to exert themselves, and the result was that they were deservedly beaten. The only players on the Birtley side who were "triers" were Danskin, Dover, and Doyle. Dixon seemed to be out of his place at inside-left, and was off-colour. Combination among the Birtley players was conspicuous by its absence, while among the visitors the combination was brilliant. The Hebburn men all played well, but if anyone shone above his fellow-players it was Walker, the centre half, who played a magnificent game.

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A DRAWN GAME AT CONSETT.

The Swifts' Reserve entertained Leadgate Park Reserve at Consett on Saturday last, in the Derwent Valley League. This is the Swifts first season in the league, and their opening game. Last season the Park Reserve were joint holders of the league cup, along with Byer Moor. The Swifts were at full strength, and had a new player named Dodds, late of Brandling, at inside right, who acquitted himself very well for a start. The Park were without Wattie Walton and Ralph Dawson, whose places were taken by Harper and Todd. The game was evenly contested, although the Swifts had slightly the best of the play. I expected the Park Reserve would have won easily, but they will have to improve if they wish to retain the championship of the league. But perhaps they have not got into their stride yet, as when they do they will be a hard nut to crack, as they have several capable players amongst them. A strange feature of the game was the number of corners obtained by each side, but that they failed to improve any of these. Of course the wind hampered the players considerably often. Both Wood and Boyle missed capital chances of scoring for Consett, the latter especially. He appeared to be too eager when in front of goal, as his play in the open was first-rate. Hughes also missed a nice opening on one occasion for Leadgate.

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There were very few spectators at the match; most football enthusiasts would probably be at Leadgate, seeing the Park and Newcastle United A match. The result of the game was a draw of one each, which will probably satisfy both teams, as there was nothing startling forthcoming from either side. The match was quite free from what we may call "individual contests," as none of the players made exciting runs worth talking about. Sheeky in goal was a treat, and had no chance whatever with the shot which escaped his vigilance. The first team should not hesitate in giving him a trial as soon as possible. Of the three who played at full-back, Wilson was perhaps the best, tackling and kicking well, while Wood ran him very close. Ellwood made one or two nice clearances, but is a poor tackler. Marshall played a poor game at centre half, McNally was the pick of this division. Coleman shaped very well in his new position at left half-back, and is a useful player. Boyle at outside left was the best forward on the field, and scored the goal for Consett. He is very tricky, and should make a good reserve player for the first team. Page played very fairly at centre forward, but was rather inclined to wander from his position. Dodds, the new player at inside right, seems to play with judgment, as he gave his partner (McAleer) numerous chances, which the latter failed to take. Dodds would have made a better impression if he had stuck more to the ball, but doubtless he would be rather shy.

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On the Park side Crowther was the pick of the forwards, and got in some nice overhead kicks. He was closely followed by Robinson and Harper, although the latter only played moderately. Hughes and Milburn on the right combined well, but George seems to have lost his old form. Hughes should develope into a good forward. Birtley was the pick of the halves, and always plays a safe game. Todd and Cartmell also played a smart game. Temple was the best back, kicking and tackling in fine style. Aitkin seemed rather inclined to take things too easy on one or two occasions, and made one or two miskicks. Calvert in goal had not half the work of Sheeky to do, and rather misjudged the goal scored against him. He made one or two good saves. Mr. Hodgson, of Tantobie, made a good referee, and kept the teams well in order.

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MEMS.

The Park did not expect to get beaten by three goals on Saturday.

And they were unlucky to lose by such a wide margin.

They think that if that first goal had been allowed there would have been a different result.

And very probably there would.

Rarely have I seen the Park halves play such a fine game.

Tommy Wilson keeps it up wonderfully for a veteran.

He is a rare sticker in.

Cartmell gave a much improved display.

And played very determinedly.

Bowes laid himself out to watch Harvie, and he completely bottled up the little man.

The forwards played a ragged game.

Houston wants to keep his place more.

And not go roaming all over the field.

The best men on the United side were Watts, Birnie, Proctor, and Milne.

I hear that the Park are offering four prizes (two for each team) for the best attenders at training practices.

This is a capital idea, and should cause keen competition.

As well as improving the teams.

Geo. Lock's application for re-instatement has been deferred for 12 months.

This is very hard lines on the old Parkite.

If ever there was a genuine application this was one.

But the ways of the English Association, like those of the heathen Chinee, are difficult to understand.

The "gate" at Leadgate on Saturday amounted to just over £14.

It was a graceful act on the part of Mr. and Mrs. Atherley-Jones to favour the game with their presence.

The were present at the commencement and stopped till the finish.

The crowd gave them three cheers as they drove off.

The Tantobie Co-ops, have got a rare team together.

Lishman (late of Dipton) is a splendid custodian.

Then the two Adamsons (of Lintzford) make a good pair of backs.

The halves are likewise strong.

Taking them altogether the Co-ops, should not be far off the top of the league when the final positions come to be made up.

They easily accounted for the Celts' Reserve on Saturday.

The present team is probably the strongest Tantobie have ever possessed.

And they have made up their minds to do their utmost to win the championship of the D.V.L.

I wish them luck.

It is about their turn now.

Stanley Wednesday opened their season last week with a league game at North Shields.

And did a little bit better than the first team by playing a draw.

Stanley were not strongly represented.

They are curiously situated, having only just a team.

Stanley should, of course, show up better than this after topping their division of the league last season.

Atkinson, Armstrong, and Bell (all old Tantobie Co-ops.) played admirably.

Mat Bell (the captain) had the honour of scoring the first goal of the season.

And a right good one it was.

Stanley did creditably to bring away a point.

Consett United are playing finely in the Consett Junior League.

They will take some stopping for premier honours.

McCone and Page make a splendid wing.

Their passing is a treat, and their shooting deadly.

Murphy is a promising centre forward.

The United are strong both fore and aft.

The Park will be without Bowes at Middlesbrough on Saturday.

As Jim has been selected to play for Durham in the benefit match for the Northern Alliance.

He will be greatly missed on Teeside.

Geo. Temple (the reserve captain) will take his place.

A team that expects to have a successful season is Leadgate Wednesday.

They have secured some new players of note.

Including Kennedy (who at one time played for Birtley), Tolson (Stanley), Davies (Dipton), and Lowes (Sedgefield.)

These, with the pick of the old hands, should make a rare team.

In fact, Secretary Kinleside informs me that they expect to top the second division of the league.

That hard-working forward, Fred Lockey, will captain the team.

With Tom Greener as his deputy.

The boys have been training steadily, and are in good trim.

I notice that Secretary Kinleside has gone in for supplying all kinds of football requisites.

He can fit out clubs on very reasonable terms.

Consett Swifts have two or three good reserve men.

Sheeky shapes well in goal.

Whilst Boyle should turn out a capital forward.

The Swifts played a draw at Bearpark on Saturday.

Birtley made a very poor show on Saturday.

Their play was execrable.

While Hebburn's play was just the opposite.

Jimmy Howe, late of Stanley, was playing for Argyle.

And scored a goal.

Next week Birtley go to Jarrow.

And if they don't improve—

Well, they'll be smothered.

A fast game was witnessed at Shotley Spa grounds on Saturday.

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's and Tanfield Lea Cæsars being the opposing teams.

The Cæsars pulling through by two goals to one.

Carr in goal for the visitors was a marvel.

Whilst his backs, Shield and Green, played a sterling game.

No fault could be found with the halves and forwards, who tackled and shot well.

Smith, the Cæsars new recruit from Stanley, scored a fine goal from a grand centre from Gardner.

Robson and Carr were the best of the home forwards.

Jackson being the pick of the halves.

And the defence of the backs and Johnson in goal could not be found fault with.

Johnson had no chance with the two shots that passed him.

The Cæsars supporters were jubilant over their team's success.

And well they might, for to take two points out of the Saints on their own ground is no mean feat.

Keep it up Cæsars, and at the end of the season you will find yourselves in a good position in the D.V.L.

I wish you success.

MATCHES WANTED

High Hold United are in want of matches; ages, 13 to 15.—Apply, M. Cook, High Hold, Chester-le-Street.

Allendale Lilywhites have all dates vacant; ages, 12 to 14.—Apply, T. Walton, 112, Allendale Cottages, Medomsley.

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's Reserve have several vacant dates; ages, 13 to 19.—Apply, T. Raw, Bessemer Street, Blackhill.

West Pelton United are in want of dates with good teams, ages 15 to 16; all dates vacant.—J. Davidson, secretary, 12, Grange Villa, near Chester-le-Street, Durham.

Secretaries of clubs are requested to note change of Burnhope Rovers' secretary's address—R. Wallace, 40, Westwood Row, Burnhope.

Consett Athletic have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up at once; average age, [illegible]—Apply, G. Oliver, 3, Steel Street, Consett.

Hobson Rovers have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up at once; ages, 10 to 13.—Apply, J. W. Maddison, 15, Mason's Terrace, Hobson, Burnopfield, R.S.O.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

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

THE ATTENDANCE QUESTION.

The Clerk reported that he had ascertained that the newly-formed sub-committee for Consett of the Lanchester School Attendance Committee had not yet met. The previous day he had had an interview with Mr. Gibson, who would let him know when the sub-committee met. They had a conversation about the attendance at Blackhill, and he learnt that Mr. Gibson and their own officer were working together with a view to improving the attendance in their respective areas.

FINANCE.

Cheques were ordered to be signed for sums amounting to £144 9s 6d.

SHOTLEY GROVE SCHOOL.

A communication was read from the Education Department stating that they had not yet received the architect's certificate for the above school, and until they did so it could not be placed on the Parliamentary list of schools entitled to grant.

The Clerk said he had written the architect several times respecting the certificate, and the latter had promised to send it.

Mr. Sloane asked if they would be deprived of the grant?

The Chairman answered in the negative.

Mr. Ramsay: Did the architect undertake to sign the certificate?

The Clerk: Yes. He promised to examine the place and sign it.

The Chairman said it was a simple matter, and would not take long.

The matter was left in the hands of Mr. Barclay.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The officer's report was read, showing an average attendance of 86 per cent. for the month. Your committee note that the attendance has very considerably increased since the adoption of the absentee note by the teachers, as the returns for our schools show the average for the past two weeks to have risen to 90 per cent. Your committee recommend that the articles required by Miss Henderson be sanctioned. Your committee interviewed the head teachers on the matter of returns of pupil teachers' examination. The application of the attendance officer, dated 11th July, was considered, and the committee recommend that his salary be increased by £5, dating from September 1st, and that a further grant of £5 be given at the end of school year, 1900, subject to the average attendance of the schools being maintained at 90 per cent.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S SALARY.

Mr. Sloane asked if the proposed increase of salary was an incentive to the attendance officer to work harder?

Mr. Ramsay: You have the committee's recommendations before you, and it is for the Board to consider.

Mr. Dowson understood that the schools were kept in much better order than was previously the case.

The Chairman: That is so.

Mr. Jenkins said it was often difficult to keep up the attendance, owing to illness and other courses. He pointed out that their officer was getting four shillings less than the previous officer, and he was doing his work most satisfactorily.

Mr. Sloane moved the adoption of the report.

This was seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously; after which the Board rose.

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FOOTBALL "SPECIALS."

PLAYERS I HAVE MET.

By A. ROSTON BOURKE,
(HON. SEC., THE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION, AND HON. MATCH SEC., LONDON FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION).

Among the various fascinations which lure one to take unto himself the responsibilities of controlling the destinies of twenty-two players, and adding to the amusement of thousands of spectators, I know of none greater than the pleasant and varied recollections of players that are met. To me it is always a refreshing and invigorating pleasure to see two elevens take the field to play a game of football. I am not one of those who would have you believe that the player cares nothing for the crowd, whether it be great or small, or whether there be no spectators at all. On the contrary, so thoroughly has the game become the people's game, that I am confident, that next to the keen enjoyment of the actual game, there is nothing that gives greater pleasure to the players than the knowledge that they are affording genuine amusement and winning the praises of their fellows. It has been urged that as cricket is not dependent (except in county games) upon the support of spectators, and that as many thousands participate in the game simply and purely for the game's sake, that the influence of cricket for good is greater than that of its sister game, football. But when one has the knowledge of the different conditions under which the two games are played, and is conscious of the greater difficulties that thousands go through simply to get a game of football, one is inclined to the opinion that Association Football, as a help to manliness, has a greater influence than even cricket. That so many of our junior players should cheerfully band themselves together, playing anywhere and everywhere, and in any weather, is so thoroughly characteristic of the race. If it is a pleasure to think of players of this type, then it is even more so to have been identified upon the playing field with the greater or better known exponents of the game. I am afraid that we often expect too much from great players, and forget that they are but human. What makes a great player? The ability to do the right thing at the right moment. How often a man who is brim full of cleverness and skill, is sadly disappointing to his side, because at the critical moment he seems unable to do anything right. What is it that has brought Calvey to the front. Dash, skill, and beautiful finishing ability. For two seasons I have looked upon J. Calvey, late of Millwall, but now of Notts Forest, as one of the very best forwards in the country. I am confident that Notts Forest never had a more likely recruit, and am of opinion that it is only a matter of time and health before Calvey, one of the deadliest of shots and fairest of players, has the honour to play in international matches. I am afraid that among our great professional teams there is not enough dash. Plenty of skill, fascinating passing, but a lack of dash, or in other words ability to go through the defence. How often do the Corinthians beat a team of admittedly greater skill to play the close-passing game, by their combination of passing dash. It is, of course, not every team that possesses a G. O. Smith, who is probably still the greatest of centre forwards. To see "G. O." off the field one wonders where it all comes from. He looks so quiet and innocent, but when upon the field, what a change! Quick, agile, full of penetration, he always seems to know what his opponent is going to do. Then, again, his passing is so beautifully accurate, not only in front of goal (where one is sometimes inclined to think that he overdoes it), but swift and accurate to his wing men. To see G. O. Smith work his way through his opponents at close quarters reminds one of an acrobat getting out of a rope that has been tied round his body. I have always been struck with a player whose methods remind me of G. O. Smith, and that is Farrell, the centre forward, who played for Southampton for a year or two and returned to Stoke last season. Farrell, two seasons ago, did more than any other player to bring Southampton to the front, and if he retains his form, Southampton are to be congratulated in having again secured his services.

ANOTHER OF OUR GREAT FORWARDS

is Bloomer, of Derby County. I never think of Bloomer without feeling sorry for him. Undoubtedly a great player, clever, dashing, and cunning, but with an unfortunate habit of not doing himself justice in his greatest game. Take the last two finals at the Crystal Palace. If there was a man who could have won the games for his side it was Bloomer, but to those who saw the games and know what Bloomer can do at his best, it must have been obvious that over-anxiety, or too great a responsibility, spoilt his play. To Derby County I should say Bloomer is as great a necessity as G. O. Smith is to the Corinthians and England. A fine player, and it would not at all surprise me to see him at the Crystal Palace on next Final Day. If one wanted the very type of a player who never seems to fail, who plays his greatest game when everything seems against his side, who strikes terror into all his opponents, then I would refer to that gem of a player, Ernest Needham, of Sheffield United. Truly an ideal player. I have often looked at Needham, and wondered what there was in the way of football he could not do, and have not been able to satisfy myself. Here, there, and everywhere, but always in his place, he seems to know intuitively what wing is in distress and in need of his support; and in ability for robbing the ball from the foot of his opponent, I don't think that he has an equal. Truly a fine man to watch. Then, again, I should like to speak of his methods. I am not conscious of having seen or even heard of Needham stooping to "dirty play." I do not believe that referees would have half the trouble with rough and dirty play if only the directors and committees would take the matter in hand and deal with their players. Personally I am often suspicious of a team that continually indulges in rough and dirty play. If any body can stop this, it is the management. I am sometimes inclined to ask myself why don't they? It is a noteworthy fact that the South of England has always been rich in goal-keepers. Take Moon, Gay, and Campbell of the Corinthians, Earle of Clapton, and Waller of Richmond, all great men and worthy of the highest honours; still there has come amongst us one, I think, greater. I refer to Robinson of Southampton and International fame. When Robinson first came South not a few were a little disappointed with him. Personally, I think he, like many other professors when they first migrate South, somewhat underrated the game, and was inclined to treat matters too lightly. When Robinson, however, woke up, Southerners soon saw him to be the man others knew him to be. Robinson in goal is a grand all-round man. He saves high and low. He clears in almost every conceivable position, and is possessed of that coolness without which a good goal-keeper is often disappointing. A man of Robinson's stamp in goal means so much to his side. He inspires confidence. How often men are taken off their play by worrying about those behind, when in reality their whole attention should be fixed in a forward direction. Robinson clears, and that is, after all, everything. He is not content with simply stopping, but he clears his opponents, and, as a rule, feeds one of his side. Always a glutton for work, and a finished workman, such men as Robinson do much to popularise the game.

Those who had the opportunity of

WATCHING C. B. FRY PLAY

full back, I think will agree that they had never seen this fine athlete play a better game. Fry always seems to be learning some new move. He is very fast, very powerful, and full of courage. A very good tackler. It is said that he is too reckless. If he were a slow player one could understand this, but how often do we see Fry run across to the opposite wing, and successfully tackle and rob his man. What a similarity there is between Fry and Williams of West Bromwich. Both dashing, fearless players. Probably Williams is slightly the better man, because of his longer experience in League and competitive football.

Crabtree, of Aston Villa, needs quite a special notice. First one is impressed with the beautiful build of the man, and amazed at his ability to adapt himself to any position. As half-back I think he excels, though as full back he inspires great confidence. He never seems to tire, and his tackling, as many know, is great. I consider G. O. Smith, E. Needham, and Crabtree to be the three greatest players in Association football.

Another player that it is always delightful to watch is the great and only Bassett. I do not consider that in his position England has had a finer player. His ability to centre when at full speed, and from the very corner of play, is perhaps one of his greatest points, and I should think many and many a game has been won by the single-handed efforts of Bassett. Apart from this, Bassett is a fine fellow, and quite a model of what a sportsman should be. It is quite a sign of the times to find footballers playing cricket with great success. Take Devey and Wheldon of the Villa. Both fine footballers and cricketers. I often think that Devey, as a footballer, has been underrated. He is one of the finest workers and generals that any team ever had. He passes beautifully, and his advice upon the field of play is always marked with grand judgment. He has a very clever way of keeping a man off when making an opening, and is a good shot.

Wheldon last year hardly seemed the Wheldon of old, but there can be no doubt that this fine dribbler and grand shot will soon recover all his form. Just at present England seems to be short of fast and good outside men. Spikesley and Athersmith are probably two of the best professional men, with Vassal and Corbett amongst the amateurs. Everyone who saw Vassal at the trial match will agree that he gave a grand display, in fact, good enough for anything, but it should not be lost sight of that most of his openings and passes were made for him by Calvey. If only Vassal could devote more time to the game he would, I am sure, carry all before him. Two of the most likely players amongst the Corinthians are L. J. Moon and H. Vickers, who, in their respective positions of forward and half-back, give promise of great things.

I feel I cannot conclude the present article without referring to that great player, W. J. Oakley.

True, Oakley did not earn International honours last year, but that was owing to being a little off colour at the beginning of the season. Later on Oakley was himself again and in the opinion of many quite the best back in England. Cool, swift, and a grand man at close quarters.

One meets so many genuine good all-round sportsmen in the football field that the occasional bad-tempered individual is soon readily forgotten. There seems such a good understanding all round. The government of the game is more in touch with all sections. Never was the game more popular.

NOTES ON BUTTERFLIES.

The great injury done to the vegetables of our garden, those of the cabbage kind, during the last two or three months can scarcely have failed to have arrested the attention of even the most cursory observer. It is likely, however, that beyond the mere fact of noticing the destruction, most people have not given much thought to the life, history, and habits of the creatures which have so quietly and surely worked such ruin. With a view, in some measure, to encourage amongst our members the habit of observation and closer study of the various changes through which butterflies pass from egg to imago, and to pointing out some of the vicissitudes of the creatures in their struggle for existence, I propose to indicate some of the leading features which characterise butterflies, and to call attention in particular to two species with which everybody is familiar. The lepidoptera are divided into two great parts which are popularly known as butterflies and moths. The word lepidoptera is made up from two Greek words, the one meaning a scale and the other a wing, and is given to those insects on account of their wings being covered with scales on both upper and under-sides. These scales overlap each other in a similar way to the slates on a house. The popular notion of what distinguishes a butterfly from a moth is often erroneous. The tiger moth (actia caja) on account of its bright colours, being sometimes set down as a butterfly, and the meadow brown butterfly (hipparchia juira) owing to is sombre hue, is as often called a moth. It would, therefore, seem necessary to indicate two or three characteristic features of butterflies as separating them from moths. The chief point to be noticed in this respect is the antennæ, which in the rhopalocera or butterflies are always clubbed. Another and scarcely less marked feature is the contraction between the thorax and abdomen. The hinder wings, too, of butterflies are not capable of being folded. For popular purposes, and so far as British species are concerned, the above definition would be sufficient, but would not hold good in considering foreign lepidoptera, the representatives of our group having no single feature which is not possessed by some member of the other. The first stage in the existence of butterflies, like other insects, begins in the eggs which are deposited by the parent denizen of sunshine, with such marvellous instinct upon the plant which is to provide nourishment for their progeny. The unerring selection of the proper food plant is all the more remarkable, and almost inclines one to set it down to something higher than instinct, when we consider that the parent is not in any way guided by experience, its food being of an altogether different character from that in which it indulges during its larvae state. The food of butterflies is of course the nectarous juices of flowers of the plant upon which its larvae feed, is rather by accident than by rule. When a butterfly has succeeded in depositing her eggs in what in due time will prove to be an ample larder, she ceases to have any further care for their welfare, and the aim of her life seems to have been attained, as, after this, as a rule, her career is soon ended. The eggs of butterflies, as indeed, those of any other insect, present many features of a highly interesting character, and the pleasure evoked by the microscopic examination of the same would amply repay for the trouble involved. Even a simple pocket lens reveals to a wonderful extent the beautiful lines with which their outer surface is adorned. The period passed in the egg state depends much upon the climatic conditions prevailing at the time of their deposition. If they be deposited during the warm days of summer a few days may be sufficient to hatch them, whilst on the other hand if it be the autumn they generally remain in a dormant condition until the following spring. It will doubtless be supposed by many that the winter's frost and snow will destroy the vitality of any insects eggs which may be exposed. If this were so, intense frost, besides being a valuable agent in pulverising the land, would be a boon to the [illegible] that are the natural enemies of insects, are much reduced in number and the result is that when the spring time comes myriads of these are allowed to mature under milder climatic conditions. Spallanzani made extensive experiments with insect eggs with the object of ascertaining the point at which their vitality was affected by extremes of temperature. He relates that he enclosed the eggs of several insects, including those of the silkworm moth, and elm butterfly, in a glass vessel which he buried for five hours in a mixture of ice and rock salt, which reduced the thermometer six degrees below zero, and in the following spring caterpillars came from all the eggs. In the following year he subjected insect eggs to a still more severe temperature, equal to 22 degrees below zero, produced by ice and nitrate of ammonia; again without injury, as they all hatched in due time. The same authority found by experiment that the vitality of the silkworm moth was not entirely destroyed by a temperature of 144 degrees farenheit. The next, and not least interesting stage in the development of a butterfly is begun on its emerging from the envelope which has enclosed it for a period varying according to circumstances from a few days to a few months. In some experimental cases their appearance has been retarded by artificial means to the extent of three years. The approaching debut of the tiny creature may be known by the change of colour of the egg, which assumes a hue somewhat resembling that of the caterpillar. Having gnawed its way through the shell, which in many cases forms the first meal, it begins a period of existence which is marked by its voracious appetite. At this time the growth is very rapid and the consumption of food correspondingly extensive, being in twenty-four hours often double the weight of the larvae itself, and it is stated that in the course of a month the caterpillar increases nearly ten thousand times its original weight. Butterfly larvae as a rule have sixteen legs, six of these being true legs and which correspond with those of the perfect insect. The other ten are known as pro-legs and are of a somewhat sucker-like form, and which are provided with a series of fine hooked hairs around the margin which enable them the better to cling to the plants on which they feed. These pro-legs only exist in the larvoal state. The creature is provided with a pair of powerful jaws which are opened and shut from side to side, and in this respect are different to the higher animals whose jaws move up and down. This side movement is well suited to the caterpillar's mode of eating on the edge of the leaf, a process of the highest interest, and which must be seen to be fully appreciated. The caterpillar soon out-grows its clothes, and for a short time before its change of garments it may be noticed to move about in a seemingly listless and sleepy way. As soon, however, as it has, after much wriggling and twisting, succeeded in parting with the old rags, which in many cases serve as the next meal, the creature sets to work with apparently increased vigour as if to make up for lost time. This process of "moulting" as it is sometimes called, is repeated in different species from three to six times. By this time it is what is called full fed, and, if it has escaped the attention of the ichneumon fly will assume the chrysalis state. The probability is, however, that this deadly enemy will have effectually done its work, and the chance of perfection is past. In the case of the large white butterfly (pieris brassicæ) which is a most destructive species, the ichneumon fly (microgaster glomeralus) plays a most important part in holding it in check. In support of this I may say that it has been my pleasant satisfaction on several occasions to have a large number of the larvae of pieris brassica under my observation in boxes with the object of ascertaining the proportion which were able to assume the chrysalis state. To do this correctly it was necessary to procure the caterpillars just on the point of being fully fed. The result of my inquiry invariably proved that not more than ten per cent were able to take the chrysalis state owing to the number of ichneumons with which they are tenanted. I have, indeed, often counted more than forty of the pupae of the ichneumon as having come out of one caterpillar, and have frequently had the pleasure of observing the interesting process of their coming out and spinning their little silken cocoons in such numbers that their recent habitation was almost covered. A curious fact in connection with these parasites is that they subsist on the living body of the caterpillar and by some mysterious guiding principle avoid the vital parts. Most people will have noticed during the months of August and September, the full grown caterpillars crawling up walls, &c. Their object is to find a suitable place in which to change to the winged stage. Others may be noticed about door posts and in the crevices of walls, &c., with the little cocoons of the ichneumon almost completely surrounding them. After passing through the period of activity outlined in the foregoing, which seems to have been devoted entirely to nutrition, or to the building up of a store of strength sufficient to sustain the creature whilst the adult functions are being carried out, a state of rest seems to be entered upon. This state is known to etomologists as the chrysalis, pupa, or nymph. "Pupa" is a Latin word and means a creature swaithed or tied up, and is applicable to this state of all insects whose parts are really more or less bound up. The word chrysalis, which is applied only to butterflies is from the Greek, and meaning gold in reference to the gilded pupa cases of some species. In due time this last investment is rent and the perfect butterfly emerges, and, after a short time, when the wings have attained their normal form by exposure to the air, seems to revel in the sunshine, and its energies are now chiefly directed to reproduction. Reference was made at the beginning of this paper to the great destruction of vegetables during the present season. I may say that as a rule in previous years it has been my experience to find most of the damage to cruciferous plants to be the work of the larvae of the large white butterfly (pieris brassicæ). The depredations of this species are bad enough when it attacks only the outer leaves. But the larvae of its relative, the small white (pieris rapæ), bored right into the heart of the cabbage, and is thus more destructive. This latter species is the chief delinquent of the present season. It may be stated that sixty-five British species of butterflies are known, so that there is ample scope for our members to exercise their faculties of observation. Much is known of the history and development of butterflies, but still much remains enshrouded in mystery which industrious research may succeed in fathoming. If the faint outline of this interesting subject, which I have attempted to [draw], should in any degree have awakened a desire to pursue the subject further I shall be satisfied that my labour has not been misspent.

W. JOHNSON.

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PLAIN

Liberal Campaign in North-West Durham.

Mr. L. A. Atherley-Jones, Q.C., M.P., in the Constituency.

Meeting at Stanley.

On Thursday evening the honoured member for the North-West Durham Parliamentary Division, Mr. L. A. Atherley-Jones, Q.C., M.P., began the autumn campaign by addressing his constituents in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley. Owing to various counter-attractions, the audience was not so large as it would otherwise have been, but still the gathering was a fairly representative one. The chair was occupied by Mr. Jonathan Green, J.P., of Stanley, who was supported on the platform by Mr. J. W. Winter, Liberal Agent, Leadgate; Messrs T. W. W. Ritson, M. G. Armstrong, W. Indian, John Burt, Mrs. Atherley-Jones, Mrs. R. G. Barclay, and Miss Hoare (Birmingham.)

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, said the first part of the programme was an address from the Chairman, but they must forego that as he had not been very well. They were pleased to have their member amongst them once more. (Applause.) Mr. Jones would address them upon the question of the day, the question of the Transvaal. Their opinions would doubtless be divided upon that question, but he could guarantee one thing to Mr. Jones, and that was, that whether they agreed or disagreed with him, they would listen patiently to what he had to say. One thing was absolutely certain, that if they went to war with the Boers it would not be so easy a matter to accomplish as people thought. There would be many lives lost, and much bloodshtd, and it would not be the citizens of South Africa who would have to pay for it, but the Englishmen would have to pay the piper. It was not a question they could afford to pass lightly over. He would call upon Mr. Jones to address the meeting. (Applause.)

A REVIEW: THE "LITTLE ENGLANDER."

Mr. Jones, who on rising was received most heartily, said he was very glad once more to see his old and new friends at Stanley face to face. (Hear, hear.) He had intended to have commenced his political campaign for the autumn at Stanley, which he believed was the second or perhaps the first town in North-West Durham, by dealing with politics generally, or, in other words, giving, or attempting to give, a review of the political situation at large, because there were many things which a Radical member of Parliament would have to say upon the policy of the present Government, and upon the future policy of the Liberal Party; but, in obedience to the suggestion of his good friend Mr. Winter, and in further obedience to the command of the Chairman, he proposed to deal somewhat reluctantly with the momentous question of the close of the nineteenth century. He could not say whether the discussion of the affairs of the South African Republic would be a very delectable dish for their political banquet that night, but he was sure he could count upon their patience and sympathy while he dealt to the best of his ability with a subject which involved a considerable amount of complexity, which was full of details, and upon which, as Mr. Green had indicated, there was considerable diversity of opinion, and he hoped those gentlemen present who might differ from him in the jingo sentiment to which he was going to give utterance, they would give him that patient and courteous consideration which had always been characteristic of a Stanley audience. (Applause.) He dared say that some of them had heard a great deal lately upon what was termed "Little Englanders." He did not know whether there were any "Little Englanders" present that evening. They had also heard a great deal about another class of men, "the Imperialists," who had chosen to apply the term "Little Englander" as a term of reproach and contempt to those who differed from them upon certain topics of our foreign policy. He would not attempt to define in dictionary language the meaning of "Little Englander." The most eminent statesmen had been ransacking for some time past their pre-eminent brains, in order to discover what was the true etymological or philosophical meaning of the words "Little Englander." He would not attempt to give a definition of it, but he could tell them at once that it did not hurt his feelings to be called a "Little Englander"—(hear, hear)—not in the slightest degree. He was the citizen of an island whose boast it was that it was a little island; he was a citizen of a country whose proud boast it was to be called "Little England," a speck upon the ocean whose waters were covered by its navy—(applause)—and if he was a citizen of a little England then he was a "Little Englander." (Renewed applause.) He was not more hurt by a person calling him a "Little Englander" than if they called him a biped. (Laughter.) He was a biped; he walked on two legs or had two feet, and felt no more offence in being described a "Little Englander" than in being called a biped. If he were a "Little Englander," and anyone were to say that as a term of reproach against him, he should be inclined to say to the person who objected to being regarded as a "Little Englander" that if he were a "Little Englander" he might not be a "Little Englander," but if he were not also a "Little Englander" he would not also be a biped, but a certain kind of quadruped, with which they were occasionally familiar. (Laughter.) That was the attitude with which he regarded the term of reproach in being described a "Little Englander." Was it not a curious thing, and did not the experience of the political history of this country bear it out, that when they were championing a cause distasteful to the party politically opposed to them, and when they were unable by arguments to demonstrate the injustice to which they were allied, they at once fell to calling names. He could remember as most of them could, the Reform agitation of 1866 and '67, and years previously and the Reform agitation which ushered in the great measure of enfranchisement in 1885, he could remember that in those days when there were no effective arguments to raise against the franchise, they were called rebels, subverters of the Constitution, enemies of their Queen and country. Those were the common terms applied to them and so when they sought to secure, and did ultimately secure, the disestablishment of the Irish Church, they were called incendiaries, they were said to be enemies of the protestant religion, and were endeavouring to overthrow the throne and the altar. They were not to be deterred from pursuing the course perceived to be right by the use of hard words. (Applause.) They would make that language, those words of contempt which were applied to them, terms of pride and honour to themselves, and so far from regarding "Little Englander" as a term of reproach, he accepted it as a term of compliment and praise. Although he was unable to give them what he termed a grammatical definition of what was meant by a "Little Englander," he thought he could, with their permission, give them a historical aspect of the use of the term which would satisfy them what was meant by "Little Englander" in the first place; and, secondly, what were the rights and wrongs of the controversy between the "Little Englander" and the "Imperialist." He might take as the Apostle, as the confessor of the term "Little Englander" his Right Hon. friend Mr. John Morley, and on the other hand he would take as the prophet and the confessor of the term "Imperialist" the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain. There was a time when Mr. Chamberlain was also a "Little Englander." (Hear, hear.) He had fallen away, not merely in respect of foreign policy, but in respect of domestic policy, from the faith to which he originally owed his allegiance (A voice: "Send him to America and keep him there") Mr. Jones: I should prefer to send him to President Kruger. (Hear, hear.) In a few words he would give that historical retrospect which would vindicate in his judgment the character of "Little Englander." Not long ago they had a dispute with the Government of a small South American Republic called Venezuela, over some few hundred or thousand acres of marshy land, which was alleged by the English Government to belong to British Guiana, and by the Venezuelan Government to belong to Venezuela. It was a dispute which was of a very anxious character, and at one time it appeared extremely likely that the Venezuelan Government and the Government of Queen Victoria would come to blows over it. John Morley said it was a pity to go to war with a little State—why did they not arbitrate? Mr. Chamberlain replied, "No; under no possible circumstance would they consent to arbitrate." Then stepped in the champions of the oppressed people—the United States, who said, "No, no; it is not fair. You should not domineer over this little State; you must go to arbitration, and if you don't go to arbitration you must be prepared to face the majesty and power of the United States Army on the side of the Venezuelan Government." Across the Atlantic came the sound of the anvils ringing in the American arsenals, and Mr. Chamberlain, the Imperialist, gave way, and adopted the policy of the "Little Englander." He arbitrated the question, or, rather, under the arbitration of distinguished jurists of this country and other countries. Which did they prefer in that illustration, the "Little Englander" or the "Imperialist?" (Hear, hear.) He would give them another illustration of the "Little Englander." He dared say they had heard of the Armenian question. They knew how Great Britain entered into a treaty to which Turkey was a party, whereby she bound herself to protect the principles of the race, the principles of the Christian people subject to Turkish rule, and they knew how in defiance of the promise by Turkey to maintain good, honest government in Armenia, that thousands of Christians, their fellow Christian men, women, and children were outraged, mutilated, and massacred by the soldiers of the Sultan of Turkey. They knew that the "Little Englander" then said that the power of England might be used for the purpose of maintaining Treaty obligations and liberating the oppressed people; something of the spirit that animated the Puritan Cromwell when he forbade the ruthless persecution of Christians animated the "Little Englanders" who were prepared to go to war in defence of our fellow Christians against the barbarous persecutions of the Turk. What did the Imperialist do? He folded his arms, and looked on and said, "No; it's too big a job for us to undertake; you must let the massacre go on and I will write a polite note to the Turk asking him not to massacre so much in the future." ("Shame.") Which did they prefer in that illustration, the "Little Englander" or the "Imperialist?" (Applause.) It was not many months since the people of the small island of Crete were struggling against the cruel and merciless oppression they had suffered at the hands of the Turks for generations. In the island of Crete human life and human property had no more protection than the lives of caterpillars had in their fields, and the "Little Englanders" said, "Is it not time that the majesty of England should be used for the purpose of preventing those continued massacres of Christians by Mussulman which were recurrent from century to century? And have you not courage enough to step in with your magnificent fleet, and once and for all put a stop to those barbarities and insist upon having a stable and proper system of government in that unhappy island?" The "Imperialist" said "No, we must wait on the Concert of Europe, and year after year rolled by, and month after month rolled by while the Concert of Europe was playing its diminuendo tune, until at the last moment a British Admiral, a "Little Englander," stepped in, and without orders told the Turks if they continued to perpetrate those barbarities upon the inhabitants, the British Fleet would be turned upon them. (Hear, hear.) He asked them in that instance which did they prefer, the "Little Englander" or the "Imperialist?" (Applause.) He could go on multiplying instances. They had had the line of action explained of the "Little Englander" and the "Imperialist" in the recent Soudan operations. They, the "Little Englanders," did not favour the expenditure of British money, and the loss of British lives in the attempt to reclaim from the Dervishes a great tract of desert land or squalid morass land which, under no possible circumstances, could be at any time of any commercial value to this country. They protested against the waste of British money and British lives, and when Lord Kitchener was sent out, and when the expedition, magnificently equipped as it was, was able to grind out with its Maxim guns death to 15 or 20 thousand Soudanese, the "Little Englander" did not give his approval. That victory over the Dervishes was secured at the sacrifice of human life, and at the price of immeasurable sorrow, to which he could not, and would not, set as a counterpoise the development of British trade in the Soudan. But it was also purchased at the risk, the very serious risk of war with our great neighbouring ally, and it had left memories, bitter memories, which might rise up against them when opportunity offered, and commit them to a war as terrible, as disastrous as any war in which the power of this country had been engaged. That was a review in few words, he hoped, of the historical aspect of the "Imperialist," and he asked them again if the word "Little Englander," was a word of contempt or a word of honour and self-respect? (Applause.) He had said that it was usual where argument was wanting to resort to abuse. In his profession they knew it. (Laughter.) It had been characteristic not only of Great Britain, but of all nationalities and all times.

