OWN CORRESPONDENT. meeting of the Wesleyans of uit was held at Middleton on on. The Rev. J. Glandfield minister) presided. There dance, and the representation dance, and the representation coleties was vary good, con-lemency of the weather.—The the circuit to be in a very colar condition. All liabilities ad for the first time for some showed the circuit to be clear mbership returns were con-satisfactory.—Mr T. Coate-years' faithful service as a resigned the post, and was need for his services.—Mr W. her with Mr R. W. Raine, was alt steward, and Mr G. V. Tarn cetary.—Mr J. Foggin was it secretary.—Arrangements special evangelistic services chapels in the area during mary, to be conducted by the preachers.—The represent-

ER DALE NOTES.

by Mrs R. W. Raige. ses on the Durham side of ced early closing on seg all the ions were shut is two hours earlier for the other villages it only

at has been caused about appearance of a fine red deer It appears that the animal v last week on Holwick Fell erds, when it made off in Crossthwaite. Next day it kaide, where several of the good look at it. Snaisgill to be its favourite haunt at The red deer is a source of in this district. It is a fine antiers, and possesses the roperties of the deer tribe, fences with graceful ease. by the Tees lale Glee and

on Wednesday night, in the com, Middleton, was well preciation being manifested oms rendered. Dr. Beadle airman explained the object were working for the Pool
wore working for the Red
Prince of Wales's National
The first half of the proof "The soldier's chorus" of "The soldier's chorus"
"The dawn of song," by the
blending and harmony were
ale veice quartette party—
on, F. Lowe, J. J. Thompson,
g "Soldiers' rost" and "The
which they gained the hearty
sent. Miss Ruth Pratt, of
Mr. J. H. Rayman of Barney Mr J. H. Brown, of Barnard we special artistes, and as a they sang "The moon hath s given in a style that appreciation which they ratt and Mr W. Thompson tenor) gave a duett, "The om "Il Trovatore" (Verdi), worthy of the expression ace. The individual pieces Miss Pratt, "The Moorish encore was demanded. Eggleston, gave a tasteful ire's a land," and Miss M. sang "My ain folk" with wa's two songs were "Two Sergeant of the line," and, sencored. Mr W. Thomphis song, "Land of hope J. J. Thompson's clasionet dances," was given in a second portion of the in arms." This is a patriotic airs and national excellently performed on company being stirred The individual ly sustained by Miss C. on, Mr F. Lowe, and Mr pson most efficiently B. Raine played the great ability.

curred at Middleton bek of old workmen of the lompany. The first, which needsy night with painful at of Mr Jos. Morton, aged morly a horse driver for was exceptionally well reesdale. He took a fit chair. Medical aid was but, when Dr. Beadle d life to be extinct. The at of Mr Geo. Flemmi "Cala" washing plant.
daughter-in-law in

Busd a whist drive and in the Assembly Hall, ay night. Twenty tables the whist drive. The olson; 2 Miss G. Dent; 4, Miss N. Walton; 5, ss L. Collinson. Gentle-uson; 2, Mr Geo. Frame; M. Richardson: 5, Mr J. M. Richardson; 5, Mr J. in; and sealed prize, Mr eadle and Mr L. Simpson ceremonies, the former the prizes. the prizes; and Messrs xon, the able honorary similar capacity for the Middleton String Band The refreshments, which were under the able M. Watson and Miss M. several others. The ory. After meeting vork having been done ained a balance of £7.

in the Guild-room.

a very successful sing-ae Guild-room, Barnard of the performers were he 17th Battalion Durham whom was discovered order. The banjo songs are keenly appreciated, of Mr F. Nevison were of Mr F. Nevison were
red. In any song with a
mbly joined, adding to
The programme was as
Nevison; song—The
ral Westwood; banjo
lden sword—Mr J. J.
bye—Private Blades;
re—Private Garbutt;
rate Stonegate; banjo re—Private Garbust;
livate Stonegate; banjo ahuro—Mr J. J. Walker; sp—Mr F. Nevison. It concerts weekly.—On mpetition was arranged roved a great success-rivate Furniss winning three ties with Private of the second. These be held weekly.—On ry enjoyable concert end-Lieuteuant Suther-tent was discovered in the old favourites again

The County Court. STARTFORTH PROPERTY CASE.

enert Reasoning on Prescriptive Law.

Judge Says it is a Most Interesting Action.

MONDAY. - Before Mr Frederic Gordon ler, judge ; and Mr W. J. Watson, deputy-The solicitors present were Messrs H. Holmes, J. I. Dawson and J. W. B. Heslop, ard Castle; and H. W. Summerson,

Amount Due on Dishonoured Cheques : a Counter-claim.

The plaintiff in this action was Mr.Thomas dy, landlord of the Fox and Hounds Hotel, ersten, who sued Mr Thomas Bayles, man, for the sum of £8, due on two pured cheques. The defendant entered pterclaim amounting to £18 19s. 11d., as alotiff to Messrs Morgan and Sutherland, mage by trespass by hens in 1912 and 1913. ; and a garden gate taken by the pfaintiff. Dawson for the defendant,-Mr Dawson dhe was afraid that they had no defence to im, and they would have no alternative to admit it .- The Judge : The plaintiff says claim for rent is barred by the Statute of stious.—Defendant said that plaintiff was ssion of the garden when he (Mr s) bought the property in 1903, and that let the garden verbally to Mrs Boddy for 22 ear. He kept possession until February. ill, and never paid any rent. They were ing together, said Mr Bayles, and Mr giddy asked him to pay Mesers Morgan and stherland, Darlington, £3 9s. 11d. on his secount, and defendent did so.—His Honor: on admit owing him £8 on two cheques. Why all that money was owing to you, you did at set it off on these obsquee, I don't quite inderstand.—Mr Heslop: Nor I either.—Mr on said very frequently the plaintiff ed the defendant by eashing him cheques. ed added that if these cheques had been held hough he admitted that hens had been in the er. -Joseph Kipling also said he bad seen wis in the garden. - After a long hearing his Enter found for the plaintiff, on the claim, with cass; and for the defoudant for 10s. on the ter-claim, with costs on that amount,

