The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

Printed and Published at 65, Clayton Street ... Proprietor For Sarah Bradley

No. 310. CONSETT, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1866. [PRICE ONE PENNY.]

Wanted.

WANTED.—A JOINER and an APPRENTICE to the Business. Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

WANTED, STONE-BREAKERS, NAVVIES, and Men to work on Highways. Good Wages given. For a reference, apply at the office of "*The Consett Guardian.*"

WANTED immediately, a CARTWRIGHT. Apply to Mr W. HALL, Cartwright, Lanchester. One from the country preferred. Lanchester, Sept. 20, 1866.

WANTED to Borrow on Security of ample Copyhold Property, £425.—Apply to Mr JOHN BOOTH, Solicitor, Shotley Bridge.

TO PITMEN.—10 or 12 HEWERS Wanted at Preston Colliery, near North Shields. The seam is 4ft. 6ins. high, corved by the middle, and 10s. per Score Hewing. Regular workers will meet with encouragement. August 15th, 1866.

Lost.

LOST on Saturday night, August 25th, a dark Brown CLOAK, between No. 1, and Derwent Cottages, any one bringing the above to M. BANON, Bar House, will be rewarded for their trouble.

To Let.

TO LET, a HOUSE, in Benfieldside Lane, containing 5 Rooms.—Apply to Mr JACOB DOWSON, Blackhill. September 13th, 1866.

TO LET, the EATAGE of 28 Acres of OLD LAND FOG, situate at High Friar Side, near Burnopfield.—Apply to JOHN MURRAY & SONS, Leadgate.

TO LET, a SHOP and HOUSE, in a good situation at Blackhill.—Apply to Mr R. J. Porteus, Printer, Blackhill.

A BUTCHER'S SHOP TO LET, situate at the Corner of High-street, Consett. Apply to RICHARD MURRAY.

TO BE LET.—Immediate Entry.—A SAW MILL, CORN MILL, and COTTAGE, situate in DELVES LANE, Consett. For further particulars, apply to Mr Stephen Down, on the Premises.

TO MASONS, JOINERS, &c.

TO LET, by Contract, the work required to be done in raising the Walls of the Dwelling House and Barn at the Lizards, near Lanchester. Plans and Specifications may be seen on application to Mr ROBERT JAMES, Lizards, near Lanchester, and Tenders will be received by him up to the 1st of October, 1866.

Money.

£2,000 IN CASH PRIZES TO BE GIVEN AWAY. See "THE UNIVERSAL NEWS" (the Only Organ of Irish Catholic Opinion in England.) Price 2d. Every Saturday. Order of any Newsagent, or from the Head Office, 147, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

Public Notices.

MR R. S. SPENCER, ORGANIST OF ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, BENFIELDSIDE,

BEGS to Inform the Clergy, Gentry, and Public of Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Consett, and surrounding neighbourhood, that he is prepared to give lessons on the Organ, Pianoforte, and Harmonium.
FOR TERMS APPLY AT HIS RESIDENCE.
Front Street, Blackhill, July 19th, 1866.

MESSRS TREGELLES, HANBURY, & Co., DERWENT FOUNDRY, BLACKHILL,

ARE prepared to supply Colliery Owners, Builders, Smiths, Farmers, &c., with Colliery Castings, Kitchen Ranges, and Ovens, Sash Weights, Gratings, Fire Bars, Fire Grates, Sham Stoves, Columns, Plough Metals, Turnip Rollers, Tue Irons, Wheels, Windows, &c., at fair prices.

IMPORTANT TO ALL.

NEW WORK BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE PEOPL'S GUIDE TO HEALTH," &c.

DR. SMITH, who has had TWENTY YEARS' Practical Experience in the Treatment and Cure of NERVOUS and PHYSICAL DEBILITY, LOSS OF APPETITE, PAINS IN THE BACK, INDIGESTION, ERRORS OF YOUTH, SPERMATORRHOEA, &c., has just published a NEW EDITION of 10,000 Copies of the WARNING VOICE, or Private Medical Friend (128 Pages).

This Work contains his highly successful and only safe treatment, and is illustrated with hundreds of cases and testimonials from patients, with plain directions for perfect restoration to health. Sent post-free to any address, secure from observation, on receipt of two postage stamps.

Letters, with details of case promptly answered.

Address, "DR. SMITH, 8, Burton Crescent, London, W.C.

HOPE'S INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE.

THE PEOPLE'S FAMILY TEA WAREHOUSE!

The Wonderfully Cheap Beverage,	2s. 0d.	Pound.
The Famous Economical Beverage,	2s. 6d.	"
The Genuine Household Beverage,	3s. 0d.	"
The Celebrated Popular Beverage,	3s. 6d.	"
The Unrivalled Imperial Beverage,	4s. 0d.	"

"THE BEST TEAS ARE THE CHEAPEST."
First-Class Teas only Sold—No Common Tea kept.
Samples sent per Post to any Address.
Wholesale Buyers supplied on London Terms.
TERMS—CASH.

FINEST FRESH ROASTED COFFEE.
Every Article in the Grocery and Provision Trade supplied on the very best Terms.

JOHN HOPE, JUN.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA MERCHANT, GROCER AND PROVISION FACTOR, CANDLE MANUFACTURER AND FIELD SEEDSMAN
DEALER IN PERUVIAN GUANO AND BLAYDON MANURE, LINSEED, RAPE, AND COTTON CAKE, &c.,
FORE STREET AND PRIESTPOPPLE, HEXHAM.

DOWNIE'S
LIFE PRESERVING PILLS
UNIVERSAL HEALING OINTMENT
ITALIAN COUGH BALSAM &
INFANTS TEETHING CORDIAL

WILL Purify the Blood. Heal all Sores, and Diseases of the Skin, and remove all Complaints of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs. They never fail.—Give them a trial, and prove for yourself.

DOWNIE'S INFANTS' TEETHING CORDIAL
Is the only Medicine fit for Infants—try it!

Prepared only by HENRY DOWNIE & CO., Wholesale Chemists, 43 and 44, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Sold by Peter Brown, Druggist, Shotley Bridge; D. Imrie, Druggist; and *Guardian* Office, Consett; John Reed Lanchester; Watson Smith, Leadgate; W. Smith, J. Robinson, and J. Hillary, Grocers, Towlaw; William Barkas, Grocer, Blackhill; and may be had of all Chemists and Dealers in Patent Medicines, in Boxes, Pots, and Bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each.

Extraordinary CURES by DOWNIE'S MEDICINES.

Mrs E. Bell, of West Cramlington, was cured of bad legs of eleven years' standing.—April 19th, 1865.

Mr. Robert Dixon, Chester-le-Street, Durham, says Downie's Pills and Balsam completely cured his wife of asthma and difficulty of breathing of *many years'* standing. Nov. 14th, 1864.

Mrs. Jane Hartburn, and her Son, 38, Green-street, South Shields, were cured of scurvy, &c., of 8 years' standing.

Mr. T. Carter, New Road, Newcastle, cured of a fearful bad leg of 8 years standing.

Public Notices.

THE BEST STONE suitable for Monuments, Tomb Stones, Head Stones, Heads, Sills, Jambs, Mantles, Flags, Curb Stones, &c. are to be had at reasonable prices of Mr W. W. BROWN, Howdon Bank, near Lanchester.

HAIRCUTTING AND SHAVING ESTABLISHMENT.

THOMAS LEWIS begs most respectfully to inform the Public generally that he has succeeded Mr Blades in that old-established Shaving and Haircutting Establishment carried on by him for the last Eighteen Years, in Front-street, Consett, and hopes by strict attention to Business to merit a continuance of the favours bestowed on that gentleman.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE CONSETT GUARDIAN ARE INSERTED AT THE LOWEST RATE.

JOHN ILDERTON, TIN AND IRON PLATE WORKER, &c., SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

IN returning thanks to his numerous Friends for past favours during the Twenty Years he has been in business at Shotley Bridge, begs to intimate that in addition to his establishment there, he has taken a SHOP at HIGHGATE for the better accommodation of his friends in that locality, where he will always have on hand an Assortment of Goods for Inspection, and trusts by assiduity and attention, still to merit their approbation and support.
N.B.—Shops supplied.
April 19, 1866.

GEORGE HOBSON,
Wholesale and Retail
FLOUR DEALER, GROCER, DRAPER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDSMAN,
HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,
AND SOUTH MOOR.

FINEST ENGLISH OILCAKE.
FINE SPRING TARES, PEAS, BARLEY, &c.

Now on hand, a large and carefully-selected Stock of CLOVER and GRASS SEEDS of every description.
Finest TURNIP SEEDS, from transplanted bulbs.
G. H.'s MIXTURE OF GRASSES for permanent Pasture has been tested and approved for many years by the leading Agriculturists in the neighbourhood.
Inspection kindly invited.

THE IMPERIAL ART UNION.

£5,000 FIRST PRIZE, AND UPWARDS OF 1,500 OTHERS IN PAINTINGS, VARYING IN VALUE FROM £1,000 DOWN TO £5 EACH.

This ART UNION allows all Prizes to be selected by Prizeholders themselves, in any part of the Kingdom. Ticket holders or their representatives will be admitted to the Drawing.

SUBSCRIPTION:—
HALF A GUINEA PER SHARE.

Remittances to be made to the Secretary, or any of the Agents, who will also furnish every information.
RICHARD KING, Secretary.
OFFICES—10, CASTLE STREET, HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.

N.B.—Agents Wanted on liberal Terms. References required.

TO THE PUBLIC OF CONSETT AND SURROUNDING NEIGHBOURHOOD.

JOHN WRIGHTSON, JUN., for many years Traveller to Mr R. Murray, Front Street, Consett, begs to inform the Clergy, Gentry, and general Public of Consett and its vicinity, that he, in conjunction with his Brother, has succeeded Mr Murray, who is declining Business, and intends carrying on the Grocery and Provision Business in that old-established and well-known Shop so long occupied by the aforesaid Mr Murray, hoping by strict attention being paid to all orders entrusted to him, by keeping articles of the best quality, and by working on the good old principle of small profits and quick returns, to receive a share of the Patronage so largely bestowed upon his predecessor.

LIST OF PRICES:
A Good Family Tea, 2s 6d and 3s; Finest Imported, 3s 6d. Sugars, Coffees, Soaps, Fruits, Spices, and all other Articles in the Trade equally Cheap. Cumberland Bacon, Hams, Bladder Lard, Cheese, and Flour, from the Cheapest and Best Markets.

Observe the Address—
WRIGHTSON, BROTHERS,
GROCERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS.
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN

IS Published every Saturday Morning at Front-street, Consett, and is Sold at the *Guardian* Office, West Clayton-street, where it is printed. It has four pages, size of London *Times*, and contains an excellent epitome of the news of Newcastle and the District, as well as that of the particular locality for which it was established from its own reporters. It has now been in existence upwards of five years, has a very large circulation, and being the *only* newspaper published in the populous district where it chiefly circulates—a district containing a population of at least 50,000 souls—it presents a valuable medium for those Newcastle tradesmen and others who transact business or desire to do so with the people of Shotley Bridge, Berryedge, Blackhill, Leadgate, Towlaw, Lanchester, Annfield Plain Marley Hill, Blanchland, Chester-le-Street, Ebchester, Castleside, and generally throughout the North-West of the County of Durham. The charge for advertisements will be found lower than any other paper of equal value and circulation. Copies may be had and charges known at the *Guardian* Office, Consett or Newcastle.

GARBUTT'S ORIGINAL SPICED LONDON MALT AND DISTILLED VINEGAR for PICKLING.

This Vinegar is a most excellent relish for Cold Meat, Fish of every description, &c., &c. Salt all vegetables in the usual way, and then cover with Spiced Vinegar cold. It is perfectly wholesome.

The extraordinary success attending the sale of GARBUTT'S ORIGINAL SPICED VINEGAR has given rise to a series of bad imitations by unscrupulous persons, who unblushingly pirate C. D. G.'s labels, &c. To induce all purchasers to purchase direct from this establishment, C. D. G. has reduced the price from 2s to 1s. 6d. per gallon, cash price—the same as charged to Retailors,—to be removed from the premises at the purchaser's expense; and all vessels, if supplied by C. D. G., to be paid for and not returnable—this notice is found needful in consequence of the great demand, and cost and loss in carriage and collection of small accounts.

Agent for R. W. & C. POTT, Vinegar Makers, Southwark. London.—28, 30, and 32, Bridge Street, Gateshead.



Duty off Tea. — Reduction in Price.

IS THE BEST AND CHEAPEST.
The only Uncolored Tea.

AGENTS IN THIS DISTRICT.
CONSETT—IMRIE, CHEMIST.
CHESTER-LE-STREET—Robinson, Chemist.
GATESHEAD—Rippon, Chemist.
" Urwin, do.
" Co-operative Stores.
WILLINGTON—Lisle, Chemist.
SUNDERLAND—Scarrow, Apothecaries' Hall.
" Aslin & Co., 163, High-street.
DURHAM—Co-operative Stores, Claypath.
STAINDROP—Spence, Chemist.
CROOK—Dodsworth, Draper, &c.
THORNLEY—Winpenny, Grocer, &c.

VALUABLE AGENCIES!
Still Vacant. For particulars
APPLY TO
THE HIMALAYA TEA COMPANY,
37A, ST. MARY AXE
LONDON E.C.

Business Addresses.

THE RACE FOR WEALTH.—While three of the fastest clipper tea shipsare racing from China, each anxious to receive the £1,000 offered as a premium to the captain of the first tea ship reaching the port of London, our over-speculative merchants have transported, by "overland route," 2,000 chests of the first pickings of the early tea buds of the new season—thus beating the clipper ships at least two months—doubtless expecting the heavy land carriage to be more than repaid by the extravagant price they anticipated to realise. This bold enterprise has proved a great failure. When this overland tea crop arrived, the markets were sick and burdened with heavy stocks—the merchants pinched with small balances and high rates of discount. It is an old saying, "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good." These rare teas have been forced on the market, and sold from 8d to 10d per pound below the first arrivals of last season. It is only necessary for us to add, after careful tasting, we have contracted for a large supply, and are now prepared to offer the luxuries of the rich within the means of the poor. Our price will be 3s 8d per pound. We will not attempt to describe these teas—words would fail to give you a correct idea of the richness, strength and, fragrance they combine. Allow us to suggest the propriety of your sending to Stewart, the tea dealer, for a sample package, and prove the correctness of our judgment. The remainder of our last season's tea will be sold out wonderfully cheap. We offer good tea sifting at 1s 4d per pound; fine breakfast Congou, 2s; first-rate Moning, 2s 6d; and fine Lapsang Souchong, 3s per pound. Samples forwarded by post to any address. Orders, by carrier or post, will receive prompt and careful attention.

WILLIAM STEWART, THE TEA DEALER,
33, GRAINGER STREET, 27, SANDHILL, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE.

CONSETT FIRE BRICK WORKS, BERRYEDGE, GATESHEAD
ALWAYS ON HAND, A LARGE STOCK OF

GLAZED PIPES.	TRUSSES
CHIMNEY TOPS.	FERNERY STANDS.
CHIMNEY VENT LINING.	ORNAMENTAL VASES.
RIDGE TILES, PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL.	GARDEN BORDERS
GLAZED SINK STONES.	GAS RETORTS.
DO. WATER CLOSET PANS AND TRAPS.	FIRE BRICKS, COMMON BRICKS, QUARLS, &c.

AND EVERY OTHER ARTICLE IN THE TRADE EXECUTED TO ORDER.
R. DICKINSON & CO., Proprietors.

WILLIAM BELL,
STATIONER, NEWS AGENT, &c.,
CRAWCROOK,
Supplies the *Consett Guardian*, *Newcastle Guardian*, and the London Papers immediately after publication.
PRINTING & BOOK-BINDING NEATLY EXECUTED.

PRINTING AT THE NEWCASTLE GUARDIAN PRINTING OFFICES. WEST CLAYTON STREET

JUST ISSUED.
THE MOMENTOUS QUESTION.
CRINOLINE.—LADIES should at once see THOMSON'S NEW STYLE, which, light, graceful, and elegant in outline, combines comfort and economy with the very latest fashion. Observe the name "THOMSON," and the Trade Mark "A CROWN." Sold everywhere.

PRINTING, Of every description, and at the Lowest Remunerative Charges, at the "GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET.

BOOK WORK, PAMPHLETS, REPORTS OF CHARITIES, and other Printing, at the "GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET.

POSTING BILLS, of all Sizes, Plain or in Colours, at the "GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET.

INVOICES, CIRCULARS, AND NOTICES, at the "GUARDIAN" PRINTING OFFICE, 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET.

GROCERS' & TOBACCONISTS' PRINTING Neatly and Expeditiously Executed, at the "GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET.

COLOUR PRINTING of every description, executed in a style of neatness not to be surpassed by any other establishment in the North, at the "GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING OFFICE. 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET

ALL KINDS OF GENERAL PRINTING Executed with Despatch, and at the Lowest Charges, at the "GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, 65, WEST CLAYTON-STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

BROWN'S EYE OINTMENT AND LOTION.

WILLIAM WHEATLEY BROWN (Son and Successor of Mr Anthony Brown, Howdon Bank, near Lanchester, Durham, begs to call the attention of those afflicted with Blindness, Specks on the Eyes, &c., to the above, which, for a great number of years, have been supplied to the public with the most astonishing success.

To Gentlemen, &c., having Horses, Dogs, or other Animals suffering from Specks on the Eyes, he can confidently recommend it as a safe and certain cure.

Price 5s 6d per Pot. Bottles delivered to the Lanchester Railway Station.

WM. W. BROWN, Howdon Bank, near Lanchester.

MAY BE HAD OF THE FOLLOWING AGENTS.
Messrs HIRST, BROOKE, & TOMLINSON, Chemists, Leeds.
Mr ROBERT JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, Consett.
Messrs SCAVIN & WORTLEY, Chemists, Market-place, Durham.
GREENWELL HUDSON, 36, Woodbine-street, Sunderland
Mr JONATHAN STRATFORD, Tudhoe Ironworks, near Durham
Mr R. C. WHINFIELD, Grocer, 33, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle
Mr JOHN LAMB, Farmer, Lee Grange, Slaley, near Hexham

INSTANT CURE OF TOOTH-ACHE.—Bunter's Nervine gives immediate and permanent relief in ordinary Tooth-Ache. It also forms a stopping, and saves the tooth, thus rendering extraction unnecessary. It does not injure the other teeth.

From the Medical Testimonials received, the following are selected:—

From J. Hounsell, Esq., Surgeon, Bridport, Dorsetshire. "I consider BUNTER'S NERVINE a specific for Tooth-Ache. Very severe cases under my care have found instantaneous and permanent relief. I therefore give my testimony of having used it with invariable success, and recommend its use to the Profession and the Public as invaluable to all who suffer from Tooth-Ache."

From E. Smith, Esq., Surgeon, Sherston, near Cirencester.—"I have tried BUNTER'S NERVINE in many cases of severe Tooth-Ache, and in every instance permanent relief has been obtained; I therefore strongly recommend it to the public."

Ask for "BUNTER'S NERVINE;" it may be had of any chemist, at 1s 1½d per packet, or post free for 15 stamps from J. R. COOPER, Chemist, Maidstone.

CONSETT STEAM PRINTING WORKS.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
ROBERT JACKSON

RESPECTFULLY announces to his Friends and the Inhabitants of Consett, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Leadgate, Towlaw, and surrounding District, that he has

A LARGE STEAM PRINTING MACHINE.

And hopes, from the increased facilities, at his disposal, to be able to attend to the Orders of his Customers promptly.

The following List specifies some of the different descriptions of PRINTING which can be done at the above Offices, in first class style:—

Posting Bills.	Check Books.
Hand Bills.	Account Books.
Bill Heads.	Tickets, every description.
Invoices.	Club Rules.
Trade Cards.	Circulars (all sorts).
Window Cards (in elegant style).	Direction Labels.
Funeral Cards.	Tea Papers.
Funeral Circulars.	Tobacco Papers.

LITHOGRAPHIC AND COPPERPLATE PRINTING.
In the most artistic style, and moderate prices.
FUNERAL OR WEDDING CARDS ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
A LARGE SUPPLY OF
ACCOUNT BOOKS AND STATIONERY
ALWAYS ON HAND.
HAWKERS AND SHOPS SUPPLIED
ON LIBERAL TERMS.
THE LONDON AND LOCAL NEWSPAPERS
SUPPLIED TO ORDER.

JOS. DEAN & CO., WAREHOUSEMEN, HOOD STREET, NEWCASTLE, are Declining the Drapery Trade, and have Sold the Stock in that Department to Messrs JOHN MILLING & Co. J. D. & Co. will in future devote their whole Attention to the HOSIERY, WORSTED, and HABERDASHERY Departments, and Solicit from their Customers a continuance of their Favours as heretofore.

Sales by Private Contract.

TO BREWERS AND OTHERS.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, a HOUSE, containing 3 Rooms upstairs, 1 large Kitchen, 2 Front Shops, situate in High Street, Blackhill, one of the leading thoroughfares of the place, and well situated for a Beer House.—Apply to JOHN BELL, on the premises.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

"THE GEM."

A Beautiful Thorough Bred Two year old Chesnut PONY Foal.—Apply to JAMES EDWARDS, West Law, Shotley Bridge.

THE FOLLOWING VALUABLE FREEHOLD HOUSE PROPERTY FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, SITUATE AT CONSETT, IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

THREE COTTAGES and One Beer-house adjoining on the Medomsley Road. Also six Cottages, in Thomas Street, and Three New Cottages near the Co-operative Store. Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer and Commission-Agent, Blackhill, via Gateshead.

Sales by Auction.

TO MEMBERS OF BUILDING SOCIETIES & OTHERS

EXCELLENT FREEHOLD PROPERTY FOR SALE AT CONSETT.

MR W. J. SCOTT
is honoured with Instructions to
SELL BY AUCTION,
(Under a Power contained in a Mortgage Deed,)
At the House of Mr GEORGE ROUTLEDGE, Commercial Inn, Consett,
On THURSDAY, September 27, 1866,

ALL those SIX FREEHOLD COTTAGES situate in Thomas Street, Consett, containing Two Rooms each, Pantries, Yards, and other Offices, in the occupation of Thomas O'Neal, James Hogan, Frank Campbell, Michael Barret, and others, producing 18s. per week.

Also, all those FIVE FREEHOLD COTTAGES situate in Medomsley Road; Consett, containing Two Rooms each, Pantries, Yards, and Outbuildings, in the occupation of Thomas White, John Bowman, and others, two of them being used as a Beerhouse, in the occupation of James Gough, producing 17s. 6d. per week.

Sale to commence at Three o'Clock p.m.

For further particulars enquire of Messrs SCAIFE and BRITTON, Solicitors, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; or the Auctioneer, Consett.

DO YOU WANT BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, &c.! Dr. Russell's Lixivene, an elegantly perfumed toilet compound, for nourishing, preserving and restoring the hair, is guaranteed to produce moustaches whiskers, eyebrows, &c., in two or three weeks, strengthen weak hair, prevent its falling off, check greyness in all its stages, restore the original colour, dispel scurf and dandriff, and make it clean, soft, curly, and glossy. For the reproduction of hair in baldness, from whatever cause, and at any age, its effects are certain. In thousands of cases it has been successful when all other preparations had failed. In the nursery it is unequalled, as it keeps the head clean and forms the basis of a beautiful head of hair. Price 2s, sufficient for three months use, sent anywhere free by post, on receipt of 24 penny stamps, by Dr. G. Russell, 28, Clarence Road, Kentish Town, London. "It stopped my hair falling off.—J. Saville." "My whiskers are now abundant and thick.—William Neale." "My hair had gone in patches from illness, but it is now growing nicely.—Miss Webb." "My moustache is envied by everybody.—Major Birch." "For keeping the hair in curl it is the best thing I ever used.—Mrs Pratt." "I was bald for 9 years, but now my head is covered with hair.—J. Spence." Sold by all Chemists. OBSERVE—Every Genuine bottle has the words RUSSELL'S LIXIVENE moulded in the glass, and is wrapped in a square pamphlet of 16 pages, Illustrated by engravings, on the management of the Hair, Skin, and Teeth. Sold by Mr Ismay and H. Downie & Co., Chemists, Newcastle; Mr Imrie, Chemist, Consett

THE SKIN AND COMPLEXION. Dr. RUSSELL'S KALONICA is the most efficient wash ever discovered for cleansing the skin of all diseases and eruptions, erysipelas, &c., eradicating tan, pimples, black spots, freckles, small pox marks, redness and other disfigurements and discolorations; preserving and invigorating those important functions on which the purity, softness and beauty of the skin depend. Price 2s. 9d. per bottle, sent post free on receipt of 33 penny stamps by Dr. Russell, 28, Clarence Road, Kentish Town, London. Sold by all Chemists.

Entirely New Edition, 200 Pages.

THE FRIEND IN NEED. An Original Work on Marriage, its duties and hindrances; and Symptoms of Nervous Debility, relaxation, langour, listlessness, depression, dislike to society, spermatorrhœa, local weakness, gravel, stone gout, rheumatism, lumbago, loss of memory, dimness of sight, &c.; with prescription in plain English, diet rules, and all necessary directions for the speedy cure of nervous and general debility, loss of mental and physical power, premature decline, and all diseases of youth and maturity. Sent post-free, on receipt of two penny stamps, by Dr. THOMSON, 21, Harrington-square, Hampstead-road, London (near Euston-square.) Opinions of the press, &c. "There is no quackery or learned mystery in Dr. Thomson's book, but a plain exposition of the causes, symptoms, and rational treatment of this pernicious class of diseases, all set forth with the clearness of a practical man, who wishes to be understood, and the earnestness of a conscientious man who only wishes to be useful.—*Dublin Gazette.*" "This work is 'popular' in every sense of the word, and its worth is untold, to those who cannot, from a feeling of shame, consult the family physician.—*Baptist Magazine.*" "Independently of great professional skill and experience, I consider it the work of a highly gifted, noble and well cultivated mind, acting upon Christian principles.—Rev. H. Knight." Consultations daily, 11 till 1, Sunday excepted.

