LOCAL AND OTHER NOTES.

Yesterday a meeting of the committee of the Greta Bridge Division of the Soldiers and Sailors Families' Association was held at Rokeby.

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There are no fewer than two-hundred-and-thirty men belonging to the 17th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, now in training at Barnard Castle, who attend the Wesleyan Methodist Church in this town.

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Lieutenant the Hon. Ian C. Maitland, son of Viscount Maitland, commanding officer of the first Sportsmen's Battalion, and son-in-law of Mr J. J. Bell-Irving, J.P., of Rokeby Hall, has been promoted to a captaincy in the 3rd Cameron Highlanders.

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The members of the parish church choir at Barnard Castle (with their wives, in the case of married men), were entertained to supper at the vicarage on Thursday night, on the kind invitation of the Rev H. W. H. Bircham (the vicar) and Mrs Bircham. There were thirty-six present.

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Yesterday, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle insisted that the average German has no more understanding of chivalry than a cow has of mathematics.

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Mr Reginald P. Dent, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Dent, of the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle (formerly of the North Eastern County School Cadet Corps), is gazetted to a second lieutenancy in the 9th Battalion Durham Light Infantry. His brother, Mr Wilfred P. Dent, is at present training in the 21st Service Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, Epsom.

—o—

The workmen employed at Messrs Summerson's Hollymoor Colliery, Cockfield, have subscribed £5—which is hereby acknowledged by Mr Fred Nevison, Bank, Barnard Castle—towards the fund being raised for the benefit of Private Dodson, of the 17th Durham Light Infantry, who accidentally lost his eyesight.

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The announcement of the regimental concert of the 17th (Service) Battalion Durham Light Infantry, under the patronage of Colonel G. N. Caulfeild, D.S.O., by the officers and men, is advertised in column two of page four in this day's issue. It is quite enough to say that the fixture is in aid of the bugle and drum and fife band fund to ensure a bumper house. The date is Monday next, in the Victoria Hall, and tickets may be had at the "Teesdale Mercury" Office.

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Dr. Taylor-Smith has left Gainford for Wimbledon.

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From sixty to eighty members of the Teesdale Volunteer Training Corps assembled on the Demesnes, on Thursday night, under the command of Major J. W. B. Heslop, and were smartly drilled at the intake. The spirit animating these men is beyond all praise.

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Mr S. R. E. Phillips, one of the assistant masters at the North Eastern County School, has lost a brother in the devastating war. The deceased gentleman was in the naval affair at Antwerp, was taken prisoner, and interned in Germany, where he died.

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The Rev. H. M. Dix and the Rev. W. Aptor have arrived at Gainford.

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Lieutenants R. J. Bunting and S. R. E. Phillips, of the North Eastern County School Cadet Corps, have spent the Easter holidays in drilling men for the army, and since then have put on their swords for further military work. The Board of Education will not sanction these patriotic gentlemen joining the forces, in view of the urgent need of the scholastic training of the coming race of Englishmen.

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Mr S. K. Young, of Blyth (the magistrate who admonished the military absentees), is the only brother of Mr J. T. Young, of Greenwich House, Barnard Castle.

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Miss Alexandra Morgan has left Gainford.

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The Zetland foxhounds will meet on Thursday at Stainton village; and on Saturday at Dalton, each day at 12 o'clock.

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It is understood that the sappers, in their new ordnance survey, are spelling Cotherston with the final "e"—Cotherstone—and that the North-Eastern Railway Company have restored the missing letter, which had been deleted, on their station sign-board at this village.

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Mrs George Barnsley and Mrs Gough have arrived at Gainford.

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Lance-Corporal George Graham Waine, of the 14th Durhams, who is stationed at High Wycombe (younger son of Mr Watson Waine, of Barnard Castle), has been on a short visit to his parents in this town.

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There was a meeting of the Governors of Bowes Grammar School on Saturday afternoon.

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Lieutenant McLellan, of the Highland Infantry, attended service at the parish church, Barnard Castle, on Sunday.