THE JUDGE AND PRESCRIPTIVE LAW:

IMPORTANT DECISION. This was an action for trespass and damages aliated by Mrs Jane ann Elleray, of Startthe devisee and representative of Elizabeth in Johnson, deceased, damages amounting to being claimed.-Mr J. I. Dawson was for me plaintiff, and Mr H. W. Summerson for the Mendant.— In the particulars of claim it was strut that the plaintiff, Jane Ann Ellersy, is s tenant for life of a dwelling-house with a and attached at Startforth, in the North liding of the county of York, bounded by a age of the defendant on the south. The hintiff's house is in her own occupation. The musl value of the property of the plaintiff ad defendant is under £50. During the both of May last the defendant opened a rway in the side of the wall at her house on gisted, and committed trespass upon the said | proceedings. May defoud not has cut down the clothes lines of the plaintiff, taken down the crocks, and stered with and prevented the plaintiff from using the said yard. The defendant also placed stones and rubbish in plaintiff's yard. The defendant has removed a hoarding of the plaintiff placed in front of the door so broken out by the defendant. The plaintiff claims the sum of two pounds damage by trespass, and by cutting down clothes lines and by traking boarding. The plaintiff also claims ninjunction to restrain the defendant from econtinuance or repetition of the acts of other acts of injury in respect of the said

At the outset Mr Summerson contended at since the act of trespass alleged in the tticulars of the claim were committed prior Mrs Johnson's death, no injunction could held against the present defendant on the and that she did not derive her title of this operty from Mrs Johnson, the probate of e will be produced .-- Mr Dawson submitted at the personal representative of the teased was liable for damage done to the hearty of the plaintiff by the defendant.—
In Jane Elleray, the plaintiff, who is 71 years age, said she had resided in the house for lears, and it was left to her husband by his and over been broken out into the yard until May, and they had had uninterrupted Possession for more than fifty years.—Thomas Burrowdale (Newgate), Henry Duckworth, Annie Eliza Elleray, Henry Ellersy, John Edward Elleray, Hannah Kay, and Henry ent also gave evidence -Mr Summerson lad no witnesses for the defence.

His Honor's Learned Summing-up and

Judgment. Judge Templer said he thought this was an utremely interesting case. He did not think he land itself was of very much value to anyte in the world with the exception of these people, and probably most of all to Mrs eray, a great deal more than to the defendant, cause the latter had already a certain bunt of land, whereas the plaintiff had only Assage on the north side of Robert Lodge's nd, and she also had got this doorway which spened out upon this greer. The materials forming a judgment as to ownership were very slight. Unfortunately the deeds and aration put in did not describe the ground with sufficient accuracy to enable one to say ith any clearness and certainty as to whom is property really belonged, and one was iven back to consider the evidence of ownerhip exercised in the acts of ownership on the Art of the people interested for a long time tevious, so as to prescribe or give to them a rescriptive title. As the Judge understood te law, the whole gist of the law of prescripon assumed a grant originally made, but here here was no question. He thought it was a lary strong point in Elleray's favour that pening on to this green, was an old door the tom the wash-house or coal-house on the Round. That was a point distinctly in favour the plaintiff's contention. It would not have Pened out of anybody's house unless on to which must have been in use, and one aust assume that that door was placed there lears and years before by someone who rearded that land as very much his own. It was quite clear from the testimony of the old

who had given her evidence most fairly most distinctly, that ever since she could nember, and for a period of from thirty-Yen up to forty years, the plaintiff bad used is piece of ground for the purpose of drying hood. These were all distinct acts of owner-P, though she admitted that her right to do had been challenged by the very man who is interested in disputing her claim, and who d said : "I shall stop you doing that.". But ichael Hobson never did take steps to stop or, and, so far as the case went, it was

Looking at it Now from the Other Point, they found an old coal-house which had bee there for years, but an extraordinary thing was that it was not used in the way one would have expected it to have been used. It was not used by a door similar to that serving the Elleray family. It was

utilized by a front gate, and walking round to That was said to be a right of easement which was intelligible, though it seemed a singular thing that if that coal-house was upor heir own land they had never until now opened ut a door which was in reality what the ght was about. Mrs Ellersy had said all the defendant had got a right to was to get coals into the yard, and in that the defendant was exercising an easement to which she was ntitled, and which was justified by the sense f right which Mrs Ellersy had in her own mind. Mr Sammerson had asked them to believe that this old stable, which they knew had not been in existence for forty years, must have leaned against Milburn's house, and thereupon suggested that it must have belonged to the defendant. But that did not necessarily follow. On the whole, therefore, the Judge did not think that Mr Summerson ws :- Rent of garden, seven years, at 22 had shown that there was reasonable ground annum, 214; money paid by request of the for insisting that this land was the defendant's property, though there was clearly a strong case of easement against him. Elleray, in his Honor's opinion, had made out her case that the land did belong to her as a distinct pre-Mr Heslop appeared for the plaintiff, and scriptive user. His Honor acknowledged his great indebtedness to the learned advocates who had so ably assisted bim, said the plans prepared by Mr E. C. Surtees were really excellent, and added: Judgment for the plaintiff, that this green or parcel of land in question is the property of the plaintiff, and under scale B., and allow the defendant costs on Mr Summerson's successfully resisting an application for an injunction. I assess normal damages at 53. Do you wish to appeal ?-Mr

LOCAL AND OTHER NOTES.

ummerson said he thought not.

