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H ADDISON, BR AND VALUE ndertake FARM STO HOUSE, and other SALE R PROBATE AND LEG DUTIES. I SETTLEMENTS. COLTMAN'S, Butcher, MIDD

BEDALE, COTHERSTONE. LE ROOMS, HORSE MAI

arnard Castle. (on behalf of John Pari tuction, at the above Room, 1898, the following HOULE & EFFECTS, vis.:—Gilt mi awers, mahogany Duchesse stnot, 2 oak corner cupboar mahogany centre tables, sabogany couch, in hair; dn s, 3 mahogany chairs, in la -piece suite, in leather; make coair and cushions, pedeta hairs, carpet squares, gas a tity of pictures, 3 wing able, rocking obair, coffee rocking chair, coffee a at dishes, cluttes horse, pos ns, I brass pan, 2 wooden to pilcloth, 3 painted washed ted chairs, combination ade and mattresses, stait r pots, plants, garden n'st so t of small lots. nence at 1 o'clock prompt.

Preliminary.

LE and DEACON favoured om Mr Robt. Awde, Agriculti leaving Winston, will Sel T, APRIL 2nd, 1898, the whole, STOCK-IN-TRADE, TOO HORSE POWER TRAOF THRASHING MACELLON, and STRAW TRUS

s: Barnard Castle and Gain

NEAR EVENWOOD. NTY DURHAM

IN PALLISTER AND Hotel, Bishop Auckland 31st, 1898, at 2-30 p.m. predictions to be then and there SS PARM known as MOB

BY PUBLIC AUCTION.

situate at Morley aforesaid. S (more or less) of Copybolisther with first-class Dwe ether with first-class Due e Box, Byres, Sheds, and d Mr Stephenson as Lor 2.

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Implements, Dairy Utensil DGE has received instruction Highmoor (who is leaving the above address, on Trust the following FARM STORM Cow, nearly due to caive i

verful black horse, aged ; two years old, by -Coup cart, parrow tyre

g cart, 2 sets of cart gears, dea roller, double turniple, two single iron plough iron seed harrows, n harrows, drag harr n harrows, drag machine, two sheep rack double-horse reaper (by cow bands, old iron, and ther with the whole of by ON OF THE HOUSE

by Stephen, March 15th. ELIMINARY.

OINT STOCK SALE, will be held on FRIDAY, rnard Castle, Mar. 7tb, 1896

THE GROVE, MIDDLETON-IN-TEESDALE. botany, in topography, in geology, the Important Sale of Superior and Substantial Househ languages, or mathematics, was ever welcome, DWARD TARN, honoured with instruction while many of us gratefully recall his lectures on astronomy, steam, and kindred subjects. from Mr J. T. Millican, will Sell by Auction, without reserve, on Thursday, March 31st, and Saturday, April 2nd, 1898. Full particulars In the work of parochial organization . the Vicar excelled. In fact he holds it to be an axiom that perfect organization in all things Quarry Grange, Barnard Castle, March 15th, 1898. is the key to ultimate success. During his ministry Canon Brown has witnessed the E. ANDREWS. complete restoration not alone of St. Mary's Church and the Tower, but the building of ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMAN, STATIONER, first-rate elementary schools. Not only so AND TOBACCONIST. -and in this connection we have always THE DRUG STORE, COTHERSTONE held the opinion that the Vicar never got his full share of credit-but his invaluable aid Wholesale Depôt for LENG'S INFALLIBLE in founding the great middle-class school at HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES. Barnard Castle, which stands as a monument You won't have Wet Feet it you use Dales' Dubbin. It's a wonderful waterproofer for Boots and Harness. Softens and preserves leather. Pleasant edour. Allows polishing. of acumen in matters educational, is grate fully remembered. Institutions of thrift and provident societies have had his cordial GOLD MEDAL support and active countenance, while in the cause of temperance he was a veritable giant. HIGHEST AWARDS AT 22 EXH BITIONS. Tins, 2d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d. Of all Bootmakers, Saddlers, Ironmongers, &c. and, while eminently persuasive, he was never offensive in his pleading for national

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NOTICE.

FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF COUNTRY PATIENTS

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ATTENDS BARNARD CASTLE EVERY

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON,

BUCKLE'S FANCY REPOSITORY,

No. 3 GALGATE.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

ith the name of the writer.

must be authenticated (in cont

t insert anonymous replies to letters that hav i with the real names and addresses of the writer g that when an anonymous correspondent ow

thing that when an anonymous correspondent es adiscussion, he may continue to write anonym her his opponents give their real name and add ot.

Teesdale Mencury.

BARNARD CASTLE, MARCH 16th, 1898.

WE have been requested to state that the

anouncement made in the newspapers, that

Canon Brown has accepted the living of

Houghton-le-Spring, is at least premature.

Meanwhile we are at this juncture reminded

of the rapid flight of time. Thirty-two

summers have fled since the Vicar of Barnard

Castle took up his residence in this town!

