VISIT TO DARLINGTON AND NEWCASTLE.

DEAFNESS.

BLINDNESS.

CURED WITHOUT OPERATION.

For Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears; Deafness from Influenza cured. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer sent free. Mr T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds. Artificial Eyes. Spectacles, etc

NOTICE. — Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends Suttles' Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Wednesday, Oct. 3rd; Hours, 12 to 4-30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, Oct. 17th, Hours 11 to 4-30. Imperial Hotel, Hull, Friday Oct. 5th, Hours 11 to 4-30. North-Eastern Hotel, Darlington, Monday, Oct. 1st, Hours 11 to 5-30.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER, AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

HARBURN'S

PHOSPHORISED TONIC

PURIFIES AND ENRICHES THE BLOOD.

STRENGTHENS THE NERVE.

A PERFECT TONIC.

In Bottles 1s1½d. and 2s 9d, from Chemists or direct from A. HARBURN, M.P.S., Pharmaceutical Chemist, Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

No. 2092 [REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.]

FRIDAY, September 21st, 1900.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MR. A. WOLFE, 29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND, IS PREPARED TO ADVANCE FROM £10 to £2,000 ON PROMISSORY NOTE TO ALL PROFESSIONS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS. STRICTEST PRIVACY GUARANTEED. LOW INTEREST. REPAYMENTS TO SUIT BORROWERS' CONVENIENCE; OR CAPITAL CAN REMAIN SO LONG AS THE INTEREST IS PAID. NO FEES. DISTANCE NO OBJECT. MORTGAGES ARRANGED. REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES PURCHASED.

Telegrams—'Safe' Sunderland. Nat. Telephone 565.

Contracts.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

WANTED, OFFERS for the MANURE made at Medomsley Co-operate Store, Six Horses kept, including Butcher's Blood, (Butcher's Blood to be removed twice a week). Offers to be sent in to the undersigned, on or before Monday, September 24th.

W. R. PIGG, Secretary. 786

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required to be done in the ERECTION and COMPLETION of House, Shop, Stable, &c., at Catchgate, for Mrs. Rosemergy.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender may be obtained at the Architect's Office, 121, Durham Road, Blackhill.

Tenders to be sent in to the above Office, on or before Wednesday, October 3rd, 1900.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

GEO. THOS. WILSON, Architect.

Sept. 19th, 1900. 8471

JOHN DOVE & CO., LTD., Builders Merchants and Lathrenders, offer to tender for the best Portland Cement, Plaster, Laths, Hair, Crushed Bricks, and Granite, Chimney Tops, Sanitary Pipes, Firebricks, Pitch, Tar, &c. Offices, 5, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle. Telephone: P.O., 618; National, 1,122. Telegrams, "Dove," Newcastle. Estab. 1854. 11h.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

JOHN HEWITSON,

SLATER AND SLATE MERCHANT, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

Foreman's Residence: 64, WESLEY TERRACE.

Estimates for Slating Gratis.

Repairs a Speciality.

Agent for all the Leading Slate Quarries.

Agent for F. McNeill's Roofing Felt and Asphalte Damp Course or Foundation Felt.

HEAD OFFICE: LEAZES PARK ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

National Telephone, No. 1348 98f

CROOK HALL SLAG CRUSHING WORKS, NEAR CONSETT.

I AM now in a position to supply promptly and at reasonable prices, the following Materials for Roads, Footpaths, Carriage Drives, Asphalting, Concreting, &c. Machine Broken Slag, to any size, up to 2½ inch. Slag Chippings ⅜ to 1¼ inch. Fine Crushed Slag for Concrete purposes ¼ inch.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

The Slag is of most excellent Quality, it is of great density and of good colour, and very strong and durable stone for Road Making, &c. I am supplying it extensively to various Public Bodies, Contractors, &c. I am putting down an extensive Plant, for the manufacture of Artificial Stone, Flags, Kerbs, Sills, &c., and also Asphalting.—QUOTATIONS ON APPLICATION.

Postal Address;

564g D. ORMEROD, Blackhill.

Lost and Found.

LOST, at Medomsley Edge, a LAMB having two red marks on the right side.—Information to J. DAVISON, Byreside Faam.

LOST, from a Field near Stanniforda, Four Grey-faced LAMBS and Three SHEEP.—Information will be thankfully received by E. LACKEY, Butcher, Consett. 866i

Wanted

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply 5, Middle Street, Consett.

WANTED, at once, a DAY GIRL.—Apply 32, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 835i

WANTED, YOUNG WOMAN for Shop.—Apply, J. MORGAN, Oil Dealer, etc., 29, Victoria Street, Consett 883i

WANTED, Good GENERAL SERVANT, with reference.—Apply to Mrs. S. GRADON, Beechwood, Blackhill. 868i

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at MR. COCKBURN'S, Stationer, &c., Middle Street, Consett.

WANTED, a smart BOY, about 13 years, duties light.—Apply 2 or 3, or 6 or 7 p.m., *Guardian* Office Consett. 520i

WANTED, two strong Lads as APPRENTICES to the Painting and Decorating.—Apply SIDDLE, Newmarket Street, Consett.

WANTED, two VANMEN (smart) who know the District.—Apply, KERSHAW & SONS, Leadgate. 718i

WANTED, respectable LODGINGS in Stanley for Young Man.—Apply by letter, Box "B," *Guardian* Office, Consett.

STRONG BOY, 16, WANTED for Grocery Business.—Apply Box "A," *Guardian* Office. 763i

RABBIT SHOOTING WANTED on one or two Farms.—Letters address, box "W." *Guardian* Office, with particulars and Price.

TEA OR ANY KIND OF OLD LEAD WANTED, in any quantity; (market price given), at the "Guardian" Office, Consett. 345f

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J ORTON, Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, with references, to Mrs. J. P. WATSON, 12, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside. 818i

WANTED, PICTURES TO FRAME, in Oak, Gilt, or various kinds of Moulding, from 1s. upwards.—T. C. BELL, 37, Rosebery Terrace, Consett. 784e

MINERS and others desiring SPARE-TIME EMPLOYMENT are invited to write MR. J. J. MOREY, 1, Higham Place, Newcastle, for particulars of profitable Agency. Good terms. No risk. 400i

WANTED, all Friends and Customers to have a Bargain, 14 DAYS' GENUINE REMOVAL SALE. All Goods and Cycles, &c., to clear at Cost Price. Will remove August 19th, 1900 to New Premises, Victoria Buildings, Middle Street, Consett, and open with an entire new Stock. Inspection invited. W. E. TURNER, Front Street, Consett. 330i

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

WANTED, a CARETAKER for the above Chapel and School, salary, £11 per annum.—Applications to be sent in to the Secretary, J. CRAWFORD, not later than Sept. 29th, from whom all particulars may be had.

WANTED by the West Stanley Co-operative Society Ltd., a Young Man, not under 17 years of age, as CLERK in Butchering Department, wages 17s per week, must have had experience in keeping accounts.—To apply to the Committee on Monday evening, Sept. 24th, 1900, at 7 o'clock. THOS. WM. RITSON, Secretary. 836i

WANTED by the West Stanley Co-operative Society Ltd., a Young WOMAN for the Greengrocery Department, not to be under 17 years of age, wages to commence 8s. per week.—To apply to the Committee on Monday evening, Sept. 24th, 1900, at 7·30 o'clock. Confined to Members' families. THOS. WM. WM. RITSON, Secretary. 837i

KYO (U.D.) SCHOOL BOARD.

OXHILL BOARD SCHOOL.

WANTED, a CLEANER for the above School. Particulars as to duties, remuneration, etc., can be had on application to MR. N. RAW, at the School.—Applications will be received by the undersigned up to Monday morning, October 15th. W. H. RITSON, Clerk, Lanchester, Durham. 834i

To Let.

LOCK UP SHOP TO LET, in one of the main Streets, Consett, where there has been a large Business done in the Fresh Fish, Dry Fish, Rabbits and Poultry Trade.—Apply JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Consett. 872i

TENTS TO LET.—Annfield Plain and District Marquee Co. offer their Tents for present Season at reduced rates. Sizes, Large Tent, 140ft. by 30, 120ft. by 30, 100ft. by 20; also Refreshment Tent, 40ft. by 18.—For Terms apply to GEO. BULLERWELL, East Kyo, Annfield Plain. 53h

To Let.

TO LET, about 200 yds. of WALLING.—Apply WM. CHARLTON, Dean House, Ebchester. 820i

TO LET, 16 acres of good FOG.—Apply to MR. WILLIAM TAYLOR, Prospect House, Lanchester. 829i

SHOP TO LET, with two Rooms; also two large Cellars, at No. 9, Derwent Street, Blackhill.—Apply MRS. OXLEY, Blackhill.

HOUSE TO LET, at Blackhill, Six Rooms, Bath-room, Washhouse, &c.—SWAINSTON BROTHERS, Grocers, Consett. 404i

TO LET, a BLACKSMITH'S SHOP in good position, in Leadgate.—Apply, T. W. SINCLAIR, Butcher, Leadgate. 717i

CONSETT, FRONT STREET.—TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP.—Apply J. W. DAVISON AND SONS, House Furnishers and Ironmongers, Front Street, Consett. 546i

TO LET, the HOUSE, No. 15, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside, containing 5 Rooms, 2 Attics, Bathroom, W.C., Scullery, Washhouse, &c.—Apply to MR. HEYMER, 55, Benfieldside Road. 701i

TO LET, in Middle Street, Consett, SHOP with Cellar, 56 x 20ft., suitable for any class of business; also Rooms above with separate entrance, suitable for offices or business, can be let together or separately.—JOSEPH MURRAY, Consett. 566i

TENTS TO LET, on reasonable terms, size or quantity no object. Tables and Bar Fittings kept on hand. All orders punctually attended to and carried out. Carting done, if required, by G. HUNTER, Medomsley. 446h

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a WOOD SHED, 14½ feet by 8½.—Apply MR. DOBSON, Daisy Hill, Medomsley, R.S.O. 819i

FOR SALE, 8 PIGS, 7 weeks old.—Apply WM. HETHERINGTON, Consett Road, Castleside. 821i

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, 1d. per lb., 6½d. per half-stone, or 1s. per stone.—Apply *Guardian* Office. Consett. 328i

36, INCH SAFE FOR SALE £6: 30 in. £5: 24 in. £4; delivered. JOS. LEVY, 55, Frederick Street, Sunderland. 689g

FOR SALE, three CYCLES, Free Wheel, &c., up to date, very cheap.—A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 857i

FOR SALE, a PONY, 13 h.h., and TRAP suitable for the Grocery or Drapery trade.—Apply *Guardian* Office, Consett. 852i

FOR SALE OR TO LET, Five-roomed HOUSE, immediate possession.—Apply Office of this Paper. 775i

FOR SALE, excellent Carriage MARE, 4 years; also two PONIES and AMERICAN TROTTING GIG and Harness.—Apply A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 856i

FOR SALE, almost new, a small PLUMBER'S STOVE, with Metal Pot, top hinge door and bottom hinge door complete, for heating irons, &c.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett.

FOR SALE, young thickset Black HORSE PONY, 13·1 h.h., quiet to ride and drive, very fast; Set of HARNESS, TRAP, with Lamps, Cushions, Rug, &c., fit Pony, together or separate. — Apply T. JOHNSON, Tailor, Sacriston. 861i

FOR SALE, Black MARE, 8 years old, 15·2 h.h., warranted quiet, and a good worker in all yokes and not afraid of steam in any form.—Apply T. DAVISON, Parmeter Street, South Moor 851i

FOR SALE, Five-roomed HOUSE, with Scullery and Conveniences, situated in Hartington Street, Consett.—Apply WM. GALLEY, Hartington Street, Consett; also a BUILDING-SITE in Blackfine, Blackhill.—Apply at the above address. 849i

FOR SALE, Five-roomed HOUSE, with Scullery and Conveniences, situated in Hartington Street, Consett.—Apply WM. GALLEY, Hartington Street, Consett; also a BUILDING-SITE in Blackfine, Blackhill.—Apply at the above address. 715i

TO BE SOLD OR LET, with immediate possession, TWO DWELLING HOUSES in Benfieldside Road, Shotley Bridge, on the Shotley Estate, containing 9 rooms each, gas, water, bathroom, and garden.—Apply to MR. WM. C. SAMPLE, Tritlington Hall, Morpeth.

MONEY LENT on Gold and Silver Watches Plate, Jewellery, Pictures, Men's and Women's Clothes, Bed and Table Linen.—Large Stock of Unredeemed Pledges for Sale. Hand Quilted Quilts. — M. HEPTON, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 260f

FOR SALE, new CONVEYANCES of every size and description, guaranteed of best material and workmanship, prices moderate; new harness of all sizes, either for Cash or on the easy payment system.—COWEN'S CARRIAGE and ROLLEY WORKS, Taylor Street, Consett. 207h

ROOFING FELT, 3s. 9d., 5s. 6d., and 7s. per roll of 25yds.; Foundation Felt, in slabs and rolls; Wire Netting, Galvanised Corrugated Sheets, Coal and Stone Boring Machines, Copper Stemming Gear, &c.—F. WELCH, Annfield Plain and Stanley. 640i

SAFES FOR SALE, Fire and Thief-resisting, from £3 10s. each.—Apply J. FRANCE AND Co., the Safe Depot, West Blandford Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 721i

FOR SALE, BOAR HOUND, a beauty, 2½ years old; a Grand Watch, to be seen at THOS. FARNSWORTH'S, General Dealer, 26, Victoria Street, Consett. 723i

BUILDING SAND, equal to River Sand; specially for Plastering and Cement Work; RED BRICKS, best in the District.—Write for prices, KAYSBURN BRICK AND TILE WORKS, Witton Gilbert Station. Offices: Sacriston.

GALVANIZED CORRUGATED IRON, Ridging, Nails, Washers, Bolts and Nuts, &c., for Roofing Hay Sheds, and Outbuildings of every description, large stock of several sizes. — For price and particulars apply J. FRANCE AND Co., West Blandford Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 722i

CYCLES, CYCLES, BARGAINS, 1500 CYCLES! Free to any Address, the most interesting and complete list of 1,500 Machines POST FREE. Single Machines at Wholesale Trade Price. New and Second hand Machines from 30s each. 500 New, latest 1900, Gent's Pneumatic Safeties. Marvellous Prices. 500 Ladies' New, latest 1900 pattern—Single Machine at Wholesale Price. Write for large List. Post Free to any one. Agents wanted. Marvellous Bargains. Send for List. WARRILOW & CO., Cycle Manufacturers, Weston-super-Mare.

Stud Notices.

THE CLEVELAND BAY STALLION,

"LUCKY PRINCE."

Will travel the Consett and Blackhill District and Stand at Surtees' Builders Yard, Benfieldside, Blackhill, this Season.

Tuesday Route:—Burnopfield, Blaydon, staying at Belsay over night, and return by Wylam to Blackhill every night. 694h

Business Announcements.

STYLISH

TAILORING

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

J. L. BRODIE,

1, WEST VIEW,

RITSON'S ROAD,

BLACKHILL.

WORKING MEN'S BUILDING SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

Investments received at 4 per cent. Interest sent half-yearly by Cheque to Investor.

Mortgages granted on approved Security.

No Properties in possession.

Ample Reserve Fund.

For Prospectus and further information, apply to the Secretary,

J. W. CAMPBELL, Fawcett Street, Sunderland, or

J. W. FORSTER (Successor to the late Mr. Joshua Lax), Shotley Bridge. 565h

Business Announcements.

IT IS AN ASTONISHING FACT THAT EVERYONE WHO IS ILL AND CANNOT GET CURED GO AT ONCE TO

GEO. PATTRICK,

CHEMIST, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

WHO HAS MADE SOME MARVELLOUS RESTORATIONS TO HEALTH IN CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS.

GO TO HIM AT ONCE IF YOU ARE NOT WELL. THOUSANDS OF CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,

GENERAL DRAPERS.

ARE Shewing their New Stock of Dress Goods, including some of the latest Novelties, for early Spring and Summer wear.

BLACK SILKS, GUARANTEED WEAR 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d. 5s. 6d.

GLOVES, TIES, CORSETS AND UMBRELLAS.

In the GENERAL DRAPERY our Stock will be found well assorted with Goods only of Reliable Makes.

BLACK AND BLUE SERGES. NEW RANGE OF TWEEDS, AND TROUSERINGS.

SUITS MADE TO MEASURE. INSPECTION INVITED.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR

JOHN HALL & PARTNERS, LTD.,

ANNFIELD PLAIN, BLACKHALL MILL, AND CORNSAY.

GROCERS, PROVISION AND FLOUR MERCHANTS.

THE CHAMPION SHOP FOR

SUGARS, TEAS, FRUITS, JAMS, FLOUR, BUTTER, CHEESE, AND BACON,

IS **FORSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,**

FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

TRY OUR CHECK TEA at 2s., and 2s. 6d., a sixpenny check with every lb.

A WORK OF ART. OUR PATRIOTIC TINS OF TEA at 2s. 4d. per lb. Each Tin has PHOTOS of FIELD-MARSHALL LORD ROBERTS; GEN. SIR REDVERS BULLER; LORD KITCHENER; GEN. FRENCH; MAJOR GEN. BADEN POWELL.

A Fine Stock of GENERAL DRAPERY, MILLINERY, CLOTHING, and TRIMMINGS of Every Description.

☞ SEE OUR STOCK BEFORE PURCHASING ELSEWHERE. 847h

INFLUENZA, INFLUENZA. INFLUENZA.

Do you feel a pain in the back, aching of the limbs, headache, dizziness, etc? If so you are feeling the first symptoms of an attack of influenza.

INFLUENZA CAN BE WARDED OFF IN 12 HOURS BY TAKING A BOTTLE OF SWINDALE'S INFLUENZA MIXTURE. PRICE,—ONE SHILLING PER BOTTLE.

Ordinary Cough Mixtures are worse than useless.

JABEZ SWINDALE,

CHEMIST,

BLACKHILL, CONSETT, & LEADGATE.

FRESH ARRIVALS OF NEW GOODS IN ALL THE DEPARTMENTS,

AT

JOHN AITCHISON'S,

TAILOR, CLOTHIER, HATTER, MERCER, AND OUTFITTER,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

LARGE DELIVERIES OF READY-MADE CLOTHING, FOR MEN, YOUTHS, &

IN NEWEST STYLES, AT LOWEST PRICES.

MEN'S BLACK, BLUE, AND SLATE WORSTED: ALSO FANCY TWEED SUITS, LATEST STYLES, **CHEAP.**

PIT CLOTHING, CORDS, MOLESKINS, &C.

FOR READY-MADE CLOTHING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

TRY

AITCHISON,

9a, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

NEWCASTLE WARDROBE CO.,

31, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

NEW AND SECOND-HAND CLOTHES, BEDS, &c.

☞ Orders executed for Oilskin Garments, guaranteed Waterproof; Leather Goods, &c. Inspection invited. 330e

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.

Sherry, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.

Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s.

Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s.

Claret from 1s. per bottle.

Burgundies from 1s. per bottle.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:

ROBINSON & CO.

DRUG STORES,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

HENRY ANNANDALE TOWN,

(Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute.)

LAND, ESTATE AGENT,

VALUER AND SURVEYOR,

UNDERTAKES

The entire Management of Country Estates.

Properties of every description, either in Town or Country, Managed on Moderate Terms under Personal Supervision.

Properties Sold or Let on Commission.

Valuations undertaken; Mortgages Negotiated; and

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO RENT COLLECTING.

15, PILGRIM STREET,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Nat. Telephone, No. 475.

WILLIAM BRAND,

FISH MERCHANT,

RAGLAN STREET CONSETT,

Begs to intimate that he has taken the Shop in

HAVELOCK STREET

(Lately occupied by Mr. Courtney).

A Fine Stock of FRESH FISH, DRIED FISH, FINDON HADDIES, BLOATERS, KIPPERS; also, SHELL FISH.

NOTE THE NEW ADDRESS:

HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT.

If you are in want of

FOOTBALLS, BELTS, SHIN GUARDS, INFLATORS, or HARNESS,

Of any description, for wear and quality,

GO TO

WILLIAM BIGGINS.

SADDLE AND HARNESS MANUFACTURER,

CHURCH STREET, BLAYDON.

BRANCHES:—Busty Bank, Burnopfield, R.S.O.

Tyne View, Lemington-on-Tyne.

94, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

COLLIERY WORK CONTRACTED FOR.

BRAMWELL'S BONDS,

C AND S,

CHURCH STREET, SUNDERLAND

130 YEARS' REPUTATION FOR WINES AND SPIRITS.

PRESENT PROPRIETORS:

THE NORTH-EASTERN BREWERIES LTD.

SUNDERLAND.

RICHARD MURRAY, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

SPECIALITY:—

"NEB" MALT STOUT.

Business Announcements.

HAVE YOU MACHINERY? YES.

THEN USE DICKINSON BROS.' LUBRICANTS.

BEST AND CHEAPEST.

WORKS: CLOSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 123g

CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES.

STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,

PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

COMMENCING ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 3rd. | GREAT SUMMER SALE. | BUY NOW AND SAVE 30 PER CENT.

GENUINE REDUCTIONS! BIG BARGAINS!! of MILLINERY, MANTLES, LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S UNDERCLOTHING, ETC., ETC., AT

MRS. HAND'S, PAXTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

TO FARMERS, GENTRY, AND OTHERS.

MOVEMENT OF SHEEP (LOCAL REGULATIONS).

MILNER'S SHEEP DIP IS EFFECTIVE.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES

(SKILFULLY PREPARED).

MILNER, VETERINARY CHEMIST,

15, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

BRANCH: FRONT STREET. (ASK FOR PRICE LIST).

NOTICE! NOTICE!

J. COCKBURN,

STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, AND GENERAL FANCY DEALER, OF FRONT STREET, HAS OPENED OUT HIS

NEW SHOP IN MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Stationery in all its branches. Newspapers and Periodicals of all kinds.

London Parcels arrive daily. Agent for British and Foreign Bible Society.

All Orders punctually attended to.

Agent for Low Fell Laundry, Pullar's Dye Works, &c. 421h

FOR A SMART TURN-OUT

You require a Stylish, Well-Finished Trap, and a Handsome Set of Harness.

YOU CAN GET THESE EITHER FOR CASH OR ON THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM AT

COWEN'S CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS,

TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.

To keep your Harness in Tip-top Condition you must use FRANK MILLER'S CELEBRATED HARNESS DRESSINGS for which we are the Sole Agents in this District.

Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, Rubber and Wool Mats, Horse Sheets and Clothing, Whips, Non-rustable Bits, and other sundries always on hand.

Also at TYNEDALE CARRIAGE WORKS, HEXHAM. 115f

TEETH. TEETH. TEETH.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

MR. TOWNEND, SURGEON DENTIST, now attends at

MR. COCKBURN'S NEW PREMISES, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Every Saturday, 2 to 6 p.m. 733h

THE BEST HOUSE FOR WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO PLATE, AND SPECTACLES.

DOBSON GRADON,

WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN.

Derwent Street, Blackhill.

REPAIRS A SPECIALITY. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

JOHN HUME AND SON,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.

MAKERS OF HIGH-CLASS BRIDES' CAKES, BIRTHDAY CAKES, &c.

CATERERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL SOIREES AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.

ALSO, MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF FEEDING STUFFS OF THE BEST QUALITY.

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

THE TEETH supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes. Every set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS, from 3s to 10s per Tooth.

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL,

SURGEON DENTIST.

No. 8, GRAINGER STREET,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.

☞ All Charges Strictly Moderate.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Attendance from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Appointments may be made with Mr. Dobinson, Cooke's Buildings, Annfield Plain. 772b

PIANOS. PIANOS. ORGANS. ORGANS.

The cheapest house, the largest premises, and the largest and best selected Stock can be seen at

W. E. WARDILL'S,

The COUNTY MUSIC WAREHOUSE,

1, WEST STREET, GATESHEAD.

Wardill's Genuine International Gold Medal PIANOS are admired by all the leading Musicians of the Country. His Stock comprises Pianos by all the leading makers such as Collard and Collard, Haake, Scheidmayer, Justin Browne, Sames, Neiber, Challm and Sons, Chappell and Co., &c., &c. Organs by Mason and Hamlin, Packard, Estey, Sames, and many others too numerous to mention.

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FOOTBALL MATCHES.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

BIRTLEY v. HEBBURN ARGYLE.

Only a small crowd assembled on the Birtley ground on Saturday to witness the first home Northern Alliance engagement, the visiting team being Hebburn Argyle. The personnel of the home team was not much altered from that which did duty last season. Several new men appeared in the ranks of the Argyle team. The visitors won the toss, and elected to kick towards the village goal. Doyle and Rutherford placed the ball well in the Hebburn territory. Some good play by Allison and Edgar forced a corner, which was cleared with difficulty. Parker and Chack then raced away to the other end, but the final shot was abortive. The home halves now played with a will, and fed the forwards often and with splendid judgment. Doyle shot twice hard, and Henderson only saved by the nearest shade. At the other end Thackeray scored, but this point was ruled off-side. Play ruled even after this but nothing was scored up to half-time. In the second portion of the game Forster scored for the visitors and although Birtley attacked strongly towards the finish they were unable to equalise and the game ended,—

Hebburn Argyle .... One goal.
Birtley .... Nil.

LEADGATE PARK v. MIDDLESBROUGH A.

These teams met on the Park ground on Saturday in summer-like weather. There was a fairly good attendance. Middlesbrough were well represented, but Leadgate lacked the services of Laidler. Teams:—

Middlesbrough—Goal, Hodgson; backs, Piercey and Jones; half-backs, Linton, McNally, and Brown; forwards, Callaghan, Murphy, Pratt, Evans, and Eckford.

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

Referee, Mr. A. Jane, Stanley (Crook.)

The visiting captain won the toss, and Hymers set the ball in motion for the Park against a strong sun and wind. Middlesbrough soon began to attack. Hedley, the Park custodian, having to clear several times. After some midfield play the visitors again became dangerous, Eckford having a good chance close in; but a foul spoiled his efforts. Evans put in a grand long shot, which Hedley caught in his hands. Leadgate defended exceedingly well, and made some smart dashes down the field, but Hodgson was seldom called upon to exert himself. A foul in favour of Leadgate afforded Forster an opportunity, but the latter struck the opposing player on the back. Hymers shot over the top when two or three yards from the goal-mouth. The visitors were penalised while in a dangerous position. The Park obtained a futile corner. Both sides worked hard to score, but half-time came with a clean sheet—

Leadgate Park .... Nil.
Middlesbrough A. .... Nil.

On resuming the visitors were the first to attack, and for some time kept the home men penned in. Hedley had to throw himself full length to stop a shot from Pratt—a very fine save. Leadgate improved, and from a foul close in Forster had a rare opening, simply having to touch the ball through, but he let it go over the line. Then Cook had a try, a very fast shot luckily cannoning off Jones for a corner. Towards the finish the Park pressed determinedly, and a bouncing shot from Hymers was sailing into the net when one of the Middlesbrough defenders helped it on in endeavouring to head past. Just after the whistle sounded. Final—

Leadgate Park .... One goal.
Middlesbrough A. .... Nil.

SUNDERLAND A. v. STANLEY.

This match was played on the Roker Park Ground before 600 spectators. Stanley won the toss and elected to play with the sun behind them. Sunderland were the first to attack, but were repulsed their opponents visiting their territory a moment later. Hands against Stenger gave Staney a good position. The visitors worked their way down to the home citadel. They were repulsed, however, Sunderland again becoming the assailants. Stanley conceded a corner, which was abortive. Saunders missed a fine shot, and Spinks had to clear. Offside against Sunderland gave the visitors a good position, but with no better result. Brand sent in a rattling shot right into Spinks' hands. The latter, however, kept his goal intact. Howe, a minute later, received the leather and sent over. The Sunderland forwards sent in a fine shot, Spinks saving with difficulty. The leather was again sent in by Simpson, but went over the cross-bar. The Stanley citadel was frequently attacked by their opponents, Prince, a little after, scoring the first goal of the afternoon from a short range, for Sunderland. Forster dispossessed the visitors of the ball, and sent the leather into the visitors' half. Brand received the ball, but sent behind, and "hands" against Pallister gave Stanley a better position. Both teams made frequent incursions into their rivals' territory. Shortly after, Leslie scored the second goal of the game for Sunderland. Stanley, after this were aggressive, and nearly beat Naisby, who had great difficulty in saving. Midfield play was witnessed some time, but nothing further occurred until the visitors took matters into their own hands, and attacked the home goal. Play after this slackened down considerably. Half-time arrived with the score at:—

Sunderland A. .... Two goals.
Stanley .... Nil.

On the resumption, Stanley pressed, but a foul against Simpson made the visitors the aggressors. Prince sent across, and the ball was near the Stanley goal-mouth when the visitors conceded a corner. A minute later Brand sent in agood corner. Saunders and Devine having much difficulty in saving. Stanley pressed, but were driven back by the homesters. A melee ensued in the visitors' half, and the homesters nearly scored. Play after this reigned in the visitors quarters, and the home forwards made a unsuccessful attempt to score, which the visitors' custodian just managed to clear. The home players after this exhibited some fine passing, and Leslie who got possession sent in. Spinks, however, was on his guard and cleared without difficulty. An injury to Brand shortly ater stopped play for a moment. The same player, however, not long after sent in a fine shot the accuracy of which completely beat Spinks. Some fine work after this was seen in the visitors' half. Sunderland sent in three successive shots, but the visiting custodian kept his charge intact. A goal kick for Stanley enabled the visiting forwards to gain an inroad into the ranks of the home team, and Howe sent in a brilliant shot, but Naisby cleared. McNeil passed to Brand, who made a fine run into the visitors' half, and sent in a rasping shot, which just went past. Play for a considerable time remained in the visitors' territory, but Stanley cleared. Howe had a splendid chance to score, and sent in a shot completely beating Naisby, and the whistle blew with the score:—

Sunderland A. .... Three goals.
Stanley .... One goal.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. CHESTER-LE-STREET.

When the Tyneside League collapsed the Consett Swifts joined the Chester-le-Street and District League and on Saturday last played their initial match in the tourney, meeting Chester-le-Street on the Vicarage ground. The visitors had divided top honours with Waldridge last season, and after playing several matches, all of which ended in draws to decide the destination of the medals, the Waldridge team finally carried them off a fortnight ago, beating the citizens by four goals to three. For Consett, Callaghan, the old Leadgate Exiles and Jarrow goalkeeper, appeared between the sticks, while Elliot, Maxwell, Heron, and Lockie made their first appearance for Chester-le-Street. A little over half-an-hour after the advertised time the teams lined up in the following order:—

Consett Swifts.—Goal, H. Callaghan; backs, Patterson and Wood; half-backs, P. McNally, J. Rafferty, and W. Atkinson; forwards, Turley, Dempsey, McAlear, Eustace, and T. Boyle.

Chester-le-Street.—Goal, Elliott; backs, Walker and Hand; half-backs, Grey, Anderson, and Ritson; forwards, Maxwell, Burns, Heron, Lockie, and Eltringham.

Referee, Mr. T. Amos, Hobson.

The visitors won the toss and Consett kicked off against the wind. Chester-le-Street immediately rushed away towards Callaghan, but the ball was sent past. The Swifts then came away and the visitors backs had to clear their lines. The citizens left wing got possession and Callaghan had to fist out from Lockie. After Chester-le-Street had forced two abortive corners, a run by Turley changed the venue and McAlear sent past. The Swifts pressed matters and Hand cleared at a dangerous time from Boyle. At the other end Callaghan kicked away a shot from Burns. Consett now forced the game and some exciting play took place in the Chester-le-Street half, and had it not been for the erratic shooting of the Consett men, a goal would certainly have resulted. Burns then made a run to the other end, but shot past. The scene was quickly changed and Elliott had to save from Turley, and immediately after Dempsey missed an open goal, McAlear also missing an easy chance. Consett continued the aggression and at last Elliott bungled a ball from Eustace, and Boyle rushed up and scored the first goal for Consett. Chester-le-Street played up now and Anderson shot over and just before the interval Callaghan tipped a shot from Eltringham over the bar. At half-time the score was:—

Consett Swifts .... One goal.
Chester-le-Street .... Nil.

On resuming operations Chester-le-Street attacked and Burns shot across the goal. Play of the end to end order reigned during the greater portion of the second half, and none of the play could be described as brilliant. A free kick at the Consett end for Chester-le-Street resulted in the ball being sent past. Burns and Anderson each sent past, and Callaghan had to save from Heron. From a corner for Chester-le-Street, Dempsey got possession and changed the venue and Swifts quicky forced two corners, but neither proved of any use. Just before the call of time Elliott made a good save on the ground from Turley. No more scoring took place and when the whistle sounded the Swifts had won their first league engagement with the score:—

Consett Swifts .... One goal.
Chester-le-Street .... Nil.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. STANLEY RANGERS.

These teams met on the ground of the former on Saturday afternoon, under the auspices of the above league. The teams faced each other as under:—

Blackhill—Goal, Johnson; backs, Wilkinson and Aitken; half-backs, Redshaw, Taylor, and Carr; forwards, Smith, Robinson, Robson, Cain, and Higgins.

Stanley.—Goal, Gailes; backs, Rowell and Jackson; half-backs, Clementson, Cox and Hudspith; forwards, Brown, Batty, Watt, Ashburn, and Carrol.

Referee, Mr. Hodgson, Tantobie.

The spin of the coin fell in favour of Blackhill, who decided to defend the entrance goal, with the wind at their backs. Watt set the ball on its journey, but the home forwards were not long in taking possession and making for their opponents' goal, where they were soon awarded a corner, but it did not prove of any advantage, as the ball went harmlessly past. From the goal-kick the visitors' right wing tried to get away, but Cain returned in fine style, and play was again raging in the visitors half, Taylor sending in a grand shot, striking the cross-bar and rebounding into play. Jackson placed the ball well up the field, and Batty taking possession, made a grand run up the field, but found a stumbling-block in Aitken, who, with a huge kick, again returned the ball well down the field, and Robinson taking up the running, passed to Robson, who beat the visitors custodian with a nice shot. The homesters again returned to the attack from the centre, and not many minutes after Cain again beat Gailes. The Saints were now having much of their own way, and play was raging in the Stanley goal-mouth when the whistle sounded half-time—

Blackhill .... Two goals.
Stanley .... Nil.

On crossing over it was thought that Stanley would make a better show this half with the wind at their backs, but the Saints were the first to take up the attack, Rowell and Jackson being kept very busy for a while, but at last the forwards got away in a body, and were just becoming dangerous when they were neatly pulled up by Aitken. Cain taking possession made a splendid run up the field, passing over to Smith, who gave Gailes a hot shot to contend with, but he proved equal to the occasion. Stanley now worked their way down the field, and were awarded a corner; the leather was nicely placed, but the backs managed to get it away. Another good run on the part of the home forwards carried play to the other end, where a penalty fell to their lot. Taylor being entrusted with the kick beat Gailes for the third time, and shortly after the whistle sounded with the score as under:—

Blackhill .... Three goals.
Stanley .... Nil.

STANLEY JUNIOR LEAGUE.

DIPTON UNITED v. DIPTON YOUNG WANDERERS.

On the United ground. Dipton United opened the season with a league fixture. Thompson started the leather against the wind, and the Wanderers pressed first, but were driven back. Hogg getting possession just missed scoring by inches. End to end play took place, until Sables for United beat the visitors' custodian with a low shot. This awakened the visitors, and from a good shot they equalised. Nothing daunted the home team pressed and gained the lead. Just on half-time the visitors put on a second. Half-time—2 goals each. On restarting the home team raced away and scored No. 3 from Armstrong. Hogg followed up by putting on No. 4. The visitors were now completely out-played, Birtley putting through with a low shot. Thompson was not long in adding No. 6, the game ending in a win for United by 6 goals to 2.

Referee, Mr. D. Cartmell, Leadgate.

HOBSON UNITED v. LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS.

This match was played at the Hobson and resulted in a draw of one goal each. The following team represented Hobson.—Goal, Thompson; backs, Mason and Layton; half-backs, J. Doran, J. Wilkinson, and A. Batey; forwards, W. Weedy, J. Dixon, C. Burnip, W. Lown, and T. Trewick.

White-le-Head Temperance beat White-le-Head Lilywhites by two goals to nothing.

Tantobie Red Stars v. Lintz United.—Played at Tantobie and ended in win for the home team by 5 goals to 2.

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FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

By "OFF-SIDE."

I have received a post-card informing me that Tantobie Lilywhites beat Stanley Tinpot Rattlers by seven goals to one. I am extremely pleased to hear it. Any club with a name like that deserves to be beaten every time they turn out.

—o—

Sunderland did Stanley the honour of putting on a strong team against them, including McNeill and Leslie but this notwithstanding the visitors gave their powerful opponents a very good game. To be beaten by three goals to one was certainly no disgrace to our local men. And one of these goals was of rather a suspicious character, the visitors claiming that it had been over the line before being shot through. The Stanley defence was highly tried, and it must be said that the defenders acquitted themselves exceedingly well. Howe and Armstrong put in good work in the front rank. On this form Stanley should find something for Jarrow to do on Saturday first, at Oakey's Oval.

—o—

We had a wonderfully exciting finish at Leadgate on Saturday, when the Park literally snatched the two points at issue on the post. The result was very sweet to the Leadgate men, as last season Middlesbrough were the only team in the Alliance to take all four points at the expense of the Park. The game was not a brilliant one by any means, the wind doing much to spoil the play, which was mostly on one side of the field. Perhaps the Park were a trifle lucky to win, although there was no disputing the genuineness of the goal that secured for them both points. But for being a little bit too previous the home men would have scored before this, as a long shot from the right appeared to be going through without any help when Crowther bustled the goalkeeper, and the point was struck off for obstruction.

—o—

Much interest was evinced in the appearance of Eckford, formerly of Luton, who came to Middlesbrough with a great reputation. He played a fairly good game, getting in some capital centres. Pratt and Callaghan also put in useful work. Piercey and Jones worked hard at back and Hodgson had not much work in goal. The Park forwards played a wretchedly ragged game, there not being the slightest semblance of combination. It would be difficult to single any of them out for praise. I thought the Park halves had as much to do with the victory as any part of the team, as they were superior to the visiting trio, and stuck in well all through. Temple and Joe Wilson played finely at back, whilst Hedley more than upheld his reputation, the fact that he was never beaten by a shot of any description telling its own tale.

—o—

Consett Swifts opened their league season on Saturday last when they met and defeated Chester-le-Street. This was the first occasion upon which the teams had met in a fight for points, the Swifts having only been admitted this season to the Chester-le-Street and District League. In the citizens they met no mean opponents, the latter having been bracketed with Waldridge at the head of the table last season. The Swifts played Callaghan in goal for the first time this season, but he was not often called upon. The home backs played well, Patterson showing good form. The halves all played a good game, and prevented all attempts of their opponents at combination, while of the forwards Turley and Dempsey were most conspicuous. For the visitors, Elliott did not seem over safe between the sticks, but Hand played soundly at back, while Walker was very little below him. Anderson was the best half-back, and Burns deserves first place in the front rank. The shooting was very poor, and had they taken advantage of many chances which presented themselves, the Swifts, who fully deserved their win, would have gained a more decisive victory.

—o—

I understand that it is doubtful whether Mat Walton, of Allendale Park, will go to Sunderland after all. It appears that Mr. Mackie wants Mat to go and live at Sunderland but the latter is averse to this, as he is earning good wages at home, and the change, from a monetary point of view, at any rate, would not be to his advantage. However, negotiations for his transfer are not yet at an end.

—o—

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's are an unfortunate team. Here we have the season only just opened, and already the Saints have had two points deducted from the three they have gained. This came about at the monthly meeting of the Derwent Valley League on Saturday night, when the Byer Moor secretary (Mr. Dawson) reported Blackhill for playing a man in a false name, whilst Mr. Payne stated that two of those who played at Byer Moor had never been registered. Thus the two points which the Saints extracted from Stanley on Saturday afternoon went the same night. It is hard lines on Blackhill.

—o—

Our old friend, "Disappointment," also cropped up at the same meeting, although the season is only two or three weeks old. Tantobie reported that Annfield Plain Reserve failed to keep their fixture last Saturday—for what reason they could not state. The Plain were not represented, and in their absence the case was adjourned until the next meeting.

—o—

Birtley made a start with their Alliance games last Saturday. They generally spring a surprise upon Hebburn, but on this occasion Argyle had the best of the deal, as they scooped in two points, although the game came off at Hebburn. Birtley have to travel to Willington to meet the champions this week-end, and all they can hope for is to give the "blues" a good game. Willington are going great guns and had no mercy upon poor Shankhouse last Saturday.

—o—

I hear that the gentleman who represented the "Middlesbrough Gazette" at Leadgate last Saturday is going to report the Park officials to the English Association, for alleged discourtesy. The said officials are now going baout in fear and trembling. I trust that our friend will not be too hard upon them.

—o—

Many people would like to know when last year's championship of the Derwent Valley League is going to be settled. Marley Hill, Tanfield Lea, and Burnhope have dropped out, and as they did not fulfil all their fixtures the fairest way would be to deduct all points and goals. However, certain representatives object to this, and the matter has to be dealt with by the big-wigs at Durham. I should not be surprised if the Association declines to have anything to do with it, and instructs the league committee to dispose of it themselves.

—o—

Allendale Park have been admitted as members of the Derwent Valley League. Mr. Thompson, in relying solely upon local talent, hopes to be able to place a good team in the field.

—o—

Leadgate Park have been very fortunate in the draw for the English Cup. They meet Crook at home in the preliminary round on Saturday first, and should they dispose of the Northern Leaguers they will entertain their old rivals, Bishop Auckland, on October 6th. Crook have secured three or four of Tow Law's best players, so that Hymers will probably find himself facing some of his old colleagues this week-end. It should be a hard game, as Crook are playing in capital form, their latest performance being a draw at Stockton last Saturday.