DR. THOMSON'S INVIGORATING PILLS are a well known certain remedy, for pains in the back, gravel, lumbago, rheumatism, gout, and all affections of the kidneys and bladder. In all cases of general debility, low spirits, melancholy, noises in the head, fear, blushing, dislike to society, sleeplessness, headache, dimness of sight, loss of memory, giddiness, palpitation of the heart, neuralgia, indigestion, fits, epilepsy, and the long train of fearful symptoms commonly known as nervous complaints, they are a positive specific, eradicating every trace of disease, purifying the blood, and invigorating the whole system. The enormous sale these Pills have attained all over the world, and the daily receipt of testimonials (thousands of which may be inspected by any one,) warrant the proprietor in asserting that they are the most efficacious medicine ever issued. Price 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, and 4s 6d, per box. (To Protect the public from imitations, Her Majesty's Commissioners have ordered the words RALPH THOMSON, LONDON, to be engraved in white letters on the Government Stamp affixed to each package, to imitate which is felony and transportation). Sold by Mr Ismay and H. Downie & Co., Chemists, Newcastle, Mr Imrie, Chemist, Consett and all other Chemists in the world; or will be sent direct, packed privately in a letter, on receipt of 14, or 33 postage stamps, by Dr. Thomson, 21, Harrington-square, Hampstead Road, London. "Four doses of your Pills cured my pains in the back, which had annoyed me for many years.—H. M." "I tried them for pains in the back; they cured me in a few hours.—G. R." "I had been troubled for year with a pain on my face. Your Pills have quite cured me.—Rev. J. S." "I have never had an attack of gout or rheumatism since I used your Pills.—W. Davis." "They quite cured my sick headache, and billious attacks.—Mrs Ellis." "The pains in my back are cured; I can stoop with ease now.—J. Weiss."

DR. THOMSON'S TONIC ELIXIR, Restores health, strength and power, to the most shattered constitution, and cures with the utmost certainty relaxation, spermatorrhœa, exhaustions, depression of spirits, giddiness, nervousness, epilepsy, paralysis, and all the distressing consequences arising from debility. For all diseases of the urinary organs it will be found a speedy specific, requiring no alteration in diet, purifying the blood, removing secondary symptoms, scurvy, scrofula, blotches, skin eruptions, irritation of the bladder, &c., which too frequently harass the sufferer over the best years of life. Tonic Elixir has restored bodily strength and vigours to thousands of debilitated individuals who now enjoy perfect health and the functions of manhood; and whatever the causes of disqualification for marriage, they are effectually subdued by this potent remedy. Many poor sufferers, who from fear of discovery, had silently borne their afflictions for a long time, rather than apply to the family doctor, have cured themselves privately, at little or no expense, with this medicine. Price 2s 9d, 4s 6d, 11s, and 33s per Bottle. (To Protect the Public from spurious imitations of this medicine, Her Majesty's Commissioners have ordered the words RALPH THOMPSON, LONDON, to be engraved in white letters on the Government Stamp affixed to each package, to imitate which is felony and transportation.) Sold by Mr Imrie, Chemist, Consett, and all other Chemists in the world, or will be sent direct from the establishment on receipt of a Post-office Order for 11s, or 33s, payable to Dr. Ralph Thompson, 21, Harrington-square, Hampstead-road, London.

QUACKERY DEFEATED. A Physician, upwards of 55 years Resident House Surgeon in a London Hospital, having been successful in curing thousands of sufferers from nervous and general debility, loss of memory, indigestion, pains in the back, consumption, rheumatism, gravel, gout, and many painful symptoms too numerous to mention, resulting from imprudence and other causes, is desirous of imparting to those who need it, the means by which their restoration to health was effected, and will send his book, containing all the necessary information for the self-treatment, &c., of all the "ills that flesh is heir to," on receipt of a stamped and directed envelope. Address—Dr. RUSSELL, 28 Clarence Road, Kentish Town, London. "Your book is worth anything to those who need a doctor —J. Short." "I adopted your advice, and my giddiness is all gone.—I. Merry." "I value your book, and wish you to send me three copies to give away.—Rev. J. Leigh."

VITAL PILLS. All Sufferers from General Nervous Debility, and other symptoms of nervousness, morbid feelings, melancholy or low spirits, loss of memory, sleeplessness, harassing dreams, imaginative fears, mental irritability, failure of the powers of body and mind, weakness of the nerves, nervous headache, noises in the head, giddiness, indigestion, pains in the back, and other symptoms of chronic disease, will hail with joy the discovery of Dr RUSSELL'S VITAL PILLS, a medicine that cures all pains and disease of whatever nature, restores cheerfulness of spirits and vigour of mind, and strengthens all the vital organs on which health and long life depend. Price 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per box, sent post free on receipt of 14 or 33 penny stamps, by Dr Russell, 28, Clarence-road, Kentish Town, London. Sold by Mr Ismay and H. Downie & Co., Chemists, Newcastle, Mr Imrie, Chemist, Consett, and all other Chemists in the world. With every box is enclosed a Pamphlet of 64 pages, a perfect hand-book of health. Observe Dr R.'s Signature and Trade Mark on the label outside of every package.

Correspondence.

THE STRIKE AT CONSETT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I hope you will permit me, through the columns of your valuable paper, to explain to the public the particulars of a general meeting, convened in the Town Hall, on Saturday evening, the 15th inst. The meeting was convened expressly to discuss and take into serious consideration the best mode of bringing about an amicable settlement of the dispute, now existing between the employers and the workmen. Mr James McIver was duly elected to the chair, and after having duly opened the meeting, he called upon the Rev. Mr Steggall to address the men on this serious and important question. Mr Steggall arose amidst great applause, and commented at great length upon the poverty and starvation that were prevailing in Consett, caused by this lamentable dispute; and also pointed out the dark clouds that were likely to meet us in a short time, provided the iron-workers were not prepared to accept the proposed reduction. The chairman next called upon the Rev. Father Smith to address the meeting. Mr Smith, on rising, was also loudly applauded, and he commented upon the advisability of the men resuming their employment under the present circumstances; but I would state that Mr Smith distinctly and faithfully acknowledged that he knew nothing at all about the iron trade.

Now, Sir, I hope it will not be out of place for me to say a few words on this point. The meeting was called for the express purpose of meeting the iron workers in Consett and terminating the dispute; but, to my chagrin, when I arrived I was astonished to find the two named rev. gentlemen on the platform, and the audience in a great measure were tailors and drapers, and the tradespeople of Berryedge. I may venture to say fairly, frankly, and honestly, that to have such meetings as these to settle up our dispute, and to allow parties who may come there, that scarcely know wood from iron, to have a voice in settling this dispute is quite absurd. The iron workers of Consett have always on all former occasions settled their disputes with their employers or their agents, and I hope and trust that the day is not far distant that we may be able to settle this dispute. We know quite well that the agents under the Derwent Iron Company are quite capable of settling any dispute which may arise between them and their workmen.—Hoping I may not occupy too much of your space,

Yours, obediently, G.

"AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Allow me a few remarks on the meeting of iron-workers, called and addressed by the Rev. Messrs Steggall and Smith on Saturday night last. I think every man of us must feel grateful to the two rev. gentlemen for the sound, practical, and common-sense advice which they gave. It was their decided opinion that the men must either go in at the reduction or deprive themselves of work for several months to come, and urged upon them to consider well whether they were prepared for the latter alternative. The audience, on the whole, paid respectful attention to the two rev. speakers, but were evidently not inclined to hear any one else. Enough, however, could be gathered from the few attempts to speak that very narrow and one-sided views are held by many of the men out on strike, and this is chiefly what I wish to notice. For instance, it was said that the price of finished iron alone ought to regulate the price of labour without any regard to trade being either brisk or slack. Now, will any man capable of putting two thoughts together ever dream of maintaining such a position? Here is iron at a certain price in the market, and the demand brisk; large orders are coming in by post, and cost nothing. The manufacturer can select his customers, and secure the most advantageous terms, frequently prompt cash. Here again is iron at the same price, and the demand slack, small orders only can be obtained, and that only by seeking them at considerable expense, and no choice of customers or terms; instead of prompt cash, or terms nearly as good, long credit and doubtful bills are much more likely, and with that consideration alone will any one say that the manufacturer can give the same price for labour? But, besides that, when trade is slack, but not sufficiently so to materially lessen the outside expense, a greater proportion of these expenses are thrown upon each ton of iron sold, which is another proof that the manufacturer cannot pay the same price for labour. If it be argued that such changes in the price of labour would alter the price of iron in the market, I only have to say in reply that if so, then the assertion that the price is maintained under the present depression cannot be true, and I suppose is not. But, after all, the great question our working men have to learn is that supply and demand is the only thing that can regulate the price of anything, labour included. In politics they are nearly all liberal, and maintain free-trade in everything but their own commodity, and for that they stick to Protection as doggedly as did ever the old Tories in the House of Commons, and support it by the same class of arguments. Let any man compare the arguments now used by the advocates of strikes with the arguments used against free-trade thirty years ago, and I ask them where is the difference? Whereas would they but apply free-trade to labour, they would see that simple supply and demand unfettered with would as certainly compel the employer to give market price for labour, as it would compel the labourer to take it, and we would see no more of families starving, working-men wasting their hard-earned savings, and beginning the world afresh half a dozen times in their lives, and very often from a lower level than they started upon at first. There is one other thing which, on account of personal experience, I wish to mention, and that is that masters always avoid a strike if they can. My position for some fifteen years of my life has been between masters and men, and I must know, and I do know, how the former look upon a strike. Trade turns slack, a consultation is held, and calculations made, a certain per-centage reduction in the price of labour is decided upon, and notice given. In many cases the men offer to continue work at half the reduction and perhaps accompany their offer with a threat to strike in case it is not accepted; another calculation is then made on that basis, and the offer agreed to if possible. But if the terrible evil of a strike be the lesser evil, the masters make up their minds to adhere to their first resolution till the state of trade justifies them in making a different offer. I have been at these calculations over and over again, and can speak on the subject with confidence, and I may add that such calculations can only be made in the masters' private office, or by accountants in possession of the whole of the data bearing on the point; and to hear some of the calculations made by advocates of the strike would be highly amusing were it not for the serious consequences attending such mistakes. The time will come when common sense and correct views of political economy will prevail, and, not very long after, working men will begin to think for themselves, instead of employing interested parties to think for them. Hoping you will adopt this course at once,

I am, yours respectfully,
E.

Consett, Sept. 20, 1866.

MARLBOROUGH CRESCENT CHAPEL, NEWCASTLE.

INAUGURAL TEA MEETING.

This chapel, which has been almost entirely rebuilt for the congregation recently worshipping in the New Town Hall under the pastorate of the Rev. B. Wildon Carr, has lately been completed, and on Tuesday evening, with a view of celebrating its inauguration, a tea meeting was held in the chapel. There was a very large attendance, and not less than 300 ladies and gentlemen partook of an excellent tea, which reflected great credit on the following ladies who presided at the tea tables:—Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Main for Mrs. Sanderson, Mrs. Moffat, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs William Dixon, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Jacob Richardson, Mrs. James Richardson, Mrs. Mann, Mrs. Henry Mann, the Misses Leach for Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Geo. M. Dawson, Mrs. Vincent, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Lauderdale, Miss Hindhaugh, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Martin Henderson, and Mrs. Jas. Henderson. The tables were tastefully decorated with all descriptions of flowers, which gave them a beautiful appearance.

After tea, a public meeting was held, the Sheriff of Newcastle (H. Angus, Esq.), presiding. Amongst the ministers and friends present we noticed the Rev. G. Stewart, St. James's, Blackett-street; Rev. Richard Leitch, Blackett-street U.P. Church; Rev. R. Brown, New Bridge-street U.P. Church; Rev. J. H. Rutherford, Bath Lane Church; Rev. George Whitehead; Rev. R. Brown, Erskine U.P. Church, Rev. Robert Thomson, Caledonian Church; Rev. William Walters, Bewick Street Baptist Chapel; Rev. T. Harwood Pattison, Rye Hill Baptist Church; C. Bainbridge, Esq.; D. D. Main, Esq.; I. C. Johnson, Esq.; Dr. Murray; Dr. Boyd; Dr. McLachlan; Mr. H. Thorn, &c. We may here add that all the Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist ministers of the town were present, or sent letters of apology.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, briefly expressed the pleasure he felt in being present at the inauguration of the beautiful place of worship they were in. He remembered the old chapel well, and was therefore able to speak to the great improvement that had taken place. He expressed a wish for the prosperity of the new church, its pastor, and his people.—The Rev. WILDON CARR then read letters of apology from several ministers and friends who intended to have been present, but were prevented.—The Rev. GEORGE STEWART gave an eloquent address from the sentiment "May Christian union among our churches increase." He was followed by Mr Ald. I. C. JOHNSON, the treasurer, who read the statement of the amounts expended, promised, and received; of which we give an account below.—The Rev. J. H. RUTHERFORD then gave an address, in which he congratulated Mr Carr on his having been the means of erecting two chapels during the last five years, which was unprecedented in this town. He hoped and trusted that many more such buildings would be erected, and that in every one of them Christ would be worshipped sincerely.—Dr. MURRAY, in moving the first resolution, spoke at some length on the gift of Mr Sanderson, which all would view as a boon to the town, and especially to the Baptist denomination; and he had no doubt that they would join with him in passing the following resolution:—

"That the gift of the original freehold of Marlborough Crescent Chapel to the Baptist denomination, to be held in trust for the preaching of the Gospel, is a noble act of Christian generosity, which reflects the highest praise on our esteemed friend, Richard Burdon Sanderson, Esq., and it calls alike for the acknowledgement of the evangelical denominations in the town, and the particular denomination to which he is attached."

The motion was seconded by Mr JOHNSON, and after being supported by the CHAIRMAN, was carried amid great applause.

Mr. SANDERSON returned thanks for the manner in which the last resolution had been passed, and the spirit in which his gift had been accepted. In the course of an interesting speech Mr Sanderson described the manner in which the chapel had come into his possession. That old square building stood on a corner of the edifice they now occupied, and it was purchased by his father twenty-two years ago, and devoted to the welfare of the Christian church and of the Sunday school. When it fell into his possession, he did not immediately see how to perpetuate the good intentions of his father, until in God's providence he found by uniting his own efforts with those of the present pastor, an opportunity presented itself which he was not slow to seize; and he considered the chapel as it now is to be the fittest monument to the memory of his revered relative. The members of the church would, he felt sure, agree with him that their first acknowledgement to Mr Spurgeon should be for introducing Mr Carr to them. Without any disparagement to the old New-court Church or to Mr Carr, he thought from his knowledge of both they were so ill-matched on the outset that a divorce was the wisest course. He hoped in the new chapel at Rye Hill, Mr Pattison would prove a man after their own heart and that success would attend his labours. Towards Mr Carr he cherished a sincere regard, not by any means because he always agreed with all his discourses, for it would be no pleasure to himself to sit and listen to a preacher who uttered platitudes which could neither awake thought nor objection; but he appreciated his evangelical earnestness, his independence, and even his impetuosity as a rough effect of pure emotion. In speaking of the pecuniary assistance Mr Spurgeon had rendered, he said that he prized the countenance of such a minister of Christ; no minister since the days of George Whitfield had exerted such a power in the pulpit, and in matters of business he was so straightforward that negociations which would occupy many hours in such committee meetings as he was in the habit of attending, could be arranged with a man of his clear head and sound heart in five minutes. He trusted that the arrangement would be prosperous, and that it would tend to the glory of God, not only in the edification of the church and congregation, but in the good of the neighbourhood around. Mr Sanderson continued at some length, and concluded by moving the second resolution, which was as follows:—

"That our hearty thanks are due to the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, for the liberal assistance he has rendered, by which he has substantially proved his interest in the religious welfare of this town; and we cherish the hope that the auspices of Mr Carr, as the pastor chosen severally by the church, by Mr Spurgeon, and by myself, will realise the ardent aspirations for his successful career."

This was seconded and carried with the greatest unanimity.

The Rev. WILDON CARR moved, seconded by Mr SANDERSON, and warmly supported by Mr JOSEPH BURN, "a vote of thanks to those ladies who had generously provided the contents of the tea tables, and had given such general satisfaction," which was carried unanimously.—Mr H. MANN moved "Our gratitude to the Chairman, whom we esteem as a Brother in Christ, honor as the Sheriff of the town, and thank as the Chairman of this Meeting," which, having been seconded and carried with acclamation, the meeting was brought to a close by Mr CARR pronouncing the benediction.

A few particulars respecting the building may not be uninteresting. The original structure was given by R. B. Sanderson, Esq., and the cost of the alterations will be about £1,200. Mr Spurgeon, towards this sum, on certain conditions, finds £400, about £300 has been collected, and Mr Sanderson, besides giving the building, takes upon himself the responsibility of paying the interest on the other £500, which has been borrowed for several years. About £100 more will be expended on fittings. There are schools behind the chapel, which are attended by about 200 children in connection with the chapel previously, under the superintendence of R. Burdon Sanderson, Esq. The alterations in the chapel have been carried out under the direction of Mr J. E. Watson, architect, of Grey-street, Newcastle, the contract for the building having been executed by Mr Kyle. The chapel being between houses the architect had not the advantage of making use of side windows, but by raising the sides above the galleries he has formed what are known as clerestory windows. The roof is divided into two parts, and there is no more work than is absolutely necessary. Mr Watson has succeeded in doing what has not always been accomplished in some other public buildings—making the acoustic effects of the chapel all that could be desired, both for speaking and singing. The interior arrangements are very convenient. On the ground floor there are proper entrance lobbies and vestries. The sittings are moveable forms on metal standards, so that they may be arranged to suit any particular occasion. There are five doorways, three in the front and two at the back, by which the chapel may be cleared of the congregation in a few minutes. There are galleries round two sides of the chapel and one end; these being approached by two commodious staircases. The galleries are supported by ornamental metal pillars, the front panels being filled in with ornamental iron work, which gives it a lightsome appearance. The minister's platform, which is square, is of panels, the lower portion of which are of wood, the upper being in unison with the front of the galleries. Windows open in the roof for ventilation; altogether the material structure is an ornament to the neighbourhood.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE IMPERIAL CIRCULAR.

The following is the text of the circular despatch addressed by the French Government to its representatives in foreign countries:—

PARIS, September 16.

SIR,—The Emperor's Government cannot any longer defer the expression of its views concerning the events which have just been accomplished in Germany. M. de Moustier being necessarily absent for some time longer, his Majesty has directed me to explain to his diplomatic agents the motives which actuate his policy. The war which broke out in central and southern Europe has destroyed the Germanic Confederation, and has definitively established Italian nationality. Prussia, whose limits have been extended by victory, is predominant on the right bank of the Maine. Austria has lost Venetia, and she is separated from Germany. In presence of these considerable changes all states must be alive to a feeling of responsibility: they ask themselves what is the effect of the recently concluded peace—what will be its influence upon European order, and upon the international position upon each power?

Public opinion in France has been excited. It wavers doubtfully between the joy of seeing the treaties of 1815 destroyed, and a fear lest the power of Prussia should assume excessive proportions—between a desire for the preservation of peace and the hope of obtaining by war a territorial extension. It rejoices at the complete enfranchisement of Italy, but wishes to be reassured in respect of dangers which might menace the Holy Father. The perplexities that disturb men's minds, and which also have their effects abroad, impose upon the Government the duty of stating clearly the light in which it regards the subject.

France ought never to have an equivocal policy. If she be affected in her interests or in her strength by the important changes which are taking place in Germany, she ought to declare it frankly, and should take the measures which may be necessary for insuring her security. If she loses nothing by the pending transformations, she ought to state the fact sincerely, and to resist exaggerated apprehensions and ardent views which, by provoking international jealousies, might divert her from the course which she could pursue. In order to dissipate uncertainties and to establish facts it is necessary to look at what has happened and what is likely to happen in all their bearings. What do we find in the past? After 1815 the Holy Alliance united against France all the peoples from the Ural to the Rhine. The Germanic Confederation comprised with Prussia and Austria 80 millions of people; it extended from Luxembourg to Trieste, from the Baltic to Trent, and surrounded us with an iron girdle supported by five Federal fortresses; our strategical position was restricted by the most skilful territorial combinations. The slightest difficulty that might occur between us and Holland or with Prussia on the Moselle, with Germany on the Rhine, with Austria in the Tyrol or the Friuli, brought against us the combined forces of the entire Confederation. Austrian Germany, invincible upon the Adige, could advance at a fitting moment to the Alps. Prussian Germany had an advanced guard upon the Rhine in the minor states, incessantly agitated by desires for political transformations, and disposed to regard France as the enemy of their existence and of their aspirations.

If we except Spain, we had no possibility of forming an alliance on the continent. Italy was parcelled out and impotent; she was not to be counted out as a nation. Prussia was neither sufficiently compact nor sufficiently independent to detach herself from traditions. Austria was too much engaged in preserving her possessions in Italy to be able to effect an intimate understanding with us.

Doubtless the long prevalence of peace has caused the dangers of these territorial organisations and alliances to be forgotten, for they appear to be formidable only at the time when war is about to break out; but this precarious security France has sometimes obtained at the price of foregoing her position (*rôle*) in the world. It is incontestable that during nearly 40 years she has found raised against her the coalition of the three northern Courts, united by the recollections of common defeats and victories, by similar principles of government, by solemn treaties, and by sentiments of distrust towards our liberal and civilising action. If now we examine the future of transformed Europe, what guarantees does it offer to France and to the peace of the world? The coalition of the three northern Courts is broken up. The new principle that governs Europe is freedom of alliances. All the great powers are restored to the plenitude of their independence, to the proper development of their destinies. Prussia enlarged, free henceforth in all solidarity, assures the independence of Germany. France should take no umbrage at that. Proud of her admirable unity, of her indestructible nationality, she ought not to oppose or to reject the work of assimilation which has just been accomplished, nor to subordinate to jealous feelings the principles of nationality which she represents and professes in respect of peoples. The national sentiment of Germany being satisfied, her uneasiness is dissipated, her enmities disappear. By imitating France she has taken a step towards us and not from us. In the south, Italy, whose long bondage (*servitude*) has not extinguished patriotism, is placed in possession of all her elements of national greatness. Her existence profoundly modifies the political condition of Europe; but, notwithstanding unreflecting susceptibilities or momentary injustice, her ideas, her principles, her interests, draw her nearer to the nation which has shed its blood to assist her in conquering her independence.

The interests of the Pontifical Throne are assured by the Convention of the 15th of September. That Convention will be loyally executed. In withdrawing his troops from Rome the Emperor will leave in their place, as a guarantee for the security of the Holy Father, the protection of France. In the Baltic, as in the Mediterranean, are growing up navies of the second rank, which are favourable to the freedom of the seas. Austria, released from her German and Italian tendencies, employing no longer her forces in barren rivalries, but concentrating them on Eastern Europe, still represents a power with 35 millions of souls, which no hostility nor interest separates from France. By what singular reaction of the past upon the future should public opinion see, not the allies, but the enemies of France in those nations enfranchised from a past which was hostile to us summoned to a new life, governed by principles which are our own, and animated by those sentiments of progress which are the peaceful bond of modern societies? A Europe more strongly constituted, rendered more homogeneous by more precise territorial divisions, is a guarantee for the peace of the continent, and is neither a danger nor an injury to our nation. This nation, with Algeria, will shortly reckon more than 40,000,000 inhabitants; Germany, 37,000,000, of which 29,000,000 are in the Northern Confederation and 8,000,000 in the Southern Confederation; Austria, 35,000,000; Italy 26,000,000; Spain, 18,000,000. What is there in this distribution of European forces which can disquiet us?

An irresistible power—can it be regretted?—impels peoples to unite themselves in great masses by causing the disappearance of minor states. This tendency arises from a desire to assure to the general interests more efficacious securities. Perhaps it may be inspired by a kind of providential anticipation of the destinies of the world. While the ancient populations of the continent, within their restricted territories, increase but slowly, Russia and the United States of America may each before another century has expired contain 100,000,000 of inhabitants. Although the progress of these two great empires cannot be to us a source of uneasiness, and while, on the contrary we applaud their generous efforts on behalf of oppressed races, it is proper that, with a wise foresight in respect of the future, the nations of Central Europe should not remain parcelled out into so many different states, without strength and without public spirit. Political science should rise above the narrow and paltry prejudices of a past age. The Emperor does not believe that the greatness of one country depends upon the weakening of neighbouring peoples, and sees no real balance of power save in the satisfied wishes of the nations of Europe. In that he follows his ancient convictions and the traditions of his race. Napoleon I. foresaw the changes which are now taking place upon the European continent. He planted the germs of new nationalities in the Peninsula by creating the kingdom of Italy; in Germany by causing the disappearance of 253 independent states. If these conclusions are well founded and true, the Emperor was right in accepting the part of mediator, which has not been devoid of glory, in order to put an end to useless and lamentable bloodshed, to moderate the victory by his friendly intervention, to modify the consequences of reverses, to bring about, despite many obstacles, the restoration of peace. He would, on the other hand, have mistaken his great responsibility if, violating a promised and proclaimed neutrality, he had rushed suddenly into all the risks of a great war, one of those wars which revive the hatreds of races, and in which entire nations are engaged. France can only desire those territorial aggrandisements which will not affect her coherent power; but she must always strive for moral and political aggrandisement by employing her influence for the great interests of civilisation.

Her part is to cement the union between all the powers that desire at the same time to maintain the principle of authority and to favour the cause of progress. The alliance will take from the revolution the *prestige* which has been claimed for it of furthering the cause of freedom for the people, and will preserve to great enlightened states the wise direction of the Democratic movement which manifests itself throughout Europe.

Nevertheless, there is in the emotion which has been evoked in the country a legitimate sentiment which it is right to acknowledge and to define. The results of the last war contain a grave lesson, and one which has cost nothing to the honour of our arms. They point out to us the necessity, for the defence of our territory, of perfecting without delay our military organisation. The nation will not be wanting to this task, which can be a menace to no one; it has a just pride in the valour of its armies; its susceptibilities awakened by the recollections of its military pomps, by the name and the acts of the Sovereign who governs it, are but the expressions of its energetic will to maintain against all attempts its rank and influence in the world.