What changes the mutations of time have

Wronght! It has been well said that histories

make men wise ; poets, witty ; the mathe-

matics, subtle; natural philosophy, deep; moral, grave; and logic and rhetoric, able to content

And true it is that we have enjoyed a rare and singular combination of

plarly attainments in the Vicar of this

in their studies, and who have attained

distinction in science and the world of letters,

owe Canon Brown a debt of gratitude. His

deep research, whether in chemistry—the

73, GALGATE.

SEASON'S GOODS, viz. :-

Granites, Beaver Cloth, &c., &c.;

Wools, Worsteds, Yarns.

RECHABITISM AT MIDDLETON.

sobriety. Canon Brown's life amongst us

has, indeed, been an eventful period, and

his name in the North of England is associated

full well with intellectual development. In

a word we are conscious of being dangerously

near to the losing of an able man.

The annual supper, in connection with Reform " Tent of the Independent Order Rechabites, was held at the Temperance Hotel, on Tuesday evening, sen. The Tent-surgeon, Dr. J. Neli, and presided over a large attendance, the Rev. J. Charter occupying the vice-chair.—The District Chief-ruler, Brother Lethem, of Darlington, was expected to be present, but was prevented from so doing, at the last moment, owing to illness. After full justice had been done to the good things provided by Host and Hostess Readshaw, the following toasts, etc., were gone through :- Mr T. Harrison, P.C.R., i a short but able speech, proposed "The Order and District."—Brother R. Dobson, J.S., in responding, said that the Order was called honourable, and quote statistics showing the large number of mayors, bishops ministers, etc , who were members of the society. Th aim of the Order was two-fold :- to render monetar, aid, and belp in time of sickness, and to drive the curse of strong drink from our land. He quoted figures, showing that the Order was in a sound lumounting to £850,000. Its adult members numbered 150,000; juveniles, 85,000; whilst they had 6,000 honorary members. He concluded by saying that the success of the Order would depend upon all the nembers being true to their pledges, and taking deep interest in temperance work.—In moving Success to the Reform Tent," the Rev. J. Charter trusted that the present success would be always maintained.—The secretary, Brother W. C. Wood, in reply, quoted figures showing the progress of the club since its commencement four years ago. The Tent was initiated with 15 members. At the end of 1894 they bad 22; in 1895 these had risen to 32; in 1896 to 45; whilst at the present time they had 64 members on the books. Their funds were in a very satisfactory condition, and during the four years they had been formed, only £16 had been paid out for sickness. He stated that the members had every confidence in asking young men to join heart and hand with them, as, apart from the benefits to be derived from being connected with a temperanor organization, no other benefit society in the neighbourhood could compare with them from financial standpoint.-Brother J. Jackson, C.R. proposed "The tent-surgeon," remarking that Dr. Neligan was a most conscientious official in the discharge of his duty, particularly in the passing of candidates for membership, and he enjoyed confidence and respect of all the members of the He voiced the feeling members when he expressed the hope that Dr. Neligan would be spared for many years to come, to act in the capacity of Tent-surgeon .- Dr. Neligan, in reply, said he felt great pleasure in being their surgeon, because their Lodge was composed chiefly young members, and " youth with health " is one the chief factors towards the success of a club. He said the reason why so many clubs went smash, was because the members became indifferent and did not care. It depended altogether upon themselves. The management of a club should not be left to a few of the officials, but it was necessary for all the members to take a greater interest in the management, and in the affairs of the Lodge.—Brother J. Parker, in proposing the last toast, "The honorary members," thanked them for their assistance, financial and otherwise, and said that what they lacked in quantity, they made up in quality .- The Rev. J. Charter, i reply, said he was always glad to encourage thrift, and in becoming a member of the Tent, he was not only promoting the temperance cause, but he was helping the trade of the town in encouraging sobriety. -During the evening, the Rechabite String Band played several selections very creditably, and songs were contributed by Miss E. Readshaw, and by Messrs. W. Thompson and J. J. Dickerson. Miss H. Thompson acted as accompanist.—Votes of thanks to

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

to a close a very enjoyable evening.

STARTFORTH. The annual meeting of the Startforth Parish Council was held on Monday night, Mr John Howson presided and there was a large attendance. The show of hands was recorded as follows:—J. Allinson, 26; H. Fryer, 27; W. A. Hall. 34; W. Hestop, 16; T. Butherford, 40; R. Sayer, 32; H. C. Watson, 38. Mr H. C. Watson was warmly thanked for his gratuitous services as clerk for three years, on the motion of Mr T. Butherford, seconded by Mr W. A. Hall,

MARWOOD. The annual meeting of the ratepayers of the parish of Marwood, for the election of parish councillors, etc., took place in the Langleydale National School, on Monday evening, the 14th, inst. Mr J. G. Johnson in the chair. There were 9 nominations, viz:—Mesers. Taylor, Stubbs, Amos, Stoddart, Heslop, Berry, Wilson, Porter, and Favell. The last-named (Mr Pavell) withdraw his candidature, and upon a show of hands being taken, the first 7 were declared duly

elected. No poll was demanded. KIRKBY STEPHEN. A crowded meeting of the electors of this town was held in the Board School, on Mouday evening. The whole of the old members were nominated, and seven new candidates, amongst whom were two railway Officials—Mr Wayper, permanent way inspector, a Durham man, and Mr T. W. Alderson, a native of Romaldkirk. The following received the highest number of votes, and no poll being demanded, were declared elected:—Col. Mason, 117; Mr W. Hallam, 98; Mr R. B. Thompson, 97; Mr Geo. Bell, 95; Mr James Armstrong, 95; Mr W. T. Wayper, 83; Mr J. Harrison, 77; Mr T. W. Alderson, 74; Mr C. B.