THE TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

The forefathers of the Dutch Transvaal who were now termed the Boers rose in rebellion against the oppression of the King of Spain. They were poor, humble people; they were hewers of wood and drawers of water, and the proud aristocracy of Spain, the gilded lords and ladies, called them the rabble. That term, the rabble, was accepted by the heroic men who founded the Dutch Republic. It was accepted as a term of honour and pride, and in that name they smote the gilded power of Spain. He accepted the term "Little Englander" because he knew that "Little Englander" meant a patriot, and that the term "Imperialist" meant what—it meant the genius of the "Bombastuoso Furioso," the species a Birmingham type. (Laughter.) Those words he had made had been by way of explanation of the attitude which he would take up that night, and to prepare them for the fatal moment in which he would ally himself with Mr. John Morley—hear, hear)—and he asked them to bear with him as he attempted only too feebly to give them some kind of sketch, some kind of historical glimpse, of the history of the Boers in the Transvaal. They must remember that the Dutch population of South Africa far exceeded the British population, and they would remember that a portion of South Africa, which was then almost entirely inhabited by Dutchmen, was conquered by Great Britain, and Natal and Cape Town became a British possession. They would remember how the Boers or the Dutch inhabitants would not brook British rule. They did not like to submit to terms which were got out of them by those who were responsible for the British Government at that time. Our Colonial system of government was not as perfected then as it is now, and accordingly in 1834 and 1836 large numbers of the Dutch, with their wives and children, and amongst the children was President Kruger, then only ten years of age, went out into the wilderness. They wandered in search of a new country; they left the comparatively fertile country of the Cape with its pleasant streams and its contiguity to the ocean, and through the wide velt they crossed the River Vaal and endured the most horrible cruelties and barbarities; probably 50 per cent. of them were massacred by the natives, while the scanty remnant found their Canaan in a wide, arid portion of the velt now called the Transvaal, and there they set up a little republic and felt they were able to govern themselves. They set up in 1834 the little Republic of the Transvaal. They lived on in the greatest insecurity; they were constantly subjected to invasion by the neighbouring native race, and no Boer went to bed without having his loaded revolver hanging by his side. In the year 1852, with some reluctance the British Government was induced by what was known as the Sands River Convention to recognise as an independent state, as an independent republic, the Transvaal, and small reason the British had to grudge them it. There they lived in their little land by themselves, far removed from any town, living on the chase and sheep farming. Then they were sorely harassed by the native races, and the British Government in 1877 saw they were sorely harassed, and they went in and asserted once more the supremacy of Great Britain, and set up the flag of Great Britain against the will of the Boer people. They did not take up arms to expel the British, but went humbly and respectfully to represent to Her Majesty that the Boer people wished to be left to the enjoyment of their independence. In the market place of their town, after three years, they proclaimed the fact of the existence of the Transvaal Republic, and the men who went there to proclaim the existence were shot down by the orders of the British officer. Then from every farmhouse the burghers gathered together, carrying their rifles to fight not against Great Britain, not against the English people, but in defence of their hearths and their homes, and in defence of the liberty dear to every dutchman as it is to every Englishman. (Applause.) And then there took place that catastrophe which they all deplored, but so many of them misunderstood, the catastrophe of Majuba Hill, and the British soldiers going out to destroy the liberties of the Boers, the brave British soldiers fighting not for conscience nor the traditions dear to Englishmen, but to obey orders as they should do, were shot down by those national militia fighting for the maintenance of their country's liberty. Then they sent out Sir Evelyn Wood with an army, and the Boers lay at their mercy. The British had a great statesman, the grass now grows green over his grave, who saw that the Boers were a nation struggling to be free—and if they were struggling to be free they were worthy to be free—and he said, "I will not crush you, but I will give you your liberties; you shall enjoy your liberties," and in the year 1884 he told the British soldiers to withdraw, and the Boer Republic to their eternal credit in despite of calumnies, he once more set up with its 20 thousand burghers. That was the disaster of Majuba Hill, and that was the reproach cast at the Liberals by their enemies, but if they ransacked the pages of history they would find no more noble deed written therein than the full description of the magnanimous act of the British Empire in favour of the little insignificant republic of South Africa. They were "Little Englanders" when they did that, and so was Mr. Chamberlain. (Applause.) He was a party to it, and so was the Duke of Devonshire—(hear, hear.)—and Mr. Chamberlain the other day on referring to it justified it and described it as the magnanimous act of a great nation. (Hear, hear.) All went well with the Transvaal after that for a few years, and then fortunately or unfortunately, just as they pleased to look at it, there was discovered gold in the Transvaal. There they were 20 thousand Boers with their families inhabiting the wide stretch of barren and comparatively unproductive country when suddenly the news flashed to all quarters of the world that there had been discovered reefs of rich gold, and then from all quarters of the world there flocked into the country the capitalist, and the prospector of companies, one day with his elbows out, one day a Lazarus and the next a Barnato. Those men flocked from all quarters of the globe, the refuse of Europe, until Johannesburg became the seaside of the world. What then? Almost contemporaneously with the discovery of gold there arose into prominence the great exploiter of companies—they were not very remunerative companies and he (the speaker) hoped none of his audience had shares in them—Mr. Rhodes. That gentleman became the exploiter of armies and conceived the idea, after amassing a colossal fortune, of establishing a British South Africa, an idea he had since developed in a British Empire from the Cape to Cairo, and the little Transvaal Republic, that little insignificant republic, possessing those gold fields, became a Naboth's vineyard, he determined, aye in spite of all the chicanery and the deceit which had surrounded that transaction, he became the active instigator, the promoter of the attempt, the nefarious attempt—("shame")—to overthrow the little Transvaal Government which was then enjoying peace with England and the rest of the world. They knew that with the assistance of certain capitalists of Johannesburg, men who did not fight—they ran away—they induced poor simple-minded Dr. Jameson to invade the territory of the Transvaal. It was a significant fact that the people, the honest folk, for there were honest folk in Johannesburg, that the magnanimous—not cowards, they were men of Cornwall, and Cornishmen were never cowards, and Durham men, who were not cowards as far as he knew, although there might be some because they would have no part in fighting for the capitalists—were accused of being cowards, and Johannesburg was called "Judas Burgh" because the Cornishmen lived there. The effect upon the Transvaal to the conviction that so long as Mr. Rhodes was in power in South Africa, so long as his Chartered company was an active organisation, so long was there no security for the independence of the Transvaal, and it was not enough for them that they should receive consoling messages. They were entitled by international law, by the laws of every civilized country, to have been tried and executed by marshal law, everyone of those men who had invaded the country and taken the lives of the Boer burghers standing up for the protection of their country; but with a magnanimity rarely equalled in the history, the Boers handed over Captain Jameson and his fellow officers, and all the soldiers who took part in that raid, to be dealt with by the British Government. And how were they dealt with? They were sentenced as first-class misdemeanants, which was retirement from active life for a short time, and had in no way suffered for violating every principle of international law. Could they wonder that the people of the Transvaal looked with the greatest doubt, the greatest suspicion, upon that action of the British Government, and the action of those who were termed Uitlanders, to obtain a higher share of the government of the Transvaal, and that the aim of Messrs Rhodes and Company was not to obtain for the Uitlanders the franchise, but the overthrow of the Transvaal Republic and so make the Transvaal Republic an integral part of the British Empire. No reasonable, rational man could doubt that that was their supreme aim and object. They had failed in their warlike attempt. Mr. Chamberlain thought that the Uitlanders' grievances might be cured by giving them a limited form of Home Rule without interfering with what he called the imperial power of the Transvaal Government. What were the grievances of the Uitlanders? They were as follows: They (the Uitlanders) say, "We are Uitlanders, British subjects, foreigners, and we ought to have the franchise the same as the Boers." With regard to that he wished to say at once that he would be perfectly reasonable and fair, there was no doubt that the length of time the Boer Government enforced before a foreigner British, German, or French, which they required to be passed to enjoy the franchise was a very long time. But when they knew, as the Boers did, that these people were dangerous enemies, when they knew that those people desired the suffrage for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of the Transvaal, could they wonder that they were a little reluctant to enlarge the facilities for enabling those people to secure increased facilities for overthrowing their Government? Did not Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Alfred Milner recognise it when he first went out to confer with President Kruger? But when those remonstrances were addressed to President Kruger he said, "I will reduce the term of residence before a man can be naturalised and have a vote and voice," and he had reduced it. He was prepared to go as low as five years. In this country they did not give the franchise to a foreigner with their overpowering millions of Britishers until a man had been six years in this country, and if they who had no occasion to fear any political violation from the few Frenchmen, or Germans, or Russians who might come to this country, if the British regarded their franchise as so precious that they must protect it by a residence so long, and that of loyalty and letters of naturalisation, if they did that before allowing a man to record his vote in our polling-booths, how much more reasonable and natural for the Boers to protect their franchise? And would they go to war for that? It was a grievance which ought to be redressed, and was in course of being redressed and would be redressed, but he declared that the question of seven against five years was not a question upon which the issues of peace or war should be at stake. What was their other grievance? Those people raised one fifth of the gold output of the world. They enjoyed more favourable terms than any other country in the habitable globe. In respect to the gold they paid absolutely nothing to the State, a mere nominal tribute. In every country gold was either entirely claimed by the State or such a tax was placed upon it as amounted to one-half in the out-put of gold produced, and Mr. Rhodes, the leader of those men in his new province of Rhodesia, wherever he had granted license to take gold, wherever he had pricked out claims, he took one-half of the gold out-put. For every £100 in sterling gold from Mr. Rhodes' territory at Rhodesia, £50 of it went directly into the pocket of Mr. Rhodes' Company, the Chartered Company. The Transvaal Government, he did not think, on a hundred pounds of gold put on a tax amounting to 50/-. No exploiters of gold enjoyed such favourable terms as the exploiters of gold in the Transvaal, and the mines of the Transvaal paid a net dividend on the output of 25 per cent. last year, and yet those capitalists, those honest, straightforward, transparent minded capitalists, had the impudence to come and tell them about the fiscal and financial oppressions of the gold winners in the Transvaal. (Laughter and applause.) They complained of the cost of dynamite. They said they had to pay 80/- a case for it, and that the Boer Government had created a monopoly. But they did not create it in their own interests, they were desirous of enabling dynamite to be taken into that country to be manufactured there, and they got a Government factory; but they were simple-minded or they could have made much better terms and gave the monopoly to a trade company. The Boer Government only had 5/- a case on it. It was not the Boer Government who had the monopoly, but they entered into a contract which they could only break by giving compensation to the company. He shuddered to go into those details, but did they think that because dynamite was 80/- a ton instead of 50/- they should send out their boys to go and fight? Did they think they should give up one pipe of tobacco? No, he submitted to that meeting of reasonable and intelligent men and women that it was an outrage on common sense that those matters should constitute a pretext for war. In their rigmarole of talk the Uitlanders said there was oppression. They were cruelly treated, they said, by the Boer police. They had heard something of a man called Edgar being killed. It was always a sad thing being killed by anyone in authority. Accidents, murders, might take place, but they never liked the arm of the law to be used. What feeling there was over the Featherstone outrage, when the miners were shot down in Yorkshire by the military; but he (the speaker) had a full report by his side of the whole story of the trial, and a more wicked, nefarious distortion of facts had never been paraded before the British public than that in newspapers over the Edgar question. The man Edgar, obviously under the influence of drink, committed an assault upon the man named Foster, from which he died a few days afterwards. A hue and cry was set up against him, and he was followed by the police. A Boer policeman named Jones (no relation of his, the speaker's) and, he believed, an Englishman, if a Jones could be an Englishman, shot Edgar after trying to force the door. He was doing his duty in trying to arrest the man. It was alleged for the prosecution that he wantonly shot him. It was alleged by the defence that he shot him because Edgar used an iron bar against him, and the policeman, according to the evidence of witnesses, had a somewhat severe wound upon his head. He would not discuss the pros. and cons. of the case, although if he had been on the jury he might have convicted Jones, but the jury who tried the case acquitted Jones. They might have been right or wrong, but had they never heard of a miscarriage of justice. He did not know that Mr. Green was infallible. (Laughter). But he asked them upon such disputable evidence, such contradictory evidence, such doubtful evidence, when undoubtedly a violent assault resulting in death had been committed by Edgar upon the unfortunate man Foster, he asked them if it was a "casus belli?" Were they prepared to fight the Boer on account of that? Were they prepared to deny themselves of a pipe of tobacco? He had considered every trifling grievance which was set out in the long rigmarole, and although he could not deny but what they should be rectified, he honestly believed that the Boer Government were willing in their own interest to meet the British Government in any reasonable demands for the enlargement of the franchise to the Uitlander population, and for the guarantee of every security which a citizen should enjoy. When they had failed to secure the franchise for the purpose of overthrowing the Transvaal Republic, his voice would not be raised, nor his hand lifted, to further one jot or tittle the movement which had been rushed upon them by a certain section of public speakers and Press to involve them in a war with the Transvaal. (Applause.) He had put before them an honest description, an honest statement of the differences which subsist between Great Britain and the Transvaal, and he asked them in conclusion to consider fairly what the war meant. (Hear, hear.) It was easy enough for a man who was not going to fight himself to shout for war, Liberal and Tory alike, he shamed to say, many of them had been shouting for war. Not one of those printers would have their hands stained by anything more dreadful than the ink which they spilt; but if they were going to proceed to war with the Transvaal, let alone the treasure they would spend, the increase of taxation which would fall upon them, they would have to be prepared to pour out British blood over a "noble cause," a "noble cause" indeed, the destruction of a free republic—(shame)—they would also have to witness a spectacle of those two white races, the Dutch and the British, in South Africa, now connected together by the ties of marriage from generation to generation, men with Dutch mothers and British fathers, and men with Dutch fathers and British mothers, fighting against each other. They would find kindled that most terrible of all hatreds, aye the hatred of which they had had bitter experiences for generations, but which was now, he hoped, dying between us and the people of Ireland. They would kindle that flame of race hatred which neither they nor their children nor their children's children would see extinguished, and more than that, when those two Christian peoples were fighting together, with the Dutchman fighting against the Britisher, where would the black man be? He would go to the deserted homes of the farmers on the velt, the farmer who would be fighting with his gun for his hearth and home against the Britisher, his wife and his little ones would be left in the lonely home exposed to the cruel, merciless black man, who treasured memories of wrongs committed by Mr. Rhodes, wrongs committed in the name of the British, he would go with the spear and dagger and massacre, and murder, and burn, and pillage. There would be sorrow and tribulation throughout South Africa, and human suffering there unspeakable, more unspeakable than those witnessed in Armenia, and yet to the cry of the Jingo Press and to the cry of the hireling editor they would respond, and let loose the dogs of war. Theirs was a nobler mission, they were "Little Englanders," they were patriots, they were willing and able in the time of need and in the hour of difficulty to stand shoulder to shoulder and rank to rank and fight for their country as their fathers had before, but they would never undertake—he believed he was speaking the sentiments of the people of Durham—so unholy a war as the present, which would stain for ever the page of British history and humble citizen of the country as he was, he made his feeble protest against it that night. (Applause.) He was proud of the Empire, as every British citizen should be, but he asked them as working-men not to be misguided and misled by those who favoured war for the development of our trade. He often wondered what development of trade meant to the British working-man. It meant increase in population, because increased trade necessarily involved increased population, but he asked himself when he looked at the individual working-man whether the increased trade with the Soudan, with South Africa brought him more light and brightness and happiness into his home. (Hear, hear.) Years ago the place in which they were now standing with its little population and nothing but a wide expanse of moor and wood, with the shepherd's hut, it might be that the shepherd in the lonely watches of the night, hearing nothing but the bleating of the sheep and the bittern booming in the morning, it might be that in that thinly populated country the shepherd was as happy as they were boiling and toiling in the deep sunk mine. He urged them to be true to themselves, and not be led away by those who were full of vanity and pride, but if their reason told them that the war would be an unjust one, then from that meeting let there go forth an emphatic protest against it, and do their best to prevent so irreparable a sin being inflicted upon their country. (Applause.)

After two or three questions regarding the government of the Transvaal had been satisfactorily answered by Mr. Jones, who considered that the South African League was largely responsible for the present troubles, and who said there was not the slightest foundation for the statement that the British were promised equal rights with the Boers in the Transvaal, Coun. M. G. Armstrong moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting affirms its continued adhesion to the great principles of Liberalism, and to the policy of the Liberal Party in Parliament so ably led by Sir Hy. Campbell Bannerman, K.G., M.P. We also express our strong disapproval of the class and reactionary legislation of the present Government; we further assure Mr. Atherley-Jones, M.P., of our confidence in him as our representative in Parliament."

Coun. T. W. W. Ritson seconded the motion, which was carried with two dissentients.

Mr. Jones having briefly replied, moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was accorded, and a successful meeting concluded.

Meeting at Burnhope.

Mr. Atherley-Jones, M.P., addressed the second speech of his tour to a large audience of ladies and gentlemen, in the school-room at Burnhope, on Friday night. Mr Andrew Hartley, of Lanchester, presided, and briefly introduced the member, remarking that the best and greatest measures which had been passed were to be attributed to the Liberal party. They owned their freedom to-day to the Liberal party. (Applause.)

Mr. Atherley-Jones, M.P., who met with a hearty reception, said he was glad to be there that night, and he was sorry so long a time had elapsed since he was last at Burnhope. He endeavoured to make it his duty to spend a few weeks amongst them, and he did succeed in seeing something of his constituents. He had very pleasant recollections of Burnhope and of the enthusiasm exhibited there at the time of the last election. On the previous night he dealt with that very important question, the Transvaal and they would find his remarks very fully reported in the pages of the "Consett Guardian," and he hoped they would refer to the columns of that paper. He did not propose that night to say anything about foreign policy. The Chairman had justly said that it was due to the Liberal Party that the people of this country had reaped the greatest benefits from legislation. That was true. No one could doubt that the Liberal party had passed a great number of measures, which had been instrumental in improving the position of the people. He was not such a fool or a knave to say that the Conservative party had done nothing. It would be idle to suppose that a party that had been so long in office had done nothing to benefit the condition of the classes, but the difference between the Liberal party and the Conservative party was that the Liberal party tried to do as much as possible, whereas the Conservative party tried to do as little as possible. As to the Compensation Act, it had been the object of observation and examination, and the amounts obtained in many cases were very satisfactory. But the defect in the Act was that it left out large classes where organisation was imperfect, such as agricultural labourers and seamen. They did not come under the operation of the Act, and here they saw where the Conservative party did as little as possible. These classes had been studiously and ostentatiously left out by the Conservative Government. He was not quarrelling with the principles of the Act. He said in the House of Commons, and he said so now, that the Compensation Act placed the burden upon the labour. He did not mean in the immediate results, but ultimately their wages would be affected. Undoubtedly the principle of compensation should be applied generally to all classes of service, and it was characteristic of the want of sympathy of the Conservative Government that many branches had been left out of the benefits of the Act. (Hear, hear.) Speaking of the position of the Liberal party, he was not prepared to say that he was satisfied. Looking back he remembered when the Liberal party was in the zenith of it's power, and when they had a magnificent majority. But since 1885 he thought he was entitled to say that they had been practically at a standstill upon great cardinal measures of political and social advancement. They still held their own in the country, but it was not in the country where the weakness lay; it was in Parliament. It was in Parliament that the Liberal party had not been for some time as well equipped as it ought to have been. They had to deal with a number of perplexing problems. In reference to the liquor traffic he thought there was very little doubt but that there was great room for legislative interference. He was not speaking as a teetotaller; he was not a teetotaller. He was speaking as a citizen, and he said there were great and growing evils, and they ought to recognise the fact that through parliamentary agency something could be done. But there again, there was a difference of opinion in the Liberal party. There again they saw what they lost when they lost Mr. Gladstone. They suffered a loss in the retirement of Sir Wm. Harcourt and of Mr. John Morley. Some of Mr. Morley's views were perhaps not according to his (Mr. Jones') reasoning. Mr. Morley did not believe in legislative influence where private or individual effort could be brought into use. Still he deplored the severance. He proceeded to say that they could gain nothing by a policy of make believe. If they believed that Home Rule was a good thing let them say so. So also with the liquor traffic. There was an enormous difference of opinion, but they ought to grasp the nettle boldly, and deal with the subject according to their principles. It was the duty of the Liberal party to declare what was the line of policy to be pursued upon this and many other questions. As to the selection of a leader, what the Liberal party wanted was that sturdy spirit which characterised Mr. Gladstone. They wanted to fight the battle of democracy. The Liberal party would never fail in securing the democratic support of the country. If they would pin their colours to the mast, and stand up for those colours, they would ultimately carry them to victory. (Applause.) When the Tory party came into power they spoke about the beneficent measures they were going to pass. Among others they gave them to understand there was going to be a measure of old age pensions. He was not going to discuss that question, because it was a thorny one. But there was no doubt a well digested measure was needed. Men who had toiled for years should be placed beyond the necessity of parochial relief, and beyond the humiliation of being dependent on the parish dole. Therefore he could conceive of no nobler scheme than of the carrying out of some machinery whereby a poor old man should receive due recognition of services, which, as a soldier of labour, he had rendered to the State. (Hear, hear.) But during the years the Tory party had been in power, with a majority of 150 behind them, not one word had been put on paper. Good and needful measures had been neglected, and a bill was substituted for the poor and needy parson. The time which might have been passed in the saving of life and limb was spent in the attempt to give fresh endowment to the Church of England. Others had to pay in full, but the Conservative party stepped in and said the poor parson must only pay half. They had to find the person half his rent. (Shame.) He had always held that it was a cardinal principle, a sound maxim, and a most excellent practice, that wherever public money was spent there ought to be public control. (Hear, hear.) It stood to reason that those who paid the piper should select the tune. The education which had been given in Board Schools had improved the intellectual and moral condition of the people. Crime had decreased, pauperism had decreased, thrift had been encouraged, the general tone and condition of labour had been materially raised, and they were not wrong in attributing a large proportion of that to education. They would realise, therefore, how essential it was where public money was spent it should be spent by public control. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. Payne, seconded by Mr. John Ross, a vote of confidence in the hon. member was passed, and the Chairman having been thanked for his services the meeting ended.

Meeting at Cornsay.

Speech by Mr. Frank Newnes.

On Monday night, Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., addressed his constituents at Cornsay, when a large audience assembled in the British Schools, and was presided over by Mr C. Todd. The hon. member, who was accompanied by Mrs Jones, Mr Frank Newnes, Mr R. G. Barclay, J.P., County Councillor Winter, and several ladies, was escorted into the village and to the schools by the Cornsay Colliery Brass Band.

The Chairman said they were all pleased once more to see their member amongst them. He thought the large attendance that night was a mark of the unabated confidence they had in Mr Jones. (Applause.) He believed their member was going to address them that night on labour questions. He had already dealt with the Transvaal, and he thought they would be pleased with the attitude their member had taken on that question. (Hear, hear.)

Mr Frank Newnes, who had a hearty reception, said he felt he ought to apologise for speaking before Mr Jones, but he was afraid if Mr Jones spoke first he would probably leave him nothing to say. (Laughter.) He believed Mr Jones was going to give them a dose of sound Liberalism, and if there were any Tories present he hoped they would go away wiser and better men. He had noticed that among a certain number of people there was a sort of feeling that it did not matter much which party they supported; that there was very little difference between them, and that one Government was as good as another. He wanted to say there was a difference between Liberalism and Toryism although there was a certain amount of what Mr Jones would call political torpidity. He thought it could not be denied that the Tory party had become in the last 15 years or so Liberalised. It had become democratic, and the reason was absolutely due to the Liberal party. He referred to the extension of the Franchise in 1885, by which the bulk of the people were given a vote, and he supposed he was right in saying that they owed their vote to the Liberal party who passed the Bill in that year. The consequence of that was that any party wishing to get into power would have to get the support of the working people, and therefore they must become more democratic. He often wondered whether the Liberals, and especially the working-men Liberals, realised the benefit conferred upon them by the Act. Did they realise that the people of this country were given the power to get whatever they wanted if they only liked to combine and exert themselves? Take an illustration from the present Transvaal question. As they knew, Sir Alfred Milner, our Commissioner out there, in dealing with that question, when he first entered into negotiations with President Kruger, said he would simply negotiate on the question of the franchise. The other grievances, such as the dynamite monopoly and corrupt judges, he would leave to the Uitlanders. In doing so he was quite right, and that was what the Liberal party did in 1885. They said they would give them the right to do things by themselves. (Hear, hear.) That was one reason why the Tory party was more democratic. Another reason was that after the unlucky Home Rule split, large numbers of Liberals went over to the Conservative side, and in the present Conservative ministry there were many who were members of the Liberal Government of 1885. There were such men as Mr J. Chamberlain, Lord James of Hereford, the Duke of Devonshire, and Mr Goschen. Then there were 70 or 80 others who went over, and they could not have done so without considerably affecting the policy of the Conservative party. Although they left the Liberal party they did not altogether give up their Liberalism. He had said that the Conservative party was more Liberalised. Let him show them in what way it was Liberalised. It had passed since 1885 several more or less democratic measures such as Free Education in 1888, and the County Council Act of that date. He thought they had a good deal repented of the County Council Act, because the London County Council had not proved such a dutiful baby as they thought it would. (Laughter and applause.) Consequently they brought in another Bill to curtail its powers and rights, but he was glad the Liberal Opposition effected alterations in many important matters. Since 1892 they had passed the Employers' Liability Bill, and the abolition of the half-time system. The latter measure, he was afraid, was not due much to their efforts, but to the fact that they were forced to it by an energetic and pushing opposition. In addition, the Tories had promised an Old Aged Pension Scheme. This was to come from the fertile brain of Mr Chamberlain, but up to the present it had got no farther than a Royal Commission, which was the usual anti-chamber for dropping it altogether. Although the Conservative party had passed and promised these democratic things the Liberal party had not been behind. It has passed a Parish Council Act and the strong Financial Bill of 1894. Of Tory reforms he was inclined to say that for every measure they gave to the working-men they gave one or two to themselves. They had passed an Agricultural Rating Bill, the net result of which would be to bring money into the pockets of the landlords, although for the present it might benefit agricultural labourers. They had also lately passed a Clerical Tithes Bill, which was merely doling out money to a privileged class. As their term of office was not yet over it was likely they would perpetrate other things of a similar character. He asked them not to be blinded by this Tory democracy. The Liberal party was as democratic as ever it was, and more so, and he did not think it had done anything since 1885 to indicate that it had given up its old endeavours. There were certain people who did think the Conservative party was as good, because it passed good measures, but if it did it was because it was egged on by the Liberal party. He asked them to stick to the true Liberal colours so that Mr Jones might be returned again, not only by a large majority but by the largest Liberal majority of any member of the House of Commons. (Applause.)

Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., on rising to address the meeting met with a most cordial reception. He said coming to Cornsay again reminded him of old times. He did not think there was any place in the constituency which it gave him greater pleasure to visit, and he did not think it was vanity on his part when he said he did not think there was any place where there was greater pleasure in seeing him than at Cornsay. (Applause.) The constituency was a wide one with numerous scattered townships and villages—many of them difficult of access—and he regretted he could not be oftener amongst them. He thanked them for the reception they had given him that night together with his wife and his son, whom he hoped would be a better Radical than his father—(laughter and applause)—and he especially thanked their beautiful band for the honour done them in heralding and harbinging their approach. (Applause.) His friend (Mr. Newnes), whom he was glad to have with him that evening, had briefly touched on many topics. Mr. Newnes was the son of a Liberal politician who was well-known to all of them, Sir George Newnes, a very great and sincere friend of his (Mr. Jones'.) He had intended that night dealing with general topics, but it had been suggested that he should touch upon matters connected with Labour legislation, which must necessarily be of interest in a great industrial community like theirs. He felt, however, that in the presence of such momentous issues as were involved in the present difficult relations between ourselves and the Transvaal Government that it would not be out of place to make some reference to them. The chairman had intimated that he regarded with approbation the speech he (Mr Jones) had made at Stanley the other night when he devoted himself almost, if not entirely, to that subject. He should be glad to know that the sentiments he gave utterance to at that meeting had met with the approval of the majority of those present in Cornsay that night. What he would venture respectfully to urge upon them was to throw the great weight of their authority into the scale against our engaging in what he conceived would be one of the most unjust and also the most calamitous wars in which this country was ever induced to enter upon. (Hear, hear.) He would respectfully warn them against taking any notice of the lugubrations of the press on this subject. There were honourable exceptions, such as the paper with which his friend's father was identified. "The Westminster Gazette," "The London Chronicle"—not "The Newcastle Chronicle"—and "The Newcastle Leader." These among the great papers of the country had raised their voices and were using their influence to prevent this country from being dragged into war by a gang of capitalists. He was disappointed, bitterly disappointed, that a paper belonging to a distinguished man with a great career behind him—he meant Mr Joseph Cowen, the proprietor of "The Newcastle Chronicle"—was identifying itself with the cause of the financier and the gold exploiter of South Africa. He remembered that that distinguished man during his career, and his father before him, had been identified with the struggles of Poland and Hungary, and had appealed for freedom. He could not reconcile himself to the idea that a journal belonging to a man with such traditions should have devoted itself to hounding on the people of this country to crush out the life and liberty of a young republic. (Applause.) It was a long and tedious story; it was an intricate and complex subject. Those of them who had the leisure and the patience to search out information thereon for themselves would find, he was persuaded, that he was speaking words of truth when he said that the case of the Transvaal Republic was the case of a nation bent upon maintaining its integrity, maintaining its independence, and maintaining its sovereignity. Although there were, he doubted not, imperfections in the form of its government, no doubt petty injustices inflicted upon individuals, yet he maintained, and he trusted he might be speaking words which met with their approval, that no case existed which would warrant the great resources of this country being employed for the purpose of destroying the liberties of the people of the Transvaal. (Applause.) The hon. gentleman then went on to say that Mr Newnes had referred to the fact that there had been a certain democratisation of the Conservative party; in other words that the Conservative party had shown themselves more inclined towards measures favourable to the working classes than might be expected from their traditions and previous history. He agreed. He thought that when one remembered the opposition which used in the old time days to be shown by what was then called the Tory party to every proposal that tended to the religious, or the moral, or the material welfare of the mass of the population of this country; when one considered their inveterate hostility to progress, it was remarkable to the superficial observer that they did now dole out from time to time homoeopathic doses of moral, religious, social, and material reform. It was indeed remarkable to the superficial observer, but they must bear in mind that it was to the same electorate, to the working class electorate, that they had to appeal for support and countenance in power. In the old days the Tory party appealed to the upper and middle classes. The working-classes were then the residuum and the scum. That was the choice language they used. Now the residuum was the power which, in almost every constituency in this country returned the Tories (or the Liberals) to power, and whatever might be the selfish convictions of the Tories, whatever might be their own desires, they were obliged to put a fairface upon it, and they were obliged when they came to ask for their suffrages to make promises which, indeed, they did not perform—which they only partially performed—and they were obliged in view of the coming elections—the day of reckoning—to make such partial performances as would prevent them from being bounded out of political power with the contempt and contumely of the people. He could remember how they used to taunt the Liberals in 1885 and 1886 with only going in for what they were pleased to term great organic changes. They said the Liberals did not care for the people, and all they did was to bring in disestablishment questions, new constitutions for Ireland, England, Scotland, and Wales, but labour questions, the questions of the hearts and homes of the people were absolutely passed and ignored. One of the most eminent Tory statesmen, perhaps the most eminent of the present century or half century, Lord Randolph Churchill, said in effect that the democratic Tory party were the friends of the people. They would not go in for great organic changes, but would bring comfort and happiness to their homes. They would see that the social condition of the working-men was uplifted and they would devote themselves to social reform. And so the Tory party threw dust in the eyes of the people and to a large extent, especially in the Midlands and Southern counties of Great Britain, the people believed in these professions and they returned the Tory party to power in 1886 and again in 1895. Had these promises or professions been fulfilled? Could they point to the reforms which had done any material good to the people of this country? The Tory party had practically been in power since the year 1886. There was a short spell from the middle of 1892 to the middle of 1895, when the Liberals, with a small majority and dependent upon the Irish party for their maintenance in power, under circumstances of great difficulty, enjoyed the control of the Government of the country. During that period they made efforts to pass measures which they believed would result in good to the people. He would not trouble them by enumerating them, but with one single exception—the Parish Council Act—everyone of these beneficial measures was thrown out by the House of Lords, which was the quintessence of the Tory party. In 1895 the Tory party came into power again. Would they look over the record from 1895 to 1899, and could they truthfully say that the Tory party had passed any measure which had been conceived in the interests of the working-men. The Statute Book was barren of legislation in favour of the working classes of this country. The measures which had been passed were measures which had been conceived in the interests of the classes with which the Tory party was identified. These were not words of exaggeration or declamation, but of solid truth. They might interrupt him and say "but they passed the Workmen's Compensation Act." They did so after they destroyed the Employers Liability Bill brought in by Mr Asquith. They brought in that Bill and carried it into law in its shorn and mutilated form because they were absolutely under pledge and under obligations to bring in a measure upon that question when they threw out the Bill of the Liberal Government. There was some legislation which savoured of being favourable to the working men, but the difference between the two parties was that the Tories gave as little as they could and the Liberals gave as much as they could. (Hear, hear.) He knew upon the Compensation Act there was a diversity of opinion, but they must not test a measure by its effect upon one particular class of the community. This Act fell short as all Tory measures did. It fell short in that it did not assist those classes of the community which most required assistance. It did not assist those classes which were without effective organisations. The miners had a splendid organisation, but turn to the farm labourer, without organisation or practically so. Turn to the seamen, without an organisation in its infancy. The Bill entirely left out these two classes of working men, and while those in mines could claim compensation for their injury, or their friends could be provided for in the event of fatal accident, men working in the light of day might be injured or killed, and neither they nor their friends would receive the slightest compensation. It was not only absurd, it was outrageous. (Applause.) They did not extend the measure because the landlords of England and the peers of England would have had to bear the burden, and they preferred to put it on to other shoulders. (Cheers.) The same applied to the shipping industry, which was powerful in Parliament, just as the great brewing industry prevented measures for the benefit of another class of people. (Hear, hear.) The Compensation Act was a measure sound in principle, but deficient in method, deficient in its forms of application, and from his knowledge it was costly in regard to legal expenses, and in some cases was a dead letter. His hon. friend, Mr John Wilson, than whom there was not a better representative of the miners in the House of Commons, had told him of a scheme for providing cottage homes for aged workmen. That scheme appeared to him to be a wise and prudent one if worked out in a proper way. (Applause.) It was a hard thing for a man who had laboured in his youth and manhood to be dependent upon what, he was sorry to say, was sometimes the grudging charity of his relations and friends, or take shelter in the anti-chamber of death—the parish workhouse. It was a shame, a disgrace, and a scandal to his country. (Hear, hear.) Men who had so laboured had won as rich a reward from their country as the men who had carried their muskets in the field. He therefore held that such a scheme ought to be taken up by the State. (Loud applause.)

Mr Barron moved, Mr Dobinson seconded, and Mr Storey supported, the following resolution, which was carried:

"That this meeting condemns the action of the present Government in giving doles out of the public purse to favoured supporters of theirs in the country; disapproves of the policy of irritation pursued by the Colonial Office in its dealings with the Transvaal Republic; and expresses its determination to use all legitimate means to replace the present Tory Administration by a Liberal Government. It records its appreciation of and thanks for the speech just delivered by Mr Atherley Jones, M.P., and confirms the many expressions of confidence in him as Member of Parliament for the North-West Division of the County of Durham."

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

CONSETT WESLEYAN CHURCH.

RECEPTION OF NEW MINISTERS.

On Wednesday week, the formal reception of the two new ministers took place. In the afternoon a public tea was held in the Church Hall, Middle Street, to which a large company sat down. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Church, presided over by the circuit steward, Mr. W. Richardson, supported by the Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne and A. Barraclough (the two newly appointed ministers), and Revs. Denham and Bishop, Councillor John Lowes, Mr. W. Pallister (Blackhill), and a large company of stewards and ex-stewards, from all parts of the circuit.

Mr. W. Richardson in opening the proceedings, said it afforded him very great pleasure to be there that night to preside over that meeting. He gave a hearty welcome to their two new ministers, which he did heartily. He was not going to miss, however, either Mr. Bishop or Mr. Denham. He also gave a hearty invitation to the local preachers. He had a warm side for the local preachers.

Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne said he was very pleased that amongst his friends (most of whom who had been till now strangers), he could reckon one or two as very great friends. Amongst them there was a gentleman in the body of the chapel whom he had known thirty or forty years ago. He was then a lad, but he had now grown to be a man, and a man of considerable powers. He was rejoiced to find, and he was glad to meet Mr. Nicholson again on going into the vestry at Leadgate. Mr. Denham was also known to him as a minister for some years. Indeed it was perhaps very largely to Mr. Denham's presence here, and to his very helpful letters that somewhat assisted him in his decision. Of course he wanted to know what they were like, and whether they had any "go" about them—(laughter)—and he found from Mr. Denham that they had all these, and a good many others qualities, a great deal too many to mention that night. He knew Mr. Denham's straightforward and manly character, and when he read his letters he knew there was nothing held in reserve. After also hearing from the chairman of the district and Mr. Thomas Bainbridge, he decided to come and do his best. (Applause.) In assuming this position that night he would like to say how delighted he was to hear that Mr. Barraclough was one of the two new men. From his Superintendent in the first instance he had a very glowing account—(applause)—and after they had an introduction they had a little talk (in ignorance) about the future, and they determined that when they came, they would work shoulder to shoulder in helping the good brethren who were here on the spot. He thought of Mr. Barraclough, and he ought to have spoken last. When he found that Mr. Richardson was to take the chair, and knew that Mr. Lowes was to be there, and a great host of stewards and ex-stewards (he did not know how many there were), and that there were to be representatives from all parts of the circuit, he thought there would be an opportunity of finding out a little bit of what the circuit consisted before he had to speak himself. But lo and behold, after that beautiful anthem, and he congratulated them upon that specimen of their ability, he believed in singing, and in singing anthems—(hear, hear)—after the good anthem, and the good congregational singing in the hymn that they had sung, he was now to speak about what? He wished he knew their failures, because if he knew a weak place he would be able to say something which would do them good. He had already been to a few places in the circuit, and he was beginning to feel that he was rather an old soldier now. (Laughter.) He came down to see the chapel at Consett on Saturday. He was at Leadgate on Sunday, and preached there twice—morning and evening. He "tried" to preach at East Castle in the afternoon. He did his best, but it was very poor he could tell them. (Laughter.) Everything was so strange, and he was very very much at sea. He held a sacramental service, and a prayer meeting, and got home feeling very tired, and thought he deserved a holiday on the Monday. However, he went to Allendale, and had two baptisms there. He passed through Derwent Cottages and Medomsley, and from the hillside was able to make out Dipton, and thus by this time he had seen the round of a large section of the Shotley Bridge and Consett Circuit—at any rate, he was trying to make its acquaintance as quickly as he could, without any loss of time. (Hear, hear.) Speaking of the formation of ideals he had tried to imagine what sort of a place it was. He was told it was between eight hundred and a thousand feet above the sea level. Well, he knew what high hills were. He had lived in Cornwall and North Devon. Then he began to think about the town, and formed an idea of it. When he came, however, he found the streets did not look as he thought, and his house was not at the end of the town he thought it would be. (Laughter.) He idealised on the chapel premises. Mr. Lowes sent him a picture—pictures of chapels, they knew, were very deceptive. Well, the chapel was not at all what he had idealised it to be—better perhaps—at any rate, a bit better than what he had thought. Continuing, the Rev. gentleman quoted the text: "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and I will watch to see what He will say unto me and what I shall answer when I am reproved." He didn't know whether Habbakuk was in his position of being changed from one circuit to another, but if he was he had very probably invented it for the occasion in which he (the speaker) found himself that night. He had a tower. They all had towers. He had already been up into his high tower looking at Consett, East Castle, Iveston, Chopwell, Dipton, Derwent Cottages, Medomsley, Allendale, and so on. They all had a high tower into which they could go. Were the people who started this great Christianity business reaping a commensurate return? Were they in that Church who were responsible for it, trying each and all to do their level best. What were they doing in the Sunday School? He was going to make it his business to come and see as soon as possible. He heard glowing accounts of the guild. He praised God for that. As long as they had the young people with them he was not afraid. He would try to preach at the services as well as he could, and he would like on their part a responsive ardour and appreciation. They must be patient in waiting upon God and let them be downright in earnest. If he might use the word, he would say let them be "blazingly" in earnest. The word was used by politicians who would be earnest when the General Election came round, why should not they exhibit the same earnestness. It would secure united action, and cause defects to be improved. They must have an earnest working and praying spirit in their prayer meetings, class meetings, public services, guild meetings, choir, in Consett, and all their circuit. Why he would then dare to be a prophet as well as a preacher, and to predict for this winter inherited showers of blessings. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. Bishop, Shotley Bridge, supported, and gave a hearty welcome to the two new ministerial brethren.