In short, from the elevated point of view from which the Imperial Government regards the destinies of Europe, the horizon appears to be cleared of all menacing eventualities; formidable problems which ought to have been resolved because they could not be evaded, pressed upon the destinies of populations; they might have been imposed at a more inopportune period; they have received their natural solution without too violent shocks, and without the dangerous co-operation of revolutionary passions. A peace which reposes upon such bases will be a durable peace.

As to France, in whatever direction she looks, she can perceive nothing which can impede her progress or interrupt her prosperity. Preserving friendly relations with all powers, directed by a policy which has generosity and moderation for its strength, relying upon her imposing unity, with her all-tended genius, her treasures, and her credit, which fertilise Europe; with her developed military forces, surrounded henceforth by independent nations, she will appear not less great, she will remain not less respected. Such is the language which you must hold in your communications with the Government to which you are accredited.

Accept, &c.,

LAVALLETTE.

PRUSSIA.

BERLIN, Sept. 18, Evening.—The semi-official *North German Gazette* of this evening says:—"We find laid down in the circular of M. de Lavalette a programme which is highly favourable to the tasks of Prussian policy. The conclusion only of the letter, in which reference is made to military re-organisation for the defence of the French territory, might to a certain extent raise apprehension in the public mind; the words, however, must not be regarded as a menace. The Prussian people are every day becoming more persuaded that a good understanding between Prussia and France is a sure means of solving European questions in the sense of national progress and civilisation.

The law and Royal proclamations incorporating those countries which are henceforth to form part of the Prussian monarchy will be published next week. The delay is believed to have been caused by the indisposition of Count Bismarck.

KIEL, Sept. 18.—The Prussian Baltic fleet has been put out of commission to-day. Most of the vessels are being disarmed and laid aside, and all the maritime reserves have been disbanded.

The *Evening Post* (evening edition of the official *Vienna Gazette*) alludes in the following terms to this event:—"Baron Werther's honourable character and conciliatory disposition, under the most difficult circumstances, render his return a source of satisfaction."

Prussia has invited the representatives of those German States which are members of the Zollverein to resume their functions.

Berlin despatches state that the Upper House has passed the bill for election to the North German Parliament in the same form as the Lower House.

The commission of organisation, which was appointed to draw up plans for transferring the newly-acquired countries to the Prussian Administration, has finished its labours, and has presented its report to the Government.

Count Bismark is rather better, but it is still doubtful whether he will be able to take a personal part in the festivities of the approaching entry of the troops into Berlin.

A Royal letter has been published to-day, expressing thanks for the numerous and welcome assurance of fidelity, devotion, and readiness for every sacrifice for king and country, which have been addressed to his Majesty from all quarters, on the occasion of the victorious conclusion of the war. The letter declares the unshakeable union between the sovereign and the people will, in the new epoch, conciliate all differences and all opposition, and turn them to advantage in love for the common fatherland, and in the accomplishment of Prussia's mission in Germany.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

FLORENCE, Sept. 15.—The Florence journals state that Prussia has declared that the difficulties opposed by Austria to the settlement of the question of the Venetian debt, according to the precedent of the treaty of Zurich, place in question the execution of the treaty of Prague.

VIENNA, Sept. 15.—The conferences upon the question of the Venetian debt have been adjourned until next week.

FLORENCE, Sept. 16.—General Thaon Revel has been appointed Italian commissioner to settle, in concert with General Labœuf and Herr Moring, the questions relating to the war material in the Venetian fortresses.

It is believed here that the assertion of the Vienna journals respecting the choice of the future Austrian and Italian ambassadors at Florence and Vienna are premature.

The question relative to the Venetian debt is approaching a solution. Austria is stated to have proposed as a compromise that Italy should pay a round sum, believed to be 73,000,000 lire, whereupon Austria would at once evacuate Venetia. Italy has agreed to negociate upon this basis, and has replied by propositions of a conciliatory character. Prussia and France are endeavouring to bring about an agreement, and it is stated that Prussia, in order more effectually to support the execution of the treaty of Prague, will continue her military occupation of Bohemia until peace between Austria and Italy has been definitively concluded.

The removal of large numbers of troops from Sicily on account of the war with Austria has increased the activity of the brigands, especially in the province of Palermo, where their numbers have been swelled by 2,000 fugitives who had evaded the last conscriptions. On the night of Saturday last several bands entered the city of Palermo to restore order. The rest of the island is quiet.

AMERICA.

QUEENSTOWN, Sept. 18.—The Liverpool and New York and Philadelphia Company's steamship City of New York, from New York on the 8th inst., arrived off the harbour. She brings the United States mails, thirty-three cabin and two hundred and seventy steerage passengers, and has 88,744 dollars in specie on freight. Having transferred the mails, eight cabin and forty-eight steerage passengers, and latest telegrams, she proceeded for Liverpool; all well. She passed the following on her passage:—On the 8th, a four-masted steamship; 9th, steamship City of Boston; 10th, steamship Scotia; 12th, steamship Palmyra; 15th, a barque-rigged steamer; and, on the 17th, the Royal mail steamship Cuba, all bound west.

ROME.

We learn from Rome that Monsignor Hohenlohe embarked on the 16th inst., at Civita Vecchia for England, with an autograph letter from the Pope to Queen Victoria. The same journal adds that during the last few days numerous interviews have taken place between Mr Odo Russell and M. De Sartiges, the French Ambassador at the Papal Court.

CANDIA.

A battle has taken place near Canea, in the island of Candia, between the Cretan insurgents, and the combined Turkish and Egyptian troops. The latter, who were 30,000 strong, are stated to have remained masters of the field, after an engagement which last eight hours. The insurgents, whose numbers are estimated at 40,000, were badly armed. They lost 600 killed.

INDIA.

Advices received from Bombay, dated 23rd ult., announce that peace has been concluded between the Russians and the Bokharians. The Russians were evacuating Taschkend without attempting any further intervention in the affair of Bokhara. The Emir has returned to the capital, and the Russians had taken up their former positions.

PILE, SPENCE, AND CO. (LIMITED).

An adjourned ordinary and a special meeting of the directors and shareholders of this company were held on Tuesday forenoon, in the new offices of the company, at the yard, West Hartlepool. The Chairman of the Board of Directors (James Hartley, Esq., M.P.) presided; and there were also present Mr James Morrison (Newcastle), Mr C. M. Webster (Sunderland), Mr Henry Tennant (Gateshead), Mr W. H. Atkinson (North Shields), Mr Wm. Young (West Hartlepool), Mr A. Featherstonhaugh, (Sunderland), Mr Thos. Richardson, Mr W. D. Trotter, Mr Nicholson, Mr G. W. Hodge (Newcastle), Mr John Kidson (Sunderland), Mr Putnam, Mr Knothe (Newcastle), Mr J. G. Grace (Darlington), Mr W. Dobing (West Hartlepool), Mr W. Sinclair (West Hartlepool), Mr G. T. Belk (West Hartlepool), Mr R. Fawcus (West Hartlepool), Mr C. Charlesworth (Seaton), Capt. Pollard (of the Trincomalee training ship), Mr Jos. Spence (West Hartlepool), Mr Charles Spence (Stockton), Dr. Kirk (West Hartlepool), Mr W. Hall (Stockton), Mr Walmsley (Bolton), Mr Bowes (West Hartlepool), Mr Seal (West Hartlepool), Mr Stephenson (West Hartlepool), Mr J. Grigs (West Hartlepool), &c.

The Chairman said they would all have received circulars informing them as to the object of their meeting that day. It had been thought best to have the adjourned ordinary meeting and the special meeting at the same hour. The first meeting would be a merely formal one; the whole of the business falling within the province of the second one which had been specially called for the purpose. At the adjourned ordinary meeting no business would be done, except the filling up of the appointment of directors to fill up the required number if they thought it desirable to do so. The articles of association of the company stated that the shareholders could increase or reduce the number of directors as they thought fit, although the same should not be more than seven nor less than five. Practically, there was no necessity for the appointment of directors at the present time, as the whole power had passed into the hands of the committee of supervision and liquidators. There were now three directors, Mr Featherstonhaugh, Mr Young, and himself. They could remain as they were, or the shareholders could add to the number, or they could elect five new ones; but he thought it was quite unnecessary to take any steps in the matter, as it was now a mere matter of form. They would, therefore, if the meeting were agreeable, proceed with the business of the special meeting and receive the report.

Mr Dobing: The appointment of other directors is quite unnecessary, I think.

Mr Grace said the ordinary meeting had been adjourned to that day for the production of certain accounts. It was promised at the Darlington meeting that these accounts should be in the hands of the shareholders seven days before the present meeting.

The Chairman said the directors had no power to do what the ordinary meeting was adjourned to that day for.

Mr F. Mewburn said he had had a letter from a friend, who unfortunately was unable to attend that meeting, but who had written to him to the following effect:—"When at the meeting next Monday be kind enough to ask it of the chairman why the detailed statements of accounts, for which the last meeting at Darlington was adjourned, has not been furnished? We have received the report of the committee, signed by Mr Morrison, but nothing is said about the statement of accounts, as furnished by Mr Nicholson, as regards its accuracy. Why the directors shuffle the publicity of these details is marvellous, and at the same time not very creditable. Through the courtesy of Mr Atkinson we have got the details of the suspense account sent us, which if we are to take as an example, the remainder cannot be too closely investigated. I hope the shareholders will be careful not to commit themselves to any resolution that may interfere with a full, fair, and straightforward examination and exposure of this most disastrous concern." (Hear, hear.) That letter was signed by Thomas Potts. He (Mr Mewburn) quite agreed with the writer.

The Chairman said that, as a matter of form, would it not be better to read the letter when the report was read? The Chairman then read the resolutions agreed to at the Darlington meeting, and submitted to this meeting for confirmation. The following is a copy:—

"That in the meantime, until the sanction of the court and the approval of the creditors and shareholders can be obtained to a winding-up, subject to the supervision of the court, a committee of five shareholders be appointed to act in conjunction with a committee of creditors; such joint-committee to have all necessary powers of supervision, and to advise with the provisional liquidator on the affairs of the company. That the liquidator be requested to carry on the work in progress, subject to the approval of the committee, and such other work as in the opinion of the committee may be likely to assist the liquidator, and that he be authorised to apply in the completion of the vessels now being built under contract, so far as may be practicable, all the instalments of the purchase money to be received from the purchasers.

"That the following gentlemen form such committee, viz:—Christopher Maling Webster, W. H. Atkinson, A. B. Forward, Thomas Walker, and W. D. Trotter; and that the following gentlemen be a committee of creditors, to act in conjunction with the committee of shareholders, viz.:—Thomas Hood Henderson, Thomas Bell, James Morrison, Thomas Richardson, Henry Tennant, and William Putnam.

"That the solicitors be instructed to take the necessary steps for securing an order of court for winding up the affairs of the company subject to the supervision of the court.

"That the creditors who have filed a petition praying for a compulsory winding-up be requested to abandon such petition on payment of their costs and charges, and that all other creditors be requested to abstain from unnecessary legal proceedings."

Mr Dobing said they had better stand over until they discussed the report.

Mr James Morrison said, as chairman of the committee of investigation, he would make one observation in answer to what Mr Mewburn had said. The writer of the letter stated that owing to the courtesy of Mr Atkinson he had been furnished with the particulars of the suspense account. He should have said "abstract" of the suspense account. It was merely what had been before the committee day after day. It was not particulars at all, but simply an abstract of gross sums. The committee of investigation had no instructions to go into the accounts themselves. It would have taken months to do so, and it would have taken a regiment of clerks.

The Chairman said that if any gentleman wished it, the report would be read. If not, as it had already been handed to all, it would be taken as read. (No one asked to have the document read, and the business proceeded.)

Mr Morrison said he had received a long letter from Mr Spence. It was addressed to him as chairman of the committee, and therefore, as the representative of the shareholders, he could not at all consider it as a letter addressed to him personally. He should, therefore, hand it to the Chairman, leaving it to him to do with it what he thought proper.

The Chairman handed the letter to

Mr G. W. Hodge, who read it as follows:—

To the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Creditors and Shareholders of Pile, Spence, and Company, Limited.

SIR,—I have purposely refrained from making any statement or rendering any explanation at the previous meetings with regard to Mr Pile and myself as the vendors to the company, feeling that until your report was issued the facts could not be fairly discussed; and I should not now occupy your time had not statements of a most unjust character been made, and even published in the papers under anonymous signatures.

At the last meeting, at Darlington, a shareholder stated: "We scarcely thought it an honest course of procedure on the part of the promoters to foist the rotten concern upon the shoulders of the shareholders, as being sound and lucrative, and in every way profitable as an investment, after an admission lately made, that at the time it was turned into a limited company it was fit to pass through the Court of Bankruptcy, and that the business was perfectly worthless." Now, sir, supposing that every liability of the old firm had been correctly stated in the balance-sheet, and that proper provision had been made for the completion of ships and bad debts, that these amounts, forming, in fact, the suspense account, had been correctly ascertained (which in a large concern is almost impossible in so short a period as six weeks), still there would have appeared to the credit of the vendors the sum of £53,000 to be taken out in shares. I am, of course, assuming the valuations were fairly taken, to which I will refer hereafter. Such statements as that the concern was rotten, &c., like many others that have appeared, are utterly untrue, and, I am glad, do not appear to be confirmed in your report.

Now, as to the formation of the Company, when my firm decided on such a step, it was not with the view of selling out its interest, or of receiving any part of the payment in cash, at that time a most usual course in transfers of that description, but with the view of obtaining assistance in the management of so large a concern, and of additional capital. We were recommended to apply to Messrs Broome, Child, Murray, and Co., of Manchester, a house we found on inquiry to be of high standing, and who were not, moreover, professed promoters of public companies. They were entire strangers to us. At our first interview they offered to entertain the business only on the condition that they should be considered as the representatives of the shareholders, and in the words of the prospectus, "That the whole negotiation should be entrusted to them, that they should satisfy themselves as to the business and properties, and appoint their own valuers." We at first demurred to such a stipulation, expecting, as was customary, to be represented in the valuation, but we ultimately agreed to abide by their decision, without ever knowing whom they would appoint for the purpose. We also agreed to take the whole of our interest, whatever it might be, in shares, and leave the question of good-will to be settled afterwards.

At Mr Child's suggestion, a Provisional Committee was formed, and several meetings were held at Newcastle. Mr I. Lowthian Bell states in his letter to Mr Hartley, dated 3rd September:—"After some hesitation I undertook the duty (member of the Provisional Committee) upon the distinct understanding, as you know, and in Mr Webster's presence, that I should not be asked to join any future Board of Directors, and that the valuation of Messrs. Broome, Child, and Co. should be placed in our hands, in order that we might, with proper assistance, verify the same in the most perfect manner. In the propriety of the last named condition I think you concurred. Mr Webster certainly made it a *sine qua non* of his taking any further steps in the affair. Then and there Mr Webster mentioned that Mr James Laing, of Sunderland, had consented to value the hulls of the steamers, I undertook to examine the rolling mills then in course of construction, and I also at once secured the help of Mr F. Spencer, the engineer, to report on the steamboat engines and machinery of the shipbuilder's yard."

Now I think Mr I. Lowthian Bell must have forgotten the circumstances. He merely asked me if I would allow Mr F. Spencer to go through the works, to give him a general idea of their value, to which course I could not, and did not, object—provided, I said, that he did not interfere with Messrs. Hulse and Perring, who had been appointed by Messrs. Broome, Child, and Co. I wrote to Mr Pile, from Sunderland, to that effect. Mr Laing's name was never mentioned, except by Mr W. J. Young, who told me Mr Webster had asked Mr Laing to look at the steamers for him.

This all occurred, however, before the prospectus was issued, and at a final meeting at Mr I. Lowthian Bell's office, at which he himself was present, the prospectus was, after much discussion and alteration, settled, and agreed to be sent to Messrs. Broome, Child, and Co., for circulation on the 10th January, 1865. In this prospectus, the question of valuations is referred to as follows:—"Having thus briefly sketched the property submitted to this examination, the Provisional Committee are fully prepared to concur in the view adopted by Messrs. Pile, Spence, and Co., that the formation of the new company should be on the same basis that would have been decided upon in the case of the introduction of individual partners, the negotiations having been entrusted to Messrs. Broome, Child, Murray, and Co., of Manchester, who, in order to satisfy themselves of the value of the property, have availed themselves of the services of three eminent practical engineers, and have made such arrangements with regard to the stocktaking as will enable the new business to commence from the first day of the new year." The valuations, therefore, according to the prospectus issued, to which Mr Bell assented, were to be left to Messrs. Broome, Child, and Co., without any conditions as to their verification. We never saw Mr Bell at the works, nor Mr Spencer at the dockyard, nor Mr Laing at the steamers. I considered (as I wrote to Mr Bell on 14th January) the whole matter was left entirely in the hands of Messrs. Broome, Child, and Co.

Between 10th January, the day the prospectus was issued, and the 17th February, no meeting took place; meanwhile upwards of 9,000 shares were applied for, on the faith of the prospectus, which neither announced any verification of the valuations by Mr Bell, not yet the amount of the old firm's interest in the undertaking.

The final meeting of the Provisional Committee was held at Leeds, on the 17th February, after the valuations were completed, and where they were exhibited. Excluding Mr Pile and myself, nine members of the committee attended in addition to the solicitors, promoters, and the three valuers, who were there to answer any questions. The following is a minute of the proceedings:—

"Resolutions and Proceedings of the Committee, Pile, Spence, and Company, Limited.

"At a committee meeting, held 17th February, 1865, the following members were present: Mr Jonathan Mellor, Mr Henry Thornton, Mr S. V. Gooch, Mr John Pile, Mr Joseph Spence, Mr R. Fawcus, Mr Thos. Walker, Mr Wm. Pirrie, Mr Wm. Greenway, Mr Isaac Bowes, Mr C. Capper. Mr Young, the solicitor, Mr Child, Mr Hulse, Mr Grantham, and Mr Nicholson, were also in attendance.

"Proposed by Mr Spence, and seconded by Mr Gooch, that Mr Mellor take the chair.

"The Chairman called upon Mr Child to read letters received from Messrs Bell, Hartley, and Webster, explaining the causes of their absence.—Mr Child explained that Mr Bell and Mr Webster appeared to be unacquainted with the course usually adopted in connection with such undertakings otherwise they would not have considered it a part of their duty to examine the valuations which would now be laid before the assembled committee. The valuations were taken by gentlemen nominated by Mr Child, on the principle of an ordinary partnership; Mr Hulse and Mr Perring have thus valued the land, buildings, machinery, materials, and ships in course of construction. The ships were valued by Mr Grantham, who had been named by Messrs Pile, Spence, and Co., and whom Mr Child could rely upon to conduct the valuation upon the principles adopted by his co-valuers. It was understood that the balance of assets should be taken by Pile, Spence, and Co. in shares to be taken as one half paid up. The question of goodwill Mr Child did not feel able to assess, and, therefore, it had been left to be dealt with by the committee in the terms of the prospectus. The statement now prepared will assist in arriving at this decision. It had been suggested that the goodwill should be based upon the principle of one-third of the next three years' earnings.

"The statement was then submitted and explained by Mr Child.—Mr Fawcus inquired how the discrepancy arose between the latter and the prospectus?—Mr Child explained that at his last meeting with Messrs Pile and Spence, he had understood that they were willing to make the concession named in his letter, but that in any case the decision lay with the committee.—After considerable discussion, and in answer to a question from the Chairman, Mr Spence explained that he and his partners wished their goodwill to be based on the future earnings of the concern, but they wished the amount to be decided by the rest of the committee.

"Resolved—That the goodwill be £30,000 in shares half paid up, based upon the principle of one-third of three years' profits; the amount of goodwill to be increased or diminished in proportion to the excess of the profits over £30,000 per annum, or the reverse. No interest or dividend to accrue for the first three years on such shares, unless during the said three years profits amounting in all to 60 per cent. are realised.—Carried nem. con.

"Resolved—That the agreement read by the solicitor, Mr Young, be adopted, and that the parties thereto be authorised to execute the same on behalf of the company.

"Resolved—That Messrs Hartley, Featherstonhaugh, Fawcus, Pile, Spence, and Bowes, form the first Board, with power to add an additional director to their number.

"Resolved—That an allotment of shares to applicants be made by Broome, Child, Murray, and Co., the deposit money to be made payable 1st March.

"Resolved—That the Board now appointed be empowered to complete the memorandum and articles of association, and to register the same forthwith.

"The valuers reported on the condition of the property that their examination had satisfied them that the machinery and plant were in thoroughly good working order, and equal to those of any shipyard they had seen.

"A vote of thanks to the Chairman was carried by acclamation. Signed:—Jonathan Mellor, Robert Fawcus, Henry Thornton, Thomas Walker, Wm. Greenway, John Pile, J. Bowes, C. Capper, J. Spence."

The agreement was signed on the 24th February, and the company was registered on the 1st March.

Your report states: "That the vendors further agreed to carry on the business as from the 31st December, 1864, as trustees for and on behalf and for the benefit of the Company." The words in the agreement are—And shall be deemed to *have* carried on, &c. Up to the 27th February, we were uncertain whether the company would ever be constituted, and were in possession of our own property, and paid all liabilities justly due by the old firm. The company was registered 1st March, 1863. The balance-sheet was only made out to 31st December, 1864, hence the payments made between these dates were afterwards charged to the suspense account.

There can be no doubt that the old firm's account should have been ascertained on the 1st March, and the amount due deducted from their subscription in shares. This was a mistake, which tended greatly to our disadvantage. I resided in London until July, and had not an opportunity of looking closely into the accounts, nor were they made up to bring the account under our notice until after the half-year. I do not wish, however, to exculpate myself entirely on the score of absence. Mr Pile and myself fully believed that the assets due to the old firm not included in the balance-sheet, and which afterwards were received by the company, amounting to £3,280, together with our dividends, and the amount we expended and still hope to receive from the American Government for the Peterhoff, would cover the debt due to the company.

I was asked by one of the committee why we did not sell shares to cancel this debt. We could not do so, as Mr Young, the managing director, was of opinion the company held a lien on them as guarantee for the 10 per cent. dividend. The whole of the scrip remained in the company's offices, and not one share was ever offered for sale or sold. How, then, could these liabilities be extinguished? We received no cash from the company, nor yet any shares, and we transferred all the property to it, on the understanding, as stated in the prospectus, and at the meeting at Leeds, that the balance of assets only was to be taken in shares.

The report states that £19,000 of the suspense account appears to have been improperly paid by the directors, there being in fact no pretence that liability rested on the company to make such payment; but it is only fair, I submit, to deduct the balance in hand on the 1st of January, £8,722 16s 5d, the dividends £2,650 11s 8d, and the assets received not included in the balance sheet, £3,280 10s 6d; together, £14,653 18s 5d, and the balance remaining, said to be improperly paid, would only amount to £4,350, the remaining part of the debt being connected with the balance sheet.

As to the high price of the steamers purchased by the company, to which the report alludes, Mr John Grantham, of London, formerly of Liverpool, inspected each of them, valued each separately, and gave a particular report of the condition of each, with a full detail of the measurements, power, and tonnage. He also attended at the meeting of the Provisional Committee at Leeds to answer any questions that might be asked in the production of his valuations. He is a man of high standing in his profession, and of considerable experience in the valuation of steamers. Your committee have not examined any of the books, nor closely into the value of steamships, at the time they were taken over, when that class of property was most profitable, and its value in the market very different from that now current. A great change took place almost immediately after the formation of the company, and prices of all ships, both new and old, have ever since been tending downwards, until it is almost impossible to fix any correct value on such property.

The report states: "That the two graving docks have been almost entirely occupied in the alteration and repair of vessels belonging to Messrs Pile, Spence, and Co., and to the new company." This must be an entire mistake, as with the exception of a paddle boat, in which Mr Pile had some interest, docked for a week I believe, no vessel belonging to the old firm has been docked. The amount expended on steamers sold to the company by the old firm was chiefly spent in repairs of machinery and outfit, which do not necessitate their being docked.

In conclusion, we, the vendors, proved our belief at the time in the soundness and good faith of the undertaking by receiving the whole of our interest in the company in shares, only half paid-up, which are now worthless, and in not seeking for fully paid-up shares. It has been stated that we relieved ourselves from liabilities, but I submit those we took in shares were considerably greater. We have lost everything we had in the business, which, up to the formation of the company, was prosperous and enjoyed good credit. We have also entailed heavy losses on almost all our relatives, who, as original shareholders, still hold their interest in the company, and suffer severely. Had we believed our business to have been otherwise than sound, we should have adopted a very different course. We could no possibly foresee such a change at that time; such a frightful fall in the value of shipping property; such heavy losses from repeated strikes; such a crisis; and such difficulties in getting temporary assistance, arising from the bad credit in which almost all limited companies have recently found themselves.

I would not have referred to a personal matter had not the most false reports on the subject of my marriage settlement been actually published in the daily papers. The settlement I made was £8,000, together with the lease and furniture of my house in London, and my life policy, Mr Hartley having made a settlement of £5,000. Not one sixpence so settled formed any part of the capital in the business of the old firm; and an examination of the private ledger, offered by me to your committee, will prove that I only withdrew from it the interest on my capital, about £800 per year. The money so settled nine months before the formation of the company never belonged to the old business, but was made by me from other sources altogether.

I regret to occupy the time of the meeting in reading this letter, but felt this explanation was due to myself and to the shareholders.—I am, Sir, yours obediently,

JOSEPH SPENCE.

Mr C. M. Webster thought it was due to himself to explain why there was not a checking of the valuations. It was distinctly understood at the time these valuations were made that they should be checked. He suggested the name of Mr James Laing to check the valuation of the ships, and Mr I. L. Bell mentioned Mr F. C. Spencer for checking the valuation of the machinery. Mr Laing declined at the time to undertake the duty; and although Mr Spencer had gone through the machinery, they had not had his valuation. He (Mr Webster) had received a letter from Mr Child, explaining that there had been no checkings of valuations, as the valuations had been made by gentlemen of high character.

Mr Joseph Spence said that if the want of such verification was a sin on the part of any one, why did Mr Webster and Mr Bell allow the issue of that prospectus from Mr Bell's office?

Mr Morrison said he thought that Mr Spence might have transmitted his remarks to Mr Bell, and afforded him an opportunity of making his reply thereon. Mr Bell was not a shareholder of the company, and therefore could not be present. If Mr Bell had been present, he might not have contradicted what Mr Spence had said; but he thought the inference to be drawn from what he had said would be very different from what was conveyed in Mr Spence's letter.