Lieutenaut W. O. Silvertop, of the 26th Hussars, of the Silvertop family, late owners of the Lartington estate, who has taken part in the war since its commencement, has been very slightly wounded in the shoulder, a bullet passing right through this part of his body.

Mr F. S. J. Sivertop, the owner of Micster imied owing anything on the counter-claim, Acres, Riding Mill, Northumberland, is now in the army, he being captain in the Oxfordshire Yeomanry. Mr Charles Silvertop, the third son, is also in the army, he being a lieutenant in the Northumberland Fusiliers.

> Lord Barnard gave a bit of sound advice to a man charged at the police court with drunkenness, on Wednesday: "What a foolish thing it is of you to be paying police court fines, when, by a little self-control, you could keep your money in your pocket, and spend it in other ways for your own comfort."
>
> Directions for Making Mose-Tops for Highland Regiments.

> Mr W. J. Watson, clerk to the Startforth Rural District Council, reported to that body on Wednesday that all the rooms and the hall plain, 3 pur!, 13 plain, 3 pu at the Witham Testimonial buildings had been commandeered by the military excepting the inches). 122ad row.—*Purl 2, knit 2 together. library and the Council chamber.

The Zetland foxhounds will meet Brettanby to-morrow, and at Cockfield on Saturday, each morning at eleven o'clock.

A number of Belgian refugees and wounded soldiers were afforded an opportunity of witnessing the meet at Aske Hall, last

General Headlam; and twenty articles of a similar nature to the Navy Emergency League.

"The Ventures of Bob of Wales," just issued. is a charming book for children, and has been daintily written by a Barnard Castle lady, who has already contributed several admirable poems to the local press. It will form a very appropriate Christmas present to a little boy respass on the said yard, and the committal or girl. The same authorize is just issuing Wedding times and chimes: a book for wedding anniversaries: " royal 16 mo.: bound in white forril, with gilt edges.

> The choir of St. Mary's Church, Barnard Castle, have contributed 27 towards the funds for the enlargement of the vestry.

Mr J. J. Bell-Irving took first prize with a pair of blue-gray heilers at Messrs Crow's of all soldiers and sailors who are serving Christmas fat stock sale, at Sunderland, on their country, who have not yet received an Monday.

Barnard Castle next year.

At a special meeting of the Urban District Council, on Monday night, Mr Farey Vincent Ord was appointed assistant-overseer for Barnard Castle in succession to his late

The male members of the family of Sergt. W. Heslop, of Barnard Castle, late of the 3rd Battalion Durham Light Infantry—himself the son of a non-commissioned officer in the old line battalion of the county—are nearly all serving their country at this crisis. William Henry Heslop is a pensioner of the 2nd Durham Light Infantry. Thomas H. Heslop is company quartermaster-sorgeant in the 2nd Durham Light Infantry. Albert Heslop is company quartermaster-sergeant in the 3rd Durham Light Infantry. J. James Heslop is in the 6th Battalion Durham Light Infantry; and Walter Heslop is a second-lieutenant in the 15th Durham Light Infantry. This is a very excellent record for a family, the head of which (Mr W. Heslop) was forty-four years and nine months in our own regiment.

Rebecca Anderson and Evelyn Maud collected the sum of £1 5s, at the small village of Newsham for cigarettes for the soldiers fighting at the front. They are quite young girls, and deserve to be commended.

Private J. Tallentire, of the Third Dragoon Guards, formerly of Nowbiggen-in-Teesdale, and late of 3, Cheimsford-street, Darlington, has been killed in action. Deceased was 37 years of age, and fought in the Boer War. Mr and Mrs John Hutchinson, living at Bowes, are the deceased's stepfather and mother.

Miss Hodgkinson, head teacher of the Idant School, at Barnard Castle, has sent seven shillings to the "Weekly Dispatch" Depôt Fund, which sum was collected in the school from the children, with a request that it might be expected in the distribution of fourteen sixpenny packets of cigarettes to the men of the 2nd Durham Light Infantry row on active service.

A beautifully carved oak base for the altar cross in Barnard Castle Church has been presented by Mrs T. Borrowdale. It is her own personal work.

Yesterday a letter was received from Private Bucter, of the 12th Lancers, who says that the roads in France are very bad. He has not seen a local soldier, save his brother.

Raine's Foot Rot Lotion is good. It couldn't very well be better. BUT for the sake of convenience we now make it in the form of an forth), and Thomas Smiles (Bridge End, Low ointment. IT IS ALSO GOOD, TRY IT. tely in favour of the plaintiff's contention, tins at 1/- each from Raine, Chemist.

War Items.

Cerman Effort to Influence Italy.

BY A LOCAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Prince von Bülow, who against all precedent has been appointed to act temporarily as German Ambassador in Italy, is a brilliant diplomatist, and married a daughter or stepdaughter of Minghetti, the famous statesman who helped to make modern Italy. Naturally as the von Billows are most popular in Rome, the appointment is a very clever German move, and the Prince only accepted it under pressure from the Kaiser. Italy is also being flooded with books and pamphlets containing the German news. To counteract this we should join the central committee for national patriotic organisations, who have offices in London at 62, Charing Cross. Each helps according to his or her natural gifts, dist: ibuting and passing on literature and newspapers likely to explain the truth and the national danger to others unable to buy the usual daily papers. The central committee also endeavon to supply neutral countries with English papers and the truth in foreign languages such as the French yellow paper.