The Rev. A. Barraclough said he felt something like a man whom he had once heard in an address at a Harvest Festival, who spoke from the text "Here we are. Where am I?" He worked out his subject very cleverly. He had forgotten what he said, but remembered the text, and he was in the same position to-night, "Here we are. Where am I?" The answer was hardly forthcoming. No doubt as the days went by the solution would come, and so far he was happy to say the impressions were distinctly good. Consett had a good name. He was asked that day if he had heard of Consett before. Of course he had, he was a Headingley man. It was never his lot during his three years at Headingley, to visit that particular place, but he knew it was always regarded as a good appointment. Another thing made him glad to come to this Circuit, it was a good deal nearer heaven than the one he had been in last. He hoped it was nearer in more senses than one. (Laughter.) At any rate it was a good deal higher up in the world. He had been living for the last twelve months at sea level, and he found that he required a north-easter now and again, and, again, he had come into a type of Methodism very different from what he had been used to for the last three or four years. He found there would be plenty of work to do. Bacon was credited with saying "Only God and the Angels can be spectators," but although he had his doubts as to the truth of the dictum of that wise philosopher, Methodist parsons were not included in the category. He always admired gentlemen who could get up and make long speeches without a particular subject. He, however, was not one of them. His shoes were rather leaden. He had to go slowly, cautiously, and feel his way. There were compensations, however. Let every man know his own powers and stick to them. He believed in finding out what one could do, and sticking to it with all your might. So many people wanted to do things they were not all qualified for, to bellow like a bull, and roar like a lion, when they could not make enough noise for a respectable cow. Find out the sphere God has called you to. On the other hand many difficulties arose, from men who ought to bellow, but won't, men who wouldn't do [illegible] that they had the ability to do. It was a preacher's duty to find out a man's qualifications and develop them. So many stood back with a false humility and declined. He hoped there were not many of those sort about Consett. As Mr. Polkinghorne had said by slow degrees they would come to find how matters stood. He thanked them for their very kind and hearty reception that had already been given and prayed that the time they had been called to spend in this circuit might be a time and a labour to the glory of God and to the extension of His Church in this district.

The Choir rendered several anthems in pleasing fashion during the service.

Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

WOLSINGHAM AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

The 136th show of the Wolsingham Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday week. The fixture was favoured with favourable weather, and there was a capital entry. Amongst the cattle, there were most of the well-known county prize-winners, including the splendid stock of Mr George Harrison, Gainford—who was beaten in the two-year-old bull class by Mr G. H. Proctor, Durham, with that fine animal, The Beau—Mr Proctor, Mr J. Fryer, Mr H. Brownless, Wolsingham—who for many years in succession has carried off the prize in the district class for bulls—Mr T. Carrick (Ireshopeburn), and others. The show of sheep, especially the moor classes and Border Leicester, was equal to anything seen in the county during the present season, the principal prizes in the former section being carried off by Mr J. Vickers, Tow Law. Harness and draught horses were above the average in quality [illegible] elapsed since [illegible] was held, either at Wolsingham, or any other portion of the Wear Valley. The judges were as follows:—Cattle and Leicester sheep—Messrs J. Tully, Durham; and J. Vickers, Kirby Lonsdale. Horses (harness and saddle)—Messrs W. L. Walker, Silksworth; and R. Wilkinson, Birtley. Moor and mule sheep—Messrs R. Maddison, St. John's Chapel; and [illegible]. Dogs—Mr G. J. Urin, Hull. Poultry, etc.—Messrs J. Ridley, Frosterley; and G. Moore, Darlington. Dairy produce—Mr Nichol, Tow Law; and Mr J. Tiddle, Witton-le-Wear. Honey—Mr A. Pickard, Wolsingham.

THE LUNCHEON.

A capital luncheon was provided by Mr W. Turner, Golden Lion Hotel, Wolsingham. Mr F. Fenwick, Wolsingham, presided.—In proposing the toast of "Success to the Wolsingham and Wear Valley Agricultural Society," the Chairman said he was glad to see such an excellent show. Unfortunately, for himself, however, he did not see a class represented in which he took a great interest, and which, as a matter of fact, he made a hobby. He referred to the absence of Galloway cattle. There was one gentleman present, who, he believed, had started the breeding of this particular class of cattle, and with considerable success—(hear, hear)—and he would recommend those of them who were interested in the improvement of store cattle to turn their attention in this direction. (Hear, hear.) Weardale had long been noted for its shorthorn cattle, and he did not think that the introduction of Galloway cattle into the district would tend in any way to lessen that quality. (Applause.) [illegible] largely due to their stock, and the quality of the stock [illegible] for the future. (Applause.)—Mr T. Crowe responded.

In responding to the toast of "The Visitors," Mr Emmerson Bainbridge, M.P., said during his travels round the world recently he was particularly struck with the Indian cattle, and he could not help thinking that a cross with their cattle in this county would prove very advantageous. Whilst he was in Borneo he saw cattle 17 hands high, and at the time he thought that the crossing he suggested would lead to the making of a very fine beast for the market. He gave them that idea for what it was worth. (Hear, hear.)

THE PRIZE LIST.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Bull, above 2 years—1, G. H. Proctor, Durham; 2, G. Harrison, Gainford. Bull, above 1 year and under 2 years—1, G. Harrison; 2, G. H. Proctor. [illegible]

SHEEP.—Moor: [illegible]

DISTRICT CLASSES (open to the parishes of Wolsingham and Stanhope only).—[illegible]

HORSES.—[illegible]

PONIES.—[illegible]

LEAPING.—[illegible]

DOGS (under Kennel Club license).—[illegible]

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CONTAINING THE LATEST VIEWS OF

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CONSETT IRON WORKS (Angle Mills).
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HOWEN'S GILL BRIDGE, (Consett.)
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Complete with Filler, only ONE SHILLING EACH. FINE OR BROAD PEN.

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SPECIALITIES IN CHILDREN'S COSTUMES, HATS, AND BONNETS.

LADIES' TRIMMED BONNETS AND SAILORS.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF LADIES' SHIRT BLOUSES, PINAFORES, SKIRTS, UNDER-CLOTHING, FRILLINGS, VEILS NETS, &c.

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If you are in want of FOOTBALLS, BELTS, SHIN GUARDS, INFLATORS, or HARNESS, Of any description, for wear and quality, GO TO

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BRANCHES:—Busty Bank, Burnopfield, R.S.O. Tyne View, Lemington-on-Tyne.

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NEW PRINTING WORKS AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

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Has great pleasure in informing the public of Annfield Plain, Catchgate, Hare Law, Kyo, Greencroft Cottages, &c., that he has OPENED the PREMISES next door to the Post Office, Annfield Plain, as

GENERAL PRINTING WORKS.

Every description of Printing, from a Visiting Card to a Poster, neatly executed at reasonable prices. All the latest designs in Memorial Cards.

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MOTHER'S FRIEND AND BABY'S COMFORT. RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

THE BEST AND SAFEST MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.

CONTAINS NO LAUDANUM, OPIUM, OR MORPHIA.

MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Wind, and Griping Pains in the Stomach or Bowels.

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AGENT FOR GLENDINNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE. 305y

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COMPLETE FUNERAL FURNISHERS.

LIEBIG'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.

This preparation is made from PORT WINE, EXTRACT OF MALT, AND EXTRACT OF BEEF.

Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended

3s. 6d. per quart Bottle (usually sold at 4s 6d.)
1s. 9d. per pint Bottle (usually sold at 2s. 9d.

Tawagin Port Wine, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
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Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s.
Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s.
Claret from 1s. per bottle.
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THE HEALTH & SICKNESS BENEFIT SOCIETY

Is the Society that is making rapid headway. Over Four Thousand new members during the last ten months, with a premium income of over

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Calling at Queenstown every Thursday. Passengers and goods are landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has the shortest and most Direct Route to all places in the Western States.—Apply to Richardson, Spence, and Co., Southampton or Liverpool; or to Local Agents, J. Crawford, Victoria Street, Consett; T. D. Dryden and Co., Front Street, Consett; Alfred Phillipson, Emigration Agent, Dipton; William Gray, 5, North Road, Durham; Geo. Leadbitter, Accountant, Catchgate; Thomas Storey, Auctioneer, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. Johnson, 86, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Wm. Anderson, Bridge Street, Tow Law; E. Sloane, Post Office Blackhill; or T. A. Brown, 3, Market Place, Crook. 725b.

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Have removed from Co-operative Street to New, Larger, and more Commodious Premises in LOWER BEAMISH STREET.

For the NOTED LEMON SQUASH.

Try our STONE GINGER BEER.

SODAS AND LIME JUICE a Speciality.

Goods delivered by our own Vans.

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

GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED... 2s 9d
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With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand. (Signed), J. ORTON.

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

£100,000 ALREADY ADVANCED.

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Advances at 1 per cent. to Balloted Members.

Advances at 4½ per cent. any time.

Repayments 13/4 per Month per £100.

Preference Shares issued, bearing interest at 4 per cent. Interest paid half-yearly.

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There is nothing desirable in Building Society Business which we do not furnish Cheaply, Intelligibly, and Profitably.

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Style and perfect fit guaranteed.

Gents' Suits to order from 25s.

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

DINNERS, TEAS, AND SUPPERS.

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Established 1833.

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

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

For finest quality in GROCERIES, &c., try

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TEA DEALER, FAMILY GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT, DERWENT STREET,

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A large assortment of CHEESE, BUTTER, HAMS, BACON, LARD, &c., ALWAYS ON HAND.

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A NEW SERIES of Penny Books for the People, which, as regards both careful editing and quantity, and quality of printing and paper, surpasses anything of the kind that has previously been published. Printed in clear type, and bound in neat covers.

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To be followed by others of Universal Importance. 304d

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6, NORTH TERRACE, NORTHGATE, DARLINGTON,

Attends STANLEY every PAY TUESDAY, from 12 to 4 p.m. at MR SWINBURNE'S, View House, Front Street.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH of the best quality from 5s per tooth. Teeth Extracted Painlessly for 1s. Prices range from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per tooth.

Best Materials only used. Guaranteed for a year.

MR. JOHN USHER,

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£1 TO £10

EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED, PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS 794

Business Announcements.

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INTENDING Purchasers should see ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S FOUR FAMOUS SPECIALITY PIANOS, noted throughout the kingdom for their marvellous value. Since introduced by Archibald Ramsden they have been extensively copied by competitors, but without success. No such value is offered by any other firm.

SPECIALITY NUMBER 1. RAMSDEN'S MODEL. £19 10s. 0d. cash. Three years system 12s. 9d. per month.

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Any of these instruments, although taken for the full term of three years, may be purchased at any given date within this term, a substantial allowance being made for quicker payments. The price for cash and Three Years System are clearly stated by Archibald Ramsden, and customers are not led to believe they can purchase an instrument to be paid for in three years at the same price as if paid for at time of purchase. Archibald Ramsden finds that misrepresentations are often made with regard to this, leading the purchaser to suppose that no additional charge is made for extended payments. All thoughtful people must know, however, that it is impossible to sell an instrument by extended payments at the same price as for immediate cash.

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SECOND-HAND PIANOS.

At £5, £8, £12, £15, £17, £18 and higher prices. Instruments in good condition, by the most eminent makers. All are guaranteed, and may be taken on Archibald Ramsden's Hire and Purchase System.

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THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS.
THOSE WONDERFUL KNAUSS PIANOS

Instruments of solid build, warranted for durability, rich tone, full bright and resonant, beautifully singing and sympathetic quality; pleasant touch and quick repetition; handsome appearance and high finish, and for a high-class instrument remarkably low in prices.

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A large and varied stock of second-hand Instruments. Their well-known £12 cash organ, which has been supplied to all parts of the world, cannot be too highly recommended to intending purchasers. It is reliable, honest, and good, and is made for use. Guaranteed ten years.

SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.
SCHIEDMAYER PIANOS.

Supplied to all the principal Courts of Europe, and have obtained a world-wide reputation as instruments of the very highest eminence. They have been extensively used in Great Britain for over thirty years, and have stood the test of time.

CATALOGUES SENT FREE OF CHARGE.

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An instrument is acquired on Archibald Ramsden's Hire and Purchase System merely by making a monthly or quarterly payment for a term of three years, when the instrument becomes the property of the hirer.

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PARK ROW, LEEDS.

233, HUNSLET ROAD, LEEDS; 103, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON; and NUMEROUS BRANCHES.

Church Notices.

ANNFIELD PLAIN WESLEYAN CHURCH

MAKE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS TO HEAR THE

REV. RICHARD ROBERTS

(Ex-President of the Wesleyan Conference), on WEDNESDAY, Sept. 27th, 1899, in the P.M. Church, Annfield Plain. Service at 3 and 7 o'clock. Public Tea at 4-30. 288f

SHOTLEY BRIDGE WESLEYAN CHURCH.

CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY.

Special Sermons (Morning 10-30, Evening 6-30), by REV. A. BARRACLOUGH (Newly-appointed Minister). Special Solo at Evening Service. Collections for Chapel Trust Fund. ALL SEATS FREE. 278f

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, 1899,

Morning 10-30 } Mr. H. COLMAN,
Evening 6 } Gateshead.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

SUNDAY, September 17th, 1899.

Morning, 10-30 } REV. J. TAYLOR.
Evening, 6 }

ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

ON SUNDAY, September 17th.

Morning 10-30 } Mr. J. C. ELTRINGHAM.
Evening 6 } Mr. J. ROBINSON.

ALL SEATS FREE.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY FIRST

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES.

Preacher, at 10-30 a.m. and 6 p.m., JOHN COWARD, Esq., J.P., of Durham. Monday night, PUBLIC MEETING and SALE OF FRUIT. Speakers, Revs. J. Taylor, and J. S. Nightingale. 328f

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TRAINS will be run as under:—

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th.

MANCHESTER RACES.

From BLACKHILL at 9-21 p.m. (with bookings from Consett, Durham, &c.), to MANCHESTER and LIVERPOOL for four days (with bookings to DOUGLAS for 10 days), returning from Liverpool (Central) at 10-55, and Manchester (London Road) at 11-55 p.m., September 23rd, Douglas passengers return within 10 days.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th.

SIR HENRY IRVING, ELLEN TERRY, AND CO., AT TYNE THEATRE.

"ALONE IN LONDON" CO. AT PALACE THEATRE.

From BLACKHILL at 1-40 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, &c.) to ELSWICK and NEWCASTLE, returning at 11 p.m.

From BLACKHILL at 8-13 p.m (with bookings from Consett, Annfield Plain, &c.) to LONDON for 2 or 7 days, with bookings to the Continent; two days' passengers return from St. Pancras Station, London, at 11 p.m., September 26th, and those holding 7 days' tickets at 10-5 p.m., October 2nd.

For further particulars see bills.

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

Public Notices.

THE Winning Number of HEARTHRUG, Raffled by Mrs Laverick, Wood Row, Beamish, is 88. 301f

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.

Lessee and Manager .. MARK H. LINDON.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th, the last night of

THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th. The Successful Drama, entitled,

PASSION OF LIFE.

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	2263	14	6
W. M. Annandale, Esq., Lintzford	5	5	0
	£2268	19	6

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

Public Notices.

LEEK SHOW.

Will be held at W. TEMPERLEY'S Raven Inn, Broomhill, Ebchester, on SATURDAY, September 16th, 1899. 269f

SERVANTS REGISTRY WEST STANLEY.

MRS. SCOTT begs to inform the Public that she has removed to the FRONT STREET opposite the Co-operative Stores, West Stanley.—All letters and applications promptly attended to. 928e

A SECRET.

BLOOM'S No. 3 ROYAL AUCTION MART WILL OPEN this Week end at CONSETT.

Watches, Clocks, Walnut Mirrors, Pianos, Drapery Goods, and thousands of other Articles at half usual prices.

888e SAVE UP FOR HIM!

BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

A PUBLIC MEETING

Will be held in CASTLESIDE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, On WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20th, at 7 o'clock. Solos, Recitations, Addresses, &c. 323f

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.

SECOND BURNS' CONCERT will be held on Monday, 29th January, 1900. Splendid array of Artistes, including last year's favourite—HARRY LAUDER. 284f

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

AUTUMN CAMPAIGN.

L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES,

ESQ., Q.C., M.P.,

Will ADDRESS MEETINGS of his Constituents as under:

Allendale Cottages, Friday, September 15th.
Burnopfield, Monday, September 18th.
Esh Winning, Tuesday, September 19th.
Blackhill, Wednesday, September 20th.
Consett, Thursday, September 21st.

JOHN WILSON, Esq., M.P., J. A. PEASE, Esq., M.P., FRANK NEWNES, Esq., and others, will speak at some of the Meetings. Further particulars later.

170f J. W. WINTER, Liberal Agent.

CONSETT LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

PUBLIC MEETING

IN THE NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, THURSDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1899.

SPEAKERS:—

L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES, Esq., Q.C., M.P.
J. A. PEASE, Esq., M.P.
Coun. ARTHUR HENDERSON, J.P., of Darlington.

Chairman: Mr. JAMES PALLISER.

Meeting commence at 7-30.

If necessary an Overflow Meeting will be held at the Fountain. 286f

REMEMBER THE SPEN FLOWER SHOW AND SPORTS, ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd.

£10 10s., 120 YARDS HANDICAP. Entrance 1s. 1d., close September 18th, Tuesday's Post in time to Thomas Dobson, Handicapper, Victoria Garesfield, Lintz Green, or Secretary.

Football Competition, Dribbling Race, Old Man's Race, Bowling at Wicket, Kicking at Goal.

For further Particulars and Schedules, apply to JOHN WEATHERLEY, Secretary, 228f Spen, Lintz Green.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

ADDITIONAL BYELAWS. — NEW BUILDINGS.

THE Tanfield Urban District Council, at their Meeting held September 6th, 1899, Sealed and Signed Additional Byelaws for New Buildings.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the said Byelaws have been deposited at the Council Office, Tanfield, and will be Open for Public Inspection for One Month from and after the date of the first publication of this notice, between the hours of 9-30 a.m. and Noon, each day (Sundays excepted), after which they will be submitted to the Local Government Board for their confirmation.

(Signed), T. ARMSTRONG, Clerk.

Council Office, Tanfield, Tantobie, 13th September, 1899. 376f

LANGLEY PARK.

THIRD

ANNUAL SHOW

Will be held in the Firs Ground, near Witton Gilbert Railway Station, on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th, when

£275

Will be given in Prizes for Flowers, Fruits, Vegetables, Home Industries, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats and Cavies.

Brass Band Contest, 120 Yards Foot Handicap, Mr. H. Kitching (the Champion Trick Cyclist), and numerous other attractions.

Display of Fireworks and Grand Ball in the Evening.

Record Entries in all Live Stock Departments.

Excursions from Newcastle, Tynemouth (via Blackhill), South Shields and Sunderland (via Penshaw), and Special Trains from Durham.

292f F. O. KIRKUP, Hon. Sec.

COUNTY PALATINE OF DURHAM.

REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS.

REVISION COURTS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that OPEN COURTS will be held for the REVISION of the LISTS of Parliamentary, County Council, and Parochial ELECTORS in the several Divisions of this County at the times and places and for the several Townships or parts of Townships hereinafter mentioned, viz.:—

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

1.—At STANLEY, on THURSDAY, 21st September next, at 11 o'clock in the Forenoon, at the Police Buildings, for the following places, viz.:—

Collierley and Pontop, Greencroft, Greencroft Within, Kyo, Oxhill, Stanley, Tanfield

2.—At LANCHESTER, on FRIDAY, 22nd September next, at 10 o'clock in the Forenoon, at the Justice Room, for the following places, viz.:—

Cornsay, Craghead (Lanchester part only), Esh, Hedley Hope, Lanchester, Langley, Satley, South Cornsay, South Moor

3.—At BENFIELDSIDE, on FRIDAY, 22nd September next, at 4 o'clock in the Afternoon, at the School Board Offices, for the following places, viz.:—

Benfieldside, Consett, Ebchester, Edmondbyers, Healeyfield, Hunstanworth, Iveston, Knitsley, Medomsley, Muggleswick

All Overseers of the Poor, and others executing the duties of Overseers of the said Parishes, Townships, and Places, or any one of them, or any part thereof, are hereby summoned and required to attend PUNCTUALLY at the OPENING OF THE SAID COURTS, hereby appointed for their respective Parishes, Townships, and Places; and then and there to deliver to the Revising Barrister the *Original Notices of Claim and Objection* given to them by any Person or Persons, and also to produce all Rate Books, Documents, Papers and Writings in their possession, touching the Revision of the Lists of Voters relating to their said Parish or Township, pursuant to the provisions of the Statute in that behalf.

The Registration Acts empower the Revising Barrister to impose a Penalty not exceeding £5 nor less than £1 upon any Overseer for neglecting to attend his Court, or for any other breach of duty.

Dated this 4th day of September, 1899.

RALPH SIMEY, 257f Clerk of the County Council.

NEW THEATRE,

CONSETT.

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

Resident Manager .. Mr. LLOYD CLARANCE.

Last Three Nights of MESSRS. EGLINGTON and LITTLE'S CO. In the romantic Play—

BRAVE HEARTS.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 1899.

Mr. J. R. CASSIDY in the powerful Drama from the Surrey Theatre, London—THE

GOD OF WAR.

Time and Prices as usual.

Public Notices.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF DIPTON

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

572e G. NICHOLSON, Contractor.

CONSETT SCIENCE AND ART SCHOOLS.

SESSION, 1899—1900.

THE Committee desire to intimate that arrangements are made to conduct the following Subjects during the coming Session:

SCIENCE:—P.P. and Solid Geometry, 5s.; Machine Construction and Drawing, 5s.; Building Construction, 5s.; Mathematics, 5s.; Steam, 5s.; Applied Mechanics, 5s.; Physiography, 5s.

ART:—Freehand, 3s. 6d.; Geometrical Drawing, 3s. 6d.; Model Drawing, 3s. 6d.; Light and Shade, 10s.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE:—French, 5s.

EVENING CONTINUATION CLASSES.

French (preparatory), Shorthand, Algebra, Reading, Writing, Elementary Physics, Arithmetic, Commercial Arithmetic, Elementary Chemistry, Book-keeping, Mensuration, Freehand and Geometrical Drawing, Euclid, and Music.

Fees for Two or more Subjects, 2d. per week, or 2s. 6d. for the Session paid in advance.

Session commences with Evening Continuation Classes on 4th September, and the S. and A. Classes on Monday, September 18th, 1899.

Sales by Auction

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 1899.

15 to 20 Fat Cattle.
200 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
100 Mule Keeping Lambs, Ewes, and Wethers which will be sold seperately.
50 Half-bred Lambs, Ewes, and Wethers.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
Pork and Store Pigs.
Dairy Cows and Heifers.
Nets, Ladders, Ropes, Poultry, &c.

Sale at One o'clock.

310f J. S. MURRAY.

SPECIAL SALE OF KEEPING EWES and RAM LAMBS, Saturday, September 30th.

ANNUAL RAM SALE, Saturday, October 7th. Early entries for both solicited.

312f J. S. MURRAY.

To Saddlers, Farmers, Contractors, Dealers, Harness Makers, Householders, Leather Dealers, and Others.

IMPORTANT TWO DAYS' SALE, at West View, Blackhill, on Wednesday and Thursday, September 27th and 28th, the whole of the CONTENTS of Shop and House, belonging the Estate of the late Mr. C. Milburn, Saddler, Blackhill.

To attempt to Particularise would be an act of folly, but a Schedule of part of the Goods will be given in next Issue and Posters.

313f JOHN S. MURRAY.

JOHN SWINBURNE MURRAY,

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

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

By Messrs. R. March and Son

Greenside, 2¼ miles from Ryton and Wylam Stations.

On Wednesday, September 27th, 1899.

ANNUAL SALE of CATTLE, EWES, RAMS, and LAMBS, and FARMING STOCK of every class.

Early entries respectfully solicited.

R. MARCH and SON, Auctioneers, &c. Houghton-by-Wylam, September 8th, 1899.

By Mr John Crawford

Victoria Street Sale Rooms, Monday First.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to SELL the Surplus FURNITURE, removed from Crookhall House to his Sale Rooms, together with another Well-Furnished House of FURNITURE, consisting of 2 Sideboards, Brass Mounted Bedsteads, Drawers, Tables, Chairs, etc. Full particulars see posters. Anyone wishing to dispose of Furniture can have it sold at this sale. 314f

MR CRAWFORD will hold his SALE OF HORSES, VEHICLES, &c., in Gibson Street, Consett, at an early date. Please forward entries for the above. 315f

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

By Mr John T. Weston, Junr.

Preliminary Notice.

MR. JOHN T. WESTON, Jun. will short offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION Valuable Freehold PROPERTY, situated in Stanley, R.S.O., and being No. 1, Clifford Road (Stone Built), Eight Rooms, one of the best built houses in the district.

Sale Office— Cornwall House, Annfield Plain. 818e

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,

AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.

SALE OFFICE— CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

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

By Mr T. D. Dryden.

10, Prospect Terrace, Blackhill.

Important Sale of Cottage Furniture.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN, favoured with instructions from Mrs. N. Harris, who is leaving the District, will SELL BY AUCTION on MONDAY, September 18th, 1899, at one o'clock prompt, the whole of the FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, COMPRISING:

1 Oak Dining-room Suite in Leather, consisting of Couch, 6 Chairs, Lady's and Gentleman's Chairs, Mahogany Dining Table, with extra leaf, Lady's Walnut Work Table, 2 Gipsy Tables, Coal Vase, Fender and Fire-irons, Ashpan. 1 Square Breakfast Table, 2 Beautiful Cases of Stuffed Birds, Marble Timepiece, 2 Oil Paintings, 12 Oleographs, Carpet, Large Oilcloth, 3 Cornice Poles, Brackets, Ornaments, &c.

1 Painted Bedroom Suite, comprising Washstand, Dressing Table with Swing Glass, Drawers, 3-ft. Wardrobe, Pedestal, Towel Rail, and 2 Chairs; 2 Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, 2 Feather Beds, Bolsters, Pillows, &c., 1 Painted Washstand and Dressing Table and Drawers, Towel Rail, 6 Cane-bottomed Chairs, 2 Bedroom Carpets, Hearthrugs, Chamber Ware, Cornice Poles, Pictures, &c.

Kitchen Table, Couch, 4 Kitchen Chairs, Large Oilcloth, Hearthrug, Fender and Fire-irons, Wringing Machine, Hen House and Dog Kennel, with all the Pots, Pans, and Crockery of a well-kept Establishment.

Sale at One o'clock p.m.

T. D. Dryden, Auctioneer, Front Street, Consett. 233f.

No. 3, Stephen Street, Consett.

Important Sale of Splendid Household Furniture and Appointments.

Saturday, Sept. 16th, 1899, at 1-30 p.m. prompt.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN, favoured with instructions from J. Johnson, Esq., who is going abroad, will SELL BY AUCTION, the whole of his valuable FURNITURE and APPOINTMENTS, on Saturday, Sept. 16th 1899.

INVENTORY:

Splendid Walnut Drawing-Room Suite in Old Gold Figured Velvet (Seven Pieces); Walnut Overmantel, Bevelled Glass, with Brackets; Beautiful Walnut Suite, in Saddlebags (Nine Pieces); Gent's Mahogany Easy Chair, in Leather; Three-quarter Chest Mahogany Drawers; Whatnot; 2 Brass Curb Fenders and Fire Brasses, and Steel Fireirons; 2 Carpets; 2 Hearthrugs; 2 Oilcloth Squares; Passage Oilcloth; Stair Oilcloth; Stair Rods; Brass Cornice Pole; Bamboo Cornice, &c.; Brass and Iron Tudor Bedstead, with Wool Mattresses; Brass and Iron Bedstead, with Spring and Wool Mattresses; 4 Bedroom Chairs; Towel Rail; 4 Pairs of Window Shades; Kitchen Table; Fender and Fireirons; 3 Kitchen Chairs; Hearthrugs; Oil Lamp; Pots, Pans, Pails, Scuttles; Wringing Machine, nearly new; Posstub and Staff; Clothes Horse; 10 Door Mats, with all the other Appointments of a well-furnished establishment.

Also, a quantity of Joiners' Tools, Chisels, Saws, Side Fillister, 2 Bow Saws, &c., too numerous to mention.

A quantity of Books and Splendid Field Glass (very powerful).

Sale to commence at 1-30 p.m.

Order of Sale:

Kitchen Utensils and Furniture at 1-30 p.m.; Joiners' Tools at 3-30; Books to follow.

The Auctioneer would call special attention to this sale, as the Two Suites have only been in use four months, and everything is in the pink of condition, and no reserve.

Sale Office, 65, Front Street, Consett. 297f

T. D. DRYDEN,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, 56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

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

Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

Sales by Public Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

GREAT Two Days' PRIZE SHOW AND SALE of DRAUGHT and HARNESS HORSES and PONIES, Friday and Saturday, Sept. 22nd and 23rd. Prize schedule now ready. Entries close Wednesday morning, Sept. 20th. Early entries solicited. 307f

ANNUAL PRIZE SHOW AND SALE OF RAMS.

Saturday, Sept. 30th, 1899.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr. J. Green.

SHORT NOTICE.

2, Medomsley Road, Consett.

MR. JACKSON GREEN, Instructed by the Executors of the late Mr. R. H. Parker, Butsfield, will remove his HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE to the above address, and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, without reserve, together with a large quantity of Surplus Furniture belonging to Thomas Parker, who is removing to Butsfield, on Wednesday, September 20th, 1899, at One o'clock. For particulars see Bills.

Sale Office: Satley, Tow Law. 295f

Dene House, near Rowley.

THE AUTUMN HALF-YEARLY SALE will be held on Wednesday, October 4th, 1899, for which early entries are kindly invited.

JACKSON GREEN, Auctioneer,

296f Satley, Tow Law.

MR. JACKSON GREEN

AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.

Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.

All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.

SALE OFFICE—

SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

By Mr Jas. Turnbull

Chester-le-Street Auction Mart.

A GREAT SPECIAL SALE OF GRAZING CATTLE, YOUNG BULLS, &c., will be held on Monday, September 25th, 1899, in conjunction with Fat Stock Sale. ENTRIES are respectfully invited, which close Thursday next to ensure due publicity.

JAMES TURNBULL,

325f Auctioneer and Valuer.

Chester-le-Street Auction Mart.

THE NORTH DURHAM AND DISTRICT TWELFTH ANNUAL PRIZE SHOW and SALE of DRAUGHT and Half and Three-parts Bred FOALS, Colts and Fillies, to 3 years old, and BROOD MARES to 10 years old; also YOUNG HORSES, up to 6 years old, will be held on Wednesday, October 4th, 1899. Entries close Tuesday, Sept. 25th. Prize schedules on application to

JAMES TURNBULL Auctioneer.

Important Farm Stock Sale at Beamish Park, near Beamish Station.

MR JAMES TURNBULL, honoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Thomas Duncombe Eden, Esq., will SELL BY AUCTION, on Friday, September 22nd, 1899, the whole of the Valuable FARMING STOCK, HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, HAY, CORN, IMPLEMENTS, &c., as under—

5 Draught Horses.

1. Chestnut Horse, aged, 16 3 h.h.
2. Black Mare, aged, 15-2 h.h., in foal to "Blue Blood."
3. Bay Horse, aged 16-2 h.h.
4. Bay Colt, 3 years old, sire to "Blue Blood."
5. Bay Filly, 3 years old, sire "Blue Blood."

33 S.H. and Alderney Cattle.

8 Cows, calved and to calve, flush in milk, date of calving at sale.
1 S.H. Heifer, in calf to S.H. Bull.
10 S.H. and Crossed Alderney Stirks.
10 S.H. Calves, 6 to 9 months old.
2 Fat Bullocks.
1 S.H. Bull, 2 years old.
1 Alderney Bull, 2 years old.

72 Mule Sheep.

18 Ewes, 1, 2, and 3 crop.
32 Lambs, Ewes and Wedders.
22 Fat Shearlings.

Pigs.

1 Sow, 8 weeks gone in pig.
2 Shott Pigs.

Poultry and Ducks.

44 Fowls. 30 Chickens. 24 Ducks.

Hay and Produce.

Stack of Seed Hay, about 50 tons.
29 Acres of Oats, in Stack.
Stack of Old Land Hay, about 35 tons.
4 Acres of Barley, in stack.

Implements and Machinery.

Two Long Carts and 6 Coup Carts; 1 Water Cart; 1 Waggon; Wood Waggon; 3 Combined Reapers and Grass Cutters; Hay Tedder; Horse Hay Rake; American Hay Rake; 1 Moss Grubber; Scrubber; Turnip Drill; 2 Turnip Cutters; Large Croxhill Roller; Metal Roller; Pair of Potatoe Harrows; 4 Pair of Harrows; Cake Crusher; Corn Crusher; 7 D. M. B. Swing and Ribbing Ploughs; Chain Harrows; Hay Sweep; 3 Sheep Hay Racks; Winnowing and Weighing Machine; Set Cart Shelvings; Sack Barrow; 2 Liquid Manure Pumps; 30 Hurdles; 5 Long and Short Ladders; 1 Wire Strainer; Cart Cover; 2 Heavy Barrows; 4 Pinches; 3 Manure Drags; Stoves; 4 Hacks; Metal Well; Stubbing Hoe; Draining Tools; 4 Ice Forks; Augers; Stable and Byre Utensils; Scrap Iron and Metal; Draining Rods; Rakes; Forks; Gripes, &c., &c.

Harness.

Cart, Plough, and Trace Harness for four Draughts; Full set of Single Harness; Five Night Collars, Old Harness, &c., &c.

Also, 8 h.p. Horizontal Engine and Boiler, by Foster and Thwaites, Durham, 10ft. fly wheel, 2ft. stroke, Egg End Boiler, 16ft. 6in. by 4ft. 6in. (used for saw mill and thrashing machine), with Oat Crusher complete; Bellows and Anvil, &c., &c.

Sale at 1 p.m.

The auctioneer in drawing the attention of the public to this sale would wish them to note that the whole of the stock to be sold has been selected with the greatest care. The horses are a very useful lot indeed. The cows are suitable either for gentlemen's or dairymen's use. The ewes are a good sound lot, and the fat stock of excellent quality. The stacks of hay are this year's growth of the finest quality. The corn stacks were all well got.

The farm is within five minutes, walk of Beamish Station on the Annfield Plain Branch.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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

NATHAN ELSDON.

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

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

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

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.

WILLIAM ATNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.

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

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, September 15th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

THERE IS A SAYING that a man is never estimated at his true worth until after he has gone from amongst us. Whether this be so or not, the fact remains that the inexorable law of contrast always intensifies the vacuum caused by the removal of a good man of vigorous personality. Such was the loss sustained by the parishioners of Castleside by the removal by death of their dear and respected pastor, the Rev. Wesley Farrar. Labouring for twenty-eight years, from the very foundation of the Church (it was his life's work), it could be truthfully said of him that he laid down his life for his friends. As the Rev. Arthur Watts, of Witton Gilbert, observed in the course of his eloquent sermon at Castleside on Sunday morning, Mr. Farrar spared neither time, money, nor energy in his labour of love for the good of his parishioners and the welfare of the parish generally; and it must have been a most gratifying and consoling feeling to Mrs. Farrar and the other members of the family to know and feel the great appreciation with which those labours have been received.

IF PUBLIC SYMPATHY and general respect for a departed pastor could do anything to alleviate temporary sorrow, then indeed must that burden have been lightened for

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, September 15th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

at least a while in the beautiful memorial service which was held last Sunday, in respect and honour of the late beloved Vicar and neighbour. On one common platform of Christian love and esteem met together all shades of religious opinion. The representative character of the Memorial Fund Committee, and of the congregation which gathered in Castleside Church on Sunday morning, were the best testimonies to the common regard and esteem in which Mr. Farrar was held in the parish and district generally. Most of the local public bodies were also represented by different councillors, School Board members, etc., whilst many friends walked from Consett and other places around Castleside to pay their tribute of appreciation, and to look upon the memorial window towards which they had willingly given their mite in order to perpetuate the memory of a beloved friend. The service was a most impressive one, and nothing could have been in better taste than the eloquent discourse from the Rev. A. Watts, who spoke in high terms of the work, abilities, and character of the late Mr. Farrar.

A RATHER NOVEL SIGHT was witnessed at Wolsingham on Thursday last, which is explained in the following particulars supplied to us:—At the ordinary meeting of the Weardale Rural District Council held at Stanhope on Friday (Mr. J. W. Roddam, J.P., in the chair), the Surveyor (Mr. W. M. Egglestone, C.S.I.), reported that on the previous evening he had called together the members of the Wolsingham Committee of the Council to witness the opening fire-plug practice of the newly-established Fire Brigade for Wolsingham. The members of the local committee present were Councillors W. Love (chairman), J. A. Snowdon, G. R. Wooler, Geo. Mainprize, J. D. Brownless, and Chas. Strong; the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Devey; and the Surveyor. The Parish Councillors and a large number of citizens turned out to witness the first muster of the brigade. At the appointed time (6.30) the fire bell was rung, and the firemen hastened to the fire-station, where, under Captain Hawdon, they were soon equipped and on their way to the Market-place. Here, in a very short time, the stand-pipe was fixed, and the firemen with their hose were soon in full action. The first display was the captain of the Town Hall, which was first crowned by an arch of liquid diamonds thrown over it at a height of several feet above the roof from jets on each side of the building, then as it was enveloped by the resulting spray the firemen directed their jets against the roof and masonry, and the splash and dash of the streams which welled the pavements after doing duty on the walls, proved the great pressure and the abundance of the supply of water, and foreshadowed the efficiency of the apparatus in case of fire. The display elicited three cheers from the spectators. A similar drill took place at two other points, High Street and Church Lane, the full practice occupying an hour. At a meeting of the committee held after the practice—Coun. Love in the chair—Coun. Snowdon, on behalf of the members, congratulated the Surveyor upon the very satisfactory and well-equipped brigade which had been turned out, and also complimented Capt. Hawdon and his men upon the style and marked precision which had been shown in carrying out the various duties involved in fire brigade work. It was unanimously agreed that particulars of the event be recorded in the minutes. Our representative has been informed by Mr. Egglestone, the Surveyor, that Wolsingham is a Special Drainage District of the Weardale Rural District Council, has a population of 2,000, and is supplied with water by the Weardale and Shildon Waterworks Co. There are 28 fire-plugs at the mains, with eight private plugs, and the apparatus consists of one double-headed standpipe, two copper hand-pipes with half-inch jets, 200 yards of 2½-inch canvas hose in 50 feet lengths, fitted with 12 pairs of Morris's couplings, and a hand hose reel which has proved to be a most suitable one. There are six firemen, who have uniform, with lamps and axes, and the fire-bell is fixed at the police station. The town is to be congratulated on having councillors who are progressive in the interests of the public.