Mr Webster said, so far as he remembered, Mr Hartley was present at the meeting at which it was suggested that the valuations should be verified.

Mr Dobing said that his attendance there that day was not to prejudice his future right of action. He thought that the shareholders who had now had the report of the committee of investigation before them, would no longer swallow the gilded pill that there was £13 10s per share to come back to the shareholders. (Hear, hear.) The report fully settled that question; and it went further than that. It said with reference to the suspense account—in reference to dealings of parties with the old firm—"they give no opinion." He never expected that a mixed committee, many of them no doubt partners or friends of the old firm—he never expected that they would lay their hands upon anything in the shape of fraud or misappropriation and say—"This is fraud, and that is misappropriation." (Hear, hear.) He never expected them to do that. He did not think it was within their province to do so. So it appeared in their report—they gave no opinion at all on this matter. It was a delusion that he and many of the shareholders fell into at the last meeting, when they said a compulsory winding-up was more likely to come at any misappropriation of the company's property, and likewise at any fraud, than a voluntary winding up under the supervision of the court. He was satisfied then as he was now, that the committee of investigation possessed the same powers as under a compulsory winding-up, but the question was whether they would ever lay their hands upon or deal with any cases of fraud or misappropriation if they had found them. He thought they would not, and it had turned out that the committee were of his opinion. (Hear, hear.) He had attended two meetings of the committee, and had taken advantage of invitations given to him at the office. He saw Mr Spence, and pressed him in reference to the settlement he had made previous to his marriage. He told him what Mr Spence had already told them in the letter just read, namely, that he had made a settlement of £8,000 on his wife. He (Mr Dobing) had got information that there was a sum of £13,000 invested by trustees for settlement, and therefore he asked him further if that was so. Mr Spence then told him that £5,000 of that £13,000 was the amount Mr Hartley had given to his daughter—and that was a portion of the settlement, and that his household furniture and other matters were included in it. He could not see that Mr Spence was in a position to settle £8,000 upon his wife, and when the matter was thoroughly investigated and looked into, it was most likely the settlement would be set aside.

Mr Joseph Spence said the settlement was made nine months before the formation of the company.

Mr Dobing said the persons could not begin to make any settlements unless they were in perfectly solvent circumstances at the time. (Hear, hear.) At the same time he saw Mr Spence he wanted to see his partner, Mr Pile; but he did not see him on the occasion of the first visit. He wished to ascertain from him information as to certain partnerships he was alleged to have entered subsequent to the formation of this company. Perhaps some of the shareholders might know that Mr Pile was bound by the articles of association of that company not to enter into any partnerships or transactions whatever, but should give his whole time and attention to the affairs of that company. But what did he do as soon as the company was formed? He entered into two or three different partnerships with different persons, and in connection with them had dealings and transactions with partnership property. He understood, according to information he had received in reference to two steamers, that Mr Pile drove bargains about these steamers, and sold them for the company to parties with whom he afterwards went into partnership; and that these steamers were afterwards run upon the same line of navigation as the company's boats, and that in fact he engaged in opposing the company's boats in this way. (Hear, hear.) Now they could not suppose that Mr Pile would drive a very good bargain for the company for these boats, because he knew beforehand that he was going to step into part of the interest in them by becoming a partner. (Hear, hear.) Finding he could not successfully follow up his inquiries of Mr Spence he discontinued the questions; and with the permission of the committee he had an opportunity which he never had before of going thoroughly into the books. He thus obtained possession of a greater number of details as to the accounts than had been given in the report. He must refer to what was stated at the last meeting in reference to what he thought then, as he did now, that the directors, instead of swamping the only interest the shareholders had in this disastrous concern, should have shown a little more consideration for the shareholders and not solely for the creditors. (Hear.) He thought, when the balance sheet was brought before the meeting, then was the time when advantage should have been taken of the opportunity of obtaining a compromise upon the basis of the balance sheet, by which any deficiency would have been equally borne between the shareholders and the creditors. That, however, was not done, and it was too late to do it now; and it now appeared that there would probably not be 10s in the pound for the creditors, and nothing for the shareholders. He thought it would be doing a great injustice to the shareholders if they were trapped into passing the resolutions that were brought forward at the last meeting. He considered these resolutions were merely a device in order to cripple and tie the hands of the shareholders in reference to future action. There being nothing for them, he thought the best plan for them was to pause before passing these resolutions. Having obtained some further figures from the books, he would give the shareholders the further details in his possession. He disapproved very much of one thing the committee of investigation had done. They had engaged Mr Pile to finish the ships building under contract. Now, he did not think that Mr Pile, who had been one of the means of bringing this company into so disastrous a state, should be employed for such a purpose. He found that he was employed at a sum of £40 to overlook the finishing of these ships. He also found that the secretary of the company, Mr Grigs, had been absent while the committee of investigation was sitting there; and that he had afterwards resigned his post. He thought the secretary should have been present while the committee were sitting there. (Hear.)

Mr Morrison said that whether Mr Grigs had resigned or not, the order of the committee was that he should be discharged for his extraordinary course on that occasions.

Mr Dobing said there were only two members of the shareholders' committee present on the occasion referred to. He thought that if five gentlemen took office as shareholders' committee men and did not attend to their duties they should not undertaken them. Now, with reference to the expenditure, he found that the expenditure for one year, from January, 1865, to January, 1866—the details of which the committee had not furnished—the details were: interest and discount of bills, £2,648 6s 7d; salaries paid in that time, £4,101 11s 10d; bad and doubtful debts, £2,974 0s 7d; expenses of shipyard and office expenses, £980 13s 11d. In addition to these expenses he might tell them that there had been the expense of the managers dining there every day; that they had a cook and a man attending there every day—(laughter)—and that there was also a wine cellar. He mentioned these things because he thought the shareholders should know everything in reference to these matters. (Hear.) The expenses of the iron office were £132 9s 1d; travelling expenses, £775 17s 6d; stables, £303 0s 6d; loss on a steamer, £6,801 15s 6d, making a total of £36,818 6s 4d. (Hear.) He would ask the shareholders what chance there was of any profit being divided out of the profits of a concern when that was only one year's working expenses? (Hear, hear.) Then there was another matter on which he had got some information, and that was in reference to the obtaining £1,460 from a bank just before the company was wound up. That sum had been obtained from Messrs Backhouse's bank, who were not the bankers of the company. The bankers of the company were Messrs Wood and Co., of Newcastle. He found that Messrs Backhouse actually cashed cheques on the understanding that these cheques would be honoured by Messrs Wood and Co. Messrs Backhouse had, some weeks before the company stopped payment, refused to cash these cheques, because they had cashed some which had been dishonoured. These, however, were ultimately paid, and Messrs Backhouse were induced, upon the special application, he believed, of Mr Spence himself, to cash these cheques within two or three weeks before the company stopped payment. These cheques amounted to £1,460. They were not cashed altogether, but he (Mr Dobing) supposed that, with a view to avoid arousing suspicion, they were taken at five or six different times during the day. That money was still owing to Messrs Backhouse. He could tell the meeting something in the application of these cheques. He found in the books, under the month of July, to Messrs Broome, Child, and Murray for audit of accounts—it had nothing to do with the winding-up, as it had not commenced then—the sum of £210 4s 11d; there was an amount paid for salaries to directors up to the closing of the concern, £404 18s,—all paid out of Messrs Backhouse's money. The office expenses for that month were £218 1s 6d. Taking the expenses during that time as the rate for the year, the travelling expenses for one month were £72 18s 9d. The items amounted to £906 8s 2d. He could not say that the £1,460 was obtained in a proper way to pay these sums, but these were the facts of the case. He would also give the meeting an account of the balance deficiencies from January 1865 to January 1866. The loss that appeared upon the books in June 1866 was £38,575 3s; in August 1866 it had risen to £55,244 19s 5d; now this with the suspense account of £47,737 7s 1d in July 1866, made a loss of £102,282 6s. (Hear, hear.) After referring to what transpired at the meeting of the shareholders at York, Mr Dobing referred to the shares of Mr Grigs, the secretary. He found that Mr Grigs was stated to have 100 paid-up shares. He (Mr Dobing) found this to be a sham, as he had no shares at all in fact. He found also that although the old partners had turned over to the shareholders what seemed a rotten and bad concern, they had divided at the end of 1865 no small sum amongst themselves in reference to some other matters. They divided some £2,000 or £3,000 at the end of one year, which was good profit.

Mr Spence said there were several ships which were not taken by the company, and which the company had nothing to do with.

Mr Dobing: You divided £1,600 each.

Mr Spence: That is perfectly untrue.

Mr Dobing said he found in a letter "£1,600 due to Mr Pile."

Mr Spence said that Mr Pile had transactions that he had nothing to do with. He thought the letter had been stolen.

Mr Dobing said he did not steal it. It had been given to him and he used it for a purpose.

Mr Pile said that Mr Dobing had every opportunity of seeing him when he visited the office.

Mr Dobing said he asked for him at the committee-room and he was not there.

Mr Pile denied that he interested himself in partnerships. He denied that he had ships; and if he had, the greater portion of the produce of such ships, when sold, would go to the company. The company had not left him with one farthing. Since it came out he had received £1,500 as salary, but he had dropped £25,000 in shares. He had been £4,000 or £5,000 worse off for the company than he was before. The letter which Mr Dobing had was got from a man—[Mr Joseph Spence: Stolen.]—named Walker, late a corresponding clerk to the company.

Mr Grigs said the sum of £1,065, paid on his shares, was a total loss to him. Mr Dobing's statement was incorrect.

Mr Fawcus said that Mr Dobing had examined the books very closely, and must, therefore, know whether this money was placed fairly to the credit of Mr Grigs or not.

Mr Dobing said he did not know anything about that.

Mr Spence said the money had been earned by Mr Grigs, and had been put to his credit year after year. It was of a very questionable insinuation to make on the part of any one, when the parties making it had not seen the books of the old company, which Mr Dobing had not done.

Mr Pile said the £1,600 that Mr Dobing had referred to, the company would get the better part of.

Mr Atkinson said he gave Mr Dobing an opportunity of examining the books privately. He might have satisfied his own mind about them, but he would never satisfy the whole of the shareholders unless he produced a written statement. A great deal, no doubt, had taken place which ought not to have taken place, and there was a good deal that might be remedied; but he thought the best way was not to quarrel amongst themselves, not to waste the money in law, but like business men to go to work and see if they could get anything out of the estate. He urged upon the meeting the benefits likely to follow from a voluntary winding up, and asked them to confirm the resolutions.

Mr Walmsley inquired whether the directors and those who were not now but had recently been officers of the company had parted with any of their shares between Oct. last and the present time; and if so, at what period were they parted with?

Mr Young said he had not parted with a single share, nor more had the chairman. The secretary would produce the transfer book.

Mr Dobing said that Mr Fawcus, one of the directors, had disposed of his shares.

Mr Grigs said that Mr Fawcus was not a director in Oct. As Mr Walmsley would see from the transfer register none of these gentlemen had transferred any of their shares within that period.

The Chairman said so far as he knew none of the officers had withdrawn their shares.

Mr Grace said he should like to have some further information about the suspense account. The statement published at the meeting at York in September last, said that the company had made a profit of somewhere about £20,000, whereas they had only divided a loss of some £22,000.

Mr Morrison said they had then made a profit of £20,000, and they declared a dividend when there was really not a single farthing to make it on; but still the profit was real so far as the committee could see. That profit, however, was entirely absorbed by taking away £22,000 from the suspense account. It was quite clear from the investigation since made that that sum should not have been so taken.

Mr F. Mewburn said that in reference to the very important document that had been read by Mr Spence, he should only make a slight remark in entirely agreeing with it that the shareholders consider themselves as claimants upon the provisional committee. (Hear, hear.) Nothing could be more unfortunate than this concern from the beginning to the end, and certainly one paragraph in that letter from Mr Spence showed that all his family, all his friends, and all he could influence had suffered in this disastrous and fraudulent business. That prospectus with an array of names that would induce any one to think they were good—these names vouched for a condition of affairs that did not exist at the time. (Hear, hear.) The accompanying letter of Mr Child, to which allusion had been made, seemed at that period to which he related to bear out what had since turned out to be so disastrous. They were now called upon that day to pass resolutions, and put themselves into such a condition that they should have no remedy for this miserable state of things. Hear, hear.) It struck him that as they had been told to act as men of business, that the best way would be to move the Court for injunction, in order to protect themselves from the shower of writs that would most likely swamp the greater portion of them, or at all events would excessively disgust all of them. (Hear, hear.) He believed that there were gentlemen on the committee, especially Mr Webster and Mr Bell, who had disapproved of the state of things at first; and it was most unfortunate for them that they did not withdraw from the concern at that time. He believed it was on the 7th February, 1865, that these gentlemen published to the shareholders their opinion; but instead of it being acted upon, the shareholders knew nothing until now of the manipulation that had been going on. (Hear, hear.) He supposed that "manipulation" was the most mild and elegant word to use. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) There were still gentlemen who vouched for the *bona fides* of the rotten concern. In Mr Spence's letter they were twitted by a gentleman, of whom he might say that it would have been much more honest of Messrs Pile, Spence, and Co., had they gone through the bankruptcy court at the time they floated this bankrupt concern upon the shareholders. Mr Spence could not be surprised at what had taken place.

Mr Spence said the chairman contradicted that at the last meeting.

After some explanation as to the position in which the old firm stood in reference to the new company,

Mr Morrison said that, as a creditor, it would not be inappropriate for him to say a few words. The committee had gone very carefully into the assets of the company. He had no hesitation in saying, as an ironmaster, that the rolling mills of the company were valuable property. They were well laid out, well situated, and were likely to be worked at a profit. They had cost the company £15,000. He showed that it would be more beneficial to the company to work up their stores and use the rolling mills in finishing the contracts than in selling them now. He must, therefore, urge them to pass the resolution.

Mr Hodge, in reply to Mr Grace, said that no one who wished to test his future liability should come and vote at the meeting. He did not think himself that the courts would entertain for a moment any defence in the matter on the ground that a fraud had been committed on the original shareholders, as valid for resisting a call. The court would naturally say, "So long as you could get your 10 per cent. out of this miserable company, you have not taken the trouble to inquire whether it was properly earned or not."

Mr Dobing: Have you considered the deceptive balance sheet at York?

Mr Hodge did not think that had anything to do with the matter. His explanation applied to the original shareholders. No original shareholder was made by the balance sheet at York.

The Chairman put the resolutions, which were carried, only a few hands being held up in their favour. The bulk of those present refrained from voting.

Mr Mewburn and Mr Dobing protested against their passing.

Mr David Dale, of Darlington, was appointed a liquidator to assist Mr Nicholson, Mr Dale, who was not present, having signified his willingness to stand if elected without a canvass.

After some further discussion, the proceedings came to a close.

A meeting of shareholders was afterwards held at the Ship with closed doors, and we cannot say what course of action was resolved upon.

NEWCASTLE POST OFFICE.

LETTERS ARE COLLECTED FROM THE TOWN RECEIVING OFFICES AND STANDARD LETTER BOXES AT THE FOLLOWING HOURS, viz.:—*Adelaide-place* (New Bridge)—12 noon, 3·45 p.m., 5·50 p.m., 9·0 p.m., (Sundays, 5·50 p.m.) *Quayside*—12 noon, 3·45 p.m., 5·50 p.m., 8·0 p.m. *Westgate-hill*—11·55 a.m., 3·45 p.m., 5·50 p.m., 9·0 p.m. (Sundays, 5·50 p.m.) *Barras Bridge*—11·55 a.m., 3·45 p.m., 5·45 p.m., (Sundays, 5·50 p.m.) *Buckingham-street*—3·15 p.m., 4·30 p.m., 6·45 p.m. *Central Station*—10 noon, 1·0 p.m., 3·35 p.m., 4·25 p.m., 5·30 p.m., 8·55 p.m., (Sundays, 5·45 p.m.) *Gibson-street*—9·0 a.m., 2·42 p.m., 4·35 p.m., 6·25 p.m., (Sundays, 3·20 p.m.) *Grey-street*—12 noon, 3·50 p.m., 5·50 p.m., 9·5 p.m., (Sundays, 5·55 p.m.) *Newgate-street*—12 noon, 3·50 p.m., 5·55 p.m., 9·5 p.m., (Sundays, 5·55 p.m.) *Rye-hill*—9·0 p.m., 3·0 p.m., 4·30 p.m., 6·30 p.m. *St. Ann's*—8·45 a.m., 2·30 p.m., 4·30 p.m., 6·20 p.m, (Sundays, 3·15 p.m.) *St. Peter's*—4·30 p.m., (Sundays, 3·0 p.m.) *Scotswood-road*—11·50 a.m., 4·30 p.m., 8·40 p.m., (Sundays, 3·15 p.m.) *Bradling-place*—9·0 a.m., 2·45 p.m., 6·30 p.m. *North Elswick*—3·0 p.m., 4·15 p.m., 6·45 p.m. *Wardle-terrace*—8·30 a.m., 2·45 p.m., 6·30 p.m.

The Letters are made up at the General Post-Office, Arcade, for the following places at the hours specified below:—Town Letters 5·30 a.m., 1·45 p.m., and 5·0 p.m. For Gateshead, North and South Shields, and the North; Carlisle, Hexham, Haydon Bridge, Haltwhistle, Alston, Beal, Cramlington, Seghill, Blaydon, Scotswood, Newburn, Ryton, &c., 5·30 a.m. (Sundays no despatch).—For Sunderland, 12·10 p.m.—For Hexham, Haydon Bridge, Haltwhistle, Carlisle, Cumberland, Westmorland, and West of Scotland, 1·0 p.m.—For Sunderland and Alston, 3·30 p.m.—For Carlisle, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Ireland, 3·30 p.m. (Sundays excepted.)—For America (on Thursdays and Saturdays only) 3·30 p.m.—For Morpeth, Alnwick, Berwick, North of Scotland, Gateshead, North and South Shields, 4·10 pm.—For London, Darlington, York, all parts of the South, Ireland, and Scotland, 6·20 p.m.—For Hexham 6·20 p.m.—For London and the South, Sunderland and Ireland, 10·0 p.m.

DELIVERY OF LETTERS IN NEWCASTLE.—From London and all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, 7·20 a.m. from Carlisle, West of Cumberland, Scotland, and Hexham, 2·0 p.m.—From North and South Shields, Sunderland, and Gateshead, 2·0 p.m.—From London and the South, Gateshead, North and South Shields, Sunderland, and Ireland, 5·20 p.m.—On Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, the Letters are delivered at the Office Window only from 8·0 a.m. until 10·0 a.m.

FLOWER SHOW OF THE DISTRICT.

PAWDON DENE.

The Pawdon Dene Floral and Horticultural Society held their second show in a large marquee, erected in the Dene, on Monday. There was a good number of competitors for every class, and the whole of the garden produce was very good. The dahlias, French and African marigolds, asters, and pansies were all very beautiful, and reflected great credit on the growers. In the open class, Mr John Armstrong obtained the first prize for six greenhouse plants, and for which was given a splendid silver cup, given by Mr W. Elliott, Northumberland Arms, Stowell-street. The show of vegetables was exceedingly good, and exceeded in quality any shown before in the Dene. For the special prize, a collection of six varieties of vegetables, was awarded to Mr Henry Hogarth, and for which a splendid cruet stand, presented by Mr Bell, of Sandiford Lane, was the prize. The cut flowers were all very choice, as also were the stocks. At the end of the marquee was a splendid device by Mr W. Brooks, and which must have cost that gentleman a deal of pain and trouble, and for which too much praise cannot be given. Messrs Balfour and Hareland officiated as judges, who were ably assisted by the secretary, Mr Joseph Harvey. The exhibition was well attended throughout the day, and in the evening a ball was held, to the strains of Mr Patterson's splendid band, under the leadership of Mr Thomas Cuthbertson. The following is the list of the awards of the judges:—

Best Three Greenhouse Plants—1. Mr T. Smith; 2. Mr R. Nichol; 3. H. Hogarth.
Best Stove Plant—1. Mr Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr Robert Nichol.
Best Greenhouse Plant.—1. Mr John Armstrong; 2. Mr Ralph Hall.
Best Two Fuschias in bloom—1. Mr Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr John Armstrong; 3. Mr Robert Nichol.
Best Dark Fuschias—1. Mr Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr Robert Nichol.
Best Light Fuschias—1. Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr John Miller.
Best Scarlet Fuschia—1. Mr Robert Nichol; 2. Mr John Armstrong.
Best Two Verbenas—1. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Two Variegated Plants—1. Mr John Armstrong; 2. Mr Robert Nichol.
Best Single Petunia—1. Mr Thomas Smith.
Best Double Petunia—1. Mr Ralph Hall.
Best Two Phloxes—1. Mr Francis Graham; 2. Mr Thos. Graham.
Best Two Balsams—1. Mr Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr John Armstrong.
Best Rose—1. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Three spikes of Antrims—1. Mr Francis Graham; 2. Mr Joshua Marr.
Best Six bottles of Cut Flowers—1. Mr Thomas Smith.
Best Carnation—1. Mr Robert Slater; 2. Mr John Weddell.
Best Picotee—1. Mr Robert Slater; 2. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Six Picotees—1. Mr Joshua Marr; 2. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Six Carnations—1. Mr Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr Joshua Marr.
Best Twelve Dahlias—1. Mr H. Hogarth; 2. Mr John Armstrong; 3. Mr Joshua Marr, jun.; 4. Mr Joshua Marr, sen.
Best Six Dahlias—1. Mr Francis Graham; 2. Mr Robert Slater; 3. Mr Robert Nichol.
Best Three Fancy—1. Mr J. Armstrong; 2. Mr Joshua Marr.
Best Self Dahlia—1. Mr. Ralph Hall; 2. Mr John Armstrong.
Best Six Asters (globe)—1. Mr Francis Graham; 2. Mr Thomas Graham.
Best Six Asters (quilled)—1. Mr Ralph Hall; 2. Mr Thos. Smith.
Best Twelve French Marigolds—1. Joshua Marr; 2. Mr John Laycock.
Best Six Marigolds—1. Mr Francis Graham; 2. Mr Thos. Graham.
Best Twelve African Marigolds—1. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Six Marigolds—1. Mr Joshua Marr; 2. Mr Ralph Hall.
Best Twelve Pansies—1. Mr James Weddell; 2. Mr H. Hogarth; 3. Mr Joshua Marr.
Best Six Pansies—1. Mr James Weddell; 2. Mr Ralph Hall.
Best Three Gladioli—1. Mr Francis Graham.
Best Six Verbenas—1. Mr Robert Slater; 2. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Three Stocks—1. Mr John Armstrong; 2. Mr John Miller.
Best Dessert Apples—1. Mr Joshua Marr; 2. Mr John Miller.
Best Baking Apples—1. Mr John Carr; 2. Mr Joshua Marr.
Best Six Pears—1. Mr John Weddell; 2. Mr James Weddell.
Best Collection of Vegetables—1. Mr Henry Hogarth; 2. Mr Robert Nichol; 3. Mr John Laycock.
Best Three Leeks—1. Mr Robert Nichol; 2. Mr Henry Hogarth.
Best Two Red Cabbages—1. Mr Ralph Hall; 2. Mr John Miller.
Best Two Cauliflowers.—1 Mr Henry Hogarth.

THE VERMONT WIDOW AND THE WAR.

Many thousands sleep at Arlington and at the Soldiers' Home, and thousands visit their place of rest. Only a few are buried here, and few come to look where they lie. On a Sabbath evening in June, a pair of loving hands planted flowers on one of the graves—planted them for the sake of the boy who slept below, and for the sake of his mother. The mother's name was never heard outside of the secluded neighbourhood in which she lives, yet it should be blazoned high among the "women of the war," as one of the many who by desolate hearthstones gave up more than the bravest men for the cause of their country. A poor widow in Northern Vermont, the mother of one daughter and three sons; when the war commenced, it found her with but one boy old enough to help her in the tillage of their little farm, their only inheritance. She might have kept this boy, for in those first enthusiastic days every college and schools, every workshop and homestead was sending forth soldiers. But the pulses of patriotism were all astir in the woman's heart, and she told her boy to go. She stayed behind to till her hard land with her own hands, yet she found time every week to walk to the nearest village, miles away, to sew and knit for the soldiers. No matter how fast the rain rained, nor how the wind blew, nor how deep the snowdrifts were piled on the lonely lake-shore along which she had to go. She did go, and never missed a soldiers' meeting through all the war. Disaster, discouragement, desolation came. The soil was soaked with the blood of our best and bravest; we had paid the full price for victory, yet it was not ours. In one of the fierce and fatal charges of the Vermont Brigade the widow's son was killed and his body was never recovered. There was something very like despair in the cry which now pierced the land for "more men." Again it penetrated the remote home of his widowed mother. By this time her second son was old enough to enlist. When his mother looked in his face, and thought of his brother—her first born—buried in the trenches of Virginia, don't you think that now she felt the cost of the sacrifice? Yet she told him to go. A third call came. We heard it through defeat, disgrace, and hope almost hopelessly deferred. There was no silver rift in the battle cloud. Through the blood of Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville victory, freedom, and peace seemed a long way off. Each man that heard the cry for "moue men" felt that it called him to sacrifice, but not to triumph. The recruiting officers had hard work. Instead of the first enthusiasm of impulsive patriotism, they found disappointment, dogged discontent. Men were no longer eager to give life, all that they held dear, endure the hard fate of a common soldiers, for what! The widow's youngest boy was now old enough to be a soldier. He was all that she and the one young sister had left: she needed him, she loved him as only a mother can love the Benjamin of her boys. Yet she told him to go. In midwinter, at midnight, for the third time, this mother traversed that lonely lake-path with her son, this one her last, walking with him over those long miles of snow to the nearest depot, where the train passed by that would take him on towards the war—this boy that would never come back. He was a private soldier; though he fought bravely among the brave, she did not expect that he would ever be more. She had nothing to gain, all to lose, as a woman and a mother. After all, what what was it so much to her, this great country! Its wealth, its prizes, its honours would never drop down to touch her life; she would never have more of it than she had now, the rock-sown spot by the lake side. Yet it was for country, and for its sakes she gave her life's life, all that she had. She bade her Benjamin good bye, watched the train move off, then set her face towards the emptied house which waited for her miles away. What a walk was that! In the ring of heroes which encircle their flag in the little grave yard beyond Fort Stevens sleeps her youngest boy. The gravel stones are heaped upon him, and the little board at his head, like all the rest, tells his name and regiment, and that is all. That is all, perhaps, that any words could tell. The life that lies beyond words is never told—it can only be lived. The life that lies back of the meagre sentence on this wooden tablet welled up in the boy's heart in march and battle, and in a soldier's death, the tragedy which underlies it was all lived in the mother's breast in that lonely house amid the mountains of Vermont. — *Mary Clemmer Ames, in the New York Independent.*

ANOTHER KITE CONTEST ON THE TOWN MOOR.