Congregational Church Roll of

Honour. In connection with the Helf-street Coagregaional Church, Barnard Castle, a "roll of bonour" has been drawn up and hung in the lobby of the church. Many of the young more members of the church, and old boys of the attached to her messuage. I award costs Sunday school have readily responded to the call of their King and country. The following is the list to date: - Messrs Thomas William Atkinson, Robert Tennet Brown, Thomas Honry Brown, George Brown, Thomas Chandler, Robert Descor, Ernest Eder, James Hird Gilbert Hayward Richardson, John Bayles Richardson, Joseph Appleton Raw, Joseph Simpson, A. Burn, Robert Chatt and Sister E Wiopenny. Amongst the names on the roll who have already seen active service are Miss Winpenny, an ex-scholar and member of the church, who is serving as nurse in one of the general hospitals in France. Sergt. R. Chatt, of the 2cd Battalion Durham Light Infantry who recently returned home wounded from the front, and John Bayles Richardson, serving in the South African Forces, are both ex-scholars. and members of well-known Barnard Castle families. Trooper A. Burn, a member of the local police force and reservist of the Ninth Lancers, is also an adherent of the church. The Secretary would like to hear of the names of any other old boys of the Congregational Sunday school who are serving in His Majesty's Forces.

Cast on rather loosely 78 stitches on No. 1 needles. Knit a rib of 1 plain, 1 purl, for 92 Kait on, continuing the same rib as in the previous 30 rows, notil only 3 stitches are left. Then kait two together and purl 1. Knit 4 more rows in this same rib without decressing.* Repest from * to * nutil you have done 45 rows inclusive from the row in which you began to decrease. Cast off very loosely. The above stitches with firm knitting give a medium-sized hose-top. The whole, when the plaintiff's yard, where no door previously Thursday, and were greatly interested in the fluished, should measure 19 inches. These directions are for 3-ply wheeling. For 5-ply From Whorlton ten belts and ten pairs of rest of the hose-top being in proportion. socks have been sent to the Queen; twenty- 13 needles should be used. Wool required .ive articles, including twelve pairs of socks, 11 to 2 cuts, ic, three or four skeins, Shades helmets, mittens, belts, and mullers to approved. Knaki: medium shade of natural (undyed), and other shades near to khaki, light heather mixture, and inconspicuous Lovats. Grey is not allowed.

Local Soldiers' Wives and Children.

Cordial Invitation to a Christmas Entertainment.

A movement is pearing completion at Barnard Castle, whereby the children of all soldiers and sailors in Barnard Castle and Startforth will be entertained at the Victoria Hall on Monday, the 21st of December, at 2-15 in the afternoon. There will be pictures, ton, and Christmas tree. This is to be a mingling and commingling of all children in the broadest and truest senso of the word. Will the children invitation, kindly send their names to Mr Wiseman, 30, Galgate? Mr R. T. Richardson, It is hoped that a parish hall will be built at J.P. is inviting the whole of the wives and any of the husbauds who may be in the town to this entertainment, and he is paying the proportionate cost. Admission will be by the card which has been issued.

Major Richard Rigg, J.P., and a Grave Urgency at the Front.

To the Editor of the "Teesdale Mercury." SIR,-A need of grave urgency has arisen in the great base camps of the British Army in Northern France. These camps, covering a wide area, are lacking in weather-proof structures of any kind for rest and recreation In this historic hour, when, for the first time is one hundred years. British forces are fighting Western Europe, the National Council M.C.A. feel that so great and sacred a cell sannot and must not be neglected. Every day hundreds of brave man return wounded from the firing-line to one or other of these camps. Every day hundreds are drafted to them to replace units which are fallen, wounded, or nissing from the field. In the absence of suitable facilities, much unnecessary hardship will be endured by thousands of our brave troops during the long, bitterly cold evenings which are now upon us. To meet this great and pressing need fifteen weather-proof structures, costing £450 each, are required at once. The buildings will be strongly constructed to withstand the full rigour of the winter, will be artificially heated, and will provide a much-needed social centre, both for the wounded and convalescent, as well as for the troops stationed at the base. Donations will be thankfully received by Mr R. L. Barclay. Y.M.C.A., 13, Russell-square, London, W.C. The need is proent. These buildings will form the institutes of the great camp—the home from nome, the centre of recreation, social cheer, and christian companionship amid the hardships and dangers of camp life.—Yours, etc., RICHARD RIGG, MAJOR,

Chairman of the Military Camp Department, Y.M.C.A. Applegarth, Windermere, 15th December, 1914.

Startforth: For King and Country.

The following names, connected with this parish, are added to those already published : James Aislabie (Boldron), Oliver Cook (Boldron), and Benjamin Leask (Bridge End, Low Startforth), North-Eastern Railway Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers Regiment; Alfred onald (son of Mr Robert Donald), Royal Garrison Artillery; Alfred Jefferson (Pole Ratch), A. Lendrum (Bridge End, Low Start-In | Startforth), 6th Battalion Territorials, Durham

LOCAL VISITOR INTERNED IN GERMANY.

Mr Frederick Graham, B.A., and Teutonic Natred.