AT A TIME WHEN the name of Dreyfus—that victim to military despotism in France—is uppermost in the minds of most people it will perhaps not be out of place to relate a somewhat amusing incident which took place in a barber's shop at Consett on Monday morning. The proprietor, Mr. Brown, was discussing the recent trial with a customer, when he was interrupted by an elderly labourer in the shop, who eagerly asked, "Who is Dreyfus? Is he a Consett man?" It is needless to add that this sally caused much laughter, and even the barber's cat was seen to smile. The man was quite ignorant upon the matter, and he will, no doubt still be asking himself the question, "Who is Dreyfus?"

A QUESTION OF SOME importance to this locality came before the Magistrates at the recent Gateshead Brewster Sessions, viz., the subject of Sunday leek shows. As is well-known, it has been the custom for years past to hold these annual shows on Sundays, and in public-houses at many of the villages round about. In certain quarters the practice has been taken exception to, the latest complaint coming from the Felling. It seems that the Magistrates have no power to prevent the holding of these shows on licensed premises so long as no drink is sold during prohibited hours. This seems just enough, too, after all. No doubt it would be better, from a certain standpoint, if other buildings could be utilised for the purpose; but in many villages no accommodation is obtainable of a suitable kind, and it would be a pity, under the circumstances, to make the conditions too restricted. At the same time, where these shows are open over the Saturday and Monday, we think that the promoters would be well advised to allow no inspection of the exhibits during the Sabbath day.

IT CAN BE TRUTHFULLY SAID that never before has the hon. member for North-West Durham been engaged in a more successful campaign than that he is at present prosecuting in the constituency. At every place he has visited he has been favoured with the most cordial of receptions, and it is plainly evident that Liberalism is very much alive in North-West Durham. One of the finest expositions of the Transvaal trouble that we have ever listened to was given by Mr. Atherley-Jones at Stanley on Thursday night, and we advise all of our readers interested in the subject—and their name is legion—to read the report of the hon. member's masterly speech, which appears in our columns. He emphatically declared that the points of difference between England and the Transvaal were capable of adjustment without having recourse to war; and we think that everyone not imbued with the spirit of Jingoism will earnestly pray that even yet there will be no bloodshed, but that the issues in dispute will be settled in a manner satisfactory and honourable to both sides without a shot being fired. In our opinion, those are no true friends of England who are exulting over the probability of our going to war with the Transvaal. Those people who talk the loudest have never taken the trouble to reckon up what the cost would be should hostilities break out between us and the Boers. That we should easily crush them does not admit of the slightest doubt, but would the gain be commensurate with the outlay? That is a question which we may well ponder.

MR. ATHERLEY-JONES possesses the gift of being able to say something fresh and entertaining at all his meetings, and, when we consider that he is speaking on five nights per week, this is a more difficult task than many people imagine. But the hon. member is never at a loss. Give him a subject, and we will guarantee that he delivers you an interesting and instructive speech. Apropos of Mr. Jones' meetings, we may mention that a record gathering is expected at Consett next Thursday night. In addition to Mr. Jones himself, the audience will have the pleasure of listening to Mr. J. A. Pease, one of the Liberal whips, and a coming man. Arrangements are being made for the 9.50 train from Newcastle, via the Derwent Valley line, to stop at Leadgate, Annfield Plain, and Stanley, and this will be a great boon to visitors from those places. We understand that there have been several applications for tickets, but it has been decided not to issue any, so that the first-comers will get the best places. Should it be found necessary, an overflow meeting will be held near the fountain.

WE ARE PLEASED TO LEARN that there is every likelihood of the Billiard Tournament again being a huge success. Owing to circumstances over which they had no control, the Consett Irish Institute has been obliged to drop out. We are sorry for this, as they were a most enthusiastic lot, and in Mr. Thomas Forkin they possessed a secretary second to none. However, the absence of Consett Irish will be made up for by the new-comers, Allendale Cottages and Shotley Bridge, and there should once more be a very keen competition before the championship is decided. It is gratifying to note that Coun. W. Foreman and Mr. Joseph Askew have been re-elected chairman and secretary respectively. A couple of better men for the posts they occupy it would be almost impossible to find, and much of the success of the tournament has been due to their unselfish labours on its behalf. With characteristic generosity, Mr. Ainsworth has again offered to present a handsome cue to the player who makes the highest break in tournament games, whilst the committee have resolved that, in addition to receiving the trophy, the winning team shall also be presented with six silver medals. We heartily approve of this idea, as each individual member of the champion team will then be able to point to the reward of his prowess in the competition. A start will be effected next month, and then there will be a busy time until well on in the new year. The tournament has our best wishes for its success.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

BY "ROSICRUCIAN."

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

When County Councils were empowered to form classes in technical and commercial subjects, offering excellent tuition at a nominal cost, the impression created was that a very popular step had been taken and that the young men and women of the day would flock to the local secretaries anxious to give in their names and pay their meagre fees. But how often does it happen that in many desirable subjects teachers have a tardy array of pupils before them, and sometimes classes cannot be formed for want of pupils? On the face of it these classes ought to be and are attractive and yet students hold back. Where is the flaw. Does it lie in the ever increasing tendency to stiffen the examination papers and so discourage sensitive pupils? Whatever the cause the matter is one which requires very careful consideration so that means may be adopted to give due effect to so excellent a measure. There must be some powerful reason that in a district like Stanley and South Moor, such subjects as mining, sound, light and heat, machine construction, and drawing, applied mechanics and steam, should draw so few pupils. It is to be feared that what is true of Stanley is also true of other districts. I should like to know the views of some of the teachers.

Now and again complaints are made to local Districts Councils of buildings having been erected, wholly or partially, or altered, before any authorised plan has been obtained and there have been instances where offenders have been fined. The Rev. T. H. Archdall had a case to lay before the Tanfield Council last week, in which the offender was himself a member of the Council. It was a curious case of illegal action throughout. On the strength of verbal approval on the part of the Surveyor, alterations were made to two cottages at Middle Friarside, but while the Surveyor might in a casual way give a verbal approval that could not in any way bind the Council, and no member of the Council ought to have required enlightenment on that point. To proceed with the work without submitting the plan was not only wrong, but it subsequently led the Council into an illegal action by granting habitation certificates. Mr. Archdall, under the circumstances, was justified in moving the rescinding of the minute, and it is more than likely that the lesson will not be lost.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT NOTES

[BY "OBSERVER."]

THE CONDITION OF BURNOPFIELD.

I see I am being severely taken to task for the note re drunkenness at Burnopfield. Criticism was to be expected, and will do no harm. It pleases me to think that the statement I made was not warranted, at least according to correspondents, and I trust that the village will continue to hold that high place for sobriety, etc., which is claimed for it by "A Life-long Resident."

FELLSIDE FLOWER SHOW.

Fellside Flower Show is often a very good one for the quality of the exhibits, and this year was no exception to the rule. Some of the stands of flowers and vegetables were really a credit to the exhibitors and showed how deep an interest the amateur gardener takes in the cultivation of his small allotment.

LIBERALISM.

Has the Burnopfield Liberal Association ceased to exist? It seems a long time since any meetings were held. I see Mr Atherley-Jones is coming to visit the village. Maybe he will be the means of gathering the scattered forces together.

MORE LIGHT.

I hear the Whickham U.D.C. intend lighting up Crookgate. Why not continue the lamps right up to Byer Moor? I am sure it would be for the public benefit.

DREYFUS.

Nearly everybody you meet seems to have an idea that the recent trial of Dreyfus has ended in a gross miscarriage of justice.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Colonel Coulson deserves credit for his efforts in trying to suppress cruelty to animals. He seems to think that pit ponies come in for a good measure of bad usage. Perhaps they do in some cases, but I think the ponies of the Marley Hill Colliery Company must be well treated, for I hear of several reaching a good age. At Byer Moor is to be seen one which is 31 years old, having been in the mine for 25 years. His eyesight still remains good. There are others still working in some of the collieries whose ages vary from 18 to 25 years.

CATHOLIC BAZAAR AT WATERHOUSES.

On Thursday afternoon a three days' bazaar was opened in the New House, Roman Catholic School, Waterhouses, by Lady Smythe, of Acton Burnel, Shropshire, to clear off the debt of £900 remaining on the New House schools at Cornsay, both connected with the Roman Catholic mission at Waterhouses in charge of the Rev. Father Fortin. The preliminary work had been carried on with much energy by the ladies of the parish, and a sale of work of considerable proportions was the result. Prior to the opening ceremony luncheon was served in the new workmens' club. The Rev. Father Fortin presided, and among those present were Sir Walter Smythe, owner of the Esh estate of which New House forms a part, Lady Smythe, Capt. Smythe, Mrs. Percy Smith, Broadwood; Mrs. Taylor Smith, Colepike Hall; Col. Leadbitter Smith, Mr. Wm. Leadbitter Smith, Flass Hall; Dr. Hare, Waterhouses; Dean Berry, Walker; Fathers Costello, Sacriston; Colley, Tow Law; Forster, Castle Eden; Harris, Esh; Hayes, Jarrow; Holmes, Chester-le-Street; Kyte, Scotswood; Magill, Brooms; Murphy, Felling; Myler, Witton Park; Sheehan, Cornforth; Thornton, Durham; Symonds, Prudhoe; Thorman, Langley Moor; Walsh, Wallsend; and Collins, Newcastle. After luncheon the company adjourned to the schools, where Lady Smythe performed the opening ceremony.—The Rev. Father Fortin, in introducing Lady Smythe spoke of the co-operation he had received in the effort from both within and without his church. He had received contributions from a great many places and a great many people, irrespective of creed or anything else. A Jew had sent them a watch, and they had received contributions from members of the Church of England, the Baptists, the Wesleyans, the Primitives, and the Salvation Army. He took that opportunity of thanking all that had helped them. (Applause.)—Lady Smythe in a few appropriate sentences then declared the bazaar open. (Applause.)—Sir Walter Smythe also spoke, and said that he was pleased to have that opportunity of helping on the good work Father Fortin had in hand, and also pleased to have an opportunity of meeting his friends and tenantry in that locality. (Applause.) The business of the bazaar then proceeded. The following ladies presided at the stalls:—Lady Smythe, Miss Riddell, Miss Leadbitter-Smith, Mrs Taylor-Smith, Miss Minto, Miss Cancannon, Mrs Mulholland, Mrs Piercy-Taylor-Smith, Mrs Hill, Mrs McCallum, Mr E. Taylor, jun., Mr. E. Henderson, and Miss A. B. Caird. The bazaar remained open over Friday and Saturday.

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

Local and District News.

Consett.

POLICE COURT.—On Monday morning before Mr. Wm. Aynsley, John Duffy, a labourer, of no fixed abode was fined 2/6 and costs for having been drunk in Queen Street, Consett, in the early hours of the day.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS.—On Monday afternoon, Miss P. Symington, who has completed her apprenticeship as pupil teacher in Consett National Schools, and obtained a First-class in the last scholarship examination, was presented with a handsome writing-desk as a farewell gift from managers, teachers, and scholars. Miss Symington enters St. Hilda's College, Durham, for a period of two years.

A YOUTH IN TROUBLE.—At the Consett Police Court on Tuesday morning, before Mr. W. Aynsley, Michael Smith, a youth 14 years of age, living at 3, William Street, Blackhill, was remanded for eight days on a charge of the larceny of an air gun, valued at 8/6, the property of Mr. George Christopher, of Blackhill. The officer, P.C. Hildreth, said that on the morning of Sept. 6th, between 10 and 11 a.m., from enquiries which he made, he had learned that the prisoner had stolen the air gun. The prisoner pleaded guilty.

DEATH OF A CONSETT LADY IN AUSTRALIA.—News has just reached Consett of the death of Mrs. Elizabeth McIlroy, which took place at 148, Philip Street, Glenarra, Sydney, on August 1st. The deceased lady, who had reached the advanced age of 80 years, was the mother of Mr. Thomas McIlroy, who was for many years connected with the brethren who hold religious meetings in Consett at the present time. She was also a sister of Mrs. Fraser, the wife of the late Mr. Robt. Fraser, who was for a long period the respected postmaster of Consett.

Annfield Plain.

METHODIST FREE CHURCH MISSION.—On Sunday, services were conducted by Mr. H. Staines, of West Pelton. In the afternoon Mr. Staines discoursed on "The Message of Hope in the Night of Storm;" and in the evening he eloquently described the virtues of the fountain that never dries. The solo in the evening was sung by Miss H. Littlefair. Good companies assembled at each service.

Burnopfield

U. M. F. C.—A meeting in connection with the consecration movement was held on Thursday night, when a stirring sermon was preached by Mr. Geo. Dixon, Newcastle.

Chester-le-Street

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

Mr. C. McLeod the well-known Australian cricketer, has been spending a few days in Chester-le-Street, where he has some friends.

THE "WILD WEST."—The "Wild West" show at Chester-le-Street was an enormous success last week, for over 7,000 people passed through the gates, and in cash alone £105 was taken. The sale of tickets was also very large. After all expenses have been paid it is estimated that there will be a clear profit of about £120. This cannot be anything else but satisfactory to the committee, who put a great deal of energy into the work of making the "Wild West" a success.

CHURCH WORK.—The anniversary of the dedication of St. Bartholomew's Mission Church at Chester Moor has been celebrated by special services, which concluded on Sunday evening. The special preachers were Canon Body, the Rev. C. F. B. Halsewood, and the Rector, the Rev. A. B. De Moleyns, M.A. It is just a year since the mission Church was built, chiefly through the instrumentality of Mrs. De Moleyns, the esteemed wife of the Rector, who was ably and liberally supported by Sir Lindsay Wood, Bart. Sir Lindsay not only gave a site for the church and subscribed liberally to the cost of the building but he placed at the service of Mrs. De Moleyns a comfortable and substantial stone building, suitable for Sunday School class and other meetings. The arrangements for the week's dedication festival were carried out by Mrs. De Moleyns with characteristic energy and success.

Catchgate

FREE CHURCH CHOIR.—On Wednesday evening the above choir will render the cantata entitled "The Prodigal Son." in the Catchgate Free Church.

Dunston

EXPENSIVE FIREWORKS.—The Gateshead Bench of Magistrates on Thursday fined three Dunston youths 2/6 each and costs for discharging fireworks in the streets.

CONSERVATISM.—On Tuesday night, under the auspices of the Chester-le-Street Division Unionist Association, an open-air meeting was held at Dunston, when addresses were delivered by Mr. Harold S. Neale, of Berwick, and Mr. P. Thompson, of Gateshead.

TRESPASSING UPON THE RAILWAY.—Thomas Harle was charged at the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday with trespassing upon the North-Eastern Railway at Dunston, on the 31st ult.—The accused, who promised not to repeat the offence, was dismissed upon payment of the costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.—At the Gateshead County Court on Thursday, Henry Cunningham and Thomas Bendelon were charged with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Dunston, on the 26th ult.—The defendants were bound over to keep the peace for six months, and ordered to pay the costs.

CHORAL SOCIETY.—The members of the Dunston Choral Society commenced their weekly practices on Tuesday evening, when about fifty members were present. The society is fast gaining for itself a reputation for good choral singing, which will no doubt be greatly enhanced as the season advances.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, William Watson and Wm. Iley were charged with having committed a breach of the peace by fighting at Swalwell, on the 2nd inst.—The defendant Iley was bound over to keep the peace, and ordered to pay the costs, whilst a warrant was issued for the arrest of Watson, who failed to appear.

MAN AND WIFE.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, Wm. McQuiggan, of Spoor Street, Dunston, was charged with having assaulted his wife, Catherine McQuiggan, at Dunston, on the 31st ult.—The prosecutrix stated that about 11 p.m. on the night in question her husband came home drunk and commenced to knock her about.—The accused was bound over to keep the peace towards his wife, and ordered to pay the costs.

AQUATICS.—On Monday the members of the Dunston Rowing Club opened a new boathouse in the presence of a large number of local sportsmen. The building, which is a two-storey one, is admirably adapted to suit the requirements of the club. At the conclusion of the opening ceremony, which was performed by Mr. R. Hepplewhite, of Elswick, the company adjourned to the Lord Collingwood Hotel, where an excellent repast was provided.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Sunday, successful flower services were held in the Dunston Wesleyan Chapel. The interior of the building was profusely and artistically decorated with flowers etc. The pulpit was occupied both morning and evening by Mr. Hall, of Gateshead, who preached to large congregations. Special anthems were feelingly rendered by the choir, under the leadership of Mr. Joseph Coulthard. Mr. T. Meredith discharged the duties of accompanist. On Monday afternoon a largely attended tea was held.

DEATH OF MRS. ELIZABETH WHITFIELD.—We record with regret the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Whitfield, of the Atlas Rivet Works, Dunston, which took place on Saturday. The deceased lady, who was 53 years of age, was an earnest Sunday School worker, and her influences for good were widely felt. She was of a most generous and kindly disposition, and she leaves behind her the evergreen memory of a sacred life. The remains of the deceased were laid to rest in Dunston Cemetery on Wednesday in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends.

M. N. C. CHAPEL.—The anniversary services in connection with the Methodist New Connexion Chapel, Dunston, were continued on Sunday. The pulpit in the afternoon was occupied by Mr. R. Teasdale, of Gateshead, whilst in the evening a musical service was held, the proceedings being presided over by Mr. C. McIntyre. Some admirable selections of music were rendered by the choir, under the leadership of Mr. John Noble. Mr. Maddock was accompanist. On Monday afternoon a well-attended tea was held, whilst in the evening a public meeting took place. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. Hopper, sen., and addresses were given by the Rev. Walter Scott and other gentlemen.

Blackhill.

ALTERATION OF DATE OF SALE.—We have been asked to draw attention to the altered date of sale of Mrs. M. Harris' furniture, which takes place at 10, Prospect Terrace, Blackhill, on Monday first, Sept. 18th. The sale was first announced to take place on Monday last.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST GALA.—On Saturday afternoon a Primitive Methodist gala was held in a field adjoining Ritson Road, Benfieldside, and being favoured with fine weather there was a large attendance. A procession was formed at the Fountain in Front Street, Consett, and headed by the Consett Mission Band proceeded to the gala field. The proceedings throughout were of a formal nature but none the less enjoyable. Members of local choirs whiled away a few hours by singing hymns and anthems, and between 5 and 6 o'clock an al fresco tea was served, the needs of the company being attended to by the following ladies:—Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Phillipson, Mrs. Turnbull, Miss Swinscoe, Miss Greenwood, Miss Williams, Miss Taylor, Miss Skelton, Miss Lowes Miss Thompson, Mrs. Bullock, Miss Liddle, and Mrs. Chorley. The Revs. James Taylor and J. S. Nightingale were present, but an intention to deliver addresses was disposed with.

Castleside

BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—A public meeting will be held in the P.M. Chapel, Castleside, on Wednesday first, at 7 o'clock. There will be solos, recitations, addresses, &c.

Ebchester

LEEK SHOW.—The annual leek show will be held at the house of Mr W. Temperley, Raven Inn, Broomhill, on Saturday first.

Leadgate.

SCHOOL TREAT.—The annual school treat and field-day, in connection with St. Ives Church day and Sunday Schools, were held on Friday last. After meeting together at the Infants' School in Bradley Square, the children marched in procession along Front Street, with banners flying, to St. Ives Church, where a short service was held. This over, the assembled scholars proceeded to the school adjoining, where considerably over 500 sat down to tea, provided by the kindness of many friends in the parish. With many willing hands to help, all wants were soon provided for, ample justice being done to the tea provided. A move was then made to a field (kindly lent for the day by Mr. T. Foreman), where games and sports were indulged in till dusk. Then, after a most enjoyable day, the company separated, all unwilling though the younger members might be.

Langley Park

The Langley Park show will be held on Saturday first in a field near Witton Gilbert Station. The entries in all departments, especially the live stock, are a record, and are far in excess of any similar show ever held in the North of England, and come from all parts of the kingdom. Good entries have also been obtained for the Brass Band contest and foot handicap, and there are also numerous other attractions to interest the public. The Railway Company are running excursion trains, and it only requires a fine day to make the exhibition a great success.

Medomsley.

ALLENDALE PARK A.F.C. SPORTS.—These sports are fixed to take place at Medomsley on Saturday first, and should draw a large crowd. The committee are offering some valuable prizes, including cruets, cases of cutlery, &c. There will also be a washing competition, for which the Sunlight Soap Company are giving handsome prizes. A Football match—Allendale v. Throckley—should prove a great attraction.

Marley Hill

SOCIAL.—In connection with the Primitive Methodist Christian Endeavour Society, a successful supper and entertainment was held on Saturday night. The society is only of recent formation, but is making good progress.

Rowland's Gill

ENDEAVOUR RALLY.—On Saturday a Christian Endeavour Rally was held at Rowland's Gill, when a goodly number of people assembled.

Shotley Bridge

WESLEYAN CHURCH.—In connection with the chapel anniversary on Sunday first, special sermons will be preached (morning and evening) by the Rev A. Barraclough.

STACK FIRE.—On Friday morning a fire broke out in the stackyard at Bridge Hill Farm, the property of Messrs Annandale and Sons, paper manufacturers, of Shotley Bridge and Lintzford. A wheat stack, value £30, was totally destroyed.

THE FLOWER SHOW.—We are pleased to hear that the above show has proved a great success. The committee have resolved to pay 8d per part—this being 2d per part higher than for some years—and carry forward a balance for next year. Mr. J. H. Coupland (the energetic secretary) and the various other officials are to be congratulated upon the satisfactory outcome of their labours.

Stanley.

The Rev. R. Robinson, Primitive Methodist minister at West Stanley, is, we regret to say, somewhat seriously indisposed and confined to his room. He will be unable to officiate on Sunday.

SECULAR LECTURE.—Mr. G. W. Foote, "the popular atheist," delivered a lecture in the Board Schools, at West Stanley, on Saturday night on the subject "Life, death, and after." Mr. H. Nicholson presided over a large audience.

STANLEY DISTRICT COUNCIL.—An adjourned meeting of the members of this Council was held on Wednesday evening when the tenders of Mr. W. E. Simpson, of Ellison Place, Newcastle, for street improvements in Stanley, and that Mr. Wm. Garnett for South Moor, were accepted.

FOOTBALL SMOKING CONCERT.—As a further exemplification of their interest in and generosity towards the local football clubs Mr. and Mrs Chaytor, of the Queen's Hotel, West Stanley, entertained on Tuesday night the members of the Stanley United Football Club to a smoking concert. Mr. John Chaytor presided, and Mr. Sep. Chisholm occupied the vice-chair. After a few appropriate remarks by the chairman songs were rendered by Messrs J. Fletcher, A. Atkinson, J. Wood, J. Auburn, R. Watt, G. Purvis, J. Mumford, and others. Light refreshments were served and a very pleasant evening was spent.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.—At the quarterly meeting of the Stanley Primitive Methodist Circuit it was reported that the income for the quarter had amounted to £104 14s 9d against an expenditure of £80 17s 2½d The membership was 838 showing a slight decrease. The invitations to the Rev. R. Robinson, and the Rev. D. Kyles were extended for another year. A Committee was appointed to select a site for the second minister's residence.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—There can be no doubt as to the popularity of the Irish Musical play "The Wearin' o' the Green," for wherever it goes it draws large audiences, and deservedly so. It is doing so this week at Mr. Lindon's house in West Stanley, and though the season is yet young it must be admitted that Mr. Lindon is giving clear evidence of his determination to give the best of goods to his customers. Messrs Walter Howard and Chalmers Mackey have no reason to regret the staging of their four act play. Ever since the first production it has hit the public fancy and as it has been before, it is now, and will be again welcome to Stanley audiences.

LECTURE BY THE REV T. WAUGH.—On Thursday afternoon last, the Rev. T. Waugh, Connexional Evangelist, delivered a sermon at the Wesleyan Church, Stanley on "Prayer and Providence." There was a large congregation and the sermon was greatly enjoyed. Afterwards a tea was provided in the school-room at which 150 persons sat down. The various tables were presided over by Mrs. T. Brown, Mrs. Ormston, Mrs. Shevels, Mrs. Jeffery, Mrs Hartley, Mrs. Mallams, Mrs. Humble and Mrs. Calvert. In the evening Mr. Waugh gave a lecture on "Christianity and Amusements." There was a very large audience. Mr. T. Wilkinson, of Lanchester, occupied the chair and in a few words introduced Mr. Waugh to the audience. The lecturer, who was received with prolonged applause, said that the subject of his lecture was one of the greatest topics of the day. Everybody needed amusement of some kind, but they were not at liberty to go in for amusement that was sinful, or that interfered with their lives. In speaking about dancing Mr. Waugh said that the heated atmosphere of the ball-room accounted for many headaches which often followed a ball. He had heard it said that the various movements in dancing gave a good pose to the body. An ordinary walk gave quite as good a pose. Mr. Waugh also said a few words about the stage. He mentioned Mr. Clement Scott's article on the morality of the stage, but he said he would not like to go as far as the eminent critic went. There was a great deal of immorality among those connected with the stage. The meeting concluded, shortly afterwards, with the usual votes of thanks.

Stanhope.

STRIKE AT A STANHOPE QUARRY.—About 100 workmen at the Ashes Quarry, Stanhope, belonging to Messrs Ord and Maddison are out on strike, their notices terminating on Friday. They are asking for the same rate of Union wages as are paid at the other local quarries. At a meeting held by them on Monday they positively refused arbitration on the matter.

Swalwell.

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.—A welcome addition to Swalwell station will soon be effected in the shape of extra waiting-room accommodation. The work of erecting an additional waiting room is fast nearing completion. The structure, which will be about 50 feet long, by about 8 feet broad, will fill a long-felt want.

Tow Law.

EPIDEMIC OF MEASLES.—The epidemic of measles is reported to be prevalent in Tow Law, and in consequence of the malady a number of children have been prevented from attending school.

THE NEW MINISTER.—On Sunday the Rev. David Stothard, the newly-appointed minister at Tow Law, preached his first sermon in the Wesleyan Chapel, the building being filled with a large congregation. The rev. gentleman's power in the pulpit is much above the average, and he has already won for himself golden opinions.

ACCIDENT TO A MINER.—On Monday morning a sad accident befel a miner named Thomas Best, whilst following his employment at West Thornley Colliery. The unfortunate man, it is stated, was caught by a fall of debris, with the result that he sustained rather severe injuries about the head, and his ankle was also injured. He was at once conveyed to his home in Station Road, Tow Law, where he received medical attention at the hands of Dr. Tiplady.

Tanfield

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. AGAR, OF TANFIELD.—When, a few months ago, Mr. Robert Agar, who for a long number of years had held the position of school-master at Tanfield, announced his resignation under the provisions of the new order issued by the Education Department, it was felt that his retirement ought to be marked by some suitable testimonial on the part of the old scholars and of his many well wishers. The idea was first voiced by Mr. Henderson, of Gateshead through the columns of the "Consett Guardian" and took shape on Wednesday night when a meeting was held at the Pack Horse Inn, at Tanfield. Provisionally Mr. A. Atkinson was appointed president, Mr. Joseph Robinson, treasurer, and Mr. Thomas Curry, secretary. Mr. Atkinson presided over a good company and among those present were Messrs J. Robinson, Pringle, Brewis, Low, Rev. T. H. Archdall, Anderson, Wallace, R. Henderson (Gateshead), and the secretary, Mr. T. Curry. After a short discussion it was resolved to hold another meeting on Thursday, Sept. 28th.

Weardale

BENTS SHOW BLOCK TEST.—The results are as follows:—Fat beast—1st, William Burdess, Burtree, 40st 3lbs.; 2nd, T. W. Kidd, Cowshill, 40st. 9lbs. The weight was 40st. 4½lbs. Fat sheep—1st, T. V. Kidd, 60½lbs.; 2nd, the following divide:—J. J. Dent, Sunderland Cleugh, 61lbs.; William Thompson, Pryhill, 60lbs.; H. Emmerson, Coptbill, 60lb.; Jos. Coatsworth, Low Houses, Middleton-in-Teasdale, 60lbs.

Whickham

RATES.—At the next meeting of the Whickham Council the members will be called upon to consider the precept for the ensuing half-year, and, in order to meet this, a general district rate of probably 1/4 or 1/5 in the £ will be levied.

PROPOSED CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW.—We understand that the recent exhibition held under the auspices of the Whickham Floral and Horticultural Society has been of such a successful nature that the executive will, in all probability, hold a Chrysanthemum Show, and an exhibition of other winter plants.

Wolsingham

PETTY SESSIONS.—Tuesday, Sept. 5th.—Before Mr. C. J. Backhouse and Mr. W. Stobbart.—For being drunk and disorderly the following persons were fined:—John Cagan, 10/-; Michael Murphy, 12/6; Robert Hodgson, 12/6; Bridget Doran (24th appearance), 22/6; James Murphy, 10/-; Wm. Hymoor, 7/6; George Fleming, 7/6; John Pinkney, 7/6; Thos. Maiven, 12/6; John Thompson, 7/6; John Renninghan, 7/6; Michael Harker, 7/6.—Jacob Brown, Tow Law, was charged with doing wilful damage to a door. Defendant did not appear, and was fined 1/-, and 6d damage, and costs.—George Wm. Ayton, Thornley, was charged by Wm. Craggs with trespassing on land with dog and gun over which he had the shooting-rights, belonging to Ann Craggs. Defendant said he had leave, and Mrs. Craggs' son corroborated. Case dismissed.—Edward Plews, charged with committing a breach of the peace at Tow Law, on the 5th ult., did not appear on account of being ill. Case adjourned.—Walter Miles was also charged by P.C. Flynn with a similar offence at Tow Law, on the 16th ult., and was bound over for 3 months on his own recognisances of £5, and ordered to pay the costs.

FUNERAL OF MISS HANNAH MURRAY, OF CONSETT.

The mortal remains of the above young lady—whose demise at such an early age called forth numerous expressions of grief and sympathy—were laid to rest on Friday afternoon, in the Benfieldside Cemetery. The "cortege" left the residence of deceased's parents, The Villa, Consett, shortly before two o'clock, and made the short journey to Christ Church, Consett, where an impressive service was held, the sacred edifice being filled with relatives and friends. The beautiful hymn, "Lead, kindly light," was first sung, after which the 9th Psalm was chanted. The Rev. M. J. B. Bennett (curate) then read the Burial Service for the dead, and the ceremony came to an end, the organist (Mr. Surtees) playing the "Dead March" in "Saul" as the congregation filed out of the Church. The procession was re-formed, and all along the line there were crowds of people (who openly expressed their sympathy for the bereaved family), whilst the blinds at nearly all the principal houses were drawn as a mark of respect to the deceased young lady, who was very popular with all who knew her. The maids (Miss Gray and Miss E. Armstrong) preceded the hearse, carrying handsome wreaths, whilst conspicuous in the mournful procession was a waggonette literally filled with beautiful wreaths. Arrived at Benfieldside the "cortege" turned into the old portion of the cemetery, and the coffin was carried to its last resting-place. Here the service was conducted by the Rev. J. W. Croudace (vicar of Consett), whilst the deceased's favourite hymn, "For ever with the Lord," was sung, there being few dry eyes meanwhile. The attendance of relatives and friends was very large, whilst four of Mr. Joseph Murray's employes, viz., Messrs R. Buddle, R. Rutherford, T. Cockburn, and J. Suckland acted as under-bearers. Wreaths were forwarded by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mrs. Ainsworth, Consett Hall; Mrs. Petherick, Vicarage House; Mr. and Mrs. Bates and family, The Grange, Prudhoe; Dr. Grainger, Consett; Coun. and Mrs. T. J. Muse, Castleside; Mr. and Mrs. M. Brodie, Consett; Mrs. Thompson, Consett; Mrs. Turner, Consett; Miss Nicholson, Newcastle; Miss A. Hewitt, Consett; Misses Little, Consett; Mr. and Mrs. F. Phillipson, Blackhill; Coun. W. Aynsley, J.P., Hilcrest, Consett; Mrs. R. and Miss Murray, Hilcrest; Mr. and Mrs. T. Armstrong, Craghead; Mr. and Mrs. W. Cheeseman, Castle Dene; Miss Binning, Consett; Miss Whitehead, Consett; Mr. S. Raynor, Consett; the employees; the maids; Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Parker, Annfield Plain; Ruby and Rena, Annfield Plain; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Murray, Leadhurst; Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Oliver, Delves Lane; Mrs. Collinson and family, Consett; Mr. and Mrs. McEleavey, Newcastle.

WEARDALE IRON AND COAL COMPANY.

RUMOURED PURCHASE BY SIR C. FURNESS.

The rumoured purchase of the vast concerns of the Weardale Coal and Iron Company created a profound sensation throughout the county, the gigantic deal being the chief topic on every hand. The transaction was hedged with official reticence and evasiveness, and it was only at the last moment that reliable confirmation of the rumoured sale was obtainable. On Tuesday, however, a "North Star" representative again paid a visit to Spennymoor and was favoured with a brief interview with one of the officials, who courteously informed him that beyond stating that there was "fact" in the information to hand he was scarcely prepared to go. Pressed upon the point as to whether "fact" might be correctly taken to mean actual sale, the interviewee replied, "It may be taken that the agreement has been prepared, and, subject to compliance with the conditions, will be carried out." The result, he believed, would be a great impetus to the iron and steel trades of Spennymoor, the works being of almost unequalled capacity. In Spennymoor itself, the tradesmen and the working population generally look with great favour upon the future possibility of trade, and there is a general belief that the purchase of the works will mean the vastly increased manufacture of ship plates, for which the works are so splendidly equipped.

MR ATHERLEY-JONES AT DIPTON

On Tuesday evening, Mr Jones addressed his constituents at Dipton, in the United Methodist Free Church. There was a large attendance. On entering the room Mr Jones was accorded a hearty reception. Mr D. Mole occupied the chair, and was supported by Coun. J. W. Winter, (Liberal Agent), Mrs Jones, Mrs Hewitt (Pontop), Mrs Jacon (Yarmouth), etc.

The Chairman introduced Mr Jones to the meeting in a few suitable remarks.

Mr Jones, who was accorded an enthusiastic reception, said that whatever might be his shortcomings as a Member of Parliament for that constituency, he did not think that it would be imputed to him by way of reproach that he did not come at reasonably short intervals to visit his constituents, and to explain his Parliamentary action. It was his duty and his pleasure to do so. It was a very healthy and wholesome thing that a Member of Parliament at the close of a parliamentary session should visit his constituents and talk business with them—(hear, hear)—and ascertain how far his opinions and those of his constituents were at one; and if he found that there was a wide difference of opinion between himself and his constituents on subjects of importance, it would be his duty to retire from his position as M.P. for that constituency. But he had never yet found that his opinions upon political or social subjects had been so at variance with those of his constituents that it had been found necessary for him to contemplate retirement, nor did he think that, after they had heard a few observations that he wished to address to them, they would think that the time had now arrived for him to retire, but that they would continue to regard him as a faithful servant of those principles which were dear to them. (Hear, hear.) He had asked a friend sitting in the meeting upon what subject it would be desirable that he should address that meeting, as there was a wide range of subjects upon which it was possible for a Member of Parliament to talk now, and he endeavoured at the different meetings at which he spoke to deal as far as his humble powers permitted it, with different topics. That friend said, "Let's have something about the Boers." A man who had breathed the free air of Durham and enjoyed the free institutions which belonged happily to this country, did not make a good Colonist under a foreign government. (Applause.) He might be industrious, energetic, full of grit and fire, but as an Englishman, and as a freedom-loving and self-governing Englishman, he did not like to be subject to the dominion of a foreigner—(hear, hear)—and the institutions which he knows there and contrasts them with the institutions he left behind him in his own home, were not institutions generally calculated to commend themselves to his judgment. Papers had recently been teeming with the reports of a great trial in France, the trial of Captain Dreyfus, and he must confess that as he began to read the proceedings of the court martial and the Court of Cassation, which was the High Court of France, and the proceedings of the last court martial which had again convicted Captain Dreyfus, he was amazed at the extraordinary methods and practices in respect of the reception of evidence which guided and controlled the judicature and the judicial tribunals of France. In all our English Courts of Justice hearsay evidence was inadmissible, and a constable preferring a charge against a man would not be allowed to say he had heard that the man had committed an offence, but was only entitled to say in evidence what he himself had seen the prisoner do. Just so. That was a very healthy and wholesome principle of the English law. It would never do for a constable or any other person in an English Court of Justice to say that his opinion about a prisoner was that he was guilty. It would be an outrage upon every principle of justice—(hear, hear)—but that state of things existed in France. He was not there to criticise the judicial procedure of another country, but in France they had evidence which they divided into classes. The strongest evidence was that which in English was called immediate and direct evidence; then they had a second class of evidence which was what somebody else told what a prisoner had done, which was called hearsay evidence; and then there was a third class which he thought the most objectionable of all, where a witness was allowed to express his opinion of the guilt or innocence of the prisoner. Under those circumstances he could quite understand a man returning from a distant land and speaking with feelings of contempt and dissatisfaction with the institutions of a foreign country. But as he had, in a speech delivered at Stanley, told the story of the Transvaal, he proposed to deal with topics having a more immediate relation to the permanent interests of the people of this country. But he was prepared to say that there were grievous disabilities, objectionable provisions, and institutions of the law under the administration of the Transvaal which required amendment in the interests of a large and increasing industrial population, largely composed of British subjects—(hear, hear)—and for his own part he was entirely with Her Majesty's Government in endeavouring in a conciliatory and friendly spirit, using the arts of diplomacy for the removal of those disabilities and the redress of those grievances. But without elaborating the point, he still held to his opinion that there were no grievances which the Boer Government had expressed itself unable or unwilling to redress, which could in any way counterbalance the calamitous results which would arise from a war with the Transvaal. They were now paying annually upon a prodigious national debt, the largest of any first-class power in the world, which, with the interest paid on it, amounted to nearly ten million pounds. He held that that debt had been created in the main by their entering upon needless and useless wars. Were the advantages gained, the glory acquired worth so fearful a cost as they had oftentimes sustained? He conceived it to be his duty wherever he met his constituents to warn them against being led astray by the extravagant language used by certain journals, and by certain public speakers. He yielded to no man in admiration of the Press of England, which was to a great extent a safeguard of the liberties of the nation; but it must be borne in mind that the Press of this country for the most part was a capitalist press; it was governed, controlled not in the interests of the working-men, but in the interests of the great financiers of England. Lombard Street had more to do with the inspiration of the journals of this country than Downing Street. There were a few papers which represented the intellect, the culture of the democratic ... of England, but those papers were few. He would sooner turn if he wanted guidance in the great contest which was going on between England and the South African Republic to the untutored intellect of the Durham miner than to the semitic scribe of a London journal. (Applause.) He would sooner turn to the pages of history than to the leading article fresh from the hands of the printer. In those matters they should think for themselves, and weigh well what the quality, the character, the importance of the dispute might be, and when they had weighed the character, quality, and importance then they should weigh equally well what the results would be if they resolved to enter upon war with that nation.