—o—

Stanley have transferred Peter Daly and Joe Birtle to Leadgate Park.

—o—

Consett Swifts should stand a good chance of annexing the championship of the Chester-le-Street and District League. The Consettonians ought to place another brace of points to their credit at South Moor this week-end. I notice that Callaghan is again down to keep goal.

—o—

The Hobson and Park Juniors—two of the best teams in the Stanley Junior League—played a draw at the Hobson on Saturday. They should be on the premises when the final reckoning comes to be made up.

—o—

A certain Leadgate supporter was asked where the Park men put up at Hebburn. "Wh—" he answered, "they called it the Buffet!" On there being a general laugh at his expense, he exclaimed, "Well, I looked for the sign, and that was what I saw on one of the windows upstairs." The name of the house was the Albert. What our friend referred to was probably the buffet bar.

—o—

All communications intended for the Leadgate Athletic A.F.C. should in future be addressed to J. J. Lock, 363, Church Street, Leadgate.

—o—

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's entertained Stanley Rangers on Saturday, and beat the new aspirants for Derwent Valley League honours pretty comfortably. Johnson (the Saints' goalkeeper) had not much to do, never handling the ball in the first half. Aitkin and Wilkinson played a good game at back, whilst Taylor was very conspicuous at half. All the forwards played a hard game, Robinson and Smith puttin in some fine runs. Gailes for Stanley saved well, having little chance with the shots that beat him. Rowell was the pick of the backs, Cox did excellent work at centre half, and Ashburn and Carroll made a useful wing. The Rangers have some promising men in their ranks, and should do better later on.

—o—

Tommy Taylor has been credited with going to play for several clubs this season. However, he turned out for Blackhill St. Cuthbert's last Saturday, and played a splendid game. I understand that Taylor has signed an Alliance form for Leadgate Park, and the latter might do worse than give him a trial in an Alliance game.

MATCHES WANTED.

White-le-Head Swifts have a few dates vacant and would like them filled up; ages, 14 to 16. Apply to George Innes, White-le-Head, Tantobie, R.S.O.

Allendale Rangers are in want of matches; ages 10 to 13. Apply, Thomas Minks, 15, Allendale Cottages, Medomsley, R.S.O.

Marley Hill Young St. Cuthbert's are in want of a few dates and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages, 10 to 14. Address, Jas. Riddler, 73, Middle Row, Marley Hill, Swalwell, R.S.O.

Annfield Place Lilywhites are in want of matches; ages, 12 to 14. Apply, G. King, 10, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain.

Grange Villa Rising Stars are in want of dates; all vacant. Apply to Fred Cornforth, 2, New House, Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street.

Stanley Heroes have all dates vacant and would like them filled up as soon as possible with good junior teams; ages 17 to 18. Apply to Albert Pascoe, 10, George Street, West Stanley, R.S.O.

White-le-Head Temperance have all dates vacant and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages, 12 to 14. Also 2nd team; ages 9 to 11. Apply, T. Hardy, 10, Red Row, White-le-Head.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

The monthly meeting of this body was held on Saturday night, at the headquarters, Commercial Hotel, Tantobie. Mr. W. Hodgson, (cairman), presided and there were also present representatives from Byer Moor, Tantobie, Lintz Rovers, Leadgate Park, Hamsterley, Malton Colliery, and Blackhill St. Cuthbert's.

ALLENDALE ADMITTED.

Mr. W. G. Thompson applied for admission on behalf of Allendale Park.—After Mr. Thompson had answered some questions, Allendale were unanimously accepted as members of the league.

AN EARLY START.

Tantobie reported Annfield Plain for disappointing them on Sept. 15th.—Mr. J. Gray (the Tantobie secretary) said that they had heard nothing whatever from the Plain.—As Annfield Plain were not represented, Mr. Ross suggested that, supposing Tantobie were willing, the case might be left over till next meeting.—Tantobie agreed to this, and the case was adjourned.

BLACKHILL LOSE TWO POINTS.

The Secretary (Mr. Payne) read the following letter from Mr. Dawson (Byer Moor):—

Dipwood Lodge,
Rowland's Gill,
September 10th, 1900.

Dear Payne,—We played Blackhill on Saturday last at Byer Moor, both this season's game and the 25 minutes we were ordered to play in connection with last season's competition. As you remember we were standing 3 to 0, and as we added another it made the result—Byer Moor 4, Blackhill 0. Our team was R. Hodgson, W. H. Liddle, S. Lamb, G. Nicholls, M. Bell, T. Spoor, J. Layton, G. E. Weedy, H. Lowe, J. Reed, G. Bennett. This season's game ended in a draw, one goal each. The same list of players played except that R. McDermott played vice S. Lamb. The Blackhill team was given as follows:—J. Stokoe, J. G. Robinson, T. Wilkinson, T. Redshaw, J. Richards, P. McCarthy, J. McCona, Higgins, Smith, M. Robinson, and Robson. I am directed by my committee to call your attention to the fact that Blackhill played a player in a false name. The matter may perhaps never have been known only I personally am well acquainted with the player in question. His proper name is J. Maughan, and he played right wing forward. When told about it Blackhill at first denied my statement, but afterwards admitted to me in writing I was right. They say he is signed on in the name of J. Stoker. As a matter of fact the player named Stoker kept goal. We consider it not right of them to do such things, and I have little hesitation in saying Blackhill seem to wilfully break the rules of the league. I trust you will bring the matter up and ask for an explanation.

Mr E. Kelsey (Blackhill) said that, for reasons which he explained, Stoker was signed on as Maughan. He contended that the player was eligible.—Mr. Payne said that Blackhill also played two men (McCarthy and McCone) who were not registered.—The committee decided to deduct two points from Blackhill—Mr. Kelsey, on hearing the decision, protested that it was unfair to his club.

MARLEY HILL RESIGN.

Marley Hill sent in their resignation, stating that they could not raise a team.—The resignation was accepted, both Messrs Bennett and Ross expressing their regret that Marley Hill had found it incumbent upon them to resign.

UNPLAYED GAMES.

Mr. Bennett asked what was going to be done with respect to the games unplayed by Tanfield, Burnhope, and Marley Hill?—Several suggestions were put forward, but eventually it was agreed to send the case to the Durham Association to be dealt with.

A TREASURER.

On the motion of Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Ross was unanimously appointed treasurer to the league.

THE LATE MR. HOGARTH.

It was agreed to contribute the sum of 10/- to the fund started for the purpose of putting a tablet into Burnopfield Church to the memory of the late Mr. Hogarth.

This concluded the business.

FUNERAL OF MRS. A. BLENCH

Of Leadgate.

On Friday afternoon, there were laid to rest in St. Ives Churchyard, Leadgate, the mortal remains of Mrs. A. Blench, wife of Mr. Anthony Blench, of Leadgate Farm, whose death was announced in our columns last week. The service in the church was conducted by the Rev. T. Varley (vicar) and Rev. T. W. Hanson (curate), and these two rev. gentemen also officiated at the graveside. The under-bearers were Messrs M. D. Greener, J. E. Kinleside, John Burnhope, and T. Slater. Messrs R. Calvert and T. Sinclair walked in front of the hearse. The relatives present included—Mr. Anthony Blench (husband); Masters Anthony and John Wm. Blench (sons); Miss Lily Anna Thompson (daughter); Rev. Hamilton and Mrs. Henderson, Hartlepool (brother-in-law and sister); Mr. John Thompson, Leadgate (brother); Mrs. Wm. Blench, Newcastle (sister); Mr. W. Thompson Blench, Newcastle (nephew); Miss Blench, Newcastle (niece); Mr. S. Blench, Castleside (brother-in-law); Mr. R. Blench, Brooms (brother-in-law); Mr. G. Blench, Tantobie (brother-in-law); Miss Blench, Low Brooms (sister-in-law); Mr. and Mrs. R. Blench, Tharnley; Mr. John Urwin, Hollinside Hall; Mr. J. E. Parker, Blackhill (cousin); Mr. T. S. Parker, Annfield Plain (cousin); and others. Amongst others present we noticed—Dr. Graham, Annfield Plain; Mr. Thos. Foreman, Leadgate; Mr. T. Ridley, Crookhall; Mr. T. S. Longstaff, Leadgate; Mr. W. Ward, Consett; Mr. W. Brears, Leadgate; Coun. W. F. Lane, Leadgate; Mr. M. Robson, Leadgate; Mr W. Urwin, Leadgate; Mr J. Burkitt, Leadgate; Mr. J. Ross, jun., Leadgate; Mr. T. Rowe, Leadgate; etc. Wreaths and crosses were sent by Mrs. Wm. Blench, Newcastle; Mrs. Hamilton Henderson, Hartlepool; Miss Mary Isabella Blench, Newcastle; Mr. Wm. Thompson Blench, Newcastle; Miss Blench, Low Brooms, Leadgate; Miss Cowen, Stella Hall, Blaydon-on-Tyne; Capt. and Mrs. Waites, Sunderland; and others. Mr. Jos. Slater, Leadgate, acted as undertaker. Letters of condolence and sympathy were received from many friends, regretting their inability to attend.

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BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

On Friday afternoon the first meeting of the recently elected School Board for Benfieldside was held in the Board Schools when there were present—the Rev. Canon Ross-Lewin, the Rev. E. W. Jenkins, Messrs W. A. Houliston, J. Sloane, G. J. Robinson, J. Collinson and H. Carse, and the Clerk (Mr. R. G. Barclay.)

CHAIRMAN PRO TEM.

The Rev. E. W. Jenkins suggested that Mr. Robinson should take the chair pro tem.

Mr. Sloane dissented and thought the Clerk should take the chair, and so avoid any difficulty that might arise in voting.

Mr. Carse said the Clerk was the servant of the Board.

Mr Sloane said that was not information to them.

Mr. Robinson said with all deference to Mr. Sloane's remarks he thought it would place their Clerk in an invidious position if he had to give a casting vote.

The Clerk said he could not do that.

Mr. Robinson said if they had so many votes on either side it might put them in an awkward position.

The Clerk said the Board had generally appointed a member as Chairman pro. tem., but the "School Board Chronicle" had pointed out that there was no advantage to be gained and that they might as well appoint a permanent chairman at once. The Clerk could take the chair but he could not vote.

Mr. Sloane thought the fairest way was for the Clerk to take the chair.

Canon Ross-Lewin said his idea was that the Clerk should preside.

Mr Houliston also supported Mr. Sloane's suggestion.

On a show of hands three voted in favour of the Clerk taking the chair, two were against, and two neutral.

Mr. Carse said the motion was not carried

The Clerk said the law was that the motion required a majority of those present and voting. If they upheld that then he would proceed to read the Returning Officer's notices.

Mr. Collinson asked if the motion was carried or not?

The Clerk said in his opinion it was. He then read the notices respecting the election.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Carse said they had among them a gentleman who had served the public long and well, and if there was an honourable position in which they could place him he was entitled to it. It was a duty and obligation they owed to him. He had pleasure in proposing that Mr. Jenkins be chairman for the next three years.

Mr. Jenkins asked if it was possible for them to do the same as they did in Urban Councils, and make a change each year! There were several gentlemen on the Board quite competent to preside.

The Clerk said it was quite competent for the Chairman to resign if he wished to do so, and another could be appointed.

Mr. Jenkins thought it would be well for the honour to go round. He advocated that three years ago.

Mr. Carse said resigning at the end of the year was a simple matter.

Mr. Collinson asked what the law was on the matter?

The Clerk said the law was that they were then to appoint a Chairman for three years, but he could resign if he thought fit at the end of the year.

Mr Robinson did not think it was necessary to have any restriction, or that there should be any understanding that whoever was appointed chairman that day should resign at the end of a year. He hoped they would get a strong chairman, and would keep him for three years. Mr. Jenkins had sat upon the Board a considerable length of time, and had been close in his attendance. He therefore seconded the election of Mr. Jenkins.

There being no other nomination Mr. Jenkins was unanimously elected.

The Chairman said he had to thank them for the honour they had done him. Although the seconder had said there ought to be no restriction he would as a matter of principle resign at the end of a year. He had advocated that principle for some time, as he thought the honours ought to go round.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr Robinson moved that Canon Ross-Lewin be elected vice-chairman.

Canon Ross-Lewin said he should prefer not to have any office.

The Chairman seconded the nomination. Canon Ross-Lewin had worked so well that he was sure it would be an advantage to appoint him.

Mr. Carse supported the nomination, and Canon Ross-Lewin said as it was the wish of the Board, and the office was a nominal one, he would accept nomination.

The motion was then carried unanimously.

COMMITTEES.

Canon Ross-Lewin, Mr. Sloane, and Mr. Collinson were appointed the Finance Committee, with Mr. Collinson as convener. As the School Committee, Mr Carse, Mr. Houliston, and Mr. Robinson were appointed, with Mr. Carse as convener.

DAY OF MEETING.

A short discussion took place with reference to the day and time of meeting, and, on the motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Collinson, it was resolved to meet at 4 o'clock on the second Tuesday, of each month.

THE SNOWDON STREET FOOTPATH.

The Clerk said with reference to the proposal to make a footpath from the back of the schools to Snowdon Street he might make an explanatory statement for the benefit of the new members. It came to the knowledge of the Board in the early part of last year that Mr. Murray was willing to treat for laying a footpath across the field, and so save the crush of children, which was getting serious, at Highgate corner. The then chairman and vice-chairman and the Clerk were appointed a committee to confer with Mr. Murray, and in July they had a letter from that gentleman offering to give them the right-of-way for £5 a year, the Board to maintain the fences and gates. As the late chairman and vice-chairman were not now on the Board he suggested that a new committee be appointed to see what arrangements could be made and report to Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Collinson asked what was really done in the first instance? Was it the unanimous opinion of the Board that the road should be procured?

The Clerk said the Board did not commit themselves to any definite resolution. They merely thought the matter was worth considering and therefore they met Mr. J. G. Murray on the land, and showed him what would suit them. In the letter they were offered a road in a straight line from the corner of the school site to the opening in Snowden Street for £5 a year, the Board to make and maintain fences on both sides and erect certain gates to allow Mr. Murray's tenants of the land to pass through, and the Board to be responsible for all damage or trespass.

Mr. Carse said the proposal was most preposterous. Mr. Murray was going to turn the Board into policemen. He moved that the matter be adjourned "sine die."

The Chairman asked if it would not be as well for a committee to see into it?

Mr. Carse said if they had a little patience the road would be a public one by-and-by. The Local Board a few years ago sold a footway through the fields and now there was a public highway. It would be the same with this path.

Mr. Robinson thought it was a matter worth consideration. The Board had not considered it as the committee never reported on it.

Mr Collinson asked if it was in the recollection of any member of the Board as to any accident having happened at Highgate?

The Chairman did not think so, but the children were very crowded there and there were often a lot of carts and waggons about.

Mr. Sloane said they did not want to lock the door after the horse had been stolen.

Mr. Houliston said it was a very dangerous place and something ought to be done

Mr. Robinson moved that Messrs Carse, Sloane, and Houliston be a committee to enquire into the matter.

Canon Ross-Lewin seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

THE MARRIED TEACHER QUESTION.

The Clerk read over the minute in reference to Miss Kinnear's retention as a teacher after her marriage to Mr. Teare, the headmaster.

Mr. Sloane asked if they were to understand that no resignation was necessary?

The Clerk said there was a resolution on the books of considerable antiquity, which indicated that marriage by a lady teacher was tantamount to resignation. The recent resolution of the Board reinstating her was therefore quite legal.

Mr. Sloane said there had been no resignation; they had had no official information. He thought they ought to have a formal resignation and then re-appoint her. That would keep them in order.

The Clerk said if the Board desired he would produce the minute he had referred to at the next meeting, but he thought asking her to continue her duties without mentioning any particular time practically reinstated her.

Mr. Carse thought it was going a little too far for an expiring Board to take such a step. That was a public matter and one that concerned them deeply. At the first inception of the School Board they decided that no married woman should be a teacher in the schools. Their contention was that a married woman who had her husband and household duties to look after could not devote her time and interests to the school. The population was dense enough, and every available opening ought to be at the disposal of those who wanted situations. He hoped they would adhere to the old rule and not allow a married woman to be a teacher in the school.

The Chairman said they had had Mrs. Teare from the beginning of the school, and she had been an excellent teacher. He thought that went a long way with the Board last month.

Mr Collinson said if there was a resolution on the minutes that no married woman should teach in the schools he would ask Mrs. Teare to resign. At the same time he would strongly support her re-appointment. She was one of the best teachers in the North of England, and probably in England. She had been there a long time and he did not see why she should not continue after the old resolution had been complied with.

Mr. Sloane proposed that the minute be produced at the next meeting. Mrs. Teare was evidently unaware of such a minute or no doubt she would have sent an intimation.

Mr. Carse said apart from all that they were not bound by the resolution of the previous Board. They were now a new Board.

The Clerk said the only way to get rid of the resolution was to give notice to rescind.

It was then agreed that the minute should be produced at the next meeting.

FINANCES.

On the motion of Mr. Carse, seconded by Mr. Robinson, cheques for salaries amounting to £156 were passed for payment.

A LOW PERCENTAGE.

The Attendance Officer's report showed that the percentage for the month was 86. He also reported that there were several cases of measles and whooping cough.

Mr. Sloane asked if the Medical Officer had been acquainted of these cases.

The Clerk said he was watching them.

Mr. Sloane thought the percentage was very low. Now that they were starting afresh he thought they ought to secure a better attendance. Twelve months ago it was 92, and 90, and even that was low. He had noticed that power was to be given to magistrates to increase the fines.

The Chairman said an Act had been passed and they would require new bye-laws.

The Clerk said the average attendance last year after the holidays was the same as at present, but during September it went up to 91.

DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

The Clerk said they would require new representatives on the Conference respecting defective and epileptic children in place of the late chairman and vice-chairman.

On the motion of Mr. Sloane, seconded by Canon Ross-Lewin, Mr. Robinson and the Clerk were appointed.

THE ELECTION BILL.

The Clerk said he had received the returning officer's bill for the recent election amounting to £26.

It was decided to hold it over for a month.

THE COTTAGE HOMES.

Mr. Carse said in reference to the Gateshead school children it was reported that there had been an Act of Parliament passed to meet cases of the kind.

The Clerk said for the present the Gateshead children would attend school at Consett. They had had a lot of correspondence, and they had come to the conclusion that under existing circumstances it would be a considerable expense to Benfieldside township to provide schools. The Education Department, presumably at the instigation of the Gateshead Guardians, wrote to him, and he informed the Department that there were upwards of 500 vacant places in other schools within two miles of the Homes. The upshot was that these children would for the present attend at Consett. Under the new Act any expense they might be put to in providing a school would have to be repaid by the Gateshead Guardians, but the School Board would have to find the money in the first instance. It was merely by that and other Boards being firm that that Act had been passed.

Mr Carse said that was very satisfactory. As that was the first meeting of the Board he thought it was absolutely necessary to have a pronouncement on the question. To have saddled the ratepayers with the cost would have been an injustice, and he was therefore glad to hear the Clerk's statement.

The meeting then terminated

THE REVISION COURTS.

STANLEY.

On Saturday last, Mr Charles Mellor, barrister, sat at the Police Buildings, Stanley, to revise the lists of voters for the parishes of Collierley and Pontop, Greencroft, Greencroft Within, Kyo, Oxhill, Stanley, and Tanfield. Mr J. W. Winter represented the Liberals, and Mr R. L. Appleford the Unionists. There was nothing of a contentious nature about the business, which passed off very quietly.

LANCHESTER.

Mr Mellor attended at the Court Room, Lanchester, on Monday morning, for the purpose of going through the voters' lists. The assistant-overseers from Cornsay, Craghead, Esh, Hedleyhope, Lanchester, Langley, Satley, South Cornsay, and South Moor attended, together with Mr Winter for the Liberals, and Mr Appleford for the Unionists.—In answer to Mr Mellor, the assistant-overseer for Cornsay said this was his first year at the work.—The Revising Barrister said that in future the assistant-overseer must send in all his lists to the Clerk of the Peace.—Two persons named Johnson and Suddes had claimed for votes, but the assistant-overseer said the printer had missed them off the list.—Mr Mellor said he could not deal with them, as they had not been sent to the Clerk of the Peace.—The business of the court was expeditiously disposed of.

BENFIELDSIDE.

On Monday afternoon, Mr Mellor sat at the Benfieldside Schools, and revised the voters' lists for Benfieldside, Consett, Ebchester, Edmondbyers, Healeyfield, Hunstanworth, Iveston, Knitsley, Medomsley, and Muggleswick. Mr Winter appeared on behalf of the Liberals, and Mr Appleford for the Unionists. — The business was purely of a formal nature.—Mr Winter raised the question of the rateable value necessary for a lodger claim. —Mr Mellor said he had fixed it at £8. He had been told that last year he allowed it at £6 10s. The barristers had a gathering before proceeding to revise the lists, and had decided that £8 must be the lowest rateable value, with a view to uniformity. — A number of new lodger claims were allowed from Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate &c.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

WAR NOMENCLATURE AT HEXHAM AND GATESHEAD.

The Revising Court for Gateshead (County), Heworth Within, Lameeley, and Whickham, all being in the Chester-le-Street Parliamentary Division, was held in the Gateshead Council Chamber, Town Hall Buildings on Friday. Mr C. Mellor sitting as revising barrister. Mr Samuel Lloyd, Sir James Joicey's newly-appointed agent, represented the Liberals, Mr J. H. Burrell the Conservatives, and Mr Henry Clayton a number of the borough freeholders.

Very few contentious cases occurred, and none of a technical nature were discussed. Lodgers' votes, when the claimants were in South Africa, were in all cases allowed by common consent, though frequently the claimant had not signed his claim. At the conclusion of business the assistant-overseers were complimented upon the manner in which they had prepared the lists, which had obviated many difficulties.

Mr Burrell drew the attention of the Revising Barrister to the fact that the name of the Right Hon. the Earl of Strathmore was on Division I. of the occupier's list, instead of on Division 3. Being a peer he would not in any case exercise the privilege.

Mr Mellor: What land does he occupy?

Mr Burrell: The whole of the land.

Mr Mellor agreed to change his lordship's name to Division 3, giving a County Council and parochial vote.

On a claim for an alteration of an address to "Spion Kop," Hexham, Mr Mellor said: Have they begun that already in Hexham?

Mr T. Watson (assistant-overseer): We have a Spion Kop in Gateshead.

Mr Mellor: I don't think Spion Kop was very creditable to British arms.

A Day at "'Appy 'Ampstead" is thoroughly enjoyed by the East End poor, as is amply proved by the immense crowds who flock there every Bank Holiday. The pure air and bracing atmosphere to be found on the breezy heights of Highgate and its neighbourhood cannot fail to benefit those who can only spend a few hours in their midst. Holidays, however, cannot be fully enjoyed by those persons who are suffering from disease. Holloway's Pills and Ointment can speedily remove this drawback to pleasure if a fair trial is only afforded them. As a cure for rheumatism, gout, fevers, diarrhœa, diseases of the skin, scrofula, ulcers, sores, burns, or old wounds they are beyond competition.

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WEDDING AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

On Saturday afternoon, a marriage in which considerable interest was evinced was solemnised at the Dipton Parish Church. The contracting parties were Miss Elizabeth Middleton, second daughter of Mr. Charles Middleton, of Delight Cottages, Dipton, and Mr. George Lawson, eldest son of Mr. Thos. Lawson, of South Medomsley Cottages. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. J. Madill, curate of Burnopfield. The bride, who was attired in violet and wore a hat trimmed with heliotrope chiffon, ospreys, and white tips, was attended by the bridesmaid Miss Sarah Wilson, of Stanley, who was dressed in brown trimmed with pale blue silk, and wore a white hat trimmed with blue chiffon and white tips; and the Misses Lottie and Lily Middleton, sisters of the bride, who wore green dresses and white hats trimmed with white silk. The best man was Mr. Thomas Lawson, brother of the bridegroom. After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, where the evening was spent in merriment. The following is a list of presents:—

Bride's father, bed.
Bride's brother and sister-in-law, gipsy table and clock.
Miss Lily Middleton (bride's sister), Dipton, looking glass.
Miss Lottie Middleton (bride's sister), Dipton, butter cooler.
Miss Sarah Wilson, Stanley, pair of vases.
Mr. and Mrs. G. Brown (cousins), Dipton, quilt, tablecloth, towels, and brass line.
Mr. and Mrs. W. Walker (uncle and aunt), Dipton, pair of sheets, pair of decanters, sugar basin, and butter cooler.
Mr. Harry Walker (cousin), Dipton, pair of bath towels.
Mrs. G. Gowan (cousin), Dipton, sugar basin, milk jug, and set of jugs.
Mrs T. Walker (cousin), Annfield Plain, box iron.
Mr. Lowan (cousin), Hare Law, sugar basin and cream jug.
Miss Donnison, Newcastle, set of china, half-dozen tea spoons, and cheese dish.
Miss Donnison and Mr. W. Donnison, Newcastle, pair of pictures and looking glass.
Leaders and members of Clarence Street Wesleyan Chapel, Newcastle, dinner set.
Miss Oxley and Miss E. Jobson, Newcastle, hair brush and comb.
Mr. Spencer, Seghill, easy chair.
Mr. Warham, Newcastle, silver teapot.
Mrs. Bruce, Newcastle, jelly dish and silver knife.
Mrs. Dawson, Newcastle pair of vases.
Misses Nancy and Nellie Potts, Newcastle, teapot.
Mrs. Slater, Newcastle, water jug.
Miss English, Newcastle, silver cruet.
Miss Craig, Newcastle, photo frame and D'oyleys.
Miss Price, Newcastle, half-dozen tea knives.
Miss Madge Eland, Newcastle, bread board.
Miss Meggie Eland, Newcastle, pair of butter stands, handkerchief case, and glass bowl.
Misses M. S. and S. Wilkinson, Newcastle, half-dozen tea knives.
Miss S. Joyce, Newcastle, half-dozen forks.
Mrs. Ridley, Stanley, tablecloth.
Mrs Moseley, Dipton, tablecloth.
Mrs Coulson, Bradley Cottages, half-dozen cups and bath towels.
Miss Gilchrist, Newcastle, fancy tablecloth.
Mrs. N. Freek, Dipton, tablecloth.
Miss F. Freek, Dipton, pair of bath towels.
Miss Isa Freek, Dipton, pair of bread plates.
Mrs. J. Graham, Dipton, set of bath towels.
Miss H. Wilson, Stanley, pair of photo frames.
Miss Jane Wilson, Stanley, water jug and glasses.
Mr. J. Forster, Daisy Hill, brass candlesticks.
Mrs. S. Rowe, Dipton, pair of ornaments.
Miss J. Rowe, Dipton, three cups and saucers.
Miss S. Wilkinson, Dipton, pair of vases.
Miss Stalker, Dipton, toilet set.
Mr. and Miss Rochester, Dipton, flower stand and pot.
Mrs. Bell, Dipton, rolling pin.
Miss B. Wells, paper rack.
Miss Barrow, Flint Hill, pair of plaques.
Miss Spinks, Dipton, pair of fans.
Misses Anna Isabella and Mary Lizzie Lawson (sisters of the bridegroom), South Medomsley, silver servers.
Miss Meggie Lawson (sister of the bridegroom), South Medomsley, pan and steamer.
Miss Gwendoline Lawson (sister of bridegroom), South Medomsley, door mat
Miss Carry Lawson (sister of bridegroom), South Medomsley, bedroom candlestick.
Mr. J. R. Lawson (brother of bridegroom), South Medomsley, bake-board.
Mrs. Howie (sister of the bridegroom), Crawcrook, whatnot.
Mr Howie (brother-in-law), Crawcrook, half-dozen knives and forks.
Mr. and Mrs. T. Lawson, Dipton, gentleman's chair.
Master Willie Lawson (nephew of bridegroom), frying pan.
Miss E. Brooks, Newcastle, gentleman's arm chair.
Mrs. T. Towns, Newcastle, cheese dish and flower pot.
Mr. J. Marrs, Consett, pair of paintings.
A friend, pair of brackets.
Mr. T. Carr, South Medomsley, kettle.
Mrs Carr, South Medomsley, pair of ornaments.
Mr. Thos. Elliott, Whickham, cup and saucer.
Mr. N. Freek, Dipton, photo frames.
Mrs. Armstrong, South Medomsley, pair of ornaments.
Mr. Armstrong, South Medomsley, pair of candlesticks.
Mr. T. Potts, Byer Moor, teapot, sugar basin, and cream jug.
Mr. Trewick, Dipton, brass stands.
Mr. I. Ledger, Dipton, pair of ornaments.
Mr. and Mrs. Richards, Dipton, pair of ornaments.
Mr. A. Kell, Dipton, bracket and ornament.
Mrs. Thompson, Dipton, butter cooler, sugar basin and cream jug.
Master Robert and Miss Lizzie Storey, Dipton, breakfast cruet.
Mrs. Barrett, Dipton, butter cooler and tea towels.
Mrs Eltringham, Dipton, teapot.
Mrs. Curry, Dipton, towels.
Mrs. Storey, Dipton, pair of views.
Mrs. Temple, South Medomsley, cream jug and sugar basin.
Miss M. A. Temple, South Medomsley, cups and saucers.
Master Temple, breakfast cruet.
Miss P. Laverick, South Medomsley, pair of plates.
Mrs. Rochester, South Medomsley, pair of ornaments and cake turner.
Mrs. Temperley, South Medomsley, butter cooler, cream jug, and sugar basin.
Mr. and Mrs. W. Alderson, South Medomsley, egg cruet.
Miss Emily Hall, Consett, cream jug and sugar basin.
Mrs. Quinn, South Medomsley, breakfast cruet.
Mrs. Elliott, Windy Hill, Whickham, fruit plate, cream jug, and sugar basin.
Mrs. Wilson, South Medomsley, jelly dish and tray cloth.
Messrs R. and Jas. Clarkson, Glasgow, set of carvers and tapestry tablecloth.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Adams, South Medomsley, pair of plaques.
Miss Dixon, South Medomsley, pair of ornaments and pie dish.
Mr. G. W. Wells, Dipton, corner bracket and ornament.
A Friend, a cheque.
A Friend, Dipton, box of varieties.
Mr. R. Logan, Flint Hill, pair poker resters.
Miss A. Murray, Pontop Pike, bath towels.
Mrs. Barnes, South Medomsley, pillow cases.
Mrs. Laverick, South Medomsley, tea towels.
Mrs. Chapman, South Medomsley, half-dozen tea towels.
Mrs. J. Kerr, South Medomsley, tea and bath towels.
Miss Shearer, Sunniside, bedroom towels.
Mr. and Mrs. Howe, Fondley Sett, table cloth.
Miss Webb, South Medomsley, towels.
Friends, towels and table cloth.
Mrs Lawson, mother of bridegroom, household articles.
Mrs. Saunders, Scotland, pair of brackets.
Mr. T. Lawson, (brother of bridegroom), parlour fender, brass fire-irons, and hearthrug.
Mrs and Mr. W Lawson, Dipton, towels, and linen bag.
Mrs. Batey, Dipton, large flower pot.
Mrs Knotts (bride's sister), Dipton, pail and brushes.
Mrs. Lock, Dipton, lamp, and sweeping brush.
Mr. and Mrs. Osman, South Medomsley, pair of decanters.
Mrs. J. Vine, Dipton, moustache cup and saucer, and two silver sugar spoons.
Mr. G. Dixon, South Medomsley, two pair ornaments.
Mrs. M. G. Allaker, Dipton, tea-pot, sugar basin, and milk jug.
Mrs. B. Willey, Dipton, two pair cake-stands.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY'S WORKMEN'S BAND IN FINE FORM.

BRILLIANT SUCCESS ON SATURDAY LAST.

The above band attended Chester-le-Street Band Contest on Saturday last. There were fourteen entries, thirteen of which competed, including West Hartlepool Boro', South Derwent, Rise Carr Rolling Mill, Milburn's Model (Middlesbro'), Cornsay Institute, Jarrow boro', Sunderland East End, Seaham Harbour, Murton Colliery, &c. Consett band were awarded first both in march and selection, also medal for best euphonioum. As soon as the Consett band played their selection they made haste to Wardley, where the championship of the Northern Counties was decided. The Consett band again made their presence felt, securing first prize, which was £10, and the 30 guinea Challenge Cup. This is the second year in succession the band have won the Championship Cup. Medals were also awarded the Consett band for best cornet, soprano and euphonium solos in the test piece.

The following record will take some rubbing off the slate for some years to come, by the bands in Great Britain:—Contests, 1900—Westwood contest, march, 1st prize; waltz, 1st prize. Marley Hill contest, march, 2nd prize; waltz, 1st prize. Hebburn contest, march, 1st prize; waltz, 1st prize. Victoria Garesfield contest, march, 1st prize; selection, 2nd prize. Wolsingham contest, waltz, 1st prize. Wingate contest, march, 1st prize; selection, 1st. Butterknowle contest, march, 1st prize; selection 1st. Witton Park contest, march, 2nd prize; selection, 2nd prize. Chester-le-Street contest, march, 1st prize; selection 1st prize. Wardley (cup contest), selection, 1st. Also, 11 gold and silver medals for best soloists.

HEDLEYHOPE.

The Colliery to be Restarted.—On Thursday Mr B. Gough (resident engineer), Mr. J. H. Smeddle, of the North-Eastern Railway, together with Mr. Charlton and Mr. Tilford (representing Sir B. Samuelson and Co., to whom the above pit belongs) met for the purpose of conferring as to arrangements in regard to the haulage plant used in connection with this colliery. It will be remembered that formerly the North-Eastern Railway Company were the owners of the haulage plant, but negotiations have, it is stated, been concluded so that the colliery from now become the possessors of the plant. The colliery to all practical purposes has been idle since the Durham strike, the working of which was abandoned on account of the slackness of trade and the cost of haulage.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!!
N. ELSDON
IS AGAIN TO THE FRONT WITH HIS
Wines, Spirits, Mineral Waters, Ales, Stout, &c.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d	6s 0d
2s 6d	3s 3d	14s 0d	7s 0d
2s 9d	3s 6d	16s 0d	8s 0d
3s 0d	3s 9d	17s 0d	8s 6d
3s 6d	4s 0d	18s 0d	9s 0d
	4s 6d	19s 0d	9s 6d
	5s 0d	21s 0d	10s 6d

RUM.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d
2s 6d	3s 6d	14s 0d
3s 0d	4s 0d	16s 0d

SHERRY.

Per ½ Gal.	Per Bot.
6s 0d	1s 6d
7s 0d	2s 0d
8s 0d	2s 6d
	3s 0d

GIN.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0	13s 0d	[illegible]
2s 6d	4s 0	16s 0d	[illegible]

HOLLANDS:—3s per Bottle.

BRANDY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
3s 0d	3s 9d	16s 0d	[illegible]
3s 3d	4s 6d	18s 0d	[illegible]
3s 6d	5s 0d	20s 0d	[illegible]
4s 0d	6s 0d	24s 0d	[illegible]
5s 0d			
6s 0d			

GINGER CORDIALS, &c., 1s 3d per Bottle.
BLACK BEER, 1s 3d.
GOOD PORT WINE, 1s 6d, 2s 3s, 4s, and 6s per Bottle.
FINE ALES (OCTOBER BREWINGS), IN BOTTLES.
PALE ALE ... 1s 6d per doz. Gills; Reputed Pints, 2s
MILD ALE ... " "
STOUT ... " "
BASS'S ALE ... 1s 9d per doz. Gills; 9-gal. Casks, 9s & 10s 6d
" " ... 2s 9d per doz. Pints; 18-gal. Casks, 18s & 21s

SEND YOUR ORDERS BY POST and the Goods will be delivered promptly by my own men. Eight Vans on the road daily.

N. ELSDON
DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS!—NEAR THE NEW CONSETT STATION.

THE WITCH OF ETHERLEIGH.

A Historical Romance of the time of Charles I.

BY THE

Rev. E. RUST, L.Th., M.A., B.D.

CHAPTER VI.

THE ARREST.

On the Friday morning following Richard's exploit of the previous week, the Vicar of Etherleigh found it necessary to send his son to town again.

The hours kept at Etherleigh parsonage were what would seem early to our modern ideas. At half-past four or thereabouts the household was astir, and by five o'clock Sue was busy with her milking, and her other farm-yard duties. The Vicar and his son always devoted the first two hours of the morning to study. For some time Richard had been too advanced to attend the Parish School, except on rare occasions when he took his father's place as teacher, but the Vicar did not for that reason allow his son's education to be neglected. Every morning from five to seven, at which time breakfast was ready, father and son would wander through the classic fields of ancient literature. Richard's classical acquaintance was confined to the Latin authors, but his education included a knowledge of the Greek Testament, and he had even ventured some little distance into the more mysterious regions of Hebrew grammar.

On this particular morning the customary two hours study was gone through, short morning prayers were read and breakfast partaken of, and then two large baskets of market produce were packed and slung on either side of the old grey pony, which Richard was to take with him to town.

"I think I will walk with you across the green Richard," said Mr. Myerscough, "I shall have abundant time before school."

So father and son walked on together engaged in pleasant conversation, whilst Dobbin placidly followed behind. They had nearly reached Old Etherleigh, and were passing through the beautiful green lane, which we have already described, and the Vicar was just on the point of turning back, when the attention of both was attracted by loud cries, apparently the shrieking of a woman in distress proceeding from the wood in front of them.

Richard seized Dobbin's bridle, and they hurried on as well as they could, until the turn of the road brought them in sight of Dame Ingleton's cottage. Outside the gate four horses were tethered to the garden fence, and one man stood apparently watching them; whilst his companions were busy in the garden, from which the cries of distress proceeded. Leaving old Dobbin to pursue his leisurely way alone, Richard rushed impetuously forward, disregarding the Vicar's command to "stop!" and sprang over the small fence, and in a moment was at the cottage door. Dame Ingleton and her niece were struggling with three men, whom Richard recognised as Sheriff's officers, by the ducal crown on their caps, whilst Ned Mallinson looked on with an evil scowl upon his countenance, as though ready to assist if required. The old woman's hands were already tied behind her back, though her torn clothes and dishevelled hair showed that it had not been without a struggle. Two men were holding Emily Ingleton whilst a third tied her hands behind her.

In a moment Richard had brought his stick down heavily upon the head of the latter, and then closing, collared him with one hand, and gave him a back fall. The two other men left their victim and charged at Richard over their prostrate comrade. The young man, nothing daunted, received the one with a blow of his stick, breaking it in half with the violence of the stroke, and met the other with a blow from his clenched fist, but himself receiving a heavy counter blow, he reeled back a few paces, and at the same moment his father who had hurried after him with all speed, threw his arm around him and held him back.

"Stop, Richard!" the Vicar cried sternly, "we must have no fighting here. Do you not see that these are the Sheriff's officers?"

"I see that they are cowardly dogs" said Richard hotly, "to molest two poor friendless women. It is well for you" he added, addressing the men, "that Johnny Armstrong is not here by my side or we'd have been more than a match for you."

The man whom Richard first attacked had by this time risen from the ground and confronted his adversary.

"Confound you and your Johnny Armstrong," he grumbled. "You shall pay for this. Do you know that you have assaulted the High Sheriff's officers in the execution of their duty? Sure as my name's Nobbs, you shall pay for this, you young varmint," and he indicated by putting his hand to his broken head, the principal item of the debit account.

"Say the word, Nobbs, and we'll make him pay it now," muttered one of the others, a big coarse-built fellow.

"My good friends," interposed the Vicar gently, "what is your charge against Dame Ingleton and her niece? Are you sure that they are the persons whom you seek?"

"Sure enough, old priest!" answered the first man. "Thee does na think we should take a job like this without a warrant, dost tha? We are sent by Sir Marmaduke Maundrell, to 'rest Dame Ingleton and her niece Emily Ingleton."

"And what is your charge against them?" asked the Vicar.

"What consarn is that of thine, owd priest?" responded the man rudely. "It's our business is that, and we'll ha no passons, nor passons' sons neither mellin wi us. She's a witch if you must know, yon owd wife," he went on, jerking his thumb over his shoulder in the direction of Dame Ingleton, "and young un's to be t'ree as well."

"They's like enough beawn to be burnt," he added in a lower voice.

"God forbid!" exclaimed the Vicar in horror. "You don't say so?"

"Aye! but I do, Maister," responded Nobbs, somewhat mollified by the visible impression that he had made. "They's beawn to be burnt."

"For God's sake lower your voice, man!" said the Vicar in an undertone. "If you have any pity in you, don't mention such a thing to these poor women; innocent I know them to be. Alas, Richard," he added turning to his son. "I had thought Sir Marmaduke was too enlightened a man to issue a warrant like this. I had hoped that we should see no more witch-burning in this county."

"Aye, but you'll see more yet, Maister, and afore 'em reet, says I," replied Nobbs heartlessly, and he turned round to his men and bade them continue their work of binding Emily Ingleton.

Richard was with difficulty restrained by his father, as he watched the operation.

"And on whose accusation is this warrant issued, may I ask?" said the Vicar.

"Nay, Maister, that's not my business, but if you ask this lad," said Nobbs, indicating Ned Mallinson, "he'll mebbes tell you."

Ned Mallinson, however, no sooner heard his name mentioned, than he hastily withdrew, having a wholesome fear of Richard's prowess, and a certain expectation of the view that he would take of the matter.

The prisoners were now ready, and Mr. Myerscough seeing this, made one more appeal.

"May I speak a few words to your prisoners, before you take them away?"

"Nay! you may not," replied Nobbs sulkily. "Thy son has warked dool eno, without thee mellin. Thee'd best gan thi own gait, and let us gan ours, Master Passon, and thy son shall cool his heels in limbo afore t' days ower, so I tell tha, for his share i' the wark."