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Captain M. M. Nevile, late of Barnard Castle and Richmond, whose selection for active service has already been reported in the "Teesdale Mercury," was on Thursday gazetted as aide-de-camp on the Personal Staff. He commenced his career under the late Brigadier-General Wilson, C.B., of Cliffe Hall, near Darlington, and has served in five regiments. He was mentioned in Lord Kitchener's despatches for the Boer War, and has done good work as a remount officer during the present war. He is one of four brothers holding the King's Commission, as does also his brother-in-law. The captain's younger brother, who is also connected with the Green Howards, has been given a captaincy last week after less than eight years' service. He has been doing duty with the 3rd Special Reserve Battalion on the Tees defences, and with the 10th (Service) Battalion in Buckinghamshire.

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The workmen engaged in restoration operations at the Tees viaduct ceased work on Thursday during the prevalence of a high wind.

—o—

Private Clough, of the 17th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, stationed at Barnard Castle, who is a very able local preacher in the Wesleyan connection, received a telegram on Friday morning that his brother had been killed in Sherburn Colliery. A pathetic element in the incident is that the deceased persistently held aloof from enlistment, and his life at last has been sacrificed in industrial pursuits.

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Mr Ernest Winpenny, of Stockton, was foreman of the grand jury at Durham Easter Sessions.

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The Master of the Teesdale Union Workhouse reported to the Guardians, on Wednesday, that a lad had absconded from the house on two occasions, and had been found sleeping between two soldiers at the barracks, at two o'clock in the morning. The boy wanted to be a soldier.

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Private J. Warwick, of the Second Battalion Durham Light Infantry, who is now stationed at South Shields, received his Distinguished Conduct Medal last week.

BOY FATALLY TRAPPED AT A FALL OF TIMBER.

Scene Near the Barnard Castle Casworks.

On Monday afternoon, at the police court, Barnard Castle, Mr Coroner J. T. Proud conducted an inquiry relative to the death of a boy, named William Bradley, eleven years of age, who resided with his parents in Bridgegate, and who was accidentally killed in the little plantation skirting the gas-house bank, on Thursday night last, by being pinned by the trunk of a fallen tree which had been cut down, and which, it is conjectured, had moved a few yards in the declivity. The jury sworn were Messrs John Robson (foreman), T. Malcolm, Malcolm Burn, T. Brownless, T. Peat, G. Wall, T. Warwick, F. Kennedy, C. Plimmer, W. Stobart, C. Raine (Bridgegate), and John Bearpark.

William Henry Bradley, labourer, 29, Bridgegate, father of the deceased, said the boy left him at a quarter-past six on Thursday night, having asked permission to go out and play, and witness expected his son back at eight o'clock, the usual time, but he never returned. The next time he saw the lad he was fast underneath a tree, at the bottom of the gas-house bank. When he was got out he was dead.

Joseph Winter Nixon, gamekeeper, Marwood cottage—close to the scene of the accident—said he saw the deceased at the place indicated at about half-past six or a quarter-to-seven last Thursday night. Some trees had been felled, and the lad was in the middle of them, alone. Witness thought he was perfectly safe. He was gathering sticks into a little bag, and witness never spoke to him.

John Simpson, blacksmith, 5, Baliol-street, said he found the deceased at half-past eight o'clock on Friday morning, as he was returning to the gasworks, after breakfast. The lad looked as though he had been dead some time. He ran for assistance, and the police were informed. The body was cold. The opinion he formed was that the tree had shifted, and the lad was pinned between two trees, his body lying backwards.

James Henry Willan, Staindrop, assistant-forester to Lord Barnard, who helped to extricate the body, said he left the tree perfectly safe at four o'clock on Thursday afternoon. The deceased was lying across the branches of the other trees, and a tree, which had moved a few yards, possibly on the branches, was across him. The boy had apparently been caught by his stocking in the branches. There was no indication of a struggle, and he appeared to have been crushed and killed at once. The tree which held him was the smallest tree which they had felled. With a little assistance the lad could have been got out the night before. Witness thought he had probably suffocated.