Mr Frederick Graham, B.A., (Oxon), son of Mr and Mrs T. E. Graham, of 2, Thornbillterrace, Sunderland, who have taken the esidence of Mrs Hutchinson, Galgate, Bernard Castle, for the winter months, has semething interesting to say about the war. Mr F. Graham, who is about to become a clerk in holy orders, visited Barningham on Saturday afternoon, prior to which one of our repre sentatives had a brief conversation with the visitor, who went to Hanover in June, and took a post in a school there in the capacity of master. The head or director of the school was a Frenchman. Here Mr Graham worked until the outbreak of hostilities, when on the Sunday night after the declaration of war, the principal of the school disappeared, leaving a note to say that he could not pay Mr Graham' salary, in which predicament the latter gentleman sympathised with his chief, because, as the Englishman jocosely puts it, "we were allies." On the night that war was declared by England, Mr Graham was in the Wiener café, and immediately the Germans rose to their foot. They know there were two Britons present-Mr Graham and his friend-and the Teutons lined up, and between the ranks the Englishman passed out. Then the "cultured boat boister nely burst into the strains of the German untional anthem, to the music, forsooth, of our own "God save the King" Germans nevertheless, were very courteous, though for days there were buge military forces pouring over the frontier. Molestations certainly did take place, but they were due to the indiscretions of young men only in the streets. As the days fled, however, a feeling of dislike towards England, and all that is English was rapidly fauned into deep and intense batred, which swept the land like a typhoon, and its presence was sensible to everybody. One thought is dominating the mind of all Germany, says Mr Graham, and that is the getting of a footing in Londor. On the whole the English civil prisoners were magnificently treated. There were, of course, exceptional cases, where in particular individuals made an attempt to cross the frontier. The day after the declaration of war those detained were held up at Benthein, and, owing to their number, were cast into prison this apparently being the only course the officials could pursue in catering for the enormous crowde. Here they were kept, pending instructions from the capital. But Berlin was busy hardling troops, and so the imprisonment lasted for a month. During this time, however, those under detention were well fed and cared for, and they were then sent back to the inland towns, or awayfrom the frontiers, where they were allowed to take private residences, under the surveillance of the police. Mr Graham had simply to make himself known twice a week to the civil authorities, and keep within the district of the city of Hanover and Lindon. Seeing. however, that this area included within its limits a magnificent forest and a beautifully wooded hill, our "captive" epjoyed many pleasant walks, so that he could not have had a very bad time. Among the most exciting experiences he had was an incident which befel him in crossing Waterloo-place, in Hanover. There he saw a batch of prisoners, including French, Belgians, and Moroccans, and two Englishmen in the centre. They were being brought to a dozen electrical cars which were waiting to transfer to a station. For the nonce Mr Graham forgot that he was in an alien country, and, rushing forward, to grasp the hands of the two English soldiers, he was quickly hemmed in by a crowd. Amor patrice! his fature you

last " silver " bullet will decide victory for the Allies. Contrary to a belief strongly held in this country, Mr Graham will on no account

course, we shall see what we shall see !

Extricating himself, however, he got round t

the other side of the cars, and lifted his hat to

his two fellow-countrymen as they moved

away. But the mob pursued him, though English athleticism soon prevailed against

German indolence and inactivity. Mr Graham

had amp'e opportunities of witnessing the

German mobilization from within. Hanover is

one of Germany's biggest military centres.

passage of artitlery alone was most impressive.

He thinks that economic pressure in Germany

will eventually seal the nation's doom in this

war in which event there will be a verifica-

tion of Mr Lloyd George's prediction that the

entertain the faintest hint that the Russians

will ever enter Berlin. Crux criticorum. Of

Eggleston School.

Here she can handle 50,000 troops.

The following parishioners and children have contributed towards the Prince of Wales' Relief Fund: -Mrs J. Stephenson (HT), 1s; Miss Emmie Adamson, 6d; Mrs leator, 6d; Mrs Lodge, 6d; Mrs John Bainbridge, 6d; Mrs Wm. Bainbridge, 3d; Mrs M. Bainbridge, 3d; Mrs Emmerson, 3d; Mrs T. Richardson, 3d; Vernon Lamb, 1d; Herbert Foster, 2d; Alfred Kidd, 31; Robert Kidd, 1d; Willie Kidd, 1d; Sarah Kidd, 1d; Edith Kidd, 1d; Wilfred Kidd, 1d; Isase Bainbridge, 2d; Hannah Bainbridge, 1d; Ralph Bainbridge, 1d; Edith Bainbridge, 1d; Eva Iceton, 3d; Mabel Iceton, 1d ; Horace Icetop, 1d ; Brenda Lodge, 1d ; Irene Lodge, 1d; Lavinia Lodge, 1d; John Stanley Kidd, 3d; Jonathan Alfred Kidd, 8d; Gladys Tallentire, 2d; Jane Maddison, 1d; David Alderson, 2d; Madge Walker, 1d; Dorla Walker, 1d; John Metcalfe, 1d; John Coulthard, 2d; Edna Moore, 1½1; Vera Moore, 1d; Laura Dalkin, 24; "Peggy" Stephenson, 1d; John Lamb, 1d; William Nicholson, 3d; Frederick Robinson, 1d; George Robinson, 1d; Mary Alderson, 1d; Mollie Coates, 1d; Mary Addison, 1d; James Stephenson, 2d; Wilfred Allinson, 2d; Percy Ingham, 2d; George Liddle, 2d; George Kettlewell, 2d; Bertie Morton, 1d; Norman Morton, 1d; Harry Coates, 2d; Francis Allinson, 2d; - 1s; total, 10s 101d. 10s 6d has been forwarded.

National Belgian Relief Fund.

To the Editor of the " Teesdale Mercury.' SIR,-I would be glad if you would make it known through your valuable paper that I intend holding an auction sale in the Hill ale-room, Middleton-in-Teesdale, on Tuesday, December 22nd, 1914, at 6-30 p.m., the entire proceeds of which will be devoted to the above fund. Already there are several promises of chickens and farm produce. Contributions o pieces of furniture, live or dead stock, etc. will be thankfully received.-Thanking you is anticipation, yours truly, F. J. SMITH, 9 and 10, Market-place, Middleton-in-Teesdale, December 14th, 1914.