"Come! Come!" said the Vicar, seeing that a little diplomacy was necessary, and might save very awkward consequences. "My son was too hasty, I'll admit, but he's only a lad. You must not be too hard on him. A cup of sack at the Crown and Mitre, or the Blue Bell, will set all that right, I warrant," and so saying he dropped a silver coin into Nobbs' capacious palm, which closed willingly upon it.

"A cup o' wine apiece, lads, what say ye? The gentleman's gi'en me a tester. Shall we cry quits about the lad? He's a grand hand wi' a cudgel, I mun say for such a youngster," added Nobbs, turning to the Vicar with a grim smile, a sentiment with which his companions now seemed inclined to agree.

"And, now, Master Nobbs," said the Vicar, "if you will but allow me to speak to your prisoners for a few minutes, we will not delay you longer."

This at last the constable consented to do. The prisoners were led back into the cottage, and Mr. Myerscough, taking the precaution first to send Richard on after the grey pony, which had been calmly continuing its journey to market, entered the cottage, and did his best to cheer and comfort his unfortunate parishioners, under their severe and undeserved affliction. He promised his utmost assistance in defending them, and in certifying as to their good character and conduct, and finally knelt down with them, and in a few grave and earnest words commended their cause to God.

The prisoners then without further protest delivered themselves over to their captors.

Mr. Myerscough locked up the cottage, and put the key into his pocket, promising to see that all was right in their absence. The prisoners were lifted on to the horses of two of the sheriff's officers, and the party set out for the town. Richard who was plodding along beside his pony was surprised to see his father coming along with them.

"Are you not going to the school, father?" he said, as Mr. Myerscough presently drew near.

"No, Richard," said the vicar, "for once the chidren must go and play this morning. I cannot leave these poor women, so long as I can be of any service to them. You, Richard, remain with Dobbin, and get your business done in the town as soon as you can, and let there be no words and no strife, I entreat you, as these men pass you."

So saying the vicar resumed his place beside the prisoners, and the cavalcade presently passed Richard by, not without sundry jests and jeers, which he found very hard to bear. The lad looked around furtively in the hope of seeing John Armstrong, or some other on whom he might rely for support, but no such reinforcement appeared, and Richard, with a sad heart, had to pursue his plodding way without further incident.

Meanwhile the vicar conversed with the prisoners and endeavoured to cheer them all he could. His presence was not only a great consolation to them, but as they drew near the town an absolute protection. The ignorant rabble who would have liked nothing better than to pelt or insult the supposed witches were checked by the presence of the minister with his tall and reverend figure.

At last the party clattered over the roughly cobbled street on to the town bridge, where the gaol was, to which the prisoners were to be consigned.

It was a small cell rising from one of the stone buttresses, and above it was the dwelling of the prison keeper, a room of a similar size but properly supplied with light and ventilation, of which the dark cell beneath had almost none. The vicar would have liked to see what accommodation was made for the prisoners, but the jailer, an officious surly fellow, would not allow him to enter, and refused to answer any questions.

The old woman broke out into loud cries and moaning as she entered the dark doorway which led to her prison. Emily Ingleton lingered behind for a moment to beg Mr. Myerscough, in a whisper, to let John Armstrong know what had happened.

"He was coming to see me to night," she said, "and he'll be fain and sorry when he finds our cottage shut up, and me gone to gaol; but tell him, vicar, that I have nought to be ashamed of, and do you say that we'll soon be out of this place again. Good-bye, sir, and God bless you for your kindness."

So these two women, the one so young and comely as to win many an admiring and pitying look, the other indeed old and ugly, but none the less to be pitied for her weakness and bereaved old age, were consigned to the common prison. The great door as it slammed too upon them seemed to strike on the Vicar's heart for though he had bidden the prisoners hope, and cheered them to the utmost, yet the more he thought of it, the sadder this business seemed to be. It was, he hoped and believed, impossible to believe that these women would be burnt as witches, but the gaol-fever was another and a more speedy form of execution, which they could not so well escape if their imprisonment was at all prolonged. Mr. Myerscough had never been within the 'prison on the bridge' as it was called, but he knew that it had a very bad reputation. About one-half of the prisoners consigned to it were reputed to have died of gaol distemper. People in those days knew nothing about fever germs, and the propagation of disease by their means. Now and then, in cases of plague or malignant fever, wealthy people took the precaution to burn the bedding, and roughly disinfect the chamber of the deceased, but no one, not even the most humane, dreamt of taking such measures on behalf of prisoners in the gaol.

The consequence was that when once fever had made its appearance in one of these jails, it was handed on from prisoner to prisoner for months or years. Each succeeding victim was compelled to breathe the same foul and infected air, to drink the same putrid water, to sleep in the very same bed of rotten straw, upon which the last prisoner had died. Small wonder then was it, that although the hangman and executioner were busy enough, the gaol-fever claimed far more victims, and if in some cases these victims had not yet been tried, and on trial would have been found innocent, still according to the strange morality of that day, "it could not be helped," and such accidents, however regrettable in themselves, would make men so it was thought, the more earnest to keep out of prison.

Whilst the Vicar thus meditated on the bridge, Nobbs and his companions had mounted their horses and were about to ride on.

"Good day to you, Maister Parson," they shouted.

"One moment," said the Vicar, "can you tell me Master Constable, if there is any other prisoner confined in there?"

"No," said Nobbs, "the last un was fetched out feet fo'mmost, a month come Monday. He were a sheep stealer, a girt (great) buirdly fellow. It's allus the strong uns that it catches the warst. They owd women is more usened to foul smells, and such en like," he added reassuringly, "Good day, Maister," and he and his companions clattered off noisily.

The information thus obtained was, to a certain extent, satisfactory. Mr. Myerscough's two unfortunate parishoners, at any rate, had not to share their prison with some hardened criminal, as might have been the case, or with a fellow prisoner already dying of the gaol distemper. If their imprisonment was only a short one, all might still be well, and Mr. Myerscough was resolved to use every effort on their behalf. His first step was to call upon Sir Marmaduke Maundrell, the Borough Reeve.

The Vicar found Sir Marmaduke taking his morning draught. The good Knight lustily called for a cup of sack for his visitor, and bade him be seated, and would listen to nothing until the Vicar, very much against his will, had joined him in his potations.

Sir Marmaduke was a jovial, hospitable soul, fond of good eating and good drinking, which propensities, thanks to the advantage of his birth and position, he had been able to indulge almost every day of his life since he came to man's estate.

In consequence his bodily presence was by no means contemptible, but his mental faculties were somewhat obtuse, and his administration was only redeemed from serious faults by the blundering good nature that always characterised it.

The preliminary cup of sack having been disposed of, Mr. Myerscough proceeded to relate part of what had happened that morning.

"And now, your worship," said the Vicar, when he had succeeded in impressing the matter upon Sir Marmaduke, "These women are parishioners of mine, and members of my church. I know them to be perfectly innocent and harmless. How came it then that these constables had your orders to arrest them?"

"Nay Master Myerscough," protested the Knight, "if these women be innocent, it is not my fault. They will have their fair trial in due course, I doubt not; and if there is naught against them, why then they will be set free, and no harm done."

"No harm done, Sir Marmaduke?" replied the Vicar sternly. "Truly there may be no harm done, if they are not both of them poisoned to death in that vile hole, and die there of the gaol fever. I fear, indeed, your worship, there is very great harm done, and will be more if some bestir not themselves in this matter."

"Why, indeed, Master Myerscough," replied the Knight somewhat peevishly, "I do not see that aught can be done. I had the warrant of two magistrates for what I did. It irketh me that I pleased ye not, and i' faith, the business was not done with my good will. I would fain have denied that paltry prating fellow, Master Jonas Preechem, but I saw not how I might well compass it. They had the warrant of two magistrates as I say, and sworn affidavits against the women, and a lad with them, an ugly lout indeed, that had been bitten by the one of these witches in the likeness of a black dog."

"That would be Ned Mallinson. The mischievous wicked lad," the Vicar exclaimed.

"Yes, indeed, I think that was the name," said the Knight, "and a dour and evil one he looked. I liked not his looks. But what matter? I could do no other but execute the warrant on such an information."

"For myself, I fear no witch," went on the Knight in a burst of confidence, tapping his broad breast as he spoke, "for I carry here an amulet, a finger nail of St. Awdrey, which my grandsire wore before me in the days of good King Hal. Never a witch can fight against a charm like that. And by my faith, Sir Vicar, I would have all witches and warlocks and such like, left to mother church to deal with, as then they were. They're kittle folk for magistrates to meddle with. Give me the good old days, when you could go to the priest, and get an amulet or a charm for a trifle that would cure you against all witches."

"There is no better amulet, believe me, Sir Marmaduke," replied the Vicar, amused in spite of himself at the Borough Reeve's garrulity, "than to have the fear of God in one's heart and a clean life. If you have but that, you need fear no witch."

"Nay, Sir Vicar," responded the Knight, "there I go not wholly with you. A clean life and the fear of God are well enough, but not enough, I trow, to keep a man from witchcraft."

"Well, well! Sir Marmaduke," responded the Vicar, not wishing to argue the point, "you may be right. But these are no witches I assure you, and they who have accused them have wrought great wrong."

(To be continued.)

A DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER'S DILEMMA.

A True Story.

Cases come before the notice of the public nearly every day, wherein doctors are at an entire loss to afford relief to some poor sufferer. So frequent have such cases become, that a great number of people have altogether lost faith in the medical profession. Miss Mary Mure, of 345, Liverpool Street, Darlinghurst, Sydney, has a story to tell that aptly illustrates the above assertion. This young lady is the daughter of the late Dr. Alexander Mure, of Wellington, N.Z., a man who was highly esteemed, both personally and professionally. "Five years ago," began Miss Mure, on being asked to give an account of her illness, "I commenced to suffer severely from that tired feeling that we hear so much about. I would always feel languid, and did not seem to have any energy or ambition. About the same time I was assailed by severe headaches that were most distressing, causing me great annoyance and inconvenience, and intense suffering. In fact, I had never known before that a headache could be so severe. Although I felt very ill indeed I concluded that the attack was only a temporary affair, and would soon be over. I saw a doctor, who said I had liver complaint. Far, however, from getting over it in a short time, as I expected, I continued to get worse and worse; my appetite disappeared completely; I wasn't able to eat anything except rice water and rolled oats. In the morning when I got up I could not partake of any breakfast at all. My sleep, too, was very poor and unrefreshing. I would toss about the greater part of the night, and arise in the morning unrefreshed, and heavy-headed. A feeling of despondency took possession of me, and I always was in a state of discontent, nervous anxiety and suspicion of all my surroundings. I continued to grow worse and worse; my sight became affected, and I could not read ordinary newspaper type; in fact, I could hardly use my eyes at all. I now became quite alarmed at my condition, and consulted another doctor. Since that time, I have consulted no less than four doctors, and they have prescribed for me many different medicines, all of which, however, absolutely failed to give me any relief. I got very white in the face, and I had no colour whatever, and the smell of anyone smoking near me would nauseate me exceedingly, and cause violent retching. Now," continued Miss Mure, after a short pause, "I have never had much faith in patent medicines, nevertheless I did at this time try several much-advertised nostrums, but they, like the doctors' prescriptions, did me no good. I may also tell you that I had plenty of change during that time, travelling a great deal, but that change of air doctors so often recommended for cases such as mine did not benefit me at all. Well, about eleven months ago I came to Sydney, still in a very frail state, as I had lost a lot of weight, and was quite thin. I had almost despaired of ever getting well again, so bad had my condition become. I was now a martyr to constipation, in addition to my other numerous ills. Early in the summer a lady friend recommended Charles Forde's Bile Beans for Biliousness, and I tried them, without believing they would do me any good. I thought they were like nearly everything else, good only for minor attacks of small complaints, and utterly useless in cases of such long standing as mine. Well, really, I was never more surprised in my life. After the first box there was a noticeable improvement, the headaches became less severe, and the constipation did not trouble me so much. Of course, I continued taking them, following the directions, and after three or four boxes I found I had entirely regained my normal health. I sleep well at night, in fact, I never slept better than I do now, and my appetite is most satisfactory, really exceptionally good. I have regained my colour, and am now healthy in every respect. (She certainly looked it.) My friends are surprised and delighted at my recovery. There is no doubt at all, "that Charles Forde's Bile Beans alone effected the cure in my case."

It is a good thing to remember that Bile Beans are an undoubted specific for biliousness, headache, indigestion, debility, female ailments, liver trouble, costiveness, influenza, piles, etc. Bile Beans were introduced into England with the thorough belief that they would become shortly as well known and used in the country of their discovery. This expectation has been more than realised, as hundreds of cures continue to pour into the English Office, the rich and poor alike benefitting by this great discovery. The proprietors have yet to find a case of Biliousness or defective digestion that Charles Forde's Bile Beans will not help. If difficulty is experienced in getting the genuine Bile Beans, the Bile Bean Manufacturing Co. will send a box from their English Depot, 119 and 129, London Wall, on receipt of price, one shilling and three halfpence, or two shillings and nine pence, in stamps or postal order.

CONSERVATIVE MEETING AT BLAYDON.

In connection with the Chester-le-Street Division Conservative and Unionist Association, an open-air meeting was held near the Railway Station, Blaydon, on Tuesday week. Mr. P. Thompson, of Gateshead, presided, and was supported by Messrs. J. H. Moore, Geo. Nicholson, J. Turner, J. Hawdon, Blaydon; Mr. G. Parkin, Ryton, and others. There was a large attendance. An interesting address on "Current Politics" was given by Mr. Thomas Fielding, of Manchester. The present was, he said, a very exciting time, and there was some reason to believe that the general election would be in the near future. It behoved every man to think the matter over, and vote according to his best judgment. Speaking of the work of the Government since 1895, he said many of the Acts passed were capable, as they were intended, to settle difficulties of the commercial and industrial classes. He spoke at length on the present war in South Africa, and observed that the struggle might have been ended before now but for the actions of certain men, who after having sworn allegiance to our Queen, had actually betrayed their country. What did they think of traitors of that kind? Though principally because of traitors, we had not been successful in all the battles, yet the skill and bravery of the British soldiers and officers had during the whole of the engagements been as brilliant and as satisfactory as they have been in any other battle in the history of the world. (Applause.) Mr. Felding also referred to the Conciliation and Compensation Acts, and at the close of his address answered satisfactorily a number of questions. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks.

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THE GENERAL ELECTION.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM DIVISION.

MANIFESTO BY MR. ATHERLEY-JONES, M.P.

SOUTH AFRICAN POLICY.

Important Address.

On Thursday night last Mr. Atherley-Jones Q.C. M.P., addressed a meeting of the Council of the North-West Durham Liberal Association in the Small Hall of the Consett Town Hall, when he laid before them a carefully prepared indictment of the policy of the present Government. Mr. Jonathan Green, J.P., West Stanley, President of the Association, occupied the chair and there were representatives present from every polling district in the division. The hon. member was accompanied by Sir William Geary, Bart., (Kent,) Mrs. Atherley-Jones, Mr. Egbert Atherley-Jones, Miss Andrew, London, Miss Weigall, London, and the Misses Peile. Mr. J. W. Winter, secretary, said he had received letters of apology from Mr. W. Logan, J.P., Mr. H. C. Wood, Mr. Ripley (Castleside,) and Mr. and Mrs. Pumphrey.

The Chairman said he thought they were all pretty well alive to the fact that an election might spring upon them in the course of a few weeks and therefore they were now gathering themselves together for the battle. He believed they were pretty certain of winning a victory as they had done before. (Hear, hear.) He did not think Mr. Jones' majority would fall below what it was in 1895, indeed, they had every reason to believe that instead of being decreased it would be increased. They did not think the electors would be gulled over the war. There were two sides to that question, and they also believed that the country was now waiting for home legislation. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Atherley-Jones M.P., who on rising was received with enthusiasm, said: I must express my deep sense of obligation to you, gentlemen, individually and collectively, for having at my instance met together in order to receive from me an exposition of my views upon our duties, our opinions, and our purposes as members of the Liberal party. (Hear, hear.) This is no ordinary occasion, and you are no promiscuous gathering; upon your inaction or action as the responsible leaders and guides of public opinion throughout this division will depend the result of the coming electoral contest; your inactivity and indifference will spread like a blight over those who have followed you to past triumphs, your zeal and enthusiasm will fire their energies and enable us to repeat with even more marked results the triumphs of '85, '92, and '95. I say this is no ordinary occasion, we are on the eve of an appeal to the judgment of the country. It is not for me to express a definite opinion as to when the election will take place. Apparently even the leaders of the Liberal party are in the dark as to when it is to take place. On the whole I think the course of recent events leads us rather to the conclusion that it will take place probably in the month of October. The Liberal Party which but for one brief and stormy period has been since July, 1886, excluded from power is awaiting that decision of the electorate which may add another term of 5 or 6 years political impotence, or if the fates be propitious may enable us to again become the active instruments for promoting the public welfare. Probably at no previous electoral contest during the present reign have the mass of the electorate had a less clear conception of the true issues and consequences of the impending election. There is confusion of thought and chaos of opinion, passion and prejudice usurp the position of reason and judgment. Ancient watchwords and noble sentiments are applied to projects which bear only a superficial resemblance to those great causes with which they are historically associated—Patriotism, a sentiment consecrated to the genius of a great people that has maintained its liberties and vindicated its just rights against the world, is employed as a catch-word to justify and glorify that aggressive imperialism which is at once the instrument and the protector of the greedy and unscrupulous adventurer. The custodian and guardian of national prestige is no longer the public conscience, but the banker and the financier of Lombard Street, who dictate to a pliant ministry and a subservient Parliament the policy of our empire, and the masses of our people see only our national flag heedless of the cause in which it is carried or that the standard bearer is a company promoter who has adopted it as the trade mark of a joint stock company. It is this confusion of thought and this mis-application of terms that has wrought havoc with the spirit of discipline and unity among Liberals. We are on the verge of an electoral conflict when the words "patriotism," or "empire," or "national honour," will be invoked as the battle-cry of the Conservative party. Against these seductive phrases which they have fraudulently stamped upon their spurious wares whose true descriptions are international isolation, aggressive imperialism, and that blatant jingoism, we have only our principles to fall back upon. But they are principles which have secured for us many notable triumphs in the cause of civilisation, of commerce, and national contentment. (Cheers.) The flag of the Liberal party whose motto is "Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform," —(cheers)—has woven upon it the memorable victories of "free trade," "religious equality," and "political freedom." (Cheers.) Our principles are liberty and justice, liberty and justice which carry us beyond the confines of these shores and confronts with equal fortitude the proudest Empire and the puniest State. Let us then, gentlemen, use our influence and prevail upon our fellow Liberals to be steadfast to the great principles of liberty and justice and patiently enquire whether the actions which our political opponents attempt to vindicate under the names "Patriotism," "Our Empire," and our "National Honour" will stand the test of the principles of liberty and justice. Let us bear in mind the same Conservatives invoked the "Altar and the Throne" against "religious equality," our "ancient constitution" against the enfranchisement of the masses, "fair trade" against "free trade," which crowds our ports with the merchant navies of the world, and have prostituted our National Anthems of "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the Queen" to mean and narrow interests of a political party. And so, gentlemen, when we proceed to criticise the policy and administration of this war we shall be met by the charge of unpatriotism, we shall be assailed with epithets from their inexhaustible treasury of abuse; but have we not the right and the duty to enquire and criticise? Is a little coterie of mediocrities dominated by the masterful and resolute mind of a political chameleon entitled to claim apostolic infallibility upon the issues of peace and war? The Government have to justify the cost of this war. The £100,000,000 of public money which you and your posterity will have to pay, the 30,000 maimed, crippled, and debilitated men who are now returning to those homes which a few short months ago they left in the full glory of health and strength, the 10,000 dead men who now lie mouldering in nameless graves unhallowed by the pious care of friend or kin—this is the cost of the war and we are entitled, nay we are bound to insist, that Mr. Chamberlain and his colleagues shall either justify this tremendous expenditure of public money, this appalling sacrifice of human life, this desolation of happy homes, or that they shall incur the wholly inadequate penalty of being dismissed with ignominy from the service of their Queen and country. (Cheers.) Let me however, utter one word of warning. Do not let our opponents put upon us the issue of this election. We are the challengers and arraigners of their policy, and it is we, not they, who are entitled to lay down the issue. They will tell you that this was an inevitable war, they will tell you it was vindicative of the might and power of the British Empire, that it was in defence of your fellow-countrymen against oppression and extortion. They will masquerade before you with flags and trumpets and all the tinsel pageantry of war and will seek to confound Mr. Chamberlain with Lord Roberts and the motley crowd of speculators, Jew and Gentile with the sturdy British Colonist. No gentlemen the issue is ours, and we will state it. We will not condescend to discuss the question of inevitability. For my part I believe there is no blunder, however gross and deplorable, from which its author does not seek immunity on the ground of inevitability, and I decline to admit that word into the language of diplomacy; but let it be conceded that your diplomacy was so ill conducted, that your diplomatists were "prentice hands" from Birmingham, and conciliation became utterly impossible, then we charge you that you utterly failed to realise or appreciate the true position of affairs. You carried on your negotiations on the basis that an accommodation might be effected and permanent unity be established between Great Britain and the Transvaal if the British settlers in the goldfields were relieved from their political and commercial grievances, and it was only when through blundering your negotiations failed and war commenced that you suddenly discovered or affected to discover that the Transvaal had intended to oust British supremacy from South Africa. You only discovered that the armaments which Lord Rosmead in 1896 told you, and I will read his despatch were merely defensive, had in view the subversion of British authority in South Africa. This despatch was written in 1896:—"Transvaal Republic and Orange Free State Burghers are making military preparations, and I learn that Boers residing on borders of Cape Colony and Natal are also arming, but the movement so far as I can gather is defensive and not offensive. Boers generally believe that recent raid was, if not instigated, at all events connived at, by H.M.'s Government, and that an attack upon their independence will be renewed on the first favourable opportunity. I believe, however, from information received that there is no truth in the statements to which you refer as to their intention to proclaim independence and cancel London Convention. I can learn nothing as to report of a new defensive and offensive alliance between the Transvaal Republic and Orange Free State. By existing treaty they are bound to assist each other in event of attack from exterior. You may rely on my keeping you informed of all existing facts, but the air is full of baseless rumours which are circulated for interested motives, and which I do not trouble you with." Gentlemen, let it be imprinted in your minds that this view of Lord Rosmead was the view of the Government during the whole time from the Jamieson Raid in 1895 until diplomatic effort was over. They knew the Boers were arming, they knew the importation of Krupp guns and Mauser rifles—the provision of all the necessary equipment of war and they acquiesced. If they did not believe Lord Rosmead then why in the name of all that is reasonable did they not challenge the Boers, why did they not say why this armament, it can be for no other purpose than that of the invasion of our British Colonies and the establishment of Dutch supremacy in South Africa. Let us, however, accept the declared view of the Government, let us assume that the Boers intended to violate British territory and overthrow British power then I charge this Government with the monstrous negligence of permitting these munitions of war to be conveyed into the Transvaal, of allowing the Transvaal to develope into a formidable military power, capable not only of holding its own against the British garrison in South Africa, but of invading British territory, of driving 30,000 British soldiers through months of intolerable hardship and suffering, to shelter themselves within the narrow confines of besieged towns as the only alternative to destruction or surrender. In the heroism and undaunted courage of our soldiers during the sieges of Ladysmith, Kimberley, and Mafeking is to be found the only consolation for a national humility to which the history of a great empire offers no equal parallel other than when a mighty army of the Roman Republic passed with bowed heads beneath the inverted spears of a barbarian horde. Need I say a word about the inadequacy of our artillery, against the overpowering ordnance of a handful of Dutch farmers when the only escape from the capitulation of Ladysmith was to be found in the happy inspiration of a naval officer who dismantled the battery of a British warship in order to preserve a British army, need I say a word as to the astounding ignorance and presumption that found expression in the statement of the Colonial Secretary that 30,000 British soldiers could do in a few weeks what 200,000 men, regulars, militia, yeomanry, volunteers, and colonials have failed to effectively complete in 12 months? Need I dilate upon the sufferings of our sick and wounded, aggravated a thousand fold by the criminal neglect of duty on the part of those to whom you have entrusted the duties of government. No, gentlemen, it is unnecessary for me to argue the ultimate justice or injustice of this war. Amid the roar of artillery, the blare of trumpets, and the roll of drums, the still small voice of reason is inaudible, but when the last salvo of artillery has been fired, when the final funeral march has been played over those gallant men who have fought with the same courage that their fathers fought at Inkerman, and the Redan, then reason in the pages of history will pen the sad story of this war, whose triumphs will be the unique record in the annals of our Empire, that we Englishmen took away from men of our own race and religion, the sturdy Nether Teuton stock, that which to us is as precious as the air we breathe, the sacred right of self government at the sinister mandate of a group of stock exchange speculators, and gold field directorate, under the directions of a successful adventurer who did not disdain to delude his fellow countrymen to their death, and stain the fair fame of his country in the piratical enterprise called the Jameson raid, and that he directed from the luxurious security of his own country home. Let then the issue of this election be that the government, whether this war be just or necessary, or inevitable or no, has been guilty of gross, palpable and monstrous blunders, that they entered upon the enterprise without reckoning or knowing the cost, with a reckless disregard of every rule of reason, and every principle of statesmanship. Some of you may possibly enquire what is your policy for the future, if wrongs have been committed how will you redress them, what has been done cannot be undone. No, gentleman, it is true you can never restore to the bereaved mother the gallant boy who was the light of her eyes, you can never rekindle the fire on the hearth of what was once a happy homestead but is now a blackened ruin on the desolate veldt, nor, gentleman, now that you have destroyed the whole fabric of a national existence, can you with safety to future peace and security restore their free institution to a people animated by implacable resentment against their conquerors. For my part I can only dare to hope that the Liberal party, true to its great traditions as the champions of human liberty may be enabled by you to adopt a policy of conciliation, and thus by degrees reconcile the Boers to the altered condition of their national existance. But depend upon it so long as your Colonial office is controlled by Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Chamberlain is inspired by Sir Alfred Milner, and Sir Alfred Milner is the pliant tool of Mr. Rhodes and the South African league, so long will peace be maintained in the Transvaal by the sole agency of British bayonets. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have dwelt upon our South African policy no longer I hope than the greatness of the topic necessitated. I turn now with a lighter heart, but I confess with no sense of greater satisfaction than that which one feels in gloating over the follies and vices of our foes. Gentlemen, it is satisfactory to note the industrial and commercial prosperity of this country. It does not detract from that satisfaction that our political opponents are continually in public turning up the whites of their eyes and thanking a merciful providence that a Tory Government has been in power during the development of this prosperity and accordingly persuaded a deluded populace to believe that they are specially appointed by Providence to successfully cater for the British Empire. Gentlemen, upon what does the commerce of the country depend? It depends mainly upon the activity and industry in other countries. It is not to the slothful and inert populations of effete and decayed states that we look for a market for our goods, it is to the busy and enterprising nationalities of the old and new world. Secondly, we depend upon the sense of security, the maintenance of peace, and the cultivation of good will between this and other nationalities. (Hear, hear.) Happily the first condition is independent of the action of our present Government. At no period during the present century has there been more enterprise and expansion in the industrial and commercial development of the great nations of the earth than during the last six years. But as to the second condition has there been any equal period since the Crimean war when there has been greater insecurity, more frequent alarm, more serious international crises? We have been on the verge of war with Germany, France America and Russia, the prudence of a patriotic French minister saved us from one war, unconditional submission to the mandate of the United States over the Venezuelan question preserved us from another, ignominious capitulation to the arrogant pretensions of Russia in the far east arrested at the last moment the hoisting of the war pennant on our battle ships, while it is probable that the personal intervention of our venerable sovereign alone saved us from armed retaliation for the insolent affront of the German Emperor in his telegram to President Kruger. If we have not been actually engaged in conflict with any of the great powers there is not a quarter of the globe in which our troops have not been fighting with native races as the result of our aggressive imperialism, and at the present moment we are engaged in the greatest war which this country has ever entered upon. If we need further proof of the unhappy international relations we have it in the humiliating and mournful admission of Lord Salisbury in a speech he made some few weeks ago that save Italy we have not a friend among the European powers. Happily the ineptitude of governments cannot stay the upward march of civilisation. The improved state of our national revenue commenced with the last year of the Liberal administration in 1895; in 1896 the Tory Government had a surplus of £5,811,822 over the estimated revenue of the year, in 1897 £3,469,885, in 1898 £3,570,000, in 1899 £1,226,193. What became of these magnificent surpluses? Were they applied as they should have been to liquidating the gigantic public debt? No, gentlemen, our national expenditure which in 1894 when the Liberals were in power stood at £91,302,846 rose year by year till in 1899 it reached the unprecedented figure of £108,815,055. But that is not all, for this government, in addition to absorbing the whole of this current income, in addition to the increase of our income-tax has been continually raising fresh wars, and has now involved you and your posterity in a charge which at a moderate estimate we think will be £100,000,000 and probably a great deal more for the war in South Africa. Had they employed their increased resources in works of public beneficence, in providing pensions for the aged and infirm, in the development of our national system of education, in helping the agricultural labourer to attain a happier condition, in rescuing the urban population from the slums of fever and filth in which they struggle for existence, we could extenuate the heavy burden of taxation and demonstrate our gratitude to a ministry which commands the greatest parliamentary majority of the present reign. But gentlemen if they have raised any burthen, it is not your burthen, it is not the struggling tradesmen or the toiling labourer, the only classes to which they extended a helping hand was the landlord, whom they relieved from his rates, and the parson, whom they relieved from his taxes. (Cheers.) The melancholy fact is that this immensely increased volume of expenditure is devoted not to extend the area of human happiness and morality, not to develope the latent resources of civilisation but to increase and perfect the instruments of destruction. Your naval and military expenditure has increased from £33,327,475 in 1894, to £43,996,949 in 1899, and this remember is in addition to your war expenditure, which is rapidly approaching £100,000,000, and in addition to special funds created by way of an increased debt for our navy and naval defences. Do not misunderstand me, the golden age has not yet arrived, the day of universal peace of which the Brussels conference was to be the glad harbinger, is as yet far distant, nay, that conference was but a masque of demons of war in the white robes of angels of peace and good will. (Laughter and hear, hear.) But, gentleman, I suggest to you that this increase of expenditure is mainly due not to the ordinary and normal requirements of a great empire, but rather to that aggressive imperialism, the consequences of which Lord Salisbury has ingenuously depicted in the attitude of the great powers to our country. We are proud of our navy, we desire it should be maintained in a condition of absolute efficiency, but it is contrary to the traditions, it is outside the necessities of our Empire that we should maintain a large standing army. Save on the northern frontier of India we are invulnerable to land attack, our Colonies and our possessions and our shores find their guardians in the battleships of England. It is only when our aggressive imperialism leads us on to follies such as those of setting up what are called spheres of influence, where we make a proper appropriation of a great tract of territory, and without being able to make any effective occupation ourselves, assert against all the world an indisputable right to territory where the only symbol or token of our authority are a few toy flags. Such was the origin of the Fashoda incident that nearly plunged this country into war with France, attacks upon the territorial integrity of China succeeded by a policy of scuttle, the wanton violation of solemn promises to respect the independence of the hill tribes of the North of India, involving us in one of those little wars in which we lost men and money, and gained neither moral nor material advantage. It may startle some of you but at the same time it is absolutely true that including our regular, militia, auxiliary, and colonial forces we have nearly a million soldiers throughout our Empire. With the exception of our home and Indian armies they are mostly used for police purposes, and much of the cost of their maintenance is put upon the British Exchequer. But while our regular army, militia and volunteers, comprising some 600,000 men costs no less an annual sum than £20,000,000. The German army amounting to no less than 1,600,000 armed men, costs only £30,000,000, that is to say with an effective army three times as large as our regular and auxiliary forces combined she only spends half as much again upon their maintenance in the highest possible state of efficiency. Nor does it end thus. Germany with a revenue of £70,000,000 against your £108,000,000, can afford to spend £4,000,000 in providing pensions for the aged and infirm which this beneficent Government, despite its promises at the General Election, will not contribute one farthing to. Gentlemen, in this disparity of expenditure between the German and British armies, and comparisons might be multiplied, have I not said enough to justify the observation that there is a wanton and wicked waste of money on our National Defence. I have dwelt necessarily at some length with our foreign policy and matters relating thereto, and I feel I have little time to refer to domestic policy. I cannot, however, avoid a passing reference to one or two topics upon which I know that you and those you represent take a keen and natural interest. The question of Old Age Pensions has evoked of recent years a large measure of public interest, and great practical importance was given thereto by the deliberate promise of the leading members of the present Government, and notably Mr. Chamberlain at the last General Election, that they would introduce without delay a scheme by which provision should be made partially out of State funds for the maintenance of those who by reason of age or decrepitude were past work. Gentlemen, it is a noble and beneficent idea, and has been acted on in Germany with marked success. Remember it is not a pauperising scheme, it is not a great national charity organisation, the principle of the scheme is that those who have, during the prime of life, obtained by honest industry, their livelihood, but owing to the conditions of human society been unable to accumulate wealth, should as the due reward of honest toil be entitled to enjoy an old age if not of absolute competence at least comparative comfort. Gentlemen such a scheme should be, and I think would be, an encouragement to thrift. The weekly wage-earner, earning his 15 to 20 shillings a week, has not the wherewithal to save, and even those who have a larger income, that of the miner and the artisan, cannot under ordinary circumstances even by the utmost thrift and self-denial accumulate sufficient to support themselves in old age, but let them feel that the State will afford them the nucleus of an income, the inducement to save is multiplied a hundred fold, for they will recognise that the addition made by the State to their own savings will make all the difference for their old age between dependence upon public or private charity and independent competence. The Conservative party committed a deliberate fraud upon the Electorate of this country when, not merely in their speeches, but in their published manifestoes, they promised in 1895 that if returned, to power they would establish a legislative system old age pensions. They have not only failed to fulfil that promise, but they have made no attempt to do so, and deliberately obstructed the efforts in that direction of the private member belonging to the Liberal party. There is another question of urgent public importance, and that is "overcrowding." Remember it does not exist in the towns alone, it is to be found in the country also. According to the official Labour Statistics of this year there were, when the last census was taken, no less than 481,653 overcrowded tenements in England and Wales containing a population of 3,258,044 of which 90,433 were tenements in rural districts containing a population of 685,632. Reflect upon this startling fact that 3 and a quarter millions of our fellow creatures are living in England and Wales herded like swine under conditions prolific of disease and physical decay. Gentlemen, this evil of overcrowding can never be cured until land is cheap, —(hear, hear)—you may give to local authorities the fullest possible power, but as long as they are compelled to purchase land at the extravagant price the landlord or the landlord's law dictates, so long will it be impossible to provide for the ever growing wants of the teeming millions of our industrial and labouring classes. Again five years of legislative inactivity on the part of a Government controlled by the land owners of the country. To some of you here the temperance question is very precious. I am not a fanatic, nor an enthusiast, but I am speaking the thoughts of every reflecting man and woman when I say that the public house is the reservoir of depravity, poverty, and crime. (Cheers.) When I saw that the men who own and control our public houses—with rare exceptions—are as much the enemies of the State as the men who draw the sword against religion. Morals, politics, domestic or foreign, are with them no account, their sole test of merit in a Parliamentary candidate is whether or no you are prepared to support their hideous monopoly. That is the question they propound to every candidate, and upon it their votes depend. Church and State, even the monarchy itself counts for nothing in the balance against the sordid and narrow interests of their trade. I assert that it is a political infamy that this Government has allowed five years of undisputed power to pass by without making some effort, however slight, to mitigate the horrors and the sorrows of intemperance. Gentlemen, why are there and many great domestic evils untouched? It is because the land-owner and the brewer are the dominating power in the Conservative party. It is abhorrent to the nature of these two classes that they should work for the public good and therefore, your only resort is to appeal from the party of all the interests to the party of all the principles. (Cheers.) The Liberal party has given no hostages to the brewer or the landlord, and if you be sincere—as I know you are—to seek a remedy for these national evils, it is to the Liberal party you will turn for succour. (Cheers.) I know, as I said at the commencement of my observations, that probably within the next few weeks we shall be in this constituency again fighting the battle of the Liberal cause. You have done me the honour—an honour of which I may say without insincere modesty I can never be sufficiently grateful—of asking me to uphold the flag of the party. I ask you not to despair of the Liberal party. (Hear, hear.) I ask you not to believe in the many mendacious slanders that are scattered broadcast throughout the country that the Liberal party is dis-united. It is the genius of every inquiring mind, and the mind of a Liberal was an inquiring mind, to differ with his fellow on particular topics, upon methods, and upon the application of principles, but upon principles and material matters I say, speaking for Lord Rosebery on the one hand and Mr. John Morley on the other, they are as one. (Cheers.) We are not certainly in the advantageous position of possessing a powerful minority in the House of Commons, and in the House of Lords, the Lord have mercy on us. (Laughter and cheers.) But I believe this, that if the country awakens from the delirium, and I believe it is rapidly awakening from that delirium, if the country has regard not to the ephemeral passion of the hour; if the Liberal party be true to the great principles which are, or ought to be, engraved in the heart of every true Liberal, then I have no fear of the result of this election. I speak not only of this division but of the country. Mr. Asquith shares the opinion that we may look not only with undaunted front but in the hope and sure belief that when the signal for battle sounds and the issue is decided we shall stand in a position strong enough to undertake the affairs of this country. (Cheers.) I conclude as I began. I thank you, Mr. Green, who I am delighted to see occupying the position of president of the North-West Durham Association. This is the first public opportunity I have had of congratulating you, but I do not congratulate you so much as our many friends here because I know Mr. Green will say what he thinks and think what he says and that he will be instinct with active energy for the promotion of our interests. (Hear, hear.) I thank you most heartily for your attendance here this evening. I may not have delivered a stirring speech but I was desirous of laying before you my views and I may express the wish that those views have not proved unacceptable in North-West Durham. (Loud cheers.)

At this stage Mr. Green had to leave and the chair was taken by Mr. J. Palliser (Blackhill,) who said he had had unbounded pleasure in listening to perhaps one of the best political speeches he had ever heard in his life. He thought it was well to be honest. He was no lover of Kruger nor of the Boers, but all the same he thought the Government from the beginning had bungled the whole affair. He thought Mr. Jones' views when they come before the constituency would be found to be so clear and distinct that they would have a great effect. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. R. C. Foster, Consett, moved a resolution thanking Mr. Jones for his speech and expressing renewed and, if it were possible, increased confidence in him as their representative in the coming fight. He certainly thought the indictment Mr. Jones had just given them of the present Government was a most crushing one and that the case had been made out with clearness and thoroughness. In some instances there had been too much of the white feather shown among Liberals, but he was happy to say there was none of that about Mr. Jones. If their principles were what they had always taken them to be and what they still believed them to be they would find their way to the top and to the front, and they would be in power for the purpose of doing a great work.

Dr. Morison, Catchgate, briefly seconded the motion.

Mr. Barron, Cornsay Colliery, in supporting said they at their colliery had been watching the action of Mr. Jones very closely and they were still watching. In doing that they felt they were just doing what all Liberals ought to do. So far as the miners were concerned the name of Jones had for long been held dear, and the man who held that name now was bound to keep himself on the side of the workers to be true to those he was descended from. They would see that they always gave him one of the highest honours they could by appointing him as one of their representative speakers at their annual demonstrations. Whenever Mr. Jones rose in the House of Commons they felt they had a man of whom North-West Durham could be proud. They felt they had a man against whom no charge of disloyalty either to his country, his constituency, or his Queen could be made. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. Carss, Benfieldside, also supported the resolution which was then put and carried unanimously and with acclamation.

Mr. Jones having briefly replied, the proceedings terminated.

MR. JONES AT SOUTH MOOR.