By the Coroner: He could not have been placed there by foul means.

Sergt. Carr said he had examined the body, and there was discolouration in the region of the viscera, but no bone was broken.

The jury at once found a verdict of "Accidental death."

War Needlework: Greta Bridge Division (South).

Sandbags are much needed for the front, and are being made 33 inches by 14 inches, when finished. They are sewn strongly with string. Mrs Bell-Irving is supplying patterns to any worker. Socks are still needed. Parcels were sent last week to officer commanding the depot at Wrexham, for the Royal Welsh Fusiliers now prisoners in Germany. Each man is to receive a parcel.

Egglestone School Fund.

The following amounts have been generously contributed to this week's list for the benefit of the Belgian refugees at Middleton-in-Teesdale:—Mrs L Marshall, £1; Mrs W and Mrs M Bainbridge, 3d each; Mrs W. Emmerson, 3d; Miss Emmie Adamson, 6d; Mrs W R Walker, 1s; Mr John Bainbridge, 3d; Mrs Fawcett, 6d; Harold, Freda, and John Stanley Bainbridge, 2d each; Lavinia Lodge, 2d; Brenda and Irene Lodge, 1d each; Mabel Lowe, 6d; Eustace Settle, 2d; George Kettlewell, 2d; Eva Iceton, 3d; Horace, Gladys, and Mabel Iceton, 1d each; Claude and Willie Coates, 1d each; Jack and Frances Allinson, 1d each; Robert and Bertie Morton, 1d each; Alfred Kidd, 6d; John Stanley and Alfred Jonathan Kidd, 1d each; Wilfred Kidd, 2d; "Peggy" Stephenson, 3d; John Maddison, 1d; George Liddle, 2d; Percy Ingham, 3d; James Stephenson, 1s; Doris and Madge Walker, 2d each; Mary Coulthard, 2d; John Lamb, 1d; William Nicholson, 2d; Laura Dalkin, 2d; Mary Moore, 3d; total, £1 9s 6d. The sum of £1 9s 6d has been forwarded.

Barnard Castle Ladies' Association and the War.

To the Editor of the "Teesdale Mercury."

DEAR SIR,—At a meeting held on April 10th the following articles were forwarded by the Barnard Castle Ladies' Association for war relief:—To the British Red Cross—3 pairs of bed socks; to the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry for the "Faithful Durhams" at the front—19 shirts, 21 belts, and 22 pairs of mittens; to the Armoury, Bishop Auckland, for our own 6th Battalion Durham Light Infantry—52 pairs of socks, 40 pairs of mittens, 2 helmets, and 62 mufflers. A further sum of £12 was voted at the meeting to be spent chiefly on wool for sock knitting in the near future. Socks are always in great request for our good soldiers, and add most considerably to their well-being and comfort.—Yours faithfully,

SARAH E. BIRCHAM,
Chairman of the Ladies' Association.
The Vicarage, April 12th, 1915.

Social at Boldron.

On Thursday last a social was held in the above place, presided over by Mr J. Peverley. The following programme was well rendered:—Pianoforte solos and duets by Miss A. Furnass, Miss L. Kyle, and Master J. Furnass; songs by Mrs Furnass, Misses S. Tallentire, A. Shepherd, A. Furnass, J. Mitchell, V. Raine, and L. Kyle, Mr R. Tallentire, and Master J. Furnass; and reading and recitations by Mrs Taylor, Miss V. Heslop, and Master T. Grady. Refreshments were handed round, after which games were indulged in, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent. The proceeds were handed over to the Red Cross Fund.

Mr William Nixon, gamekeeper, who knows every boundary fence on the estate, has resided thirty-four years at Lartington.

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Mr and Mrs George Gore have returned to Gainford.

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The Zetland foxhounds met at Barnard Castle on Saturday. In the number present were the Master (Mr H. Straker), the Misses Straker, Mrs H. Roddam, Mr W. H. Ralston, Mr George Gore, Lieut. A. T. B. Heslop, Captain French, Mr G. Byers, Mrs J. J. Bell-Irving, Dr. T. G. D. Adams, the Rev. W. Aptor, Mrs George Gore, Mr R. Edleston, Miss C. Manby and Miss H. Manby. Two foxes were found.