COTHERSTON. The annual election of parish councillors took place on Monday night last, in the Temperance Hall. Mr James Andrews presided. The following nominations were received:—Wm. Birkett, West Park, farmer; Henry Bowron, Shipley-terrace, gentleman; Thoma Chipchase, Lathbury, gentleman; James Harvey, Marwood View, inspector; Thos. Nelson, Cotherston, inspector; James Reynolds, Station Cottage, pl-te-layer; Jno. Richard Walker, Cotherston, blacksmith; Jno. Watson, Crook Beck, farmer. The voting resulted as follows:—Bowron, 37; Walker, 36; Har-Parish, while the men whom he has assisted rey, 34; Chipchase, 31; Birkett, 23; Watson, 21; h. 13. Nalson, 3. The first five were declared Reynolds, 13; Nelson, 3. The first five were declared by the Chairman to be duly elected, no poll being demanded. There is only one change, Mr Harvey taking the place of Mr Watson. Mr H. K. Forbes and Mr E. Stephenson counted the votes.

favourite pursuit of Lord Salisbury-in NORTH-EASTERN CYCLISTS' MEET. ANNUAL MEETING.

On Saturday night a numerous and representative body of cyclists connected with Tyne and Wearside clubs assisted at the twenty-third annual meeting of the North-Rastern Cyclists' Meet, the chair being occupied by Mr J. B. Radcliffe, president of the 1897 meet, and amongst those present were: — Messrs Alfred Milburn, J. Spain, F. Turevey, R. Blacklock W. Lockey, G. Parsons (Kensington), W. L. Charlton (captain), R. Hall, W. Winship, F. Tinn, S. Clarke (vice-captain), W. D. Stephens (Newcastle), District Councillor J. Hilton, Messre, Tait, A. Norton (Whitley), Alex. Wilson and Davidson (Priory), J. Wright (Elswick), J. Mill and A. N. Hogarth (Grainger), W. Henderso (Gateshead), F. Thompson and J. Huntley (Gateshea N.E. Rovers). T. Barningham and Geo. Barket (Barnard Castle, representing inhabitants and B.C.O.O.), J. H. Woods (Jesmond), Jos. Graham and R. Jackson (Arthur's Hill), C. B. D. Mushens (Low Barns), J. H. Hunter and W. J. Windross (Teesda Wanderers), J. Coates and W. Eyles (Excelsior), and

The leading objects of the gathering were to sele a venue for the '98 meet, to elect a president cause of temperance he was a veritable giant.

His strength as a teetotal advocate was found in his practical knowledge of chemistry, reunions in the kingdom. It had been generally known that the president could not acc bonourable office again owing to calls upon his time The honour had been conferred on Newcastle cyclist from the outset, but a feeling prevailed that the support given by the Kensington Cycling Club should not be overlooked, and that the leading bonour of the cycledom in the northern counties should be conferre upon one of its members. This was done in a mor graceful and unanimous spirit, the gentleman selected being Mr Alfred Milburn, whose services to cycling as a hard worker in its welfare, well deserved the distinction. All cyclists in the north will hail his election to the office with satisfaction, and judging from the tone of Saturday's meeting there will be a common bond of unity between the various clubs to Barney " in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year.

The joint secretaries (Messrs. J. H. Woods and Norton) presented the annual report, stating that the meet of the past year had been of a record character, both in regard to increased proportions and attractiveness. The whole programme was celebrated with great enthusiasm and enjoyment, and the success of the gathering was attributable in a large measure to the ability of their president (Mr J. B. Radcliffe), who gained the loyal support of all classes of wheelmen, whilst his efforts also secured the esteem and respect of the townspeople of Barnard Castle. (Applause.) The financial statement showed a credit balance of £10.

On the motion of Mr F. Tait, seconded by Mr. Alfred Milburn, the reports were adopted.

Mr J. Wright moved, and Mr J. H. Woods

for next Whitsuntide meet,

The resolution was carried unanimously. Mr T. Barningham said he attended as a deputation from the people of Barnard Castle, and he could assure them that the townspeople would do all they could to render their visit enjoyable. (Applause.) Mr Geo. Barker, secretary of the Barnard Cast Dricket Club, said the visit of the north-easter wheelmen at Barnard Castle had come to be regarded the red-letter day of the year, and as far as th cricket club, licensed victuallers, and tradesmen were concerned, he was confident that they were prepared

to support the wheelmen financially with the same generosity as hitherto. (Applause.)