On Tuesday night Mr Atherley-Jones, Q.C., M.P., addressed a meeting in the Miners' Hall, South Moor. Mr E. Kirtley presided over a large audience, and was supported on the platform by Sir Wm. Geary Bart., Mrs Atherley-Jones, Mr Egbert Atherley-Jones, Miss E. Weigall, London, Miss Constance Andrew London, Coun. Smith, Coun. Forster, Mr Blyth, Mr J. Davison, and Mr J. W. Winter (Liberal agent.) The Chairman very briefly opened the proceedings, and called upon

Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., who was received with loud applause. He congratulated them most heartily on that beautiful hall in which for the first time he had the honour of addressing his friends in South Moor. That hall had been erected not by any wealthy capitalist to perpetuate his memory, but had been the result of their own efforts as members of one of the greatest trade associations in this country. He had watched now for a somewhat long period of years the steady growth and development of the Durham Miners' Association. It was due in no small measure to the integrity, the perseverance, the energy of their own leaders chosen freely from their own ranks that that organisation was as powerful as it was at the present time. No one who had read the early history of the labour struggles of the Durham Miners, who contrasted the bitter experience of the early years of the Durham Miners' Association when under the leadership of distinguished men like the late Mr John Foreman, and who contrasted it with the solid, united co-operative force of the Association as it now existed, as evidenced by the numerous Miners' Halls and by its accumulated funds, could fail to recognise the enormous influence which it had had upon the public welfare. When he expressed a desire to come there for the purpose of addressing them he was then not anticipative of a general election at so early a date as October. He was under the impression that the Government would have felt a natural disinclination to test the opinion of the electorate until the new register of voters had been prepared. (Hear hear.) There was an old saying that all was fair in love and war, but he had never so far heard that sentiment extended to politics. It had been properly the pride of Englishmen that in their political fights they should not hit below the belt and that they should endeavour to meet their opponents in a fair and square stand up fight. That was not the policy which had been pursued by the Government on the present occasion. He understood—he got it from Mr Winter—that probably there would be a difference of something like 1,200 or more voters if the election were held on a new register as opposed to holding it upon the old register. That was to say there would be some 1,200 or more persons entitled to vote next February than there would be in October. Now was there any reason, was there any good or sufficient excuse for the Government having excluded from voting some 1,200 resident householders or lodgers in that constituency? Was there any urgency why the election should be held now? Yes, there was an urgency, and that urgency was that the Government recognised that in that constituency as in every other constituency throughout the country, the men who would be excluded from voting by reason of the election being held in October instead of February would be working men voters for the most part. They also recognised the fact that the working men of the country were more generally attached to the Liberal party than they were to the Conservative party. Therefore they had chosen deliberately to shut out, he would not venture to estimate how many thousand electors in the various constituencies in England and Wales by precipitating an election in October instead of holding it in the ordinary course of events on the new register in February. He quite agreed that supposing there was some great question of pressing moment upon which there was doubt as to what the opinion of the country was and upon which the Government felt a certain amount of diffidence or distrust as to whether their policy was in touch with the opinion of the country then it would obviously be their duty to consult the electorate at the earliest possible moment. But by Conservative statesmen, by Conservative journals, by Conservative public men of all sorts and conditions throughout the country they had had dinned into their ears that the unhappy Liberals had not got a ghost of a chance at the coming election and that the country was entirely at one with the Conservative party upon the policy pursued during the last five years. If that be so then why in the name of common sense, why in the name of all that was fair and honourable in politics was there any necessity for the Government to exclude 1,200 working men from the right of recording their votes in the election of a member of Parliament? Do not let it be supposed that he for his part was afraid of meeting the champion of the Conservative party whoever he might be on the old register any more than on the new. (Applause.) It was not characteristic of a Liberal to quail before his adversary under any conditions, and he knew no reason in the present condition of the party in North-West Durham why he should not rejoice at the opportunity afforded him of meeting whoever the mysterious gentleman might be who was going to contest North-West Durham in the Conservative interest. At no time did he believe there was greater unity among the Liberal party in North-West Durham. He had the pleasure of addressing last Thursday night a meeting of the chosen leaders of the Liberal party in that division, and he found that one spirit animated them all. They were determined that they would not allow any small or minor question to divert them from their object of maintaining the integrity of Liberal principles throughout the division. When he found that there was such unanimity of sentiment he felt there was no need for him to tremble because the election was to be held in October instead of February or forsooth, because it was held under circumstances of excitement which was calculated to temporarily derange the mental equilibrium of the electors. He expected that was to have been a hum-drum meeting addressed by their member in the ordinary course of his duties, but he found he was to "kick off" for the election at South Moor. (Laughter and applause.) He had no fear but that they would keep up their side. ("Cock o' the North.") Yes the "Cock o' the North." He did not pretend to be able to claim the applicability of that title to himself, but there were a good many cocks o' the north in that county, and he had a shrewd suspicion that the cocks o' the north who would be triumphant in that country would all be of one breed. (Applause.) In a week's time he would cease to be a Member of Parliament, and would be a candidate, and he would like to forget for the moment that he was a Member of Parliament but that instead he was a candidate seeking their suffrages. He had no reason so far as he knew of to be politically ashamed of himself. He had represented that division now for a period of something like 15 years. Probably some of them might be inclined to say "well you have not much to show for that." They might be inclined to say "what about all the fine professions you made in 1885." His answer was short. If that constituency or that county had been typical of the other counties of England and Wales then he thought he should have been able to stand before them that night with a splendid record of legislative and administrative work done by the Liberal party. He thought he could have shown them that there were removal of abuses and monopolies, disestablishment of selfish interests, and a spread of moral and material well-being through the proper agencies of legislation which would have caused them to have said "it is well that the Liberal party has been in power for a period of 15 years." Unhappily the distinies of the country were not guided by men of the same spirit as the electorate of the North of England. They were guided by the less educated, the more servile people of the South and Midlands. Therefore, those great abuses connected with their land laws, their sanitary and social conditions, the liquor traffic and a hundred and one other subjects had been left entirely untouched and undealt with. If they looked back upon those 15 years could they point to any legislative effort of the Conservative Government which had been of material advantage to the community? The legislative results were altogether incommensurate with the opportunities and the powers of this, perhaps the most powerful ministry of any time during the present reign. And now they were invited to give these people who had done nothing for them a further period of five or six years of political power under the false pretence that they were the friends of the working classes of the country, that they were the champions of human liberty, and that there was concentrated in them all that was loyal and patriotic and all that was generous, noble, and courageous. Under cover of the courage and heroism of British soldiers and sailors they sought to be again returned to power. Probably when the memory of the war had passed away social problems intimately associated with the well being of the people would still await solution, and they would have to consider whether their permanent interests were best confided to the hands of those who had nothing but skulls and crossbones to represent their administration. They would endeavour to throw dust in their eyes by representing that Liberal candidates were not animated by patriotism and that they were pro-Boers. He was a pro-Bull—a pro John Bull—but at the same time he had always been taught that the great national characteristic of John Bull was love of liberty and justice, independent of the influences of race, or place, or time. (Applause.) It was in that spirit of patriotism that the criticisms he had made and would continue to make were levelled at the Government in reference to the war. He hoped they would all do him the honour of reading in the pages of the "Consett Guardian" what he had to say upon the war. It was a large and a long subject and brimful of interest at the present time. They were told that it was waning and the Government wished to take advantage of whatever little heat there was left by having the election in October instead of in February when it might have disappeared. If they would do him the honour of reading his speech of last Thursday they would see at large his views on the war. He was no pro-Boer; he was a patriot, and had a strong devotion for his country and the warmest and most glowing admiration for the courage of their soldiers, but he said let a war be a just one, and whether it be from the wild hills of Durham or from the pleasant pastures of the South of England they would send out their hardy youths with courage, virtue, and resolution to fight the battles of their country. (Applause.)

Mr Blyth moved a vote of thanks and of confidence in Mr Jones, and pledging the meeting to do all in its power to secure his return at the forthcoming election.

Mr J. Davison seconded the motion, which was supported by Couns. Smith and Forster, and carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

The forty-fifth annual autumn exhibition of the Royal Photographic Society, which opens on Monday, October 1st, for five weeks, will be held this year in the spacious premises of the New Gallery, Regent Street. The Scope of the exhibition has been considerably extended, and sections will be devoted to (1) Selected pictorial photographs; (2) General professional work; (3) Apparatus and material; (4) Photo-mechanical processes of reproduction; and (5) Scientific photography and photography in its technical applications. The judges this year will be:—Pictorial Section.—P. H. Emerson, B.A., M.B., Colonel J. Gale, A. Horsley Hinton, B. W. Leader, R.A., and J. B. B. Wellington. Technical Section.—Thomas Bolas, F.I.C., F.C.S., Chapman Jones, F.I.C., F.C.S., J. W. Swan, M.A., F.R.S. On Saturday, September 29th, there will be a private view, followed in the evening by a conversazione, when the President and Council will receive the Fellows and Members of the Society, exhibitors and their friends.

Business Announcements

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J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,

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YOU CERTAINLY CAN SAVE MOST by purchasing your
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Strong Pure Assam Tea (Unequalled for strength and flavour).	1s. 6d. and 1s 8d per lb.
Rich Indian Tea	1s. 10d. per lb.

Absolutely Finest Fresh Creamery Danish Butter.	
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Rich Canadian	do.
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Sweet Margarine 4d., 6d., 8d. per lb.
Stocked Fresh Twice a Week.
Lard guaranteed Pure from 4½d. per lb.

WALTER WILSON, CONSETT, AND A HUNDRED OTHER BRANCHES.

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BEST VALUE. LARGEST STOCK. NEWEST PATTERNS.
GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY, CLOCKS, WATCHES, ELECTRO-PLATE, AND CUTLERY.
THE NOTED SHOP FOR RINGS. SPECIAL PRESENTS WITH WEDDING RINGS AND WATCHES.
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Trinity University, Toronto; National Gold Medalist, Trinity College, London; Member of Incorporated Society of Musicians; L. Mus. L.C.M. Special preparation for R.A.M.; R.C.M.; T.C.L.; I.S.M.; and all Musical Examinations.
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MR. H. MARKHAM,
SURGEON DENTIST
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Attends CONSETT every MONDAY from 1 to 3 o'clock, at
MRS. ELLIOTTS, 9, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
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JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR.
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BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES.
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Death £20
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Contributions 11s. per Quarter.
Half of these for 5s. 6d. per Quarter.
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Additional Canvassers, Collectors, and Agents wanted in this District. 735f

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DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
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GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
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FRESH CREAM and BUTTER always on hand.
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Have removed from Co-operative Street to New, Larger, and more Commodious Premises in LOWER BEAMISH STREET
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Goods delivered by our own Vans.
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HOSPITAL
FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.
GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED ... 2s 9d
LADIES' Do. Do. ... 1s 9d
With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand.
(Signed). J. ORTON.

EJVALE INKS.
For ordinary and Fountain Pens.
RED, BLUE, VIOLET, GREEN, AND "FLOWELL" BLUE BLACK,
In 1d, 3d, and 6d bottles,
AT THE
"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CONSETT.

BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.
W. RICHARDSON,
DRAPER AND MEN'S OUTFITTER.
FOR THE SEASON.
Large Assortment of LACE, GLOVES, &c., &c., for Presents.
DECORATIVE PLANTS for Ornamentation.
UMBRELLAS, HABERDASHERY, AND HOSIERY
New and Special Consignment.

To Spend Wisely STOP HERE
CHINA AND GLASS DEALERS.
CALL AND SEE the Largest Selection of Best Shapes and Designs in CHAMBER SETS, DINNER SETS, TEA and BREAKFAST SETS.
PROMPT DELIVERY.
SHOWROOM:—
10, PAPE BUILDINGS, PINK LANE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
M. KING & CO.,
THE POTTERY, LOW LIGHTS, NORTH SHIELDS.

THE
CREDIT ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION
LIMITED.
Head Office—10, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Capital £1,000,000. Subscribed £380,000.
Guarantee of Trade Acceptances and Open Credits.
The Corporation will guarantee Traders 50 per cent. of their credits, at premiums representing only a small percentage of the ordinary trade profits.
Fire. *"Each risk rated on its own merits."*
Apart from the Corporation's subscribed capital, which exceeds that of any other Non-Tariff company, and is larger than that of several of the Tariff offices, it possesses re-insuring resources enabling it to write large amounts.
Workmen's Compensation. *"Non-Tariff."*
The Corporation issues an absolute guarantee against all liability under the Acts of 1897 and 1880, and at Common Law without limit.
Application for Agencies Invited.

O.V.H.S.
ESTABLISHED 1820.
THE VATTED HIGHLAND SMALL STILL WHISKY.
(Registered).
Matured in Sherry Wood.
Supplied to Principal London Clubs and Restaurants. Price: TWO GUINEAS per dozen Case, CARRIAGE PAID. Extra Special LIQUEUR, 48s, per dozen, CARRIAGE PAID.
F. H. LAMB & CO.,
PORTH HOUSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Agent for Consett and District:
NATHAN ELSDON,
Delves Lane.
791g Consett.

H. P. JASINSKI,
CROWN AND CROSS SWORDS HOTEL SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
(Late of the Vaudeville Restaurant, Newcastle),
BEGS to Inform the Public that he has taken over the management of the above Hotel (lately occupied by Mr. Morgan), and trusts that past experience, and a determination to give the closest attention to Business will meet the Public Approval and Patronage.
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, LUNCHEONS, DINNERS, TEAS, PROMPTLY PROVIDED.
110i GOOD STABLING.

COMMERCIAL HOTEL,
CONSETT.
NOW OPEN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!
WILLIAM COULSON,
(Late of the NEW SHADES HOTEL, Sunderland),
BEGS to inform the Public generally that he has taken over the above well-known Hostelry, and gives everybody a hearty invitation to sample his BEERS, SPIRITS, WINES, AND CIGARS, which are of the very BEST QUALITY.
FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD TABLE.
GOOD STABLING.

PIANOS & ORGANS
FOR SALE,
8s., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., 22s. 6d., per Month.
Guaranteed 10 years. Liberal Discount for Cash
Old Pianos taken in exchange.
Tuning and Repairs promptly attended to.

CYCLES. CYCLES.
Sole Agent in District for the "Osmond," "Beanco," "Ariston," and other renowned makes.
ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND ENAMELLING done on the Premises.
ADDRESS
E. SLOANE & SONS,
PIANO AND CYCLE WAREHOUSE,
BLACKHILL. 548o

Business Announcements.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
HAVING sold my house situated in 17, Eldon Square, I have removed to
52, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE,
where I may be consulted on all cases appertaining to Dentistry every day from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
J. M. VAN GELDEREN, Senr.,
Surgeon Dentist,
52, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

NOTICE. NOTICE.
GEORGE BELL,
DRAPER, GENTS' OUTFITTER, &c.,
Has OPENED his NEW SHOP, in
LAMBTON'S NEW BANK BUILDINGS, CONSETT.
Quality and Price of Goods Guaranteed Right.
PROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ALL ORDERS.
A TRIAL ORDER SOLICITED.

WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION.
K. VOSS,
65—67, BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE.
HAS the Largest and Most Stylish Stock of Ladies', Gentlemen's, and Children's Second-hand Clothing, in the United Kingdom.
Guns, Portmanteaus, Football Bags, Waterproofs. Dress Suits and Fancy Costumes a Speciality.
CALL AND INSPECT THE STOCK. 865d

SCIENTIFIC PALMISTRY, PSYCHOMETRY, &c.
FOR SITTINGS AND DELINEATIONS
APPLY ANY EVENING AFTER
6-30 AT
21, PARK ROAD,
CONSETT.
ALSO, FOR TREATMENT BY THE
MAGNETIC AND PHYSIO-MEDICAL METHODS.

ROBINSON'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS!
THIS MEDICINE is Purely Vegetable, and contains no ingredient that can in any way be injurious. As a cathartic, its action is easy, mild, and effectual, without any of the painful sensations experienced in the use of most purgatives. It does not debilitate: it acts as a tonic, and strengthens the system at the same time that it purges it. It does not leave the bowels constipated, but assists their natural movement. ROBINSON'S PILLS act directly upon the Liver, removing any irregularity that may exist, and causing a healthy secretion and flow of bile, which is the natural physic of the body, and a great assistant in the digestive process. In fact, whenever the system needs purifying or strengthening, Robinson's Pills will be found reliable and efficacious.
For all affections of the Liver, Irregularities of the Stomach and Bowels, Diseases dependent on or caused by such derangements as Bilious Attacks, Costiveness, Chronic Diarrhœa, Dyspepsia, and Jaundice. Try them!
Prepared only by ROBINSON and SON, Chemists, Stanley and Annfield Plain.
AGENTS FOR GLENDINNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE. 693i

Tuition.

MISS JACKS,
GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

LESSONS given on the Pianoforte and Organ. Pupils prepared for Incorporated Society of Musicians Examination. Terms on application.—JAS. H. COCKBURN, 51, Park Road, Consett. 983c.

MUSICAL TUITION.
LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 921c

---

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE. DAY & BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS.
A THOROUGH MODERN EDUCATION.
On reasonable terms in most healthy situation
Successful preparation for all preliminary Examinations.
Next Term, Wednesday, September, 19th.
Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Music, and Military Drill.
A Field for Cricket, Tennis and Football.
MONTAGU V. STEGGALL, M.A., Head-master.

Public Notice.

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.
SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d
Already acknowledged	2268	19	6
Mr T. Little (3rd and 4th Contributions	0	5	0
Mr T. Siddell	1	0	0
	£2270	4	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, Bryngiass, Consett; or
Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

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
Great Success of FREEMAN and LEILL'S
CURRENT CASH CO.
On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Special Production of the Thrilling Drama—
THE WHITE DEMON.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th,
Welcome Return Visit of one of Consett's Popular Favourites, MR. JAMES RICE CASSIDY and Co. in the Romantic Cuban American Drama—
THE GOD OF WAR.

PRICE THREE SHILLINGS
OR POST FREE, 3s. 2d.
THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT
With the awarded Roads, Quarries, Wells, Watering Places, etc., set out by the Commissioners by their award, dated 13th June, 1871; also a note of the various
CUSTOMS OF THE COPYHOLD OF MANORS OF THE SEE OF DURHAM.
Edited and compiled by Robert Jackson, for upwards of thirty years Managing Clerk in the Copyhold Office, Durham, and late Bailiff of the Manor.
The whole of the remaining copies of this useful work, which was published at 3s. 6d., having been purchased by Robert Jackson, *Guardian* Office, Consett, he has determined to reduce the price to 3s. per copy, (post free 3s. 2d.), in order to effect a speedy clearance.
Also on hand a few copies (being an exact facsimile) of the Original Lanchester Common Act, published by the late MR. JOHN CALVERT, at the reduced price of 2s. each, (post free 2s. 2d.)
Every Owner or Occupier of Property, within the boundary of Lanchester Common, should possess a copy of either of these editions.
We will be glad to forward copies of either of these editions by return of Post, for which Halfpenny Postage Stamps, or Postal Orders made payable to ROBERT JACKSON Consett, must be received 353

Public Notices.

277 is the Winning Number of the WATCH, raffled by FELIX MULLEN, Leadgate.

LEADGATE PARK A.F.C.
WINNING NUMBERS: 1st, (Donkey), 296; 2nd, (Picture), 211. 824i

SCOTCH CONCERT.
LOOK OUT for the SCOTCH CONCERT on Tuesday, 22nd January, 1901. Talented Company engaged. First visit to Consett.

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

LEEKS! LEEKS!!
LOOK OUT for the Oak Tree Inn LEEK SHOW, to be held on Saturday, Sept. 29th, near the House of MR. J. GLADDERS, Tantobie. 832l

PUBLIC NOTICE.
EBCHESTER PARISH PEACE CELEBRATIONS to be held on Wednesday, Sept. 26th, 1900. PUBLIC TEA in field kindly lent by Mr. Temperley, at 3-30. PROCESSION to start from Low Westwood at 5 o'clock. All are welcome. 843i

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741st STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an APPROPRIATION MEETING will be held in the Society's Office, Front Street, Consett, on Thursday, October 4th, 1900, at 8 p.m. All members are requested to have their books paid up.
C. W. ALMOND, Chairman.
844i A. ROBSON, Secretary.

BENFIELDSIDE EVENING CLASSES
THE Committee contemplate Opening CLASSES for Males and Females, on Tuesday, September 25th, in Book-Keeping, Shorthand, Mensuration, Geography, and Drawing.
Particulars at the Board School, or from MESSRS. F. W. BRODIE, and J. MATHIESON.
A course of Lectures, by Dr. ALLEN, on "Home Nursing, and Kindred Subjects" will also be commenced shortly. 716i

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA
FUND in aid of the Wives and Families of Soldiers and Sailors serving with the Colours.
CONSETT DISTRICT.
CHAIRMAN:—COUN. WM. AYNSLEY, J. P., CONSETT.
HON TREASURER:—MR. T. L. GLEDSTONE, NORTH EASTERN BANK, CONSETT.
HON. SECRETARY:—MR. T. W. WELFORD, CLERK, CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

	£	s.	d.
Amount acknowledged	1000	16	2
Consett Iron Co's. Workmen's 17th contribution	32	19	6
783i	£1123	15	8

LEADGATE PARK FOOTBALL CLUB
SPORTS.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th, 1900.
£15 HANDICAP, (splendid cinder track), Entries 1s. 1d. to P. SMALL, Handicapper, Leadgate, or the Secretaries. 30s. Quoiting; 15s. Bowling at Wicket; 15s. Kicking at Hoop. Prizes for Bicycle Handicap, Comic Costume Race, Skipping, Boys' Race, Old Men's Race, &c.
LEADGATE SAXHORN BAND will attend.
TENDERS invited for the privilege of supplying Refreshments in the Marquee.
GRAND BALL in the Evening.
Applications for space for Swings, Roundabouts, Stalls, &c., to the Secretaries, J. Ross and J. E. KINLESIDE, Leadgate. 637i

Church Notices.

ST. IVES, LEADGATE.
HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES, Thursday, Sept. 27th, and Sunday, Sept. 30th, at the usual hours. 830i

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.
SUNDAY, SEPT. 23rd, 1900.
Morning, 10 30 } MR. J. GREENWOOD.
Evening, 6 } MR. J. CRAWFORD.
ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT WESLEYAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, SEPT. 23rd, 1900.
Morning 10 30 } MR. E. J. LAMB.
Evening 6 } MR. N. BELL.
ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT WESLEYAN CHURCH.
HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th.
REV. C. J. BACK, of Darlington, will Preach in the Afternoon at 3 o'clock.
And in the Evening a PUBLIC MEETING will be held, to be addressed by REVS. C. J. BACK, G. E. POLKINGHORNE, and E. CHARLESWORTH. Chair to be taken at 7 30. Special Musical Arrangements.
The Services will be continued on Sunday, September 30th. 873i

MEDOMSLEY PARISH CHURCH
THE
HARVEST FESTIVAL
WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1900
A PUBLIC TEA in the National School at Four o'clock.
Tickets, Ninepence each; Children, Sixpence.
DIVINE SERVICE in Medomsley Church at Seven o'clock.
Preacher—Rev. J. W. MITCHELL, M.A., Vicar of South Hetton.

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
Excursion Trains from BLACKHILL.
Wednesday, Sept. 26th., at 2-25 p.m. for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH.
Sundays, Sept. 30th, Oct 7th, and 21st, at 8-13 p.m., for LONDON, 2, 5, or 8 days, and the CONTINENT.
For further particulars see bills.
GEORGE S. GIBB,
York, Sept., 1900 General Manager

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

NATHAN ELSDON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.
Sales undertaken on Commission according to arrangement.
All Classes of Furniture or property purchased outright for cash, or Sold by Auction.

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

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms

September 21st, 1900.
'CONSETT GUARDIAN' FREE INSURANCE.
£100.
WILL BE PAID to the legal representative of any man or woman (railway servants on duty excepted) who shall happen to meet with his or her death by an accident to the railway train in which he or she was travelling in any part of the United Kingdom on following conditions:—
1. That at the time of the accident the passenger in question had upon his or her person this coupon.
2. That prior to the accident the passenger in question had affixed his or her usual signature in the space provided below.
3. That notice of the accident be given to the Corporation guaranteeing this insurance within seven days of its occurrence.
4. That death result within one month from the date of the accident.
5. That no person can claim in respect of more than one of these coupons.
6. The insurance under this coupon holds good from Thursday 6 a.m., date of publication, to 6 a.m. of the following Thursday.

Signed ....

Address
The due fulfilment of this insurance is guaranteed by THE CREDIT ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION, LIMITED, 10, King William Street, London, E.C., to whom all communications should be made.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr John S. Murray.

Annfield Plain.
Important Sale by Auction of Farm Stock, Implements, &c.
MR. JOHN S. MURRAY will SELL BY AUCTION, on Wednesday, September 26th, 1900, in Mr. Lumley's Yard, Annfield Plain, (removed from Harperley Hall Farm for convenience of Sale), the FARM STOCK in the Estate of the late Mr. Joseph Lumley, comprising—28 Cattle, 48 Sheep, 8 Horses, and the whole of the FARM IMPLEMENTS.
INVENTORY:—
CATTLE AND SHEEP.
3 Young S.H. Cows.
18 S.H. Heifers, 1½ to 2½ years old.
2 S.H. Steers, 2 years old.
1 S.H. Young Bull.
4 Irish Polled Heifers, 2 years old.
48 Sheep and Lambs, mostly fat.
HORSES.
1 Brown Draught Mare.
1 Grey Draught Mare.
1 Brown Harness Horse.
1 Grey Cob, 13-2 h.h., 7 years old.
1 Bay H.B. Filly, 2 years old, by "Dr. Jim."
1 Bay H.B. Colt, 2 years old, by "Dr. Jim."
EXTRA HORSES.
1 Bay Cart Horse, 10 years old, from Mr. J. Atkinson.
1 Bay Mare, 8 yrs. old, 16 h.h., good in all yokes.
1 Draught Filly, 3 yrs. old, 16½ h.h., by "Bell-foundry," unbroke, Mr. Jackson.
IMPLEMENTS.
Two Coup Carts, 1 Long Cart, 3 Hay Bogies, 2 Horse Hay Rakes, 1 American Ricker, Metal Roller, 2 Grass Cutters, Sheep Heck, Sheep Troughs, Double Turnip Drill, 2 Ploughs, Double Mold Board Plough, Scuffler, Clod Crusher, Harrows, Grub Harrows, 2 Turnip Cutters, Weighing Machine, Cart and Plough Gears for two Horses, 15 Hurdles, Wheelbarrow, and various other lots.
Sale to commence at One o'clock. 876i

55, Clavering Place, Annfield Plain.
Important Sale of High-Class Furniture.
MR. J. S. MURRAY, favoured with instructions from Mrs. Bell, who is declining house-keeping, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday, Sept. 29th, 1900, the whole of her superior Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, comprising: Large Mahogany Tester Bedstead, with Hangings, &c., Iron and Brass Bedstead and Mattress, Desk Bedstead, Chest of Drawers (Tallboy), Bedroom Chest of Drawers, Solid Mahogany Bookcase, Square Mahogany Table, Dressing Chest and Glass, Gentleman's Easy Chair, 3 Chairs in Hair, Mirror, 2 Mahogany Cornice Poles, 2 Oilcloths, Carpet and Rugs, little worse than new, Set of China, Brass Fireirons, Fender and Coal Box, Beds, Bolsters & Pillows, 2 Mattresses, Spring Mattress, Flock Mattress, Kitchen Press, Table, Longsettle, Centre Table, 4 Chairs, Mangle, Fireirons, Corner Cupboard, Eight-day Clock, Hanging Lamp, 50 Candle power, Posstub and Staff, Meat Safe, Filter, Bread Tubs, Flour Barrels, Pans, Kettles, Crockery, &c. Sale at One o'clock. 877i

The Delves.
CLEARING OUT SALE of Mr. Thomas Little's Furniture, Hay, Trap, Harness, Implements, &c., on Wednesday, Oct. 3rd.
Particulars next issue. J. S. MURRAY.

SALE of High-Class Dwelling House PROPERTY, at Consett, shortly; other Property can be included, by applying to J. S. MURRAY, or J. M. AYNSLEY, Solicitor.

Fondly Sett, Hare Law.
Wednesday, October 24th, 1900.
FARM STOCK, Implements, Hay, and Household Furniture, belonging to Mr. Joseph Robinson. J. S. MURRAY. 880i

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JOHN SWINBURNE MURRAY,
THE
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
BLACKHILL.
Being done with the Auction Mart, is at liberty to take Sales of every description on any day of the week.
Appointed by his Honour JUDGE MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.
All Sales conducted with Care, Economy, and Quick Settlements.
WHITEHALL LODGE, BLACKHILL.

By Mr. Jackson Green.

BLACKHILL FARMERS' MART CO., LTD.
MONDAY, SEPT. 24th, 1900.
MR. JACKSON GREEN, AUCTIONEER.
25 Fat Cattle, 200 Sheep and Lambs, Cow, newly calved, Galloway Bull, 2½ years old, Pigs, Calves, &c., 20 Cockerels, Set Harness, Shovels, Gripes, &c. 881i

A SPECIAL SALE for RAMS, Store Cattle, Ewes, and Lambs, will be held on Saturday, October 6th, 1900.
Early Entries solicited.
J. W. OSBORNE, Secretary,
882i 10a, Durham Road, Blackhill.

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. 207a

By Mr J. G. Usher

SALE OF HORSES, Traps, Flat Carts, Coup Carts, Governess Cars, Rolleys, Harness, &c., on Wednesday, September 26th, at One p.m., at High Crown Yard, Chester-le-Street. Entries respectfully solicited.
J. G. USHER, Auctioneer,
830i Chester-le-Street.

By Messrs. R. March and Son

Greenside, 2½ miles from Ryton and Wylam Stations.
On Thursday, September 27th, 1900.
ANNUAL SALE OF CATTLE, Ewes, Rams, Lambs, and Farming Stock of every class 30 S.H. Grazing Cattle, 1 and 2 years old; 50 Fat Mule Shearling Sheep; 4 Horse Ponies, 12 to 14 h.h.; 20 Ducklings, 3 Ladders, 1 Set Brown Harness, &c.
Sale at Two o'clock p.m.
Further Entries solicited.
R MARCH and SON, Auctioneers, &c.
Houghton-by-Wylam, Sept. 19th, 1900. 871i

An Auction by the Derwentside.
Ten minutes' walk from Rowland's Gill and Lintz Green Stations.
Composed of the Contents of a neatly Furnished Dwelling, in which everything will be found in the best condition.
MESSRS. R. MARCH & SON, appreciate the favour of Mr. H. Jemison, who is leaving the neighbourhood, to SELL BY AUCTION, at Clavering Cottage, Victoria Garesfield, on Monday, Sept. 24th, 1900, his Handsome Household FURNISHINGS and EFFECTS. Sale at Two o'clock p.m. prompt.
Houghton-by-Wylam, Sept. 14, 1900. 870i

By Mr. Joseph Vickers

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.
ANNUAL PRIZE SHOW AND SALE of Rams, all classes, on Saturday, September 29th, 1900. Early Entries Solicited
860i J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr A Phillipson

Bird Inn, White-le-Head.
Monday, 24th September, 1900.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON, favoured with instructions from Mr. I. Dixon, of Bush Blades, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION as above (removed for convenience of Sale) all his HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and Effects; also, Two good CYCLES, &c. Sale at 1-30. See Bills for particulars. 858i

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

Stanley.

PRIMITIVE HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES.—On Sunday the annual thanksgiving services in connection with the above place of worship were held, the preacher being the Rev. J. A. West, of Stanley, who preached two excellent sermons to large congregations. In the afternoon a service of song, entitled "Sermons and songs of the fields," was rendered by the choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. Batey with Mr. Hindmarch at the organ. On Monday evening a grand concert was rendered by the young people, the conductor being Mr. J. R. Felton, and the organist Mr Hindmarch. The proceeds were in aid of the renovation funds.

BENEFIT CONCERT.—On Monday evening a benefit concert was given in the Stanley Free Church in aid of Mr. Robinson, Cross Lanes, Stanley, who has been unable to follow his employment in the mines for some considerable time. Miss Rankin, of Stanley, sang "He wipes the tear," and "Angels ever bright and fair" in an able manner; Miss Bowstead and Miss M. Prinn, Annfield Plain, rendered "Music sweet shall flow to-night," and Miss Bowstead sang "My bed in Heaven;" and Miss Prinn, "The fisherman's child," after which the duet, "Ora pro nobis," was played on the cornet and piano by Mr. Cayser, Stanley, and Mr. Veitch. Medomsley, who, on being encored, gave "The relief of Mafeking." Miss M. Bowstead also gave a recitation Miss Daintree, Annfield Plain, recited "The breaking of the waters." Mr. T. Holland, of Stanley, contributed "The soldier's grave," and for an encore, "The vesper hymn." Mr. Holland and Miss Prinn sang a duet "Sweet content bells," after which Miss Prinn sang "The dream of Paradise." Miss Phillips, of Stanley, favoured with a pianoforte solo. A good company was present, and a substantial sum was realised.

Business Announcements.

UNITED PROVIDENT
ASSURANCE CO., LIMITED.
HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL - - - £100,000.
The sum of £20,000 has been deposited with the Court of Chancery in harmony with the Life Assurance Cos.' Acts, as a special protection to Policyholders.
DIRECTORS:
W. Blantyre Thornton, Esq., D.L., J.P. London, (Chairman).
W. R. Bootland, Esq., Manchester.
Edmond Browne, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, L.C.C., Elm Court, Temple, E.C.
Ald. James Duckworth, M.P., Rochdale.
Josiah Goodman, Esq., London.
John F. Haworth, Esq., Manchester.
L. L. Morse, Esq., J.P., Swindon Wilts.
Alexander Murray, Esq., C.A., J.P., Glasgow.
Ald. Jonathan Samuel, M.P. Stockton-on-Tees.
J. Crabb Watt, Esq., Advocate, Edinburgh.
GENERAL MANAGER: S. J. EYRE HARTLEY.
Branch Office:—1, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
District Office:—GEORGE STREET, CONSETT.
E. TELFORD, SUPERINTENDENT.
AGENCIES:—Good openings for reliable men. CLAIMS PAID PROMPTLY.

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
William Aynsley, 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 21st, 1900

EDITORIAL CHAT.

The Revision Courts. Proceedings at this year's Revision Courts have been wonderfully tame, and the business transacted has been of a very formal character. There has been an almost entire absence of objections of any description, and everything has passed off in the most smooth and pleasant fashion. Perhaps the only item worthy of note is the fact that Mr. Mellor insisted upon the qualifying property in the case of new lodger claims being rated at at least £8 per year before allowing a vote. It was pointed out to him that he had previously passed claims where the rateable value had been less than this sum; but this did not alter his determination to fix the amount at £8 this year. Mr. Mellor explained that the various Revising Barristers had taken counsel together, and had decided upon this step with a view to securing uniformity of action. By the way, those assistant-overseers who attended the Lanchester Court on Monday morning had a rather lengthy wait. They were notified to appear at ten o'clock, and nearly all of them had put in an appearance ere this hour arrived. However, there was no sign of the Revising Barrister, and matters began to look serious when eleven o'clock came without bringing either Mr. Mellor, or any message to explain his absence. It was some twenty minutes later when Mr. Mellor drove up in a dog-cart, and explained that coming from Sunderland he had missed the connection at Durham, and had had to hire a conveyance to bring him through. Once started he lost no time, and soon after twelve o'clock had completed the lists—possibly a record in connection with revision courts. Mr. Mellor is a most genial gentleman, and certainly no more popular Revising Barrister has ever visited North-West Durham.

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Subsidences on Highways. This subject formed the text of a conference held at Leadgate last Thursday, which was attended by representatives from the Consett, Benfieldside, Stanley, and Leadgate Councils; Annfield Plain and Tanfield Lea (who had been invited) not being represented. There was a lengthy discussion upon the question, but nothing new in connection therewith was brought to light. The oft-quoted case of the Benfieldside Local Board against the Consett Iron Company was frequently referred to, and the Chairman (Mr. Palmer) read the comments of the three judges who tried the case. One of them stated that "it would just be as reasonable for a firm to place a steam-engine and workshops in the middle of the road as for the coal owners to withdraw the natural support of the road." We are aware that several persons entertain the idea that the owners have no right to work the minerals underneath the road, but that they are vested in the local authority. However, the owners have been doing this now for a number of years, their only liability being to repair the roads when any damage has been caused to them. Whether any good purpose will be served by the holding of the conference remains to be seen; but in any case no harm can be done. The representatives present decided to ascertain the opinions of their Councils upon the following questions:—(1) Have the owners any right to work the coal underneath the roads; (2) and, if so, to what extent? An adjourned meeting of the conference will be held some seven weeks hence, when the delgates will report what decision their various Councils have arrived at upon the question.

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The General Election. We were told some time since that the General Election would take place in October of the present year; but many people put this down as premature. However, events that have transpired this week go to prove that those who prophesied to this effect knew something. By the middle of October the new House of Commons will have been elected. We shall know shortly the exact date of the polling day in North-West Durham. It cannot be earlier than Thursday, Oct. 4th, or later than Monday, October 15th, so that we shall not have a lengthy electioneering campaign. Mr. Atherley-Jones has made a good start, although he was probably not prepared for the dissolution coming so soon. Be that as it may, he has already addressed several meetings, and may be trusted to lose no time between now and the day of the contest. We presume that Mr. Jas. Joicey will again champion the Unionist cause, but up to the time of writing there has been no official pronouncement upon the matter. We have heard no other name mentioned, and we think it may be taken for granted that Mr. Atherley-Jones' opponent will be Mr. Joicey. For the next week or two, therefore, we may prepare ourselves for a full share of political fare. Fortunately, however, we can derive consolation from the fact that it won't be prolonged to such an extent as is usually the case at a General Election.

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Blackhill Naturalists. "Last but not least," is a homely metaphor, which might very well be applied to the final meeting of the Blackhill and District Naturalists' Field Society. After a very successful season the Society brought its summer programme to a close on Saturday, the 8th inst., by a pilgrimage to the ancient village of Ebchester, when about eighty members turned out, justifying the subsequent testimony of the worthy Rector that the Society seemed to be very much alive and flourishing, and the energetic secretary (Mr. Samuel Leybourne) can, with all modesty, compliment himself on a very successful season. As the Rector also observed, Mr. Leybourne is most enthusiastic in the work, and, further still, seems to possess the power of imparting his enthusiasm to the other members, as evidenced by the attendance that day. Usually such Societies commence with a great flourish of trumpets, at the beginning of the session, but very frequently fall away after the initial novelty has worn off. Not so, however, with the Society which Mr. Leybourne so ably pilots. He has with credit not only maintained the interest en route, but increased it as he went along, so that the last meeting was (if comparisons were not odious) the most successful of all. Arrived at the village the company was received by the President of the Society (Mr. H. Holliday, of Beech Grove), the Rector (the Rev. J. G. Gibson), and Mr. S. Leybourne, and the members were forthwith conducted round the site of the once Roman Camp, the study of which, aided by the excellent plan and illustrations prepared by the Secretary, proved very entertaining and instructive. The boundaries had been all precisely and carefully marked out with small flags; but, unfortunately, some individual or individuals, whose sense of humour must have been somewhat strained and of the ignorant order, had gone to the unnecessary trouble of removing some of these meanwhile. "Cursed is he that removeth his neighbour's landmark" is a warning note that dates back far beyond the Roman period which the flags were to mark, and these practical jokers received their "blessings" in spirit, if not in words, from some of the gentlemen who had been at considerable pains in marking out the ground.

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The Rector's Hospitality. From the camp to the schoolroom was a variation in the programme to which no one demurred, and here the worthy Rector showed his inconsistency. Naturalists are, or should be, essentially natural in all things, but Mr. Gibson must have credited them with unnatural (not to say abnormal) appetites judging from the most quantitative character of the tables which confronted the company on entering. Needless to say, the repast and the Rector's generosity were thoroughly well appreciated, as was also the kindly and painstaking attention of the ladies and gentlemen who assisted in the serving of the same. The President took the chair after tea, when a short biographical sketch of the Rector was given by Mr. S. Leybourne. Mr. Gibson, in appearance, is a man scarcely yet in the prime of life, but one who has, despite his comparative youth, achieved results and attainments which might reasonably have formed a successful life's work in a less energetic and hard-working gentleman. The President afterwards, in very fitting words, tendered the thanks of the Society to the Rector for the great goodness and bounteousness with which he had received the members. The subsequent paper read in the church was just one more proof of the versatility of the gifts of the Rector. The paper in detail will be published in our columns (along with Mr. Leybourne's), so that any reference to the subject matter here would be duplicate reading. The party left for home seemingly delighted with the day's outing, and no doubt ready to avail themselves of the kindly invitation of the Rector to "come back again" at an early date. Witton Gilbert, Minsteracres, Muggleswick, Westgate, and other rambles during the season will all be remembered as part of a successful summer's programme, and, as we said at the beginning, "last but not least" (because freshest) will be remembered the visit to the bonnie little village on the banks of the Derwent—Ebchester.

AROUND THE DISTRICT.

(By "Wanderer.")

A MANIFESTO.

Mr. Atherley-Jones has issued his manifesto, and whatever his political opponents may have to say to the contrary it is an outspoken and fearless utterance. How far it will meet with the approval of the electors of the division is not for me to say, but while he has dealt fairly and squarely with his friends he has not left the enemy in the dark as to what will form the basis of his plan of campaign in the forthcoming contest. In the "confusion of thought and chaos of opinion" which he declared to be prevalent, he felt it to be his duty to make a clear and studied statement of his views in order to combat the "passion and prejudice which are usurping the position of reason and judgment." He has thrown down the glove and it is now for the Unionist party to be equally straightforward so that the issue may be made as clear as possible, and fought out on honest, upright lines, and free from personalities.

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THE OTHER HALF.

We are often told that one half the world does not know how the other half lives, and the cynic has added "and doesn't want to know." Possibly not, but he is getting to know all the same. Mr. Atherley-Jones in his speech the other night asked his hearers to "reflect upon the startling fact that three and a quarter millions of our fellow creatures are living herded like swine under conditions prolific of disease and physical decay." But overcrowding is not the only point to which Imperial and local authorities have to direct their attention as was instanced in a case heard at Lanchester last week. Several tenements at Quebec were condemned by the officials of the Lanchester Rural District Council, and the magistrates were asked to grant closing orders. In this case it was not a question of overcrowding, nor insufficiency of cubic space, nor of structural defects. It was a case of rooms being used for all purposes with such limited means of ventilation as to make them unfit for human habitation. In order to increase the number of tenements some alterations were made, apparently many years ago, and in the case of the single rooms all means of through ventilation were absolutely cut off, thus as Dr. Wilson said, preventing the air generating during the night from becoming diluted with pure air. Both Dr. Wilson and Dr. Hill, the County Medical Officer, were emphatic in their declaration that the rooms were injurious to health, and therefore unfit for human habitation. Is it not time that the "one half," who know the value of ventilation in their own homes, made themselves acquainted with and took an interest in the surroundings of the other half? "On baking days we had to leave the door open all night," said an ex-tenant. How would the upper half like that? Of a truth they have need to show practical sympathy with the other half.

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A NEW COMMANDMENT.

"Thou shalt not get married" may be given as the meaning of a resolution on the books of the Benfieldside School Board. The resolution, which was described as being of considerable antiquity, was to the effect that marriage by a lady teacher would mean resignation. A very popular and a very able lady teacher has recently entered the married state, and the Board find themselves in a somewhat awkward position. The resolution is there, but they don't want to lose the lady, who, like some of the members, knew nothing of the existence of such a minute. Either the lady or the resolution must go. I don't think it will be the lady. The matter and the resolution have to be brought forward for discussion at the next meeting, and I would suggest that five minutes ought to be sufficient to devote to the question. I may take this opportunity of congratulating the Rev. E. W. Jenkins on his unanimous election to the chair for the triennial term. He advocates yearly tenancy only, but I hope he will not insist upon resigning at the end of twelve months. It is undesirable on a School Board to be chopping and changing in that manner.