—o—

"Shakespeare belongs to Germany," says the Hun, "for the English have shown themselves unworthy of him."

Vestry Meetings.

ST. MARY'S, ROKEBY.

The vestry meeting of this parish was held on Easter Monday, in the school-room, at half-past six o'clock, and resulted in the following appointments being made, after the audit of accounts:—Churchwardens: Mr J. J. Bell-Irving and Mr Alfred Nicholson; sidesmen: Mr Bowlzer and Mr Moss. The vestry meeting was opened and closed with prayer by the Rector.

WHORLTON.

At a meeting of Whorlton parish vestry on Monday, April 5th, in the school-room, the accounts for the year were presented, showing a balance of £16 15s. 3d. Including last year's balance of £17 7s. 10½d., the total receipts were shown to be £85 6s. 1½d., of which amount £13 14s. 9d. was given to outside offertories, £4 9s. 1d. to the Vicar's Easter offering, and the remainder absorbed by church expenses (£50 7s. 0½d.)—The Vicar nominated Mr John Edmundson as his warden for the year, and the vestry re-elected Mr John Bowman as parish warden. — There was considerable discussion upon the question of the appointment of a new organist in the place of Mr R. J. Walker, who has resigned the post.

ROMALDKIRK.

The vestry meeting was held in the school-room on Tuesday, the 6th inst. There was only a small attendance. The Rector (the Rev. S. Gilbert Beal) presided.—Mr W. Walton Dent was nominated Rector's warden, and Mr Roy Helmer was elected people's warden for Romaldkirk. Mr William Dent was elected churchwarden for Cotherstone; Mr Wilson Haigh for Lartington; and Mr Thomas Sayer, New House, was chosen for Hunderthwaite. Mr Kenneth Hutchinson and Mr R. Raine were appointed sidesmen for Romaldkirk; and Mr Wm. Heslop and Mr H. Nottingham for St. Cuthbert's, Cotherstone.—The Rector remarked that the visitation of the clergy, and for the admission of the churchwardens, would be held at Richmond, on Saturday, 15th May.

WINSTON.

The vestry meeting was held in the parish-room, on Easter Tuesday. The Rector presided and there were also present Messrs W. Brittain and S. Walton (churchwardens), Geo. Hodgson (sidesman), E. Hardy (organist), A. Walker (postmaster), and C. E. Hardy.—The statement of receipts and expenditure showed a deficit of £2 17s. 11d. The collections in church showed an increase over the previous year of £6 12s. 5d., but outside calls, including war funds having received the unusually large amount of over £20, the income of £59 9s. 5d. was not quite equal to the expenditure.—The Chairman referred to the decrease of population consequent upon the closing of the colliery, the figures of the present year (March 31st) indicating a smaller population than for very many years.—Mr Wm. Brittain was nominated by the Rector, and Mr T. Walton, Primrose, was unanimously re-elected by the parishioners for churchwardens, Messrs G. H. Hodgson and J. B. Walker sidesmen, F. Scarth-Beadon representative on the Ruridecanal Conference, and Mr E. Hardy auditor.

ST. CILES, BOWES.

The Vicar (the Rev. H. Straker) presided over a small meeting, on Tuesday evening son.—The church expenses' account showed a deficit of £9 16s. 5d., but this was explained to appertain entirely to the re-opening of the south porch and the pathway to the cemetery. The offertories altogether were lower than usual, probably owing in part to the war, but had more than met the ordinary year's expenses, including the new item of £1 10s., the parish quota to the Board of Finance. Regret was expressed that a more generous response had not been made to the appeal for subscriptions towards the south porch, which is universally admitted to be a very great improvement in all ways, and especially when funerals are conducted.—The usual votes of thanks were passed to the church officers for their work during the year, and the following appointments were made for 1915-1916:—Wardens—Messrs Longstaffe and Lowes; sidesmen—Messrs Bell, R. Bousfield, T. H. B. Dent, Wm. Donald, T. Gilbert Dugdale, Wm. Hillery, Johnson, J. Plews, J. Sayer, and J. Thompson.