On Saturday afternoon, another of those novel, but withal pleasing competitions with kites, came off on Newcastle Town Moor, under very favourable circumstances as regarded the weather. In this instance the contest originated with the foremen and workmen in Messrs. Thompson and Boyd's, Spring Garden Engine Works, who subscribed so handsomely towards the object that the committee who had been appointed were enabled to purchase substantial prizes. For the highest flyer a beautiful silver cup, value £2 2s., was offered. The second prize was a 2-feet Hawthorn rule, with an explanatory table, and the third was an ingenious pocket knife, consisting of thirteen different instruments. A pair of compasses was offered for the most comical kite. The competition was open only to the bound and unbound apprentices, and the sons of the workmen employed in the Spring Garden Engine Works. The conditions of the contest was that each youth was to be allowed 600 yards of twine, and each kite was not to exceed five feet in length. The sun shone out most brilliantly during the whole afternoon, and although the grass underfoot was damp, yet many hundreds assembled on that part of the Town Moor opposite North Terrace to witness the interesting exhibition. At half-past three o'clock the competitors were drawn into line, and in a very few minutes afterwards the kites began to ascend on their aerial flight. There was a stiff breeze from the west at the time, and the kites rapidly upwards into the air, so that by an hour afterwards all the six hundred yards of string had been let out, and many of the flyers had reached such a height that they appeated mere specks in the cloudless sky. Some of the toys would not fly, others became entangled, and dashing headwards down to the earth, were smashed at the bows, and thus their chance in the race was lost. The excitement was intense, the boys, aided by, in some instances, the men, of one department of the works trying to outstrip those employed in others. Mr Wm. Thompson officiated as judge; and Mr Charles Thompson, Mr Boyd (partners in the firm), and Messrs George Joyce and — Murray (agents) superintended the general arrangements on the ground. To add to the attractions, the Spring Garden Engine Works brass band was in attendance, and under the leadership of Mr Joseph Spinks played some spirit stirring airs, to the gratification of those present. After the kites had flown an hour and a half, the following youths out of the sixty-one competitors were awarded prizes:—First, for the highest flying, Nicholas Harvey, of the pattern shop; second, Richard Elliott, of the foundry; third, William Carverhill, moulder. Small sums of money were awarded to Master Frederick Bell, for the fourth highest, and Isaac Westgarth, for the steadiest flying kite. The prize for the most ingenious kite was won by Master Atkinson, of North Terrace, with a kite the shape of an eagle, which had been made for him by Mr William Thompson. The prizes were afterwards presented by Mr George Joyce to the successful competitors.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND HIS TRAVELLING COMPANIONS.

The following description of the personal appearance of President Johnson and the principal members of his travelling party is taken from the *New York Tribune*:—"The personal appearance of the principal members of the Presidential party is generally familiar. When they arrived in New York on Monday afternoon, all looked dusty, and to a certain extent, travel worn. The President, dressed throughout in plain black, smoothly shaven, more anxious apparently than gratified, listened to the address of Mr Stewart with his head thrown somewhat foreward, evidently in deep thought. His hair is sprinkled with grey, but there is the semblance at least of fire in his eyes and vigour in his body. There is persistence in his face, obstinacy perhaps; a look of that unmitigable and powerful perseverence which grows by resistance; some kindliness; evidently a man easily managed by those who praise liberally, but utterly intractable when criticised. He smiled when the address was completed, evidently pleased. William H. Seward stood by the side of the President, apparently unconscious of what had been uttered. The contrast between the two men was great. One large and dark and fresh, the other small and pale and wan; the one anxious, the other careless, as to what was passing; but both evidently pondering, in a different way, the same subject. The deep heavy scar received at the time Johnson was made President is still plainly visible. The Secretary stood beside his chief, and seemed lost to the present, with his eyes turned inward, rather than upon outward objects. "General Grant, with his imperturbable manner, was on Monday precisely as we have often seen him, with one exception. He was not smoking. Dressed in his usual style, a regulation hat, minus the decorations authorised in army regulations; a military coat, bearing on the shoulders the insignia of his rank, and dark pantaloons, there was little in his appearance to attract attention. His beard cut short, lips compressed, despite the agreeable smale that ripled over his almost expressionless face, a man utterly and permanently quiet, a countenance far beyond the reach of agitation, he looked as if he would not be disturbed if the world crumbled at his feet. Secretary Welles is tall and wears a long grey beard, which harmonises with the colour of his hair, and adds somewhat to the owlishness of his great spectacled eyes. . He is a picture of conservatism. Admiral Farragut is tall, slender, and looks every inch a man. There is somewhat Learlike in his face, and his eyes show the intrepidity and the undaunted courage that made him the hero he is. He wore a cap and coat, bearing the mark of his rank in the navy, and stood among his companions above them all. Farragut would attract attention in a crowded thoroughfare; but his face would never say that he loved war, though it is one that an enemy might fear when anger flushed it, or kindled into a flame the latent fire of the eyes which gave it an expression so kindly and so genial."

Spirit of the Press.

THE INFLUENCE OF ENGLAND.

(From the *Saturday Review.*)

To strike a balance between the good wrought and the evil inflicted by the wars of the eighteenth century is a task to which only the most philosophic kind of historian would be competent. Perhaps the prevalent tendency is too strong towards disparaging the English part in those wars in the lump. However that may be, much at all events of our policy and many of our achievements were of a kind which, on the principles of to-day, nobody would attempt to justify. Dread of repeating those disastrous and costly blunders has probably a great deal more to do with our present policy than any positive convictions that absolute non-intervention is the safest and most dignified attitude that England can assume. One, sometimes, it is true, may hear people talk as if it were impossible for England to have any influence in Europe without employing it as mischievously, both to herself and other nations, as she sometimes did of old. This is one of the compliments which our patriots are too fond of paying their country. We are, it seems, so foolish, in spite of all our experience, that it would be unsafe to trust us with the edged tool of continental influence. We should be sure to cut ourselves, and very likely those whom we meant to befriend as well. The least dangerous course, therefore, is to keep the country without any power at all in Europe. If you must be influential somewhere, domineer over rajahs and tycoons and daimios, who cannot do you much harm in return. This is all very well in certain circumstances; but is it true that the only statesmen whom we can produce, or who have any chance of rising to power, are so poorly off for sagacity and foresight and judgment as not to be able to distinguish between wise intervention and foolish intervention? Are the leaders of public opinion so incompetent as to be unable to recognise the cases where we might use our national influence to advantage, or to separate them from other cases in which interposition on our part would be of no advantage? If this be the present state of political capacity among us, then unquestionably there can be nothing so safe as the policy of unvarying indifference to whatever may happen out of our own dominions. But it would be too humiliating to think that the end of all our free institutions has been to leave us without a statesman or a party who cannot be trusted to know that there is a time to love and a time to hate, a time to keep silence and a time to speak. Now that Earl Russell has finally ceased to have part or lot in our foreign policy, there is some reason to hope that English diplomatists will know that the present is a time to keep silence. When we have no influence, nothing but a merited snubbing can follow any attempt to give ourselves airs as if we had as much influence as we possessed ten years ago. The fact that we can, at our sovereign pleasure, set up and pull down magnificent maharajahs in India counts for nothing at Paris or Berlin, or St. Petersburg. Yet nobody can seriously pretend that it is a matter of practical indifference to us what they do at Paris or Berlin. The Americans can afford to follow the policy of non-intervention, though even they can only do this provided European powers keep their distance. The policy of the Americans in Mexican affairs is hardly of that purely non-interfering kind which is prescribed for us here. And yet we are only five and twenty miles away from the place where, as we are assured, nothing that can be done is of any moment to us. Let the French take Antwerp if they choose, and realise Napoleon's idea of holding a pistol at the head of England. Let the Russians and French together settle between them what is to be done with Turkey, and, if they like, make themselves masters of our road to India. England is to be the Mr Toots of international politics. Nothing that can happen is of the slightest consequence. The imminent re-opening of the Eastern question, however, may possibly have the effect of awakening the country from this half-mesmeric trance. We shall find in a very practical way that, though we might prefer being an Asiatic power, the unfortunate fact that our island ir moored five and twenty miles off the continent of Europe constrains us also to be a European power, as that continent lies between us and our cherished Asia. We shall then discover how much important ground we have lost, not by omitting to trail the paletot pugnaciously round Europe once every couple of years, not by refraining from fighting for Poland or Italy or Denmark, but by the ostentatious display of lethargy on principle, and of a resolution never to fight for anything, save perhaps a right of way from the Bank of England to the Royal Exchange and the London Docks. There is no reality in the resolution. England is not by any means for peace at any price. But foreigners think that she is, just as they thought all our banks had failed because Lord Clarendon too officiously wrote to assure them that the suspension of the Bank Charter Act did not mean the suspension of cash payments. Nations only look roughly at the outsides of each other, and the wofully fatuous policy of the English Foreign Office both about Denmark and Poland exposed us to snubs which might well damage our European prestige, and make the world think that nothing could arouse our resentment, and that nothing would come of our resentment even if it were aroused.

WOODEN VERSUS IRON SHIPS.

(From the *Times.*)

That the strongest ironclad afloat might be sent to the bottom as easily as a wooden frigate is now a fact about which it is hardly possible to entertain a doubt. A target with greater resisting powers than the broadside of any iron-cased frigate or the turret of any Monitor has been completely smashed by a particular kind of shot fired from a particular kind of gun, and that gun and that shot are of British make and invention. It is of equal importance to observe that the gun which has proposed so irresistible is not a piece of any prodigious calibre or impracticable weight, but only such a gun as could be carried and worked in a ship's broadside. Whereas, too, it is scarcely credible that any ship should be sent to sea with thicker or more ponderous armour than was represented in the target demolished, it is very credible indeed that the calibre, charge, and power of the gun might be increased, so that the essential question between ships and guns may be regarded as settled. That is the conclusion forced upon us by the results of the remarkable experiments just reported from Shoeburyness.

The target exposed to fire on this occasion was built up of 18 inches of teak, and this compact mass of woodwork was covered in front with solid plates of rolled iron eight inches thick, and strengthened at the back by an inner skin of iron three-quarters of an inch thick. Altogether, therefore, this imaginary ship's broadside was about two feet three inches in thickness—that is, about as thick as the wall of an old Norman castle, while the materials were hard teak and solid iron, instead of ashlar and rubble. If castles, in fact, had been built in such a fashion, they would have remained up to our own day as impregnable to artillery as they originally were to bows and arrows. Nevertheless, when a gun described as the "nine-inch muzzle-loading wrought-iron Woolwich rifle gun," was trained against this target, and fired with a charge of 43lb. of powder and a 250lb. shell of Major Palliser's chilled metal, the effect was decisive. The projectile, we are told, "went clean through everything, plate, backing, and inner skin, and lodged itself, after exploding in some timber, about twenty feet behind the target. Anything more crushing," it is added, "than the shock of this missile it would be difficult to conceive, for it struck full upon one of the vertical parts of the target, and tore its way through as if only opposed by a timber screen." A repetition of the experiment did but confirm the results, and the main fact, therefore, is placed beyond reach of doubt.

One or two reservations should, it is true, be put upon record. These effects were produced under conditions exceptionally favourable to the gun, which was fired at a comparatively short range, and against an immovable target struck at right angles. It is obvious that such conditions could not always be anticipated in an action between ships carefully manœuvred, though an English captain would probably ask for nothing more than equality of speed to give him all necessary opportunity for the practice of his guns. Still it must be noticed that when the target was inclined at an angle to the line of fire the projectiles did fail to penetrate it. They tore tremendous holes in the plating, and one of them actually got in to a depth of 12½ inches, but they never went quite through. We should also observe that Mr. Chalmers, the inventor of a very celebrated target, claims to be able still to construct a block of wood and iron which shall be impregnable to shot, but practically the case stands as we describe it. Now, as no ironclad afloat carries solid armour of eight inches in thickness; and as the composite or laminated armour of the American turrets, formed of single-inch plates screwed one upon another, will bear no comparison with solid metal, it follows, as we have said, that the armour of any fighting ship at present known might be completely demolished by a 250 pounder gun. The deductions naturally flowing from this conclusion are important in the extreme.

In the first place, if we are to accept these facts as permanently established, we may dismiss the question of monster cannon from our minds. A gun which will sink any enemy is quite big enough, and nothing would be gained by a bigger one. The hole made in the Shoeburyness target by a nine-inch Palliser shell was large enough to settle the fate of any vessel afloat. If the Americans prefer 15-inch or 20-inch shot, they have a right to their choice, but it is obvious that this weight of metal and calibre of ordnance represent so much superfluity, if the required work can be performed by a nine-inch gun with equal effect. And this again relieves us of another difficulty. We shall be no longer under the necessity of building turret ships. In so far as a turret vessel represents any other advantages of model, the device may still be a serviceable one, but as regards the peculiar capacity of the turrets for carrying enormous guns, the recommendation will of course disappear when enormous guns are no longer required. As far as we can now see, the biggest guns wanted for sea service can be carried easily in broadside, and consequently a broadside vessel is just as good as ever. But the facts here ascertained have a still wider application.

We remarked the other day, before these experiments had been made, that the whole question appeared to be one rather of guns than ships, and this view of the case is now decisively confirmed. We might almost say, after what has thus been proved, that the value of an ironclad as a fighting vessel has vanished. When ship's armour was first introduced it rendered ships impregnable, and hence its importance. But now that the cannon of that day are to be superseded by the Woolwich gun of the present the armour confers no security, and so its importance is lost. When we read that the sides of the Warrior are simply as vulnerable as so much basket work it seems impossible to regard the Warrior as more of a man-of-war than a stout old frigate. This, of course, would be an extreme conclusion. The Warrior's armour would protect her up to a certain point, and insure her a proportionate superiority, nor is it a slight advantage for a ship to be invulnerable except under peculiar conditions of attack. Still the broad fact remains that an ironclad is as helpless as any wooden corvette against a certain gun which every British ship ought to carry; and we are mistaken if a short advance from this point of departure will not conduct us to some very satisfactory conclusions.

Presuming ironclads and wooden ships to be thus placed upon an equality of hopelessness before modern artillery, may we not reconsider our opinions about the worthlessness of our old wooden navy? That navy comprises vessels by the score which, if wood is as good as iron, are still the most magnificent ships in the world, and is not wood as good as iron if one material is just as strong, or as weak, as the other? Suppose one of our fine old frigates armed with these Woolwich guns, and matched against an ironclad; according to what we have now learnt, she might sink this ironclad, and what worse could the ironclad do to her? Of course the ironclad would have the advantage of her armour to a certain extent, and perhaps it would only be a fortunate shot, or a shot delivered under very favourable conditions, which would do any fatal damage. But this damage might be done, and the knowledge that it might be done would altogether destroy the theory now accepted respecting the relative powers of ironclads and wooden vessels. Precisely, however, in this same proportion would the present ideas respecting the inutility of our old navy be dispelled also, and our old superiority as a maritime Power would be suddenly restored. Only, to secure all this profit, we should lose no time about the manufacture and issue of the new Woolwich guns.

PRUSSIA AND THE SMALL STATES.

(From the *London Review.*)

Has the word "progress" an equivalent in the German language? Many would have replied in the negative before the Bohemian campaign. And now that the Bohemian campaign has changed the tone of general opinion, the same people are beginning to wonder at the apparent relapse of the Prussian Government into its old sluggishness. To our mind this relapse is but apparent, and the appearance is not justified. The dead ride quick, but the living ride quicker. We have merely to watch the course of events as communicated by Mr Reuter, and to compare it with the history of Germany since 1848, if we would judge of the speed that has been imported into German politics by Count Bismark. Scarcely is the war over before the war contributions are levied. One day a deputation from Hanover comes to implore mercy, and the next day the Prussian Chambers pass the law for the annexation of Hanover. The fate of Schleswig-Holstein, which has been so long in the balance, is at last summarily decided; and the two Duchies, which have weighed like a nightmare for the last eighteen years on writers and politicians, are, we hope, to settle down into obscurity. Even Austria has profited by the lesson taught her, and is reducing her army with greater speed than she ever brought it into battle. We may at length have some hope that the value of time will be recognised in Germany; that action will not be delayed till it is too late to act; and that reforms will not be discussed over and over again, till their necessity is recognised and their adoption has been superseded. There are many reasons for such speed in the present position of affairs. Count Bismark has to strike the iron while it is hot; he has to bring round his royal master to many projects which the King would disapprove of in his calmer moments, but which are forced upon him by recent victories. The language of King William to the advocates of King George was generally scrutinised in England as bearing on a new theory of Providence, when it was more significant of a new theory of divine right. We have long since heard that Providence was on the side of great battalions; but William I. has added a further meaning to the *mot* of Frederick II. The great battalions are now to have allotted to them the task of reviewing the decisions of that divinity which hedges kings. Divine right is good for the conqueror, but it ceases with a defeat. There is too much subtlety in this theory for it to have originated in the mind of a sergeant-major, and we can see that Count Bismark has yielded to the view of divine right, so as to enrich it by a new reading. When George III. had partly recovered from one of his attacks, and his Ministers were very anxious to show that he had completely recovered, the only obstacle to his reading the King's speech was that, at the end of every sentence he interpolated the word "peacock." He was deaf to all remonstrances, and the Ministers were beginning to despair. At last one suggested to His Majesty that the word peacock was a fit and proper ending to every sentence, only it was to be spoken so that no one could hear it. The result was that George III. read the King's Speech with the most perfect success, and it was noticed as a great improvement on his former reading that he paused at the end of each sentence. Count Bismark is the King of Prussia's peacock. But King William is not the only cause of Count Bismark's rapidity. There can be little doubt that unless North Germany is consolidated before a new enemy can come into the field, a real union of Germany may be effectually delayed. After making one request and being repulsed, the Emperor of the French is scarcely the man to submit tamely to the worst disgrace that has befallen him since his period of systematic failure. Nor are the domestic difficulties of North Germany to be made light of, especially with the more or less avowed hostility of the Southern States ready to become active, but content to smoulder. Opinion in Bavaria is by no means unanimous on the subject of a united Germany. There is even yet a party opposed to all union. There is a very strong party opposed to the predominance of Prussia. Both these parties have been somewhat driven into the background by the Prussian victory, as we saw by the motion for alliance with Prussia in the Lower House of the Bavarian Diet. But the late demonstration of Hanoverian loyalty will do something to revive those local jealousies in a country which is more personally loyal than Hanover, more alive to its own importance in Germany, and more reluctant to succumb to a Power which it looks upon as half a stranger.

The debates in the Prussian Chamber show that on the point of unity or annexation, Count Bismark has nothing to fear from those who were his worst opponents. It may seem strange that a man who was so generally detested a short time ago should now, not only enjoy so much popularity at home, but should have risen all of a sudden into a statesmanlike reputation. It is not often that a man lives down an unenviable notoriety, or passes while he is alive through that process of whitewashing which comes so natural to subsequent historians. We have seen Judas Iscariot, Pontius Pilate, Richard III., and Henry VIII. rehabilitated, but in no case was the rehabilitation complete or general. In spite of Archbishop Whately, M. Renan, and Mr Froude, most people retain their old aversion for Pilate and Judas, and children are still taught the legend of "Killey-wifey." It is different with Count Bismark, and we think this fact alone ought to prove the wide existence of sympathy with the cause of German unity. Men must have short memories indeed to forget how the Prussian Constitution was violated; how the taxes were levied without the necessary consent of the Chambers; how the censorship was established in the teeth of two direct prohibitions of it; how deputies were made answerable to the law, though their words were expressly privileged. Even the constant reiterations of the Prussian press, the Prussian King, the Prussian Minister, cannot drive out of our minds the distinct and formal conviction that Prussia not Austria, was the aggressor. Yet, no sooner had Prussia declared that she was fighting for German unity, and Austria had committed herself to the cause of the dynasties, than all these offences were condoned, and Prussia was accepted as the champion of the people against its kings, although at home she had made the King prevail over the people. Some of our Conservative contemporaries went so far as to advocate the continuance of Bismarkian policy as the only hope for Germany. The German Liberals, it was said, would never have brought about the unity they had so long been discussing. If the work was left to them, even now they would ruin all that has been done, and would throw back affairs into anarchy. It never struck the Tory defenders of forcible annexation that the reason why the Liberals of Germany had never succeeded was because they were too scrupulous. They wished their scheme to be perfect before it was put in operation. They wanted to hear all parties, to discuss all objections, to satisfy all claims, to let all rights be represented. Their revolution was to be made, not with rose-water, but with ink and paper. It was not their wish to sweep away all abuses, and all that was attached to abuses, in one August night, as in the first French Revolution. And because they were not ready for violence, they failed to win the admiration and the abuse of Conservative critics. But Count Bismark, who united himself to the Prussian Conservatives till he stood no longer in need of them, who effected a revolution while pretending to be the champion of order, and swept away small dynasties in order to strengthen a great one, is taken at his word by the Tories, and at his deeds by the Liberals. To the latter, it is enough that he has done the work which they wanted to be done. He has put an end to the small States, which as the democratic deputy, Waldeck, said, were the cancer of Germany. But this by itself would not suffice for the Tories, and they unfortunately discover that, while doing Liberal work, he has made war on Liberal principles, and has effected a project instead of deliberating on its justice. We cannot say that our own opinion of the justice of the Prussian cause has been in the least altered by the issue of the war. In one respect we were probably mistaken. Till the last moment we could hardly believe that Prussia would fairly and openly take up a position as leader of the cause of unity, and would fight against Austria and the dynasties. We rather expected that if anything came of the strife between the two great Powers, it would be an unconscious and reluctant enlisting of Prussia in favour of German unity. Of course, we were from the first prepared for the struggle being one for preponderance in Germany, since that has been the tendency of affairs from the time of Prussia's rise to independence. But we could not expect that King William would be swayed as he has been by his Minister, or rather that his Minister would have the courage to exert his influence in that direction. Now that things have been brought to such a pitch, it is too late for the King to retract, and it seems plain that he has made up his mind to persevere. The course marked out before Prussia is difficult and beset with dangers; but King and people are at last unanimous, and their unanimity must prevail over the suspicion excited by their former dissensions, and over the half-heartedness of provincial loyalty.

The Great Eastern arrived in the Mersey at eight o'clock on Wednesday morning from Heart's Content. All the approaches to the river front were crowded with spectators, anxious to witness the arrival at Liverpool once more of the big ship.

THE CONVICT THOMAS SKAIFE. — A memorial to the Home Secretary is in course of signature at Leeds, asking for a mitigation of the sentence passed upon Thomas Scaife, for forgeries upon the Leeds Banking Company. The mayor, Mr Beckett Denison, and others, have already signed the memorial, and it is said that the opinion is general that the sentence of fifteen years' penal servitude was too severe.

A POETIC TRAMP.—A week or two ago, we gave a few of the poetical effusions of a tramp rejoicing in the *nem de plume* of "Bow Street," which had been written in some of the "casual wards" he had visited. He is evidently a wit in his way, as his poetical criticisms on the treatment he receives sufficiently testify. We last heard of him in the midland counties, the statement being that he was bound for Wales. It would seem that on the 13th of October last year, he paid the borough of Gateshead a visit with his friend, pursuing a northern direction, for on the walls of the vagrant ward of that town we have his lastest *jeu de esprit*:—"Bow Street and Wakefield Charley, October 13, 1865, bound to Newcastle—

> Boards to lay on, whot a *treat*,
> Stones to break, and porridge to eat.
> By the old pauper we are all sold,
> Keeping us till the porridge turns cold.
> Bow Street."

The poetic tramp is evidently not particularly well satisfied with the beds provided, and seems to be thoroughly disgusted at the "old pauper" keeping them until the porridge had lost the heat which it would impart to the body more especially on a cold morning. As "Bow Street" was bound to Newcastle, probably he may have recorded his experience of that place on the walls as it his wont.

DU BARRY'S Delicious Health Restoring Revalenta Arabica Food, which saves fifty times its cost in other remedies, restores perfect digestion, strong nerves, sound lungs, healthy liver, refreshing sleep, functional regularity, and energy to the most disordered or enfeebled, removing speedily and effectually indigestion, (dyspepsia), habitual constipation, diarrhœa, all gastric derangements, fevers. hæmorrhoids. liver complaints, flatulency, nervousness, biliousness, fevers, sore throats, catarrhs, colds, influenza, noises in the head and ears, rheumatism, gout, impurities, eruptions, hysteria, neuralgia, irritability, sleeplessness, acidity, palpitation, heartburn, headache, debility, dropsy, cramps, spasms, nausea, and sickness, sinking, fits, cough, asthma, bronchitis, incipient consumption, scrofula, tightness of the chest, pains at the pit of the stomach, between the shoulders, &c. Why should invalids and persons suffering from gastric disorders waste their money and destroy their constitution by taking pills or other medicines, which it is well known aggravate an perpetuate diseases? Their expense may be saved, and all doctors' bills avoided, by invalids taking Du Barry's Food. Certificate No. 29,419—We find it the safest remedy. — Andrew Ure, M.D., F.R.S.; Dr Harvey's Dr Wurzer; Dr Shorland; Dr Campbell. We quote a few out of 50,000 cures:—Cure No. 57,313: "Tittenson.—I cannot express my gratitude for the benefit I have derived from Du Barry's Food. My appetite s perfectly restored, the pains in my leg, back, and chest are quite gone, and I am fast gaining strength and flesh.—Mrs A. Owen." Cure No. 54,812: Miss Virginia Zeguers, cured of consumption, after her medical advisers abandoned all hopes of recovery. Cure No. 49,832: "Of 50 years indescribable agony from dyspepsia, nervousness, asthma, cough, constipation, flatulency, spasms, sickness at the stomach, and vomiting."—Maria Joly, Wortham Ling, near Diss, Norfolk. Cure Mo 47,121: Miss Elizabeth Jacobs, of Nazing Vicarage, Waltham Cross, Herts, of extreme nervousness, indigestions, gatherings, low spirits, and nervous fancies. Cure No. 4,208: Of eight years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility, with cramps, spasms, and nausea.—Rev. John W. Flavell, Ridlington Rectory, Norfolk. Sold in canisters, 1lb., 2s. 9d.; 2lb., 4s. 6d.; 12lb., 22s.—BARRY DU BARRY and Co. No. 77, Regent-street, London; and all Grocers and Chemists in every town of the United Kingdom. Sold in this town by J. Ismay, Turnbull & Wood, Proctor & Son; R. Watson, A. Douglas, W. Bell, Thos. Potts, and T. E. Watson.