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THE COTTAGE HOMES.

By Government intervention the ratepayers of Benfieldside have been saved from having a considerable addition made to their rates. It was no doubt a very laudable object on the part of the Gateshead Guardians to erect Cottage Homes for their Workhouse children on a site just within the Benfieldside township, but to say to the Benfieldside School Board "you must build a new school and educate our children at your own expense" was, to use a vulgar term "a bit thick." Other Boards being similarly situated, strong representations were made to the Educational Department, and as a result the Gateshead Guardians find that any cost incurred by the Benfieldside School Board will have to be refunded, thus removing what would otherwise have been a grievous injustice. What will the Gateshead Guardians do? They would have insisted on the School Board incurring the cost and running the risk of having an empty school thrown on their hands, for the homes are experimental, and the children might have been withdrawn at any time. Will the Guardians run the risk now, and saddle their own ratepayers with the cost? If not then they lay themselves open to severe criticism and to the charge of having been guilty of a shabby trick.

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ANOTHER NAIL.

Bookmakers will do well to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the decision given in the case of James Teasdale at Consett Petty Sessions on Monday. It is decidedly another nail in their professional coffin. It has hitherto been understood that betting on private ground was perfectly legal. The latest magisterial decision, however, not only upsets that theory, but is far reaching in its character. It implies that frequenting takes place if customers know where to find the bookmakers and "after that it seems to us to be of no moment whatever where the actual money passes since the offence is frequenting for the purpose of betting." I would not like to say that the Higher Courts would uphold the decision, but it would be interesting to have a case stated and to see definitely whether frequenting turns a private place into a place within the meaning of the Act. So far it is a game of see-saw between the bookmakers and the Bench, and the Bench are uppermost for the time being.

Local and District News.

Consett.

The Last of Consett Races.—The last vestige of the race-course on the Carribees Estate Consett formerly belonging to the North-West Durham Racing Co., Ltd., disappeared on Monday evening, when Mr. J. S. Murray, of Blackhill, offered by auction the whole of the creosoted timber used in the erection of the grandstand, paddock, ring, fences, and enclosures. There was a large attendance. The timber was sold in lots, and realised altogether £47 15s 9d. The dressed stone work supporting the grandstand was sold for £5.

North-West Durham Conservative Association.—A central committee meeting of the above Association was held in the small hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday last for the purpose of electing two gentlemen to represent the Association at the annual meeting of the Northern Union of Conservative Associations. Mr J. D. Piercy Taylor-Smith, of Colepike Hall, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance. Mr. W. J. Scott and Mr. Ralph Walton both offered to retire in favour of each other and of Mr. Burgoyne Johnson, of Moor House, Hamsteels, and ultimately the friendly encounter was decided in favour of Messrs Scott and Johnson.

Alleged Assault in the Park.—At Consett olice court on Wednesday, before Mr. Ainsworth, a labourer named Wm. Callaghan, about 50 years of age, was remanded in custody for eight days on a charge of having indecently assaulted Susannah Hone, 21 years of age, daughter of Walter Hone, coachman to the Consett Iron Company. The evidence showed that the girl was sitting on one of the seats in the park about 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning and the defendant sat down beside her. He began assaulting her when Sergt. Tones appeared and at once took him into custody. When charged at the police station he said "Sure, there was no damage done, sergeant." Sergt. Tones said he had witnesses to call at the proper time.

Wesleyan Church.—On Sunday last the Rev. E. Charlesworth, one of the newly appointed ministers to the Shotley Bridge circuit, preached morning and evening to very large congregations in the Wesleyan Church, Consett. At the evening service the choir rendered Vincent's anthem "Be not afraid." On Wednesday next Harvest Thanksgiving services will be held, when a sermon will be preached in the afternoon by the Rev. C. J. Bach, of Darlington, and in the evening a public meeting will be held, when addresses will be delivered by the Revs. C. J. Bach and G. E. Polkinghorne. There will be special music rendered on the occasion. The thanksgiving services will be continued on the following Sunday.

Baptist Christian Endeavour Society.—The anniversary services in connection with this society were held on Sunday last. In the morning the Rev. T. Durant preached a special sermon from the words of St. Paul "Put you in mind to every good work," setting forward the necessity for individual work by all Christians. In the evening the special preacher was the Rev. E. W. Jenkins, of Blackhill, who also took for his subject the work of St. Paul "I can do all things thro' Christ who strengtheneth me." Special hymns were sung by the members, under the leadership of Mr. J. Cockburn, Mr. R. Russell presiding at the organ. The services were continued on Monday evening when a public meeting was held in the chapel. Addresses on Christian Endeavour work were given by Miss Mary Raw (Rowley) Miss E. Leybourne (Castleside), and Councillor J. W. Golightly (Castleside.) The Rev. T. Durant also took part in the meeting. At the close a supper was held to which almost everybody stayed, and at the close Mr. J. Angus (Castleside) proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for so kindly providing the supper, which terminated a very successful meeting. The collections were in aid of the church fund.

Blackhill.

The Rev. Canon Gillow, from Monkwearmouth, was on Monday appointed priest of St. Mary's parish, Blackhill and Consett, the vacancy having been caused by the death of the Rev. Dean Foran, in January last. Canon Gillow was formerly at Sacriston.

P.M. Preachers Association.—A conference of the North of England Primitive Methodist Preachers Association was commenced on Tuesday evening in the P.M. Church, Park Road, Blackhill, when the Rev. M. Johnson preached to a large congregation on "the character of God's love." On Wednesday morning the Rev. R. G. Graham read an essay on "the effect of the exile on the religious thought and life of Israel," and in the afternoon, the Rev. G. Graham dealt with the subject of Browning's mind of Art. A public meeting was held in the evening when addresses were given by several ministers who were attentively listened to by a large audience.

Children's Flower Service.—On Sunday last a children's flower service was held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Blackhill, in celebration of the 21st anniversary of the Sunday School. The Rev. J. Morrison, of Darlington, officiated and delivered an able and appropriate discourse from the text "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my children, ye have done it unto me." A large display of flowers brought by the children and tastily arranged in front of the pulpit on a raised erection caused much admiration, and the beauty of the picture was further enhanced by some choice specimens of the lilium auratum kindly lent by Mr. Trotter of Blackhill. Everything passed off most satisfactorily and reflected great credit on all concerned. Mention should be made of the kindness of Messrs Trotter, Jacks, and Martin, who lent plants etc., with which to beautify the church. In the evening Mr. Morrison again preached to a large congregation.

Ebchester

Peace Celebrations.—These celebrations are fixed for Wednesday first. There will be a public tea at 3.30, and a procession will start from Low Westwood at five o'clock.

Parish Church.—The ancient parish church of St. Ebba, Ebchester, has recently been renovated, the work having been carried out by Mr. Thirlwell, of Shotley Bridge. The edifice has, in addition, been equipped with the necessary accessories of public worship. There have also been a large number of memorial gifts to the church. The graveyard has also been extended by the addition of half-an-acre of land the gift of the Rector (Rev. J. Gibson), and it is to be consecrated next month. The Durham and Northumberland Register Society have just issued a copy of the parish registers from 1619 to 1812. The entries have been transcribed and indexed by the rector, who has also written a preface, containing a brief history of the church and parish. The entries throw a good deal of light upon the genealogy of many well-known families resident in the Derwent Valley.

Lanchester.

Local Preacher Arrested.—P. C. Iceton conveyed a man named Wm. Cowell, alias James Davis, to Lanchester police station last Thursday, on a charge of having obtained food and lodgings at Haltwhistle, Northumberland, by false pretences. A "wanted" notice had been issued, and the officer arrested the man as he was coming from Langley Park pit, as he answered the description given. An officer from Hexham subsequently removed him from Lanchester. Cowell was a local preacher, and had two places to go to on the following Sunday.

Leadgate.

St. Ives Church.—The harvest thanksgiving services at this church will be held on Thursday next, Sept. 27th, and the following Sunday, at the usual hours.

District Council.—At the last meeting of the District Council, it was agreed to accept the estimate of Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, Consett, for supplying cushions for the seats in the Council chamber. It will cost something like £14 or £15.

Shotley Bridge

Shotley Spa Grounds.—A two miles cycling handicap decided in the Spa Well Grounds on Saturday, resulted:—J. Richardson, Hamsterley, 60 yards, 1; J. Sisterton, Consett, 60, 2; R. Gardner, Hamsterley, 240, 3. Won by 10 yards.

MR. ATHERLEY-JONES AT LOW WESTWOOD.

Under the auspices of the North-West Durham Women's Liberal Association (Hamsterley and Westwood Branch), a public tea was held in the Co-operative Hall, Low Westwood, on Wednesday afternoon. A large number of people patronised the tea, the tables being presided over by Mesdames Scott, Hurman, Golightly, and J. Scott. A public meeting was held in the evening, the hall being packed. Prior to the speaking, the District Mission Band (under the leadership of Mr. John Harris) played several selections. Coun. J. W. Winter, the Liberal agent, presided, and there were also on the platform—Mr. and Mrs. Atherley-Jones, Mrs. J. Pumphrey, Miss Weigall, Mrs. Ridley, Mrs Coxford, and other ladies.

After the Chairman had briefly opened the proceedings,

Mr. Atherley-Jones rose to address the audience. He said that he made up his mind when he came there that night to speak upon subjects that were not perhaps of general public importance, but upon subjects which might have a peculiar and particular interest for the ladies of the audience. He was very pleased to see so many ladies present. The ladies, he thought, were generally inclined to regard politics, like other possessions of men, as trivial and unimportant. They preferred to regard the serious business of life as confined to their own households. However, he was happy to say that a large and increasing number of women in all classes of society were recognising that politics might have an interest and significance for their lives, and for the lives of those that were dear to them. Who for one moment could fail to recognise that with regard to one great aspect of civilisation —the condition of the homes in which they lived, and also the education of their children—women had as large an interest as was possessed by men? (Hear, hear.) He confessed to feelings of great regret when he went to meetings throughout the constituency to find that comparatively few ladies cared to attend those meetings. That meeting was a happy exception. His friend Mrs. Ridley, could best tell them about that. He maintained that it was due to the fact that they had a few active, intellectual, and educated women amongst them, who recognised that women had a duty to perform with respect to the government of the empire. He often thought it extraordinary that so many women took an active interest in politics. He did not mean that silly, frivolous interest in politics which was confined to receiving their friends at garden parties, and masquerading under the names of dames, etc., at Primrose League gatherings. But he meant the stand taken in contra-distinction to the Primrose League by the Women's Liberal Associations throughout the country. (Applause.) He was surprised at this, because women possessed no direct power in political matters. He was not one of those who shrank from the conviction that many of those social problems which offered almost insuperable difficulties to legislators would be much more easily solved if they had the assistance of women —he would not say in Parliamentary deliberations, but in the selection of those who constituted the legislature of that country. Referring to the large armaments of the great powers, Mr. Jones said that perhaps it would help for the great cause of national and international peace if women were admitted into the counsels of the empire. That was a matter upon which there were wide differences of opinion. He came there that night in the position of a member of Parliament. In four or five days time he should have ceased to be a member of Parliament, and would be a candidate. (Applause.) For the past 15 years he had served them—he knew wholly inadequately—but to the best of his ability. He knew that in the course of a few short days he should have to again appeal to the electors, and ask them—not on account of his own humble person, but on account of the great cause of which he was a soldier—to achieve a victory greater than any yet attained. (Applause.) In going through the constituency he had been profoundly impressed by the unity, by the enthusiasm, and by the energy displayed by those responsible in their respective districts for the control of the Liberal Party. (Applause.) It was not the time for the men who believed in the principles of Liberalism to be lax, inert, or negligent. Let them look back for one brief space to what the Liberal Party had done for the country. Some affected to believe that it made no difference which political party was in power—the Tories were as likely to do as much good for them as the Liberals. True history told them that every great achievement in the cause of religious, moral, or material prosperity had been at the instance and through the machinery of the Liberal Party, and despite the determined and never-ceasing, but happily unsuccessful, hostility of the Conservative Party. Look at the removal of those religious disabilities which pressed upon the nonconformists of the country some 30 or 40 years ago. Look at the struggle successfully achieved by the party to which he belonged for the purpose of opening the great seats of learning—Oxford and Cambridge—to the members of all classes. Those achievements were made by the Liberal party in spite of the persistent and undying opposition of the Conservative Party. Look at the Education Bill, by which the children of the humblest peasant had access to knowledge as well as the children of the rich. He did not say that the education system was perfect, but some of them in that audience would remember that it was not their proud privilege to be able to gain access to the book of knowledge. (Hear, hear.) That was obtained through the machinery of the Liberal Party, through the efforts of that great statesman, William Ewart Gladstone —(applause)—and obtained in spite of the sometimes open and sometimes covert opposition of the Conservative Party. Mr. Jones then referred to how the Liberal Party had done away with child labour in the mines, and also to the fact that it was illegal at one time for men to combine in order to try and receive better wages, and went on to say that those great changes had been effected by legislative efforts through the agency of the Liberal Party, in face of the opposition of that party which in a few short days would be asking them to return them to power as the friends of the people. He asked what the Conservative Party had done for the working classes during the past 15 years, and the answer each man and woman would be obliged to make was "absolutely nothing." What had they done about Old Age Pensions, which they promised would be one of the first measures they would deal with? It was a false and fraudulent promise, and, like a bad ha'penny, he nailed it to the counter. (Applause.) If that was the only count in his indictment he would ask them to return a verdict of non-confidence in the Conservative party. It would be sought to throw a great deal of dust in their eyes, and all sorts of devices would be tried to hide the true issue. The true issue was—had the Government by its conduct of affairs, both home and foreign, fulfilled their reasonable expectations? Referring to the present war, Mr Jones appealed to the audience to ask themselves if it was really a cause which required so great a sacrifice of human life, and so vast an expense of treasure? (A voice: No.) None of them would shrink in a good cause but if they thought that through incompetency and blundering diplomacy that war had been brought about, let their verdict be a just verdict. With regard to the coming election he had no fear of the issue, as he believed they possessed the reasoning power to winnow the chaff from the wheat, and knew that the party of which he was a humble standard-bearer deserved well of them. (Applause.) The party they were fighting was not the party of the people. It was not the party of pirnciples, but of interests. On behalf of a party which deserved well of them in the past, and would deserve well of them in the future, he appealed to them to plant once more on the hills of Durham the Liberal flag, and imprint another victory upon its ample folds. (Loud applause.)

On the motion of Mrs Ridley, seconded by Mr I. Clark, a vote of confidence in Mr Jones was carried; and votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

"CONSETT GUARDIAN" INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	72	18	0
Per Mr. T. Pallister:—			
Miss Coltman, Consett	0	19	7
Mr. G. Freek, ...	0	1	6
Miss Carrick, Consett	1	0	0
J. Suckling	0	2	0
	£75	1	1

Subscriptions towards the Relief of the Sufferers will be thankfully received by the EDITOR, "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CONSETT.

ANNFIELD PLAIN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

On Tuesday evening the monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Burial Board Office, Hare Law, Coun. J. W. Taylor (chairman) presiding. There were also present—Couns. J. Storey, J. Mason, W. Eltringham, R. Hall, M. Aynsley, W. Young, J. Reece, J. G. Taylor, J. F. Smith, and W. Down; the Clerk (Mr. T. L. Watchman), the Surveyor (Mr. T. J. Trowsdale), and the Collector (Mr. R. Bates.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee examined, approved, and recommended for payment accounts amounting to £312 9s 4d.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Plans were examined, and it was resolved that the plan of store-room proposed to be erected in connection with a studio at Annfield Plain, for Mr. James Smith, be approved; that the plan of proposed erection of wash-house at Victoria Terrace, Annfield Plain, for Mr. J. Bennett, be approved; that the plan of proposed alteration to stable, etc., at Dipton, for Mr. S. Swalwell, be approved; that the plan of proposed erection of dwelling-house at Croft Terrace, Annfield Plain, for Mr. Ralph Rumney, be approved; that the plan of three houses at West Kyo for Mr. Joseph Dunn, be rejected, because it was not in accordance with the bye-laws; that the Surveyor be instructed to again interview Messrs. Cooper and Goodger with a view to obtaining land near South Medomsley for the disposal of the South Medomsley sewage; that the Surveyor be instructed to prepare provisional apportionments for the making of Back Front Street, Annfield Plain, and to make enquiries with a view of continuing the street at the north end to the Front Street, near the railway crossing.

HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee recommended that the arrangements for lighting the oil lamps on Flint Hill Road, for 14/- per week, be approved; that notices be served on the owners of the land affected by the Iveston and Kyo foot-road, and other awarded foot-roads, that unless the necessary repairs to the footpaths be completed in one month, the Council will proceed to do the work and charge them with the cost.

POSTAL FACILITIES AT EAST CASTLE.

A letter was read from Mr. G. Stevenson, postmaster, Newcastle, stating that after careful consideration had been given to the request of the Council for an evening delivery and also for the erection of a letter-box at East Castle, he regretted to say that present circumstances did not warrant the establishment of such service. He might suggest, however, that steps were being taken for the abolition of the present South Pontop letter-box and the erection of letter-boxes at Greencroft Cottages and Annfield Place.

Coun. Hall moved, and Coun. Down seconded, that the application be renewed for a letter-box for East Castle. They refused the application for Greencroft at first, but now they were going to grant it.

Coun. Storey: We should keep them warm.

The motion was carried.

COLLIERY SUBSIDENCES.

A letter was read from the Leadgate Council re colliery subsidences on the main roads, asking the Council to consider the following questions:—(1) Has the Lord of the Manor or the lessees a right to work the coal from underneath the highways and main roads; (2) if they have, to what extent?

Coun. Hall: It is time we were doing something. There are three roads to-day, and there is hardly one of them fit to go over with a trap.

Coun. Smith: There is the main road at Maiden Law.

Coun. Hall: That isn't ours.

Coun. Eltringham: Yes, it is.

Coun. Hall: No, it belongs to Lanchester.

Coun. Eltringham: Have we not a portion of the road there?

Coun. Storey: No.

A deputation, consisting of Couns. Hall, Reece, Down, Smith, Storey, and Mr. Trowsdale, was appointed to attend a further meeting of the conference on the subject.

HOUSING REFORM CONFERENCE.

A letter was read from Messrs. F. Tellow and H. R. Aldridge, secretaries of the above conference, inviting the Council to be represented at the forthcoming conference to be held in Newcastle for the consideration of the question of housing reform in the North of England.

Coun. J. G. Taylor moved, and Coun. Down seconded, that the Council be represented.

Coun. Young moved that the Chairman and Vice-chairman be representatives of the Council.

The Chairman: I will be there in another capacity.

Coun. Young: Then I move that Mr. Storey and Mr. Trowsdale be the Council's representatives.

Coun. Storey withdrew.

Eventually Couns. Hall and Eltringham, and Mr. Trowdsale were the appointed representatives of the Council at the conference.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. R. Bates reported that during the month he had collected £4 2s 4d for general district rate. The whole of the general district rate due after the rate made on May 1st, amounting to £2,358 14s 11d, had been collected and deposited with the treasurer. The balance to the Council's credit at the bank was £908 5s 5d.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. T. Benson reported that scarlatina was the only form of notifiable disease present in the district during the past month, and the number of cases reported to him in that period with the localities where they severally occurred was as follows, viz., two at South Pontop, three at Annfield Plain, one at Catchgate, and one at White-le-Head, the initial case in South Pontop and the only one in White-le-head acquired the infection outside the district; the remainder could have been infected in their immediate neighbourhood. Several cases of whooping cough had come under notice, but the epidemic had not been an active one, and the outbreak appeared to be declining. The month's mortality still continued below the county average; eighteen deaths were registered, giving a death-rate equal to 15.25 per 1,000 per annum. Two deaths were the result of injuries, and two succumbed to infectious disease—scarlatina and whooping cough. Infantile mortality showed a slightly proportional decrease.

THE CONDITIONS OF CLUBS.

Mr. T. J. Trowsdale, inspector, drew the Council's attention to Mr. Pringle's new premises at Front Street, Annfield Plain, now being used as a club, and which were without any sanitary arrangements. The drainage and other sanitary conveniences had not been completed, and no attempt was being made to remedy the matter. He had made an inspection of the premises at Delight Bank, Dipton, which were also being used as a club. There was a small enclosure boarded off from the large room which was used as a urinal. A basin in the corner was connected with a drain at the outside of the building. The enclosure was entirely without light and ventilation, and the arrangement was most insanitary. There was a privy situated by the side of the road, which was presumably attached to the premises, but its location was such as to render it unsuitable for the use of the club. As the membership of both these places was large it was essential that proper conveniences should be provided, and he recommended that notices be served on the owners to provide suitable urinal and closet accommodation.

The Chairman moved, and Coun. Aynsley seconded, that orders be served on the owners of the clubs to put the premises into proper sanitary condition.

The motion was carried.

THE LIGHTING QUESTION.

Coun. Storey moved, and Coun. J. G. Taylor seconded, (1) that the resolution of the Council passed on the 7th Nov., 1899, accepting the tender of the Durham Lighting and Carbide Company, and agreeing to their application for a Provisional Order under the Electric Lighting Acts, be and is hereby rescinded; (2) that the consent of the Council be and is hereby given to the application of the Northern Counties' Electricity Supply Company to the Board of Trade for a Provisional Order under the Electric Lighting Acts for the urban district of Annfield Plain, on the conditions stated in their letter.

The motion was carried unanimously.

FOOTPATH TO SOUTH MOOR.

Several members asked what was preventing the making of the proposed footpath to South Moor?

The Clerk replied that no further communication had come to hand.

After discussion, the Clerk was instructed to again write the Stanley Council and Messrs Cooper and Goodger as to the delay in the matter.

The Council then adjourned.

STANLEY POLICE COURT.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 19th, 1900.—Before Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, and Mr. F. H. Burn.

THE DRUNK LIST.

The following is a list of the cases of drunkenness and the fines imposed:—Lawrence Doran, 2/6 and costs; John Thornton, 10/- and costs; Thos. Barker, 2/6 and costs; Thos. George, 2/6 and costs; George Million, 2/6 and costs; Peter Scanlon, 2/6 and costs; John Heslop, 2/6 and costs; John Harris, 7/6 and costs; Wm. Peveller, 5/- and costs; Thos. French, 2/6 and costs; Geo. Young, 2/6 and costs; Matthew Hall, 2/6 and costs; John Harris, 7/6 and costs; Peter Doran, 2/6 and costs; Isaac Charlton, 7/6 and costs; John Bailey, 5/- and costs; James McKavanagh, 2/6 and costs; John Rutter, 2/6 and costs; Geo. Nicholson, 2/6 and costs.

PERMITTING DRUNKENNESS.

Supt. Benzies, of Consett summoned John Geddes, of the Blue Bell Inn, Kip Hill, for having permitted drunkenness on his licensed premises, and also for selling beer to a drunken person on July 28th. Mr. Carpenter, Birtley, defended.

P.C. Ferguson said when he visited the house he saw a man sitting drunk. The barman said he had been trying to get him out for the last half-hour.

Richard Stanton, miner, Tanfield Lea, said that he was in the Blue Bell Inn when the policeman visited the house. Somebody supplied him with beer, and he had a share of a quart of beer when in a drunken state. He went there about five o'clock and went out and returned about 7 p.m., but did not receive any drink as the barman thought he had had plenty.

In answer to Supt. Benzies witness said he had had no drink from any other house.

Mr. Carpenter for the defence, said Stanton, with others, went to the public-house and were served with beer. When they began to be noisy their drink was stopped, and they went out. Stanton returned and was very troublesome.

Ralph Johnson, manager of the Blue Bell Inn, corroborated Counsel's opening statement, and said when Stanton went back at seven o'clock he saw he was the worse for drink. He tried to persuade defendant to go home. When P.C. Ferguson followed in defendant left the house. Johnson said in answer to the Supt. he didn't like to summon Stanton for refusing to quit, because he had only got into the house.

Isaac Little, Shield Row, was in the Blue Bell when Stanton was refused drink, and heard him use bad language to the landlord, who told him twice to leave the house. He was in the house when Stanton went in.

Samuel Gibson, Kip Hill, Mary Ann Allison, Alred Rockett, Ed. Telford, and John Milburn corroborated, and deendant was fined 10/- and costs for the first offence, the second case being withdrawn.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

P.C. Davidson, of Stanley, summoned Wm. Christian and John Harris, of Stanley, for having committed a breach of the peace by fighting on Sept. 14th.—Harris did not appear, but Christian, who appeared, stated he only struck once in self-defence, and considered it hard to have to be summoned for such a man.—Christian was dismissed, but a warrant was issued for Harris.

ASSAULTS GALORE.

Mary Jane Trueman, a married woman, Oxhill summoned John Shield of High Kyo, for having assaulted her at Oxhill on Sept. 1st.—Mr. J. M. Aynsley, Consett, defended. —Complainant said defendant struck her on the shoulders, when he knew her husband was at Stanley. In answer to Mr. Aynsley complainant said the offence was committed between ten and eleven o'clock on Sept. 1st. She was afterwards taken into a neighbour's house. She didn't ask defendant's wife for the lard she had given her.—Mrs. Cooper saw Mrs. Trueman down and defendant fall on the top of her.—Defendant said he called at complainant's door, and asked for her husband, but was never in her house. Complainant told defendant to tell his wife to send the b—— lard back she had lent her. —Mrs. Donnelly, Kyo, said she heard complainant ask for the lard, and also say in answer to deendant's enquiry for her husband that he colld do nothing with him as she could do it herself.—Mary Cox, married woman, corroborated. When complainant made the remark about the lard defendant turned round when he was two yards away, but never struck complainant.—Mrs. Shield, wife of defendant, was standing on her own doorstep about five yards away when her husband went to complainant's house. He never struck complainant. Defendant turned round and went towards complainant, but was never near enough to strike her.—Defendant was fined 2/6 and costs.

Kate McGoldrick, Stanley, a young woman, summoned her brother for having assaulted her at Stanley on Aug. 28th.—Mr. T. W. Welford, Consett, appeared for complainant, and Mr. J. M. Aynsley Consett, defended. —Complainant said on going to Kip Hill defendant jumped out and kicked and struck her. She made a complaint to the police. She had done nothing to her brother, she was so afraid of her life. She left defendant's house about two months ago. For about six years complainant lived with defendant at Kip Hill after he got married. She did not make faces at her brother and his wife at Darney's school. She left her brother's house because he gave her no wages. —Sarah Ann Charlton remembered being with complainant on the night in question. Defendant jumped from the hedge and seized her by the throat and said "Now you b——, I have got you" and struck her. Complainent and she never did make faces at him. She ran away after she saw defendant had struck complainant. She was on an errand but had never jeered at defendant.—P.C. Ferguson, Shield Row, said complainant made a complaint to him. Mr. Aynsley said his case was that whenever complainant saw defendant's wife she jeered and made insulting remarks about her. Defendant had only slapped her face after great provocation. —Defendant's wife said complainant had jeered and scoffed at her while she was passing her. She put out her tongue at her.—Defendant corroborated the evidence of his wife. He smacked her face four or five times with his hand. Complainant worked in his house, but he gave her no wages. He allowed her clothes, meat and pocket money. What he did was only in the form of chastisement for what complainant had done to his wife and brother.—Both parties were bound over to keep the peace and pay the costs.

Ralph Johnson of the Blue Bell, Kip Hill, summoned Patrick McGoldrick for having assaulted him at Kip Hill on Sept. 3rd. Complainant said defendant, who was drunk went into his house, and struck him on the head and stunned him. He was afterwards ejected.—Defendant, who said he was sorry for what he had done, was fined 5/- and costs.

Robert Eden, Stanley, also summoned Patrick McGoldrick for having assaulted him and doing wilful damage to his property on Aug 24.—Complainant said defendant struck him with a "cracket" and broke his lamp, which cost 3/6.—Mr. Aynsley defended, and complainant in answer said he never used a poker. He sat on the bed exhausted, and asked defendant not to strike him again, as he had been off six weeks. Defendant replied "Yes, you b——, I will lay you off other six weeks."—Alex. Maddison and Geo Herron corroborated, and said defendant struck complainant's wife.—Mrs. Eden said defendant struck her before her husband went into the house. She saw defendant strike her husband, but did not see the lamp broken, as she ran out.—Defendant said he went to his sister's house in response to an invitation from his sister. Defendant said both his brother and his wife badly used him with the poker. He was never near the table, and the lamp was not knocked over in the struggle.—Defendant was fined 10/- and costs, and the damage for the wilful damage.

WILFUL DAMAGE CASES.

Joseph Watson, Shield Row, summoned Joseph McKie, boy, of Tanfield Lea, for having done damage to turnips at Causey Farm to the amount of 1d.—P.C. Ferguson said he saw the defendant commit the offence.—Defendant was fined 5/- and costs, and the damage.

Ed. Wylam, farmer, summoned Robert Appleton, boy, for having done wilful damage to turnips on Sept. 1st, at Stanley Edge Farm. P.C. Ferguson, Shield Row, proved the case, and defendant was fined 5/- and costs, and the damage.

Hy. Robinson, Stanley, summoned Hy. Warkman, of Stanley, for having done damage to grass at Stanley on Sept. 8th.—P.C. Ferguson, Shield Row, proved the case. —Plaintiff assessed the damage at 1d.—Defendant was fined 2/6 and costs.

Chas. Brown, Beamish Kennels, summoned Irish Craigs, miner, of Causey Row, and John Robinson, miner, Tanfield Lea, for having done damage to trees, the property of Slingsby D. Eden to the amount of 6d on Sept. 9th.—P.C. Furguson, Shield Row, stated that he saw the defendants pull down a large branch of a lamb tree. The road was strewed with leaves.—Defendants were fined 2/6 and costs and the damage.—Craigs: Can I get my stick, please. (Laughter.)

Robt. Heslop, of Stanley Hall Farm, agent, summoned Geo. Liddle, Thos. Gatiss, and Thos. Watson, youths, of Stanley, for having done damage to oats, the property of the West Stanley Coal Company, to the amount of 3d each.—Defendants were fined 6d each and costs and the damage.

Robt. Heslop also summoned Joseph Tangnan, miner, of High Street, Stanley, for having done wilful damage to grass on Sept. 5th, 1900.—P.C. Ayre proved the case, and the defendant was fined 1/- and costs, and the damage.

Robt Wood, farmer, Middles Farm, summoned Robt. Walton for having done damage to wheat, the property of the South Moor Colliery Company, on Sept. 2nd.—P.C. Stubbs, South Moor, proved the case.—Mr. Wood assessed the damage at 2d.—Defendant was fined 1/- and costs and the damage.

Robt. Wood, land agent, also summoned John Wilson, miner, of Craghead, for having done damage to certain underwood, the property of Thos. Hedley and Bros., of Craghead, on Aug. 26th.—Mr. Wood assessed the damage at 2d.—Defendant was fined 1/- and costs and the damage.

Robt. Wood also preferred a charge against Phoebe Puller and Jas. Chipchase, Edmondsley, of having done damage to turnips at Craghead, on Aug. 21st, the property of Thos. Hedley Bros. Craghead.—P.C. Crisp, of Craghead, said he saw defendants pull about five turnips. A deal of damage was done. The damage was put at 2d.—Defendants were fined 2/6 and costs and the damage.

Robt. Wood summoned Wm. Steans, of Craghead, for having done wilful damage to turnips to the amount of 2d on Aug. 16th.—P.C. Crisp proved the case, and defendant was fined 2/6 and costs and the damage.

Robt. Wood also summoned John Thos. Fagan and Frank King, of Craghead, for having done damage to turnips to the amount of 4d each on Aug. 21st.—P.C. Crisp, Craghead, had the case in hand, and defendants were fined 2/6 and costs and the damage.

Wm. Raisbeck, farmer, High Ousterley Farm, Craghead, sumoned Henry Morton, for having damaged a fence on Aug. 12th, and John Merritt, John Taylorson, and John Ramm, Craghead, for having done damage to turnips, the property of Jane Willey, on Sept. 3rd, to the extent of 6d each.—P.C. Crisp of Craghead, proved the case, and defendants were fined 2/6 and costs, and the damage.

PITCH AND TOSS.

P.C. Ferguson, Shield Row, summoned Geo. Hearley, Isaac Agar, Wm. Watson, Joseph Watson, Thos. Barnes, Robt. Pearson, John Pearson, Joe Brown, Wm. Halliday, Jos. Coulson, Philip Dixon, and Chas. Piper, miners, all of Stanley, for having played at pitch and toss in the parish of Stanley, on Sept. 2nd.—P.C. Ferguson, Shield Row, stated that he saw the defendants playing pitch and toss. Brown was there engaging in the game.—Brown said he was never off the footpath, and was not gambling.—P.C. Ayre corroborated and said he saw Brown schooling.—Barnes stated that Brown and Knotts took no part in the school. He was there all the time. The case was considered proved, and all the defendants were fined 2/6 and costs.

P.C. Ferguson also summoned Jas. Graham, Wm. Pharoah, Jas. Allen, Richard Netherton, and Richard Lumsden, for having committed a similar offence at Causey on Sept. 9th.—Defendants all pleaded guilty, and were all fined 2/6 and costs.

P.C. Ayre, of Stanley, summoned Archer Coyle, Wm Anderson, John Jefferson, Thos. Bolam, Joseph Harrison, John Potter, John Bell, Jas. Robt. Etherington, and Jas. Coxon, miners, Stanley, for a similar offence at Stanley on Sept. 2nd.—The officer stated that he broke the school up at which the whole of the defendants had been playing. Defendants were fined 2/6 and costs.

GAMING WITH CARDS.

P.C. Ayre summoned John Maddison, Thos. Campbell, Thos. Carr, Geo. Golden, Robt. Dagg, Stephen Dagg, John Dennison, Roger Hours, and Jas Hare, miners, of No Place and East Stanley, for having gamed with cards on the public highway on Sept. 2nd. —The officer stated he saw the whole of the deendants playing at nap with cards.—Defendants were fined 2/6 and costs each.

TOWNS' POLICE CLAUSES ACT.

P.C. Ayre, Stanley, summoned Ernest Rowe, Robt Payne, Thos. Clark, Robt. Edwards, and Jas. Forster, for having obstructed the highway in Front Street, Stanley, on Aug. 21st.—Payne and Edwards pleaded not guilty.—The officer stated that he saw the whole of the defendants obstructing the footpath in front of the Theatre. He had cautioned the defendants about fifteen times.—Defendants were fined 2/6 and costs each.

Jane Ann Dawson, widow, Oakeys Cottages, summoned Margaret Ann Peel, and Esther Gill, of High Street, Stanley, for having used obscene language on Aug. 27th at Back High Street, Stanley. Mr. D. H. C. Balleny, Consett, prosecuted.—Defended pleaded not guilty. Mr. Balleny said complainant was teaching a friend to ride a bicycle in the street, when defendants used abusive language to complainant.—Complainant in answer to Mr. Balleny, said on the date mentioned she was teaching a friend to ride a bicycle. Deendants abused her for about half-an-hour, and the language used was horrible, in consequence of which a crowd collected, and she went into the house.—Miss Beatrice Handcock corroborated.—One of the defendants said Mr. Handcock was squeezing complainant, and she said only "Good morning."—Mr Balleny: Is that any business of yours?—Defendant: No, it was merely a joke.—Defendants were fined 1/- and costs each.

HIGHWAY ACT.

P.C. Ferguson, Shield Row, summoned Joseph Vickers, miner, Beamish Air Pit, for having on Sept. 1st been the owner of a certain cart unlawfully and used the same on a certain highway called Shield Row Road without a name painted thereon.—P.C. Ferguson proved the case.—Defendant said it had been away after getting resirs. Defendant said the cart was not his own when the officer saw him. He had not had time to put his name on.—The case was dismissed with a caution.

LOCOMOTIVES' ACT.

P.C. Ayre sumoned Geo. Robertson, engine driver, Wallsend, for having driven a locomotive along a certain public highway at a greater speed than four miles an hour, to wit, at a speed of six miles an hour. Mr. T. M. Ridley, Stanley, defended, and pleaded not guilty.—The officer stated that he saw the defendant driving the engine at a great speed. In answer to Mr. Ridley: Defendant could not pull up his engine until he had got past him for several yards.—The defence was that the engine was fixed at a four mile gear, and could not possibly have gone at a greater speed.—Deendant sworn, said he was an engineer in the employ of Messrs Gibb and Burnett, Newcastle. They could not get it into another gear as it was locked. He had five or six tons on when approaching Stanley. The officer was about 20 yards in front of him. He could have stopped the engine with the brakes, which were very powerful.—David Mark, who was in the employ of the Newcastle Brewery Company, corroborated, and stid it was his duty to pu on the brakes. He had them on before com ing to the bank.—The Bench considered th case proved, and defendant was fined 2/6 an costs.

LARCENY.

The West Stanley Coal Company su n- moned James Donaghy, miner, Mary Stre st, Stanley, for having stolen a broom at St an- ley Colliery, on Sept. 1st, valued at /6. John Suddes, coke burner, Stanley, said he missed a broom from the coke yard, and gave notice of it to the manager. The br om produced was the property of the West S an- ey Coal Company. It would be worth 1/6. Deendant stated his willingness to be t ried y one magistrate.—Terence O'Neil, labo rer, West Stanley was working at the coke o wens when he saw the defendant going down No. 2 gullet with the broom in his hand i the direction of his home. He thought de fend- ant had some drink in him.—P.C. Ayre, East Stanley, proceeded to the prisoner's h ouse, and apprehended him, when he admitt ed the offence while drunk.—Defendant p leaded guilty and was fined 5/-.

STEALING A WATCH AND CHAIN.

A lad named Jas. Brown was charg d with having stolen a watch and chain fr om the house of Mary Ann Potts, Palmer Street, East Stanley, on Sept. 17th, 1900, the pro- perty of John Jas. Poulton, the lo dger of Mrs. Potts.

John James Poulton said he was a miner and lodged with Mrs. Mary Ann Potts, at No. 2, Palmer Street, East Stan ley. On Monday, the 17th September he we nt to his work at 5.30 a.m., and hung his watch up on a nail in the kitchen, and on his return Mrs. Potts told him his watch had been stolen. The watch produced was his pro- perty, and was worth £1 15s.

Mary Ann Potts stated that she was a widow and resided at No. 2 Palr mer Street, East Stanley. On Monday, the 17th Sep- tember, John James Poulton, who lodged with her had his watch hanging in her kit- chen on a nail. She saw the watch all right about 9 a.m., and about 9. 30 a.m. she had occasion to go downstairs; in doing so she met the prisoner James Brown coming up with her milk. She told prisor to empty it into a basin on the table; shortly after she had returned to her house the buzzer blew at 10 a.m. She looked to see how the watch was with the buzzer, an d missed the watch. There was no one in th e house but the prisoner. She afterwards gave inform- ation to the police.

Wm. Ferguson said he was a police con- stable stationed at Shield Ro w. From in- formation received he proceed ed to Stanley Edge Farm, and there recove red the watch and chain, and apprehended the prisoner James Brown, and took h im to Stanley Police Station. He there ch arged him with stealing a silver watch and albert, the pro- perty of John James Pou lton, of No. 2, Palmer Street, East Stan ley, when the prisoner replied, "yes, I st ole it." Defendant, who pleaded g uilty, was sent to Durham for seven days.

Whickh

Flower Show Sports —The postponed sports for girls in conn ection with Whicky ham Flower Show were duly brought off on Saturday in the cricket field adjoining the village. Splendid wea ther prevailed and consequently there was a good beat-up of fair little competitors and parents, who had a capital programme draw n up for them. The prizes offered for the various events were of more than ordinary value, and hence competitors were to be fou nd in galore. Everything passed off in a h ighly satisfactory manner, the work of supe rvision being entrusted to Messrs N. Burn, J . Taylor, J. W. Spoor, S. Spoor, and G. Ell ander.

LEEK SHOW AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

The members of the Gardener's Improving Society of Annfield Plain held their third annual leek and vegetable show on Saturday last, in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, when some very valuable prizes were given for both leeks and vegetables by various tradesmen of the district. Mr. Geo. Walton, Leadgate, acted as judge, and gave the very best of satisfaction. After the leeks were lifted from the tables a grand lime-light entertainment was given by Mr. Jas. Smith, photographer, of Annfield Plain, when some very interesting views of the present war in South Africa were shown. The following is the order of merit of both leeks and vegetables:—

Leeks—1, Jno. Armstrong, South Moor, blankets and calico; 2, Jno. Crooks, South Moor, blankets; 3, W. Stoker, half-dinner set; 4, S. Smith, South Pontop, dress-piece; 5, J. Gibson, South Pontop, rocking-chair; 6, C. Liddle, Oakey's, bed rug; 7, W. Jackson, Annfield Plain, what-not; 8, M. Bates, Kyo, hearth rug; 9, Jas. Stobbart, South Pontop, clock; 10, Jno. Holling, Oakey's, umbrella; 11, Fred Stoker, Catchgate, ham; 12, J. Mason, Annfield Plain, kettle; 13, J. Mellow, Dipton, trousers; 14, R. Smith, South Pontop, ham; 15, R. Kirsopp, Pontop Pike, what-not; 16, R. Robson, South Pontop, pan and steamer; 17, R. Ball, Pontop Pike, 6yds. flannel; 18, Geo. Setrey, Kyo, shirt; 19, R. Platten, South Pontop, tablecloth; 20, J. Summerbell, Kyo Burn, boots; 21, D. Armstrong, Annfield Plain, sheets; 22, J. Mellow, Dipton, hat; 23, S. Boswell, Hare Law, sheets; 24, W. Hunter, Oxhill, hat; 25, R. Johnson, Lona Cottages, bed rug; 26, J. Coote, South Moor, umbrella; 27, Geo. Bullerwell, East Kyo, shirt.