Scargill and Our Brave Troops.

Mrs Lonsdale and Miss Hillary beg acknowledge the sum of £1 14s given by friends of Scargill and Hope for the Christmas calfe, 2s; Mrs Dent, 1s 3d; Mrs Lowes, 1s 3d; Woodmen, 1s 6d; Mrs Gibson, 1s; Mrs Hillery, 6d; Mrs Johnson, 6d; and Mrs Lamb, 6d.

Bowes and the War Fund.

The Bowes Ladies' Working Committee, since the outbreak of the war, have forwarded goods to the value of £40 in the shape of material comforts to the soldiers and sailors in His Majesty's active service, and under treatment in hospitals. Mrs Straker is the local socretary, and as Bowes is only a small parish this effort speaks well for the lady workers in the village.

Barnard Castle and Teesdale Farmers Auction Mart.

Christmas Prize Show and Sale. The annual Christmas prize show and sale was held of Wednesday, when there were forward a very choice selection all the classes catalogued, numbering 58 dairy cows an Wednesday, when there were forward a very choice selection in all the classes catalogued, numbering 58 dairy cows and heifers, 40 fat cattle. Its sheep, and 60 pigs. Trade was considered to be exceptionally good all round, and there was a good clearance. The judges for dairy cows were Messrs Fred Harrison (Newcastle), N Bousfield (Brough Sowerby), and John Blackett (Copley); for fat cattle, Messrs Henry J Park and John Britton (Darlington), and Robert Arrowsmith (Barnard Castle); fut sheep and pigs, Messrs J Moody (Bishop Auckland), Robert Fawcett (Barnard Castle), and C Barker (Kirkby Stephen), acting for Mr M Pigg (Darlington), who was indisposed, who made their awards as follows:— Fat bullocks—1 and Mr Fawcett special, Lord Barnard (£16 10s, bought by Mr T Harrison (£3t 5s, R J Park, Darlington); 3 and Robson's special, Lord Barnard (£310s, Barlington); 3 and Robson's special, Lord Barnard (£310s, Barlington); 3 and Robson's special, Lord Barnard (£310s, R Arrowsmith); 2 and Keighley's special, Lord Barnard (£28 Raph Hodgson, Cockfield); 3, J J Bell-Irving (£28 10s, H Sayer). Fat heifer, not exceeding 85 stones—1 and Temperley's 1st, special, and com, Mr Fawcett's special (£ Atkiuson (£30, E) K Watson, Barnard castle); 2, Lord Barnard (£26 12s 6d, J W Hodgson, Toft Hill); 3 and Temperley's 2nd special, R T Tiplady (£19 15s, R J Park), Pair Kylocs—Exceutors of M J Arrowsmith (£16 15s, and £15 15s, T Peat and C Jackson); com, Exceutors of M J Arrowsmith (£16 15s, and £15 15s, T Peat and C Jackson); com, Exceutors of M J Arrowsmith (£16 7s, 6d, and £14 5s, R Arrowsmith and Mr Smith, Middleton-in-Teesdale). Messrs Browsmith and Mr Smith, Middleton-in-Teesdale). Messrs Browsmith and Mr Smith, Middleton-in-Teesdale). Messrs Browsmith and Mr Smith, Smith, Middleton-in-Teesdale). Messrs Browsmith and Mr Smith, Smith, Middleton-in-Teesdale). Messrs Browsmith and Mr Smith, sed shearlings-J Atkinson (70s J Moody)

2. L. Plews (70s, W Gill); com, J. Atkinson (64s 6d, M Pigg. 3 half-brod shearlings—1 and 2, J. Atkinson (68s 6d and 70s. M Pigg.). 3 hoggs—1, 2, and con, Mrs. Watson (68s and 50s. H. Watson, and 50s. It Watson, and 50s. It Watson, and 50s. It Arrowsmith). 3 black-faced wethers—J Watson, and 59s, R Arrowsmith). 3 black-faced wethers-narlton (55s, T Harrison, Darlington); 2, M Lambert (53 T Thompson. Brown's special for 3 hoggs—F Forster, Arlaw Banks (67s, Robt Fawcett). 2 pork pigs—R M Metcaffe (67s, J Rider, Barnard Castle); 2, John C Metcaffe (44s, J Rider); 3, G Wall (48s 6d, J Bider); com, G A Alcock is, R Jackson). Calved cow—J Stubbs (£33 7s 6d, W R Richardson); 2, Galved cow—J Stubbs (£33 7s 6d. W R Bichardson); 2. T Metcalfe (£32 10s. G Barker); 3. Richard Gill (£27 5s. L Burton); com, T Wilkinson (£28 15s. E Walker, Walworth). In-calf cows—I and Keithley's special, T W Richardson (£35 15s. W R Richardson); 2. Richard Gill (£23 10s, reserved); 3. J Wilson (£27, Mr Tweddell); com, Mark Pinkney (£25, I Hetherington). Heifer, calved or in-calf—T Allinson (£22 15s., Mr Tockey); 2. A Copeland (£19, L Burton); 3. Richard Gill (£19 7s 6d, Mr Hutchinson); com, J Suddes (£19 2s 6d, L Burton).