On the motion of the Chairman, Mr Alfred Milburn, of the Kensington Club, was appointed president in succession to Mr Radcliffe, and the following other officials were elected:—Captain, Mr Norton (Whitley); vice-captains, Mesers. W. Winship (Newcastle) and W. Henderson (Gateshead); captain of the unattached, Mr J. Coates (Barnard Castle Excelsior); chief-marshall, Mr J. Thompson (Grainger); deputy chief-marshall, Mr J. Thompson (Gateshead N.-E. Rovers); secretaries, Mesers. J. Miller and A. N. Hogarth (Grainger). A general committee was appointed, with the understanding that each club not represented should be asked to send a

It was agreed that the secretaries be instructed to write a letter to Mr T. J. Foster, expressing deep sympathy with him in his illness, and hoping that he night soon be restored to health. Mr Arthur Norton made an appeal on behalf of Mr

brave effort a few years ago to rescue two men from drowning in the Ouseburn. Mr Liddle, it was explained, had been recommended by his medical attendant to go to South Africa, and a sum of 30 guineas was required to pay his passage out.—A subscription list, headed by the Chairman, and Mesers Hilton, Milburn, Tait, Norton, Turvey, Woods, and Barningham, reached £8 10. in the room, and Mr Norton was instructed to send a circular to the different clubs asking for further subscriptions.

Votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

BARNARD CASTLE BAND OF HOPE

The thirteenth annual entertainment of the Band Hope, connected with the Barnard Castle Ladier Temperance Association, took place on Friday evening

last in the Music Hail, well filled with parents a friends, who gave ample evidence of their appreciatio of the efforts of both performers and trainers alike. In the regretted absence of Mrs Stephenson-who cheery countenance and pleasantly commanding manner one had somehow got accustomed to at these gatherings—the Rev. J. Dugdale presided, and a genial and happy chairman he was too, with his apt the "Host and hostess," proposed by Brother F. Smith, and seconded by Brother W. Baine, brought illustrations and comments on the different items rendered by the youthful band. The programme was varied and interesting throughout, and quite equal to former efforts. Indeed the event is one which is looked forward to with delight, as each winter ression draws to a close, by both children and parents. Part I. included:—Melody—Sound the Battle Cry; opening speech—Florrie Hewitt; pianoforte Ada Robson; recitation—Speak out—Harry Raine; musical dialogue—Lay of the Noble Ten— Ten boys; action song—Farmyard voices; dialogue— It's no joke to be a baby—six little girls, who did their part well; song—Little hero—Theo. Berry; dialogue—Six little nurses—six girls, (another pleasing tiem); song and chorus—Love at home—Sarah Raine; song, (by request)—Boy's best friend—Joe Bell; dialogue—Honest doctor—five boys and two girls.

Master Herbert Welford was a conscientious doctor, but the life and soul of the dialogue was unquestionably Master Joe. Bell, with his "He, he he" are altogether natural demeanour. Action song— Burlesque Band. In Part II. there were a melody - Who is a brave man?; violin solo-Home sweet home, with variations-Arthur Johnson; song-Old arm chair-Charlie Watson; dialogue-Our girls and their future-by seventeen girls; Come take a glass; marching song—Policeman's chorus—five boys; action song—Chinese umbrella—seven girls, particularly well done. Previous to the closing melody—"Oh, if for me the cup you fill," there was an enjoyable quarter of an hour spent with the Christys. This proved an amusing item, Charlie Walker making a capital "tambo," Joe Bell a very clever "bones" and H. Welford a good "middle" or interlocutor. Amongst the ladies on the gallery in charge of the children were Mesdames Yeoman, J. G. Burn, Mudie, G. I. Longstaff, J Coulthard, J. J. Walker and Misses Barker, Winpenny, Lancaster Dent, A. Barker, Emerson and Wightman (conductor)

> poned until the annual pic-nic to be held in June £100 on MARRIAGE.—Write for pamphlet to the Marriage Dowry Mutual Association (Registered).—C. MONTGOMERIE, Secretary, 54, Bow-lane, Cheapside,

The two latter shared the duties of accompanists. The

members who are entitled to the annual prizes for

members who are entitled to the annual prizes for collecting subscriptions on behalf of the Temperance Hospital in London are:—Ada Robson, Bona Winpenny, James Walker, Willie Windross, John Yeoman, Dora Young, and John Cartwright. The chairman during an interval announced that the distribution of these prizes this year had been writen.

distribution of these prizes this year had been post-

Londor, E.C. Agents wanted. Sergeant Armstrong, who belonged to the lst battalion of the 11th regiment (Bengal Infantry) died on Monday, at Barnard Castle. On leaving the service he received a silver medal, with clasp, for long service and good conduct. The deceased was a long time drill instructor at Middleton-in-Teesdale and