Collection of vegetables (4 varieties 1 of a kind)—1, Jno. Armstrong, set of carvers, given by W. Collinson; 2, Jno. Holling, set of brackets, by C. Watkins; 3, Jno. Crooks, 5s, by Jno. Storey; 4, W. Stoker, 3s 6d, by W. Watson; 5, S. Smith, 3s 6d, by J. Robinson; 6, C. Liddle, Jno. Wilson's prize, 3s; 7, R. Robson, Geo. Reylond's prize, 2s 6d; 8, W. Stoker, Bottle of whisky, by W. Lumley; 9, R. Smith, Jno. Wood's prize, 2s 6d; 10, J. Stobbart, J. Burn's prize, 2s 6d; 11, S. Boswell, magic lantern; 12, R. Platten, Mr. Brack's prize, 5s; 13, J. Mason, Jno. Robinson's prize, best toufel; 14, J. Summerbell, a gripe, by Mr. Townsend; 15, R. Ball, a tongue, by Mr. W. Maddison; 16, W. Hunter, a beast heart, by Mr. T. Parker.

Hand bouquet—1, Sam Smith; 2, J. Summerbell.

Carrots—1, Sam Smith; 2, W. Stoker.
Celery—1, Jno. Armstrong; 2, J. Crooks.
Parsnips—1, R. Ball; 2, M. Bates.
Cauliflower—1, M. Holing.
Red cabbage—1, R. Kirsopp; 2, R. Robson.
Beet—1, R. Ball; 2, S. Boswell.
Turnips—1, R. Kirsop; 2, R. Ball.

The duties of secretary were ably performed by Mr. S. Smith, South Pontop.

BLACKHILL ETHIOPIAN MINSTREL TROUPE.

By way of resuscitation the members of the Original l Blackhill Ethiopian Minstrel Troupe gave a grand concert in the Consett Town Hall on Wednesday night in aid of the Consett and District Cricket Club bazaar scheme. I n the past this excellent band of amateurs h ave won golden opinions for two reasons. First, because of their undoubted merit as special performers, and secondly, because of disinterestedness in the matter of pecuniary gain. Their motto may be said to be "for o thers," inasmuch as all their performances are for charitable or deserving objects. I t is not, therefore, surprising that they have been able to attract crowded audiences an d to swell, in many instances, somewhat att enuated coffers. Their temporary retiremen t was matter for regret and their resuscitat ion all the more welcome and cordial. Th ere was a vast audience on Wednesday ni ght anticipatory at the commencement, del ighted at the close. The programme submitte d was one well calculated to test the merit of the best of minstrel troupes and few could have gone through the ordeal with such ur qualified success as the "locals" from Bl ackhill. Musically it was a treat, in the matter of fun it was refined and highly e ffective, and as a stage performance it was a Moore and Burgess production of the bes t class. There seemed to have been nothing left undone every detail apparently having received close attention. As a result th e programme was gone through with an ea sy "go" which was remarkable for a pur ely amateur troupe and would have broug ht a blush to many a more regularly train ed class of performers. Neither individually nor collectively could fault be found and of the praise bestowed was nothing short of that was deserved. The stage appointmen ts to begin with were admirably conceiv ed, the costumes were "up to date," the dis positions worthy of a master hand, and the programme excellently arranged and orde red. The troupe consisted of,—Soprano:— M asters W. Shell, P. Davies, A. Forster, R aid, Williams, Robson, and Hamilton; A lti:—Messrs J. Sheffield, Jno. Bell, and C. H erbert; Tenori:—Messrs P. Cameron, T. A tkinson, and Joe. Siddle, jun.; Bassi:—Messrs J. Symington, J. Mathieson, J. Askew, T. Charlton, R. Watson, J. Turner, and W. Walker; Comedians:—Messrs J. Westgarth, J. Davies, S. Judge, A. D. Wood, J. MacTaggart, and F. W. Brodie. In addition Mr Geo. A. Williams had under his charge an able orchestra, consisting of the following performers:—First violins: Messrs J. W. Heslop, T. Borthwick, C. Clegg, J. Gunn, J. Dowse; contra basses: Messrs D. Borthwick, D. Harding; second violins: Messrs W. Robson, C. Robson, W. Urwin, J. Emmerson; flute and piccolo: Messrs Alfred Heslop, — Robson; viola: Mr J. Crick; cello: Mr A. H. Heslop; clarionets, Messrs W. Tilley, J. Pattison; cornets, Messrs J. Roberts, J. Marshall; piano: Mr J. W. Davison. After an opening overture by the orchestra the troupe, who were admirably led by Mr J. T. Symington, as "Massa Johnson," gave "Our Native Land" as a preliminary chorus which, being charmingly rendered, was a foretaste of what was to follow. Mr A. D. Wood amused his audience with "De Golden Bike," and Mr Symington's baritone voice was heard to advantage in "Loved but Lost." Mr J. Westgarth having rendered "A lubly gal was Dinah," Master W. Shell secured a thoroughly deserved encore for his singing of "Lu Lu." Mr F. W. Brodie convulsed the audience with a nigger laughing song, and Mr J. Mathieson gave a powerful rendering of the bass song "Big Moon." Mr J. Davies was not only very funny but very clever in his comic song "A Sassy little Nig," and had to respond to a demonstrative encore. Mr Joseph Siddle once more delighted a Consett audience, this time with the song "Far, far away, my honey." Mr J. McTaggart having contributed a comic song, entitled "The 'skeeter' (mosquito), Mr S. Judge brought down the house with a contribution which had to extend to a second turn. The first part of the programme was brought to a conclusion by a melody of minstrel melodies, arranged by Mr G. A. Williams, and most ably performed by the troupe. The principal events in the second part were a very laughable stump oration by Mr J. Davison, a cleverly executed coon song and dance by Mr J. Watson, which elicited loud applause, and for an encore he appeared in a new costume and gave a very clever clog dance. A comic song by Mr J. Robinson was enthusiastically encored. A zither solo by Mr I. Davies followed, and as a fitting conclusion, a phantasmagoria was given, which afforded an opportunity of showing that patriotic fervour was still well to the fore. Needless to say the orchestra came in for a large amount of well-deserved praise, and among the unseen, but none the less valuable workers were Mr James Kelly and Mr Jake Siddell into whose hands fell the responsible duties of stage management. The performance was brought to a conclusion shortly before eleven o'clock, and there was a concensus of feeling that a good deal ought to be heard of the troupe between now and next spring.

Lintz Green

At the prize show and sale of foals and unbroken horses at Hexham on Monday, Mr. Geo. Charlton, Rick Lees, Lintz Green, took first prize for the best half-bred colt or filly, two-and-a-half years old, which sold for £25.

Ouston

Stack Fire.—On Friday afternoon, a haystack was observed to be on fire at the Springs Farm, near Ouston. The Birtley Fire Brigade, under the direction of Mr. Wm. Mallabar, was promptly on the scene, and, assisted by a large number of willing workers, soon got the fire under control, but not before a large amount of damage had been done to the stack. Fortunately there was little wind at the time, or the whole farmstead might have been burned to the ground. The origin of the fire is not known.

A SWORN DECLARATION

BY VENO.

INTERESTING TO THE BRITISH PUBLIC. IT CONCERNS VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL REMEDY IN ENGLAND FOR STOMACH, LIVER, KIDNEY AND BLOOD DISEASES.

IF YOU ARE ANXIOUSLY DESIRING A CURE YOU HAVE HERE A SPECIFIC MEDICINE AS GOOD AS MAN CAN MAKE IT.

(Copy of Declaration.)

I, William H. Veno, of 18, Devonshire Street, All Saints, Manchester, in the County of Lancaster, do hereby solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:—That I am the sole Inventor and Manufacturer of VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC and VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE, and that these two medicines do not contain any obnoxious or dangerous drugs. After many years experience in the art of healing and the application of medicines I formulated VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC, and have succeeded in producing a high-class pharmaceutical preparation, compatible, and possessing great medicinal activity, containing ingredients which act pleasantly but effectively upon the four great vital organs of the body, viz., the stomach, liver, kidneys, and blood, thereby curing such ailments as arise from a diseased condition of these organs.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE is a medicine of equal value in its own sphere, viz., for diseases of the chest, lungs, and throat. It is a clear palatable medicine, containing, with other things, a drug discovered in California, which was found to be a specific for bronchitis, asthma, and influenza. It has lately been prescribed with unvarying success for children and adults, by physicians throughout the Western Hemisphere.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously, believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act of 1835.

W. H. VENO.

Declared at the City of Manchester, this 5th day of September, 1900, before me W. WALKER, Commissioner for oaths.

VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC has beaten off the angel of death and brought brightness and strength to many a despairing invalid. Those who have tested it know its strengthening and healing power. They speak from experience when they say it is the only medicine that ever made them feel well. It clears the brain, strengthens the stomach, purifies the blood, regulates the whole system, removes headache, steadies the action of the heart, and invigorates the body. It is the most natural cure for constipation and kidney trouble. Price, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE stops an ordinary cough in one night, and cures chronic coughs, bronchitis, asthma, influenza, and whooping cough rapidly. Vastly superior to ordinary cough mixtures or any of the emulsions. A scientific remedy endorsed by medical men. Price, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

Sold at the Consett Co-operative Society; Milner, chemist; and by all chemists and stores.

Lanchester Petty Sessions.

THURSDAY, Sept. 13th.—Before Mr. E. W. E. Balleny (presiding), Mr. W. Logan, the Rev. T. J. L. Warneford, Mr. Jonathan Green, Mr. W. Holmes.

THE DRUNK LIST.

The following cases of drunkenness were dealt with:—Wm. Greener, Annfield Plain, 2/6; Matthew Greener, Lanchester, 5/-; Wm. Robson, Lanchester, 2/6; J. Richardson, Lanchester, 5/-; Thomas Wilson, Lanchester, 7/6; John Stephenson, Burnhope, 7/6; Wm. McKenzie, Burnhope, 10/-; Robert Green, Burnhope, 5/-; Thomas McCale, Burnhope, 5/-; Thomas Donelly, Annfield Plain, 2/6; Daniel Donelly, Annfield Plain, 5/-; Francis Gillespie, Annfield Plain, 5/-; John Morgan, Annfield Plain, 2/6; James Temperley, Annfield Plain, 2/6; George Stobbs, Annfield Plain, 2/6; Richard Burdiss, Esh, 5/-; Wm. McNaughton, Esh, 2/6; James Boyle, Esh, 5/-; James Tobin, Esh, 5/-; Patrick Doyle, Esh, 2/6; James Schofield, Esh, 10/-; Patrick 2/6; Wm. Agar, Esh, 10/-; James Eastburn, Esh, 2/6; James Schofield, Esh, 10/-; Patrick Hennessy, Stanley 5/- and costs in each case. Gardner Stoddart for being drunk while in charge of a horse and cart at Esh on Aug. 9th, was fined 5/- and costs.

GAMING WITH DICE.

Peter Darrell was convicted of gaming with dice at Annfield Plain on Sept. 1st, and was ordered to pay a fine of 2/6 and costs.

BREACH OF PEACE.

George Hughes and John Hughes for fighting at Burnhope on Aug. 31st, were bound over to keep the peace and ordered to pay the costs.—Henry Bell and Robert Wall were similarly dealt with for fighting at Annfield Plain on Aug. 30th, and John Thompson and Thomas Palmer for fighting at Annfield Plain on Aug. 29th, were also bound over.

PITCH AND TOSS.

The following fines were inflicted for playing at pitch and toss:—Roger Paley 2/6, Daniel Buckingham 2/6, Thomas Carr 10/-, Andrew Coyle 2/6, John Bailey 2/6, James Thompson 2/6, Joseph McGowan 5/-, Robt. Pase 5/-, Matthew Fairish 2/6, John Peveller 2/6, Thomas Dawson 5/- and Richard Carter 2/6, with costs in each case.

ASSAULT ON THE POLICE.

John Hennessy, who did not appear, was charged with having assaulted P.C. Davidson at Stanley on Aug. 24th. P.C. Davidson said he was on duty in Front Street when the defendant threw a bottle at his head.—A fine of 20/- and costs was inflicted with the alternative of 14 days imprisonment.

POACHING.

Jos. Agar was charged with an offence under the Poaching Prevention Act on August 19th. P.C. Eagle said he caught the defendant on the road at Hedley Hill with three rabbits and four nets in his possession.—Defendant pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Patrick Carpenter and John Maher were charged with having refused to quit the licensed premises of Charles D. Morin, Cross Keys Inn, Esh Village, on August 13th. Having heard the evidence the Bench fined Carpenter 5/- and costs and Maher 10/- and costs.

MINING OFFENCES.

Henry Raine was charged under the Mines Regulation Act with contravening the special rules of Langley Park pit by having his lamp within two feet of the goaf. The offence was admitted and a fine of 2/6 and costs was inflicted.

John Thomas Binoliff, Langley Park, was charged with contravening the rules by running two tubs with a small pony. The defendant had been warned against running more than one tub but he continued to offend.—He was fined 5/- and costs.

John Bell was also fined 5/- and costs for having his lamp within two feet of the swing of his pick.—Mr. Oliver, Durham, prosecuted in each case on behalf of the colliery proprietors.

A MAINTENANCE CASE.

Robert Craggs, an old man, was summoned to show cause why he should not pay towards the maintenance of his wife, who had become chargeable to the Union.—Mr. Walton, relieving officer said the sum due was £2 3s.—Mr. J. J. Devey, solicitor, Wolsingham, on behalf of Craggs, said he did not think the Bench could make an order unless it could be proved that his client had means to pay.—Mr Walton said Craggs was not working but he had two houses in Satley Grove and one of his sons owed him £44.—Mr. Devey said Craggs was an aged man and had no property real or personal. He was some time ago possessed of house property and furniture, but that had been frittered away and now he was practically penniless and dependent upon one son.—The Chairman said they would have to make an order for 3/- per week.

HOUSES CONDEMNED AT QUEBEC.

Mr. James Chambers, solicitor, Durham, applied on behalf of the Lanchester Rural Council for an order for the closing of ten tenements at Marley's Houses, Quebec, the owner of which was Mr. Geo. A. Wherley, draper, Quebec. The proceedings were taken under the 32nd section of the Housing of the working Classes Act 1890. A representation was made by Dr. Wilson, medical officer to the Lanchester Council, and it was decided that proceedings should be taken. Proper notices under the Act were served upon the defendant, and as to their receipt there was no dispute. He (Mr. Chambers) proposed to apply in the first place in respect of the three houses in the front. Mr. Lupton would tell them that he had inspected these premises, and that in his opinion they were absolutely unfit for human habitation. He did not mean that they were in a dirty state, but in themselves they were unfit.

Mr. J. R. Lupton, Inspector of Nuisances, said he first saw the houses in February, and he then reported to the Council, and notices were served. He examined them on two or three occasions. There was only one room of limited cubic space for everything.

Cross-examined: The houses were injurious to health because of there being only one room, and because of the smallness of the room. Some repairs had been made and a cupboard had been put in, but was not properly ventilated. The rooms were not structurally bad. His ground of objection was that there was only one room. The room itself was injurious to the health of anyone living in it.

Dr. Wilson said in his opinion the houses were unfit for habitation. There was only one room and there was no through ventilation consequently when two people were sleeping there the air did not get diluted with pure air. The amount of carbon generated during the night was poisonous to the people. The air in the room was full of carbon and the foul air was always there. As a medical man he said it was unfit for habitation. He had known the houses ever since they were built. Originally these rooms formed the back part of the houses. Since then they had been divided and made into six tenements instead of three. By so doing they had stopped the through ventilation, and so made them unfit for habitation.

Cross-examined: The rooms as they existed were dangerous because there was no through ventilation.

Mr. Chambers said they contended that the rooms were injurious to health, and it did not matter how it arose.

Dr. Wilson said there was no ashpit or privy in connection with these houses.

Dr. Hill, County Medical Officer, said he had twice inspected the houses and he agreed with Dr Wilson. He was firmly convinced that the houses were unfit for habitation partly for want of through ventilation. There was no proper pantry and insufficient drainage. The surface drains were not satisfactory, and it was evident in heavy rains the rooms would take in water. There was insufficient privy and ashpit accommodation if any at all. He did not think the question of cubic space entered into a question of that kind.

Cross-examined: The buildings had been repaired and the structure was fair. In all tenemented property of that kind he would deal with it under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. The rooms were not fit even for one person to live in. In some towns he had advocated single rooms where everything was good, but here everything was bad.

Mrs. Delaney said she used to occupy one of the rooms, but had to leave owing to the state of her health. She suffered in health when she lived in the house, but she was now a good deal better. There was only the one room in which to do everything, and after baking days she had to leave the door open all night.

Mr. Oliver said if it was a question of overcrowding then the summons did not apply.

The Chairman said there was no question of overcrowding raised.

Mr. Oliver said he would call medical evidence to show that the rooms were fit for habitation and he would submit that when doctors differed the Bench ought not to make the order. They would have no right of appeal and it was a serious matter for his client.

Dr. Plummer, Durham, said he had seen the premises that morning. He did not find any of the rooms objectionable. In his opinion, taking all the circumstances into consideration, the rooms were fit for habitation. He differed from Dr. Wilson and Dr Hill on theoretical grounds.

Mr. Wherley said he was the owner of the property, and it was let to the Hamsteels Colliery Company. He had owned the houses for 28 years. They had been in the same condition ever since he got them. He did not make the alteration. There had only been three deaths in the 28 years, and they were all old people. There were 13 tenants, and there had never been a case of infectious disease on the premises.

Cross-examined: They were exceedingly healthy places. He had sometimes caused the Colliery Company to remove objectionable tenants.

The Chairman asked where the other inmates went when there was a death in the house?

Mr. Wherley said the deaths occurred in the two-roomed houses. If a death occurred in the single rooms the occupants could go to a neighbour's.

The Chairman asked if it would be possible to alter the rooms to meet the requirements.

Dr. Hill said he did not see how it could be done.

The Bench then made a closing order. In the remaining cases a closing order was also made, but would not be put in force for three months to give Mr. Wherley an opportunity of meeting the requirements of the local authority.

Mr. Chambers applied for and was granted costs.

Consett Petty Sessions.

MONDAY, Sept. 17th.—Before Mr. James Annandale (chairman), Mr. W. Aynsley, Mr. W. Holmes, Mr. G. Ainsworth.

CHILD DESERTION.

Terence Collins, labourer, was charged under the Vagrancy Act with having deserted his child Lena 12 years of age, who had become chargeable to the Lanchester Union.

Mr. W. Ward, relieving officer, said in consequence of defendant neglecting his child she became chargeable to the Union on the 19th of June last and she was still an inmate of the institution. Defendant resided in Consett up to about 15 months ago when he broke up his home. The child was then taken to St. Anne's Convent, Newcastle, defendant arranging to contribute weekly. He failed to keep up his payments and the child was sent back to Consett, and afterwards sent to her grandmother at Darlington. She was afterwards sent back to the care of a woman in Consett who three months ago declined to keep her any longer. Defendant was formerly a labourer at the Blast Furnaces, and afterwards worked at Newburn Steel Works leaving there on the 20th of June last or a week after the child became chargeable to the Union. The cost of the maintenance was £1 19s. Defendant was a widower, and there was no doubt he was using his best endeavours to get rid of his children, and was in the habit of drinking. He had three children,—Alice, aged 14 years, now at the Convent, Lena 12, and a boy Joseph who was being maintained by defendant's brother. The girl at the convent worked to maintain herself. Defendant left the district and had been aprehended on a warrant.

Defendant said he had been bad with rheumatic fever, and Mr. Ainsworth gave him a letter for the Whitley Home. When he came back he was a cripple, and could not follow his work.

Mr. Ward said it was two years ago since he was in the Whitley Home.

Defendant was sent to gaol for a month with hard labour.

THEFT OF GROWING ROOTS.

Joseph Gorley and George Brown were charged with having stolen a quantity of growing roots, the property of Thomas Henry Smith at Tanfield on Sept. 9th.—Complainant said at about a quarter to six o'clock at night he was looking after his stock when he saw the defendants amongst his potatoes. They were stooping down and picking the potatoes up. He afterwards found a lot of potatoes strewn about. He then gave information to P.C. Reeks.—Thomas Green said he saw the defendants with their pockets "bulging" out. There were potatoe tops lying about.—P.C. Reeks said he apprehended Gorley, and on searching him he found two potatoes in his pocket. There were a lot of potatoes lying in the dyke side.—Gorley said they had had some drink or would not have committed such an offence. He asked the Bench to look over it, and they would pay the costs.—The Chairman said the defendants had rendered themselves liable to be fined £20. The fact that they were drunk made no difference. They would be fined 10/- and costs each.

HIGHWAY ACT.

Robert Bolam, who did not appear, was charged under the Highway Act with having allowed two cows to stray on the road at Flint Hill, on the 1st of September.—P.C. Reeks said he saw the cows on the road for about twenty minutes. He had cautioned the defendant before.—The Bench imposed a fine of 1/- for each cow and costs.

CRUELTY TO A MARE.

John Brough who was represented by his wife, was charged with cruelty to a mare at Shield Row on the 23rd of July.—P.C. Ferguson said he saw the defendant at Shield Row with a little brown mare. She was very lame on both the hind legs. Defendant had her attached to a spring cart and witness saw him lash the animal unmercifully four times. Witness stopped him and asked him what he meant. On examining the mare he found inside its off hind leg two distinct marks where the skin had been taken off and blood was running down the hind legs. He ordered defendant to loose the mare out, and he took him into custody. Defendant gave his address as Clayton Street, New Durham. Witness found that that was a wrong address, and that defendant lived at West Cornforth. At the time witness was speaking to defendant Matthew Stephenson, who previously owned the animal and had himself been fined 20/- and costs in respect of the same mare, came up and said "mind I told you not to yoke the pony."—Inspector Greatorex also gave evidence, and said the mare had since been destroyed.—Mrs. Brough said Stephenson never told her husband anything about the mare.—A fine of 20/- and costs was imposed.

BACK FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Joseph Calvert, wearing the uniform of the Durham Light Infantry, and on sick leave from South Africa, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Dipton on Sept. 7th, and he and his father Robert Calvert were charged with obstructing the police on the same day.

P.C. Curtis said on Friday night, the 7th inst., at about 11.15 at night there was a disturbance in Front Street, Dipton. There were two men named Pickering and Macguire fighting, and there was a large crowd of people around. Pickering was a son-in-law of Robert Calvert. Witness went towards the men and got them separated and tried to get them away. The two defendants then got hold of Pickering and pushed him through the crowd to fight again with the other man. Witness made an attempt to get at them again, but the two defendants got in front of him and pushed him back. One of them pulled his cape and encouraged others to keep him back. He got hold of the soldier and said "Now this work won't do. Get them away from the street." Calvert replied, "You have nothing to do with it; I am boss here, not you." (Laughter.)

Calvert: I am boss, an' all.

P.C. Curtis said the defendants then got in front of him and one of them said "How way lads, keep the black —— back." (Laughter.)

The Chairman said the Court would be cleared if that noise went on. It was disgraceful.

P.C. Curtis said he had great trouble in getting the men separated.

The elder defendant said that all he did was to try and get the others away.

Sergt. Lawson said he went in the direction of the disturbance and met Joseph Calvert, who asked "am I drunk." Witness told him he was.

Joseph Calvert said the policeman was "drunker" than anybody. The police had a spite against him long before he went to South Africa, and had tried hard to catch him and had now "fetched" him up for nothing. He was invalided home, where he arrived about six weeks ago, and his time was now up to go back again.

The Bench, after hearing evidence for the defence from Ralph Williamson and Andrew Bragg, dismissed the case against Robert Calvert. Joseph Calvert had been behaving disgracefully, and would be fined 5/- and costs for being drunk and disorderly. The charge of obstructing would be dismissed.

BETTING PROSECUTIONS.

Wm. John Cawthorne, of the Hobson, was charged under the County Bye Law with frequenting a certain place for the purposes of betting on the 27th of August and the 5th of September.—Mr. J. M. Aynsley defended.

P.C. Reeks said that on the 28th of August abou 2 p.m. he concealed himself on the railway at White-le-Head. At about five minutes past two he saw a man give the defendant some money and the defendant made an entry in a book. That was the main road. About 2.15 he saw another man go to the defendant and give him money the defendant again making an entry in a book. On the 4th of September witness concealed himself in a cabin in company with P.C. Dobinson, and he saw Cawthorne take a bet from a man and enter it into a book. That was on the footpath at White-le-Head. Another man came and gave him a slip of paper, which he put in his pocket. He then took money from two other men and made entries in a book.

Cross-examined: He was about 12 or 14 yards away from defendant when he was concealed. Defendant was on the highway. The money that was exchanged was silver, but he could not say what particular coins they were. He only saw the two bets on the first day. Between then and the 4th of September he did not conceal himself anywhere for the purpose of catching the defendant. He was at the place every day but not looking for defendant. He saw four bets made on the 4th of September when he saw the defendant standing from five minutes past two o'clock until half-past two. He had seen defendant scores of times before the 25th of August. He had known him for four months. He was causing an obstruction by standing on the footpath with other people.

P.C. Dobinson gave corroborative evidence and

Mr. Aynsley for the defence said the Bench had already held the bye-law under which the case was taken as being a good bye-law. It was rather significant that the police allowed such an interval to elapse as from the 28th of September. He submitted that the defendant did not frequent and use this place for the purpose of betting because to frequent they must be in the habit of going regularly to do that sort of thing. The police jumped from the 28th of August to the 5th of September, and he submitted that that did not mean frequenting even if his client was betting on those days. He would, however call the defendant, who would tell them that on the 28th he did make one bet on the highway, but that was the only bet he had ever made on the highway, and that he did not make any bet whatever on the 4th. On that day a man whose father was dying at Felling showed him a telegram and that was one of the papers handed to him.

Defendant then said on the 28th he had a bet with a man named Gordon, who was acting for Gordon and Bell, whose names were on the paper, but he did not bet with anyone else. That was the only slip of paper he received that day. On the 4th of September he was talking to two men named Nicholson and Clark. Nicholson was dressed in black and had a telegram saying his father was dying at Felling and he was waiting for a trap from the Bird Inn. Defendant added that he did not make a bet at all. He was in the habit of going to White-le-Head two or three times a week for pleasure.

Supt. Benzies put in previous convictions against the defendant, who was now ordered to pay a fine of £5 and costs.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

James Teasdale was charged with betting contrary to the County Bye-law at Blackhill between the 10th of August and the 9th of September.—Mr. J. M. Aynsley defended.

P.C. McGee said about 1.30 on the 11th of August he was in Dale Street, Blackhill, when he saw the defendant standing in Back Derwent Street. He saw a man hand defendant some money, and defendant made an entry in his book. When the man went away another man named Mellin came up and also handed some coin, defendant again making an entry in his book. Defendant then saw witness, and closed his book and went into the Rose and Crown back yard. About twenty minutes to three on the 8th of the present month witness was in Eltringham Street when he saw defendant take a bet from a man and enter it in his book. Witness went to the Rose and Crown and concealed himself behind a wall and saw defendant wandering back and forward. A little girl named Wilkinson came up and handed a piece of paper and some money. She backed Suppliant and St. Moritz. The name of M Lee was at the bottom of the paper. The girl was about 12 years of age, and she had another child with her. She said she had been sent by a party named Lee to make the bets.

Cross-examined: He had been round there between the 11th of August and the 8th of September and had seen the defendant but not making bets. He had only seen him making bets on the dates named. The girl told him what she had backed and showed him a paper. Back Derwent Street was just opposite Kempson's gates. There was a large piece of vacant ground there but the bets were not made there. If they had been he could not have seen from Eltringham Street.

Mr. Aynsley: Did you see any bookmakers there?—Yes.

Who were they?

The Chairman: Has this anything to do with the case? I don't think you are entitled to bring other men in.

Mr. Aynsley: I am allowed to put any question which does not put a witness in direct fear of the law.

The Chairman: You can ask if he saw any other persons there. If they are charged with bookmaking we will hear the case in a proper form.

Mr. Aynsley: Were there any other people there?—At the top of Dale Street there were other three.

Have you seen these three men during these days on this vacant land?

The Chairman: We are not trying these three men.

Mr. Aynsley: I have a reason for asking it but I will withdraw the question.

The Chairman: Very well.

Mr. Aynsley then said that the evidence did not amount to frequenting. Cases had been decided showing that they must have been there on two or more occasions.

The Chairman said he should like to see that decision.

Mr. Aynsley submitted that the dates given could surely not mean frequenting. He would call the defendant, who would say that the place where he took the bets was private ground. After a recent decision the defendant was perfectly well aware that he could not bet on the public street.

Defendant then said he was at Blackhill on the 11th of August bookmaking. On that day he never took a bet in Back Derwent Street. On the 4th of September he did not take a bet in the street. All the bets he took were on the vacant ground adjoining.

The Chairman said it was quite evident the defendant frequented the place where his customers knew they could find him. After that it seemed to the Bench to be of no moment whatever where the actual money passed since the offence was frequenting for the purpose of bookmaking. The offence was therefore proved and defendant would be fined £5 and costs.

Mr. Aynsley asked for the penalty to be reduced. The defendant had not been convicted before and in previous cases for the first offence the fine had been £2.

The Chairman said it seemed to the Bench that this case was worse than the others as Mr. Aynsley's client had been dealing with children and she had got off very easily indeed.

ONE MORE CHANCE.

Archibald Geddes, a joiner, who has been several times before the Bench on a charge of neglecting to provide for his children, was again summoned by Inspector Cowell, R.S.P.C.C.—The Inspector said Geddes was before the Bench on the 2nd of April and the case was then adjourned in order to give him a chance of doing well. On the 7th of May witness went to Stanley, where Geddes formerly lived but was then working at Whitley, and he found the children were going on well. Defendant removed from Whitley to Cullercoats without intimating the witness but he found him out. Defendant was about to be discharged from work for drunkenness but on an appeal from witness his employer agreed to keep him on. On the 31st of May, however he had to discharge him for being drunk at his bench. On each occasion witness visited defendant he found him the worse for drink. On the 1st of this month Geddes received 30/- and gave his wife 22/-, the rest of which he admitted having put on a horse. Witness saw him last Saturday at Cullercoats and he was then the worse for drink. He was all right so long as he kept off the drink. His wife, who did not want to appear against him, had to go out working. Defendant might do very well indeed, if he would keep off the drink.

Defendant said he was very sorry for anything he might have done, but he knew there were several people prejudiced against him because he had got a little bit down. For some time he had been trying to do his level best. He had now got good employment and asked for another three months trial.

The Chairman asked if the defendant ill-treated his wife?

Inspector Cowell said as far as he knew he had only done so on one occasion when he turned her out.

Defendant: No, no.

The Chairman asked how he had been working since the adjournment.

Inspector Cowell said he worked very well for some time and then he got on drinking and was dismissed. He had improved lately and he would only like to see him do right.

The Chairman said this was a case in which defendant could pull himself together if he had any intention of doing so. They did not want to take extreme steps, but they would be obliged to do so. It was evident his wife and children were in a bad way through his conduct. They would, however give him another three months trial and he must consider himself lucky.

EMPLOYER AND WORKMEN CASE.

Wm. Southern, Dipton, was sued under the Employer's and Workmen's Act by Thomas Jenkins for £1 19s as wages. Defendant admitted the debt less 9/-. Mr. Welford, for the complainant, explained that his client was the man who altered defendant's premises into a club. On the 25th of August he went as usual to start work but he found the premises were locked up, and his tools were inside. He was locked out 12 hours and claimed at the rate of ninepence an hour.

Defendant complained that defendant was very erratic in his times of turning up to work. He, however, pointed out that the 25th of August was a Saturday, and therefore could not be claimed as a full day.

The Bench agreed, and reduced the 9/- to 5/9, making an order for £1 13s 9d and costs.

AN ASSAULT CASE.

Bridget Reilly was charged with having assaulted Catherine Scott at Blackhill on September 11th. The complainant said defendant came to her house and without any provocation commenced using bad language and seized her by the hair and dragged her outside.—For the defence it was alleged that words had been passed between some neighbours and led to a quarrel between the parties.—A fine of 5/- and costs was inflicted.

WAREHOUSE BREAKING.

John Wm. Mason, (16) was charged with having broken into a warehouse the property of Robert Maude, Post Office, Dipton, on Sept 1.—Robert Maude said he had a wooden shed at the back of the house in which he stored a number of bicycles. At 6.30 in the evening he saw the place safely locked up. There were six bicycles in at the time. Next morning he found a square of glass had been broken and one bicycle had been knocked over against the others.—Robt. Harrison, carrier, said he was going through the post office back yard when he heard a noise caused by the breaking of glass. He looked in the direction of the sound and saw the defendant drawing himself back from the window. When defendant saw witness he ran away.—Sergt. Lawson said he apprehended the defendant and on being charged at Consett he said he was firing a catapult and broke the window.—Defendant now pleaded guilty to breaking the window but denied any intention of stealing.—He was fined 20/- and costs.

STEALING COALS.

Thomas Renwick, 10 years of age, was charged with the larceny of one stone of coals from the Shotley Bridge Gas Works Depot, Blackhill, on Sept. 1st.—P.C. McGee said he was in Station Road, when he saw the boy in the depot picking coals up and putting them in a basket.—Matthew Richley, secretary to the Gas Company, said that owing to depredations they were sometimes as far as twenty tons short in a year.—The boy was reprimanded and discharged.

CHARGE AGAINST A PUBLICAN.

Charles Allen, coke-drawer, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of John McKenna, White Swan Inn, Consett, on Sept. 3rd, and John McKenna was charged with permitting drunkenness on the same date.—Mr. J. M. Aynsley defended.

Sergt. Dryden said he visited the house at 10 o'clock in the morning, and in the kitchen he found three men. One named Jones was drunk and another named Grimes was under the influence of drink. The other man was sober. He called the landlady's attention to the two men. There were two empty glasses on the table near to the men. Whilst he was speaking to the landlady Allen came staggering in from the back yard. Witness said, "Now this man is in a nice state too." She turned to Allen and said "You go home. I have told you to go before." There was no road from the back yard to the street, and to get to the yard Allen must have gone through the bar.

Cross-examined: The landlady told him that Jones was a lodger in the house. Grimes was under the influence of drink, but he would not have summoned him had he been alone. Jones was taking his boots off and the third man was perfectly sober. He did not see Allen go into the house.

P.C. Richardson corroborated.

Mr. Aynsley said the case was one which could easily be explained. While Allen was in the yard Sergt. Dryden went into the house. The men in the kitchen were perfectly quiet and so far as they were concerned there was no case of permitting drunkenness and even if Allen was drunk there was no evidence that the landlady knew he was on the premises at all.

Charles Allen said he went into McKenna's house and saw the daughter washing the passage. He said to her, "I want to see your mother" and she went to seek her. While she was away he went into the back yard and when he returned the sergeant was there and said "Get away Allen, you are drunk." He had no drink on the premises and was not there five minutes altogether. He had only had three gills of beer that day.

Sergt. Dryden: Does three gills of beer generally make you stagger?

Allen: No nor half-a-gallon. (Laughter.)

Sergt. Dryden: What was your object in asking for Mrs. McKenna?

Allen: I wanted to borrow some money.

Rose Ann McKenna, the daughter, Ellen McKenna, landlady; Michael Toar, Margaret McKenna, John Falker, and Wm. Cosgrove having given evidence,

The Chairman said the case against Allen would be dismissed. They had had some difficulty in coming to a decision in regard to McKenna, but they had decided to dismiss the case against him also. They thought, however, that a lodger had no privilege to remain in a public room when drunk.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. G. Ainsworth and Mr. W. Holmes.

THE DRUNK LIST.

There was an unusually heavy list of drunk cases, the following fines being inflicted:—William Dixon, 5/-; Joseph Makepeace, 5/-; Thomas Armstrong, 5/-; Joseph Brown, 5/-; Adam Haslam, 5/-; Michael McClusky, 5/-; James Welsh, 5/-; Wm. Walton, 5/-; Michael McCabe, 5/-; Joseph Bell, 5/-; Henry Armstrong, 5/-; Thomas Bage, 5/-; John Tonar, 5/-; Robert Lamb, 5/-; Samuel Boyd, 5/-; Wm. Walton, 5/-; Joseph Vickers, 5/-; Wm. Smith, 5/-; Simeon Brown, 5/-; John Nolan, 5/-; Wm. Brown, 5/-; Wm. Pickering, 5/-; Wm. Kelly, 10/-; Ralph Williamson, 5/-; Owen McGinn, 5/-; Henry Hall, 10/-; John Haslam, 5/-; John Morris, 5/-; Peter Cassidy, 5/-; Owen O'Hare, 5/-; Barnard McClusky, 5/-; Peter Lamb, 5/-; Joseph Lee, 10/-; Robert Atkinson, 5/-; Edward Craven, 5/-; James Lamb, 5/-; Edward Lamb, 5/-; John Haslam, 5/-; Joseph Robson, 5/-; David Fife, 5/-; James McKenna, 5/-; Phillip Collins, 5/-; Wm. Owen, 5/-; Charles O'Neil, 5/-; Thomas Thompson, 5/-; Joseph Calvert, 5/-; John Carr, 5/-; Robert Cain, 5/-; Elizabeth Mayers, 2/6; costs in each case. Charges against John Urwin, Geo. Jenkins (drunk in charge of a horse and trap), Wm. Harrison, and Thomas Lumley were dismissed.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

For doing wilful damage to seats and a band stand the property of the Leadgate Urban District Council, on Sept. 9th, the following boys were fined 1/-, with 1/- damage, and 1/6 and costs each:—Wm. Gray, Phillip Toole, John Toole, Archie Robson, John Croney, Patrick Croney, Wm. Jordan, John Grant, Ralph Hughes, John Ward, Edward McAloon, and James Hagan.

Thomas Wm. Johnson was ordered to pay 2/6 and costs for damaging turnips at Medomsley, the property of Mr. John Hunter.

Mark Coulson and Thomas Walker were fined 1/-, 3d damage, and costs for damaging an apple tree the property of Mr. Lassaby, Shotley Bridge.

Arthur Cutmore, Benjamin Craig, and Frank Phillipson were fined 1s. 2d damage, and costs for damaging turnips at Medomsley, the property of Mr. John Hunter.

Thomas Simpson and Peter Grimes were fined 6d, one penny damage, and costs for damaging turnips at Burnopfield, the property of Mr. William Callender.

Thomas Henson was fined 2/6, 10/- damage, and costs for breaking a window the property of Thomas Clough, at Middle Friarside.

James S. Johnson and Robert Graham were fined 6d, 2d damage and costs for damaging grass, at Bridge Hill, the property of Messrs. Annandale and Sons, and for also damaging grass in the same vicinity, Nathaniel Draffin was fined 2/6 and costs and 2d damage.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

John Molloy, for committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Consett on Sept. 15th, was bound over and ordered to pay the costs.

EDUCATION CASES.

George Winn, Thomas Clark, Thomas Brown, Thomas Myers, and John Davison were each fined 5/- for failing to send their children regularly to school, and an order was made upon George Robson to send his child to school. Several cases were adjourned for a month.

THE HANDY MAN ASHORE.

A Gruesome Relic from Ashanti.

Recent events in South Africa and China have increased popular interest in the Royal Navy, especially where men have been invalided home. A young seaman is now staying at his parent's home at Fardale Hill Cottages, near Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, whose story has been secured by a reporter of the "Kilmarnock Herald." William M'Bride joined the Royal Navy at the age of sixteen, and in six years' service he has seen much and suffered greatly. He has the credit of an Ashanti medal with Benin clasp, and came through scathless, but he had troubles to bear later on.

When with H.M.S. "Theseus" at Las Palmas he was taken ill at the helm. Describing this accident he said: "I felt giddy, with cold shivers all over me. I lay down beside the fire, but immediately commenced vomiting. I was sent home to Plymouth, and pronounced to be suffering from malarial fever. After three weeks in the hospital I was thought to have recovered, and was on my way to the depot at Chatham, but fell ill in the train with symptoms exactly as at Las Palmas."

He remained at Melville Hospital, Chatham, for over a month, when convalescence was restored, and he remained in good health until March, 1898, when he was admitted to a hospital at Grimsby with a second attack of fever. The naval doctors had told him that he would have an attack every year of the fever. Subsequently he was in Haslar Hospital for six months, "and," said he, "I could hardly eat the lightest morsel of food of any kind. I fell away to a shadow, and rheumatism set in. Then I had ulcers in the eyes, nose, and lips; the suffering was indescribable." He believed at different times while in the hospital a dozen doctors examined him. They agreed in saying that nothing could be done for him there, and that it would be better to send him home. "At last five doctors," he added, "sounded me and the result was I was invalided out of the service as a permanent invalid."

"Have you your discharge?" asked the reporter. "Certainly, here it is," said M'Bride; and a most satisfactory one it proved—five "V.G.'s" and one "Fair." The record was one of which any naval man might be proud.

Mr. M'Bride was sent home to Kilmarnock in a condition of absolute helplessness, as complete a physical wreck as eyes ever looked upon. He was escorted by two doctors, and carefully carried from carriages to cabs at the various stations. He landed at Kilmarnock on 27th June, 1899. He then weighed barely five stone! He was only the ghost of a man.