Miscellaneous News.

It is found that of the dry substance of the egg 40 per cent. is pure fat.

Parliament has been further prorogued to the 20th of November.

The manufacture of the wire for the Atlantic cable kept nearly 250 hands employed for eleven months; over 30,000 miles were supplied.

We are promised another last work by Rossini. He is reported to be still engaged on a cantata to commemorate the restoration of Venice to Italy.—*Orchestra.*

1,300 sheep, arrived from Antwerp, have been detained at Harwich, in consequence of the number of Prussian sheep having small-pox.

The daily return of the Registrar-General shows that on Saturday 26 deaths from cholera and 19 from diarrhœa were registered in London.

There will be a total eclipse of the moon on Monday, the 24th inst., which will be, however, invisible in England. and on Monday, Oct. 8th, there will be a partial eclipse of the sun. It will commence at four o'clock in the afternoon.

BRIEF BUT BLISSFUL.—The following marriage notice is taken from a North Carolina journal:—"By Dr. J. A. Sherrill, at twilight, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 28, 1866, at the house of the bride's widowed mother, Mr A. A. Gabrile to Miss Lizzie Milligan, after a short but delicious courtship."

VISIT OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES TO DUNROBIN CASTLE.—The Prince and Princess of Wales, we understand, will visit Dunrobin Castle on Monday next, travelling from Abergeldie via Inverness. Great preparations are being made at the Castle for their Royal Highnesses' reception.

The marriage of Miss Lily Egremont, third daughter of the Rev. Edward Egremont, vicar of Wroxeter, Salop, and of Reedness Hall, in the county of York, to Sir Henry George Harnage, Bart., of Belewardine Hall, and Cressage Park, Salop (only son of the late baronet), is fixed to take place at the Vicarage on the 4th Oct. next.

A GIRL STRUCK DEAD BY LIGHTNING. — A girl has been killed by lightning at Abram. near Wigan. Deceased was 14 years of age, daughter of Peter West, a collier of Abram Brow. An examination of the body showed that her hair was scorched, and that the upper portion of her chest was much burned, while the leather was stripped from one of her clogs.

EXTRAORDINARY DELICACY.—There is an old maiden lady at Redcar who declares that she wears spectacles because she objects to see anything with the naked eye! She thinks of removing the legs of her piano to Coatham. She was in great agony the other day because she heard that there was an undressed salmon in the mouth of the Tees.—*South Durham Herald.*

DEATH OF FRED LILLYWHITE.—This well-known compiler of the "Cricketers' Guide" died at Brighton early on Saturday morning. He had been labouring under severe illness for some time. The "Guide" says he was born at Hove, Sussex, on the 23rd of July, 1829; consequently he was in his 38th year.

The Royal pack, with their new, respected master Mr Harry King, who has succeeded the veteran Davis on his retirement, will commence forest-hunting the second week in October to blood the hounds, and the regular hunting season will commence with a meet at Salt Hill the first Monday in the following month. Both horses, which are at Cumberland Lodge, and hounds at Ascot kennel, are said to be in first-rate condition.

A WICKED WOMAN.—The Court of Assizes of the Department of the Indre-et-Loire has just tried a woman named Auguste Marquet for the murder of her own child, two years and a half old. It appears that for some time she had been at enmity with a female relative who lived in the neighbourhood, and she threw her own child down a well that suspicion might fall upon her relative. The prisoner was found guilty, with extenuating circumstances, and sentenced to ten years' hard labour.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE. — A supplement to the *Gazette* contains an Order in Council relative to the cattle trade in Scotland, and directs that all cattle exported for sale at any market where foreign cattle are, or have been within twenty-eight days so exposed, shall be slaughtered within four days, and it shall not be lawful to remove them alive. Another Order in Council prohibits the sale of sheep or lambs in Oxfordshire, except with the license of the Privy Council.

CHINESE MODE OF MAKING CHANGE.—A novel way of making change recently occurred at Hong Kong, China. An American having complained to a native judge of a tailor who had cheated him, the official sentenced the prisoner to fifty blows of the bastinado—a sentence which was at once executed, and the American charged fifty cents costs. The judge, not being able to change the dollar given him by the American, the latter humorously told him to take it take it out in the same manner. Accordingly the tailor was again tied down and received 50 more blows, thus making up in his own person the required change.

AN UNKNOWN MAN FOUND DROWNED. — On Tuesday Mr Herford, coroner of Manchester, held an inquest on the body of a man about 30 years old, whose name is not known. The deceased was found on Tuesday morning in the Manchester and Salford Junction Lock, in Great Mount-street, and removed to an outbuilding in Watson-street. The deceased appeared to have been in the water about nine or ten days; he wore clogs, knee breeches, and stockings, and in his pocket were found a knife, and 11½d. The body bore no marks of violence. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned.

THE GREAT EASTERN. — The arrival of the Great Eastern in the Mersey has given rise to a proposal to welcome the officers and the scientific men who have been engaged in the Atlantic telegraph expedition, by inviting them to a banquet. The suggestion is advocated by the local journals, and will be brought before a Committee of the Chamber of Committee on Monday in the practical form of a resolution. Captain Anderson is himself well known in Liverpool, from his long services in the Cunard line; and in no part of the country has the enterprise been the subject of more anxiety or its result the cause of greater rejoicing than in Liverpool.

A BRAVE IRISH POLICEMAN.—A house in Great Britain-street, Dublin, in which 29 persons resided, took fire the other day, and afforded the Fire Brigade an opportunity—of which they very energetically availed themselves—of recovering some of the prestige which they lost by their disastrous failures at the fire in Westmoreland-street. They arrived promptly, the escapes were in perfect order, and were bravely manned; and five of the inmates were rescued by their means out of a top window. A single constable rescued as many more. He got on the roof from that of the adjoining house, broke in the dormer [illegible], taking off his coat, he let it down through the opening, and by it dragged up five persons who could not have escaped in any other way. The whole of the other inmates escaped by the hall door.

DR. WARDER'S CHILDREN.—This case was further heard in Vice-Chancellor Stuart's chambers on Tuesday. Since it was last mentioned the parties had been before Vice-Chancellor Stuart, and he had sanctioned the children residing out of the jurisdiction of the Court. The next step will be for Miss Gunning, the guardian, to present a memorial to the Crown, and there is every expectation that the right to the forfeited property will be waived in favour of the children. The property left by Dr. Warder amounts in the whole to a considerable sum, and on the conclusion of the proceedings it is satisfactory to believe that it will come to the family. The Chief Clerk has signed the necessary documents in the case.

WHOLESALE HOUSEBREAKING BY A WOMAN.—At the City Police Court on Monday, Mary Ellen Steele and her husband, William Steele, were charged with being concerned in a number of cases of housebreaking. It was shown that the woman had plundered the houses of a number of poor people living in the neighbourhood of Rochdale Road and Oldham Road, and wearing apparel, which had been recovered from pawnbrokers, enough to fill a handcart, was produced in Court as evidence of her guilt. Four cases were proved against her, in each of which she had obtained access to the prosecutors' houses by means of false keys. It was stated that in one instance she had even stripped a child while it was asleep in bed, and taken away its clothes away. The charge of complicity against the husband failed, and he was discharged; the woman pleaded guilty, and was summarily committed for six months.

THE JEALOUS WIFE IN REAL LIFE.—A jealous wife at Dewsbury, who has shown more than woman's tact in obtaining a husband, has taken the best possible means to get rid of him. Her husband, when only her sweetheart, enlisted in the Royal Marines; but, bent upon having him, the young woman, who was in service in Yorkshire, went down to Deal, where her soldier laddie was quartered, purchased a suit of civilian's clothes out of her own earnings, and induced him to desert. They were married at Leeds, and afterwards settled down at a little village near Dewsbury. The romantic beginning took place last summer, the unromantic *denouement* occurred last week. Finding that her husband was carrying on an amatory correspondence with a young woman in the South of England, and was actually promising her marriage, the jealous wife denounced her husband as a deserter, and caused him to be arrested. He is now in Dewsbury lock-up, awaiting the orders of the War Office.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE.—On Saturday, two factory operatives, John Turner and Mary Elizabeth Ingham, were married at Accrington. After the marriage they went with four young men and women who had been with them to church to Preston. On arriving there they had something to drink—the young men had a good deal of beer, and subsequently they proceeded to the side of the river Ribble, hired a boat, and made preparations for a sail. It was decided that only four of them, Turner and his bride, and a young man named Robert Chippendale, with a woman named Elizabeth Aspden, who had been the bridesmaid, should go in the boat. When about half a mile down the river they made an effort to turn the boat, but as the stream was strong the craft drifted on broadside for a short distance, and then capsized. All the occupants of the boat were thrown into the water, and when they came up they grasped the boat and held to it for a few moments. Two men went to their rescue, and Chippendale and the woman Aspden were saved. The newly-married woman was a little further off, and before they could get to her she sank, and did not again appear. Turner, her husband, was, however, rescued.

A NOBLE FISHERMAN.—The mackerel fishing still continues to be prosecuted with unprecedented success. Throughout the course of the week the takes have averaged from 40 to 100 dozen, and the prices have ranged from 1s 4d to 4s per dozen. The fish are now got much further off, however, than they were at first. On Thursday the scene at the harbour was a very busy one. Large numbers of the boats which had been fishing for herring off the Berwickshire coast had been fishing for mackerel on their way home, and brought in their takes for sale here. As the whole of them had large takes, the quantity landed was consequently enormous. Among others who entered the harbour was the Marquis of Bowmont, who had arrived at Bloxmouth Park on the previous evening for the purpose of engaging in the fishing. As the boat shot out of the quay with the marquis seated in the stern, and rigged out in full fisher fashion including sou'-wester, blue blouse, oil-skins, fisherman; boots, and all, it very soon became the object of special attention. The marquis's usual good luck seemed to have followed him, as the boat landed about 80 dozen of beautiful mackerel.—*Edinburgh Evening Courant.*

SAVED FROM BEING BURIED ALIVE.—In France people are in a great hurry to bury one another. Last week at Seilles, the child of a lady was taken ill at six, and was supposed to be dead at ten. Burial was proposed at once, when the distracted mother, not believing in the death of her child, poured a few drops of wine into the child's mouth; the child then breathed, and was saved from being buried alive.

A bottle, containing the following message, was picked up near Ventnor, Isle of Wight, a few days ago:—"Her first voige to England. June 17th, 1866. The Spanish Queen, bound for Brazil with timber from Quebeck, having left on the 5 of March, and, owing to the rough weather, which has lasted nine days, the old ship leaks like a sive, and we are settling down fast. All hands are worn out at the pumps, and captain is ill upon deck, but is riting a note to put it in a flask. It is my last wish if this bottle is picked up that it may be published in some papers, as I have a Dear father and mother, and I should like them to know that I died happy. There is no hope for us. I shall not thrown this over till the last. Hands in number, 23.—I remain yours, GEORGE J. MILLS."

THE RAILWAYS AND THE DONCASTER RACES.—To no preceding Doncaster race meeting have the railway companies brought greater numbers from all parts of the country than during the week just ended. It is computed that about 50,000 passengers were brought into Doncaster on Wednesday se'ennight, and an equal number conveyed away in the evening of that day; on Friday at least 20,000 were brought, and as many departed in the evening; whilst on Saturday the traffic was enormous, and special trains were run north and south for the conveyance of horses. No fewer than 110 trains left the station on Wednesday night, and 54 on Friday night, and not a single accident occurred, a most remarkable circumstance, when it is considered that from the locomotive sidings 28 trains were dispatched in little over one hour. The receipts at the Grand Stand, the enclosure, and other stands are not made known by the Corporation, but it is believed that they are little, if any, below last year. The Corporation have netted a very large sum, and it is already contemplated to carry out further improvements, as suggested by a deputation who recently visited the Ascot meeting.—*Sheffield Independent.*

COMMITTAL FOR TRIAL ON THE WEDDING DAY. — At the Barnsley Court House on Monday, Helen Thompson, a young woman about 19 years of age, was charged with stealing a quantity of merino and other articles, the property of her employers, Messrs. M'Lintock, fancy goods manufacturers, Barnsley. It appeared that prisoner was a sewing hand in the establishment, and some goods having been missed information was given to the police, and Sergeant Greenwood proceeded to her residence on Saturday last, and charged her with theft. On searching her room, he found three-quarters of a gross of worsted braid and several other articles, which he produced. He then went to the house of a woman, named Musgrove, an acquaintance of the prisoner, where two pieces of merino were given up. All the articles were identified by the Messrs. M'Lintock and their manager as the property of the firm. The prisoner appeared to be in the greatest agony whilst the case was being heard, and her position excited a good deal of sympathy. The Magistrate informed her that it was his duty to commit her to take her trial at the next sessions. She was to have been married in the morning, and on returning to the lock-up she was visited by the bridegroom that was to be and those who were to have formed the wedding party.

THE HERRING FISHING ON THE NORTH COAST.—A correspondent in the North sends us (*Pall Mall Gazette*) some particulars of the prospects of the herring fishery. Reports from the north-east coast are to the effect that the season now drawing to a close has been less prolific than usual, especially in shallow water fishing. The dirty weather which has prevailed with little intermission during what are called by force of usage rather than by any warrant of fact, the summer months has had the effect of driving the shoals of herrings out into deeper water where the mere herring boat or coble cannot safely follow them. Off Shields the takes had been considerably below the average, and prices have been regulated accordingly, to the pecuniary loss of the fishermen, whose produce is here disposed of by special contract with merchants, and not by public auction. On one night, now about a fortnight ago, the boats came into the midst of an enormous shoal of herring; the sea was illuminated by the phosphorescent light, or mer-fire, as it is called, and the nets were speedily filled to repletion, some of the boats bringing in as many as 24,000 fish. This happened on a Saturday morning, when the demand for the inland markets is not so great as on any other day in the week. Consequently, no more than 2s per hundred was realized. In this part of the sea the Scotch boats have come up, and, being able to fish in deep water, have been more successful than the local craft. The latter are now stowing away their nets and preparing bait for white fishing. From Whitby, that great emporium of the fishing trade, similar accounts arrive. Here, however, the number of deep-sea craft is so great that the supply of fish at the morning auction sales, though smaller than in former years, is still enormous. The despatch of forty-five railway trucks, heavily laden with fresh fish, is a matter of daily routine; but in good seasons as many as three trains have been sent off in one day. About 100 Penzance yawls, in accordance with their practice of pursuing the herring in its course round the coast, are now at Whitby. There are a few French craft among them, and in all there are upwards of 300 vessels daily engaged in fishing at this port.

SOMNAMBULISM EXTRAORDINARY.—At a farm house in the vicinity of Guildford, a few evenings ago, a large roll of butter was brought in at tea. The careful wife proceeded to cut the butter in two, in order that one half of it only might remain on the table. The knife grated upon something in the very centre of the butter, and in the very heart of the lump she found a gold watch and chain, very carefully rolled up, but not enveloped in paper or any other coverings! At this juncture Sarah B——, the domestic, entered the room, and uttering a sharp exclamation darted off again precipitately. Scarce had the farmer time to remark upon Sarah's strange conduct than she returned, breathless with haste and anxiety, ejaculating, "It's mine mum! it's mine" Mrs —— remembered to have heard Sarah say that she had been left a gold watch and chain by a deceased relative, that she was always in terror of losing it, that she did not wear it, as not suitable to a person in her station in life, and that for safety she kept it locked up in her box under her clothes. Now for the solution of the mystery. Sarah had been in the habit, when under the influence of strong emotion, of walking in her sleep, although this had never been noticed by the family. On the previous Monday she had been reading in the newspaper some dreadful tales of burglary with violence. On the same night she had a most vivid dream. She thought that the house had been entered by burglars, and that she saw them through a chink in the door enter her master and mistress's room. They had crape on their faces, bludgeons in their hands, and were most determined-looking ruffians. She tried to scream, but could not, and though very anxious for her master and mistress's welfare, her thoughts seemed to revert, in spite of everything to the necessity of saving her watch. At length she dreamed she hit upon an expedient. She quietly got out of bed, unlocked her box, took out the watch, slipped on her dress, and softly glided down stairs and made her way down to the dairy. She there took a roll of butter of the Saturday's making, wound the chain round the watch, and deftly inserted both watch and chain in the very centre of the butter, making up the roll precisely in the form that it was before. She then thought that she passed swiftly upstairs, and reached her room unmolested. On inspecting the watch found in the butter, she had no hesitation in declaring that it was hers. Farmer —— and his wife accordingly handed over to Sarah B—— the watch and chain.—*West Surrey Times.*

OUT ON SPREE.—A curious letter, signed "A Voice from the Provinces," appears in the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The writer, finding that the late rain-fall made some repairs to his house an immediate necessity, sent for assistance, but received the pleasant intelligence from a master builder that he was not in a position to give it, as some of his men were busily employed, and that his three best hands were "out on spree," but that he would send them as soon as they returned. "On inquiry," says the writer, "I found that going on spree, if not too frequently indulged in, was regarded with a wonderful leniency. It was, indeed, considered as a vexatious weakness, but not as a degradation or a moral crime, and it is only clever workmen who venture to do it, as a slow stupid fellow would certainly be dismissed for the offence. The workmen here may be roughly divided in two classes—those who are slow, unintelligent, but steady, and those who are clever and skilful, but of irregular habits. The last are frequently men who have worked in London and been dismissed for their shortcomings in this respect; in the provinces they readily obtain employment whenever they choose to work with anything like regularity. These are the men who go on spree, and it is lamentable that when they have all the ability to rise they should persistently keep themselves down by this moral weakness. The reason we have so few industrious, quick, steady journeymen here is this: in the country the merits of any individual character are soon observed and recognised. A man of this kind gets well known. At 26 he starts on his own account, rises with amazing rapidity, and in five years or less will become a master and have men in his own employment. Anyone who has had much to do with workmen or male outdoor servants knows very well what a spree means. It means continuously drinking for four or five days, beginning early in the day before a man is sober, going on till he is helpless, and staying his hand only until he can begin again; it means taking the round of the public-houses, and spending a good deal of hard-earned money; it means sleeping unwashed and unchanged in the loft, the kennel, or the gutter; it often means fighting, bloodshed, and a few weeks in prison; finally, it frequently winds up with an attack of *delirium tremens*, or, as they designate it, 'a fit of the horrors.' I remember a man who was a first-rate with horses, but who rarely kept a good place on account of his incorrigible tendency to this habit, bargaining with his employer to be allowed two sprees in the year—to wit, a week at Christmas and another at Whitsuntide. At the stated periods he regularly absented himself, made the round of the public-houses in the neighbouring villages, slept off his intoxication in some shed, and returned famished and ashamed to his place at the end of the week. The arrangement lasted very well for several years, but at last a spree in the middle of the half year abruptly terminated his engagement. Fortunately, though women have begun to go on strike, they have not yet commenced going on spree; but I have been told that in some districts, at certain festive seasons, a whole gathering both male and female turn out on the spree; the results of which are somewhat unfavourable to morality. Some years ago I was travelling on horseback in the wildest part of the Dale country, and happened to see something of the kind. The occasion was a wedding, and after the ceremony the bridegroom and attendants proceeded on foot from village to village and beerhouse to beerhouse, partaking of refreshments at each place. The men gradually became drunk and noisy, the women with their sunburnt faces and clumsy limbs, 'dawked out,' as the expression is, in their sadly soiled and drabbled dresses of cotton or muslin, presented latterly an ugly and painful picture. I came into contact with the party at different points four or five times. The last view I had of them was towards evening. The men had quarrelled among themselves, and were beginning to fight; the women had mostly disappeared. The bridegroom was seated in an arm chair with his glass on a table by him, and was weeping bitterly while the bride sat on a stool at his feet, gazing forlornly and in silence at her lord."

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

The *Consett Guardian* contains all the News of the Week, Reports of Local and Police Intelligence, &c., and all the Latest Foreign and Home News.

Resident Agent......Mr. R. JACKSON.
Office ....FRONT-STREET, CONSETT.

The *Guardian* Office, Front-street, Consett, is open till ten o'clock on Thursday evening, for the reception of news and advertisements. Orders may be left at the Library, Blackhill, up to 7·30 on Friday morning.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

OUR AGENT (MR. R. JACKSON) intends Visiting the following Places during the Next Week, and will be happy to receive Orders for Advertisements, &c., for the *Consett Guardian* :—

Tuesday, Sept. 25 ....Leadgate.
" " ....Consett.
Wednesday " 26 ....Shotley Bridge.
" " ....Blackhill.
" " ....Consett.
Thursday " 27 ....Dipton.
" " ....Catchgate.
" " ....Annfield Plain.
" " ....Lanchester.
" " ....Leadgate.
" " ....Consett.

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1866.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

Full Report of Major Joicey's Dinner next week.

DISGRACEFUL.—A correspondent, under this signature, calls our attention to "the singing and begging nuisance" which he says is practised by the workmen of Consett. We regret that such is the case, but the publication of the letter would, we believe, be of little service, and might stir up feelings not at all desirable.

Local and District News.

WATER FOR ANNFIELD PLAIN.—We hear that the secretary of the Consett Water Works has, in company with one of the directors, visited Annfield Plain and other places in that district, for the purpose of waiting upon parties likely to require water, and that such promises have been obtained as will probably warrant this company in carrying the water to Annfield Plain.

GATESHEAD WORKING MEN'S CLUB.—The members of the Gateshead Working Men's Club Dramatic Society gave an entertainment on Wednesday night in the hall of the Working Men's Institute. The entertainment embraced the drama "The Warlock of the Glen," a concert, and the farce "The Dead Shot." The amateurs performed their parts in a highly creditable manner before a large audience.

ODDFELLOWSHIP.—NOTTINGHAM IMPERIAL UNION.—On Tuesday evening, a lodge of the above order was established at the house of Brother Alexander Petrie, Ingham Arms, Hewgill Terrace, New Bridge Street, Newcastle. There was a large number of candidates, who were duly initiated into the mysteries of the order. The officers were elected for the ensuing six months, Brother Newton being chosen the medical attendant to the lodge.

FORESTRY.—The brethren of the Court Earl Percy held their quarterly meeting on Tuesday evening, at the house of Bro. Gray, Three Bulls' Heads, Percy Street, Newcastle. After the routine business of the court had been transacted, Bro. Coyle read the balance sheet, which was of a very satisfactory character, there appearing a balance of £6 5s 1½d to the credit of the court. Several brethren of the courts Ralph Dodds, Morrison, Crow's Nest, and Sir William Armstrong, attended the meeting, and expressed their congratulations at the continued progress of the Earl Percy Court. Songs and sentiments contributed to the entire success of the evening's meeting.

SUPPER AND PRESENTATIONS.—On Friday night last the teachers of the Primitive Methodist Society, Shotley Bridge, entertained Mr W. Urwin and Miss Oley to a coffee supper in the school-room, after which the former was presented with a beautiful P.M. hymn book, and the latter with a hymn book and Bible, handsomely bound together. The parties referred to had devoted a deal of time and attention to the musical instruction of the children while preparing for the late anniversary, and the teachers desired in this way to give expression to their gratitude. The presentation was made by Mr E. Wardhaugh, jun., superintendent of the school. Mr Urwin replied in suitable terms.

SUDDEN DEATH AT HEXHAM.—On Tuesday morning an elderly man named Lawrence Cooke was found dead in his bed, in his dwelling-house, in the Back Street, Hexham. The deceased, who was a tinner to business, has of late been rather addicted to drink, and has recently done very little at his business, but has assisted the carriers who quarter at the George and Dragon Inn, and thus earned a little for his support. On Monday night he had had a glass or two, and retired to rest by himself, and in the morning was found dead in bed. He had been complaining recently of pains in his chest, but his general health was good.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—*Holloway's Pills.*—Every one has frequently experienced the sudden personal change from gaiety to gloom. The wind and weather oftentimes receive the blame, when a faulty digestion is alone the cause of the depression. Holloway's Pills can be honestly recommended for regulating a disordered stomach and improving digestion. They entirely remove the sense of fulness and oppression after eating. They clear the furred tongue and act as a wholesome stimulant to the liver and as a gentle aperient to the bowels; they healthfully rouse both body and mind. Holloway's Pills are the best known antidotes for want of appetite, nausea, flatulency, heartburn, languor, depression, and apathy, so characteristic of chronic derangement of the digestion.

DEATH ON BOARD A NEWCASTLE SHIP.—On Tuesday morning, the ship Trowbridge, Capt. Gordon, of Newcastle, arrived in the Tyne from Quebec, with timber. The captain reports that on the 39th of August, while in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, his wife, who had accompanied him on the voyage, died of consumption. Her husband had preserved her body in spirits until the arrival of the vessel in the Tyne. Mrs Gordon, who was thirty years of age, belonged to Aberdeen, whither her body will be sent for interment. The captain further reports that at ten o'clock on the morning of the 21st of April, while the vessel was outward bound to Spain, the second mate, Frederick Jetter, while in the act of unbending the foresail, was thrown overboard and drowned. The accident occurred in the Gut of Gibraltar. Deceased was a young man, and a native of Hamburg.