BARNINGHAM.

A vestry meeting was held in the vestry on Thursday evening. The Rector (Canon Spencer Gough) presided.—The church accounts were presented by the churchwardens. There had been for the past twelve years a gradual increase in the number of coins given. In 1904 there were 5,255; in the past year 6,410—an increase of 1,155—and in that time the amount contributed had increased from £52 2s. 7d. to £68 7s. 11d.—an increase of £16 5s. 4d. There was a deficit of about £6 for the year ending March 31st, 1915, after clearing off the adverse balance of nearly £3, with which the year began, but there had been a considerable falling-off in the amount contributed as special donations. Fourteen special collections for various objects were made, amounting to £19 9s. 2d. Nine of these collections, totalling £11 18s. 4d., had been for the war funds. The churchwardens' accounts for Barningham can always be compared with other years, as the custom was introduced 26 years ago of making the parish church financial year end on March 31st instead of Easter, thus securing each year the same number of months.—The Rector again nominated Mr J. G. Nicholson, and the meeting re-elected Messrs W. Johnson and W. F. Thomas as churchwardens, and Messrs T. Pearson, R. Lowes, G. Brass, and Ed. Brown as sidesmen.—The church is insured for £5,000. The registers date from 1581. The communion plate (one chalice dated 1671): the terrier, churchwardens' books for 200 years, the offertory books, giving the number of coins and the amounts collected each Sunday for 26 years, a parchment book containing a record of all events connected with the church, gifts, etc.; preacher's book, and other documents, and the large valuable safe in which they are deposited, were inspected with much interest.

ST. MARY'S, STAINDROP.

The annual vestry meeting was held in the school-room on Tuesday sen., the Vicar (Rev. J. E. Philipps) presiding. — The Lord Barnard presented the churchwardens' account for the past year, which showed that the income included offertories for church expenses, £92 8s. 11½d.; special expenses, £42 6s. 6½d.; Lord Barnard's subscription, £50; church box, £1 0s. 6½d.; interest, £1 4s.; and total receipts, £187 0s. 0½d. Payments: Heating and lighting, £33 14s. 1d.; maintenance, £20 11s. 2d.; organ and choir, £52 2s. 8d.; bell-ringing, £16 4s.; insurance, £6; special offertories, £42 6s. 6d.; and sundries, £14 18s. 4d.; total, £235 16s. 9d. —The present balance in hand is £75 13s. 10d. The churchwardens were all re-elected as follows: The Lord Barnard for Langleydale and Shotton, Mr V. Hodgson for Raby and Keverstone, and Mr A. Grice for Staindrop. The following sidesmen were chosen: Messrs J. Brown, A. L. Brown, G. Copeland, J. Dickenson, T. Dent, J. K. Johnson, T. F. McQueen, J. Matthews, T. Race, T. Richardson, G. A. Walker, and W. Walker. Messrs T. W. Applegarth and T. F. Frankton were appointed auditors. Messrs A. Grice and T. Race were elected as representatives for the Ruridecanal Conference. — The Vicar expressed his deep gratitude to all the church-workers, and to Lord Barnard for the keeping of the church accounts.—Lord Barnard, speaking on church finance, and referring to the Board for Church Finance, expressed the hope for a revivifying interest among the laity, pointing out that church life extended beyond the particular parish to which we belonged, to the diocese, and even beyond to the poorer parishes which were of necessity provided in growing centres.

GAINFORD.