"My mother did not know me," he said, "and could not believe I was her son until she doctected my voice." All this was due to the extreme emaciation of Mr. M'Bride. Kilmarnock Infirmary was his next home for two months, when at the end of that period he was able to walk a little. He continued to improve, till the New Year: unfortunately, he got a chill one day when out, and, as a result, the rheumatism was so bad that his left leg was doubled up, and the left arm the same. He was worse now than ever before, terrible as his sufferings had been, and nothing seemed to do any good whatever. A younger brother advised him to try Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people, as he had got great good from them after an attack of influenza, but the gallant sailor had lost hope and would have none of them. Then another relative strongly advised him to try Dr. Williams pink pills, as she had derived great benefit from them in the debility following typhoid fever. Still he was unconvinced, though steadily getting worse, but subsequently he was told of a Mr. Owens, at Crosshouse, near by, nearly at death's door, whose life had been saved by Dr. Williams' pink pills. Mr. M'Bride continued, "I resolved to try one box anyway to see if it would do any good, and I sent to London for the pills. Before the contents were finished I was well enough to sit outside the house. At first I took one pill, then two, then three after each meal. Previously I could eat nothing except a small biscuit, but before the first box was done I could almost clear a table!"

"Before the second box was done I walked about a couple of miles." He had now taken six boxes altogether, and the wonderful improvement continued with each box, till he is now able to work, has been cutting hay, and occasionally drives horses at the farm. His doctor has described him as a "kirkyard deserter," and advises him to keep using Dr. Williams' pink pills. "I am perfectly convinced," said the sailor, "that I owe my life and present health to Dr. Williams' pink pills. They have benefited me, and I don't see why I should not do something to make them known to others."

It is melancholy to watch the life fading away from those whose constitutions have been shattered by disease, while, by feeding and strengthening the emaciated tissues and blood, as Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people do, robust health may be restored. These pills are the finest nerve tonic and blood builder ever discovered; they cure anæmia, consumption, rheumatism, nervous disorders, and paralysis, and are sold at two shillings and ninepence per box, or six boxes for thirteen and nine, by Dr. Williams' medicine company, Holborn Viaduct, London; also by chemists, but the full name (seven words) must appear on every box, otherwise the pills are not genuine.

CHESTER-LE-STREET REVISION COURT.

The Qualification of a Lodger.

At the Lambton Arms Inn, Chester-le-Street, on Thursday morning last, Mr. Mellor, Revising Barrister, sat for the revision of lists of voters for the parliamentary division of Chester-le-Street.—Mr. J. H. Burrell, represented the Conservatives, and Mr. S. Lloyd the Liberals. Mr. Burrell asked for the Revising Barrister's ruling as regards what amount constitutes the ratable value. Mr. Mellor said in the cities and boroughs it was £6 10s.; while in the county it was generally a little higher. With reference to the ratable value it must not be supposed that because the ratable value in towns was £6 10s., that everybody in a £6 10s. house got a vote as a lodger. His ratable value in the counties was a little more—he thought £8. Mr. Burrell remarked that at the Gateshead Revision Court the ratable value was put down at £8. Mr. Mellor said he tried to make his decisions and qualifications similar to his fellow revising barristers. He found that most of those lodgers who told a lie got upon the list, while those who told the truth generally did not succeed in being placed upon the list of voters. It was generally difficult to get at the truth. Some people said it was absolutely necessary there should be a tenancy and so much money. He did not see why fathers should not give their sons a lodger qualification if it was just. There was hardly such a person as a lodger; it was the creation of the political agents. (Laughter.) Mr. Mellor subsequently remarked that he had sat as a Revising Barrister for fifteen years during which he had tried to do justice to lodgers, and he had no doubt that the majority of lodgers when they came up and said that their brother slept with them that none of them would get a vote. He thought it was wrong to disfranchise a man because his little brother slept with him, and whom he could kick out if he liked. (Laughter.) He did not like to lay down any special rule as regarded the ratable value.

On behalf of the Conservatives 38 new lodger claims were made. Seven of these were struck off on the ground of rateable value, leaving thirty-one sustained. The Liberals put forth 11 new lodger claims, only four of which were sustained.

Rare opportunity at THE CASTLE WATCH WORKS for good Watches, Jewellery, and Silver Plate, &c., &c., during Removal Sale.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL COUNCIL.

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Thursday afternoon last, in the Board-room, Chester-le-Street, Lieut.-Col. Humble presiding over a moderate attendance of members.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Medical Officer (Dr. Taylor) reported that during the past month there had been 18 births registered, giving a birth-rate of 39.4 per 1,000 per annum. The number of deaths had been 95 which was equal to a death-rate of 20.8 per 1,000 per annum. During the same period there had been 27 deaths from zymotic disease, giving a zymotic death-rate of 5.8 per 1,000. Forty-seven children had died under the age of one year. He had received 45 notifications of infectious diseases, as compared with 35 for the corresponding month. The infectious diseases notified were—scarlet fever, 33; enteric fever, 5; diphtheria, 1; erysipelas, 6. The report went on to state that sixteen houses at Edmondsley were in a unsatisfactory condition, and, in his opinion, unfit for human habitation. Notices had been served requesting the same to be made fit for habitation. Dr. Taylor further reported that he had visited one of the common lodging-houses at midnight, and from a moral point of view improvements were desirable both as regards structural arrangements and management. He considered that the Council should exercise their powers in reference to common lodging-houses by the enforcemnt of their bye-laws.

The Chairman: Are these lodging-houses conducted in accordance with the bye-laws?

Dr. Taylor: They are not conducted according to our bye-laws.

The Chairman: They are not?

Dr. Taylor: There are bye-laws; they have not been enforced evidently.

The Chairman: Whose fault is that.

Dr. Taylor: Well, probably, part of this authority's fault.

The Chairman: We are all to blame.

Dr. Taylor: I think so. One of the bye-laws is that you should supply these lodging houses with placards designating what the rooms are to be used for. In some of the rooms there were no such placards. The bye-laws provided that where rooms were occupied by married couples there should be some screen between them. Such had not been complied with.

The Chairman thought the bye-laws ought to be enforced.

It was agreed, on the motion of Coun. Sharp, seconded by Coun. Mitchell, that the bye-laws should be enforced.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Brown) reported that he had inspected the scavenging in the Chester-le-Street district, and found that upon the whole it had been done in a satisfactory manner. In reference to the choked water-closets and drains in the district, these had been attended to.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr. Moyle) reported that scavenging in the Harraton district had been fairly well attended to during the past month. At Watson's new building, Washington, a formal notice had been served upon the owners to provide more privy accommodation. At the Co-operative premises, Birtley, a new sewer had been choked, the reason being that the man-hole covers are too light, with the result that the children remove the lids and throw all kinds of rubbish into them. The Inspector now asked permission to have them replaced with heavier covers in order to prevent a repetition of such occurrences.

It was decided to procure heavier man-hole covers as suggested.

TENDERS FOR SEWERAGE.

The following tenders were received for the carrying out of the work in connection with the new sewer at Sacriston:—Mr. J. C. Lowes, £29 10s; Mr. J. G. Rutter, £25 4s 10d. Mr. Rutter's tender was accepted.

WASHINGTON SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

A communication was received from the Local Government Board in reference to the Washington sewerage disposal, stating that they had had under consideration the report by the Inspector, and the inquiry held by him in reference to the Council's application for sanction to borrow £2,452 for works of sewerage, for the townships of Usworth and Washington. The Board were advised that the scheme was not well defined and that it was defective and incomplete in many respects. The Board now asked the Council to revise the scheme, and returned the plans.

Coun. Richardson: They have a special regard for competent engineers.

Coun. Richardson pointed out the urgency of the scheme, and the importance of the same. He begged to move that the matter be again placed in the hands of Mr. Balfour at once, with instructions to proceed with the same as fast as possible. He moved this from a business policy. It was well-known that the scheme was originally in Mr. Balfour's hands, and he thought this gentleman had better take the matter up again. The Local Government Board might make uncomplimentary remarks with regard to the way the Council had done the work. They (the Local Government Board) did not say it was well done, but that it was badly designed, and in several respects they did not like it. He was sure those of them who knew Mr. Mole would be perfectly well satisfied that there was nothing of that sort the matter with the plan. (Hear, hear.)

A member seconded the motion.

Coun. Fenwick moved as an amendment, "That the matter be referred back to the local committee." He did not think the Local Government Board had a right to come down upon them in such a manner as they had.

The Chairman thought it would only delay the matter by referring it to the local committee.

Coun. Bolam: I don't know whether the vice-chairman has been behind the scenes. The Local Government Board, like ourselves, are only men who are not infallible. It seems to me as if there had been someone behind the scenes. I should like to ask—Is Mr. Balfour the only competent engineer in the County of Durham?

Coun. Banks said it did not matter to him whether it was Mr. Balfour or anybody else.

Coun. Bolam seconded the amendment.

Coun. Richardson said he would be prepared to move that the matter be referred to the local committee with instructions for them to get some competent professional gentleman.

Upon the amendment being put to the meeting, it was carried by twelve votes to nine.

A COMMUNICATION.

A circular letter was received from the Local Government Board relative to:—(1) The amending of part three of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890; (2) the provision of isolation hospital accommodation by local authorities; (3) drawing attention to Acts of Parliament passed during the recent session, which contain provisions affecting Rural District Councils, viz:—(a) The District Councillor and Guardian (term of office) Act, 1900; (b) the members of Local Authorities Relief Act, 1900; (c) the Elementary Education Act, 1900; (4) fixing a day before which all applications for provisional orders under the Public Health Act, 1875, must be made.

The communication was a lengthy one, and it was decided that each member should be supplied with a printed copy.

ALLEGED DEVIATION FROM BYE-LAWS.

A letter was received from the Local Government Board, forwarding a copy of a letter which had been addressed to them by the Durham County Council, together with copy of an extract from the County Medical Officer's report, re the houses in course of erection in Hedworth Street, Chester-le-Street, and requesting the observations of the Council thereon. It was alleged that these houses were not built in accordance with the bye-laws.

A letter was received from the architect stating that the matter was receiving attention.

This was considered satisfactory, and it was resolved to forward a copy of this letter to the Local Government Board as a reply to their communication.

HOUSING MATTERS AT SACRISTON.

A letter was read from the secretary to the Sacriston Miners' Lodge, drawing attention to the very bad houses occupied by some of the workmen who live at Edmondsley, and asking the Council to send someone to inspect them.

It was decided that the local committee should inspect these houses, and that some of the workmen should meet the members of the committee as a deputation.

ROCK CUTTING.

A communication was received from Messrs Joel and Parsons, solicitors to Mr. Thompson, contractor, informing the Council that Mr. Thompson would consent to forego his claim for rock cutting, and pay the Council's costs up to date.

This was considered satisfactory.

AN INVITATION.

The secretary to the North of England Housing Reform Conference wrote inviting representatives to attend a meeting, to be held in Newcastle, on Sept. 29th.

It was agreed that any member who desired to attend should do so.

ALLEGED POLLUTION.

Messrs. Clayton and Gibson wrote drawing the Council's attention to the discharging of sewerage into a stream called the Black Burn, and asking for a letter assuring them that the Council will put an end to the pollution.

This matter was referred to the local committee.

THE BALANCING OF ACCOUNTS.

A communication was read from the Barton Regis Rural District Council, enclosing a copy of a resolution advocating the balancing of Rural District Council's accounts yearly instead of half-yearly, as at present.

The Council refused to support the resolution.

TENDERS FOR SEWERAGE.

The following tenders were received for Chowdene and Eighton Banks sewerage:—Messrs. R. Hudson and Sons, Sunderland, £3,570; Mr. John Carrick, Durham, £3,875 13s 6d; Mr. W. G. Sand, Newcastle, £3,550 17s 9d; and Mr. J. G. Kirtley, Sunderland, £3,390.

The tenders were referred to the local committee.

THE WASHINGTON SEWERAGE QUESTION.

Coun. Richardson asked in regard to the amendment to Coun. Banks' motion relative to the Washington sewerage, were the Council to accept the definition that the committee could call in the services of a professional man?

The Chairman: I think myself that the gentlemen who voted for the amendment had no idea of the serious position that the Council is in.

Coun. Bolam: I don't think there is one bit difference between the motion and the amendment.

A member thought it was the meaning of the whole party that the committee should have full power to go on with the matter at once.

The Chairman: If that was the meaning of the gentlemen they ought to have said so.

Coun. Bolam: It was said so.

The Chairman: Excuse me, Mr. Bolam, there was no statement made to that effect.

A member: We have not power.

Coun. Harle: Look at the position Mr. Dickinson will be in when he quietly tells the committee that we are going over the ground again. It will be a question if the Judge does not commit us for contempt of court. (Laughter.)

Coun. Garson: How will Mr. Balfour make any difference?

Coun. Bolam: Mr. Balfour cannot make any difference.

The Chairman said he understood Mr. Balfour had already got the work in hand, and that the plans were already prepared. There would be no survey to make.

A member suggested that a fresh vote upon the subject had better be taken.

Coun. Bolam: If you put it to the vote again I will vote for it the same way for a thousand years.

Coun. Richardson: Will you allow me to move a further resolution:—"That the local committee have the power which has been granted to other local committees during the administrative period of this Council."

The Chairman (appealing to the members): Will you?

Coun. Bolam (to the Chairman): You cannot make any better of it; you sat and passed the motion.

The Chairman: I sit here simply because you have placed me here. (Laughter.)

Coun. Garson (laughing): You are still a member.

The Chairman: I am afraid you will have to answer for what you have been a party to. (Laughter.)

Coun. Richardson asked if they had made a mistake by passing the amendment, was it not the best thing to rectify the same? He was sure he could stand upon his dignity probably as much as any man in the room in reference to having made a blunder.

A member said the more arguments he heard the more he was convinced that there was something behind the matter, or it would not have been brought up there that day.

The Chairman: I am afraid it will have to go.

Coun. Bolam: Let it go.

A member thought some objection should be taken to the hints that had been thrown out.

After a few more remarks the matter was allowed to drop.

This was all the business of public interest.

NO BETTER PROOF.

THAN THE TESTIMONY OF CONSETT PEOPLE.

Let us call your attention to one of the main points in all these talks to the public. The statements of Consett people are always given. A woman living in Southampton could send you a strong and truthful letter on the same subject perhaps, but you would prefer to have one from some resident of Consett, would you not?

Mrs. Mary Stoddart, of 6, Raglan Street, Consett, says:—

"For two or three years I suffered very much from pains and weakness in my back. I was in a very bad state. Unable to stoop or bend my back for fear I could not get it straight again.

"There was always a dull heavy pain in the small of my back, my head used to ache, I frequently turned dizzy, and I was weak and languid, and quite unfit for my work. I tried all sorts of remedies and got bottles of medicine from the doctors, but it was no good, I did not get any better.

"But at last I got some of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills from Milner's, the chemist, in Shakespeare Street, and I am pleased to say they did me a wonderful lot of good. They have strengthened my back, and taken away the pain, and I feel better in every way since taking them. I feel they are a safe and reliable remedy, and can recommend them to all who are troubled with bad backs." (Signed) (Mrs.) Mary Stoddart.

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are sold by all chemists and drug stores at 2s 9d per box, (six boxes 13s 9d) or sent direct, post free, on receipt of price, from the Proprietors, Foster-McClellan and Co., 57, Shoe Lane, London. If you are ill write and tell us your symptoms, we will be glad to reply.

Be sure you ask for the same pills that Mrs. Stoddart had.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

During the week, Messrs Freeman and Liell's company are appearing in a couple of plays. On Monday evening there was a capital attendance to witness the romantic military drama, "Current Cash," which was exceedingly well performed. In the prologue, Mr. Bernard J. Liell as "Major Gordon-Challis; Miss Florence Tench as "Grace Milton"; and little Ivy Derry as "Sybil Milton," all distinguished themselves. The drama is supposed to take place 10 years after. Mr. Liell is again to the fore as the major (retired), whilst Mr. Frank Coston as "Ned Booles," Mr. Henry T. Thorpe as the "Hon. Harry Chafferton," and Mr. George Langdon as the "Rev. Lincoln Green" are all seen to advantage. We are not told who takes the part of "One Eye" (whom nobody knows), but it is taken in a very able manner. Miss Florence Tench does splendid service as "Grace Milton," and nothing but praise is due to Miss Dora Dayton and Miss Stella Liell, who enact the parts of "Sybil Milton" and "Delia Challis" to the satisfaction of everyone. Mr Eric Boyne, Mr James Small, Mr Harry Diamond, and Mr Ernest Grahsen complete an excellent "caste." There is plenty of fun in "Current Cash," which filled the bill on Tuesday and Wednesday also whilst "A White Demon" is announced for the last three nights of the week.

Immense Bargains at THE CASTLE WATCH WORKS during the Removal Sale.

GREAT PRIZE SCHEME.

REVISED LIST — INCREASE OF PRIZES.

THOMAS HEDLEY & CO. LIMITED ARE GIVING AWAY

£400 IN CASH PRIZES

DURING JULY, AND NOVEMBER, 1900.

FOR

FAIRY AND HYSSOP

SOAP WRAPPERS

LIST OF PRIZES GIVEN EACH MONTH.

1st Prize	£20 0 0
2nd "	10 0 0
3rd "	5 0 0
64 Prizes of £1 each	64 0 0
102 " " 10s. "	51 0 0
200 " " 5s. "	50 0 0
369 Prizes.	£200 0 0

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

Save the whole of the Fairy and Hyssop Soap Wrappers (tops only will be disqualified) and send, postage or carriage paid to THOMAS HEDLEY & CO., LTD., CITY SOAP WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, not later than the 30th day of the month in which you are competing. Any received after that day will be held over for the next competition, and also any wrappers sent in and not securing a prize will be counted in the next competition. When two or more parcels of wrappers are received from the same household, the Company reserve the right of treating them as one parcel. The Prizes will be awarded in the above order to the senders of the highest number of wrappers. If any wrappers are sent with insufficient postage they will be refused. Every wrapper must first have contained soap. Be careful to send your full name and address, also the number of wrappers sent. No employee of Thomas Hedley & Co., Ltd., will be allowed to compete. All prizes will be sent off by the 15th day of the month following the Competition, and a list giving the result will be sent to every competitor.

NOTICE. The next Competition does not close until November 30th. Send in your wrappers however small the number, as you stand a good chance to secure one of the Prizes.

A list of the Prize Winners in the July Competition will be sent free to anyone upon application.

KYO SCHOOL BOARD.

On Monday evening the monthly meeting of the Kyo School Board was held in the Annfield Plain New Infant Board Schools, Mr. R. Kay (chairman), presiding. There were also present Messrs J. Bainbridge, J. Storey, J. Reece, W. Eltringham; Mr W. H. Ritson (clerk), and Mr. R. Jackson (deputy clerk).

APPLICATION FOR USE OF SCHOOLS.

Mr J. Robinson, Stanley, applied on behalf of the South Tanfield Cricket Club for the use of the Oxhill Schools for a social in November. The application was granted on the usual conditions.

ILLNESS OF THE ATTENDANCE OFFICER.

Mr. T. Robson, Attendance Officer in his report to the Board, stated that he had only been able to visit two of the schools through illness, but he hoped to be able to resume duties shortly.

MR. STOREY'S MOTION.

In accordance with his notice of motion, Mr. Storey moved that Mr. J. Laws' salary be advanced £5 per annum.

The motion was carried.

PLAYGROUND AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Mr. Storey also moved that immediate steps be taken to enlarge the playground at Annfield Plain Board School in accordance with the recommendation of H.M. Inspector. In moving the motion Mr. Storey stated that with the inspector he thought it was cramped up, and that the lads had no place to play in, in fact, if they went up at dinner hour they would see most of the lads on the highway instead of in the playground. If they were approaching the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society he thought they could rent a piece of ground at a reasonable rental and he moved that a deputation of the Board meet the committee of the Society to see if they could get a piece of ground, and make the best of it they could with the view to buying it eventually.

Mr. Eltringham: Have you any idea what size you would like it?

Mr. Storey: A decent piece so that they could play football and cricket.

The Chairman: The committee can form a broad idea of what is required. Their hands would not be tied.

Mr. Reece: We had better go in for a large piece.

Mr. Eltringham: What can also be used at nights as well as days.

Mr. Storey: If it was railed off the school children can play in it at night times.

Mr. Storey moved that Messrs Reece and Bainbridge be appointed a deputation.

Mr. Bainbridge: I beg pardon, I am on the Store committee. You know my views.

Mr. Storey: I don't know your views until you express them.

Mr. Bainbridge: You know that I am in favour of it.

Mr. Storey: Oh, well that's all right.

Messrs Storey and Reece were appointed a deputation to meet the Co-operative Society. Committee.

CENTRAL CLASS.

Application was made by N. McGowan, of the West Kyo Board School to be allowed to attend the Pupil Teacher Central Class. Permission was given.

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE.

A precept at the rate of 1/- in the £ was ordered to be made on the overseers to meet the required estimate of expenditure for the ensuing year.

GIVING ILLUSTRATIONS.

Permission was given to Mr. J. Gribben, a blind man to give type-writing illustrations, etc., in the schools under the Board.

TABLE FOR THE REPORTERS.

On the motion of Mr. Storey, the chairman was empowered to purchase a table seven feet by three feet and two chairs for the use of the reporters.

GREENCROFT SCHOOL BOARD.

On Thursday evening a meeting of this authority was held in the Greencroft Board Schools, Mr. H. Greener presiding. There were also present—Messrs T. U. Ord, R. Mitchinson, R. Hall, J. Mason, and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson.)

VOTE OF SYMPATHY.

A vote of sympathy was passed with the headmaster in the death of his daughter, Miss Edith Mackay.

THE ATTENDANCE.

It was stated that the attendance during the past month had only been moderate, owing to sickness, whooping-cough being prevalent.

In the case of a large number of bad attenders, whose names were submitted, it was resolved to take proceedings to ensure their attendance in the future.

AFFIXING THE SEAL.

It was resolved that the seal of the Board be affixed to a deed securing to the Public Works Loan Commissioners the sum of £380, with interest at 3½ per cent. per annum, being the amount of loan about to be advanced for the enlarging of the Greencroft Board Schools.

The seal was also affixed to the contract with Mr. F. Mordue, for the enlarging of the schools.

THE USE OF THE SCHOOLS.

An application was read from the Catchgate Methodist Lay Church asking for the use of the schools for Oct. 27 and the Monday following, for the purpose of holding a bazaar.—It was decided to grant the use of the schools for the Saturday.

The branch of the Good Templars holding their meeting in the school applied for an extension of time, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., instead of 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., as heretofore to be granted by the Board. The reason for the application was that a juvenile branch had been formed and they wished to hold the juvenile meeting from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.—The extension was granted.

NEW TEACHERS.

In respect to the two vacancies on the teaching staff, applications were read from Miss F. Lane, Summerhill, Shotley Bridge; Miss A. J. Dawson, Hendon, Sunderland; Miss E. H. Smelt, West Hartlepool; Miss G. Stephens, West Kyo; Miss F. A. Lumley, West Kyo; and Miss L. H. Rushton, Bradford.

It was agreed that Miss Stephens should be appointed to one vacancy, and that Miss Lumley should fill the other, if she accepted the salary of £45 per annum, failing which the appointment to go to Miss Lane.

APPLICATION FOR INCREASED SALARY.

Miss Greener and Mr Herdman wrote asking or an increase in their salaries, and their applications were ordered to lie over.

THE RATE.

It was resolved to levy a rate of 4d for the next half-year.

There was no other business of importance and the meeting concluded shortly after.

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 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.

HOW GOOD TEMPERED AND ROSY your baby is, Mrs Jones! Whatever do you give it? Oh, just one or two of PATTRICK'S COOLING & TEETHING POWDERS every week. They are the cheapest and best in the district—only 9d per dozen, from PATTRICK, CHEMIST, 3, Front Street, Consett.

ITCHING HUMOURS

Rashes, and irritations instantly relieved and speedily cured by hot baths with CUTICURA SOAP, gentle applications of CUTICURA Ointment, and mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT.

Price The Set, 6s.; or Soap, 1s.; Ointment, 2s. 6d.; Resolvent, 2s. 6d. Sold by all Chemists, or postpaid by F. Newbery & Sons, London, E.C. Potter Corp., Props., Boston, U.S.A.

MINERS AND THEIR WAGES.

Mass Meeting at Winlaton.

On Saturday night, at the Turf Hotel, Winlaton, a mass meeting of miners was held under the presidency of Mr. Samuel Suggett, Clara Vale, the object being to pass resolutions calling upon the Conciliation Board to take such steps as will secure an advance in the basis wage. The following collieries were represented:—Blaydon Burn, Stargate, Addison, Spen, Towneley, Clara Vale, Blaydon Main, Chopwell, and Rowland's Gill.

The Chairman at the outset of his remarks commented upon the not very large attendance, remarking that it seemed as though some of their fellow-workmen would rather frequent the public-house, or go to some football match, rather than look after their own interests. Proceeding, he said it was in the year 1879 when the present basis wage was fixed, and that year was practically one of the worst experienced by the miners of Durham, for, at that time there was a strike which lasted six weeks, and men were almost hungered to accept the basis wage. It was in such flourishing times as at present that they should reach out their hands and grasp all that could be had, but it was only by being united and standing shoulder to shoulder they could proceed forward. These representatives present at the meeting could take any resolutions that might be passed back to their respective lodges, and these should be backed up by the whole of the men and forwarded to the Conciliation Board, which must inevitably have some effect. The life of the miner seemed almost a toil right through; it was only a weary toil through this life, and it therefore behoved them to procure the best wages and the best houses and living they possibly could. They would not obtain these unless they made some struggle for them. (Hear, hear.) With these few remarks he called upon Mr. Frank McKay, of Chopwell, to move the first resolution. (Applause.)

THE MINIMUM WAGE.

Mr. McKay said he had advocated a minimum wage for a great many years, and had availed himself of every opportunity to do so, both in the press, and on the platform. He moved "That this meeting believes the present time is very opportune for the establishment of the principle of a miner's minimum wage, and we respectfully urge our Conciliation Board in Durham to try and get this condition inserted at 30 per cent. above basis in our Conciliation Board rules." He did not know that everyone would have the same idea as regarded the raising of the basis wage. His idea was that it was absolutely necessary to try and get the basis wage raised. The best men they had were upon the Conciliation Board, and they must give them credit for what they had done in the past by the machinery that was in their hands. These men, however, could not do anything because they had certain rules to adhere to. In these prosperous times he thought the miners were not getting as large a wage as they were entitled to. The price of coal at the present time warranted higher wages being paid. The resolution he had moved was to make provision for the future; because they would not always experience such good times as they enjoyed at present. They knew that history sometimes repeated itself, and they might expect times of less prosperity. These prosperous times would have an end, and they would then very likely have the same experience as in the early seventies. They would find out that the wages would come down some day, and come down very rapidly. The resolution was therefore to try and prevent them suffering to such an extent as would be the case were it not carried into effect. It was possible, he said, to establish a minimum wage; or to use a more simpler term, the lowest acceptable or payable wage to a miner. He had always argued and advocated that it was possible to establish a minimum wage, but they were told by some of the ablest men that they had in the county that such was not practicable. He held otherwise. If they were to be successful in getting a minimum wage, then they must be successful in getting a minimum price for coal. Many owners, he said, in the county of Durham were anxious there should be unity amongst them; and were anxious not to pay ridiculous starving price wages. A few years ago the colliery owners established a Coal Trade Association and it was agreed by the members of that association not to sell their coal below a certain figure. They, however, failed simply because there was not unity. He thought it was practicable by a sort of universal organisation for the whole of the miners to get a universal wage, and that there would be no need to fear one county getting good wages, while in another depression might prevail. They talked about foreign competition interfering. He thought foreign competition was a bogey altogether, and that there was no need to be afraid in that respect. He believed it was a good thing to prepare for the future, and it was only by going upon constitutional lines—and not using that meeting for the purpose of blackballing any particular man, or number of men who had the onus of responsibility upon them—and strengthening the hands of these persons that considerable good could be done. (Applause.)

Dales' GOLD MEDAL Dubbin

Is a wonderful waterproofer for BOOTS and HARNESS. Softens and preserves the leather. Pleasant odour, allows polishing with blacking. 27 EXHIBITION HIGHEST AWARDS. Tins 2d, 6d, 1s, and 2s 6d of Boot Makers, Saddlers, Ironmongers, &c.

Manufactory, Dulwich, London.

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.

Mr. Wm. Raine, Clara Vale, seconded the proposition, and said that as to its being practicable they found wherever Conciliation Boards had been formed that it had been a success. He thought the men ought to have a say in the sale of their products and some means adopted whereby they could say to the owners, "So far and no further shall you go with the sale of your coal." They all knew that the cheaper coal was sold the lower were the men's wages. He thought it was quite practicable to adopt the resolution so that they could have a living wage sufficient to keep body and soul together with a little to spare for provision in after years. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Robson, Spen, supported the motion. He was in favour of a minimum wage being fixed; but the minimum wage he would advocate was 5/6 per day for coal hewers. There was another class of employees as well as coal hewers—the juveniles. He thought they should not forget the youths who laboured in the mines, and commenced work at a very low figure. They ought to take all persons into consideration, both men and boys, from the trapper to the driver, and from the driver to the putter. They would find that such persons' wages were small. He thought it was a shame for any youth to have to stay down in the mine for the small wages he received. As to the Conciliation Board they were not going to condemn any man or class of men; they did not want to condemn any individual. Going back to the prices of '79 of 4/2 or 4/2¼ per day, the prices were fixed during a very depressed time. Coal, he said, was a thing that could always command its own price, and despite all the electric machinery that had been put down they could not do without coal. They wanted to take the present prosperous times of 1900 into consideration and fix a minimum wage of say 5/6 per day. (A voice: "Nothing less.") If the prices went up in the market, then those who produced the article had a right to a certain amount of the profit. He asked them to also fix a minimum wage for the youths; while they ought not to forget the wastemen—the veterans of industry, who earned the starvation wage of 2/- per day. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was carried.

THE BASIS WAGE.

Mr. Savage then moved "That we, as a county, seek to have the basis wage advanced to 5/- per day, and all other classes in proportion." The present basis wage, he said, was 4/2 per day. They all knew that the vocation of the miner was a hard and dangerous calling. As soon as the miner descended the shaft he, as it were, took his life in his hands; there was danger from the beginning of his day's work right up to the time he ceased toiling. The miner put his utmost efforts in his work, and what for?—to get a living. (Hear, hear.) He remembered the remark made by Mr. Wm. Pickard who said that it was quite correct the miner had to earn his bread not only by sweat alone, but by sweat and blood. (Hear, hear.) They knew that such an assertion was true, because hardly a day went by without men getting injured. As to the present basis wage the owners, he said, could work the "oracle" so as to get them below the 4/2 basis wage. They had hardly even that as a minimum wage as the owners could break through it. If they allowed the present figure to remain as the basis wage what was it going to do for them? It was generally calculated that the average of families was five; and if the wages got down to 4/2 it made the amount received for eleven days £2 5s 10d. Was that a living wage? It was worse, he thought, than a pauper's allowance. They thought it was time something was done in the county of Durham, if not throughout the whole of the United Kingdom, to alter this. (Applause.) They, as miners, had the remedy in their own hands. After a storm there always came a calm, and he thought the present prosperous times would be superseded by times of depression. There was no county average fixed now, and if they got about five per cent. above that average their employers could reduce their wages. He urged them not to allow the owners to regulate the market. It was for them as men, if they could get properly united, to regulate the market, and not to allow the owners to sell coal so as to bring their wages down. (Hear, hear.) If the market was going to get over-stocked then let the men ease up a bit. (Applause.)

What ho!
CORNS?
ALLCOCK'S
CORN PLASTERS
relieve at once, and cure in a short time—by removing the pressure and extracting the Corn. . . .
ALLCOCK'S PLASTERS
Aches, Pains & Strains.

Mr. Hogg, Blaydon Burn, seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

BETTER ORGANISATION.

Mr. William Purvis, Addison Colliery, then addressed the gathering upon the advisability of being better organised. He said for a body of men to work for certain objects in a loose sort of way was to court failure. They found organisation in politics, religion, and other things, and had seen the beneficent effects that had accrued. In fact if they were to attain to the present position they sought then they were bound to have organisation. Trade organisation had not only gained liberty for them, but their wages were better, and the work was different. They had their Compensation Act and many other things that had been either directly or indirectly brought about by trades' unionism. To his mind they needed to be stronger in their organisation at the present than ever they had been in the past. Their organisation had been nothing better than a chain, and the strength of a chain was measured at its weakest point, and so with their organisation. Therefore it behoved them to try and make their organisation as strong as ever possible. The resolution which he was about to move lead them to think that there was a weak point in their organisation which wanted to be strengthened if they were to obtain the reforms they now sought. One of the weak points in their organisation was what he would call their non-paying members. They had a class of men in their county who claimed to be members as far as the benefits accruing from their organisation was concerned; but so far as paying these persons were outside altogether. (Hear, hear.) These men were the great weakness of their organisation. They could hardly call them men. Such were the persons whom the owners used as tools against them when they were seeking their rights. (Applause.) They wanted to remedy this if their organisation was to be made effective, and to his mind there were just two ways in which to do this. One of these was by moral suasion. He believed that by their officials talking quietly to these men, and pointing out the benefits accruing from being organised that some of them might be induced to join; but in many cases it failed as those addressed only laughed in their faces. There was another means—compulsory force. They wanted to compel them to become members of their union. There were some persons who objected to this principle, and said it was coercion. He believed in coercion to a certain extent. He believed that these men ought to be compelled to become members of their association. There was an objection put in the way of this by the owners, who held that when they compelled the men to become members, that they interfered with the owners. There was only one way, he said, to deal with these men who would not join their association, and that was to get them away from the collieries. The only alternative to get rid of such persons was for them to give in their notices objecting to work with these men. The owners employed these persons to work down their mines and so caused disturbances amongst trades unionists; therefore, they were to a certain extent responsible for these men. There was another weakness in their organisation—non-active members. They did not only want the member's money, but they also wanted their help and support. They ought to back their officials up, as it was just like sending officers out to South Africa without soldiers behind them. (Applause.) He believed if they carried out these reforms that the owners would recognise that when they asked for anything, they meant to have it. (Applause.) In many instances the cases they brought before their employers were simply backed up by only a handful of men, and not the whole colliery. He expected that each of those present would go back and not only advise their officials, but the general body of men, of their intentions to try and stick close to trade unionism. (Hear, hear.) He moved "that we try to seek through our individual lodges better organisation for the county." (Applause.)

Mr. John Davidson, Blaydon Main, seconded the motion, in the course of a stirring address. The question of organisation was one, he said, which had been before the county for a great number of years. They would not do anything without organisation. (Applause.) In the laws of nature, or in the political arena organisation was required. The capitalists were organised, and it behoved the men to be likewise thoroughly organised. There was no class of workmen who had the arranging of prices so much in their own hands as miners, and while they ought to be properly united he asked them to work for the benefit of each other. (Applause.)

The motion upon being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

The Chairman requested those present to take the resolutions back to their lodges, after which an enthusiastic meeting terminated.

LOCAL PATENTS

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

15,353. 29th August, 1900. C. P. Johnson, South Shields. Improvements in metallic packing for piston rods and the like.

15608.—September 3rd, 1900. G. H. Vincent, Blyth. Improvements in and relating to life-boats, yachts, and similar vessels.

15770.—September 5th, 1900. C. Demain, Stockton-on-Tees. An improved safety hook.

15828.—September 6th, 1900. J. H. Heck, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Automatic extinguishers for lamps or the like.

15849.—September 6th, 1900. A. B. Lennox, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the National Solid Peat Fuel Co. Ltd., Carlisle. Improvements in heating drying, wet, or humid materials.

15850.—September 6th, 1900. A. B. Lennox, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the National Solid Peat Fuel Co. Ltd., Carlisle. Improvements in heating and cooling apparatus.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS.
EPPS'S
GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
COCOA
BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

SUBSIDENCES OF HIGH WAYS.

Conference at Leadgate.

On Thursday evening, upon the invitation of the Leadgate District Council, a conference of representatives of Local District Councils was held in the Council Chamber, Leadgate, to consider the question of subsidences upon highways. Coun. H. Palmer, J.P. (chairman of the Leadgate District Council) presided, and there were also present—Couns. J. Green, J.P., and A. H. Swinburn (Stanley), W. Rippon and J. Hall (Consett), H. Cares and R. Eccles (Benfieldside), W. P. Lane, J. W. Winter, T. Keenleyside, G. Nicholson, J. Costello, and W. Robson, (Leadgate); Mr. J. H. Coupland (clerk), and Mr. T. S. Longstaff (surveyor).

The Chairman read the notice convening the meeting, and went on to say that at the meeting of the Leadgate Council on July 11th, the question of subsidences on highways was discussed, and in consequence of certain subsidences on highways in their district, the clerk was directed to write the newspaper, "Justice of the Peace," and he would read their reply later on. They further resolved to invite the neighbouring Councils to send representatives to a conference to see what steps, if any, could be taken to prevent this state of affairs. The Chairman then mentioned a case to which they were referred by the "Justice of the Peace," the Attorney-General v. The Conduit Company, but this did not appear to meet their case. They had not formed any programme, and he simply invited any gentleman or all present to make any remark on the subject they thought fit. Referring to the reply of the "Justice of the Peace," the Chairman said that they held that the minerals did not belong to any urban authority—that was the opinion of the "Justice of the Peace."

Coun. Cares said he had some little experience of that very matter, and might state that many years ago—over 20—he was a member of the Benfieldside Local Board, and the Consett Iron Company let the turnpike down near Shotley Bridge Station. It cost them £10 to fill it up. The Company gave Number One Bank the "creep," and it cost £5 to repair it slightly. They sent the bill on to the Consett Iron Company, but the latter returned the account, stating that as lessees of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners they could work the coal in any portion of the district belonging to the Commissioners without let or hindrance. The Clerk (Mr. Booth) was appealed to as to whether this law was good, and he said that it was. He (Coun. Cares), however, maintained that if the road had been dedicated to the public the public must have access and right of passage over that road. He suggested the propriety of the Clerk writing the Consett Iron Company asking if they would instruct their solicitor to join with the solicitor to the Board in drawing up a friendly case for the Queen's Bench. This was done, and Lord Chief Baron Cockburn and other two judges decided that the road was a public road, and that no private company could work the minerals or do anything to let down the road. He had not the award with him.

The Chairman said he had a copy of it with him. He saw nothing in the "Justice of the Peace" that would run counter to that.

Coun. Cares said he took it that if the Lord Chief Baron was right no minerals could be worked underneath the road.

Coun Rippon inquired how the minerals could be taken out without damaging the road?

The Chairman replied that it could be done easily. It was not said that they should take all the minerals out. When the case of the Benfieldside Local Board v. Consett Iron Company was tried, it was the custom to work by pillars. Then the long-wall system was introduced, which caused the removal of all the coal, and that caused tremendous damage. The Lord Chief Baron said it was unnecessary to go into the degree of the damage. He (the Chairman) took it that the Colliery Company had a right to work the minerals, but must not damage the surface. If they damaged the surface say, owing to some error of judgment, then the Colliery Company was liable to put it right. He could not see anything in the case mentioned that stopped the Company from working the minerals altogether.

Coun. Winter asked what were they to do in a case where the coal was taken out underneath the surface, and the coal owners were conscious that it would go down? It was evident in their own district that some owners expected by the way they worked the coal that they would let down the surface. He believed that between Maiden Law and Annfield Plain a man was stationed to watch the road.

The Chairman thought this a vital point.

Coun. Cares contended that no company or individual had power to take out a yard of coal underneath the highway.

The Chairman said that although he had the honour to be an official of the Consett Iron Company, he was desirous of treating the matter fairly and squarely, but if they followed Mr. Cares' argument it would immediately have the effect of causing a colliery owner to set up another plant on the other side of the road.

Coun. Keenleyside thought they would be allowed to go through the road.

Coun. Cares said the public had no right to make provision for a private company working here and there. He quoted a case bearing out his argument and said that where there was a dedicated road the public had access to and passage over that road.

The Chairman agreed to this. Only the previous evening, at their monthly meeting, they gave the Clerk instructions to serve notice on a person to remove an obstruction on the public highway. However, he understood that they were not there to discuss encroachments, but subsidences on highways.

Coun. Lane said when he entered the room he had no idea of entering into the discussion, but the times had changed since the period Mr. Cares mentioned, and the Consett Iron Company certainly dealt more generously with public bodies now than they did then. The Local Board repaired the road, and sent in the bill, and the Company refused to pay. He thought the times had changed since then. All damage the Company had done the Company had made good. If it was not done to their satisfaction, it was again attended to.

Coun Cares said they did this because they were compelled to do it. (Laughter.) They must not think that the Consett Iron Company were any more generous now than they were then.

The Chairman suggested that no firm's name should be mentioned. (Hear, hear.) The difficulty was that any company working underneath any road, with the best of intentions, owing to the strata or something of the kind, might meet with an accident. He mentioned a place six feet wide that went in and made a big hole, and it was such a thing that no mining engineer could possibly forsee. Coun. Cares' view was that the owners had no right to work the coal; if they had the right, then they could only fall back on the Benfieldside v. Consett Iron Company case, and have the roads repaired where damage was done. It seemed to him that Mr. Cares' contention should be settled one way or anoter. He (the Chairman) knew that Mr. Cares was not the only one that held that opinion. Some even went further, and said that the minerals were vested in the local authority.

In accordance with Mr. Cares' wish, the Chairman then read the comments of the three judges who tried the case referred to, in summing up.

Coun. Cares said from that he contended that the Clerk to the Local Board, without the sanction of the Local Board, admitted the right of the Company to work part of the minerals underneath the road. The question came to this—that those colliery owners who were working underneath the road and taking out the coal should have notice from the local authorities to desist from doing this and causing damage. It was only fair to the colliery owners to give them notice. But another factor—the public—came in, and they had their rights as well as the Lord of the Manor. The Act conferred upon the people the right to these roads. The commissioners set out those roads, and they became the property of the public, and no person had any right to do anything to damage the roads. They could not do better than work from that contention.