MIDDLETON NOTES. [BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

That the once-popular but now nearly obselete game of knur and spell, or to give it the name by which it is more commonly known, of "buckstick, s not without its votaries and enthusiasts, goes with out saying. On a recent Saturday afternoon, a large number of followers of this enjoyable and healthgiving recreation might be seen wending their way towards the rendezvous on Roseberry Fields. Without doubt, the game is one which calls for a large amount of skill and science, and, at the present time, we have being novices at the sport. Scarcely ten years ago its followers could be counted by hundreds, and we can only venture the opinion that the—to many— more fascinating and exciting recreation of football has, in recent years, absorbed the interest of the sport-loving public, to the detriment of the quiet and harmless pastime of "buckstick." Certain it is that a few years back enthusiasts might be seen on a cold, bitter winter's day, and sometimes in a snowstorm, stripped of all but their shirts, endeavouring to show their skill to a few shivering but ardent speciators. This, as often as not, occurred on the abbath. But times have changed, and, with them, he recreations of a nation. The most remarkable feature of the British nation is, without doubt, its love of sport and athletics, and this has proved small factor in the high and honoured position which Britain occupies in the world to-day. I think it was Wellington who said that the battles of Britain had been won on the playing grounds at Eton. Be that as it may, I should like to see a club formed for the carrying on of kour and spill. Matches and handicaps could then be arranged, and, if I mistake not, the public interest would not only be revived, but

According to statistics, the English nation have

spent four millions more in drink this year than last. This will cause general regret amongst all sections of emperance reformers, but it should have the effect of spurring them on to greater exertions and renewed activity. The year just passed has been one of warfare, in the industrial world, as the railway men, quarry men, and engineers have all been at war with their employers. A good deal of discussion has taken place lately with regard to the Local Option Bill, and the benefits which are likely to accrue from its becoming law. The social habits of the people are fast changing. There is a tendency to seek pleasure and excitement, and these must be brought into right channels, and freed from the contamination of lcoholic drinks. Temperance workers should not lose heart. They are engaged in the greatest social struggle of this century, and there is no question of the day comparable to the one they have at issue. Beformers are often told that, in spite of their sixty years' work, the drink bill was higher than it had ever been, and that there was more drunkennes But what would the country have been to-day, bac not been for the temperance movement? But they have yet much to accomplish, and advancement can only be achieved by hard work. If public opinion s not ripe, they must help to ripen it. It is interest ing at the present time to notice the scheme of a urrey vicar, the Rev. J. P. Brocklehurst, for reforming public-houses. He has issued a circular to hi arishioners, on which they are asked to say whether they are against a public-house of any sort, or whether they would like one "run by the people, for the people, on co-operative principles." Then follows the enumeration of the chief features of the scheme, It will have all the advantages of an ordinary publicouse, without its disadvantages; the house to be a resort of all classes, and a meeting-place for mutual interchange of opinions. We very much doubt that the fact of a reverend conducting and carrying on a "public" will work much change in the morals of its frequenters, or prove of benefit to the inhabitants.

The winner of the recent billiard handicap turned up in Mr W. Hetherington, who best his opponent Mr T. Watson, by 36 points. The shield now becomes the property of the winner, as this is the second time he has come out on top. The shield, since it was offered some four years ago, has cost, so I am informed, about four guineas. There are, altogether, I believe, some seven names on the shield, and these have cost about six shillings each, Through out the several handicaps, the ultimate winner has proved himself a player of more than ordinary ability, and his victory was a very popular one.

Many will hear with surprise and regret the intim the late John Allinson, joiner and cartwright, and a former resident of Middleton. The deceased young ady was residing with an aunt at Brough Sowerby and had been under a doctor's attendance, but the end came awfully sudden and unexpected, the terminated to heart disease, another link from our midst, as she was the last of the family.

I should say, taking the size of the place, and the number of inhabitants into consideration, that we have as many lady cyclists in and around Middleton as any her village in the North of England. The extremely mild and dry weather experienced at present has been the means of bringing them out in force, and nothing more charming than the ease and grace with which they manage their machines. Nothing is prettier, I think, than the picture of a young girl careering along the highway, with curls flying in the wind, and her bright sunburnt face glowing with health and happiness; nothing is more alarming than the tricks which some of them in their careless, self-confident way include in; and nothing is more wonderful than the immunity from socidents, which, notwithstanding they all seem to enjoy. One little maiden whom aw riding round a corner, in such haste that sh bowled over a small boy, immediately remounted and rode off, whereas, an older person would have been too much upset to do anything but go home and lie down on a sofa and drink tea or sniff smelling-salts Verily, the rising generation bids fair to be a plucky

A good story is told in connection with the epidemic raging in Middlesbro' and district. A certain good dame had a telegram handed her, and, thinking it might have come from the infected area, she held it or a few minutes over the fire. After a length; nterval, she, after some slight misgivings, made bold o open the missive, and the centents were quickly oneigned to the fire. I believe she still remains blissful ignorance of the fact that the paper which caused the commotion and anxiety originated not a undred yards from her home.

We will surely get enough of organ recitals in the near future. In connection with the Wesleyan friends, Mr J. W. Stobbart is to give a recital at an early date. According to present arrange pening of the Primitive new organ is fixed for April 16th, and, without doubt, we shall be treated, if an appropriate celebration is intended, to another dose on that occasion. Let us have them, by all means the more the merrier. We can do with a dozen recitals to counteract the many evil influences at work in our little town.