APPREHENSION OF NEWCASTLE THIEVES AT HARTLEPOOL—RECOVERY OF STOLEN PROPERTY.—On Tuesday morning information was received at Hartlepool of an extensive robbery having been committed on the premises of Mrs Lisle, Gateshead, and the three suspected parties were named Mary Jane Elliott, Jane Wilson, and Mary Abden, and a description was given of them. The property they had stolen consisted of some expensive dresses, shawls, and other apparel, a leather bag with silver chain and locket, a gentleman's gold ring, a purse containing five sovereigns, and a quantity of silver and various other articles. Mr Sergeant Elliott, of the borough police force, succeeded in apprehending the three prisoners in the Golden Lion Inn, and got possession of all the stolen property.

BAPTIST MISSIONS.—A meeting was held in the Baptist Chapel, Highgate, Shotley Bridge, on Friday evening last, for the purpose of sympathising with the above missions. The chapel was crowded with a very respectable audience, over which the Rev. J. Brooks, pastor of the church, presided. The Rev. J. Mursell, of Kettering, delivered a deeply interesting speech upon the success of the Baptist mission; after which the Rev. S. W. Holt, a coloured minister of a Baptist church in Jamaica, interested the company with a relation of his sufferings when a slave, of his having found a friend in the missionary, his joyful feelings when freed, and of the moral, intellectual, and spiritual good that had been accomplished through the missionary enterprise. He defended the blacks against the charges of laziness and sedition that had been brought against them lately. A collection amounting to £2 4s. 4d. was taken at the close of the meeting.

THE STRIKE AND TOTAL ABSTINENCE.—Mr Mark Littlefair, the well-known advocate of temperance, has been visiting the villages of this locality during the past week, and has been holding open-air and indoor meetings for the purpose of drawing the minds of the operatives out of employment to the subject of teetotalism. Large numbers have attended the meetings, and at one held at Mr Barkas's corner, Blackhill, on Wednesday afternoon, some of the men voluntarily cried out :—"Oh, aye, sir, if we had taen thy advice three years ago, there wud hae been no strike." Success has attended the efforts of this zealous advocate wherever he has gone, numbers having signed the pledge at Highgate, Blackhill, Leadgate, and Shotley Bridge. During the last three months Mr Littlefair has been the means of upwards of 500 signing the pledge, several of whom have joined religious societies. On Thursday afternoon Mr Littlefair addressed a large number of working men near the Front-street, and also showed how rum, gin, brandy, and whisky, could be made in a minute by chemicals. Numbers of men tasted the liquors, and testified they were the "real thing." No doubt they were judges.

SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE OF A YOUNG MAN.—On Thursday week, a young man named James Southern, about 19 years of age, residing with his parents at Oxhill, left his home in the evening for the purpose of visiting Lanchester flower show. He was seen in Lanchester by several persons during the evening, and was also in various public houses in that place, at one of which he quarrelled with another person. From the injuries received during the encounter, he bled somewhat freely. He afterwards visited the house of Mrs Fenwick, who very kindly offered to dress his wounds; but Southern would not wait, and was afterwards seen at the ball at nearly two o'clock on Friday morning. He has not been seen since, and fears are entertained that he has been drowned in the Browney, which by reason of the heavy rains was very high on that evening, and which runs close by where the ball was held. The water has been, we understand, dragged for the recovery of the body, but without success. It is rumoured that a person states that the missing young man accompanied him almost home, near Oxhill, on the Friday morning; if so, enquiries should be instituted elsewhere than in Lanchester for information of his whereabouts.

GAZETTE APPOINTMENT.—1st Newcastle-upon-Tyne A.V.C.—R. M'Leod Grigor, gent., to be assistant surgeon. 2nd Newcastle-upon-Tyne A.V.C.—J. Carrick, gent., to be second lieutenant.

CAPTURE OF A LARGE TROUT.—Since the formation of the Derwent Angling Association, the fish in the Derwent have greatly increased in number. On Saturday last a trout was captured near the paper mill, by Mr Joseph Jackson, which measured 13¾ inches in length, and weighed 12 ozs.

A HASTY RETREAT.—On Tuesday a notice was given to a person, who had used his best endeavours to persuade the men to remain on strike, that if he valued his own safety he must be out of Consett within an hour. The hint, we understand, was taken, and within the time allowed he had "skedaddled," by train, to more comfortable quarters.

TEETOTAL MEETING AT KNITSLEY.—On Wednesday evening, a meeting of the above description was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Knitsley—Mr. B. Armstrong, of Iveston, in the chair. The meeting which was an excellent one in the opinion of the audience, was addressed by the chairman; Messrs. J. Winter, Blackhill; G. Turner, Iveston; and J. Evans, Consett. Four persons signed the pledge at the close of the meeting.

WORTHY OF IMITATION.—We have been informed that one of the managing directors of the Consett Iron Company, in the early part of this week, visited Mrs. Davis, the widow of the unfortunate man who committed suicide on Friday last, for the purpose of sympathising with her in her bereavement. The gentleman we understand, administered words of comfort, told her not to trouble herself about the house, as he would allow her to remain in it for some time, and left her something substantial. We wonder if all employers of labours act in this praiseworthy manner. This fact is the more worthy of notice as it has occured at a time when, from the present attitude of the workmen, very few masters would have shown any anxiety for the welfare of their families.

PRESENTATION.—On Monday night a number of the friends of the Rev. Moses Lupton, who for nearly half a century has ministered among the Primitive Methodists, met in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Nelson Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for the purpose of presenting to him a substantial token of their regard on his retirement from the pastorate. The rev Thomas Smith occupied the chair, and before handing a purse of gold (£60) to the Rev. M. Lupton, spoke of the hard work he had known in the days of his early connection with the church. The presentation having been made, Mr Lupton responded to the handsome gift in appropriate terms. [Mr Lupton, our readers will remember, was recently superintendent of the Primitive Methodists in the Shotley Bridge Circuit, and during his residence by h's straightforward manner, his talents as a minister, and business qualifications, secured the good will of the people.]

EXCITING CHASE.—On Thursday last a chase of an exciting character took place at Lanchester. It appears that a person named John Smith, of Berryedge, had been at Lanchester Court as witness in one of the cases before the magistrates, and had afterwards got into a public-house immediately opposite the Court, where he partook rather too freely of the intoxicating beverage. On coming out of the house he deliberately thrust his hand through one of the squares of glass in the window and ran off, which was observed by Sergeant Woodward, who immediately gave chase, and after a gallant run he was captured, and lodged in durance vile. On Friday he was brought before E. T. Smith, Esq., and charged with the offence, for which he was fined 2s 6d and costs, and 1s damages.—He was also charged by Sergeant Simpson with tearing his coat while taking him into custody, for which he was fined 5s. and costs, and 10s. damages.

PLEASURE EXCURSION.—The men in the employment of Mr McMurdo, boot and shoemaker, Nun Street, Newcastle, had a trip to Blaydon on Wednesday. On arriving at that place the company had lunch in true pic-nic fashion. Having satisfied the cravings of the inner man, and enjoyed themselves with various amusements, they had a pleasant range through the woods, the party having decided on a nutting excursion. The time was pleasantly spent in this manner, the bosky banks of the Tyne affording a plentiful supply of that commodity. Those who did not participate in the pleasures of nutting enjoyed themselves in viewing the scenery of the neighbourhood. After strolling through Blaydon and Stanley Burn, and paying a visit to Gibside, the company made their way back to Blaydon, and arrived home shortly after six o'clock, much gratified with their excursion.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS IN YORKSHIRE.—The remarkably cold and winter weather of Friday and Saturday was succeeded on Saturday evening and Sunday morning by a series of severe thunderstorms and heavy rains, which appear to have prevailed generally over the North and East Ridings. Although the lightning was frequent, so far as is yet known no accident of moment has occurred. The chief damage would be done to the crops in the fields, ann the newly-built stacks of corn as yet unthatched, which would be thoroughly soaked. The rains descended so heavily at Malton on Saturday night that the drains were incapable of taking the water, and the streets for a time were converted into rivers, the footpaths in some places being overflowed. Some of the inhabitants had great difficulty in keeping the water out of their houses. During Sunday rain continued to fall almost incessantly, and prayers for fair weather were offered up in churches and some of the Dissenting places of worship. The rainfall at Malton in September, 1865, was 0·17 inches; this year. In the first half of the month, nearly three inches (2·87) has fallen, considerably more than the average for September wholly for many years back. Monday was fair, but the rivers were rising fast, and there was some apprehension of another flood.

PEASES' WEST FLOWER SHOW.—The first annual show of the Peases' West Floral and Horticultural Society was held at Stanley, near Crook, on Saturday afternoon last, in some buildings in course of erection by Messrs. Joseph Pease and partners; and considering the short space of time (three weeks) in which the whole affair has been got up, it was a most successful affair, not only in a pecuniary sense, but also as regards the quantity and quality of the articles on show. The flowers, taken as a whole, were very good, but the vegetables certainly took the palm, they being really first-class, indeed, we hardly thought they could have produced such samples. The principal prizes were taken by Messrs. Crofton, Hepplewhite, Elliott, Appleby, Coates and Wilson. Mr. Hunter received an extra prize for wax flowers (fruit). There was a splendid tray of wild fruit (24 varieties), for which Mr. J. Wilson received an extra prize, and also another prize for a floral vase. Henry Pease, Esq., Stanhope Castle; R. Wright, Esq., Darlington; T. Douglas, Esq., J. C. Crofton, Esq., &c., visited the show in the afternoon. The Stanley String Band under the leadership of Mr. W. Wade, played during the afternoon. Every praise is due to the secretary, Mr. J. C. Crofton, and the committee of management, for the manner in which they brought their first show to such a termination.

FORESTERS' PIC-NIC AT RYTON.—The members of the different lodges in Newcastle of the Ancient Order of Foresters had an excursion to Ryton on Monday. They were accompanied by their friends, who mustered in strong force on the occasion. It was estimated that altogether several hundreds of pleasure seekers were conveyed by the North Eastern Railway Company, who ran several special trains to accommodate such a large number of visitors. Arrived at Ryton, the company divided themselves into parties, some betaking themselves to enjoy the beautiful scenery and walks for which the village has become famous; but perhaps the greater portion at once went on to the Willows, where there were several kite contests, aunt sally, cricket, and other games. The greatest attraction, however, was the sweet music discoured by a private band, very suitable for pic-nic's, flower shows, &c., under the leadership of Mr E. Pott's, band-master of the 1st Newcastle Rifle Band. A large marquee was also erected near the station, wherein tea was provided for as many as felt disposed to partake of it. The day was delightfully fine, excepting a short but heavy shower which fell about three o'clock, and then the umbrageous foliage of the rich old trees afforded a good shelter, so that very few got much of a wetting. Altogether everybody enjoyed themselves immensely. The arrangements for the trip were under the general superintendence of Brothers H. Lambert and Anderson, and their management gave general satisfaction.

THE RETIREMENT OF MR M. DUNN.—The announcement of the retirement of Mr Matthias Dunn from the office of the Government Inspector of Mines for the Northumberland district has been received with mingled satisfaction and regret. During the long period—upwards of fifteen years—Mr Dunn has acted as inspector he has displayed great ability in securing the adoption of the most approved means for ensuring the safety of the colliers, and the safe and economic working of the mines, and although instances have certainly occurred of his coming into collision with the coalowners and their viewers, it may safely be asserted that, upon the whole, he has given great satisfaction, both to masters and men. It was only in very rare instances that he resorted to litigation, and never except in the full belief that the enforcement of his views was requisite for the safety of the pits. All are most willing to admit that he has been a most useful public servant, that he has done much to improve, not only the ventilation, but the working generally of the North, and that he is thoroughly deserving of the retiring pension which has been granted to him, although the feeling was so general that his advancing age—some fourscore years—prevented him from longer exercising the energy requisite in so important an officer as an inspector of coal mines, that satisfaction is expressed at his retirement to give place to a younger man.—*Mining Journal.*

A MAN MISSING FROM CONSETT.—Between six and seven o'clock on Thursday evening, a person named David Davis, a mill furnaceman, employed in No. 4 Plate Mill, Consett Iron Works, went into a room in his residence and laid upon a table his pocket-book, watch, and three half-crowns, and then went out. On his not returning his wife became alarmed, and sought some of her friends early on Friday morning to search for him, which they did, but without finding any clue to his whereabouts. During the forenoon it was rumoured that he had been seen about Knitsley Mill, about two miles from Consett, whereupon a band set out for that place, but found him not. They also searched through the adjoining neighbourhood, and met with the same result. Companies of men were despatched in various directions, but none brought tidings of having found him. In the afternoon a number of men went to Knitsley Mill again, and on searching the dam, found him in a corner in a sitting posture. He was immediately drawn out, and was discovered to have been dead some time. There is only about four feet of water in the dam, and the position in which the unfortunate man was found showed that he had been resolutely determined to terminate his career. A conveyance was procured, and when the cart containing the body came down the village, the street was crowded with spectators. The reason assigned for deceased's having perpetrated the rash act, was, that for several weeks he had been labouring under a melancholy, occasioned, no doubt, through the strike. An inquest was held upon the body of deceased on Monday, before Mr Favell, coroner, and a jury. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned, being in a state of unsound mind for several weeks." The funeral took place on Monday afternoon, which was attended by a great number of the friends of deceased and the ironworkers. Davis was respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintences for his peaceableness and general goodness of character. He has left a widow and three children.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN BRAZIL.

Further accounts from Rio are more favourable to the Brazilians. Instead of the allied army having lost eight thousand killed and wounded, the total is stated to be four thousand two hundred.

THE ILLNESS OF COUNT BISMARK.

The *Daily Telegraph* has received the following despatch :—

BERLIN, Wednesday night.

Count Bismark's illness has become very serious, so much so that in official circles the gravest apprehensions are felt as to his recovery.

MEXICO.

PARIS, Sept. 20.

The *Moniteur* contains the following :—The President of the Mexican Rentes and obligations stated that, no remittance having been made to him by the Mexican Government for payment of arrears and coupons due on the 1st Oct. next, this payment will be deferred.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

The *Times* says that owing to the firm attitude of the Prussians, the peace negotiations had made a most important advance. The Italians agree to pay 73 000,000 francs on account of the Austrian debt in Venetia. Some settlement has also been made with respect to the rectification of the frontier of the Trent district, though perhaps not such as to remove all causes of future dissention. The Italians will have Riva, and all the northern shore of Lake Garda, but will lose ground on the mountain passes above Bargamo Tirescia.

THE STRIKE AT CONSETT.

No arrangement has up to this time been made between the employers and employed at the Consett Works. We have now completed the tenth week since the strike commenced, and yet there is no prospect of a termination of this deplorable struggle. Meanwhile, the trade of the district is suffering most fearfully from this appalling calamity. The ministers of the Church of England and the Catholic Church have each delivered an address at a public meeting, and advised the men to start work, but they still stand out, as fully resolved as at the commencement. But what can be said in favour of the men who, rather than resume work at the terms offered by the employers, will adopt any means of obtaining a subsistence, descending so low as to send out their children in other parts of the country to beg. In fact, begging and singing have become such a nuisance to the adjacent districts as to have become the subject of general complaint. Some of the workmen, we hear, have been begging professedly for the support of the working men of Consett; and after receiving a good sum have gone off to the public-house and wasted what was intended for the workmen. Such proceedings reflect no credit on the persons guilty of this dishonest practice, and the sooner it is put a stop to the better.

MEETINGS OF WORKMEN.

On Saturday last, a meeting of the workmen, convened by the bellman, was held in the Town Hall, Consett. The meeting had been called by some of the men, who had, we understand, invited the Rev. F. Steggall, of the established Church, and the Rev. Thomas Smith, of the Catholic Church, to address the meeting. The chair was occupied by Mr McIver, secretary of the Puddlers' Association. In the course of their addresses, the rev. gentlemen and Mr McNally spoke of the extreme poverty and starvation at present existing in Consett and the neighbourhood, and strongly advised the men to go to work, rather than starve their fellow-workmen. Mr Mallon and Mr McCartin also addressed the meeting, and urged the continuance of the strike. The meeting was large and, as considerable difference of opinion prevailed, the excitement was great. No satisfactory conclusion was arrived at.

ANOTHER MEETING OF WORKMEN.—On Thursday, a meeting of the members of the Ironworkers' Association was held in the Long Room of the Co-operative Store, Consett. From what we could gather, we understand that there was a person belonging to Jarrow present at the meeting, who had been at the meeting of the London Trades' Union. Mr McIver proposed that the men commence work, but the proposition was scarcely uttered when he was assailed by a perfect storm of hisses, which rendered the proceedings anything but harmonious; and afterwards a resolution was carried to remain out on strike rather than accept the terms offered by the masters.

DEATH OF GEORGE S. THOMPSON, ESQ., M.D.

We regret to have to record this week the death of Mr George Septimus Thompson, surgeon, of Burnopfield, which melancholy event took place at his residence on Saturday morning last, at the early age of 28 years. Deceased was a native of Sunderland, and, when quite a youth commenced his apprenticeship with Dr. Watson, of Burnopfield. On the completion of his apprenticeship, he passed satisfactorily through his studies and examinations at Newcastle-on-Tyne and returned to Dr. Watson, with whom he was assistant for some time, and eventually he became a partner with his master. In the discharge of his onerous and important duties, as surgeon in an extensive practice, deceased was most attentive, making himself at home in the house of the miner with as much ease as at the hall of the gentleman. By the working men and their families at the collieries under his charge he is most deeply regretted; his winning manners and sympathy with the afflicted having become so well known amongst them. Mr Thompson had only a few days ago spent a day or two in shooting, and, we understand, caught a cold, which brought on fever and inflammation of the brain, which was the cause of his death. He was attended by Dr. Watson, assisted by Dr. White and Dr. T. Y. Thompson, both of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the latter gentleman being his brother. His death occurred at a quarter to five o'clock on Saturday morning, and, by a strange coincidence, the clock stopped precisely at that time. Deceased leaves a widow to mourn his loss, to whom he had only been united for seventeen months.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, and was largely and respectably attended by the leading gentlemen of the neighbourhood; large numbers of the workmen employed in the collieries were also present to testify their respect for deceased. The melancholy *cortege* was met at the entrance to the Tanfield church by the Rev. J. Mathwin, Rev. J. A. McGowan, and the Rev. E. McGowan, who read the beautiful and impressive burial service of the Church of England, and amid the tears of friends and companions, and the sorrows of a numerous concourse of people, his body was lowered into the grave "in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection."

SHOTLEY BRIDGE PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY.—Before A. TOWN, T. WILSON, and R. WALLIS, Esqs.

ASSAULT.—Bridget McGill, of Shotley Bridge, married woman, was charged by Margaret Wallace, of the same place, with assaulting her on the 14th inst. Dismissed, to pay the costs between them.

TRESPASS.—Frederick Winch, Thomas Brown, and John Wm. Brown, Shotley Bridge, were charged by P.C. Charlton with trespassing in a turnip field, rooting up and carrying away three turnips, on the 9th September, the property of T. Wilson, Esq., Shotley Hall. At the hearing of the case Mr Wilson retired from the bench in both cases. Fined 2s 6d each and costs.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Guardians of the Lanchester Union was held in their Board Room, on Thursday.

Present—Rev. J. Thompson (presiding), Major Joicey, Messrs N. Clark, G. Hobson, E. Leybourne, R. H. Gee, T. Humphrey, J. Calvert, W. J. Joicey, J. Parker, E. Charlton, J. Cumming, and R. Dickinson.

The minutes of last meeting were read over, and signed by the chairman.

The Chairman reported that the treasurer had a balance of £331 17s 5½d in hand, and that the whole of the townships were paid up.

Mr N. Clark gave notice that at next board meeting he would move "that the rate of 4d in the pound as passed at last meeting be reconsidered." He understood that it would require a rate of 9d in the pound for the half-year, and that 4d in the pound for the quarter would be insufficient.

Mr Dickinson gave notice that he would bring forward at the meeting, or that day month, the question of the salary of the clerk with a view to its readjustment.

A letter was received from Dr Renton in some deficiency of payment made to him for vaccination.

The Clerk, in reply, stated that Dr. Renton had received payment for the whole of the cases which he had successfully performed since he was appointed by the Board. The amount not paid was for vaccination performed before he was appointed by the Board.

On account of the lamented death of Dr. Thompson, of Burnopfield, it was determined, according to law, to advertise for another medical officer.

A letter was received from the Poor-law Board, stating that all persons legally appointed to vaccinate should be examined by Mr Gilchrist, of 11, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle, and it was decided to inform the officers of the Union to apply to that gentleman as soon as possible.

The Inspector of Nuisances reported that Greencroft cottages were in a filthy condition. Messrs Ritson, Mr D. Burn, of Stanley; Mr Winship, of Oakey's Cottages; the Rev. J. Thompson, and Mr Grey, for Burnhope Cottages, had received notices of nuisances. He also requested some of the Guardians to visit a well in Lanchester, into which the nuisances ran, and rendered the water unfit for use.

The Clerk was instructed to serve the party with a summons.

THE CONTRACTS

For Groceries and Provisions were let to Mr G. Winship, of Shield Row.

Boots, Shoes, and Clogs.—Mr William Dickinson, Lanchester.

Butcher Meat.—Mr T. Wall, Lanchester.

Tailoring.—Mr Fenwick, Lanchester.

Coffins.—Mr W. Hall, Lanchester.

Milk.—Mr J. Robinson, Lanchester.

Coals.—Mr G. Whinney, Lanchester.

Leading Stone.—Mr J. Henderson, Lanchester.

The Board then proceeded with the relief of the poor.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

then sat, and heard the appeal of

Robert Smith, of Kyo, whose house had formerly been used as a beerhouse, but was now used as a dwelling house. The rate was reduced to be £4 nett.

Mr Brown, of Whittonstall, appealed against a rate of £20 made on him for his drift at Browney Bank. The rate was reduced to £5 per year.

The committee then adjourned.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13.—Before M. KEARNEY (Chairman), A. H. TALMADGE, J. JOICEY, and E. T. SMITH, Esqrs.

ASSAULTS.—Robert Leiger was charged by W. Talbot with assaulting him on the 28th ult. Dismissed.——Christopher Attey was charged by Patrick Ryans with assaulting him on the 18th ult. Fined £1 and costs.——William Braban was charged by James Mitcheson with assaulting him on the 26th ult. Fined £2 and costs.——Robert Young was charged by Hannah Wallace with assaulting her on the 1st inst. Fined 5s and costs.——Wm. Jackson was charged by Henry Pinkney and Jane Pinkney with assaulting them on the 8th inst. Dismissed; complainants to pay costs.

DRUNK AND RIOTOUS.—Anthony Whitfield was brought up and charged by Sergeant Woodward with being drunk and riotous on the 27th ult. Fined 10s and costs.——Christopher Attey was charged by Sergeant Brown with a similar offence committed on the 26th ult. Fined 10s and costs.

TRESPASS AND DAMAGE.—Philip Kelly was charged by Robert Laws with committing trespass and damage on the 27th ult. Fined £2 and costs.——Ann French was charged by Stephen Atkinson with trespass and damage on the 27th ult. Fined 10s and costs, and 6d damage.——John Sellers was charged by Edward Wylam with trespass and damage on the 1st inst. To pay 1s damage, and costs.——Thomas Reay and William Haigh were charged by John Cumming with trespassing on and damaging his property on the 26th ult. They were each fined 2s 6d and costs, and 1s damage.——Richard Gare, Thomas Keogson, Joseph Gibson, Wm. Smith, and James Dixon were severally charged by James Wylam with trespass and damage committed on the 9th inst. The first four were fined 4s and costs, and 1s damage each; the last was sentenced to pay costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.—William Jackson was charged by Henry Pinkney with committing wilful damage to his property on the 8th inst. Dismissed; complainant to pay costs.——Mary Smith was charged by Owen Mullens with wilful damage committed on the 12th inst. Dismissed.

CATTLE STRAYING ON HIGHWAYS.—William Temperley was charged by Sergeant Simpson with allowing his cattle to stray on the highways on the 25th ult. Fined 2s 6d and costs.——Thomas Little was also charged by Sergeant Woodward with allowing his horses to stray on the highways on the 1st inst. Fined 1s and costs.

AIDING AND ABETTING AN ASSAULT.—George Turnbull and William Beck were both charged by Henry Pinkney with aiding and abetting in an assault on him on the 8th inst. Dismissed; complainant to pay costs.

NEGLECTING TO MAINTAIN FAMILY.—William Row was charged by W. W. Thompson, clerk to the Lanchester Union, with leaving his family chargeable to that Union on the 6th inst. Order made, and to pay costs.

RESISTING THE POLICE.—Robert Wardman was charged by P.C. Newbolt with resisting him while in the execution of his duty on the 4th inst. Fined 5s and costs.

DISORDERLY HOUSE.—William Dixon was charged by P.C. Alderson with having a disorderly house on the 3rd inst. Fined £5, including costs.

BASTARDY.—Nicholas Lamb was charged by Isabella Coupland with being the putative father of her illegitimate child. Order made for 2s per week, and costs.——James Dawson was also charged by Isabella Wilkinson with being the father of her illegitimate child, and was ordered to pay 2s 6d per week, and expenses.

OPENING IN NEWCASTLE OF AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.

"Wednesday, Sept. 19, 1866.—Earl Grey, K.G., Lord Lieutenant of the County, opened in Newcastle an exhibition of paintings." When Newcastle has indeed become famous for something more than a High Level Bridge, and rifled cannon, and a marvellous church spire, and a horse like Beeswing that could do wondrous feats on her race-course—when she has become the possessor of a large and permanent exhibition of works of art, that shall be open to the public, and in which paintings shall of course occupy the prominent place.

All arrangements have been completed, and the building, with its precious contents, has been thrown open to the public. The objects of the exhibition, which are two-fold, are to raise funds towards the completion of the mechanics' institution now building in New Bridge-street; but that would almost seem to be the secondary aim, the fostering of a better taste for the fine arts among the working classes being, in the minds of most people, not at all secondary to the views of the promoters of the institute. Should the exhibition, however, answer both purposes, and we doubt not that it will, then its managers will have reason for self-congratulation in the knowledge that they have conferred a boon on the town which may in future years produce such results, in a minor degree, which have followed the parent of all such displays—the exhibition of 1851.