Coun. Green did not exactly realise the object of the gathering. If they were determined to combine over this matter it might not be fruitless. But if one Council alone had to take action to defend public rights then it would become a rather serious question. In the first place he rather differed from the Chairman with respect to the answer in the "Justice of the Peace," whatever the result of the trial referred to might have been. It would be all right if the owners only set down the hills. (Laughter.) They had to face this—that the present roads had been set down. They found the colliery owners in their district had been very good in making the road as good as before, and in some cases better. They did not want to assert that these gentlemen were unreasonable, but the question was, had these gentlemen the right to alter the gradients of the road? He believed the question would be raised before long as to whether the coal owners could insist upon refusing to pay bills for damage done to sewers. He would like to have these things settled in a friendly manner.

Coun. Winter believed that it was on his resolution that the conference was called. As the Chairman had said, there was a disposition on the part of those who worked the coal to meet those who sustained damage. His contention was that if from that conference they evolved some scheme by which the Councils in the districts affected could take joint action, and have the question of right settled, then they would have done some public service. There were people of opinion that the owners had no right at all to work the coal below the highway. Others admitted that they had the right to work a portion of the coal so as not to injure the highway. He (the speaker) admitted that the Chairman had put a case where the most skilful mining engineer could not have foreseen what had occurred. However, he was afraid that the local authorities had sat easy, and in many cases the owners had known that the removal of the coal would cause damage. Owing to this many of their roads and footpaths had become dangerous to traffic. He hoped they might come to some conclusion by which they would get the difficulty done away with.

The Chairman said in his opinion it would be best for each Council to approach the colliery owners in their district, and ask them if they would work the coal under the roads in such a manner, as far as possible, as not to cause damage. It was the absolute desire of the Consett Iron Company not to injure the roads, but, as he had said, the best intentions were sometimes not fulfilled. He understood that damage had been done to main sewers, as Mr. Green had mentioned.

Coun. Keenleyside said they talked about asking the colliery owners to do this, but if they had no right to work the coal they had no right to ask them.

The Chairman said they had the right to work a portion of the coal, but could not exactly determine the amount. They could not go to a colliery owner and say, "you must not work more than 20 per cent. of coal under this road."

Coun. Hall thought it best to try and come to some amicable arrangement, as the Chairman and Mr. Green had suggested.

The Chairman said it struck him that his suggestion opened up another line of action, as, if they refused, they (the Councils) would know what to do.

Coun. Green asked if they had not the right to demand notice from the owners before they took the coal out?

Coun. Cares said no. They could not take a man up for an offence before he committed it. (Laughter.) They must keep in view the Lanchester Common Act, which gave the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the power to work the coal, but there were restrictions on the public highways. If they brought 50 friendly cases into the High Court the case of Benfieldside v. Consett Iron Company would be the judgment upon which they would work, and that was—the owners had power to work a portion of the coal, and if they caused damage they (the Councils) could indict them for damages.

Coun. Hall said they were satisfied that that case was a case by which they could be guided. The whole thing hung upon that. He thought it best for the representatives there to take the case home, and go into it with those who sent them there, and then have another conference.

Coun. Eccles asked if the Chief Baron said the owners had a right to work a portion of the coal, or whether he did not say "they may have a right?"

The Chairman said from his words it must have been in the Lord Chief Baron's mind that they had the power to go through, but not to cause damage.

Coun. Cares gathered from the Chief Baron's remarks that a firm had as much right to put a steam-engine or workshops in the middle of the road as the colliery owners to withdraw the natural supports of the road.

The Chairman thought the object of the Benfieldside Local Board not so much to get the money for repairs as to prevent this in the future.

Coun. Eccles said no; it was purely for repairs.

Coun. Cares said they had two objects in view—one to get back the money, and the other to prevent such damage in the future.

Coun. Eccles thought the main object of the conference was to come to a conclusion as to the right of the colliery owners to work the minerals under the highways.

Coun. Keenleyside thought from the Lord Chief Baron's words that anyone had as much right to put an engine or work-shops in the middle of the road as for the owners to withdraw the natural support.

The Chairman said then the colliery owner would say he was not going to withdraw the natural support. He would say that he was only going to work 10 per cent.

Coun Rippon thought the case in a nutshell was—had the coal owners the right to work the coal or not?

Coun. Cares said the term "natural support was an elastic one. It might mean all had to remain, or it might mean the owners had the right to work a portion of the coal, but not to damage the surface.

The Chairman took it that the owners had the right to work under the moors, but not under the highways in a manner to cause damage.

Coun Eccles thought it rather strange in face of the decision come to in the Queen's Bench that the coal owners had done what they had done.

Coun. Cares said he took it that since the decision was known there was no portion of the road which had been wilfully let down.

Coun. Eccles asked how it would do to ask the colliery people, along with the local authorities, to get up a case? He gathered that the object of the conference was to prevent these subsidences. They wanted to know their legal position. If they got it in a friendly manner so much the better. As Mr. Green had already clearly pointed out, it was not only a question of surface damage, but there were large sewers that had been damaged. He observed that in most of the subsidences there were great openings, and he thought if it would be of any service to the ratepayers they ought; as local representatives, to get up a case in a friendly manner relative to their position with regard to the natural support of the road. He suggested that they take it back to their Councils, and then have another conference.

The Chairman said if they took a case they would have to take a bad case—one where the owners had really taken out more coal than was absolutely necessary for a natural support.

Coun. Eccles said they might also ask whether the owners had any right to take out the coal at all, and, if so, how much?

Coun. Nicholson said it was rather a serious question throughout the county. They generally asked the colliery company to repair the road when damage was done, and sometimes it was a long time before they did it. They generally repaired the carriage drive of the road, but the sides were left in a deplorable condition. He thought in future it would be better if they took the repair of the roads into their own hands. When any subsidence took place let them instruct the Surveyor to at once repair the damage, and send in the bill to the owners, and if they refused to pay it then they would have to take proceedings.

Coun. Cares said they must give the owners notice when a subsidence took place.

After further discussion, Coun. Eccles moved a resolution to the effect that the conference was of opinion that the different Councils should consider the following questions:—(1) Have the owners power to work minerals under the roads. (2) if so, to what extent?

Coun. Costello seconded the motion, which was adopted.

It was agreed to hold another conference on the subject two months hence; and a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

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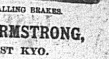

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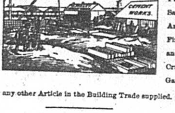
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Copy of letter from
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REMNANTS,

WHICH WE HAVE KEPT BACK ON PURPOSE, FOR
THE LAST THREE DAYS OF SALE.

ROBERT ENGLISH. 15 & 16, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
ROBERT ENGLISH. ALL GOODS MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES.

BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Benfieldside Urban District Council was held on Wednesday evening, in the Council Chamber, Shotley Bridge. Mr J. Heymer, J.P. (chairman), presided, and there were also present—Councillors J. Annandale, J.P., W. Telford, H. Carss, R. G. Barclay, J.P., C. Parnaby, the Clerk (Mr J. B. Lazenby), and the Surveyor (Mr. J. Dixon.)

HOUSING REFORM QUESTION.

The Clerk read a circular letter form the North of England Housing Reform Association, enclosing three tickets to a conference to be held at Newcastle on the 29th of September. Any members who wished to attend could have the tickets.

NEW LAMP REQUIRED.

The Clerk read a letter from the Medomsley Parish Council, suggesting that a lamp should be erected at the top of Elm Park road, near Derwent Cottages, and as a number of people residing in the Benfieldside area would be benefitted they asked the Council to join them in erecting and maintaining a lamp.

The matter was left to the Lighting Committee.

FINANCES.

Coun. Barclay submitted the report of the Highways, Lighting, and Finance Committee, recommending the payment of accounts amounting to £94 18s 4d. They also recommended that Mr. Tully's request for kerbing, channelling, and cementing in front of two houses in Durham Road be acceded to.

The report was adopted.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Coun. Telford submitted a report from the Building and Sanitary Committee, stating that they had made an inspection of the cowsheds and dairies in the district, and they recommended that certain defects be remedied.

The report was agreed to.

NEW LAUNDRY SMOKE NUISANCE.

The Surveyor reported that he had been several times at the new laundry watching the smoke from the chimney. From seven to 7.30 in the morning the smoke came out pretty thickly. During the rest of the day very little smoke came out.

Coun. Carss asked what the scope of the Act was?

The Clerk said it was a question as to whether it was a nuisance or not. From the Surveyor's report he should say it was not. It was more for private individuals to take up.

Coun. Parnaby: We represent private individuals.

The Clerk: You represent the public.

Coun. Parnaby: Yes, but they are made up of private individuals.

Coun. Carrs said it was as bad at night when the Surveyor was not there.

Coun. Panraby asked what the Laundry people were to do? They must keep their machinery going.

Coun. Carss said the complaint was that the smoke went into the people's houses and prevented them from opening their bedroom windows, and also the back doors when the wind was in a certain direction.

Coun. Annandale thought the Laundry people were doing their best to remedy the complaint, but he would move that the proprietors of the Laundry be requested to adopt all practical means in their power to prevent black smoke from emanating from the chimney.

Coun. Telford seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

BOTTLE BANK.

The Building and Sanitary Committe reported having made an inspection of Bottle Bank. The ashpits and privies at the south end of the street were 12ft. 6in. from the cottages. The bottoms of the ashpits were about 2ft. 6in. above the level of the house floors, and the liquid matter percolated through the walls and ran down into the channel in front of the cottages. The kerbstone and channel in front of the cottages were in a bad state, and required to be put in order. The Derwent Street privies were roofed, so that the water fell into the ashpits, which were open, and stood several inches deep. They recommend that the owners have notice to reconstruct the privies and ashpits on both sides of the street.

The Clerk thought they ought to get the Medical Officer to visit the places. Upon a report from him they could declare that particular street an unhealthy one. Or they could write to the Consett Iron Company, and say the place was insanitary and they could ask the Company to give their attention to it. They might say they did not think the place was insanitary in the absence of any report from the Medical Officer.

Coun. Annandale thought they had better have the Medical Officer's report first.

Coun. Parnaby asked if this had been in existence for more than 20 years could they ask the Medical Officer to declare it a nuisance?

The Clerk said he could, even if it had been there a thousand years.

Coun. Parnaby said after all these years they could not point to anything serious that had taken place. When there had been epidemics this particular place had been exempt.

After further discussion it was agreed on the motion of Coun. Parnaby, seconded by Coun. Carss, "that the Medical Officer be requested to visit and report upon the condition from a sanitary point of view the houses and conveniences in Bottle Bank and Derwent Street, Blackhill."

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

The Clerk said he had received a further communication from the Northern Counties Electricity Supply Company, in the course of which they undertook to supply fittings free of charge, and for the benefit of small consumers to fit penny in the slot meters, or make an annual charge per lamp as might be agreed.

On the motion of Coun. Carss, seconded by Coun. Parnaby, it was agreed to give the Company consent to lay down works in the Benfieldside Urban Council area.

The meeting shortly after terminated.

AUCTION MARTS

BLACKHILL.—The Blackhill Farmers' Mart Company, Limited, held a special sale of ewes and lambs on Saturday last, and had forward a good lot of sheep of grand quality, mule ewes making up to 40s 6d, from Satley, mule gimmer to 39s, from Satley; mule ewe lambs to 25s 6d, from High Waskerley; wether lambs to 25s. Store cattle to £8 10s. On Monday there was forward 175 fat sheep and lambs, 15 keeping lambs, 19 fat cattle, 7 calves, 1 pig, 3 horses. Fat cattle from J. Drummond, £15 17s 6d; W. Potts, Shotley Field, £16 15s; J. Potts, Airey Holme, £15; W. Taylor, Summerfield, £15 12s 6d; Dene Howle, fat cow, £17 5s; Highfield, £14; Lintz Colliery Co., £14 15s. Young sheep to 41s, from J. Teasdale, Riding; Mrs. Stokoe, Hedley Woodhead, 41s. Fat lambs to 31s 6d, from Mr. Stonehouse, Hedley; BF ewes from Dene Howle, 26s 6d; fat calves to 54s. Trade for sheep was a decided improvement on last week's mart. Cattle may be quoted at quite 6d per stone less money. A capital clearance was effected early.

TOW LAW.—Mr. Vickers had forward on Monday 54 dairy cows and heifers, 9 fat cattle, 10 calves, 160 fat sheep and lambs. Calved heifers £12 10s to £15 17s 6d; calved cows, £15 2s 6d to £21 12s 6d; in-calving heifers, £13 15s to £15 5s; in-calving cows £14 10s to £21 17s 6d; fat cattle to £15 15s. Calves from 17s to 40s each. Fat sheep to 40s, from Mrs. Watson, Chapman Hill; 35s, from Mr. G. Henderson, Wiserley; 40s, from Mr T. J. Harrison, Earn Well; 32s 3d, from Mr. J. Minto, Lanchester; 29s, from Mr. Humble, Cows Hill; 31s, from Mr. J. Henderson Witton; 25s, from Mrs. Stephenson, Broadwood; 25s 9d, from Mr. J. Emerson, Willow Green. Fat lambs, 30s, from Mr G Raine, Golden Land; 29s, from Mr. G. Henderson, Wiserley; 24s, from Mrs. Stephenson, Broadwood; 24s, from Mr. J. Dowson, Newlands; 23s 3d, from Mr. W. B. Richardson Pool Tree; 21s 6d, from Mr. J. Kidd, Field Style; 23s 9d, from Mr. G. Richardson, Shipley. Cows a good trade. Beef to 8/6 per stone; mutton, 8d to 9d per pound.

SEPTEMBER MAGAZINES.

In a splendidly illustrated interview with Mr. C. E. Borchgrevinck, Mr. Wm. Fitzgerald tells the story of the adventures of the "Southern Cross," in this month's "Strand." The illustrations are from photographs taken during the course of the voyage of the good ship which has penetrated farthest south. The incidents in the course of the voyage are exciting throughout. There is also an entertaining and instructive article on "Ambulance dogs in the German army," the reading of which will make all wish some such provision had been made in connection with the British army now operating in South Africa, then may be the list of "missing" would not have been so abnormally long. The serial and short stories are, as always, intensely interesting. Dr. Conan Doyle has an article on "A glimpse of the Army." As is well-known, the writer has been to the front as a volunteer.

"The Wide World Magazine," and "The Captain" are issued from the same office as "The Strand" (Messrs Geo. Newnes Ltd.) The wide popularity of the former bespeaks the excellence of the latter, and this month they both more than sustain the high reputation to which they have attained with the reading public.

PRESENTATION TO DR. SLOANE, AT BLACKHILL.

ENTHUSIASTIC PROCEEDINGS.

On Tuesday evening, a large and enthusiastic company assembled in St. Mary's Schools, Blackhill, to take part in a presentation to Dr. Sloane (organist and choirmaster at St. Mary's) from the members of the choir, in recognition of the signal honour he has recently obtained in the musical profession. When the idea was mooted it was warmly taken up, and with Mr. M. Mulcahy as president, Mr. J. McPhillips as treasurer, and Mr. J. Mulholland as secretary, the scheme prospered exceedingly. After mature deliberation it was decided to present Dr. Sloane with the robes appertaining to a Doctor of Music, and these very handsome garments were purchased from Messrs Van Heems and Wheeler, of London, together with an address. The proceedings on Tuesday evening took the form of a social gathering, an excellent repast being provided by Mrs M. J. Chorley, of Park Road, Consett. This was done full justice to by the guests, amongst whom we noticed:—The Rev. Father Carroll, Rev. Father Dunne, Dr. Sloane, Coun. E. Sloane, Mrs. McCann, Dr. J. M. Murray, M.B.; Mr. John Sloane, Coun. T. Dunne, Mr. James Eltringham, Mr. James Forkin, Mrs. James Forkin, Mr. and Mrs. C. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. P. Tumilty, Miss Sloane, Miss Lambe, Miss K. Sloane, Miss McGeoghegan, Miss L. Sloane, Miss A. Haggan, Miss M. E. Welsh, Miss M. Donnelly, Miss McBryde, Miss M. A. McKie, Mr. John Mulholland, Mr. Mark Mulcahy, Mr. John McPhillips, Mr. P. Reddington, Mr. J. Dempsey, Mr. P. McKie, Mr. M. Haggan, Mr. E. Campbell, Mr. W. Oliver, Mr. H. Gooden, Mr. and Mrs. Osman, Mrs. John McPhillips, Mrs. W. Oliver, Mrs. Ed. Campbell, Mrs. P. Reddington, Mrs. Mark Mulcahy, Miss Mulcahy, Burnopfield; Miss M. Phillipson, Miss L. Burns, Miss M. Hughes, Miss K. Hagan, Miss Katie Mulholland, Miss J. Mulholland, Miss G. Gooden, Miss M. Boyle, Miss T. Brady, Miss J. Devine, Miss M. McGeoghegan, Mr. Rogers, Mr. E. Moore, Mr. A. Dempsey, Mr. Harris (Newcastle), Mr. P. Mee, Mr. McElrue, Mr. J. McElrue, Mr. J. Campbell, Mr. John McCann, Mr. James McPhillips, Mr. A. Lynn, Mr. Thos. Burns, and Mr. Wm. McGuinness.

At the conclusion of the repast, the Rev. Father Carroll occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings referred to the reason of their gathering that evening, viz., to present a Musical Doctor's robes to Dr. Sloane, and he said he had no doubt but that their guest would shed lustre upon the robes. (Loud applause.) The Chairman then called upon Mr. Mulholland to read an address, which had been beautifully prepared by a local lady.

Mr. Mulholland then read the address as follows:—

Blackhill,
September 18th, 1900.

To Doctor Edward J. Sloane.

We, the members of St. Mary's Church Choir, Blackhill, take this opportunity of congratulating you on the high honour that has recently been conferred upon you, viz., Doctor of Music of Trinity University, Toronto. Not the least of our pride and satisfaction is due to the fact that it is the highest honour which can possibly be conferred by the University.

Our position as members of St. Mary's Choir is a privileged one, in having so capable and distinguished an organist and choirmaster.

It is therefore with almost indescribable feelings that we now present to you the doctor's robes of the University.

Only yourself, Dr. Sloane, and those whose exceptional abilities, like your own, have enabled them to obtain a similar honour, can realise the amount of hard and persevering endeavour necessary to become the proud possessor of these handsome robes, which we now have pleasure in asking you to accept.

It is the sincere wish of each member of the choir, Doctor Sloane, that the future may hold for you many triumphs, and that you may long be spared to shine in your noble profession.

(Signed),

MARK MULCAHY, President.
JOHN McPHILLIPS, Treasurer.
JOHN MULHOLLAND, Secretary.

The reading of the address provoked loud and continued applause.

Mr. Chapman (an old and esteemed chorister) in making the presentation of the robes, said he would have wished that someone more able to perform this important duty had been called upon, and he thought it might have been placed in better hands. However, he would endeavour to do justice to it. (Hear, hear.) He was a member of St. Mary's choir some 28 years since, and could say that Dr. Sloane (and also his good sister) had ever been ready to do anything possible for the welfare of the parish. (Applause.) They had ever been foremost in promoting and assisting at entertainments, etc. Their friend, Dr. Sloane, had attained to a high and eminent position, and they all, he felt sure, warmly congratulated him upon the distinction conferred upon him. (Applause.) It was an honour to him and also to his good parents, and he (the speaker) hoped that Dr. Sloane might be spared for very many years to wear those handsome robes. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Sloane then donned the robes amid a further outburst of applause; and the health of the guest of the evening was given with musical honours.

Mr. Mulcahy (in a very eloquent speech), Mr. Reddington, and Mr. J. McPhillips supported on behalf of the choir.

Mr. James Eltringham supported the toast on behalf of the visitors, and said:—On behalf of the visitors I would like to tender Dr. Sloane their heartiest wishes and sincere congratulations on the high position he has attained in the musical world—a position which reflects honour not only upon himself but on the district with which he is connected. (Applause.) The degree of Doctor of Music, as we all know, is the highest in the musical profession, and with that degree we associate, if not old, at least middle-aged, grave professors of learning. Our guest this evening by no stretch of the imagination can be called old, or even middle-aged, therefore the honour that has been conferred upon him is the more to be valued. He has while yet a young man, reached a position which places him in the foremost rank of musicians in the country. This high and dignified post in the musical world has not been, I am sure, attained without a vast amount of earnest and laborious study, but added to that, Dr. Sloane, to have reached so high a position at so early an age, must have been naturally gifted with the divine art of music. (Applause.) We all know the brilliant part in Dr. Sloane's musical career, the high place he occupied in every examination he entered—that wondrous feat in securing and bringing for the first time to the north of England, the gold medal given by the authorities of the college, and for which over nine hundred students competed. Then we were all highly gratified when four years ago he became licensed to add the magic letters M.B. after his name, and as a crowning effort he has now reached the topmost rung of the ladder in the noble profession of which he is so worthy a member, and so eminent a Doctor. (Applause.) We, as visitors, are proud to learn that the members of his choir have recognised in so tangible a manner the abilities of their teacher, and trust that the good feeling existing between the choir and Dr. Sloane may long continue. (Hear, hear.) We feel deeply grateful to the members of the choir for their kindness in affording us the privilege of participating on such an auspicious occasion as this evening's rejoicings. I but echo the sentiments of every visitor present when I say I trust Dr. Sloane may be long spared to wear the beautiful and handsome college robes the choir have so generously and freely presented to him to-night; that he may long live amongst us to adorn the profession of his choice is our heartfelt wish, and we, the visitors, wish him well in the bright future which we feel confident lies before him. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Sloane, on rising to reply, was enthusiastically received. He said the kind expressions of appreciation and affection which had been made about him so kindly and undeservedly—("No, no")—so completely overwhelmed him that he felt utterly unable to disclose to them the sentiments of his heart. He felt it impossible to give vent to the thoughts which occupied his mind, and would rather have remained silent, for silence was often more expressive than words. It was, however, the custom to express one's thanks for kindnesses received, and he supposed he must not, on that occasion, be any exception to the rule. For the kind and flattering remarks of all the previous speakers, and for the sentiments so beautifully expressed in that handsome address, he had especial reason to feel grateful. It had always been his pleasure to perform his duties honourably to those immediately placed under his charge, as well as to obey those who were above him. (Hear, hear.) They had very kindly acknowledged those services during the time he had been at St. Mary's Church, Blackhill, and their attendance there that night clearly proved that they had appreciated his duties as their organist and choirmaster during the last few years. Those handsome robes he should value most dearly, although he had never deserved, nor even anticipated, any such recognition at their hands. He should always prize them because they expressed the noble and beautiful sentiments of the kind and warm-hearted members of St. Mary's Choir. (Applause.) During the brief period he had been there, he had only done his duty—nothing more. He therefore thanked them very profoundly for that set of Mus. Doc. robes, and could earnestly assure them that that exquisite present would certainly ever remind him of the many happy and pleasant days spent with the members of St. Mary's Choir. (Applause.) He was deeply impressed at the unanimous and spontaneous manner in which that presentation had been promoted, despite the many calls that have been made upon them lately, and, knowing all this, he felt utterly unable to give expression to his feelings. It had been his pleasure and privilege to associate with them, and to instruct them for some years. That period of time had quickly passed over, and he would like to say, without any doubt whatever, that it had proved itself to be one of the most pleasant periods of his life. (Applause.) He must now again thank them, one and all, for those handsome robes, and also for the many acts of kindness they had so frequently shown him from time to time—kinds acts that would never be obliterated from his memory. He was proud to see so many of his old friends there that night, and he heartily appreciated the honour they had done him in attending. He was particularly pleased to see Mr. Chapman there also. Who had done more sterling work, in his time, in the choir, than Mr. Chapman? Mr. Chapman had been a good and faithful member of the choir for 25 years. (Applause.) He had done his work well, and might he be spared for many years to come. He could well remember when, in the days of his boyhood (which seemed to him to be a long time ago) how he worthily fulfilled, on many occasions, the position of organ blower. (Laughter and applause.) In those days, as at the present, they had a choir second to none in North-West Durham. Several members of the old choir, he was sorry to relate, had joined the great majority, whilst others had for various reasons sought fresh fields and pastures new. With regard to the present choir, he had for them the highest possible admiration, and they richly deserved it. He recollected and realised with much pleasure the great energy and enthusiasm the members threw into their weekly rehearsals. There lay the secret of their success. Their rehearsals were a great source of encouragement to him, and were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone of them. What greater pleasure and comfort could a person enjoy than to have the privilege of giving whatever musical talents he or she possessed to the service of the Church? He was proud to say that spirit had always existed there, for he had never experienced any difficulty whatever in finding good and capable persons to become members of St. Mary's Church Choir. (Applause.) What then, he asked, was there more elevating than ecclesiastical music? There they found music in its sublimity. The church had always encouraged the practice of vocal music. Music had always been inseparably connected with the church. The early Christians always used music in their worship. Centuries ago, great work was accomplished for music. Pope Sylvester, in the beginning of the fourth century, did much for music, and founded a singing school in Rome. So also did St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, who died in 397, and who, in his efforts on behalf of the singing in the church, was instrumental in introducing an improved system. The chant which so strongly affected St. Augustine, was the one that had been introduced by St. Ambrose into Milan at the time he was Bishop of that city in the year 386. Later on, St. Gregory, who was born in 550, and elevated Pontiff of Rome in 590, greatly improved and enlarged upon the work of St. Ambrose. He made many improvements in the chanting of the service. He also founded a school for the teaching of singing in Rome, and not only superintended but also took part in the teaching therein. As the Gregorian chant came to be used in other Christian countries, singers were sent at various times from Rome to different parts of the world, and notably to France and Germany, and, no doubt, by their devotional singing, did much towards reconciling an antagonistic world to peace and concord. (Hear, hear.) He need not trace the history of ecclesiastical music up to the present time, for time would not permit, but would like to say that the church had always cultivated the practice of vocal music, and was very pleased to observe that they, as a choir, in their own humble way, had played no unworthy part in that respect. St. Mary's Choir had for years rendered many fine masses by some of the most eminent church composers, and he earnestly trusted that they would long be spared to continue to do so. (Applause.) And now, in conclusion, he must say that a finer choir than St. Mary's he had never met in his life. They were a credit to the church, and to themselves. Finally he could only say that when he wore those handsome robes, and looked upon that beautiful address, they would recall memories of the past—memories of bygone days, which were so happily spent with the kind and warm-hearted members of St. Mary's Choir. (Loud applause.)

Mr. E. Campbell moved, and Mr. M. Haggan seconded, a vote of thanks to the visitors, which was acknowledged by Coun. Dunne and Dr. Murray, M.B.

Mr. Oliver proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Chapman, which was supported by Mr P. McKie, and suitably responded to.

The toast of "The Choir" was given by Mr. P. Tumilty, and replied to by Mr. John Sloane.

Mr. Gooden gave "The Chairman and Vice-chairman," and was supported by Mr. Dempsey.

During the evening a capital musical programme was gone through. The choir rendered the glee, "Hail, smiling morn," admirably, the parts being well balanced. "Eileen Allanah" was artistically sang by Miss Lambe, whilst Mr. Mulcahy's song was exceedingly well rendered. The song and chorus by Miss K. Sloane and the choir was very warmly appreciated. The very enjoyable proceedings terminated at midnight, everything passing off most smoothly, thanks to the excellent arrangements of the committee.

CORRESPONDENCE.

N.W. DURHAM REVISION COURT.
DISAPPOINTED LODGER CLAIMANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—A percentage of the lodger claimants who had hoped to be placed on the register at the Revision Court this week will find their names missing from the list. I shall be glad, therefore, if you will allow me to explain that this is due to the decision of the Revising Barrister to admit no claims, in respect of houses of less than £8 rateable value. Another year it will become a question whether witnesses shall be called to testify to the value of the rooms claimed for. The time of the court will be occupied to a much greater extent; but that is an evil which must be endured if legitimate laims are to be disallowed under a rule whih in practice not infrequently overrides the decision of Parliament, as expressed in the Franchise law. I am perfectly satisfied that the majority of the disappointed claimants occupied rooms which fully complied with the only requirement in the Act, namely, that they shall be of the letting value of £10 per year.—Yours truly,

R. L. APPLEFORD.

COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—May I request you to be so good as to publish for the information of all concerned and interested the following purport of a letter which has been received from Lieu-Colonel Woodland, who is commanding the 1st Durham Light Infantry in South Africa:—

W. S. Bridge, Lieut.,
Adjt. 68th R. Dist.

"I have to-day distributed some thirty cases, bales, and boxes, containing tobacco, socks, shirts and wollen goods, all of which have come from our good friends in Durham. In the name of the N.C.O.'s and privates of the 1st battalion Durham Light Infantry, allow me to thank you for your great kindness in sending us such a good supply. I can only say they are much appreciated by all. Will you kindly thank all our good friends, their names are legion. The health of the battalion has much improved, and I am glad to say we are holding our own."

Very truly yours,
Arthur L. Woodland, Lieut.-Col.,
Commanding 1st. D. L.I."

FOOTBALL.

ENGLISH CUP.
(PRELIMINARY ROUND.)
LEADGATE PARK v. CROOK.

This game will be played at Leadgate on Saturday, and a hard game is expected for the right to oppose Bishop Auckland in the next round.

LEADGATE PARK.—Goal, M. Hedley; backs, G. Temple and J. Laidler; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and P. Daly; forwards, B. Cook, J. Grant, J. W. Hymers, J. Wilson, and J. Bowes.

Kick-off at 3.30. Referee, Mr. A. H. White, Newcastle.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LEAGUE.
CONSETT SWIFTS v. SOUTH MOOR.

At South Moor.

CONSETT.—Goal, Callaghan; backs Patterson and Wood; half-backs, McNally, J. Rafferty and Atkinson; forwards, Turley, Smith, Dempsey, M. Eustace, and Pratt.

Referee, W. Usher; linesman, J. McArdle. Brake leaves at 1.30 p.m.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.
STANLEY v. JARROW.

At Stanley.

STANLEY.—Goal, Robins; backs, Saunders and Devine; half-backs, Bell, Ellis, and Allison; forwards, Spence, Atkinson, Howe, Robson, and Proudlock.

Kick-off at 3.30.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.
LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. HAMSTERLEY.

The Park Reserve open their league fixtures at Hamsterley on Saturday.

HAMSTERLEY.—Goal, J. Scott; backs, J. Carr and S. O. Else; half-backs, Little, Richardson, and Abbott; forwards, G. Parker, F. Johnson, Ferry, J. Fenwick, and D. Seath.

PARK RESERVE.—Goal, D. Cartmell; backs, J. T. Cairns and W. Walton (capt.); half-backs, J. Ward, A. T. Whiteley, and C. McAloon; forwards, J. Harper, R. Gleadow, G. Milburn W. Crowther, and J. Birtley.

Brake leaves headquarters at 2. Referee, J. Gray, Tantobie. Kick-off at 3.30 o'clock.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE v. TANTOBIE.

At Consett.

CONSETT SWIFTS RESERVE.—Goal, Coleman (capt.), backs, Wilson and Ellwood; half-backs, T. Dempsey, Pinkney, and Wilkinson; forwards, McAlear, W. Peacock, A. Roberts, Blackburn, and Cock. Reserves, Kellet, Robson, Kirkup, and Loughorn.

Linesman, W. Little. Kick-off at 3.30 p.m.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.
LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS v. CATCHGATE.

At Annfield Plain, when the following will do duty for the

PARK.—Goal, J. Johns., backs, J. Thompson and D. Operall; half-backs, J. Grant, A. Overall, W. Graham; forwards, C. Walton, L. Davison, E. Birtley (capt.), T. Walker, and J. Kelly. Reserves, J. Lumley and G. Black.

Referee, Mr. G. Lock.

LEADGATE ATHLETIC v. CLEMENT ROVERS.

At Annfield Plain, when the following will do duty for

LEADGATE.—Goal, A. Collins, backs, A. Robson and T. Alderdice; half-backs, J. Walker, J. Lamb, E. Robson; forwards, J. Collinson, C. Peacock, J. Bell (capt.), E. Cummings, and E. Graham.

Referee, Mr. D. Cartmell.

STANLEY ATHLETIC v. SOUTH TANFIELD UNITED.

The following team will represent

STANLEY.—Goal, R. Smith; backs, R. Lamb and T. Robinson; half-backs, M. Dixon, C. Parnell, and W. Stephenson; forwards, J. Tully, R. Stephenson, J. Pattinson, J. Middleton, and H. Morgan.

SOUTH MOOR UNITED v. BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S.

At Blackhill.

SOUTH MOOR.—Goal, C. Perryman; backs, Johnson and Mason; half-backs, Foster, Nicholson, and Stewart; forwards, Young, Hughes, Armin, Boggan, and Smailes. Reserve, G. Cole.

Referee, Mr. J. Makepeace, Leadgate; Linesman, J. Jobson. Kick-off at 3.45.

STANLEY RANGERS v. LINTZ ROVERS.

At Shield Row.

STANLEY.—Goal, J. Gailes; backs, M. Rowell and P. Connor; half-backs, J. Clemmentson, H. Christopher, and J. McTurn; forwards, R. Watt, J. Ashburn, R. Henderson, J. Watson, and W. Carroll. Reserves, C. Hudspith, R. Heslop, and S. Jackson.

LINTZ (chosen from)—J. Dews, J. Gibbons, B. Davison, I. Adamson, T. Heslin, M. Hughes, W. Nevin, R. Pyle (capt.), Wm. Adamson, P. Cullen, T. Turpin, W. Humble, A. Dews, and P. Hanrattie.

Kick-off at 3.30. Referee, G. Grey.

WEST PELTON v. HOBSON UNITED.

At West Pelton.

WEST PELTON (chosen from)—J. Davidson, J. Wrangham, Owers, Willis, Stott, Smiley, Scott, Gringle, Cornforth, Scott, Owers, Cowell, Lumsden, Mallams, Dargue, Hughes, Robson, Carr, and Jaques.

VACANT DATES.

Blackhill United are in want of matches, average age, 14 years.—Apply to the Secretary, T. H. Patterson, 4, St. George's Place, Blackhill.

Bradley Red Stars are in want of matches, and would like their dates filled up as soon as possible; age, 12 to 15 years.—Apply E. Matthews, 20, Bradley Cottages, near Leadgate.

MEDOMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this body was held in the Board-room on Wednesday night, under the presidency of Coun. H. Palmer, J.P. (chairman.) There was only a small attendance.

ACETYLENE GAS.

The Chairman said that he and some other Councillors inspected the little installation of Mr. Hill at Derwent Cottages, and although they were very pleased with what they saw, yet when the tender came in for four lamps they thought it was more than they were entitled to recommend to the Council. The amount was £50. The light seemed to be excellent, but they did not feel justified in asking the Council to go to that expense. If there had been 40 instead of four lamps it might have come out much cheaper per lamp. Much as he would like to see the light improved, it seemed a very large sum for four lamps.

Coun. Milligan thought it an enormous price.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write Mr. Hill, expressing thanks for his offer, but stating that the Council could not accept it.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The Chairman said a final and satisfactory report had been received fom the Consett Iorn Co., embodying exactly the conditions that the Council were prepared to accept. A meeting was called to discuss it, and finding it in accordance with what they were prepared to adopt, the Clerk was instructed to advertise for tenders for carrying out the work. There were four applicants, who had been over the ground, and would send in tenders within a fortnight. No time was being lost.

ALLEGED NUISANCE.

The Chairman said the Clerk had received a letter from Mr Murray stating that the sewage from Derwent Cottages flowed into his field. The effluvia was very bad and the sewage was polluting the burn.

Coun. Armstrong said a deputation of three visited the place two years ago, and thought that a channel was required all down the field.

The Chairman thought the best plan would be to instruct the Clerk to write the Company on the subject, and ask what steps they proposed to take.

This course was agreed to.

Coun. Jamieson said it would be a matter for the District Council.

The Chairman: Yes, later on.

SWALWELL.

CONSERVATIVE MEETING.—Under the auspices of the Chester-le-Street Conservative and Unionist Association, an open-air meeting was held at Swalwell, on Thursday evening last, under the chairmanship of Mr. P. Thompson, of Gateshead. The principal speaker was Mr. Thomas Fielding, of Manchester, who in the course of an interesting address touched upon several beneficial Acts that had been passed by the present Government. Some of the greatest losses to the country, he said, had occurred in consequence of disputes between employer and employed. In cases of dispute, where there was a possibility of strikes and lock-outs, the Conciliation Act was most beneficial; and had been so in more than one instance. The latest example of the usefulness of this Act occurred in connection with the Taff Valley Railway strike. A great number of other disputes had also been settled in a similar manner. The Government during the last five years had passed another important measure. He alluded to the Act which gave local government to Ireland. The speaker touched upon the Compensation Act, and the benefits it gave to workmen, and alluded to the incompleteness of the Act of [illegible]. A short reference to the present war in South Africa concluded an interesting address.

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389g

Rowlands Gill

VALUE OF LICENSED PROPERTY.—Messrs. R. and W. Mack offered for sale by auction on Wednesday afternoon, at their rooms, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle, the freehold licensed premises known as the Towneley Arms, near Rowland's Gill Station. Adjoining the hotel is a cottage of four rooms, whilst in the rear there is good stabling accommodation. The total area of the estate is 2,586 square yards. The bidding commenced at £12,000, and as this was the only offer, the property was withdrawn.

Spen.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.—On Saturday, the 8th inst., some of the members of the above committee joined the secretary in an excursion to Monkwearmouth, where they were joined by the Rev. D. S. Boutflower, vicar of St. Peter's, who very kindly showed them round the church, and pointed out to them the various points of interest in that historic building. The party then partook of lunch, after which a visit was paid to the parish church of Sunderland (not forgetting to have a look at Jack Crawford's tomb); Bishop Lightfoot's church, dedicated to St. Ignatius; and St. Columba's Southwick; then had a ride on the new electric trams, and spent the remainder of a very pleasant day at Roker.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Births

ALMOND.—At Four Lane Ends, Castleside, on the 19th inst., the wife of Mr. C. W. Almond, of a daughter.

RUST.—White House, Swalwell, Sept. 13th, the wife of the Rev. E. Rust, of a son.

Marriages.

GREENWELL — SUTHERLAND.—At the Parish Church, St. Mary's, Gateshead, Sept. 15th, by the Rev. Canon Moore Ede, Charles Greenwell, youngest son of Robert Greenwell, of Beamish, to May Sutherland, youngest daughter of the late George Sutherland, of Aberdeen.

Deaths.

APPLEBY.—At 285, Watling Street, Leadgate, (the residence of his grandmother, Mr. Orchard), on the 9th inst., aged 15 months, George Humble, beloved son of George Robert and the late Sarah Appleby, Hare Law Annfield Plain.

BROWN.—West Pelton, John Street, on the 14th inst., aged 29 years, George Brown, son of John and Margaret Brown.

BOWMAN.—No. 8, Victoria Terrace, Pelton Lane Ends, on the 18th inst., aged 14 years, Hannah Jane, daughter of Mark and Elizabeth Bowman.

BARRY.—At 32, Kensington Road, Southport, on the 17th inst., aged two months, after one day's illness, Mary, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Barry, late of Consett.

BATES.—29, Bournemouth Terrace, Elswick, Newcastle, 17th inst., aged 34 years, Sarah Annie Maria, wife of H. I. Bates, chemist, New Benwell, and 2nd daughter of Mary and the late Robert Ripley, of Stanhope.

BARKER.—Snows Green, Shotley Bridge, 16th inst., aged 75 years, Edmund Barker. Interred at Ebchester Churchyard.

CARR.—West Kyo, Sept. 14th, aged 44 years, Elizabeth, wife of John Joseph Carr, and eldest daughter of the late John and Jane Reay, of West Kyo.

DONNELLY.—Blaydon, 10, South Street, aged 45 years, Elizabeth, wife of Patrick Donnelly.

DAVISON.—Sterkstroom, South Africa, on the 18th of August, aged 45 years, William, eldest son of the late Edward Davison, of Byreside Farm.

EMBLETON.—Chester-le-Street, 15th inst., aged 84 years, Ralph Embleton, of Street Gate, late of High Teams Farm.

FAWCETT.—West Kyo, 11th inst., aged 29 years, Joseph Fawcett.

GOLDSBOROUGH.—Club Row, Pelton Fell, 14th inst., 71 years, George, husband of Jane Goldborough.

GRANT.—At Templetown, Consett, on the 19th inst., aged 47 years, John, the beloved husband of Mary Grant. To be interred on Sunday at Benfieldside Cemetery; to lift at 2.30 p.m. Service in Consett P.M. Chapel at 3.

HIRST.—Drover House, Satley, 13th inst., Isaac, the dearly beloved husband of Mary Hirst. Interment at Satley on Sunday.

KELLY.—1, Glass House Square, Stanley, on 17th inst., James, son of Thomas and the late Mary Ann Kelly, aged 20 years.

LEATHARD.—Low Prudhoe, on the 13th inst., aged 15 years, Thomas Hunter, son and only child of Surtees and Margaret Leathard.

MAJOR.—Birtley, on the 19th inst., William Major, aged 66 years, husband of the late Mary Jane Major.

SLATER.—St. Ives Road, Leadgate, 17th inst., Joseph, infant son of Joseph and Mary Ann Slater, aged 15 months.

SAUL.—3, Gas Lane, Blaydon, on the 15th inst., Mary Ann Saul, daughter of the late Esther Watson.

In loving memory of our dear father, Benjamin Sanderson, who was killed at South Medomsley Colliery, Sept. 22nd, 1899, aged 66 years.

Ever remembered by his sons and daughter.

In remembrance of my dear mother, Jane Erwin, who died at White-le-Head, Sept. 19th, 1899.

Gone but not forgotten.

In loving memory of John Fairlamb, who died at Cutler's Hall Road, Shotley Bridge, September 21st, 1899.

Loved in life, deeply lamented in death.

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