A Cockfield Celebration. On Saturday last Mr George Dixon, of Cockfield, was th On Saturday last air coorge bixon, of cockness, was the honoured guest of the Cockfield Primitive Methodist society, on his attaining his 60th year of membership with that society. Mr Dixon's fellow-members thought it to be a fitting time to celebrate his long teem of service in their church.—In the afternoon Mr Dixon preached to a company that would have been much larger but for the very inclement that would have been much larger but for the very inclement weather then prevailing. A public tea followed, which was served in the school-voom by the ladies of the church. At 7 p m. a public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by the lev. R. Laidler. Addresses were given by the Chairman, and Messrs A. Ramsden and G. Dixon (the guest). The weather was responsible for at least two absentee speake Mr H T. Mein, Toft Hill Hall; and Mr R. Armstrong, Per Mr H T. Mein, Toft Hill Hall; and Mr II, Ariastrong, Penny Hill, both of whom sent messages of regret for being absent, and also their hearty congratulations to the guest. Mr Dixon, in his address, gave a brief history of the Primitive Methodist society during his long connection with it, showing how it had risen from a very humble beginning to its present prosperous condition. This society, to-day, has a membership of 117, and 209 Sanday scholars, having also an endeavour class. It possesses a fine suite of buildings, viz., a large chapel with handsome pipe organ, a big school-room, a commodious lecture hall, a preacher's vestry, and a minister's manse. The congregations, too, are large. In addition to having been a member for 60 years, Mr Dixon has been for more than 50 of those years an acceptable local preacher in the St. Helen's (Anckland) Primitive Methodist circuit, of which Cockfield is a part. He is the eldest of a great, of which Cockfield is a part. He is the eldest, of circuit, or which Cockheid is a part. He is the elected of a quartette of local preachers in the circuit, all of whom have been in active service for more than 50 years. Not many circuits, I presume, enjoy this distinction. Though Mr Dixon is not enjoying robust health he is very hearty in his old age, and is in possession of all his feantles. Having lived all his life at Cockheld, he has become widely and deservedly known and respected in the St. Helen's (Auckland) circuit, and all who know him will circuit asking, for Cockle Messing, we who know him will join in asking for God's blessing upo

Woodland Cenefit Concert.

A concert was given on Saturday night last in the Assembly Rooms, Woodland, for the benefit of Mrs Jacob Hodgson, who had the mistortune to lose her husband so anddenly a few weeks ago, and was left with a family of seven young children. The rooms wore filled, and the promoters expect to have to hand over to Mrs Hodgson over 26, the proceeds of the above concert. The chair was ably occupied by Mr T. W. Wallace. following local talent were responsible for the programme; -Solo-To the end of the world with you-Mr J. W. Longataff; solo-If I could only make you care-Miss Ada Ellioth ; comic song-I was dancing with Matilda-Mr W. Dewhurst; solo-When the roses climb-Mr J. Pattinson; sole—Coming through the corn.—Miss Mand Elliott; solo—When other lips-Mr C. Carlton; salo-Daddy-Mrs J. Tara : duet-Convent bolls - Misses E. Pattinson and A. Bell : solo - Eternal peace - Mr. H. Walker; solo-When your eyes look into mine -Miss Lily Blackett; comic song-Who killed Bill Kaiser?-Mr W. Dewhurst; solo-Let me like a soldier fall - Mr C. Carlton : solo-Algernon, go kon-Mr J. Pattinson : solo-God bless the Prince of Wales-Mr H. Walker; comic song (by request)-The ragtime paracu—Mr W. Dewhurst; duet—The twin— Mesers J. Pattinson and C. Carlton; recitation -On the late Lord Roberts (composed by the reciter)-Mr J. W. Longstaff. Waller accompanied the various items on the piano. Votes of thanks to the Chairman, promoters, artistes, etc., brought a yery enjoyable evening to a close.

Barnard Castle Rural District Council.

Mr Robert Armstrong, J.P., presided at the usual monthly meeting of this body on Wednesday .- The Surveyor's attention was drawn to the dangerous state of a bridge over Blackton beck, Eggleston : and another bridge on the Barnard Castle main road towards Spotterton, which was in urgent need of repair. -The Surveyor said both would be attended to as soon as possible. - Mr T. W. Bainbridge (clerk) read correspondence which had passed between the Lecal Government Board and himself, regarding the reports of the Medical Officer of Health and the Inspector of Nuisances on the subject of the complaint of the Rev A. C. Headlam (Whorlton) in connection with the cases of diphtheria which occurred at his house. - Mr J W. I. Davidson said it was only fair that the Council should place on record their gratitude of the work of the officers. concerning whose work a complaint had been made but not substantiated. Therefore, he moved that an expression of that appreciation be entered on the minutes,—Mr Valentine Hodgson seconded the proposal, which was agreed to.—It was also decided, on the suggestion of Mr H. L. Fife, J.P., to include in the record the letter of explanation which the Clerk had gent to the Local Government Board .- Dr. Neligan (medical officer) acknowledged the expression of confidence, on behalf of Mr Brown (the inspector) and himself, and assured the Council that they were served by men who knew their business. - The Clerk informed the Council that the five years during which measles had been scheduled as a disease under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, had just expired, and asked if it was desirable to renew it .- After some dis cussion, it was agreed, on the proposition of Mr T. Tarn, seconded by Mr J. W. I. Davidson,

not to continue the notification of measles. As Teesdale abounds in Celtic, Saxon, and R Dent, 5s; Mrs Lonsdale, 2s 6d; Miss Alderson, 2s 6d; Mrs W Alderson, 2s 6d; Mrs R of places as Carnigill (Cairn-na-ghyll), Alderson, 2s; Mrs D Alderson, 2s; Mrs Met-intense interest at this moment to observe that as the Anglian invaders were at various times in contact with Celtic, Scandingvian 1s; Mrs Todd, 1s; Mr J R Dixon, 1s; Mrs J and Romanised inhabitants of Britain, their A Dixor, 1s; Mr T Brass, 1s; Mrs Brunskill, language admitted and retained many words which are familiar to us all even at this day.