THE FOREIGN POLICY.

It was a curious thing that the whole air, apart from the Transvaal question, was full of foreign policy. The people of this country had had very little attention paid to them. They had had difficulties with France, the tribes of India, the Turkish Government, the German Government, the Armenian Government, and the whole of the energies of our Government had been concentrated upon settling some foreign complication, which had arisen with some or other of the great powers of the world. That was not a satisfactory state of things. It was due to the extraordinary lust of empire which dominated the Government. (Hear, hear.) During the reign of Queen Victoria England had increased its empire to almost double the extent that it was at the beginning of Her Majesty's reign. The expenses of our naval and military armaments had been enhanced till at the present moment they stood at the startling figure of some 50 million pounds per annum. Contrast that with the amount spent upon our domestic institutions, upon education, upon Local Government, and the figures showed that the amount of treasure, the produce of their industry which was spent upon the weapons and munitions of destruction was four or even fivefold the amount spent upon armaments and munitions of construction. There was not a working-man in the room who did not feel in his own heart that there were plenty of directions in which money might be carefully spent for the benefit of the people of this country. He was not speaking as a socialist; although he had no dread of being called a socialist, using the word in a judicious sense. He did not want to deprecate the value of self-help, of voluntary combination, the value of what was sometimes called individualism as opposed to socialism, but he did not know that society existed for the benefit of its members, that the State of England was a society of men, women, and children, and that what the individual could not do a body of individuals could do, and what a body could not do the whole aggregate State could do, and that the highest form of effort was the effort of the State to endeavour to improve the condition of its members, and to maintain at the highest possible standard the civilization of the country. (Applause.) Civilisation was the educated existence, a material effort, a high moral standard which meant the life of national men and women living in a fair condition of comfort and enjoyment of the necessaries of life, as compared with the nation of serfs, or of people in a mere state of servitude living under conditions miserable and dependent, and stamped with poverty. It was the business of the Government of this country to devote itself to the amelioration of the condition of the people at large, to improve their lives, and to make their homes brighter and happier—(hear, hear)—to pursue that process which led by necessarily slow but none the less sure degrees to the abolition of the gaol and the workhouse. That was the highest function and the most important duty of the Government, and yet he was not afraid to say that during the years that had passed since the achievement of the full enfranchisement of the people in 1885, there had been no social reforms commensurate with the requirements of the people of this country. The whole time and energy with some small, slight, passing intervals, of our Government, seemed to have been applied to dealing with those great questions of foreign policy or some trifling matters for the benefit of a particular class or sect. What had been done for the masses of the people had been done with a grudging hand and an unwilling heart, but those great problems, and amongst them the question of temperance, were cast aside. They all knew it that whether they drank little, much, or not at all, drink was a great evil in this country. (Hear, hear.) There was not a man in the room would deny it. (Applause.) They saw it in their families and amongst their friends and acquaintances, and they knew it was an evil which could only be grappled with and effectually grappled with by Parliament. Some would go too far, some far, and some short, but they all felt—who did know from their own sad experience and observation—that something ought to be done to cure the evil which was eating like a canker at the heart of the nation. (Hear, hear.) They knew also that the land laws might be altered in such a way as to contribute to the moral benefit of the people of this country. Many of their sons left the land and went to work in the mines, or went to herd with the multitude in the narrow and congested streets and alleys and courts of our towns and cities. Some of them would have read in the "Daily News" a short time ago the description, not in the language of fiction, how that in the streets of the richest capital of the world men were herded together like pigs in a sty, how the greater part of the population was living in one room. ("Shame.") They would find children carefully tended by their mothers and fathers, and given a wholesome education, but those poor little morsels of humanity were compelled to work like galley-slaves to add to the precarious income of their half-starved parents. ("Shame.")

Our want of space forbids our giving more of this most interesting and instructive address; suffice it to say that Mr Jones having dealt with the social improvement of the masses, the representation of working-men in Parliament, and the abolition of the House of Lords; Mr Beatham moved, and Mr D. Mulligan seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the speaker, which was accorded with enthusiasm. After Mr Jones had suitably responded and moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting concluded.

TANFIELD SCHOOL BOARD.

An adjourned meeting of the members of the Tanfield School Board was held on Tuesday evening, in the Board Room, at Tanfield. Mr. W. Severs (vice-chairman) presided, and there were also present—Rev. T. H. Archdall, Mr. Jonathan Green, J.P., Mr. M. G. Armstrong, Mr. B. Mason, Mr. W. Bulmer, and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson.)

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Board discussed the annual report of H.M. Inspector for the year ended April 30th, 1899. The report bore testimony to the tuition in the various schools, and a number of recommendations were considered by the Board and dealt with. The receipts for the year were as follows:—East Stanley, £751 15s 10d; West Stanley, £1,189 11s 11d; West Stanley (Infants), £427 17s 9½d; Tanfield Lea, £688 9s 6d; Pickering Nook, £687 10s 5d; Leazes, £712 10s 10d; Causey Row, £329 7s 2d; Tanfield, £285 17s 5d.

ALLEGED ILL-USAGE OF CHILDREN.

A complaint having been laid before the Board at the previous meeting by Mr. Dewse that his son and daughter had been ill-used at the Leazes school, the Master (Mr. Abbott) and the complainant attended in order that the charge might be fully gone into.

Mr. Dewse, at the request of the Board, stated that on the second day after the holidays his boy was at school, and was asked a question as to a sum. His answer not being heard the Master "drew him a bat" on the side of the ear and made it bleed. The boy was bleeding when he went home, and Mrs. Dewse went to the school next day, and charged Mr. Abbott with the offence. Mr. Abbot said he did not know anything at all about it. He (Mr. Dewse) thought he would know whether he had hit a boy on the previous day, but Mr. Abbott wanted to say he did not know, and said he had been in the class for about five or ten minutes, and that was all.

The Chairman: Who do you say saw him strike the boy?

Mr. Dewse: The children who were in.

The Chairman: Can you mention any of the children's names?

Mr. Dewse: No, but there are plenty of witnesses who saw him bleeding as he came down the road. The little lass, after school was leaving, ran into the wrong porch to get her hat, and Mr. Abbott hit her across the thumb, and it is a wonder he did not break it. I took the girl down and showed it to him, and he made as if it was nothing.

Mr. Green: How old is the girl?

Mr. Dewse: Seven years old.

Mr. Archdall: What did he strike her with?

Mr. Dewse: With a stick.

Mr. Archdall: Not a cane?

Mr. Dewse: No, a stick.

Mr. Green: How old is the boy?

Mr. Dewse: Eleven years on the fourth of last February.

Mr. Archdall asked if the ear continued to bleed?

Mr. Dewse said it bled a long time, and the boy was not right yet. He was getting bad in his hearing. There was a discharge from his ear afterwards. It was not the first, second, nor third time that his children had come home with blisters on their hands. The boy was now in the sixth standard. There was nothing the matter with his ears before.

Mr. Armstrong said Mr. Dewse preferred a further charge at the last meeting to the effect that the boy was taken in school hours to assist in the hothouse.

Mr. Dewse said the boy was employed putting in coals and cleaning the hothouse. It had occurred several times.

Mr. Abbott said the whole complaint appeared to have sprung out of his caning the girl. Mr. Dewse had acknowledged that he would not have complained but for caning the girl.

Mr. Armstrong said they had been told that the boy was struck at two days after the holidays. How long was it after that that the girl was struck at?

Mr. Dewse said it was the week following. He complained about the boy the morning after he was struck.

Mr. Armstrong thought that disposed of that point. The man appeared to have complained about the boy before the girl was struck at.

The Chairman (to Mr. Abbott): Did you strike the boy?

Mr. Abbott: I swear I did not.

The Chairman pointed out to Mr. Abbott that the matter would be gone very carefully into, and anything he might say which was incorrect, would go against him.

Mr. Abbott said he fully understood that. On the particular morning in question he took Standard VI. for about ten minutes in arithmetic, and after that he was never near the class. When Mrs. Dewse came he had not the slightest knowledge of having been near the class until Miss Wood reminded him of a sum on the board. He asked Miss Wood if the boy had been crying, and she said he had not. The boy was the worst in the standard. It was merely a reading lesson, and Miss Wood could not be taking a small class in reading without noticing.

Mr. Archdall asked what Mr. Abbott meant by the worst scholar?

Mr. Abbott said he required most attention. When Mrs. Dewse complained he asked the teacher, Miss Wood, and she said she had not the slightest recollection of his having done anything of the kind. When Mrs. Dewse went away it was with the feeling that there had been no harm done to the boy, or no wish to do any harm. She went away friendly, and perfectly satisfied.

The Chairman asked if that was the morning after?

Mr. Abbott said it was, and the boy was sent to school the next day.

Mr. Dewse said that was not so. He asked Mr. Abbott if he was not ashamed to say so?

Mr. Bulmer asked if Miss Wood was in the class-room during the whole of the day on which this lad was alleged to have been struck?

Mr. Abbott said it was in the big school, and Miss Wood was there the whole of the day.

Mr. Bulmer asked what time of the day it happened?

Mr. Dewse said it was first thing in the morning. The boy came to the pit to see him when he left school at dinner time, and blood was working out of his ear at that time. If he could have got another man to take his place he would have taken a policeman straight away.

Mr. Bulmer asked if the boy went to school in the afternoon?

Mr. Dewse said he did not. He kept him at home until a fortnight ago, when he complained to the Board.

Mr. Abbott said the registers would prove that that was absolutely untrue.

Mr. Dewse said he kept him off and that was the truth.

The Chairman said Mr. Abbott had told them that the boy was at school the day after the complaint.

Mr. Abbott said he was, and for a week after, until the next complaint was made.

Mr. Armstrong asked Mr. Abbott how he accounted for this complaint at all?

Mr. Abbott said probably the boy had gone and said it. He was not the best of boys.

In reply to Mr. Bulmer, Mr. Abbott said he had heard of nothing happening to the lad between school and home.

The Chairman asked how many there were in the class?

Mr. Abbott said in Standard VI. there were between 20 and 30, and they would be all there that day. He took the class at about 10 o'clock for about 10 minutes, merely to work a sum on the board for them.

The Chairman: And you had no occasion to strike anyone?

Mr. Abbott: Not that I know of. I have not the slightest recollection of striking anyone?

Mr. Bulmer asked if he punished anyone during the forenoon?

Mr. Abbott said he might do that, but he was not aware of having struck anyone during the 10 minutes. He asked if it would not be as well to acknowledge that the case would not have been brought forward if it had not been for striking the girl.

Mr. Dewse said when he was at Mr. Abbott he did nothing but laugh. He was sorry now he did not get a doctor at the time.

The boy was called into the room at this stage, and, in answer to questions, he said the Master asked him what his sum was, and as he (the Master) did not hear the reply, struck him across the ear and made it bleed. There were two boys—John Shade and William Murray—there at the time. Miss Wood was also there, and saw the Master do it. There were other boys in the class, but he did not know whether they saw. Mr. Abbott was in the class for about a quarter-of-an-hour. Before he came, and after he left, Miss Wood was teaching. He cried after being struck but Miss Wood did not say anything to him. He cried until playtime—10.30. Miss Wood saw the Master strike him, but did not say anything. He went back to school after playtime. His ear started to bleed as soon as Mr. Abbott hit him, and it was bleeding when he went to play. He did not show it to Mr. Abbott or Miss Wood. He did not go back to school in the afternoon, and he was off for four days. He showed his ear to the other two boys before going to play.

Mr. Bulmer asked for some information respecting the alleged stacking of coal during school hours.

Mr. Abbott said for some years a family named Polkington had worked for him at dinner times and nights. They were very poor, and he had given them money and other things for doing the work. Lately the boy who had done this had started joinering, and as soon as the coals were put down any of the boys went and put them in, because they knew they would get threepence. It was untrue to say that they had ever worked in the garden.

Mr. Bulmer asked if the boy had been engaged during school hours to put coals in?

Mr. Abbott said neither he nor any other boy had been sent to do it.

Mr. Dewse said he did not know how Mr. Abbott could make such a statement.

The Chairman asked Mr. Abbott if he had paid the boy Dewse anything?

Mr. Abbott said he had. He had sent them after dinner time, when he had found them stopping.

The Chairman asked the boy if he had been in the greenhouse, or had put coals in during school hours?

The boy said he had. Mr. Abbott had sent him once.

Mr. Abbott then said in the girl's case that they must have order in marching out of the cloak rooms. Time after time he had shown them how to go out. On this particular occasion he brought about a dozen back for racing through, and each one got a stroke with the cane. This was the only complaint he had had out of the lot. The girl was back in about ten minutes with her father, and her hand was a little red. In reply to Mr. Archdall he said it was not a stick that was used; it was an ordinary cane.

Mr. Dewse said it was a stick and not a cane.

Mr. Abbott explained that the children all called it a stick.

Mr. Dewse, in reply to the Chairman, said he had no direct evidence that Mr. Abbott used a stick. The girl's hand was all puffed up.

The parties then retired and the Chairman suggested that they should adjourn the case until they could get more evidence.

Mr. Mason thought it would be better for a committee to go to the school and inquire.

The Chairman agreed with the suggestion, and, on the motion of Mr. Armstrong, Messrs Bulmer, Mason, and Archdall were appointed a committee to visit the school, inquire into the allegations, and report to the next meeting of the Board.

THE SALARIES QUESTION.

The Chairman moved that the consideration of applications for increase of salaries stand over for a better attendance of members.

Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which was agreed to, and the Board adjourned.

LEADGATE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr T. S. Longstaff, as Inspector, reported that the Consett Iron Company had done none of the work he reported a month ago. He had received no reply from the North-Eastern Railway Company, respecting the removal of the gas lamp from the Commercial Inn to the other side of Station Road. The fire brigade had a practice on August 28th. The erection of the urinals was progressing slowly for want of some part of the machinery.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

The Chairman thought there would be no objection to the company starting an electric system in the district.

Coun. L. Nicholson thought if a private company started in the district it would shut it out.

The Chairman thought it would be the duty of the Council to see that the interests of the ratepayers were safeguarded.

Coun. Costello moved that the Council offer no opposition to the application of the Electrical Power Distribution Company for a provisional order to supply electricity in the area of the Leadgate Council.

Coun. W. Robson seconded the motion, which was carried.

TRAIN SERVICE.

Coun. L. Nicholson moved, and Coun. R. Robson seconded, that Mr. Watson, of the North-Eastern Railway Company, be asked to allow the train leaving Newcastle to Consett at 9.50 p.m. to carry passengers to Leadgate.

The motion was carried.

THE STATION APPROACH.

The Clerk reported that he had had no reply from the North-Eastern Railway Company, respecting the approach to the Station at Leadgate.

Coun. R. Robson: Somebody will be hurt if nothing is done.

Coun. Lane: And I should make them pay smartly for it.

Coun. W. Robson moved, and Coun. L. Nicholson seconded, that the Chairman wait upon Mr. Harrison on the subject, and see if the Railway Company will make a simple roadway on the east side of the railway station.

The motion was carried.

SEWERAGE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee recommended the adoption of the Sutton system of sewage disposal adopted at South Moor, and that the work be proceeded with as soon as possible.

The Chairman said they had known that the present system would some time or another have to give place to a more modern one, and the time apparently had now arrived. They all knew that repeated remonstrance and objection had been taken to the present method of disposal, and after having considered the matter from all points of view the committee were of opinion that they should do the north side first.

Coun. W. Robson moved, and Coun. Foreman seconded that the committee's recommendations be adopted, and carried into effect as soon as possible.

The motion was carried.

LIGHTING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee reported that it had considered the question of the lighting of Crookhall, and recommended that it be not entertained at present.

Coun. Costello thought it was not creditable to that Council to have a portion of their district in darkness.

Coun. G. Nicholson: The lighting by oil is an expensive nuisance.

After futher discussion the report was adopted, when the Act bearing on the subject was referred to, where it was discovered that the lighting of Crookhall could not be carried out if the Prviate Street Works Act had been adopted.

Coun. R. Robson moved, and Coun. W. Robson seconded, that the Clerk write the Consett Iron Company asking them to light up Crookhall.

Carried.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. W. Allen reported that during the month no cases of infectious disease had been reported to him.

The Chairman: That's the kind of report we want.

Coun. Cheesmond: It is well known that there are some in the district.

The Chairman: Then they render themselves liable for not having reported themselves.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Mr T. S. Longstaff reported that the pay-bill amounted to £11 11s.

The report was adopted.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr T. S. Longstaff, as Collector, reported that he had collected and paid over to the Treasurer on account of General District Rate the sum of £60.

The report was adopted.

THE ASHPITS.

Coun. W. Robson moved, and Coun. L. Nicholson seconded, that the attention of the Consett Iron Company be drawn to the water standing in the new ashpits at the houses at Leadgate.

The motion was carried.

THE URINALS.

Coun. L. Nicholson moved, and Coun. Cheesmond seconded, that copper pipes and other materials be purchased for the completion of the urinals.

Agreed to.

RAILWAY RATES.

A letter was read from the Clerk of the Annfield Plain Council, asking the Council to co-operate with them in an endeavour to secure a reduction in the fares from Annfield Plain to Newcastle and Durham.

Coun. Lane moved, and Coun. W. Robson seconded, that the Council co-operate with Annfield Plain in the matter.

Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee recommended that cheques be signed for payment of accounts amounting to £21 16s.

The report was adopted; and the Council rose.

THE THREE GRACES.

"Three beautiful birches, I heard say,
Grew side by side in the Trossachs;
And as I wandered by that way,
I saw those trees in the Trossachs.
They grew in beauty every day,
Those beautiful trees in the Trossachs,
And travellers they were wont to say;
"We saw those trees in the Trossachs."
Ben A'an looked down from his airy height,
On those beautiful trees in the Trossachs;
And smiled with a smile of pure delight,
On those trees as they grew in the Trossachs.
It chanced that an artist passed that way,
To view the lakes of the Trossachs,
But he stayed on his way for many a day,
To paint those trees in the Trossachs.
And now as the tourists pass that way,
They ask for those trees in the Trossachs,
And the Highlander points with a smile so gay
The way to those trees in the Trossachs.
Now a word to those who would like to say,
"I saw those trees in the Trossachs,"
Just ask for Macwhirter's "graces" gay
They are the beautiful "three" of the Trossachs."

Catchgate, Sept. 12th, 1899. W. M.

A SUNDERLAND CASE.

MR. VENO RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT LETTERS.

Everyone who takes Veno's remedies cannot help but notice the marvellous change that takes place in their health as compared with the results of other medicines. The reason for this is that most medicines are prepared on the old fashioned principle and contain many poisonous irritating and drastic drugs. Veno's Seaweed Tonic is a scientific preparation carefully compounded by capable men on the principle of "Specific Medication" as taught in all the Eclectic Colleges in America. Results are the best proof of its extraordinary strengthening and healing power. There is hardly a group of men and women to be found anywhere in the North of England but what someone has a word of praise for Veno's Seaweed Tonic, and Veno's Lightning Cough Cure.

CURED OF CHRONIC INDIGESTION AND WEAK STOMACH.

Mrs. M. Barnes, 2, Vulcan Place, Fulwell Road, Sunderland, writes, February 5th:—"I cannot express my gratitude enough for your medicine. I have enjoyed my food better this last three weeks than I have done for years. Your Seaweed Tonic is worth double the money I paid for it. I have spent pounds for medicine, but have not received benefit in the way I have with your medicine."

Mrs. Barnes writes again February 18th:—"With pleasure you can use — testimonial as you wish, hoping it will be of benefit to others. One of my neighbours has taken your Seaweed Tonic. She tells me that it is doing her much good. She is not like the same person. Wishing you every success in your good work."

CHRONIC ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS CURED.

Mary Taylor, 2, South Terrace, Esh Winning, near Durham, writes, March 14th, 1899:—"I am glad to say your Seaweed Tonic and Lightning Cough Cure have done me a great deal of good. I am better than I have been for two years. I have procured another bottle of your Seaweed Tonic from the Waterhouses Drug Stores, and I think that when I have taken it I will be all right again. I have recommended your excellent medicines to all my friends."

VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC

IS THE PEOPLE'S STRENGTHENER AND HEALTH GIVER.

It is the only preparation of its kind in the country, being prepared by capable men on the principle of "Specific Medication." It is a Powerful Nerve and Muscle Tonic, and a Guaranteed Cure for a Weak Stomach, Poor Appetite, Constipation, Weak Kidneys, and Sluggish Liver. It Clears the Head and Brain, Stengthens the Back and Kidneys, and Cures Indigestion and Wind. As a Stengthening and Invigorating Medicine for both Women and Men it stands in the Front Ranks. Price 1s 1½d and 2s 9d.

STOP A COUGH IN ONE NIGHT.

TAKE VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE. It stops an ordinary Cough in one night, and cures Chronic Coughs, Asthma, Bronchitis, Weak Lungs, Catarrh, Influenza, and Whooping Cough rapidly. Its Vast Superiority over the different Emulsions and Ordinary cough mixtures cannot be estimated. It has saved thousands of lives after they have been turned out of hospitals. It is a Scientific Remedy endorsed by Medical men. Ask for VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. (Copyright).

Sold by following Chemists, T. Milner, Consett; Jabez Swindale, Blackhill, and Branches; Robinson and Co., Chester-le-Street; T. Wilkinson, Crook; Birtley Co-operative Society, and all Chemists and Stores everywhere, or post free from The Veno Drug Co., 18, Devonshire Street, Manchester. Consult Mr. Veno free personally or by post, and send stamps for his book entitled "Rheumatism and Paralysis, and their complete cure." 2771

VALE OF DERWENT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

The field days of this club were brought to a close on Saturday week, by a most successful meeting at (Hamsterley) Hall, the picturesque residence of Miss Surtees. The weather was fine, and there was a good muster of members to share in the pleasures of the afternoon. The gardens were first visited, where much in the horticultural line was seen and noted. The vegetable marrows were spoken of as being exceptionally fine. The various fruit trees, including a capital specimen of the fig, and each after their kind supporting a rich load, called forth many expressions of delight. The gardens occupied a good part of the afternoon, and afforded much pleasure to the party. A tour of the grounds was next made under the guidance of the esteemed owner. Here many interesting botanical specimens were found, from amongst which the field geranium and royal fern were selected, and the mode of dispersal of their fruit was lucidly explained by Mr. Ord. Amongst the trees, which included excellent specimens of acacia, was a fine example of the silver fir, which was planted in 1799. Mr. Ord here explained the fact of the wind fertilisation of certain trees. Tea was provided in the hall for the party, and presided over by Miss Surtees. After tea the following papers were read:—"The forms of flowers and their means of obtaining fertilisation," by Mr. G. Ord, F.R.G.S., Causey Wood; "Notes on the fauna of the Derwent Valley," by Mr. T. Robson, Winlaton; and "Notes on butterflies," by Mr. W. Johnson, Byer Moor. The reading of the papers was listened to attentively, and they were much appreciated. On the motion of Mr. Ord, seconded by Mr. J. Johnson, a vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Surtees for the hospitality she had extended to the club, and for the substantial support and the great interest she had ever evinced in its welfare. The party were next shown over the house by Miss Surtees and Mrs. Steele. Pictures by Reuben were pointed out; also several beautiful paintings by the Countess of Tankerville and the late Mr. Emmerson. Miss Surtees also showed her valuable collection of art pottery, including many rare specimens of Japanese work, and a cup and saucer given to her sister by Princess Beatrice. The shadows of evening were now stealing across the sky, and a highly ...

NOTES ON THE FAUNA OF THE DERWENT VALLEY.

... birds as the common buzzard, hen harrier, montague harrier, osprey, and the raven were seen about 40 years ago, but I am not able to record any authenticated occurrence of late years, although the cliffs at Allansford still bear the name of Raven's Crag. For the last few years the Derwent Valley has been periodically visited by a large bird, which attracted the attention even of ordinary observers of bird life as being a rare visitor to the Derwent. Of course it was locally named the "Big Hawk," which name seemed very appropriate until further information was obtained. During the summer of 1897 I had a favourable opportunity of watching the habits of this species. Its nest was placed about 60 feet from the ground, at the top of a beech tree, and contained two young birds. I lay concealed nearly a whole day at the bottom of the tree, and the old birds visited the nest thrice during that time. This does not seem many visits when birds are feeding young, although this may be accounted for by the difficulty of finding proper food for their young, or that they are fed in the early morning. I climbed the tree for an inspection of the nest. It was large platform of sticks with no depression, no feathers, and no bones, but it contained three pieces of wasps comb, which I brought home. The young had left the downy stage, and were about half-grown. They would not allow me to pick up the pieces of comb, but struck at me vehemently with their wings, but not with their talons; however, with a piece of stick, I raked the comb to the nest edge. I visited the place frequently during the next ten days, during which time I several times saw the young birds sitting on a branch, and hopping back to the nest at frequent intervals, but on the last occasion while lying in ambush I saw one of the young birds leave the tree and fly a distance of forty yards before perching on a branch. This species proved to be a honey buzzard. This is, I may say, the first occasion on which this bird is known to have nested in the Derwent Valley. It makes its appearance with us during hay-time, and the young are hatched in August. It is one of the latest to breed, although the hawks are amongst the earliest to do so. It derives its name from its insect-eating propensities, it being very fond of both bees and the combs. The wasps' nest is a great prize for the honey buzzard, who tears the comb to pieces and devours the young, without paying any heed to the stings of the proprietors. It also feeds on birds, small mammals, and reptiles; and is said to build a nest of its own, very seldom preferring to usurp that of some other bird, which I am inclined to believe. During last summer I visited the nest which contained the young of the year before, and found that the old birds had been repairing it, as was evident by the newly-broken small branches on the nest, which must have been placed there, but the parent birds did not rear their young in the same nest last year. This species departs in September and October, the old birds leaving the district first, and the immature birds about the middle of October thus making one more resident on the Derwent. Our catalogue now stands at one hundred and thirty-seven species of birds, which are either residents or visitants to the Valley. In concluding these few rudimentary remarks I may say they are for the amusement and information of our members. To the scientific ornithologists, I apologise for the manner in which they are drawn up, as I am more accustomed to the fields and woods, and feel more at home with the gun than the pen.

THOMAS ROBSON.

Scotland Head, Winlaton.

PAPER ON "THE FORMS OF FLOWERS, AND THEIR MEANS FOR SECURING FERTILIZATION."

The forms of flowers and the manner of their fertilization is one of the most attractive studies of botany. Nearly every flower adopts a different plain to ensure this end. The agencies at work for the fertilization of flowers are insects and the wind, so that it is quite easy to divide flowers into two groups, "wind-fertilized" and "insect-fertilized," according as the one or other method is employed. A flower which is fertilized by insects has generally a showy corolla or a sweet smell to attract insects, and possesses a special gland termed a nectary, which secretes a sweet juice forming in a great measure the food of the insects visiting the flower. Special colours, and special forms of the flower, are naturally evolved by the selective agency of the fertilising insects. In other words, an insect-fertilized flower must show the insect where it ...

... Flower of Pea.—The mechanism by which fertilization is effected in the important group of the leguminosæ is much more elaborate than in the cruciferæ; as an example of this order we may study the flower of the pea. In this flower there are five sepals partially joined together, thus forming a cup with five triangular teeth. The petals are also five in number, and on account of their different shapes, special names are given to them. The large petal, situated at the back of the flower, is the standard; a little below this is a pair of petals, the wings, which enclose another pair forming the keel. The standard is a broad semicircular petal, which, turning upwards, forms the most conspicuous feature of this flower. On its face, at the bend, are two projections which fit into a pair of corresponding depressions in the wings, near their base. The wings are also brightly coloured. A little behind the depression just described, there is another depression caused by a hollow tooth-like out-growth projecting from the inner side of each wing. This tooth turns forwards and downwards, and fits into a depression in the keel. The wings and keel are in this manner fairly locked together, and cannot be separated without the application of a considerable amount of force. The keel at first sight appears to be one petal, on account of the ...

... during dry or warm weather it splits with a jerk scattering the seeds far from the parent plant. I remember as a boy going into the garden with a saucer to collect some poppy seeds. Plucking the brown capsules I tried to open them by pressing between the finger and thumb. In doing so the capsule opened with a jerk, with the result that the seeds were scattered, and not one was collected in the saucer. The field geranium is a very common flower in our hedgerows and by the sides of streams. It is red in colour, with five sepals and five petals. The ovary has five carpels placed round an elongated axis. The ovules are pendulous and solitary, the styles which are five in number cohering round the axis. The fruit formed of five one-seeded cocoons, each terminated by an indurated style which curls upwards, carrying the cocons or pericarp with it. The seeds by this means do not fall close to each other, but are scattered widely.

GEORGE ORD, F.R.H.S.

Causey Wood, Marley Hill,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Blackhill Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club.

Ramble through Woodlands.

[By A Member.]

The last of those pleasant field meetings organised by the energetic secretary of the Blackhill Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club, Mr. S. Leybourne, was held to Woodlands on Saturday afternoon. Despite the strong wind which raised large clouds of dust there was an excellent company of members, who met at the rendezvous shortly after two p.m., the Consett Hall gates. Proceeding by Consett Grove through the by-path which leads to Stanniforda m, the party soon found itself climbing the hilly field before entering the Howen's Gill wood. A tradition which may be interesting to the younger members of the club might very appropriately be related here. It is said that in the days of the giants, long years ago, there lived three brothers—one called "Cud" at Consett Grove, another called "Mug" at the Muggleswick Castle, and the third named "Ben" at Benfieldside. They were so poor that they were obliged to make one hammer serve the trio, and whenever "Cud" wanted to mend the dykes he used to shout over to "Mug" at Muggleswick, for the hammer when the latter was said to throw it from Muggleswick to Consett Grove, and when "Ben" wanted it he made his request known to his brother "Cud" or "Con," who obliged in a similar manner. When you read the story you must not think it is my own composition, because I am no specialist at legend writing. I understand that these three places referred to derived their names from the amplification and corruption of the words Cud, Mug, and Ben, and this scrap of information may be of special interest to the residents of the three named places. But we must proceed on the journey. A short ramble brought us to the Howen's Gill Bridge, that magnificent and stately piece of workmanship which has stood the blast of many northern winters, and yet seems almost as good today as it did when first it was erected. We saw, too, the remains of the old Stanhope and Tyne Railway, at least a portion of the wall or tunnel in which the ropes used to run to convey passengers and mineral from one side of the ravine to the other. On one side of this wall may be distinctly seen the figures 1833, the date on which that portion of the railway was laid. We saw, too, the refuse of the ironstone mines or drifts, which were worked on the old system by the Consett Iron Company, who, by the way, it is said, intend to fill up the ravine, and so rob us of one of the prettiest pictures of nature to be found in the district, with the exception, of course, of our historic and picturesque Vale of Derwent. But this will not be the first attempt to destroy the beauteous scenery of the ravine, for years ago a great amount of flagstone was worked out of one side of the ravine, which has in some measure destroyed its pristine loveliness. Having reached the caves, or quarries, from which this stone was previously worked, and which has no other history, so far as I know, the following short paper was read by Mr. S. Leybourne:—

HOWEN'S GILL.

Much speculation is current as to how the deep ravine has been formed. As we march along the whole length of its bed, or floor, the conviction is forced upon our minds that some powerful agent has been here scooping out the valley—forcing a channel for itself through the hard rock and boulder. Its well-defined bed and high sloping banks, between which the tiniest rivulet trickles, shew the impress of some active power, now foreign to the neighbourhood. This powerful agent that has performed such wonders, has undoubtedly been an off-shoot or branch from the main trunk of the vast glacial stream that once rolled down our mountain slopes and valleys to the north-west. There is nothing, I beg to submit, improbable in this theory, or beyond our reasonable acceptance. The bed of this Gill has an average altitude of about 625 feet above sea level, and is fully 1,000 feet lower than the altitude of some of the hills situated a few miles to the south-west of Edmundbyers; and although the altitude of the present bed of the river Derwent at Shotley Bridge Paper Mills is about 300 feet lower than at the foot of the rock on which we are standing, the difference in altitude between the two beds, formerly much less, particularly above the Crooked Oak Farm in the higher reaches ...

... perty of Mr Wilkinson, solicitor, who married the daughter of the late proprietor. George Smith, Esq., of Wester Hall, North Tyne, Northumberland, afterwards became the purchaser, by whom it was sold to Jonathan Richardson, Esq., for a sum of about £8,000. On the death of Mr Richardson, who died suddenly on Christmas Day, December 25th, 1871, the property was bought by the present owner W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., J.P.

LIST OF VISITORS.

Mr Samuel Leybourne, Blackhill; Mr F. Lane, Leadgate; Mr Thomas Atkinson, Blackhill; Mr C. W. Nicholson, Blackhill; Mr M. Harlow, Blackhill; Mr E. D. Wilson, Blackhill; Miss E. Davison, Blackhill; Mr A. Atkinson, Blackhill; Mr Robt. Goudie, Consett; Mr Ernest Wilson, Blackhill; Mr R. I. Brodie, Consett; Mr A. Wallace, Blackhill; Mr T. Longworth, Consett; Mr Milburn, Leadgate; Mr R. Colnitts, Blackhill; Mr J. Stockdale, Blackhill; Mr J. T. Symington, Consett; Mr E. Whitehead, Consett; Mr J. Davison, Queen Street, Blackhill; Mr W. Anderson, Shotley Bridge; Mr J. G. Redshaw, Shotley Bridge; Mr Sep. Brodie, Consett; Mrs Sep. Brodie, Consett; Miss Brodie, Consett; Mr J. C. Brodie, Consett; Miss Foxton, Consett; Miss Jeffrey, Consett; Miss Cooper, Consett; Mr T. W. Nicholson, Blackhill; Mr Jno. G. Cooke, Blackhill; Mr Ward Davison, Blackhill; Mrs Ward Davison, Blackhill; Mr Robinson, Burnopfield; Miss Robinson, Burnopfield; Miss Robinson, Durham; Mr W. Henderson, Consett; Mr W. Pollock, Blackhill; Mrs W. Pollock, Blackhill; Mr B. Thompson, Snows Green; Mr T. W. Anderson, Blackhill; Mr J. G. Brown, Shotley Bridge; Miss Brown, Shotley Bridge; Mrs Wood, Blackhill; Miss Harlow, Blackhill; Miss Muir, Blackhill; Miss Johnson, Blyth; Mr Ed. Wardhaugh, Shotley Bridge; Miss Elsdon, Blackhill; Mr Cragg, Woodlands; and Mrs Cragg, Woodlands.

... The shades of evening now gathered round, and it was found advisable to make tracks for our native heaths, and it was decided to take the following paper as read.—

THOUGHTS ON THE BEAUTIES OF DERWENT VALE.

OCCASIONED BY A VISIT TO WOODLANDS AND HOWEN'S AND KNITSLEY GILLS.

"Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field;
Let us lodge in the villages.
Let us get up early to the vineyards,
Let us see the vine flourish,
Whether the tender grape appear,
And the pomegranates bud forth."
—Canticles VII. 11 and 12.

The ignorant and thoughtless, whose ideas are confined to the sordid matter-of-fact-things of time, see no beauty in the bountiful works of the Creator; whereas the reflections of the student of nature, as he worships in this Universal Temple of God, are of the happiest and holiest character, in which his discerning eye beholds the wonders of Nature, reading therein secrets hidden from the callous and the careless.

Happy England lies under great obligations to the naturalist, whether he be peasant or king, poet or philosopher.

Chaucer, the confidant of John of Gaunt, the celebrated son of King Edward III., sitting within the shade of his beloved oak at Donnington Castle, gave to English verse its first "Guinea Stamp." From this period British poets have sung their sweetest lays in praise of rural life, and in reading their works in the quiet of our hours, at a season of the year the very antipodes of summer, their colourings have been so vivid, their word-painting so truthful, and their imagery so realistic as to bring us, unconsciously by the power of their spell, into close touch with nature herself—to feel her throb—to hear her breathings—to inhale her perfume—and to see her robe, like Joseph's coat, of many colours—we hear the lark, raining ...

USHAW MOOR.

On Monday week, a sad affair happened at the gates of Ushaw College, when an old servant of the college, John Rowntree, died in a fit of apoplexy, sustained while riding on his bicycle to his work at Ushaw. Mr Rowntree, who lived at Esh, about a mile away from Ushaw, had worked since his boyhood at the College, serving his time in the tailor's shop there, and having latterly been porter at the College entrance. He was riding from Esh to Ushaw, and had reached a place known as Holly Bush, near the College farm, when he was seen to fall from his machine upon the roadway. Fortunately, another employee of the College, J. McClusky, saw him fall, and at once rendered assistance. The unfortunate man was conveyed to the house of Mr Fairweather, the hind on the farm, and Dr. McIntosh was summoned, but Rowntree never rallied, and died an hour or two later. The deceased, who was about 40 years, leaves a widow and six children. His connection of over a quarter-of-a-century with the College had made him widely known round about, and he was greatly liked by everyone who knew him.

ELSDON'S MINERAL WATERS

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"TIDLEY" THE NEW DRINK.

It will Invigorate and Refresh You.

NATHAN ELSDON & SONS,

DELVES LANE (near the New Consett Station.)

ESTABLISHED 1869.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Lanchester Board of Guardians was held in the Board Room, at the Workhouse, on Thursday last—Mr. W. Logan, J.P. (chairman) presiding. There were also present Miss Peile, Messrs T. J. Muse, W. Gray, T. S. Longstaff, W. Aynsley, R. Kay, E. Sloane, G. J. Robinson, J. Pumphrey, H. C. Wood, W. Bulmer, Rev. T. H. Archdall, W. Severs, A. Kuhlman, T. Lowdon, W. H. Telford, J. Davison, R. Mitchinson, H. Greener, G. D. Powell, E. J. Wardle, Rev. A. McGill, G. Hobson, J. R. Ritson, J. Green, Geo. Forster, U. A. Ritson, J. Green, the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson), and the (Mr. W. H. Ritson), and the Workhouse Workhouse Master (Mr. Brotherhood.)

PAUPER STATISTICS.