The hall has been appropriately decorated for the display, trophies of flags, with pendant banners, bearing coats of arms, having been hung on the panelling of the side walls; immediately above the platform, and drooping from the grand organ, is a large banner bearing the Newcastle arms; while, at the other end of the room, and running along the entire front of the north gallery, is the inscription, in scroll work, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory." Under the centre of this inscription is a beautiful mirror in carved work, from the studio of Signor Bulletti, Grey-street, and other mirrors and works of a like description are placed at different parts of the hall, and so arranged as to produce a dazzling effect. The oil paintings are hung principally against the walls of the side elevations, the water colours are hung on screens running down the centre of the hall, and the engravings and drawing may, for the most part, be found hung up in front of the platform. A few busts of local men—amongst others, an admirable bust of Bewick. The decorations, it may be stated, were entrusted to Mr George Cooper, Clayton-street, who painted the hall on the occasion of its opening.

The arrangements in connection with the exhibition were exceedingly complete, and Mr Carse, the secretary, and the other members of the committee, are fully entitled to the warm eulogy passed upon them in the course of the inauguration speeches.

The doors were open at one o'clock for the admission of season-ticket holders, and after half-past one money was taken for admission. While the audience were assembling Mr Rea gave a performance on the grand organ, and about a quarter-past two the noblemen and gentlemen invited to the ceremony, and who had previously met in the Council Chamber, came on to the platform, preceded by the mace and sword bearers.

The Vicar having offered up a prayer, Ald. Bell presented a catalogue of the exhibition to Earl Grey.

EARL GREY, on rising, was received with loud applause, which was continued for some time. On its subsiding he spoke as follows :—Mr Mayor, my lords, ladies, and gentlemen, at the request of the committee, I have now to offer you a few remarks on the occasion which has brought us together here this day. It was not without much hesitation I ventured to undertake this duty, conscious as I am how far I fall short of the ability to discharge it as I ought to do. But I was assured that my undertaking this duty might be of some service in the promotion of the objects which the committee had in view—objects to which all who take an interest in the welfare of Newcastle and its inhabitants must necessarily wish well—and, therefore, remembering how much cause I have to take an interest in the welfare of Newcastle—(hear, hear)—I did not think myself at liberty to refuse—(applause)—because, independent of my ancient connection with this town, having the honour to hold the commission of Her Majesty as Lord-Lieutenant for Newcastle as well as for the county of Northumberland—independently of that ancient connection, I cannot but remember how long I have had an intimate acquaintance with this town and its inhabitants. This very year it is just forty years since I first came to this town as a young men entering upon political life, and I then received from its inhabitants an assistance and encouragement which to one in that situation was of very great value. And I met here many excellent friends of whom I grieve to think how many are now passed away from amongst us and from whom I experienced constant and unfailing kindness. I, therefore, felt that I had a debt to pay to the town of Newcastle and its inhabitants, which did not admit—which would not allow—of my refusing to undertake the task which was proposed to me by the committee, and I trust that if you observe defects in the manner in which I perform it, you will excuse them, in the consideration of the motives which have induced me to undertake it. (Hear, hear, and applause.) * * * The committee, in their circular, have informed you that this exhibition has two objects in view. In the first place, to raise funds to provide furnishings for the new Mechanics' Institution, which is now in the progress of building, and, in the next place, by the assistance of those persons who have kindly contributed the pictures and other works of art which they possess, to obtain an exhibition for the delight, and I will add also for the instruction of the public. Now the catalogue which has just been presented to me, and the little I can see from this place of the exhibition, is sufficient to assure me that the last object has been completely attained, and that the committee may congratulate themselves on having by their zealous exertions brought together a collection of works of art which cannot fail to be seen with delight by all those who may visit it. * * * * * * There has been, and I trust there is still going on, a great improvement in the manners and habits of some of the classes in this nation. If we look back, not for a year or ten years, but for a century or a century and a half, no one can doubt what great changes for the better have taken place in our habits and manners as a nation. I am sure you must have been greatly amused by the description of Osbaldistone Hall contained in the novel I have mentioned. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Even in that picture of social life drawn by the genius of Sir Walter Scott, though the characters are fictitious, the state of society he described is not imagination. We have a real description of the state of society as it then existed, as is shown by the most authentic contemporaneous accounts. The coarse sensuality, the habitual drunkenness, the absence of anything like intellectual occupation or amusement, which Sir Walter Scott describes among the Osbaldistones, were in those days to be found in too many of the families of the gentry of the country. Even to a much later period a good deal of this state of things was common. Our fathers and grandfathers saw a good deal of this. In their days these habits had not been abandoned. Nay, more, I myself am old enough to remember some lingering traces of these habits among those who remained from a former generation, at the time I first began to mingle with the world. Need I observe how these things are changed. Formerly, habitual drunkenness was considered no disgrace to a gentleman. Now for a gentleman to be seen drunk is considered one of the greatest disgraces than can be conceived. (Applause.) But that change was not suddenly brought about. It was a gradual improvement in manners, and very much owing to the fact that by degrees the higher classes of society were led to seek relaxation and amusement not in mere animal indulgences, but in intellectual amusements and pursuits. May we not hope that the same process, by degrees, will take place among the lower ranks of society, and that the amusing books circulated by mechanics' institutes, the lectures, their opportunities for conversation and social intercourse, without the temptation of the public house, which these institutions supply—I say that these things will, by degrees, produce a considerable improvement amongst the working classes. In fact by the same means that a great improvement has been accomplished in the upper ranks of society we may hope and trust that it will also be accomplished in the lower. Perhaps, even the youngest man here may not live to see anything like a complete change, but that is no reason why we should despair that this great improvement will ultimately be effected, and I hope that there are already symptoms of it. I am told, and I believe, that there are many working men who shew by their conduct that they understand the value of mental cultivation, and of forming prudent and temperate habits. Those who do this may be a minority—and that indulging in intoxicating liquors is still the sin of Englishmen at home as it is the sin of Englishmen's descendants in Australia and America—but we hope that that state of things will soon be no more, and that the good example of the minority will bring about the time when, in the opinion of his own class, it will be as disgraceful for a working man to be seen drunk as it is for a gentleman. (Loud applause.) This is a manner in which these institutions are calculated to be useful, and although they may not have hitherto accomplished so much as was expected, I see no reason of despairing that their influence for good will cease. The mere fact that the old building was been found too small and that a larger one is being erected, the completion of which we are endeavouring to promote, is I think an encouraging symptom. But, gentlemen and ladies, I feel I have detained you a great deal too long on an occasion of this sort. I did not intend to have said so much upon some of the serious topics I have touched upon, and I will no longer detain you or trespass upon your precious time, but I will conclude by expressing my earnest hope for the success of this exhibition, and my desire that it may prove the means of accomplishing the object which the committee have in view. (Enthusiastic and prolonged applause.)

Votes of thanks to the contributors, to Earl Grey, and to the Mayor were passed with acclamation.

The National Anthem was then played, Miss Helena Walker and Mr Ainsworth taking the leading parts; and the interesting proceedings terminated.

GRAND CONCERT.

In the evening, a concert was given in the Exhibition Hall, which was very well attended by a most fashionable audience. It was not a promenade concert, which is common to other exhibitions, and which usually by the noise tends to destroy the effect of good music upon the audience. There was a good attendance and the concert came off very successfully.

Sporting Intelligence.

RICHMOND MEETING.

STEWARDS: The Earl of Zetland, F. A. Milbank, Esq., M.P., and Sir John Lawson, Bart. JUDGE: Mr R. Johnson. SECRETARY: Mr T. Craggs. STARTER: Mr W. Elliott.

TUESDAY.

This favourite Yorkshire meeting commenced on Tuesday under anything but auspicious circumstances. The weather in the morning gave promise of a fine day, but shortly after twelve o'clock a decided change for the worse took place, the sunshine of the morning giving place to heavy squalls of wind and rain in the afternoon. Large numbers of intending pleasure-seekers availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the North Eastern Railway Company to visit the picturesque scenery which abounds in Richmond and its vicinity. Owing to the very disagreeable weather which set in in the afternoon the attendance on the course formed only a small proportion of those who had come by train in the morning, and was confined mainly to those interested purely in the sport, the majority preferring to remain in the town under cover, and escape the cutting wind and heavy driving rain which came sweeping across the moor. Decided improvement has taken place this year, as compared with last, in one important part of the business connected with the meeting, namely, in the starting, that office having been entrusted to Mr W. Elliott, of Manchester, a gentleman of considerable experience, the great benefit of which appointment was experienced in the fact of every race being started precisely at the time appointed. The sport on the whole was only moderately good. The following is the return of the running :—

EASBY STAKES of 5 sovs each, 3 ft, with 25 added; for two-yr-olds 7st, three 8st 12lb, f and g allowed 3lb. Four furlong 200 yards. (11 subs.)
Mr A. Harrison's Paxton, 2 yrs, 7st............R. Challoner 1
Mr G. D. Lye's The Admiral, 2 yrs, 7st............Cameron 2

Betting: 5 to 4 on Paxton, who waited until getting to the distance, when he came away, and won, after a good race, by three-quarters of a length.

The RICHMOND CUP (Handicap Plate) of 50 sovs. Four furlongs 200 yards. (26 subs.)
Mr T. V. Morgan's Feemy, 2 yrs, 5st 12lb ......Craddock 1
Mr J. Scott's Cora, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb............Parker 2
Mr W. Nicholl's Yarrow, 4 yrs, 7st 9lb............Carroll 3

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Feemy, 4 to 1 agst Warwick, 5 to 1 agst Yarrow, and 6 to 1 agst Chessman. Yarrow made play, closely attended by Feemy, Cora, and Warwick to the top of the hill, where Feemy came away, and won easily by a couple of lengths, Cora in the last few strides getting up and beating Yarrow for second place by a head.

The SAPLING STAKES of 10 sovs each, h ft, with 50 added, for two-yr-old colts 8st 10lb, f and g 8st 7lb. Four furlongs 200 yds. (18 subs.)
Lord Zetland's Bumblekite, 8st 7lb ....J. Snowdon 1
Mr W. E. Hobson's Newland, 9st 1lb........T. Challoner 2
Mr T. Masterman's Honestish, 8st 13lb......H. Grimshaw 3

Betting: 5 to 4 on Bumblekite, 6 to 4 agst Newland, and 6 to 1 agst Honestish. Newland made the running, closely followed by Honestish to the top of the hill, when Mr Masterman's horse assumed a slight lead to the distance, where Bumblekite closed up, and a most exciting race ensued to within the half distance, when Bumblekite drew out and won by half a length, a short neck only separating second and third.

MEMBER'S PLATE of 50 sovs, added to a Handicap Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 2 ft: second to receive 10 sovs. One mile. (19 subs.)
Mr Carr's Elvire, 2 yrs, 5st 12lb ....Craddock 1
Mr R. Osborne's Lady of Coverdale, 4 yrs, 7st 8lb...Parker 2
Mr C. Peck, jun.'s Bonaparte, 4 yrs, 7st............Morris 3
El Cid, Hopvine, and Edith of Lorn also ran.

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Elvire, 3 to 1 agst Bonaparte, 7 to 2 agst Hopvine, and 5 to 1 agst El Cid. Whilst the horses were waiting at the post preparatory to the start, Edith of Lorn deliberately threw her jockey, and then bolting round the course, went through the gate on the road towards the town. She was, however, stopped ere she had gone far, and brought back to the starting point. Bonaparte, at the second attempt, cut out the work, closely attended by Lady of Coverdale. El Cid being third, Hopvine fourth, Edith of Lorn fifth, and the favourite last. They ran without much alteration to the bend, where Elvire, coming through her horses, assumed the command, and being never again reached, won cleverly by a couple of lengths; a neck separating second and third.

RICHMOND HANDICAP of 10 sovs each, h ft, with 8 added. About 1 mile 6 furlongs. (22 subs, 11 of whom declared.)
Mr Bowes's Bird of Eve, 3 yrs, 6st 5lb ....Cameron † 1
Mr Hobson's Dolan, 3 yrs, 6st 10lb ....Nuttall † 2
Mr J. Watson's Nothing More, 4 yrs, 7st 10lb ......Dixon 3
Red Earl, Miss Haworth, and Beatrice also ran.

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Nothing More, 7 to 2 agst Dolan, 5 to 1 agst Bird of Eve, and 6 to 1 agst Red Earl. Nothing More made play, closely attended by Batrice and Dolan, Bird of Eve being fourth, Miss Haworth fifth, and Red Earl last, until passing the judge's chair, when Miss Haworth ran into second place. They ran in this way until passing the stand the first time round, where the favourite gave way, and Red Earl closed up with Dolan, Beatrice meanwhile dropping into the rear. After rounding the bend Red Earl dropped away, and Bird of Eve coming up, a capital race ensued between her and Dolan, the two singling themselves out from the rest. After getting within the distance Dolan drew out, but when a few strides from home Bird of Eve came with a rush, and collaring Dolan on the post, ended a good race in a dead heat. Nothing More finished four lengths behind the dead-heaters, Red Earl being fourth, Beatrice fifth, and Miss Haworth last.

DECIDING HEAT.—Craddock was put on Dolan instead of Nuttall. Betting: 6 to 4 on Dolan. Bird of Eve made the running with a slight lead until getting within the distance. Dolan then took the lead until getting to the bottom of the hill, when Bird of Eve closed up, and a most exciting race ensued, Bird of Eve ultimately succeeding in winning by a neck.

The LICENSED VICTUALLERS' PLATE of 3 sovs each, with 25 added. Four furlongs 200 yds.
Mr Fobert ns Edith of Lorn, 3 yrs............R. Challoner 1
Mr J. Osborne's Tidy, 2 yrs, 6st 7lb ....Cameron 2
Mr R. Osborne's Lady of Coverdale, 4 yrs, 10st 4lb. Whiteley 3

Betting opened at 6 to 4 on Edith of Lorn, and finished at 5 to 4 on Tidy. Edith of Lorn made the whole of the running, and came in first by ten lengths, four lengths separating second and third.

WEDNESDAY.—The TOWN PLATE (handicap) of 30 sovs. Grey Stone in.
Mr Morris's Murillo, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb ....R. Challoner 1
Lord Exeter's Amazon, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb............Hudson 2
Mr C. Dresser's John Osborne, 2 yrs, 6st 10lb ......Coning 3
Bonaparte, Fairwind, Louisa, and Yarrow also ran.

WRIGHT STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; for two-yr-old colts 8st 10lb, f and g 8st 6lb. Four furlongs 200 yds. (25 subs.)
Mr Masterman's Honestish, 8st 13lb ....H. Grimshaw 1
Mr Hobson's Newland, 9st 2lb ....J. Snowdon 2
Mr Chilton's Capitola, 8st 1lb............Whiteley 3
Won by three-quarters of a length.

BURTON HANDICAP of 7 sovs each, 5 ft, with 50 added. One mile 4 furlongs. (17 subs, 7 of whom pay ft.)
Mr Osborne's Miss Haworth, 3 yrs, 7st 2lb...R. Challoner 1
Capt. Gray's Warwick, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb ....Coning 2
Mr T. V. Morgan's Dagmar, 3 yrs, 6st 8lb ...... Nicholson 3
Dolan, Bird of Eve, and Red Earl also ran.

ZETLAND PLATE (handicap) of 50 sovs. Four furlongs 200 yards.
Mr J. P. Craven's Hopvine, 3 yrs, 7st 9lb ....Morris 1
Mr Carr's Elvire, 2 yrs, 7st 1lb ....R. Challoner 2
Mr Dawson's King of the Fairies, 2 yrs, 6st 8lb ...Arnull 3
Yarrow, Cora, Palisade, and Festival also ran.

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Elvire, 4 to 1 agst Cora, 5 to 1 each agst Festival and Hopvine. Won by a length; three lengths separating second and third.

RICHMOND VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS PLATE of 40 sovs. Four furlongs 200 yds.
Mr Fobert's Edith of Lorn, 3 yrs, 7st 12lb ...T. Challoner 1
Mr Morris's Murillo, 3 yrs, 8st 1lb ....Morris 2
Mr J. Osborne's Tidy, 2 yrs, 6st 10lb............Coning 3

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Edith of Lorn, 3 to 1 agst Murillo. Won by a head.

BELSAY CASTLE NURSERY HANDICAP of 100 sovs, for two-yr-olds. Four furlongs 200 yds. (22 subs.)
Mr Harper's Lord of the Dales, 7st 3lb............Coning 1
Mr Masterman's Honestish, 8st 9lb............H. Grimshaw 2
Mr Johnstone's Rhymer, 6st 7lb............Arnull 2
Won by half-a-length, two lengths separating second and third.

Market Intelligence.

CORN MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—There was again a good demand for old foreign wheats, and since this day week 1s pr qr. advance. New English wheat unaltered, Barley, oats, &c., as noted below.

HEXHAM CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—There were several samples of new wheat at market to-day, those from Anick Grange and Dilston farms were in good condition, and sold at an advance of 2s per qr.; the remainder was inferior in condition and difficult to sell. The supply of barley was chiefly new crop, and sold at full prices. Oats were in small supply, part of which was new crop in middling condition, and sold at former prices.

CATTLE MARKETS.

NEWCASTLE CATTLE MARKET, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 127 head of cattle from Ireland, and 294 beasts and 180 sheep were from foreign; also, 172 sheep from Aberdeen and the counties of the north-east coast of Scotland.

THE STATE OF TRADE.

806 head of cattle were shown. The large supplies of sheep and lambs had an unfavourable influence on the beef trade, and prices receded about 3d per stone from the rates of this day se'nnight. There was an active business done until the better qualities were disposed of, after which a lull ensued, and sales became languid, with a middling finish.

7,900 sheep and lambs were shown. The mutton trade was in a sluggish state at a decline of ½d per lb from the rates of Tuesday last, with a slow, dull finish, and part remained unsold.

Numbers shown: — Beasts, 806; sheep and lambs, 7,900; pigs, —; store cattle, —.

Prices to-day:—Beasts: Prime heifers, 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.; secondary sorts, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 0d.; inferior sorts, 8s. 3d. to 8s 9d; first-class oxen, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d; middling, 8s. 0d. to 8s 3d; cows, 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. Sheep—good vendable wedders, 8¼d to 8½d; large fat, —d to —d; middling, 7½d to 8d; tups, ewes, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; lambs, 8d to 9d per lb. sinking offal.

Number and prices of the corresponding weeks in the last three years :—

	Beasts.	Price ℔ st.
1863	1,272	5s 9d to 7s 9d
1864	1,238	6s 6d ... 8s 3d
1865	1,078	6s 0d ... 9s 3d

		Sheep ℔ lb.	Lambs ℔ lb.
1863	8,700 sheep & lambs	5½d to 7½d	6½d to 7½d
1864	7,100 do.	6d ... 7¼d	7½d ... 8½d
1865	6,874 do.	7d ... 9½d	8½d ... 9½d

SALFORD, Tuesday. Best beef, 7½d to 8d per lb.; middling, 6½d to 7½d; inferior, 5d to 5½d; best wedders, 8½d to 9d; middling ditto, 7½d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7½d; lambs, 0d to 0d; calves, 8d to 9d. Number of beasts, 1,952; sheep and lambs, 7,466; calves, —. There was a good trade for best descriptions; inferior qualities lower.

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW MARKET.

TUESDAY.—The following were the prices to-day :—

	£ s d		£ s d	
Old land hay	6 0 15	to	7 5 0	℔ ton.
Do. this year's growth	5 0 0	to	5 10 0	"
New land hay	6 15 0	to	7 0 0	"
Do. this year's growth	5 0 0	to	6 15 0	"
Clover hay	0 0 0	to	0 0 0	"
Wheat straw	0 4 0	to	0 5 3	℔ thrave.
Barley straw	0 0 0	to	0 0 0	"
Oat straw	0 4 6	to	0 5 3	"

Carts at market: hay, 124; straw, 27.

GENERAL GRAIN AVERAGES.

The following are the average prices of grain for the six weeks ending Saturday, Sept. 15:—

	Quarters.	s.	d.
Wheat	60,328	47	0
Barley	3,429	37	1
Oats	2,150	27	8

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

Notices of births, marriages, and deaths are inserted free of charge. Such notices must be left at the *Guardian* office, Front-street, Consett.

BIRTHS.

HOPSON.—On the 17th inst., the wife of Mr John Teasdale, of a son.

MOUNTSETT.—On the 14th inst., the wife of Mr William Robinson, grocer, of a son.

NEWCASTLE.—At 12, Victoria Terrace, on the 16th inst., the wife of W. Boyd, Esq., of a son, still born.

At 16, Grainger-street, on the 15th inst., the wife of Mr J. C. Sweeney, of a daughter.

At Ordnance Terrace, Scotswood Road, on the 15th inst., the wife of Mr John Dobson, of a son.

At 19, Ashfield Terrace East, on the 16th inst., the wife of Theodore Hoyle, Esq., of a daughter.

NORTH SHIELDS.—At 10, Frank Place, on the 13th inst., the wife of Mr G. D. Adam, of a son.

GLANTON.—On the 18th inst., the wife of Mr Wm. Johnson, road contractor, of a son.

ALNWICK.—On the 15th inst., the wife of Mr Jas. Nichol, of a daughter.

BRISTOL.—On the 14th inst., at 12, King Square, the wife of the Rev. James W. L. Bowley, vicar of S.S. Philip and Jacob, Bristol, of a daughter.

BAYSWATER.—At 4, Inverness Terrace, on the 17th inst., the wife of G. Ferguson, Esq., of a daughter.

WETBRIDGE.—At Fairlawn, on the 18th inst., the wife of James A. Gillespie, Esq., of a daughter.

LONDON.—At 10, Sussex-street, Hyde Park, on the 18th inst., the wife of Geo. L. M. Gibbs, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

NEWCASTLE.—At St. Andrew's Church, on the 15th inst., Mr W. Brown, to Jane Peck, third daughter of Mr W. Craig, late of Newcastle.

At St. George's, on the 18th inst., by the Rev. J. G. Potter, Mr Robert Redpath, to Miss Isabella Turnbull, both of this town.

On the 18th, at St. Nicholas' Church, by the Rev. Clement Moody, M.A., Vicar, assisted by the Rev. R. A. Thompson, M.A., Master of the Hospital of St. Mary the Virgin, Frederick J. Hutchinson, Captain of the 64th Regiment, to Edith, youngest daughter of Martin Schlesinger, Esq., of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

At St. Andrew's Church, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. Robert Francis, Leonard Wilson, third surviving son of George Hare Philipson, Esq., to Amy Ann, eldest daughter of Thos. Elder, Esq., all of this town.

At the United Presbyterian Church, Blackett-street, on the 19th inst., by the Rev. R. Leitch, Thomas Strangeways, Esq., Professor of Comparative Anatomy in the Edinburgh Veterinary College, to Helen, daughter of Henry Watson, Esq., of this town, and formerly of Alnwick.

BERWICK.—At the Primative Methodist Chapel, on the 16th inst., by the Rev. W. Fulton, Mr Alexander Swinney, Elswick Engine Works, to Eleanor, eldest daughter of Captain William Paulin, late of Elswick.

SCARBOROUGH.—On the 18th, at St. Mary's Church, by the Rev. Canon Croft, M.A., Vicar of Hutton Buscel, York, assisted by the Rev. R. F. L. Blunt, M.A., Vicar, Thomas Humble, Esq., M.D., of Eldon Square, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Geo. Smart, Esq., of Scarborough.

KENT.—At Sidcup, on the 11th inst., by the Rev. A. Duncombe Shafto, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. C. Farrar, the Rev. Arthur Majendie, to Dulcibella Maria, second daughter of the Rev. John Duncombe Shafto.

DEATHS.

BURNOPFIELD.—On the 15th inst., aged 28, Mr Thompson, much respected. He was an assistant to Mr Watson for a number of years. His remains were interred at Tanfield on the 18th inst., and were followed by the Beamish Riflemen and the Foresters.

NEWCASTLE.—At Percy-street, on the 14th inst., aged 78, Mr Thomas Robson.

At Northumberland Court, on the 16th inst., aged 36, Mr George West.

At St. Mary-street, on the 14th inst., aged 32, Mr Wm. Miller, mariner.

At 3, Terrace Place, on the 17th inst., aged 3½, Elizabeth Anne, second daughter of Mr John Thompson, butcher, of this town.

At 2, Byron-street, Shieldfield, on the 18th inst., aged 6, Emma Jane, daughter of Mr Robert A. Smith.

At 6, John-street, Arthur's Hill, on the 18th inst., aged 69, Mrs Elizabeth Robson.

At 33, Wellington Terrace, on the 19th inst., aged 55, Jane Hutchinson, widow of Mr Thomas Hutchinson, butcher.

At Pilgrim-street, on the 19th inst., aged 87, Mr Abraham Levy.

At 4, Pitt-street, on the 17th inst., aged 2 years and nine months, James, son of Mr Joseph K. Lazzari.

GATESHEAD.—At 9, Ellison-street, Michael, second son of the late Mr Francis Pearson.

At 14, Hopper-street, on the 12th inst., aged 60, Margaret, widow of Mr Clement Stephenson.

At Gateshead Borough Houses, the residence of Mr Robt. Whitfield, her son-in-law, on the 17th inst., aged 44, Selina, wife of Mr Charles Ecclestone.

SWALWELL.—On the 12th inst., aged 81, Mr Robert Armstrong, late of Hindley-street, Haltwhistle.

WALKER.—On the 19th inst., aged 46, Mr Thos. Crawford, innkeeper.

BLYTH.—At Waterloo, on the 17th inst., aged 47, Margaret, widow of the late Mr Thos. Gibson, master mariner.

WILLINGTON QUAY.—On the 15th inst., Mary Jane, infant daughter of Mr Charles Charlton.

DUDLEY COLLIERY.—On the 13th inst., aged 33, Ann, wife of Mr William Stewart.

MORPETH.—On the 16th inst., aged 9, Henry, eldest son of Francis Brumell, Esq., solicitor.

On the 16th inst., aged 49, Mary, wife of Mr Jas. Waterson, builder.

NORTH SHIELDS.—At Queen-street, on the 17th inst., aged 34, Mr Isaac Hoggett, diver at the Pier Works.

TYNEMOUTH.—On the 19th inst., aged 22, Johnson, son of the late Mr John Bowman, builder, 4, Pine-street, Newcastle.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1866.