On Saturday evening last, a public meeting was held in the Bowlees Chapel, presided over by Mr John Dickenson. Mr R. Hogg was the special preacher, and the good company present were rewarded by a stirring and eloquent address from the Crook gentleman. Of course, a coffee supper followed. Mr Hogg preached twice on the Sabbath to fairly large congregations.

The Parish Council election passed off very quietly on Saturday last. The only change in the composition of the new body is that Mr Joshua Watson, Dent Bank, replaces Mr J. J. French, resigned.—At Mickleton, Mr G. P. Raine takes the place of Mr C. Raine,—The nomination papers, in connection with the District Council, must be handed in before noon

Is British Sport dying out? has often een a question for discussion, and it is very satisfactory to know that a negative answer can be given. The physical condition of Englishmen has improved during the past half century, and the cause of this satisfactory change is attributed to the better style of living which has been adopted by all classes. are more temperate, both in eating and drinking, and, above all, the system is kept in tone and the blood purified by medicines of sterling worth, such as Holloway's Pills and Ointment. The taste for sport will never die while people use these remedies, which will cure or relieve any complaint, and give strength

Letters to the Evitor. Our columns are open for the expression of opinion, but we

THE URBAN COUNCIL AND ITS HOSPITAL

ACCOMMODATION. Sir,-Your readers, and particularly the rate payers of Barnard Castle, are especially indebted to your for your report in your last week's issue of the their work :proceedings of the Urban District Council with reference to the preparation to cop, with any out-break of small-pox. In the main, the Sanitary Com-mittee and the officials have taken all the steps that could be taken, but as to the hospital accommodati the matter was referred to the full Council. The report of the Committee, as published, practically tates that there is no proper accommodation nursing staff, there only being one bedroom for the nurse or nurses and the servant or help, and during the last time the hospital was occupied, the nurse had to sleep in the ward with the patients; and the report states this must not be. Quite right. It is nothing less than a scandal. But the Council refuse to add the two rooms as recommended, and suggest that when the need arises they could be added in about ten days. Supposing a case of small-pox were moved into the hospital, I wonder where the Council would find joiners who would go in and out of the hospital, making the necessary addition? Not in Barnard Castle, I am very certain. Then some wiseacre replies, "Let the case wait until the hospital is Yes, let the case be a source of infection for

ten days, and I question if the Council or anyone else can say where the outbreak would stop. In outbreaks of infectious disease, the key to the situation is to be in a position to instantly isolate the patients, and so prevent the disease spreading. I have in my mind a town which had not the necessary provision for this; small-pox broke out, and ultimately the then Local Board spent more in temporary buildings, etc., and destruction of clothing than would have put up permanent hospital, while the lives lost were beyond value. Barnard Castle vaunts itself as a health esort, but let there be an uncontrolled outbreak bowever small) of this dread disease, and for han one year, there will not be a visitor in the town. There is one question the Urban Council must put themselves, namely—Is the hospital accommodation highest well-being of the town at heart. I write strongly, because I feel strongly, as I know the gravity of the situation.—I enclose my card, and am yours, etc.,

A RATEPAYER. THE SCHOOL BOARD QUESTION IN LUNEDALE, DEAR SIR,-The paragraph in your last week's

issue, pertaining to the school board rates in Lunedale, has caused a good deal of comment, and as the senti-ment is by no means the expression of the mind of the Lunedale ratepayers, and might lead to a wrong estimate of public opinion, I have ventured to make There can be no mistaking the motive of the writer the paragraph in question, which was undoubtedly

o bias the ratepayers against the school board school The question of rates seems to be the one string upon which all the music is played by the opposers of the present movement. I quite agree that the question should not in any sense be overlooked, as the money out into the working man's pocket, by honest toil, is not to be spent without due consideration. But mportant as the question of rates may be, there is something of more vital importance involved in the present question—something which has ever been dear to the working man—and that is his liberty. The Lunedale ratepayers are asked to decide whether they vill give up their freedom in this matter, or retain to themselves the power to use their own judgment and

common sense in the education of their children. The question of rates is being used as a bugbeau righten the ratepayers, for the figures quoted for arge towns would in no sense compare with the rates levied in country parishes. The school board rate at Middleton, previous to the erection of the schools, was 5d, in the pound, and it should be borne in mind that the Middleton Board had £70 per year to pay for

Lunedale is under no rent, as the school-room is parish property. At present the maintenance of the school is sastained by voluntary subscriptions, in

Lord Stratbmore threatens to withdraw his subscription of £10 per year, but in case the ratepayers decide to put the absolute control and management of the shool in the hands of himself and the Vicar he will undertake to bear the expense of working it. This is a sort of generosity that looks for compensation, and should be carefully analysed. We will suppose that the ratepayers accepted his Lordship's offer, in what osition does it place them? It simply means that hey have no voice whatever in the education of their own children: the Vicar selects his own schoolmaster without once consulting the very people concerned, and, whatever his capabilities may be as a teacher, the one essential would be that he would have to inculcate the creeds and doctrines of the Established Church, and this in a district where Nonconformity is in a decided majority. What I want to ask the Nonco ormists in the dale is-Are you prepared to sacrific the principles which your forefathers have fought and bled for without a strong effort to retain them? The worthy Vicar and his supporters may say it is foolish policy for the ratepayers to saddle themselves with a rate which they have the power to clear themselves from; but supposing that Lord Strathmore withdraws his annual subscription of £10, and that the other subscribers drop their support, which may amount to another £10, it is quite evident that the sum to be ealized would not require a heavy rate, and I sho think that a penny or twopenny rate would meet all expenses. In fact a gentleman at the meeting gave a usrantee that a penry rate would suffice. Surely this is not a big price to pay for the educa-

tion of a family of children, and the retaining of th parents' free-will in saying how, in what way, and by whom their children shall be educated. Thanking whom their children some truly, you in anticipation, I am, yours truly, PROGRESS.