It was reported that the number of inmates in the house was 237 as against 225 in the corresponding period of last year. The number of out-relief cases in the eastern district was 363 against 456, and in the western district 456 against 532.

MR. KIRKUP.

The Chairman said Mr. Kirkup had practically left the neighbourhood and probably would not be able to attend so frequently. He moved, therefore, that the Lamesley Committee be requested to appoint another convener.

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

THE ESTIMATES.

The estimates of expenditure for the half-year ending Lady Day 1900 were submitted as follows:—In maintenance, £1300; out-relief, £2,800; maintenance of lunatics, £1,100; interest to instalment of loan, £600; salaries and rations of officers, £800; building and repair, £150; furniture and property, £50; rents, rates, and insurance, £50; stationery, printing, etc., £80; paupers in hospitals and schools, £80; registration, £130; vaccination, £200; legal proceedings, £10; Assessment Committee, £80; incidental expenses, £70. Total, £7,500. Deduct common fund receipts, £2,220; add county rates, £3,011. Total, £8,311.

The Chairman said the total amount required was £8,311 against £8,746 last half-year. They would observe that the whole of that saving was made on the Assessment Committee work, the amount being £80 against £663. The work of the Assessment Committee had been exceedingly heavy.

Mr. H. C. Wood said the estimate for out-relief was £450 more than in the corresponding period of last half-year. He had an impression that the number receiving out-door relief was considerably less than it was in the former period. The statement was that there were 819 receiving out-relief now, and according to the last report there were 988. That was a reduction of 170 and yet the estimate was considerably increased. It seemed rather contradictory. If the numbers were less it was natural to assume that the estimate would be less.

The Clerk said out-relief was always going up.

Mr. Wood did not see how it could. They had not altered the scale in the last twelve months.

The Clerk: Not the scale, perhaps.

Mr. Wood: We are getting more generous?

The Clerk: Yes.

Mr. J. R. Ritson: Or more extravagant.

Mr. Bulmer said there was an advance in the vaccination scale from £95 to £200.

The Chairman said that was on account of the new Vaccination Act.

Mr. J. R. Ritson asked if there was anything in the £150 for building and repairs to go towards the new Laundry?

The Chairman said practically there was nothing.

Mr. Ritson asked if the laundry work should not have been included in the probable expenditure?

The Chairman said the estimated expenditure of £8,311 would probably only amount to £8,000, but then would come the cost of the laundry work, but they did not know what it would be. He pointed out that 6d in the pound would produce £9,500 and 5d would produce £7,916.

Mr. Aynsley moved and Mr. Gray seconded that the rate be 6d in the pound.

The Chairman said if they had a sixpenny rate they would have a balance of £1,189. In reply to Mr. Wood, he said they had a balance at present of £3,000, and, in reply to Mr. Archdall, he said the rate for last half-year and the corresponding half of last year was sixpence in each case.

Mr. Powell moved, and Mr. Kuhlman seconded, that the rate be 5d in the pound.

The Chairman pointed out that 5d in the pound would leave them in debt to the extent of £400.

Mr. Gray said they would have £2,500 at the end of the half-year.

Mr. Wood contended that the estimate for out-relief was an extravagant one.

The Chairman said that might be, but they should not forget when they went into a cheese-paring policy it landed them in a great hole, and they had to urge the overseers to get the money in. That had been his experience. As to the £3,000 in the hands of the treasurer, he did not look upon that as extravagant. It would be all absorbed before they got their money in in November.

Mr. Powell: Will you have £3,000 at the end of September?

The Chairman: No, we have £2,440 to pay to-day.

Mr. Wood said it did not seem to him that the amount of the cheques was so large.

The Chairman said the County rate had to be added.

Mr. J. R. Ritson asked what was the difference between their rateable value now as compared with this time last year, when the same rate was applicable?

The Chairman said it would be much larger.

The Clerk said it would not be very much. They had not yet got all the returns in, and they could not be prepared for a fortnight. The precepts would have to come before them at the next meeting. It would be twelve weeks that day before they could get money in.

The Chairman said he did not think 6d was extravagant, and they would regret 5d.

The Board then divided, when nine voted for 5d, and 20 for 6d. A rate of 6d in the pound was therefore agreed to.

SCATTERED HOMES FOR CHILDREN.

A communication was read from the Newton Abbot Board of Guardians, in support of boarding out any child they might think fit.

The Chairman explained that the Local Government Board was being asked to extend the Act of 1889, so that Guardians might Board out any child. At present they were only entitled to board out orphan children. He believed there was an intention to pass a new Act dealing with all phases of the question, and he did not think it would be wise to hamper the Local Government Board at present.

On the motion of Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Gray, it was agreed that the communication should be allowed to lie on the table.

RELIEF TO NON-RESIDENTS.

The Gainsborough Guardians wrote suggesting that steps should be taken to make it imperative on the part of Boards of Guardians to pay relief to non-residents and non-settled poor when requested by the Guardians of other Unions.

The Clerk said they had no difficulty in that way in Lanchester.

The letter was ordered to lie on the table.

SECURITY FOR OFFICIALS.

A letter was read from the Whickham Guardians suggesting that the responsibility of getting security for the assistant overseers should be placed on the persons appointing them.

Mr. Wood: A very proper thing too.

Mr. Aynsley asked if it was intended that the Urban District Councils should become security?

The Clerk said the Councils appointed them, and the overseers should give security to the Councils instead of to the Guardians.

Mr. Wood moved, and Mr. Gray seconded, that the matter be referred to a Committee, and this was agreed to.

It was agreed that the Committee should consist of Messrs Aynsley, Severs, G. J. Robinson, J. R. Ritson, and H. C. Wood, with the Chairman and Vice-chairman.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADVANCES.

Applications for advances in salary were received from Inspector Waller, as vagrant officer, and Mr. Walton and Mr. Ward, as relieving officers. It was pointed out in the case of Inspector Waller that he received £10, and that the latter amount had been paid for many years previously.—Mr. Walton said it was seven years since his salary was increased from £120 to £140, and during that time the population had considerably increased. He also pointed out that he had been 30 years in the service.—Mr. Ward said he based his application on the responsible and trying character of the work, and length of service—22 years.

The whole of the applications were referred to the Finance Committee.

THE BURIALS QUESTION.

The Chairman said he had received a letter from one of the Churchwardens of Lanchester, stating that the Vicar and Churchwardens were now prepared to furnish the information they promised some time ago, to enable the Board to deal with the burials question. The amount required to increase the churchyard by one acre was £300, that was £200 for land, and £100 cost of fencing and forming a footpath. He had to add that during the past 20 years there had been 614 burials from the Workhouse, and only 431 from the parish of Lanchester.

Mr. Archdall asked if the paupers belonging to the parish of Lanchester were included in the 614?

The Chairman said they were, but they must bear in mind that when he gave the number from Lanchester it did not mean that all the paupers buried from Lanchester belonged to Lanchester Union. Every tramp who came in over-night and died next day, became a parishioner of Lanchester.

Mr. Green said that would hold good in some of the other parishes, where there were lodging houses. He found lodging houses were terrible for that.

The Chairman then read the figures of burials at Lanchester during the past 20 years from the various parishes as follows:—Consett, 177; Collierley, 81; Lanchester, 80; Tanfield, 74; Benfieldside, 57; Kyo, 43; Iveston, 42; Esh, 25; Medomsley, 18; Stanley, 16; Cornsay, 15; Greencroft, 13; Hedleyhope, 11; South Moor, 8; Ebchester, 4; Satley, 3; Healeyfield, 2; Oxhill, 1; and Langley, 1; giving a total of 671. The Chairman added that 57 paupers had died in the Workhouse who had been taken to other parts by their friends.

Mr. J. R. Ritson said there had been a lot of people buried in the churchyard who did not belong to the parish of Lanchester.

The Chairman presumed that Mr. Ritson meant people who did not belong to the parish in the ordinary way?

Mr. Ritson said that was so.

The Chairman said they did not amount to one a year.

Mr. Brotherhood said they must have the permission of the Churchwardens before they could be buried there. He might say that he had been a churchwarden for a good many years, and they had granted few permissions.

Mr. Ritson said he understood that practically they did not grant any now, on account of the churchyard being so full.

Mr. Green said that had only been of recent date.

Mr. Ritson said it was within the last four years.

The Chairman said it had been his experience that they did everything they could to discourage people bringing bodies from other districts.

Mr. Archdall said that the 74 from Tanfield would include a large proportion from Stanley.

The Chairman said that might be so, but it did not alter the fact 60 per cent. of the burials at Lanchester came from outside the district.

Mr. Wood asked if there was not a Committee appointed to go into the matter?

The Chairman said there was.

Mr. Wood did not think they were in a position to deal with the question that day.

Mr. Ritson said it was a matter that wanted settling at once.

Mr. Wood agreed, but it must be settled justly.

The Chairman said nothing could be done to bind the Guardians that day.

On the motion of Mr. Wood, the matter was referred to the following committee:—Messrs Aynsley, Fortin, Gray, Green, Oliver, G. J. Robinson, J. R. Ritson, Wood, and Archdall, with the Chairman and Vice-chairman.

Mr. Ritson gave notice to move that a grant of £200 be made in connection with the Churchyard.

THE MASTER'S SILVER WEDDING.

The Chairman stated that the Master and Matron in celebration of their silver wedding, had given at their own cost a treat to the whole of the inmates of the Workhouse and Infirmary.

On the motion of Mr. Muse, seconded by Mr. Sloane, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Brotherhood.

The meeting then terminated.

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BLAYDON DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Blaydon Urban District Council was held on Thursday night last in the Temperance Hall, Blaydon. Mr. E. Aiston (chairman) presided and there were also present:—Messrs J. W. Tucker, W. Crooks, J. Cunningham, Rev. A. B. Tebb, J. R. Gilchrist, J. Raine, E. J. W. Powell, W. Latimer, Jos. Robson, A. Smith, W. Douglass, W. Archer, W. Atkinson, H. Dalton (Clerk), G. Symon (Surveyor), and R. Biggins (Inspector).

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

This Committee reported that they had considered the Inspector's report and they recommended that several notices for defects and to abate nuisances be served.

On the motion of the Rev. A. B. Tebb seconded by Mr. Cunningham, the report was adopted.

STREETS COMMITTEE.

The Streets Committee reported having had before them the Surveyor's report, they recommended that South Street, Blaydon, be paved with sandstone sets at an estimated cost of £2b. They also recommended that the surveyor be authorised to prosecute any person damaging the fencing round the allotments; they also recommended that Derwenthaugh be lighted with oil until arrangements could be made to have it lighted with gas.

On the motion of Mr. Gilchrist, seconded by Mr. Tucker, the report was adopted.

FINANCE REPORT.

Mr. Crooks presented the financial statement which showed that cheques were required for the following – Current account, £640 9s 10d; wages, £140; loan account (water supply) £88 8s 5d. He moved that the cheques be signed.

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

THE ESTIMATES.

Mr. Crooks submitted the estimates for the ensuing half-year, and after dealing in detail with the items he said the total amounted to £4,186. The Finance Committee proposed to make a rate of 1/8 in the pound which would only provide £3,960, leaving a deficit of about £200. They anticipated a grant from the County Council and income from other sources, which enabled them to justify the deficit. He moved that a rate of 1/8 be passed.

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

VICTORIA GARESFIELD SCAVENGING

There were five tenders for the scavenging of Victoria Garesfield, and that of Mr. Thomas Hurst, of Winlaton, amounting to £54, was accepted on the motion of Mr. Tebb, seconded by Mr. Archer.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. Brown reported that the health of the district during August had been of a far from satisfactory nature. Owing to the prolonged drought and great heat, diarrhœa and vomiting had been very prevalent and in the case of infants had proved fatal in many instances. Unfortunately typhoid had again appeared in an almost epidemic form in some parts of the district, Spen being the worst centre. For the month ending Aug. 31st the following cases had been reported under the Notification of Diseases Act:—Enteric fever, 9; scarlatina, 5; diphtheria, 1; continued fever, 1. Every day during month one or more cases of enteric (typhoid) fever had been reported chiefly from the Spen district. He purposed going again to Spen to have another complete investigation so as to do whatever was possible in the way of abating this serious disease. They had only two patients in the Hospital, both enteric, one from Blaydon and the other from Blaydon Haughs. Unfortunately patients in the outlying districts seemed to have almost a horror of being removed to the Hospital, and invariably refused to go. He would try a little more persuasion with, he hoped, good effect. The drains ought to be regularly (twice a day at least) freely flushed, and only water that was known to be quite free from any contamination allowed for domestic purposes. Unfortunately there seemed very little sign of the long-wished for rain coming so that it would be wise to advise householders against wasting water in any form.

The doctor's precautions were approved of and the report adopted.

POLLUTION OF THE DERWENT.

The Committee appointed to meet a committee of the Lanchester Council respecting the alleged pollution of the Derwent at Cronlwell, reported that they had inspected the works, and they were of opinion that at present there was nothing to complain about. In view of an extension of buildings on the north side it was quite possible that disposal works would be required, but at present it was inadvisable to extend the works.

The Chairman said the Lanchester representatives had an idea of pumping the sewage from the Blaydon side. They went down to the pump outfall, and they did not see a great deal the matter with it. It was discoloured a little, but they were of opinion that there was really nothing serious as yet. Mention was made about Blackhall Mill being divided between Lanchester and Blaydon Councils, and it was thought it would be better to make the River Derwent the line of demarcation between the two Councils.

Mr. Gilchrist said they were agreed that the pumping apparatus would not deal with the amount of surplus water coming in from the north side of the Derwent. The conditions under which they saw it were most unfavourable. To attempt to put any more money down seemed to be out of the question altogether.

Mr. Crooks moved that a Committee be appointed to meet the Lanchester Council, with a view to forming a division.

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

CHOPWELL WOOD STREAM.

A letter was read from Messrs Watson and Dendy, with reference to the stream running through Chopwell Woods. In consequence of the action of the Consett Iron Company it appeared that the stream had now filled with sewage, and this was a serious infringement of their clients (Messrs Priestman) rights, as well as dangerous to public health.

Mr. Symon (surveyor), said that by putting coke refuse down it might cleanse it for the present.

Mr. Archer said it was a very serious matter. Owing to the pollution of the stream they could not pump water out.

Mr. Gilchrist said it was a matter which would have to be faced. He had spoken about it several times.

Mr. Symon said he also proposed to put a few loads of hot lime down.

The Rev. A. B. Tebb moved that the matter be left in the hands of the Surveyor.

Mr. Powell seconded the motion.

Mr. Archer drew attention to the lack of water.

Mr. Atkinson said something should be done in regard to the water. It was really their neglect that there was no water.

Mr. Symon suggested that the Colliery Company should supply water free, until the nuisance was abated.

Mr. Gilchrist thought that was a good suggestion.

Mr. Tebb said he would include that in his resolution, which was thereupon carried.

LETTER FROM ROWLAND'S GILL.

The Clerk read the following letter:—"We, the undersigned, being residents on the Smailes Estate, Rowland's Gill, wish to thank you for the improvements which have been made by forming footpaths, and for the ability which your Surveyor has brought to bear on the water question, and the progress which has been made. We fear to think what state the district would have been in during the dry weather if the water had not been turned on. We would like to point out to you the need of more lamps, although we fear the rateable value of the estate has not increased sufficiently, yet we think that one lamp at least might be put up at the four road ends at the commencement of the estate. Then we would like to have more footpaths, especially at the commencement of the woods on the main road. The fencing has all been set back except about 100 yards along Mr. Penny's ground. One gentleman offered Mr. Penny to set his fence back free, but was told to mind his own business. We think you have some power to do this, and it is very important that it should be done before the dirty weather sets in, as the road is generally so very dirty at that place, and it could be done at so little expense and would complete a footpath from the end of the estate to the station. We would like to draw your attention to the two wooden huts by the side of the road at this place. They have now stood there for about three years, and are very objectionable. One of them is used as a refreshment counter, and the roadway as a refreshment room, causing many people to gather and sit about, especially on Sundays, making it very unpleasant to pass along that way. A chimney has also been erected a little further along the road, the top of which is about level with the roadway, and when the wind is blowing from a certain direction it is a great nuisance, the smoke coming right in the faces of the passers by. We should like you particularly to notice if the house now being erected near the wooden huts is being carried out according to approved plans, as the owner will not allow the Building Committee of the Estate to inspect it. These are, we think, matters for you to deal with, as the owner of the new building has defied all the other owners, and threaten to "smash" any of them setting foot on his land.

The letter was referred to a Committee, and the meeting soon after terminated.

WHICKHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Thursday evening, in the Board Offices, Whickham, Councillor G. H. Snowball presiding, in the absence of the Chairman. The other members present were Couns. Walls, Fletcher, Swinburn, Taylor, Berkley, Blackbird, Rutherford, Handyside, and the Deputy-Clerk, Mr. J. Dobson.)

A DELAY.

The meeting, which should have commenced at 7 p.m., did not begin until 8.30 p.m., owing to the members being in committee.

"A SHORT, SHARP CONTEST."

The Chairman said that before they commenced the business, he wished, on behalf of the members of the Board, to extend their welcome to Coun. Ed. Taylor, who had just been elected by the ratepayers to the seat vacated by the death of the late Coun. Rotherford. Coun. Taylor had been elected after a short, sharp contest, by a decided majority. He believed Mr. Taylor would be of assistance to them in their deliberations, and that he would work harmoniously with the other members of the Board.

LOST, STOLEN, OR STRAYED!

Coun. Rutherford said that a certain plan had been stated to have been lost; it had now been recovered, and he wanted to know if it had been returned to the Council or what?

The Deputy-Clerk replied that he thought the Surveyor had recovered the plan from Messrs Watson and Scott.

Coun. Rutherford: I asked where the plan came from, and I was told to ask the Clerk.

The Surveyor stated that he got the plan referred to from Mr. Scott.

Coun. Walls: As a matter of fact the plans are ours and you can state where you got them.

The Deputy-Clerk remarked that the plan, which belonged to Mr. Garbutt, was taken away by that gentleman, who asked for permission to do so.

The Surveyor stated that Messrs Watson and Scott were acting for Mr. Garbutt at the time.

Coun. Swinburn: The Surveyor has approached this firm of architects—on whose authority?

The Surveyor: On my own authority.

Coun. Rutherford: You knew that they were there?

The Surveyor replied that he did not know the plans were there, but he thought it was a likely place for them. At the time when he called, the firm named allowed him to take a copy of the plans, and on a subsequent visit they handed the original to him.

Coun. Rutherford: You don't know how it got into their possession?

The Surveyor: I have a pretty rough idea.

Coun. Rutherford: I mean as a fact.

The Chairman: The plan was really the property of the Council.

Coun. Rutherford: The point is who had it, and how does it come that it is now produced?

The Chairman: I think we about know now.

The Deputy-Clerk said he thought he could produce the copy of a letter written to Mr. Garbutt asking him to return the plans.

Coun. Fletcher remarked that Mr. Garbutt asked, in his presence, to have the plan, so as to take a copy, and that he would return the same.

Coun. Walls: It's a good job that the plan has turned up.

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee reported that after all cheques had been signed there would be a balance in the bank of £230 12s 11d. The rates collected during the past month amounted to £377 2s 6d.—The report was adopted.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr. J. McGregor) reported that the Broom Lane footpath would be finished in the course of a fortnight.

THE KEELMAN'S BRIDGE.

The plans for the Keelman's Bridge were now before the Swalwell Committee, along with the specification.

WHICKHAM VILLAGE PUMP.

The Surveyor reported that on the 23rd ult., he had the Whickham village pump emptied, but he would like to point out the error of taking a sample of the water during the dry season.

LOCOMOTIVES ON HIGHWAYS.

The report stated that there were no highways or bridges in the district which need be restricted as regards locomotive traffic.

THE RECENT FLOOD.

The Surveyor reported the flooding of two houses at Swalwell, during the recent heavy rains, and which he stated were fully two feet below the level of the roadway. He suggested some alterations to obviate this in the future.

NEW STREETS AT SWALWELL.

The necessity of having the new streets at Swalwell paved, was urged by the Surveyor.—It was resolved that the work be proceeded with at once.

THE PROPOSED FEVER HOSPITAL.

The plans for the proposed Fever Hospital to be erected at Whickham were now reported to be ready to lay before the Local Government Board, and that the specifications were now in the lithographer's hands.

The Surveyor's report was adopted.

PROPOSED FOOTPATHS.

Coun. Swinburn said that about four months ago a resolution was passed to the effect that a footpath should be made from Millfield Road, Whickham, and also the Crown Hotel, to the Whaggs. So far as he knew nothing had yet been done.

Coun. Rutherford said that the work had to be carried out during the summer, so that it could be finished for the winter.

The Surveyor stated that he had not yet started with the work. The instructions he received were simply to take the posts out in the Whaggs lane.

The Chairman (to Mr. McGregor): If you go to Mr. Lambert's office, he will show you the resolution.

The Surveyor: I will look after that.

The Chairman: You will get your instructions.

The Surveyor: Very well.

AN ADJOURNMENT.

Owing to the lateness of the hour—10.30 p.m.—it was decided to adjourn the meeting for one week.

A GREAT BLESSING TO HUMANITY is without doubt a medicine composed of ingredients that, whilst it eradicates the germs of disease, strengthens the system. Holloway's Pills act in this manner, and in general debility, mental depression and nervous irritability there is no remedy which operates so beneficially. They purify the blood, give tone to the stomach and thoroughly regenerate the system. They are mild in operation, although most powerful in removing disease. Delicate females and young children can take them with safety and benefit. It would be difficult to enumerate all the advantages to be derived by taking these wonderful pills. No household should be without them, for there is no complaint which they cannot cure or relieve.

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FELLSIDE FLOWER SHOW.

The members of the Fellside, Marley Hill, and Whickham Floral and Horticultural Society held their 40th annual exhibition of flowers, plants, and vegetables on Saturday, in a field at Fellside, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr. Wm. Noble, of the Woodman's Arms Inn. During the early part of the proceedings the success of the show was threatened by a short, heavy downfall of rain, but this happily abated and gave place to a fine afternoon. The weather was excellent, albeit a stiff breeze prevailed. The Marley Hill Brass Band, under the guidance of Mr. Joseph Taylor, was in attendance and discoursed popular selections of music at intervals. The arrangements were studiously looked after by the hard-working secretary, Mr. J. Clark, whose efforts met with the approval of both exhibitor and visitor alike. He was ably assisted by Mr. Richard Maughan as treasurer, and an energetic committee. The judges were Mr. Thomas Battensby, of Axwell, and Mr. A. Watt, Harperley Hall, who were most painstaking in the work of adjudication. It is worthy of note that the society on Saturday celebrated its 40th year of existence, during which time it has had many ups and downs, but, thanks to the untiring efforts of the executive, it can claim for itself the distinction of being one of the best exhibitions held in the district. Each year the show seems to gain in popularity, and the present display of flowers, plants, vegetables, etc. has to be chronicled as the best ever seen under canvas at Fellside.

Amongst the oldest officials connected with the Society is Mr. S. Nicholson, who has filled the post of chairman for a considerable number of years. Turning to the present show we must admit that a better display one could not wish to see, both as regards the quality and quantity of the exhibits. In each department competition was keen, and the work of adjudication was rendered correspondingly difficult. The pot plants of a high quality and imparted an attractive appearance to the show. Vegetables were a creditable lot, and the item to call for comment was the potatoes, which were said to be the best yet seen at Fellside. Cut flowers constituted a splendid display, and were much admired. In addition to the show an attractive programme of sports was gone through. The quoit handicap secured 23 entries, and some exciting play was witnessed. Owing to darkness play had to be stopped, and Messrs Rostren, McCann, and Hinds divided the first three prizes. In the tug-of-war Hearin's team was placed first, Cook's team second, and Hobson's third. The prizes offered for skipping for girls were secured by A. Lawson, 1; S. Stark, 2; E. Lowery, 3; and M. Morton, 4. The race for youths under 14 years of age was won by J. Dumphey, who was closely followed by J. Pescod, with Snowball in the third position. The proceedings were brought to a pleasant termination with a well-attended ball.

LIST OF AWARDS.

POT PLANTS

Two stove or greenhouse plants in bloom—1, W. M. Handcock; 2, T. Simpson; 3, J. Cawthorn.
Pot of liliums—1, T. Simpson; 2, J. Robinson.
Light Fuchsia—1, W. M. Handcock; 2, T. Simpson; 3, J. Cawthorn.
Dark fuchsia—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, W. M. Handcock; 3, J. E. Taylor.
Two zonale geraniums—1, T. Simpson; 2, J. Cawthorn; 3, A. Cawthorn.
Petunia—1, J. Cawthorn.
Geranium stock—1, Wm. Noble; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Balsam—1, W. M. Handcock.
Calceolaria, shrubby—1, Mrs E. Blackmore.
Zonale geranium—1, T. Simpson; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Two foliage plants, ferns allowed—1, W. M. Handcock; 2, J. E. Taylor; 3, T. Simpson.

CUT FLOWERS.

Six spikes of antirrhinums, 3 dissimilar—1, H. Lawson; 2, Jas. Weedy; 3, Mrs E. Blackmore.
Six dahlias, 4 dissimilar—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, J. Cawthorn; 3, W. M. Handcock.
Three dahlias, dissimilar, bloom—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Dahlia—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, A. Cawthorn.
Six French marigolds, striped—1, J. Hare; 2, J. F. Gardner; 3, W. M. Handcock.
Six African marigolds, orange—1, R. Copeland; 2, M. Maughan; 3, J. Cook.
Six African marigolds, lemon—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, R. Maughan; 3, A. Cawthorn.
Six fancy pansies—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, J. Cawthorn; 3, J. E. Taylor.
Six pansies, show—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, A. Cawthorn.
Six hollyhocks, 3 dissimilar, bloom—1, J. F. Gardner.
Six French asters—1, J. Brown; 2, W. M. Handcock; 3, . Cawthorn.
Six globe asters—1, . Cawthorn; 2, M. Cawthorn; 3, A. Cawthorn.
Six stands of phlox drummondi—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, J. Hare.
Three phloxes—1, . Cawthorn; 2, A. Morris.
Three spikes of gladioli—1, W. M. Handcock.
Six roses—1, J. F. Gardner; 2, J. E. Taylor; 3, A. Cawthorn.
Three bottles of cut flowers—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, T. Simpson; 3, W. M. Handcock.
Three bottles of hardy annuals—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, T. Simpson; 3, J. E. Taylor.
Hand bouquet of hard and half-hardy annual—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, T. Simpson; 3, J. Robinson.
Six pompone dahlias—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, J. Cawthorn; 3, W. M. Handcock.

VEGETABLES.

Six round potatoes, white—1, W. Noble; 2, H. Lamb; 3, H. Cawthorn.
Six kidney potatoes, white—1, H. Maughan; 2, P. Sharp; 3, J. Robinson.
Six round potatoes, other than white—1, J. McQueen; 2, Jas. McQueen; 3, Jas. Robinson.
Six kidney potatoes, other than white—1, H. Maughan; 2, M. Cawthorn; 3, J. Crosby.
Six summer onions—1, Wm. Parkin; 2, R. Nicholson.
Three leeks—1, T. Brown; 2, W. M. Handcock; 3, R. Nicholson.
Three roots of beet, not to be cut—1, G. Hepple; 2, W. Parkin; 3, R. Morton.
Three stalks of rhubarb—1, W. M. Handcock; 2, R. Maughan.
Twelve pods of peas—1, Jas. McQueen; 2, John McQueen.
Six pods of beans—1, J. Crosby; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Six winter onions—1, G. Hepple.
Early cabbage—1, J. Morton; 2, W. Noble.
Savoy cabbage—1, W. Parkin.
Scotch cabbage—1, T. Simpson.
Red cabbage—1, J. Crosby; 2, J. Morton; 3, W. Noble.
Three carrots—1, Gowan Grey; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Three parsnips—1, W. Parkin; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Three turnips—1, J. Hare; 2, W. M. Handcock.
Two heads of celery, not to be cut—1, T. Heslop; 2, R. Morton; 3, T. Brown.
Vegetable Marrow—1, J. T. Weedy; 2, J. Hare.
Two cucumbers—1, T. Simpson; 2, J. Weedy; 3, W. Parkin.

FRUIT.

Best four apples—1, J. F. Gardner; 2, H. Maughan; 3, J. E. Taylor.

BUTTER AND EGGS.

Best half-pound pat of butter for table use—1, Miss Bowman; 2, Miss M. A. Grey; 3, W. M. Handcock.
Six large sound hen eggs (white)—1, S. Morton; 2, W. Ellis; 3, Mrs Turnbull.
Six large sound hen eggs (coloured)—1, S. Morton; 2, Miss M. Grey; 3, J. Ringer.

BREAD.

Best plain loaf of white bread—1, Mrs Shade; 2, R. Maughan; 3, Miss Harrison.
Best loaf of white bread, made by W. Morton's yeast—1, R. Lowery; 2, R. Maughan.

EXTRA PRIZES.

Six dahlias, four dissimilar—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, W. M. Handcock.
Bouquet of cut flowers—1, W. Oliphant; 2, J. E. Taylor.
Two fuchsias, dissimilar—1, W. M. Handcock; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Twelve globe asters—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, M. Cawthorn; 3, R. McNeale.
Four French asters, four self-marigolds, and four striped (French)—1, J. Cawthorn; 2, R. McNeale.
Three bottles of hardy and half-hardy annuals—1, T. Simpson; 2, A. Cawthorn.
Balsam—1, M. Handcock.
Twelve French marigolds (6 striped and 6 self)—1, R. Copeland; 2, M. Cawthorn; 3, R. McNeale.
Four button-hole flowers, dissimilar, open to members—1, R. Copeland; 2, M. Cawthorn.
Twelve round potatoes (white)—1, Hy. Lawson; 2, Mrs E. Blackmore.
Twelve kidney potatoes (white)—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, H. Lawson; 3, J. Weedy.
Three kinds of vegetables, one of each kind—1, W. M. Handcock; 2, T. Simpson.
Two heads of celery, two roots of beet, and two parsnips—1, W. Parkin; 2, W. M. Handcock.
Twelve potatoes, six kidney and six round (white)—1, P. Sharp; 2, Jas. McQueen; 3, R. Maughan.
Two leeks and two heads of celery—1, T. Brown; 2, R. Nicholson.
Six stands of phlox drummondii (three spikes in each)—1, John Cawthorn; 2, M. Cawthorn.
Best leek shown in the parts—1, W. M. Handcock.
Two cucumbers—1, T. Simpson; 2, G. Grey.
Twelve Victoria asters (three dissimilar varieties)—1, R. McNeale; 2, J. Cawthorn.
Collection of vegetables (three sorts, two of each, cucumbers and vegetable marrows not allowed)—1, W. Parkin; 2, W. M. Handcock.
Basket of hardy and half-hardy garden annual flowers—1, A. Cawthorn; 2, M. Cawthorn; 3, R. Maughan.
Best two heads of celery—1, Jas. Morton; 2, M. Walles; 3, W. M. Handcock.
Best six French and six Victoria asters—1, R. McNeale; 2, W. M. Handcock.
Best cauliflower, shown in parts—1, G. Hepple.
Best six eschalots—1, Jas. Weedy; 2, P. Sharp.
Three roots of beet—1, J. Morris; 2, W. Parkin.
One cauliflower—1, R. Meddick.
Twelve potatoes, six kidney and six round—1, J. McQueen; 2, W. A. Morton.

WRITING FOR CHILDREN.

Writing for school children (confined to Marley Hill Board Schools and Fellside Sunday School): Standard I.—1, Mary McIntyre; 2, Rachael Baker. Standard II.—H. Pattison; 2, T. Crosson. Standard III.—1, W. Bell; 2, T. Davison. Standard IV.—1, R. Wallace; 2, W. Vickery.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

Jubilee Anniversary Services.

The commencement of the jubilee anniversary services of the above place of worship took place on Sunday week, when sermons were preached by the Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne, of Consett (newly-appointed minister.) There were large congregations and Mr. Polkinghorne's discourses were much appreciated.

On the Monday evening, a jubilee public meeting was held in the chapel, which was well filled. Mr. E. Forster, of Leadgate, introduced the chairman, Mr. C. F. Cooke, of Annfield Plain, who was supported by Mr. John Oliver, Stanley; Mr. J. Urwin, Hollinside Hall; Mr. John Humble, Annfield Plain; and Mr. A. Phillipson, Dipton.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that at one time he was afraid he would not be able to preside over that meeting, as he had not been very well. However, he was now somewhat better, and as he had such a good array of speakers to support him, perhaps his duties would not be very heavy. He could not go back 50 years, but in the matter of that sanctuary he sympathised with them in their past 50 years of labour. He sometimes asked himself the question, "What is Wesleyan Methodism?" Dr. Chalmers had said it was Christianity in earnest. They had better times now than in former years, and the amount they raised every quarter was much larger. Christianity was the offspring of the wonderful labours of John Wesley, and he was thankful they encouraged that day those great and blessed privileges which he laboured so earnestly to bring about. (Applause.) In the College at Oxford they were first called Methodists, so they had that day the true apostolic succession. He hoped the members they had now would prove themselves true Christians, and that they would have a successful year in spiritual and aggressive work. The position he occupied was very satisfactory, as he could just get up when he liked and speak when he liked. (Laughter.) He would now call upon their old friend, Mr. John Oliver to address them. (Applause.)

Mr. Oliver, after some introductory remarks, said he was 25 years old when that chapel was opened out. It seemed but a day. Of the many people that attended that place of worship when it was first opened, he supposed that there was not one with them that evening. He saw some old faces there, and perhaps some of them might have dropped in that day, such as Brothers Jobling and Innes. If they remembered, '49 was a very strange ordeal through which they passed. It was perhaps one of the most severe times they had—the time of the Reformation. In '49 to raise money for a Methodist Chapel seemed out of the question. They started with a few people there, and a few came from Derwent Cottages and Consett. He remembered that they used to call of each other at Derwent Cottages and come to Leadgate and hold services. They used to meet with a few Primitives, and hold services together. The first was in a cottage in Bottle Bank. They had good meetings composed of about 30 people. He remembered a few in Leadgate—John Davison, Willie Cheesman, Major Cheesman, and one or two more. Willie Cheesman seemed to be master of the concern. (Laughter.) Another was Willie Miller, who was a Scotchman, and stuck to Leadgate like a brick. He came to be supt., and a curious supt. he was. He had a curious way of reading the scriptures. But Willie was a diligent, faithful supt.—not educated, but nevertheless he did faithful duty. (Applause.) George Bell came from Derwent Cottages, and was a very great help. The chapel was eventually raised there through the efforts of earnest, faithful, christian men and women. (Applause.) And they went out into the streets. It was no uncommon sight to see people preaching in the streets. These came from Medomsley, Derwent Cottages, and Annfield Plain. He remembered one John Smith, who was building cottages down Watling Street. They were not built then as they were now. One mason, he thought, would do as much work then as three or four now. About £10 was only allowed then to build a house. Well, when six o'clock came he had seen John roll his apron up, and commence and preach the gospel. He remembered very well him preaching a sermon one night at which many wept. He (the speaker) knew their difficulties in getting the chapel erected. Nevertheless they strove and laboured on, and the chapel was completed. (Applause.) He remembered the men who preached that day, and they seemed to stand like monuments before him. If ever he heard Christ preached he heard Him preached that day. Many other local preachers—full of the Holy Ghost—came there to preach. These were gone, and when he looked back it seemed but a day. At their gathering there that evening there were many absent faces—many he knew well and held sweet communion with. He could still feel the grasp of their hand and the kind words that fell on the ear. Those were gone, and they were left in the great field of salvation. What good were they doing? They would very soon be gone, and their children would be very much what they taught them. (Hear, hear.) They might be taught faithfully at school, and brought up with a great deal of knowledge, but if they did not get firm, resolute teaching of the word of God when young, the possibility was that they would go astray. They could ask how many of those taught in their Sunday Schools had followed the example of their fathers and mothers who had gone before them? Let them try to leave upon the hearts of the young the obligation they owed to those who had gone. (Applause.) After referring to the usefulness of Sunday School work, Mr. Oliver, as an illustration of what local preachers did formerly, said that one Sunday he was planned at Dipton in the morning, Burnhope in the afternoon, and Leadgate at night. As he lived at Derwent Cottages it was not a light day's work, especially as he had to walk. He was then a young starter, and felt very nervous but some souls were saved, and that made up for it. (Applause.) Might God bless them all. (Applause.)

Mr. Humble then addressed the meeting, and kept his audience in a continual state of merriment by his witty sayings and humorous stories, delivered in his own peculiar racy fashion. He remarked that 50 years in Leadgate had made the place better. Religion could stand the test. It had been there 50 years, and still stood its ground. (Applause.) He could not go back 50 years, but it was pretty nigh that since he went to South Moor. He remembered preaching at Leadgate about the time of the Fenian movement. Suddenly there was such a crash. It was stones coming from outside through the window. He did not pronounce the benediction or anything, for the men and women were out in a "jiff." (Laughter and applause.) Referring to a supt. named Salt, he said he was just like his name. (Laughter.) He was very sharp and some did not like him. However, he did a great deal towards stopping the dissension in the circuit at that time. (Applause.) Mr. Humble then related many amusing anecdotes connected with his journeys as a local preacher. The speaker also referred to some of the preachers he had known, such as Mr. Michael Mews, who was one of the best preachers he ever heard; George Richardson, George Robinson (of Derwent Cottages), Jacob Bent (of Shotley Bridge), &c. He said that Shotley Bridge was always noted for men who aimed at the right point. Some brave men had gone to glory. Might God give them all His blessing. (Applause.)

Mr. Urwin dealt principally with the Roman Catholics. He referred to the creeds of the Pagan, Jew, and Roman Catholic, and said the Protestants took the scriptures as their guidance. If they looked at Spain and the Roman Catholic population of Ireland, and compared it with the Protestant population, and compared Italy and France with Protestant countries, they could not fail to see the great difference. The speaker, alluding to Ritualism, called it a hybrid. What did the Ritualists want to do? Did they want to blot the Bible out, and have their mothers, wives, and sisters to go to the confessional, and make confessions there which were simply abominable? He had it on authority from a lady who was formerly a Roman Catholic that these things were done. Rather than suffer his children to go to these confessionals he would sooner bury them beneath the sod. (Applause.) He maintained that Methodism had still a work to do. The world was getting really and actually better, although slowly. Although Ritualism affected the English Church to some extent, yet some of the Roman Catholic priests in France, if not joining the Church of England, were giving up their allegiance to the Roman Catholic Church. It was a consolation that some of these priests were bidding good-bye to Rome. (Applause.)