STARTFORTH RURAL COUNCIL.

The Romantic Winch Bridge.

The monthly meeting was held on Wednessy, under the presidency of Mr John Walton, J.P., the regular chairman. There were also present Messas W. Dent-who was warmly congratulated by the Chairman, and Messrs Peacock and Preston, on again taking his seat for Cotherston, after an absence of many months from the Council, and Mr Dent suitably returned thanks-J. Peacock, T. Bayles, W. H. Robinson, G. V. Tarn, C. Waller, A. Nicholson, W. Errington, R. Lodge, R. Raine (Holwick), G. Lawes, J. Iceton, T. Metcalfe, T. Collinson, J. Allison, W. J. Watson (clerk), J. G. Appleby assistant-clerk), T. B. Plews (surveyor), and W. Porter (inspector). - The bank balance was reported to be 2705 15s. 10d., and the Surveyor said the heavy roller had crushed 1,115 yards of road metal, and the light machine had covered 667 yards of highway surface. The light roller was now laid up for the winter.

Whorlton Suspension Bridge.

The Cierk remarked that he had been in correspondence with the landowners on each side of the road leading from Thorpe to Whorlton suspension bridge, and he had found that the proprietors had hitherto always kept the walls in repair, and he had reported the fact to Mr Trevor, the clerk to the North Riding County Council.

The Stiles and Footpaths in Lartington Park. The Surveyor said be had inspected the stiles and footpaths, and be had to report that a stile had not been repaired as requested at the last meeting. One stile had been repaired, but the steps were two feet high, and ladies would have difficulty in getting over thom .- Mr Bayles: What is the approach like ?- The Surveyor : It is four feet wide-the required wiath,-Mr Bayles said it was far from being straight, and added that he was through the previous day, and, had he not known where the place actually was, he would have had difficulty in finding the road .- The Surveyor: When you once get on to the path you cannot very well get off it .- Mr Bayles : It is so bad to get on. As to the stiles they are very bad, and a bridge is needed across the beck.—The Chairman: How would it do if the Footpath Committee would just view it, and report at the next nesting ?-- Air Metcalfe moved accordingly, and Mr Bayles seconded the motion, which was adopted .- The Surveyor reported that the whole of the contributions towards the cost of the Cotherston footpaths had been paid, and the Chairman said he was very glad.

Romantic Winch Bridge in Danger.

The Surveyor remarked that, accompanied by Mr Lionel Simpson, Surveyor to the Barnard Castle Rucai Council, he had inspected Winch Bridge, and found that it was badly in need of new foot-boards, new bearers, and the structure would require painting .-The Chairman : At what cost ?- The Surveyor : I do think that a notice board should be put up, as a caution against damage to the bridge, and the Council should offer a substantial reward for information of damage to the fabric, and also setting out that anyone found damaging the bridge be prosecuted. It is in a very bac state indeed, and it will go down if something is not done. The reward should be 22 or 23 at least. A good deal of horse play has been going on .- Mr R. Raine said the structure had suffered at the nands of young people, chiefly on Sanday sights and the week-ends. They induiged in shogging, which caused damage to the bridge. - A resolution embodying the recommendations of the Surveyor was

Medical Report.

Dr. Neligan reported that the district was prevalence of measles at Bowes he had recommended the closing of the school. Four births and six destis had been registered.

Barnard Castle Wesley Cuild.

Origin of Modern Speech.

On Friday evening last, before a very appreciative audience, Mr J. P. Robson, of Barnard Castle, gave a lecture on "The making of modern English."-In opening his subject the Lecturer pointed out that, as the history of a language was naturally so closely associated with the history of the people who spoke it, he would need to made a comprehensive survey of the history of the English nation. He showed that the different languages of the world were classified according to their formation, certain languages showing inflection, and others having no inflection whatever. From the former two great families sprung, namely, the Semitic and Aryan, and it was to the Aryan that the English language belonged. Scholars had traced the Aryan language back to a period long anterior to all European history, the primitive seat being in Western Asia, in what is now known as Russian Turkestan. From this seat, in obedience to a law of movement, which had continued to act through all history, successive migrations had taken place towards the west. The first swarm to leave the family hive formed the Celts, followed slowly by the Hollenes, Teutons, and Slave. From the Teutonic stock modern English was derived, passing on its way through the influence of low Gorman, Flemish and Dutch, As an illustration of the influence of the Flemish or Belgian tongue or English, the following well-known couplet was quoted, every word of which was said to be Flemish and

Is good English and good Fries."

The Lecturer then proceeded to trace the literary history of Britain, dividing it into he following four great periods :- The old English, early middle English, late middle English, and the Elizabethan. In dealing with these periods he referred to the writings of such illustrious men as Caedman, Bede, Chauser, Wycliffe, Shakespeare, Bunyan and Milton, and daimed that in the Elizabethan period the English language attained the highest perfection, and was characterised by the greatest originality of thought and beauty of expression. In conclusion he paid a tribute to all the great authors and poets who, during the last 200 years, had done so much in expounding the lauguage, and bringing it into such universal nes. - In a short discussion which followed Mr Robson was heartily thanked for his masterly

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

NEVISON.—At 39, Bank, Barrard Castle, on December 11th, to Mr and Mrs Fred Nevison, a daughter. Beaths.

WILKINSON.-At Hawsteads, Barningham, on December 14th, William Wilkinson, in his 69th year. Interment at Barningham, on Thursday, the 17th, at 12-15. Requiem mass in Wycliffe Catholic Church, at 11 o'clock, NEVISON,-At 39, Bank, Barnard Castle, Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Nevison, aged 1 day.