COTHERSTON VILLAGE DRAINAGE.

DEAR SIR,—I was reading a paper, some days ago, when I saw the following heading, "a healthy district." When I read a little further, I found it was the Medical Officer's report for Cotherston district, and that Cotherston was by far the most healthy village. When I consider the village has to contend with all the contagious diseases that have been brought nto it by visitors and others, and only a death rate of 8 in 1,000 during the last year, I think no same man will doubt it being a healthy district. I hope the County Council and District Council will take notice of the Medical Officer's report, and kindly publish a notice asking all medical men to be careful, and not allow any of their patients to leave home with any contagion upon them, especially just now, when the small-pox is so very bad in some places. When a disease breaks out in a village there is a danger of the village getting the blame of being unbealthy, instead of blaming the party who brought the disease. I think a partial drainage is all that is needed in so healthy a village, and, to enforce a general drainage at the present time, in my opinion, would only wasting the ratepayers' money. TRES VALLEY.

Barnard Castle Penny Bank, March 12th, 1898.—No of depositors, 62; amount, £3 8s. 9d. Withdrawals, 9; amount, £18 12s. 91. Epps's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.

-By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and autrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties o well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavoured bet which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitu tion may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame,"-Civil Service Gazette.—Made simply with boiling water or milk.—Sold only in packets and pound tins, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Ltd., Homeopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Cocoaine or Cocoa-Nib Extract: A thin beverage of full flavour, now with many beneficially taking the place of tea. Its active principle being a gentle nerve stimulant, supplies the needed energy without unduly exciting the system. THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL UNION AND THE MUZZLING OF SHEEP DOGS.

The following reply has been received from the Right Hon. Walter Long to an application from the National Agricultural Union, for the exemption of sheep dogs from the muzzling order while engaged in

"Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall-place London, February 25th, 1898.

Sir.—I am directed by the Board of Agriculture o advert to your letter of the 18th inst., and in reply I am to say that the question of muzzling sheep dogs, while in or on a public place, has already engaged the serious attention of the Board, and they regret they are unable to make any modification of the Order in the manner suggested. It has been found that in agricultural counties where large numbers of such dogs are kept, that a great proportion of the cases of rabies that occurred in 1897 were in sheep dogs. These dogs. moreover, have exceptional opportunities at markets and other public places for contracting and dissemi-nating the infection of rabies, so that it is feared that an exception in their favour would seriously delay, if not altogether ruin, the ultimate success of the opera-tions now being carried with the object of eradicating the disease.—I am, S.r., your obedient servant (Signed) T. H. ELLIOT, Secretary."

SIDDALL'S THEATRE.

Mr Siddell and his telepted company still continue to draw crowded houses to their place of amusement. On Monday, March 7th, "The Grip of Iron" was presented, an excellent pourtrayal being given by the entire company. This was followed by the great French drams, "The Two Orphans," Miss Wentworth giving a dramatic representation of the blind girl. "Ingomar" was performed on Wednesday, the most noticeable feature of this charming play being the beautiful Grecian costumes worn by most of the artistes. On Thursday the ever-popular "Ticket-of-leave Man" was on the boards. "Man against Man" was played on the following evening, whilst the drama of "Jack Shepherd," was introduced on the Saturday, when the house was packed. The great historical play of "Jane Shore" was gone through on Monday last. Last evening Mr Alf. Stanton's version of "Called Identeeives, namely—1s the hospital accommodation adequate, if there should be an outbreak to-morrow? Back "was presented, Miss Wentworth taking the role of the Committee's report, they say it role of Pauline, whilst Gilbert Vaughan was ably impersonated by Mr Stantyn. Many anticipations are centred on to-night, when Wilson Barrett's great drams (or will learn) something of the subject, who value lives rather than a beggarly £50, and who have the interest and the princess Theatre, London, on its first appearance. Other productions are in course of preparation, and, I believe, some time during next week we are promised one, if not more of Shakespeare's masterpieces. Master Sam is nightly to the fore, with violin and clog dancing. Miss Bippon also adds to the svening's enjoyment with her Rippon also adds to the evening senjoyment with her graceful daucing. Then we must not forget the dogs, which are a treat in themselves. Lastly, but by no means least, Mr Jas. Parker, humourist, etc., is eagerly looked forward to, his very appearance on many occasions, causing endless laughter. The whole performance finishes up each evening with an exceedingly funny farce. The work of several of the actors is very heavy, and a fresh play each evening is a task that could not be long endured by many. But it is done, and the management is to be congratulated. Mrs Siddall contributes greatly to the success by an excellent choice of music, which is played in brilliant style, showing this talented lady to have full command over the special instrument,

> The Cornish Organ is a beautiful instrunent, and, with the spread of music, they should be appreciated. A catalogue, well worth reading, will be

ent on application. Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off use the Mexican Hair Renewer, for it will positively restore, in every case, grey or white hair to its original colour. It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle

Parish Church, Barnard Castle.-S. P. G. On Friday, March 18th, at 7 o'clock, an Organ Recital will be given in aid of the Women's Mession Association. There will be a sbort address by the Vicar.