Mr. Phillipson said he was glad to be there because he believed in ideal Methodist descent in regard to the society at Leadgate. He believed that one of his relatives, about 50 years since, had something to do with the formation of the chapel at Leadgate. (Applause.) That was Mr. Joseph Phillipson, whose memory was still green and fresh in the minds of many there. He found that in the year 1848, when the work was begun to build the chapel, which was opened in 1849, the society altogether had a membership of 687. They had only two ministers, and only two up to the year '64 or '65. In '66 there was added a young man of sterling worth, whose memory was still sweet and fresh, and that was the Rev. Geo. Gilfernian Letters, who left such an impression behind him as perhaps scarcely any other young man had done. (Applause.) He also remembered the Rev. Richard Petch who examined him as a candidate for the plan. He found that the number of ministers who had laboured amongst them during the last 50 years numbered 59. Of local preachers there had been upwards of 250 associated with that society during the past 50 years. Amongst those on the plan were some who had supplied the Methodist ranks with men of note. They had perhaps as good successors. He had heard their newly-appointed minister there the previous evening, and he had no doubt he would do good service in the circuit. (Applause.) The tendency of to-day was to press forward, and Methodism was of that class. He heard a speech once with three good points—(1) at it; (2) always at it; (3) constantly at it. They must all work hard for Christ. (Applause.) They were working for a good master, who would by-and-by have His enemies subdued, and would reign over all kings and all kingdoms. Their motto for the future must be to make Christ their weapon. If they did this they would succeed in the face of all hardships and difficulties. (Applause.) They wanted to be worthy successors of those who had gone before. They had facilities for doing good that their forefathers never had. They had a lot of work to do, and they must do it. They believed that glory would crown what grace had begun. (Loud applause.)

Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

JOTTINGS FROM THE CITY.

(By "The Impressionist.")

Your Impressionist, Mr. Editor, has just completed his holiday vocation—a fact which, doubtless, you will be interested to know. His has not been a continental tour—no such luck. It has not even been a residential, settled holiday. Possibly August is not the best month to fix upon unless apartments have been booked some time beforehand. At any rate, when your humble scribe found time to go in search of apartments his lot fell in unhappy places. Either the desired were not to be had for love or money, or the charges were quite outside his meagre resources. Alas! be it told here and now, for one reason or the other named, he found nowhere abroad to lay his head, and had, perforce, to be content with what is known as the "come and go" idea, which, being interpreted, signifieth that he, with his family, took daily excursions out of the city—here one day, there the next, returning to his own particular domiciliary edifice each night.

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There is one advantage, at any rate, in this arrangement—it is economical, provided always judgment is exercised in the selection of places of interest visited. And there is, in addition, variety of scene and surroundings. On the opposite side it must be admitted that a big drawback is the weary nightly homeward journey by train—not made any pleasanter from the fact that the said journey must always be made on the line of our monopolist N.E.R. Co.! Then, too, the constant home-coming destroys the sense of a complete holiday-making, and one is forced to admit that a great deal of the benefit one derives from holidays entirely away from home is due no less to the being absent from familiar scenes and surroundings than to the change of air and other conditions. Still it is wonderful what an amount of pleasure is to be found in a series of daily trips to the various centres of interest. And it cannot be gainsaid that in the north here, within comparatively easy access, we have plenty of selections.

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Within recent years

HOLY ISLAND

has sprung well to the front as a health resort of a high order, and this quaint old-world place is gaining rapidly in popularity amongst those who seek a real holiday of rest and absolute quiet. Holy Island has, of course, little that appeals to the boisterous order of holiday-maker, and he who delights in the joys of a Blackpool or the Isle of Man is earnestly enjoined to leave Lindisfarne severely alone. It was a charming day that on which our steps were bent Holy Island way—a blue sky above and a kindly sun prevailing, with a light refreshing breeze from sea-ward. The island can only be reached from the mainland when the tide is favourable, and the distance may be negotiated at such times either on foot or by trap. The former method is rarely resorted to, however, except by the mere man who must, on reaching the sands, divest himself of both boots and stockings and do the journey—some three miles of a walk—in his bare feet. It is a most delightful experience and largely resorted to. At low tide the island is some nine miles in circumference, and glories in its golden cornfields and quaint old dwellings. Here a newspaper is rarely seen, and such a thing as a railway guide is a positive curiosity. Bathing, boating, and fishing are the attractions.

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This year

ALLENDALE,

away yonder beyond Blanchland, is being largely visited, I understand. Widely differing, of course, in all respects, this delightful little place on the tops of the heather-clad hills is also growing in popularity. This year I suppose has been a record one, and right proud are the villagers that they are at last having a good look in with Alston, Brampton, and Burdon Mill. The Railway Co. does not treat Allendale at all fairly. Excursions to this attractive little place are few and far between, and when they do come the accommodation invariably falls far short of the demand for tickets. It was so the other day when applicants for tickets—hundreds in number—were disappointed, the supply having been sold out the day before. This a matter that the Railway Co. might well see to in their own interests as well as those of the public.

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The distance to

WOOLER

from Newcastle is some sixty miles, and unless the Railway Co. can do better than was the experience the other day, they would be well advised to drop the running of half-day excursions to that place. Starting at one p.m. we reached Wooler at 3.50. The return journey, however, was still more distressing. We started on the homeward journey at 8.20, wasted half-an-hour in and around Alnwick, not reaching the Central until midnight. The day had been simply delightful, everybody being charmed with the quaint little village surrounded by the glorious Cheviots, and the extensive stretch of country available. But the tedious return journey destroyed all, and as one weary passenger remarked, it entirely spoiled the day's enjoyment, making it in the end a veritable toil of a pleasure. This feeling generally prevailed. It is a matter that might be readily remedied, and the way to do it is to run only full-day excursions to Wooler, and start on the return journey a couple of hours earlier.

LOCAL PATENT APPLICATIONS.

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

17,365.—August 28th, 1899. A. C. Larter, Stockton-on-Tees. A novel or improved arrangement to assist as a speed regulator for printing machines.

17,438.—August 28th, 1899. M. Davison, North Shields. The economic boiler circulator and cleanser.

17,602.—August 31st, 1899. J. Bowey and G. Rockcliffe, Sunderland. Improvements in devices for preventing the entanglement and breakage of thread at the bobbins or spools of sewing machines.

17,610.—August 31st, 1899. M. Melville and W. Ferry, Bill Quay-on-Tyne. An automatic coupling for railway rolling stock.

17,630.—September 1st, 1899. W. Blakeman, Jarrow. Improvements in or relating to possticks or washing dollies and like appliances.

17,555.—August 30th, 1899. D. Short, Sunderland. An improved bridge and bearer for steam boiler furnaces and fire bars.

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

WEARDALE NOTES.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

Among the desirable changes in railway facilities no greater is needed than a Sunday morning train down the Wear Valley, and another up at night. The public are practically shut up in the valley on the Sunday, and cannot get away east by train until Sunday night. An engine comes up the valley with the Sunday morning train, and actually goes back empty to Shildon, and then returns at night to take the 5.43 train down the valley. How easy the N.E. Railway Company could confer a boon on the dwellers of the Wear Valley.

IMPROVEMENTS WANTED.

No improvement at Cross Street, Wolsingham, will be satisfactory unless Cross House could be removed. Two roads, both of which are narrow, converge here, rendering the place very dangerous on account of Cross House blocking the prospect. Some narrow escapes occur here frequently, and an ugly accident might occur any day. Now a chance presents itself of removing the danger. It is to be hoped the public will rise to the occasion.

LESS DRINKING.

The Wolsingham Brewster Sessions on Tuesday week shewed an improvement in the drinking habits of the people. There was a decrease in the number of convictions for drunkenness for the year, and the Chairman of the Bench cautioned the licensed victuallers against giving or supplying drink to children under 14, and also to drunken people. The temperance party may take heart. Both at Stanhope and Wolsingham Brewster Sessions there were decreases in convictions for drunkenness, according to Superintendent Snowdon's reports.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE

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

HOW TO CURE

RHEUMATISM AND SCIATICA.

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

BLOOD FOOD

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

PILLS

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

A DOLEFUL COUNTENANCE.

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

SOLD IN BOTTLES, Price 1/3: DOUBLE QUANTITY 2/- Post Free. Order from Sole Agents in Great Britain, SOAMES & Co., 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle, and mention this paper. Bald people, and those who have weak and falling hair, who use DR. HORTON'S HAIR FERTILISER, always have afterwards

A CHEERFUL COUNTENANCE.

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

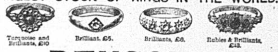
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Brilliant, 42/-. Pearls & Sapphires, 25/-. Brilliants, £3 3s. Pearls & Rubies, 28/-. Brilliants, £10.
LARGEST STOCK OF RINGS IN THE WORLD.



Turquoise and Brilliants, £10. Brilliant, £5. Brilliants, £6. Rubies & Brilliants, £13.
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Gold & Pearl Lace Pin, 10/-. Fine Gold Chain Bracelet, £3 3s.
SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL.
Fine Gold Brooch, 21/-. Fine Gold Brooch, 25/-.
WATCHES and JEWELLERY SENT FREE at our risk, to all parts of the World for P.O.O. payable at G.P.O. OLD WATCHES and JEWELLERY TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.
BENSON'S BOOK of Watches from £2 to £500.
CLOCKS, CHAINS, ENGAGEMENT RINGS, PLATE, &c., &c. Sent Post Free on application to—
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BENGER'S FOOD for INFANTS, INVALIDS, and the AGED.
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DELICIOUS, NUTRITIVE, and DIGESTIBLE.
"Mr. Benger's admirable preparation." —The Lancet.
"Retained when all other foods are rejected. It is invaluable." —London Medical Record.
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BUNN'S ROOT REMEDIES.
MR. F. KELLY SOLE AGENT AND VENDOR.
DEPOT IN WEST STANLEY.
We beg to give Notice that we have decided to appoint one of the oldest and most respected inhabitants of the District, as our sole Agent for North-West Durham. This gentleman can supply exactly the same Real Root Remedies, by means of which we cured 100 of the sick and helpless of County Durham within one year, and thus obtained our Gold Medal. He will sell you that old favourite, the Plain Root Charcoal, at the same old price, namely, Sixpence for Seven Powders. Also a packet of Real Root Laxative for the same small sum. You should have a packet of each sort, and take one of each kind mixed together every morning. Call on him, he would like to see you.
24, TOWNELEY STREET, WEST STANLEY.

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THE FAMOUS TYNESIDE HEALER'S
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"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. 6d and 1s bottles.

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

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

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DR. BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS—for eradicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

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

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

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ROOFING SHEETS
— Large quantity of Slightly Defective Sheets:—
5 feet long by 2 feet wide ...... 1s 3d each
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For all practical purposes the above are as good as perfect sheets, being water-tight, fire-proof, &c.
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Red Oxide Paint specially prepared for Iron Work. Ready for use. Prices on application.
Galvanised Ridging, Gutters, and Down Spouting, Nails, Screws, Washers, &c., and all Materials for fixing.
BRUCE AND STILL,
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DESIGNS AND ESTIMATES FREE.
NORFOLK STREET, LIVERPOOL.

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treet, West Stanley.

The Late Rev. Wesley Farrar, M.A., Vicar of Castleside

Memorial Service and Unveiling of Memorial Window.

An interesting and historic event in the history of the Castleside Church and parishioners marked the service at this church on Sunday morning last, when a large and representative congregation gathered to witness the unveiling of the memorial window recently installed in honour and remembrance of their late Vicar. The general respect and affection in which Mr. Farrar was held not only by his own congregation, but by the parish and district generally, was pleasingly observable in the large gathering of friends of the different denominations in Castleside and the adjacent neighbourhood, including, of course, a good many from Consett. The service was conducted by the Revs. J. Wallis (the present vicar) and the Rev. A. Watts, Rector of Witton Gilbert, the latter reverend gentleman preaching a special sermon for the occasion, taking as his text Prov. 13th, chap. 22nd and 7th verses, reading "A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children." There is that maketh himself rich yet hath nothing. There is that maketh himself poor yet hath great riches." It was, the preacher said, a very special occasion that brought some of them there that day, an occasion which was indeed a landmark in the history of Castleside. It was one at least that many of them would look back to. It was one that carried them back so far as the very beginning of Castleside, for the Rev. Wesley Farrar was its first vicar. For nigh thirty years, from 1864 to 1892, he was working, thinking, planning, for its well being, through the most critical period perhaps in its history, through the first twenty-eight years of its youth, and then from 1892 to 1898, six other years he was watching, watching its career as one watches a first-born taking to its own feet, and then at the ripe age of 76 years finding rest. A very special occasion this surely was, and one which ought to live in the memories of all of them. He whom they honoured that day by the dedication of that memorial window did a good and true work there, and it was for them to carry on that work, and might that gathering there that day be an earnest of their determination, God helping them so to do. A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children, not to his immediate heirs, they would notice, but to the generations to come to his children's children he leaveth an inheritance. Yes, how true that was; they all left an inheritance to their children's children, but alas, how often it was an inheritance of woe and of shame. To his descendants especially he leaveth an inheritance in a dear and loved memory, and he hoped they would continue to be active, fruitful, and useful as a result. They and himself could not depart without leaving an inheritance to others than those of their own family, to their own descendants, of course first and chief was this inheritance. Now a word of warning must be spoken by a faithful minister of Christ on such an occasion as this, because to many people the one great thing that it was desirable to possess for the inheritance of their children was wealth. They could not deny it that the race after wealth was never so eager as it was today. The great desire of life, as shown forth in all directions, was to accumulate wealth. "There is that maketh himself rich yet hath nothing. There is that maketh himself poor yet hath great riches." This seemed to be forgotten to-day, or was not believed in, and yet it was true. If they put it to their heart of hearts hey would answer "yes, it was true," and yet in spite of that, if they had the power of choosing any one thing he was afraid they would not follow the example of Solomon and choose wisdom. The great mass of mankind to-day would depart from the example of Solomon and choose wealth. It was a mistake. This was an inheritance that could not abide. There were better things than riches, and not only better but more enduring. There were wisdom, honor, respect, and best of all, love. These, said the preacher, "all pass through death's portal and burst into more fragrant life beyond, for their true home is Heaven." They were not stopped by the valley of the shadow of death, the doorway could not be shut against them, but it could be shut fast against riches. So it was, they might read for themselves on the inscription in the front of the window. "There was an inheritance which would brighten the lives and strengthen the hearts of a man's children's children, and this was embodied in the closing words, "his true memorial is in the loving hearts of his people," because his work was for his people, an inheritance that lasts, that endures, that does not vanish away as the gold did, that did not vanish as all earthly riches did, but lives on and on, and passed as a rich memory from parents to children, from generation to generation, and there was only one way to obtain such an inheritance, and that was to live and follow the example of their true departed friend, and work for his people. He had bequeathed an inheritance to his flock—not only the hearts of his children's children would be comforted and strengthened by such a memory, but those also who have had the privilege of knowing him or coming into contact with him, or to share in his work. "There is that maketh himself rich yet hath nothing. There is that maketh himself poor yet hath great riches." How true that was, and especially the latter half of the text, of their friend. "There is that maketh himself poor yet hath great riches." The accumulation of wealth never found a place in his thoughts; he made himself poor. All that he had was devoted to his work, and though he spent all, even himself and his own strength, yet surely he did get great riches. He (the preacher) knew him only in the days of his sufferings, not in the days of his vigour, as some of them did, but even in those days of his suffering he could not fail to be struck with his mental powers, his forethought for his people and hopeful trust—his great perseverance and his almost limitless patience. His two favourite topics, he was told, were the faith of Abraham and the love of the Good Shepherd. These shone forth to them now in the two several parts of this memorial window—the great lessons of faith and love through them he still preached—through them he still teaches. He being dead yet speaketh. He had left them an inheritance. How could they come in and look at this window and not feel their faith strengthened and love deepened by what they saw. Henceforth by this window faith and love were writ large for them. With the eye of faith they saw the heaven-Jerusalem through the willing sacrifice as through a lens. With a heart of love they echoed his words. Here the preacher quoted a paraphrase of the twenty-third psalm (written by the late reverend gentleman himself) reading thus:—

"The Lord is my shepherd; no good shall I need
In the greatest of pastures He makes me to feed;
By still waters of comfort he bids me recline,
Not a blessing is lacking if Jesus be mine.
The Lord is my shepherd; whenever I stray
He seeks for the wanderer; retraces my way;
In the paths of the holy my footsteps he guides,
And with fostering care in His bosom he hides.
The Lord is my shepherd; I'll not be afraid,
Though passing through valley of deathliest shade;
His staff shall support me, His rod shall defend,
Not a foe shall assail me with Jesus my friend.
The Lord is my shepherd; My table is spread
With the fragrance of oil He anointeth my head;
With abundance of mercy my cup overflows,
For my shepherd provides in the fall of my foes.
The Lord is my shepherd; my heart is at peace,
In the house of Jehovah my troubles shall cease.
Not a danger shall daunt me with heaven in view.
For goodness and mercy shall follow me through.

In the memory of last Sunday, when those three Christian graces, Faith, Hope, and charity (or love) were specially brought under their notice, they could not help but think that only Hope seemed wanting to the window to make the great magnificent trio of Christian graces (spoken of in St. Paul's epistle) complete, but surely hope was not wanting from the window. Surely there was hope as surely as hope clung to him in his days of suffering. Hope was the most striking feature under the dark days which were the closing days of their friend. Hope was not wanting. Hope shares in this inheritance which was theirs from Him for all time. With Faith, Hope, and Love rooted in heart and mind, they too might look for the day when it might be said of them, as it was on yonder tablet—"He lived the Christian life; He died the Christian death; He has gone to the Christian's home." Whither by the grace of God they might meet him.

The window is the work of Mr. Alfred O. Hemming, and has cost about £60. Coun. T. J. Muse, chairman of the committee, performed the unveiling, whilst Mr. W. Pattinson (Castleside) carried out the secretarial offices, and Mr. W. Walton those of treasurer to the committee.

The inscription on the window reads as follows:—

"To the glory of God and in memory of the Reverend Wesley Farrar, M. A. (Oxon.), Vicar of Castleside, 1864-1892, and builder of this church, 1867, a man of singular gifts, both of nature and of the spirit; beloved as a pastor, trusted as a counsellor, honoured as a scholar, revered for his saintly life. He was mighty in the Scriptures and preached with a rare eloquence and great charm for language, as one who saw things invisible. This window has been erected by his affectionate parishioners and other friends. His true memorial is the loving hearts of his people."

A splendid marble tablet in the chancel of the church also bears the following inscription:—

"In loving memory of the Reverend Wesley Farrar, M.A. (Oxon), first Vicar of Castleside, 1864-1892, who died at Deganwy, North Wales, on September 13th, 1898, aged 76 years, and laid to rest in Llanrhos Churchyard.

He lived the Christian's life.
He died the Christian's death.
He has gone to the Christian's home.

This tablet is erected as a tribute of deep affection by his sorrowing widow and children."

We have been requested to publish the following letter:—

The Bank House,
Consett,
September 12th, 1899.

Dear Mr. Muse,—May I take this opportunity of thanking you, and through you, your colleagues on the Memorial Window Committee, and each kind subscriber to the same—for the very beautiful and touching memorial to our dear father. Accept our very sincere and grateful thanks for all your goodness in the matter, which we well know to have been a "labour of love" on the part of all concerned.

Believe me to remain,
On behalf of my dear mother, and each member of the family,
Most truly yours,
HERBERT W. FARRAR.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, September 13.—Before Mr. H. W. Kerrich-Walker (in the chair) Mr. C. F. Forster and Mr. C. R. Barrett.

DRUNKENNESS.

There were only eight charges of drunkenness and fines varying from 2s 6d., to 5s. were imposed, with costs in each case.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

James Sanderson was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of William Lowther Anderson, Chester-le-Street.—Mr. Anderson said that the defendant came into his house on the night of September 4th, and wanted to fight. He ordered him out and the defendant drew a pair of "knuckle dusters" and threatened to split his (witness's) eyes, and witness then put him out of the house.—A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

William Oakes and James Blenkinson, were charged with wilfully damaging leeks and celery, the property of Daniel Harron, at Ouston, on August 27th.—Mr. Harle, who represented the complainant, said it was a most glaring case of wilful damage to garden produce. Mr Harron left his garden on Saturday, August 26th, when everything was all right, but when he visited it on the following day, it was in a state of great disorder, the leek and celery trenches having been turned up.—Daniel Harron, the complainant, gave evidence corroborating Mr Harle's statement, and added that he intended showing the leeks and celery at Birtley flower show. He estimated the damage at 25s.—Wm. Hall and Wm. Dodds each said that they saw the defendants come out of the garden with the leeks and celery under their arms.—The Chairman said it was a most glaring state of garden robbery. The defendants were fined 20s, 25s damages and costs.

John Timney was fined 5s, 3d damage, and costs, for wilfully damaging a fence, the property of Messrs Chas. Perkins and Partners, at Birtley, on September 4th.

Edward Jordan and George Cowie were each ordered to pay 3d damage and costs for damaging pears belonging to John Bradford on Aug. 27th.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Walter Hope and George Hardy, charged with fighting at Chester-le-Street on Sept. 2nd, were each bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three and six months respectively.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Edward Tiffen, Edward Mason, James Mason, and Owen Bartley were each fined 1s 6d and costs for playing at pitch and toss at Birtley, on Aug. 19th, and William Walker and William Brewis were fined 2s 6d and costs for a similar offence on the same date at Birtley.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held on Monday evening, in the Board Offices, Whickham, Mr Wm. Blackbird (chairman) presiding. The other members presetn were Messrs R. T. Swinburne, W. Walls, T. Brabban, and the Clerk (Mr W. Willis.)

OUR WINTER GAME IN DANGER.

The Clerk read a letter from Mr Dewhurst, of the Marley Hill Schools, in reference to the alleged damage at Marley Hill, which stated that the writer had closely examined the field and failed to find any signs or rubbish, except some weeds. The boys occasionally kicked the ball over into the field, but they did no damage. He had cautioned the boys and threatened to lock up their football if they were not careful to shoot low. The writer had also spoken to them about picking turnips, but he did not make himself responsible for their deeds after school hours.

The communication was considered satisfactory.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The following report was received from H.M. Inspector:—Whickham Marley Hill Board.—The teaching is sound and intelligent, and the school continues to be in a creditable state of efficiency. Infants' School.—The teacher is pleasant in manner, and the children are under kindly treatment. V. Sanders is recognised under Article 68 of the Code.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr Brabban, seconded by Mr Walls, that a letter be sent to the teachers congratulating them upon the excellence of the report.

THE LAMESLEY QUESTION.

The Clerk announced that he had only received an acknowledgement from the Education Department, in respect to the letter which he was directed to send dealing with the exclusion of the Lamesley children from the Marley Hill Schools.

Mr Swinburn said that so far as this question was concerned he thought that when a month had elapsed the Clerk should repeat the letter to the Department, and to ask if they could favour the Board with a reply; also that the letter be repeated each month till a reply be received.

Mr Swinburne moved the foregoing as a resolution, which was seconded by Mr Brabban, and agreed to.

A TRANSFER.

The Clerk read the following letter from the managers of the Marley Hill Schools:—"At a meeting held on Wednesday last the following resolution was passed: That Elizabeth Brabban be transferred to Swalwell Mixed School as soon as required."

The communication was acceeded to.

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS AT MARLEY HILL.

Mr Brabban remarked that the Inspector had drawn attention to the necessity of having a partition at Marley Hill School so as to prevent the wind from affecting the children. The managers thought that a wooden porch should be erected, and they asked the Board to favourably consider the matter.

It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Marley Hill managers to report fully upon the subject at the next meeting.

THE EVENING CONTINUATION CLASSES.

The Clerk read a communication from the Dunston Schools managers suggesting that the sum of 1s should be charged to each scholar at the commencement of the Evening Continuation Classes, and that the same should be returned to each scholar who completed 20 hours attendance for each subject entered.

Mr Walls remarked that the managers thought that this arrangement would keep up the attendance, and it also practically ensured the grant per student.

The Chairman asked if the idea was a proper one. He did not think that the 1s would have such an effect.

Mr Brabban reported that the managers at Marley Hill recommended that there be no Evening Continuation Classes at that place.

Mr Swinburn thought that the classes had come to an unsuccessful termination, except at Swalwell.

Mr Brabban remarked that the teachers at Marley Hill thought that if the classes were not held this season there would be a bigger demand next year.

It was decided not to have any Evening Continuation Classes at Marley Hill.

Mr Walls asked if there was any recommendation from Swalwell in regard to the matter?

The Chairman replied that the managers were anxious that classes should be held.

Mr Brabban: Swalwell was a success.

FINANCE.

Cheques were signed amounting to £732 11s 8d. The meeting soon afterwards terminated.

CONSETT (M,U.) ODDFELLOWS.

At the invitation of the "Rose of Derwent Lodge," Consett, of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, a purple lecture, or "Past Officers Degree," was given on Saturday evening last by the Durham District Officers, viz., Chas. R. Long (of the "Bryson Lodge," Thornley), Grand Master; Henry Forster, C.S., of the Durham District; and P.P.G.M. John Craig, who officiated as D.S.M. in the unavoidable absence of D.G.M. Geo. Nichol, of Durham. P.P.G.M. John Craig, of the "Poor Man's Friend Lodge," of Durham, who several years has acted as examiner, also acted on this occasion. The C.S. having read the mandate of the Grand Master authorising the meeting to be held, then proceeded to read the list of the candidates who aspired to this degree, viz., from the "Rose of Derwent Lodge," Consett, Past Grand Thomas Charlton, Past Grand John E. Colling, Past Grand John Hull, and Past Grand Andrew Stoddart; and from the "Bryson Lodge," Thornley, was Past Grand Joseph Howarth. In addition to the foregoing officers and candidates there were present at the lecture P.P.G.M. Robert Cole and P.G. Thos. Lee, of Durham; P.P.G.M.'s John R. Pearson, Wm. S. Davies; Past Grand Wm. Maund, John Poole, T. B. Davies, Robert Chambers, and A. Struthers, of Consett; P.P.G.M. G. Ayre, of the "Greenwell Lodge," Annfield Plain. The various candidates having satisfied the examiner by numerous signs and passwords that they were entitled to the degree, the lecture was then read by G.M. C. R. Long; C.S. Henry Forster, and P.P.G.M. John Craig. The lecture was then declared closed by the R.S. of the Grand Master. An adjournment was then made to the dining-room of the Masonic Hall, wehre an excellent supper was prepared by Mr. Courtney, of Havelock Street, Consett, and to which 30 sat down to partake, and to which it is only fair to add that everyone was highly satisfied with the catering and attendance. The tables having been cleared several short speeches on the Order, District, and the Local Lodge were delivered by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, pro. tem., and the C.S. of the District, also P.P.G.M. J. R. Pearson, P.G. W. Maund, P.S. T. R. Davies, P.G. A. Stoddart, and others. These were interspersed with songs and duets (bass), accompanied on the piano by Mr Joseph Siddle (tenor), Mr. Ed. Pearson Williams. It is needless to say that the singers and pianist gave the utmost satisfaction, and to whom was accorded a most hearty acclamation given with the Oddfellows' "fire." A most enjoyable evening was spent, after which the visitors all departed for their several destinations.

THE BILLIARD TOURNAMENT.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Blackhill and District Institutes Billiard Tournament was held on Tuesday evening, at the Commercial Hotel, Consett. Coun. W. J. Foreman, of Leadgate (the chairman) presided, and there were also present the following representatives:—Stanley, A. H. Swinburn and E. Hughes; Blackhill, T. Atkinson, F. W. Brodie, and Jos. Askew (hon. sec.); Derwent Cottages, T. D. Dales, T. W. Vasey, and W. Barron; Leadgate Guild, F. Collingwood, J. E. Kinleside; Allendale Cottages, T. Coulson, J. Page, Geo. Dodds, and T. Young; Consett, J. R. Brodie, J. Kirkup, and W. Eales; Leadgate League, P. Daly and E. Batey; Shotley Bridge, W. J. Forster, J. Dixon, J. Henry, and T. Surtees.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large and representative attendance. He saw some new faces amongst them, whom he heartily welcomed. (Hear, hear.) He regretted that the Consett Irish Institute had had to drop out, because they took a keen interest in the competition, and more especially their worthy secretary, Mr Thos. Forkin. (Hear, hear.) However, in the place of Consett Irish they had Shotley Bridge and Allendale Cottages, so that there seemed every likelihood of the tournament being keenly contested. Another satisfactory feature was the fact that they had £2 9s 4½d to start the season with. (Applause.) He could only hope that the same kindly feeling which had characterised last season's competition would again prevail, and that the tournament would once more be the means of creating increased interest in the game of billiards. (Applause.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Coun. W. J. Foreman was unanimously re-elected chairman, and Mr Jos. Askew, hon. secretary, warm tributes being paid to the admirable work these gentlemen had accomplished on behalf of the tournament.

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS.

It was agreed that teams should consist of six players, and that 12 players should be registered with the secretary on or before the 1st of October each year.

100 OR 150?

Mr Eales moved that in future the games be 150 up.

Mr Kinleside seconded.

Mr Forster asked, if they made the games 150, would they be able to get them played?

The Chairman: There are three games played each night.

Mr Forster: Are not six games played some nights?

Mr Askew: That has only been done twice since the tournament started.

The Chairman said if they added 50 on it would make the games much longer. They could not finish now sometimes before nearly eleven, and this would make it much later.

Mr Askew said if 150 was decided upon they would have to take care to have an early start.

An amendment was proposed that the games be 100 up as formerly.

Mr Dales said it would be hard on the last players, as the room would then have become very warm.

Mr F. Brodie thought 150 a more crucial test than 100. He thought the best man would win in the long run, and the better man should win.

On being put to the meeting the motion was lost.

MARKERS.

Some discussion ensued on this question.

Mr Eales moved that no registered player should act as marker in the tournament.

Mr Dixon seconded; but the motion was lost.

THE RULES OF BILLIARDS.

It was agreed to play under the old rules as heretofore.

SMOKING.

Mr Vasey suggested that smoking be not allowed in the rooms during games.

The Chairman: We have not the power to enforce that.

Mr Vasey: But we could make a recommendation to that effect.

Mr Swinburn thought the committees of the various institutes should try and prevent smoking as far as possible during games.

The question then dropped.

OVERCROWDING.

Mr Dales said he noticed last year that several children were admitted to some of the games, and older persons were crowded out. Could something not be done to alter this?

The Chairman said that was another matter which affected the institutes themselves. They could not control the institutes.

Mr F. Brodie said at the meeting a month ago, this question was dismissed, and it was considered that a system might be adopted to avoid this. It was well known that last year they had visitors galore—men and lads who took no interest in the institutes, and would not become members, but came and crowded out members and visitors. He thought that having to produce tickets would prevent this.

Mr Askew said at the last meeting the matter cropped up, and it was decided to recommend to that meeting for adoption a motion to the effect that any member desirous of seeing tournament games in rooms other than that of which he was a member would only be admitted on producing the current season's fixture-card at the door.

Mr Kinleside thought that the only way to keep objectionable people out.

Mr Askew: It was suggested by some institutes that a charge should be made.

Mr Dixon: I think the cards a good idea.

The Chairman said they could not order institutes to conduct their business as they (the tournament committee) thought fit.

Mr F. Brodie understood that they were sent there by different institutes with power to do anything to benefit the tournament. (Hear, hear.) If these people wanted to see games they must become members, as cards would only be sold to members.

Mr Dales: How would it do to admit no one without they present a ticket of membership of some institute?

Mr Askew said that was what was meant by the proposed alteration. However, if they decided upon fixture-cards admitting anyone, and then a particular institute put on a charge of 1d or 2d, how would they stand then?

The Chairman pointed out that they could not control institutes in this respect.

Mr Eales said whether the recommendation was adopted or not it would be carried out at his institute.

Mr Askew: I don't think we shall be treading on the rights of any institute by adopting this suggestion.

Mr Vasey: If the rule is made it does not compel the home institute to expel any visitor they may invite themselves.

Mr Dixon thought they ought to adopt the suggestion, as it would certainly keep out several who had little interest in the tournament.

Mr Vasey then moved that the recommendation as read by the secretary be approved of, and notice thereof sent to the Secretary of each institute.

Mr Eales seconded, and the motion was adopted.

PROPOSED ALTERATION OF NAME.

Mr Eales moved that the name of the tournament be altered from Blackhill and District to North-West Durham. He thought that there should be a more comprehensive name.

Mr Askew thought it rather too comprehensive.

There was no seconder, and the motion fell to the ground.

FIXTURE-CARDS.

It was agreed that fixture-cards should only be sold to members, and that the price be 2d each.

MEDALS FOR THE WINNERS.

Mr Askew said it had been suggested by Stanley that in addition to the cup there should be medals for the winners.

Mr Eales: I think this might be considered further on in the season.

Mr Askew: I think it best to decide to-night whether we are to have medals or not.

The Chairman said the question might crop up whether the runners-up should not also have medals.

Mr Collingwood: Would it not drain the funds of the tournament too much?

The Chairman: It would not leave much.

Mr Collingwood thought that something should be done to meet the extra expenditure.

Mr F. Brodie thought, seeing the dimensions that the tournament had grown to, that there should be more encouragement.

Mr Dixon: There is something in honour.

The Chairman thought they should have shields on the cup for the winners' names.

Mr Eales considered this a good suggestion.

Mr. Askew mentioned that he had had an interview with Mr Ainsworth, who had again promised to present a cue to the player who made the highest break in the tournament. (Applause.)

Mr. F. Brodie thought when a team won the cup, the men that played and carried off the trophy ought to have some tangible reward. He moved that they present six medals to the winning team.

Mr Kinleside asked how that would act if all the 12 players played?

The Chairman said that would be left with the winning institute. They could only provide six medals.

Mr Eales thought it rather premature to deal with medals that night.

Mr Vasey thought if they were going to give medals they should decide it that night.

Mr Eales moved as an amendment that the winners have some reward in a tangible form, but that the nature of the reward be left over till after Christmas.

Mr Collingwood seconded.

Mr Forster thought if Mr Brodie put his motion "that medals be provided if the funds would allow" it would meet it.

Mr Brodie thought it unnecessary to add this.

Mr Dales said if Mr Brodie would add the word "silver" he would support it.

Mr Brodie agreed to this, and Mr Eales having withdrawn his amendment, the motion was passed.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The Chairman thought the best thanks of the tournament were due to Mr Ainsworth for again providing a cue for the third year in succession. (Applause.) Gifts of that sort increased the interest in the tournament. He had much pleasure in moving the motion. (Applause.)

Mr Askew seconded, and said that Mr Ainsworth had a good opinion of the tournament. (Applause.)

The motion was carried by acclamation.

A similar compliment to the Chairman for presiding brought the meeting to a close.

LAWN TENNIS.

BENFIELDSIDE v. BEARPARK.

Played at Benfieldside on Saturday. Result: Green and Wattsford beat Speed and Wearmouth, 6-2, 6-1; Green and Wattsford beat Petch and Wearmouth, 1-6, 5-3, 6-4; Edwards and Richardson beat Speed and Wearmouth, 6-5, 6-1; Edwards and Richardson lost to Petch and Wearmouth, 4-6, 6-5, 3-6; Miss Richley and Wattsford lost to Miss Aynsley and Petch, 4-6, 6-3, 2-6; Miss Richley and Wattsford beat Miss Taylor and Gardiner, 6-1, 6-0; Miss Heymer and Richardson lost to Miss Arnsley and Petch, 3-6, 5-6; Miss Heymer and Richardson beat Miss Taylor and Gardiner, 6-0, 6-1. Benfieldside, 12 sets and 94 games; Bearpark, 7 sets and 68 games.

LOCAL STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—There was an exceptionally large quantity of stock at this mart on Monday, Mr J. S. Murray having forward no less than 404 fat sheep and lambs, 21 fat beasts, 8 grazing cattle, 4 cows, 5 calves, 5 pigs, 1 horse, besides poultry, rabbits, harness, etc. There was a large attendance both of dealers and buyers. A capital sale resulted, last week's prices being maintained; in some instances the figures showed a slight improvement. Quotations:—Sheep up to 42s; lambs up to 29s 6d; calves from 15s 6d to 29s; fat beasts from £8 15s to £17 2s 6d, top Mr Taylor, Summerfield; cows from £7 to £14 2s 6d; pigs, 15s to £3 7s 6d; grazing stirks and steers, £6 11s to £7 17s 6d. A horse realised 4 guineas; while poultry, rabbits, harness, stack nets, ropes, ladders, etc., brought very satisfactory prices.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Mr James Turnbull held his usual fortnightly sale on Monday, and had forward 15 fat cattle, 6 calves, 23 S.H. incalving and newly-carved cows, 120 fat sheep and lambs, 50 pork and young pigs, harness, etc. There was a large attendance of butchers and good trade for all classes of fat stock. The supply of fat stock was very much short of the demand. Trade for milk cows was brisk, and a better class of cows were never offered here. Mr H. Harrison, of Parkland, sold 12 cows—top £21 15s—averaging over £21 each. Mr Watkin, of High Grange, sold 7 cows, top £23, average £20 10s each. Fat heifers to £18 7s 6 from the north; bullocks to £15 12s 6d, top Mr W. E. Laddell, Urpeth; fat cows to £14 15s, top Mr George Hepell, Newfield. Fat sheep, shearlings, 50s 6d, from the Birtley Iron Company; fat ewes to 41s 6d top Mr Jas. Waldridge; fat lambs to 41s 6d, top the Birtley Iron Company. Pork pigs to 40s; young pigs 26s 6d. The sale concluded at 3.45 p.m. The third special sale of keeping lambs and cattle will be held on Wednesday first, September 13th.

TOW LAW.—On Monday, Mr Vickers had forward 89 dairy cows and heifers, 8 fat cattle, 13 calves, 155 fat sheep and lambs. Dairy cows made up to £22 10s; fat cattle to £16 15s, from Mr R. Hall, Old Park; £14 7s 6d, from Mr R. Dalkin, Westgate. Calves to 35s. Fat sheep to 31s 6d, from Mr T. Hill, St John's Chapel; 27s, from Mr. C. Thompson, Viewley Hill; 28s 9d from Mr J. Emmerson, Willow Green. Fat lambs to 29s 3d, from Colonel Blenkinsopp, Hoppyland Park; 21s 9d, from Mr C. Thompson; 20s 9d, from Mr. T. Guy, Wolsingham; 27s 9d, from Mr. G. Crowe, Low West House, 22s 3d, from Mr T. Walton, Allergill; 20s, from Mr J. Forster, Rookhope; 17s 6d, Mr. H. Brownless, Wolsingham; 14s 9d, Mr J. Elliott, Westgate; 15s 6d, Mr G. Stephenson, Swinhope; 23s, Mr N. Smailes, West Carr; 22s 9d, Mr J. Gibson, East Park; 21s, Mr W. Cummings, Tow Law; 17s 9d, Mrs. Featherstone, Middles; 24s 6d, Mrs Watson, Chapman Hill; 15s 9d, Mr I. Hebdon, Hole House. There was the best show of dairy cows and heifers seen here for some time, and a large number of buyers were present requiring cows for immediate use. Trade was steady from beginning to end, and a very ready and satisfactory clearance was effected. Calves and pigs a good trade. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 8d per lb.

A CHEERFUL MOTHER OF FIVE.