A. W. Brown, Local Sec. and Organist.—ADVT.

HAVE YOU TRIED BUDDEN'S BALSAM OF HOREHOUND AND COLTSFOOT? It is the best known MUREHOUND AND COLTSFOOT? It is the best known remedy for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Hoarseness, r any affection of the Chest and Lungs. For any of these complaints, it stands unrivalled. One dose relieves; one bottle cures. Bottles, is. 14d. and 2s. 9d. Sold by all Chemists.

To MOTHERS.-Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is pleasant to taste; it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button," Of all Chemists, 1s. 14d, per bottle,

Women's Mission Association, Barnard Castle.—We beg to draw the attention of our readers to the organ recital which will take place next Friday night, in the Parish Church, at Barnard Castle. There will be a short address by the Vicar on this most useful society, while the local secretary—Miss A. W. Brown-will preside at the organ.

THE PRUDENTIAL BANK OF LONDON, Finebury Circus Buildings, London, E.O. Capital, £150,000,—CASH RECEIVED ON DEPOS.T, at from 6 to 10 PER CENT, PER ANNUM, according to period, interest payable monthly or quarterly, free of income tax.—Money advanced promptly upon Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, and other Securities, Write for Prospectus, Edwin Lee, General Managery.

THE LARGEST RING MAKER IN THE WORLD says, "I make more WEDDING BINGS for J. T. YOUNG, of GREENWICH HOUSE, MARKET PLACE, BARNARD CASTLE, than for any other customer—i.e. taking the size of Town and District into consideration." These Rings are of the Finest Quality and Pinish, and a Useful Present is given with sch Ring sold. A large stock of Watches, Clocks, Gold and Silver Jewellery, Silver and Electro-plated Articles, Fancy Goods, Whitby Jet, Cutlery, etc., always on hand. Repairs done in town and country by Experienced Workmen,

Billiards.-Home and home matches have been arranged between the Conservative Clubs at Darlington and Barnard Castle. The first match was played at Darlington on Wednesday night last. The Barnard Castle team won four games out of the six, but were besten by one point. The return match will be played at Barnard Castle on Wednesday, the 23rd March. The scores were as follows :-

H. Marshall 100 H. S. Raper...
J. Coates 97 C. Raine ...
J. Shaw 87 A. G. Stevens ...
T. Ness 79 J. Awde ...
G. Urwin 100 A. H. Nicholson
F. Taylor 46 W. Burton ... 509 Total Total Patent Record,-Compiled for this paper

by J. P. Bayly, British and Foreign Begistered Patent Agent and Engineer, of 18, Fulbam Place, Paddington, London, W., from whom all particulars may be obtained. — Applications for patents: -4.978, T. Howard, J. Heitlan, and L. Metcalfe, 12, D'Arcy St., Sunderland, mechanism for driving cycles and arresting pedal motion, also for braking with discs; 5,086, B. B. Bryson, 213, Portland Road, Newcastleon-Tyne, improved household vessel for boiling water. Patents granted, and specifications published:—23 099, G. B. Bowles, 49, Trajan Avenue, South Shields, railway vehicles; 23,572, A. E. Lowenthal, and A. G. Walker, 11, Bodle St., Newcastle-on-Tyne,

trousers clips.

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Powell's Balsam of Anisced—For Coughs.
Powell's Balsam of Anisced—For Coughs.
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Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Coughs.—Brouchitis.
Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Coughs.—Lung Troubles,
Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Coughs.—Influenzs.
Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Coughs.—Influenzs.
Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Coughs.—Safe and Reliable.
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Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Coughs.—Sold by Chemists.
Powell's Balsam of Anisced—Bottles, is 1½d, 2s 3d, & upwards
See Trude Mark—Lion, Net, and Mouse, on Wrapper.

Births, Marriages, and Beaths.

DEATHS. WATSON.-At Woodland, on February 22nd, 1898 Blijab William Watson, only son of William Watson, New Town, Eggleston, aged 24 years.

ARMSTRONG.—At Barnard Castle, on the 14th inst., Mr James Armstrong, army pensioner, and formerly town-crier at Middleton, aged 75 years. To be interred at Middleton-in-Teesdale, on Thursday,

17th March, 1898. In Memorian.

BOLAN.—In loving memory of Johnnie Bolam, of Lartington, who died March 21st, 1897, ag cd 15 years and 9 months. B.I.P.