MRS. EMILY FOSTER, wife of a man for the last thirteen years in the employ of the best-known omnibus proprietors in Brixton, has just had an extraordinary experience, according to the "South London Press." Visited personally at her home, 289, Shakespeare Road, Herne Hill, London, S.E., Mrs. Foster, who is forty-five years of age, and mother of five children, said: "I am glad of this opportunity of telling my story. I had been suffering on and off for over twelve years, although attended by a great number of doctors, from internal bleeding. Some months ago I was given up. I could scarcely walk across the room, and my husband had to lift me about as though I was a child, though I was strong enough when I married. As a last resort my husband persuaded me to try Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people, about which he had read so much. Before I had finished one box I began to recover strength, and found I was able to walk around the room without help. I have taken seven boxes altogether, and now you can see for yourself how well I am. I am what they call a dead woman come to life again."

Mrs. Foster is described as a bright, cheerful lady, with the bloom of health upon her cheeks, and, except for her positive assurance, one could scarcely believe that a few months since she could neither eat nor sleep. "To-day," said Mrs. Foster, "thanks to Dr. Williams' pink pills, I am always ready for my meals, and enjoy refreshing sleep."

Mrs. Foster also referred to the case of a lady living in the same neighbourhood, who suffered from anæmia. The doctors did her no good, and taking a leaf out of the book of Mrs. Foster, she made the experiment, with the result that, after having got through five boxes of Dr. Williams' pink pills, she was "quite a new creature."

There is a vicious circle in disease. Anæmia leads to indigestion; indigestion to gastric ulcer and internal bleeding; and these again to anæmia, which is bloodlessness. If we can feed and enrich the blood—for which Dr. Williams' pink pills are especially famed—we check the anæmia, enable ourselves to get the full benefit from our food, and are able to cure indigestion, sluggish liver, biliousness, debility, nervous ailments like St. Vitus' dance, neuralgia, and paralysis. Only the pills must be genuine, bearing the full title—Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people—for substitutes never cured anyone, and when they are offered it is best to send direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Holborn-viaduct, London, enclosing the price—two and ninepence, post free.

A SOUTH AFRICAN PLAY.

At the comfortable and cosy New Theatre, Consett, this week, we have Messrs Eglington and Little's company in the stirring romantic drama, "Brave Hearts," the work of Messrs G. Cower and F. Benton. The chief incidents of the piece take place in the Transvaal, and, considering the momentous issues now at stake concerning that part of South Africa, the company are visiting Consett at a most appropriate time. And we can truthfully say that "Brave Hearts" is a piece well worth seeing. The drama itself is well written, the acting is good, and the scenery some of the best that has been put upon the Consett stage. Therefore we need not wonder that capital houses have been the rule this week, and we confidently expect that good business will be done during the last three nights of the performance of "Brave Hearts." Dealing with some of the characters, we may say that Mr. Chas. Coleman is excellent as "Guy Barrington," a young overseer, whilst Mr. R. N. Davidson gives a splendid impersonation of "Ralph Craddock," an adventurer. Mr. Percy Ballad shines as "Joe Ferret" (a detective), and Mr. James Dillon is admirably suited in the role of "Edward Grantham." "Isaac Moser" finds an able representative in Mr. Albert H. Clarke. It would be impossible to speak too highly of Mr. Wm. H. Burton, who, in the difficult part of "Zanga" (a Kaffir) does much to secure the success of the drama. His fine acting was highly appreciated. As "Clara Vivian" (a scheming widow), Miss Chrissie Dunbar is seen to the utmost advantage, and her pourtrayal of the character is everything that could be desired. Miss Atholie Robertson has a part that exactly suits her in "Kate Edwards," and she makes the most of it. The humorous element is supplied by Mr. Seymour Perry as "Sam Sawyer" (Guy's servant), and Miss Ida Ernest as "Nellie Bligh" (a maid of all work), and this pair create any amount of fun. We can confidently recommend "Brave Hearts" to the play-going public of the district, as it is a drama much above the average, and its merits are fully set off by Messrs Eglington and Little's very capable company.—Next week, "The God of War" will be the attraction.

New Bank Premises at Chester-le-Street.

During the past few days Messrs Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, Spence, and Co., have entered upon new premises in Front Street, Chester-le-Street, their new buildings being a distinct improvement to the leading thoroughfare of the old town. The new erection is not only a very handsome one, but occupies a prominent position opposite that ancient hostelry, the Lambton Arms, and facing the road from the station. It has been built throughout under the superintendence of the architect, Mr. S. Wilkinson, of Mosley Chambers, Newcastle, and Chester-le-Street. Each floor seems to be admirably designed for its purpose, and artistic skill and good taste appears from base to the chimney caps. The banking premises are on the ground floor, and the bank house is above, with the exception of the kitchen, scullery, &c., which are on the ground floor, at the back. The front of the building, which is three stories, is entirely in Prudham stone. The architecture is Renaissance in style. An elliptical window, with carving, lights the banking premises, on either side of which are entrance doors, with prominent doorheads resting on projecting carved corbels. A bold cornice at the first floor level runs the entire length of the building, which gives a beautiful effect to the lower story. Above this cornice the centre portion of the stone work projects giving character to the building. On the first floor there are four windows. The two centre windows have circular moulded hoods with fine carving and rustic quoins. The two side windows have plain hoods with carving rather similar in design on moulded corbels. The portion above in the centre, which is two stories, is carried on columns, with the main cornice resting on the columns. Above this a gable terminates the structure, and on each side are prettily carved and moulded parapets with ornaments. The roof is covered with green slates with a red ridge, and the chimneys are neatly moulded in keeping with front of the building. The windows are casement, divided up into small squares above and filled with rounded glass, giving a very nice effect. The contractors for the building were Messrs Thompson and Son, of Chester-le-Street, their foreman, Mr Wilson, doing the carving. The bank fittings and woodwork throughout the bank premises have been carried out by Messrs Robson and Sons, Newcastle, in walnut, and the decoration of the bank, which gives a charming to it, has been done by Messrs Robson and Laidler, of Sunderland. The bank house, when completed, will be occupied by Mr Frank C. Bullock, the manager for Messrs Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, Spence, and Co., at Chester-le-Street, who is well-known in the district for the keen interest he has taken during the last two years in all local affairs.

WESLEYANISM AT STANLEY

Reception of New Ministers.

On Wednesday afternoon, a reception service was held in the Stanley Wesleyan Church. The Rev G. E. Polkinghorne (the newly-appointed superintendent) was announced to preach, but he was unfortunately unable to be present owing to having to attend another meeting. The pulpit was occupied by the Rev J. S. Nightingale, who preached a most impressive sermon. The rev. gentleman, at the close of his remarks, congratulated the members upon the excellent building they had erected. At the close of the service a well attended tea was held, the tables being presided over by Mesdames Oliver, Eltringham, Humble, Harris, Routledge, Hardy, Willey, Mallams, and Calvert.

EVENING MEETING.

In the evening a reception meeting was held to welcome the Rev G. E. Polkinghorne (the newly-appointed superintendent minister). The proceedings were presided over by Mr J. Lowes, circuit steward. There were present upon the platform Rev J. Bishop, Shotley Bridge; Rev G. E. Polkinghorne, Rev A. Barraclough, Mr C. P. Cooke, Annfield Plain; Mr J. Palliser, Blackhill; Mr W. Richardson, circuit steward, Chopwell; Mr J. Oliver, and one representative from different places in the eastern part of the circuit.

Old Methodist hymns were rendered by the united choirs of the various churches. After the singing of a hymn, prayer was offered by the Rev J. Bishop.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that it afforded him great pleasure to welcome the newly-appointed ministers in the name of their east end friends. They gave the Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne a very cordial reception to the pulpits of the east end. (Hear, hear.) On behalf of the various societies he also offered to the Rev A. Barraclough a cordial welcome. (Applause.) He welcomed the Rev. A. Barraclough not only to their pulpit, but to their schools and to the homes of the people. (Hear, hear.) They had got their ministers amongst them and they ought to respect them as such. He hoped that the people when they had any baptisms that they would not take them somewhere else. (Hear, hear.) When marriages took place he hoped that they would not have them performed elsewhere, and the same applied to funerals. It always was apparent to him that these things could be done at their own Methodist Church, and by their own people. (Hear, hear.) They had a very large Circuit, and he had just been looking up a little book in which was an account of the population of the various districts, and upon analysing this he found that they had—as far as he could make out—a population of 50,000 people in their circuit. As regards the acreage he found that there was from forty to fifty thousand acres—a very wide stretch. It was a great circuit and they were proud of it. (Applause.) They had, however, not done all that they should have; they had not reached the masses, though it was their privilege to do so. He thought that they should consecrate their efforts upon one given thing, and aim at a certain thing. In conclusion, the speaker expressed the hope that the year upon which they had just entered would be a successful one, and a blessed year. (Applause.)

The Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne next addressed the meeting. He was glad to be present, he said, and he was exceedingly obliged to them for their hearty and cordial welcome which they had given to him and to his brother, the Rev. Alfred Barraclough. It went without saying that Mr. Barraclough would fill all that had been claimed for him. He very greatly rejoiced in a ministry like theirs, and he might state that their responsibilities were divided amongst four men, and he did not think that any superintendent in any circuit could wish to have as colleagues better men, or truer men, than he was privileged to have in the circuit. (Applause.) He congratulated the people of Stanley upon having acquired such a splendid building. They must attend to every detail in the work of God, and young boys who might come into the chapel ought to conduct themselves properly. This, he might state, had not been suggested to his mind that evening for the first time. During a service at another chapel upon the previous evening some little boys wanted to get under the sheltering wing of their mothers, and instead of going the proper way, they climbed over the backs of the pews. (Laughter.) The speaker then dealt upon pew rents. He did not know whether they had pew rents or free sittings—it was not for him to determine—he believed that such was determined by the congregation, and a resolution passed. He believed in having a place in the House of God, and also a place for a stranger whom he might chance to meet in the street. He would be able to say to such a person as he put his arm through his, "I have got a place for you in God's House." He did not know whether they were going to have such. At Consett they had no pew rents, but there was much to be said on the other side. By having free seats many people came and went, and they thereby lost a considerable amount of revenue. He greatly admired the site upon which the Church was erected, and he was pleased with such a hymn book, which they possessed, he would sing every hymn from beginning to end. He was sure singing as he had just heard would bring people to the Church from Sunday to Sunday. (Loud applause.) They had been reminded of the blessed work done in the circuit, and undoubtedly there had been good work done for years past. He did not suppose that any of those present could determine when the first seed dropped upon the soil at Stanley, out of which had sprung that beautiful Church. It would be immensely interesting if anyone could go back and trace the development of Stanley which had so manifested itself. If they did not take care and procure the same those persons who had witnessed the commencement of these developments, would have passed away, and they would be unable to obtain any history. In coming into their little town—it was a town—and wisely called a town—over in America the people would have called it a first-class city. (Laughter.) Let them have it. He could not understand why there was not a station called Stanley—(hear, hear)—it would sound a great deal better. (Applause.) When he entered Stanley and saw the fine buildings, he certainly awakened out of his dream. He took his ticket for a place called Shield Row—(laughter)—a colliery village he supposed. In coming out of the station his first impression was Shield Row, and he began to continue his dream to Stanley. Upon looking around he saw the face of the fine church, and, as to the external portion of their structure, he knew nothing like it. Outside it looked well, but inside it looked much better. Having all this, and a magnificent and intelligent congregation he could not see whatever could interfere with the most magnificent success within the next three years that Mr. Barraclough was resident amongst them. (Applause.) All they had to do was to try and support one another. Methodism was undoubtedly a working church, and there were people in some circuits who worked very hard. There were two classes of people who went by train, and should he say that some of them were alert, and others he might say were inert. He had travelled by train, which was guided by an engine driver, and he was amongst the inert passengers. Now the driver had to be alert and he appealed to the congregation to be likewise, and not to sit in their pews. (Loud applause.)

Mr. J. Palliser of Blackhill, also spoke a few words. As one of the representatives of the society he might say that he heartily joined in with the chairman in extending a most cordial welcome to the Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne and the Rev. A. Barraclough. (Applause.) He would also like to add a cordial reception to their wives. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. Alfred Barraclough was the next speaker, and met with a warm welcome. He said that the junior partner in a concern generally had his turn relegated to the last, and when the previous speakers had said all that they could say, so that it only remained for the final speaker to say a very few words—(laughter and applause)—and modestly retire. He had no intention of trespassing for any length of time upon their patience. He had never had so warm a reception as he had received in that circuit, and he thanked them very heartily for the same. His mind had been going back to a responsible meeting he attended when coming out of college. His first reception was of a very good scale, and both the circuit stewards had travelled some twelve miles to be present. They had a good time of it, and everybody said that he would get charmingly along; but it so happened that another reception meeting was being held in the private department of the President, and by the next morning's post a letter was received by the superintendent minister saying that the newly-chosen man must pack up and be off. After six days from the reception he had to get into the train and be an inert passenger, and be sent away to a new sphere of labour. He was sure that he stood in no danger of such a thing happening at Stanley. He rejoiced to know that he would be amongst them for at least twelve months. As he looked around their permises he admired them, and was pleased to notice the accommodation they had provided for all kinds of work. In the past he was sure that the work must have been greatly hindered for lack of sufficient accommodation. He saw the different things they intended to have by the names upon the doors. There was a reading room, but there was nothing in it yet; but he hoped that in the course of time they should be able to furnish that room, and to set it apart for the uses that its name indicated. He felt that their church ought to be homes for the young people. (Hear, hear.) There were plenty of youths who met amongst very doubtful characters. He thought that when they were setting apart a room for the young people, they were doing the right thing to attract and join them to their church, and to their Methodism, these young people who worshiped in their sanctuary from time to time. (Applause.) There was a lady's parlour, he noticed; they were always glad to give the ladies a place of honour, and a special department. He had no doubt but that the lady members would find plenty of use for their parlour. They depended to a very great extent upon the labours of the lady members for the means by which to erect buildings of the description of their new structure. (Applause.) There was also a lecture hall, in which they could hold their smaller gatherings, and to also meet in a social way. He had already heard a desire expressed for starting some kind of services for the young people, and, naturally, he thought in these days their attention was turned to the Wesley Guild. He thought that these Guilds were capable of doing very great services, and of finding profitable occupation for a great many members of their congregation. They sought in that department of their work to fulfil the motto "work for everybody; everybody at work." (Applause.) The Church was a large one, and he was sure that it would take all their energies to fill the news week by week; this was the aim they had to set before themselves, and to work until they saw the congregation increasing under the blessing of God; and not only this, but to see the men and women living better lives, and shining their light in the darkness, and thus by their light to make persons better, and to try and lead them into the light. (Loud applause.)

Mr. C. P. Cooke and Mr. H. Greener also addressed the gathering.

The proceedings throughout were most enthusiastic, and the congregation listened most attentively to the various speakers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A QUESTION FOR THE BENFIELDSIDE COUNCIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Dear Sir,—Can any member of the Benfieldside Council account for the district being thrust back into the middle ages, by the gas lights being put out hours before the public have performed their business? Perhaps there is going to be a corresponding reduction of rates, which I am afraid will scarcely make up for the inconvenience incurred by the parsimonious policy pursued.—Yours truly,

OBSERVER.

SINGULAR CASE AT WHICKHAM

CHILD DISAPPEARS WITH THE HOUSEKEEPER.

Mr. George Pyle, a mason, residing at Front Street, Whickham, has reported to the police authorities that his three-year-old child named ....., has been missing from her home since Saturday afternoon. The circumstances connected with the case are of a somewhat singular nature. It would appear that on Thursday Mr Pyle advertised for a housekeeper, and, in response to this, a young woman, apparently about 25 years of age, visited the house of Mr Pyle, and was engaged. About mid-day on Saturday, Mr Pyle had occasion to visit Newcastle, leaving this woman in charge of the house, but when he returned home shortly before five o'clock in the evening, he found that missing. As neither the woman or his child turned the police were communicated with. The child was attired in a black dress and wore black slippers. Her hair is light in colour and hangs in ringlets. She has blue eyes, and a ruddy complexion. The woman's full name is not known, only that she is called Lizzie. She was last seen at Whickham on Saturday afternoon about two o'clock, at which time the child accompanied her. The woman was attired in a black skirt, and wore a green blouse with black stripes. She also wore a light brown cape, and a silver brooch which bore the name of "Elizabeth" in silver letters. She wore a black sailor hat. Height about 5ft. 7in., dark complexion, and dark eyes, one of which is deformed. Mr Pyle is naturally more anxious as to the whereabouts of his child.

Writing later our Whickham correspondent says:—On Monday, the police searched all the lodging-houses in Newcastle and Gateshead, and more especially Blenheim Street, at which street the woman stated that she had resided, without any results. Nothing further transpired until a welcome telegram was received by Mr Pyle on Tuesday afternoon, asking him to meet the 2-35 p.m. train from Newcastle, by which train the child was travelling. The train was met as requested, and the missing child, who was accompanied by a porter, was restored to its parent. The child was received in a somewhat remarkable manner. It would appear that a woman named Mrs. Hateley, who resides at 15, Dove Street, Cullercoats, got into a train at Alnmouth on Tuesday, and in the same compartment was a woman and a child. The woman subsequently asked Mrs Hateley if she would take care of the child until it got to Newcastle, where its father would be waiting for it. The woman afterwards left the train at Morpeth Station, and nothing further was seen of her. When Mrs Hateley arrived at the Central Station, there was no one to receive the child, so she therefore acquainted the railway officials of the circumstances by which the child had got into her keeping. Fortunately a porter recognised the child from the dress and a description given of it in the papers, as that of Edith Pyle, who was reported to be missing from her home at Whickham. This was further verified by a piece of paper which was found clasped in one of the child's hands, and which bore the youngster's address, accompanied with the request that she should be put out of the train at Swalwell Station. As previously stated a telegram was despatched to Mr Pyle, and the missing child was sent on to Swalwell by the 2-35 p.m. train. When the child arrived at Whickham it was met by a crowd of people who had become interested in its escapade. The youngster could give no explanation of her whereabouts, only that she had been a "ta-ta" in the train with a lady.

The following letter was received by Mr Pyle from Mrs Rowntree, of West Moor:—"Dear sir,—My husband saw a young woman and a little girl answering the description at Killingworth Station on Sunday afternoon at the quarter-to-three train, and she said that she was going to Morpeth, and then to (an address was here given). The little girl did not want to go, so it struck us at once that it would be her. You may write back if it is her." A kindly letter was sent back to Mrs Rowntree thanking her for the information.

Mr Pyle paid a visit to the Newcastle Police Station, where he was shown a number of photos, one of which he identified as the woman whom he engaged as a housekeeper, and in whose company the child was last seen at Whickham.

The Revision Courts.

The open courts for the revision of the lists of Parliamentary, County Council, and parochial electors for the North-West Division of Durham are announced to be held at Stanley, on Thursday, 21st Sept., in the Police Buildings, at 11 o'clock; at Lanchester, on Friday, 22nd Sept., at 10 o'clock; and at Benfieldside on the same day, at 4 o'clock, at the School Board offices.

SAD DEATH OF A WOMAN AT PELTON.

On Monday last, Elizabeth Tinkler, wife of John Tinkler, a miner, while putting down a skylight in her house at West Pelton, slipped, and the iron bar, which supported the skylight, struck her above the eye and fractured her skull so terribly that she succumbed shortly afterwards. It appeared that her husband went out shortly before twelve o'clock and left her preparing the dinner. While he was away, she had gone upstairs on household duties, and it was then that she was injured. On returning her husband saw his wife was not in the kitchen, but thought she had gone to see a neighbour. After sitting some time in the kitchen he heard someone moaning upstairs. He went up and found his wife bleeding terribly about the head. He procured help, but Mrs. Tinkler never rallied, and succumbed to her injuries about two hours afterwards.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.

The second Burns' Concert will take place in the New Town Hall on Monday, the 29th January, for which we understand a splendid array of musical talent has been engaged. Mr. Harry Lauder, the popular Scottish comedian and humorist, who created such a favourable impression at the last concert, is again included amongst the artistes, and will, we understand, introduce some fresh and original songs.

WHEN THE QUEEN WEARS HER CROWN.

Her Majesty has three crowns (says M. A. P.), but it is very seldom indeed that she wears one of them. During the long series of functions that accompanied the celebration of her last birthday, for instance, there was only one occasion on which the was at the Drawing Room which her Royal head was graced with a crown. This was at the Drawing Room which Her Majesty attended. The tiara which the Queen then wore was made nearly forty years ago, and weighs about eight troy ounces. It is a light shell of gold, thickly encrusted with diamonds, there being no less than 2,673 white diamonds and 523 of the rose brilliants. This was designed for use with the long stup tulle used as a veil by Her Majesty on State occasions, such as weddings and Drawing Rooms. The Queen wears it well back on her head and it forms a pin to fasten the ceremonial veil, which floats away from it to the hem of the train. On every occasion on which the Queen visited the House of Lords the State crown was taken out of the Tower and was borne before Her Majesty on a cushion. Except for this purpose the crown has only left the Tower twice during her reign—once for repair, some part of the setting having become loosened, and once in order to modify the ermine. The Queen has never actually worn the State crown since it was placed on her head at her coronation.

THE LADY LAWN TENNIS CHAMPION.

Mrs Hillyard, who recently won the Ladies' Lawn Tennis Championship of All England, has a record in connection with this competition which is positively unique (says "M.A.P."). She won her first championship as Miss Blanche Bingley no less than thirteen years ago, but looks, and indeed is, as young and as active to-day as she was in 1886. Since 1885, when she was beaten by Miss Maud Watson, the first lady champion "that ever was," she has won the championship in all five times and on nearly every other occasion she has been second only to the winner.

Mrs Hillyard's play cannot be called graceful even by her most devoted admirers, but this defect is more than atoned for by her wonderful pluck and determination. If Mrs Hillyard had been a man she would have made a good general, for she never knows when she is beaten, and is never more dangerous than when apparently "done for." These qualities enable her to hold her own with players who possess a far greater variety of strokes. Her peculiarities are that she never hits a ball on the volley if she can avoid it, and that she invariably wears chamois gloves, or rather gauntlets, while playing. In the winter time, Mrs Hillyard, who is passionately fond both of dogs and horses, devotes most of her time to hunting; her home is near Melton Mowbray, and she is often seen out with "The Quorn." Her husband, Mr G. W. Hillyard, is best known to fame by reason of his having played during several past seasons in the Leicestershire Cricket Eleven, but he is also an accomplished lawn-tennis player, and a mighty driver at golf.

A FAMOUS CHESS PLAYER.

Few people are aware that Mr. Blackburne, who has once more vindicated his title as the first of English chess players (says M.A.P.), was in earlier life a worker in stone, and that the premises of the Law Life Assurance Society, adjoining the church of St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, Fleet Street, show practical evidences of his skill in that craft. Mr. Blackburne, who unites a Bohemian geniality with the "savoir faire" of the man of the world, states that he is quite unable either to explain his faculty for playing a number of games simultaneously without a chessboard. He finds, however, that when concentrating his attention upon each game in turn, the board and pieces appear to his mental vision to be miles and miles away, infinitely smaller than the reality, but infinitely more distinct—like a landscape viewed through an inverted telescope. Mr Blackburne's one regret is that he did not avail himself of an opportunity that once presented itself of playing Paul Morphy, the ill-fated American who, in the opinion of the best judges, was the greatest chess genius the world has seen.

FOOTBALL.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

LEADGATE PARK v. MIDDLESBROUGH A.

This game comes off at Middlesbrough on Saturday, both teams being newly-admitted members of the Alliance.

LEADGATE PARK—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, J. Daly and Jos. Wilson; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and G. Temple; forwards, B. Cook, J. Grant, T. Houston, P. Daly, and J. Birtley. Reserves, W. Walton (back), G. Forster and S. Thompson (forwards.) Leave Blackhill Station by 12.15 train.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

BLAYDON v. HOBSON WANDERERS.

To be played at Blaydon.

HOBSON (chosen from)—Randall, Liddle, McCue, Heslin, E. Bell, Henderson, Hunter, and ton, J. Layton, J. Bell, Lown, Andrews, and Jno. Layton.

Brake leaves headquarters at 2.

ALLENDALE PARK v. THROCKLEY.

These teams meet at Medomsley, and as the game is in connection with the sports held by the Park club, there ought to be a good turnout of spectators. The home team will play their strongest eleven, while the visitors will include in their ranks J. Truman, of Hexham, who last season assisted the home club.

PARK—Goal, J. Scott; backs, M. Walton and J. Oliver; half-backs, T. Walton, Brown, and Hobday; forwards, Spence, Morris, Jordan, Lynop, and Robinson.

Referee, Mr H. Cruddas. Kick off at 3.

It is expected that Mr Atherley-Jones will attend the above match and kick-off.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. SOUTH TANFIELD.

To be played at Tantobie.

TANTOBIE—Goal, J. Lishman; backs, Wm. Adamson and I. Adamson; half-backs, T. Middleton, J. McKeven, and F. Bell; forwards, R. Atkinson, J. Gladders, T. Seath, T. Burn, and R. Weightman.

MARLEY HILL LITERARY INSTITUTE v. BYER MOOR.

The members of the Marley Hill Literary Institue A.F.C. will open their season on Saturday by an engagement with their old rivals, Byer Moor. The game, which is to take place on the ground of the former, will commence at 3.30 p.m., at which hour Coun. R. W. Berkley will set the ball in motion. Much interest has been centred in the encounter, and a record attendance is anticipated.

MARLEY HILL—Goal, T. Grant; backs, D. McGahon and B. Davidson; half-backs, P. Robb, J. Gilbert, and J. Ringer; forwards, O. McGahon, P. Keenan, P. Cullen, E. Boulter, and F. Baker. Reserves, Pharoh and Douglass.

Mr Fletcher is expected to officiate as referee.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE v. BURNHOPE.

To be played at Consett.

CONSETT SWIFTS—Goal, J. Sheeky; backs, J. Wilson and G. Wood; half-backs, T. McNally, B. McKie, and W. Atkinson; forwards, W. Walton, M. Page, R. McAleer, E. Pratt, and T. Boyle.

Referee, Mr. Hodgson, Tantobie. Kick-off at 3.30.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. LINTZ ROVERS.

To be played at the Lintz.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S—Goal, S. Johnson; backs, Patterson and Robinson; half-backs R. Rogers, Taylor, and Moss; forwards, Higgins, Harris, Paull, Robson, and Thompson.

Brake leave Blackhill at 2.15.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. HAMSTERLEY.

This game will be played on Saturday at Leadgate.

PARK RESERVE—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, W. Walton and W. G. Robson; half-backs, T. Calvert, M. Robinson, and C. V. Todd; forwards, D. Cartmell, W. Crowther, S. Thompson, J. Harper, and G. Milburn. Reserves, P. Hughes, R. Gleadow, and W. Calvert.

HAMSTERLEY (chosen from)—English, Rudd, Short, Carr, Craigs, Dodds, Anderson, Swinburn, Parker, Johnson, Ferry, Fenwick, and Seath.

Kick-off at 3.45.

CONSETT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS v. ALLENDALE A.

At Leadgate.

PARK—Goal, P. Lochrane; backs, Thompson and D. Overall; half-backs, J. Johns, A. Winter, and W. Calvert; forwards, H. Hedley, J. Davison, Birtley, Grant, and Kelly.

Kick-off at 2-30.

FRIENDLY FIXTURES.

SOUTH MOOR UNITED v. CONSETT BAPTISTS.

To be played at South Moor.

SOUTH MOOR—Goal, Nicholson; backs, Davison and Lambert; half-backs, Cole, Nicholson, and Mason; forwards, Smailes, Wilkinson, Davison, Armin, and Boggan.

Kick-off at 3-15.

MATCHES WANTED.

Catchgate Temperance have all dates vacant: ages, 12 to 15. Apply, P. Caveny, Front Street, Catchgate.

Medomsley Young Rovers have all dates vacant: average age, 14. Apply, J. Watson, 3, Fines Cottages, Medomsley.

Stanley Athletic Reserve are in want of dats with junior teams; average age, 14. Apply, T. Robson, 49, Joicey's Square, West Stanley.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Tanfield Lea	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Leadgate Prk Res	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Tantobie	1	1	0	0	5	0	2
Consett Swifts R.	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Bickhill St Cuths	2	0	2	0	1	3	0
Annfield Plain R	1	0	1	0	0	5	0
South Tanfield	1	0	1	0	0	3	0
Burnhope	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hamsterley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marley Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Byer Moor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lintz Rovers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NORTH-WEST DURHAM HAIRDRESSERS' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday afternoon of last week a meeting of the Executive Council of the above association was held at the Commercial Hotel, Consett. Mr J. G. Merritt, president of the associatoin, occupied the chair, and delegates were present from Shildon, Bishop Auckland, Crook, Willington, Langley Moor, Stanley, Chester-le-Street, and Consett.

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large number of members present in addition to the delegates. There was a large agenda to take into consideration, and he hoped that no gentleman would take up the time of the meeting with long speeches, as time was too short. He might point out that for some time past the present rules had not sufficiently covered certain little matters which had cropped up. They had authorised the secretary to submit a set of new rules which would cover the points in dispute. At a later stage of the meeting those rules would be submitted for their approval, and if there was anything in them which any member objected to, he would be quite at liberty to express his opinion, and if the majority thought it wise, the rules would be altered to suit.

The first business was the application from Shildon Branch asking the Executive Council to appoint a new secretary, as their present one had expressed his intention of resigning, through being unable to carry out the duties attached to the office. The members themselves had not been unanimous in the selection of a successor, and requested the Executive Council to make the appointment for them.

After an animated discussion it was agreed that Mr Beddison be asked to accept the appointment.

The Chairman next called upon the Willington delegate to state the case which he desired to bring before the meeting.

Mr Gowland stated that some time ago a member of the Durham Miners' Association commenced hair-cutting and shaving at Sunnybrow Colliery free gratis. After he had continued for some months he started at night time to shave for 1d and cut hair for 2d, and he need not remind the Council that such a procedure was detrimental to the hairdressers of that district. They held a meeting about it with the result that the case was sent on to the general secretary with a request to place the matter before the Miners' Union. Mr Scott had done so, and had received a reply from the Miners' Union pointing out that the case had been taken before a full meeting, at which it was pointed out to the man that he was taking the bread out of the mouths of the hairdressers by unfair competition. However, he had refused to listen to reason.

After the matter had been thoroughly discussed the Council instructed the general secretary to write Mr John Wilson, M.P., asking the expression of his opinion on the matter before taking the case before the Durham Miners' Executive Council.

Mr. Wilson, Stanley, commented very strongly upon the action of the men who professed to be the pioneers of trades' unionism in the North of England supporting a man who adopted such an unfair mode of working.

Mr Larkman, of Stanley, was the next speaker. He wanted to know what had been done in reference to the two Sunday traders at Pelton?

The General Secretary replied that he had received a letter from Supt. Rutherford in February last, who stated that he had ordered the men to close their premises on Sundays, and if they did not do so he would prosecute them. Those men were still trading on the Sundays, and after further discussion the secretary told the meeting that he had the copy of a letter received by Mr Marston, the secretary of the North-Eastern Counties Federation of Hairdressers, from Col. Eden, saying he would be very pleased to assist the hairdressers to obtain Sunday closing, but in the first place thought it would be better to try gentle persuasion before resorting to prosecution.

After the matter had been discussed the secretary was instructed to write Col. Eden and bring the case before him.

The next business was the new rules, which was adopted with one or two slight alterations, amongst which was a rule that all hairdressers in the country must close their places of business at ten o'clock on Fridays and on August Bank holiday of every year. After several other matters of correspondence relating to the Federation had been dealt with the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman; and after it had been mentioned that the hairdressers were willing to close their places of business earlier at the week-ends if the trades people would also close say at nine o'clock.

WALDRIDGE.

SALE OF WORK.—On Monday evening a sale of work was held in St. Barnabas Church, Waldridge, in aid of the organ fund of that church. There was a large number of stalls which were presided over by the ladies of the sewing class, who were kept fairly busy with buyers. The chief item was a nigger entertainment by the juvenile members of the Chester-le-Street Parish Church choir which consisted of songs, duets, dialogues and stump speeches. There was a good attendance and the entertainment was greatly enjoyed. The sale of work and entertainment were principally promoted by the Rev. W. Martin-Ellis, curate-in-charge, who is shortly leaving the district to go to Devonshire.

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CRICKET.

DURHAM SENIOR LEAGUE.

BURNMOOR v. CRAGHEAD.

Played at Burnmoor, and resulted in a win for the visitors. Score:—

Craghead.	
H. Stevenson c Chatt b Coltman	7
J. Peele run out	2
G. Potts st Blunt b Butler	14
R. Holmes b Combey	14
S. Evans b Coltman	0
F. Horne b Combey	8
W. Faulkner c Bulmer b Butler	15
J. Johnson st Blunt b Coltman	22
N. Sheraton not out	40
R. Hann c Nesbit b Coltman	0
T. Strain c Gowland b Coltman	28
Extras	6
Total	154

Burnmoor.	
A. W. Gowland c Holmes b Faulkner	8
W. Nesbitt b Horne	0
G. Blunt b Horne	6
Butler b Faulkner	1
J. Combey c Strain b Stevenson	13
J. Swinhoe b Stevenson	29
T. Bulmer not out	34
J. Coltman b Evans	4
J. Nesbit c Horne b Stevenson	9
J. Rutherford b Stevenson	4
W. H. Chatt b Faulkner	15
Extras	17
Total	140

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. EDWARD LAKEY OXLEY, OF ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

It is with regret that we have to record the sudden death of Mr. Edward Lakey Oxley, which sad event took place at the residence of his father-in-law, Mr. W. Nattrass, 84, Allendale Cottages, on the 5th inst., at the age of 24 years. The deceased had worked for some years in the Hunter Colliery, Medomsley, and was well-known in the district; being of a kind-hearted and genial disposition, he had many friends. He resided at 12, Stephen Street, Consett, for some time, and only removed from there to Chopwell on the 19th Aug. Some days after his wife took ill, and they came to her parents' residence at Allendale Cottages, where he himself took ill on the Sunday after. Deceased was under Dr. Down's care, and died quite unexpectedly as above stated. The funeral took place at Medomsley Cemetery on Wednesday, the 6th inst. Before the cortege left the residence, the hymn, "Thy will be done," was beautifully sung by the Allendale Wesleyan Choir, and prayer was offered up by Mr. G. Armstrong, Westwood. The deceased was followed to his last resting-place by a large number of sorrowing friends and others. The following were pall-bearers:—Mr. T. W. Phillipson, Mr. T. Shearer, Mr. T. Maughan, and Mr. K. Ross. The service at the grave was conducted by the Rev. S. T. Watts, curate of Medomsley. Several beautiful wreaths were placed on the grave as a token of respect for the deceased. The deepest sympathy is felt for the deceased's wife in her sudden bereavement.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

BROWN—CRABB.—All Saints Church, Langley Park, Sept. 13th, by the Rev. W. E. Williams, Mr. W. Brown, Pittington, to Miss A. Crabb, Langley Park, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Crabb.

BROWN—HOPPER.—Gateshead, M.N.C. Church, by the Rev. John Young, on the 12th inst., Andrew, the eldest son of Mr Robert Brown, of Dunston, to Hannah, fourth daughter of Mr Andrew Hopper, Baldwin Flatts Farm, Dunston.

FEATHERSTONHAUGH — HEPPELL. — At St. Jude's, Newcastle, on the 10th inst., by license, Albany Featherstonhaugh to Dora Heppell.

ROBSON—OLIVER.—On the 7th inst., at Blanchland Abbey Church, by the Rev. J. C. Dunn, assisted by the Rev. P. Cooke Jones; Gilbert Garthorn, eldest son of J. Skelton Robson, J.P., Cooley Lodge, to Edith, daughter of the late Watson Oliver, Stockton-on-Tees, and granddaughter of T. Bell Oliver, Blanchland. No cards. At home October 3rd.

Deaths.

AULD.—South Moor, 78, Pine Street, 11th inst., aged 7 years 11 months, William, son of Thomas and Margaret Auld.

BROADBENT.—Consett, 10, Aynsley Terrace, 9th inst., aged 10 months, Elsie Henderson, daughter of G. T. and H. Broadbent.

CHARLTON.—Low Prudhoe, 8th inst., aged 2 years and 10 months, George, son of William and Mary Charlton.

CHEESMAN.—Ravensworth Road, Dunston, on the 7th inst., aged 9 weeks, Norman W., son of Thomas and Jane Cheesman.

HALL.—Low Prudhoe, 7th inst., aged 60 years, Barbara, wife of Robert Hall.

HUGGINS.—Hobson Colliery, 6th inst., aged 58 years, Mary Jane, wife of Edward Huggins.

MCELDUFF.—Pack Horse, Crookgate, Burnopfield, 12th inst., Daniel, husband of Margaret A. McElduff.

MULHOLLAND.—Gateshead, Sept. 12th, at the Vicarage, the Rev. T. C. Mulholland, Vicar of Christ Church, aged 51.

REED.—Chester-le-Street, Pelaw Cottage, 13th inst., Robert Robinson Reed.

ROXBURGH.—Birtley, on the 10th inst., aged 63, Walter, husband of Rose Ann Roxburgh.

RICHARDSON.—No. 9, Barnton Street, Monkwearmouth, Sept. 11th, aged 25 years, Thomas, son of the late Thomas and Hannah Richardson, Winlaton.

SNAITH.—Blue Bell Hotel, Lanchester, aged 3 months, Francis Borthwick, son of John and Jessie Snaith.

TINKLER.—At West Pelton, on the 11th, aged 35, Elizabeth, wife of James Tinkler.

WEATHERLEY.—High Spen, 12th inst., aged 12 years, Isabella, daughter of John and the late Elizabeth Ellen Weatherley.

WHITFIELD.—Dunston, Atlas Villa, on the 9th inst., aged 53 years, Elizabeth, wife of George Whitfield, of the Atlas Rivet Works.

In Loving Memory of Mary Turnbull, beloved wife of John Elder, who died at Lintsford, 12th Sept., 1898.

She lives where none can mourn and weep,
And calmly shall her body sleep,
Till God shall death Himself destroy,
And raise it into glorious joy.

In Loving Remembrance of Emma, the beloved wife of John Wm. Lee, who departed this life Sept. 2nd, 1898, aged 24 years. Also in loving remembrance of Edith Annie, the beloved daughter of John Wm. and the late Emma Lee, of Annfield Plain, who departed this life, Sept. 19th, 1898, aged 2 years.

Farewell, dear husband, my life is past,
Truly thou loved me to the last;
Weep not for me, nor sorrow take,
But love our children for my sake.
She is gone from our cot to the mansion above
And our hearts with deep anguish are riven,
Yet why should we mourn for the daughter we loved,
When we know that she's happy in heaven.
Ever remembered by her husband.

Mr. and Mrs Joseph Murray and Family desire to thank all relatives and friends for their kind sympathy shown to them in their recent sad bereavement.

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