At the vestry meeting, which was held at Gainford on Monday sen., the Vicar, who presided, again nominated as his warden Mr J. P. Charge. Mr G. H. Richardson was elected churchwarden for Piercebridge in the place of Mr J. F. Stephenson, who is retiring after holding office for five years. Mr Boddy was appointed churchwarden for Headlam, and Mr G. E. Taylor for Summerhouses. Mr R. H. Edleston was again asked to represent Gainford at the Ruridecanal Conference. The accounts of the Gainford Church showed an outlay for church expenses and charities of £162 0s. 2d., of which £14 0s. 2d. was for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' Fund, and £4 17s. 2d. for the Red Cross Society. The deficit of the previous year was reduced by £6 0s. 5d. The collections at the Piercebridge Church amounted to £32 4s. 5d., of which £7 9s. 9d. was given to societies outside the parish.

EGGLESTONE.

The Easter vestry meeting was held on Wednesday last, the Rev. Beaumont Johnson (vicar) in the chair.—Mr Matthew Raine (warden) submitted the financial statement, which showed the receipts to be £46 2s. 2d., and, after all accounts were paid, there remained a balance in hand of £4 18s. 2d. From special collections and offertories at the early services, £17 7s. 11d. had been given to various diocesan and other appeals and societies.—The Vicar drew the attention of those present to the fact that the accommodation in the churchyard was not unlimited, and that it might be advisable to economise space by the parishioners arranging for the resting-places of their dear ones to be cut to an increased depth, to allow of two burials instead of one.—Captain W. R. Claude Hutchinson, who is serving his King and country at the front, was re-elected Vicar's warden. Mr Matthew Raine consented to his re-appointment for another year as people's warden.—The thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Tea Tent Committee for their annual donation to the general expenses' fund of the parish church.

PARISH OF KIRKBY RAVENSWORTH.

The annual vestry meeting was held on Easter Tuesday.—The accounts presented by the churchwardens showed a satisfactory balance to their credit.—The Vicar (the Rev. L. Deakeford-Lewis), after thanking the wardens for their zealous services during the past year, proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing years. The result of the voting was to re-appoint all four wardens without change, viz: Messrs W. Stevenson, for Ravensworth and Whashton; J. Johnson, for Kirkby Hill and Dalton; A. Shippen, for Newsham and New Forest; and J. Powell, for Gayles. Mr J. Johnson was chosen treasurer for the parish for the Ripon Diocesan Fund.

1,500 Eggs for the Wounded Soldiers in Hospitals.

Barningham's Magnificent Effort.

A very interesting service was held on Sunday afternoon last, to give a special opportunity for offerings to be made of new-laid eggs. It was at first thought that a weekly contribution of about fifty eggs might be sent from the parish, but the Rector, Canon E. Spencer Gough, decided to make one appeal for a large quantity, and, if thought desirable, another similar appeal could be made later on in the year. The result, as will be seen, fully justified this decision. Notice of the service had been given a fortnight previously, and there was a large congregation. During the singing of the first hymn (Bishop Boyd Carpenter's) the Sunday school children, headed by the Rector and the teachers, walked up the aisle, bringing eggs in all kinds of baskets, bags, boxes, etcetera. The Rector, receiving them at the chancel screen, handed them to the churchwardens and sidesmen. The general congregation then followed with their offerings, which were received in the same way. The large quantity presented quite a remarkable sight in the church. Opportunity was also given for those who were unable to give eggs to contribute money for the purchase of some. Altogether, including what the money offerings would buy, over

Fifteen Hundred Eggs

(1,518)—equal to a contribution of 50 eggs every week for eight months!—had to be packed for London, and they presented every appearance of having been carefully selected, as all were unusually large. The parish of Barningham consists only of about 400 inhabitants scattered over a large moorland area, but representatives from the distant parts of it—Scargill and Hope—came heavily laden with hundreds of eggs to the service. Every house, it is believed, sent offerings. Several war hymns were sung, and special prayers offered. The Rector gave an address, taking a text from a short lesson he had read: "If he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?" He also read a letter (anonymous), which contained a contribution in stamps from "a soldier who has happy memories of Barningham church and schools," and he wished to help the egg fund. Some of the smaller children presented a touching sight as they carried to the Rector an egg in each hand. The national anthem was sung with devotional spirit and enthusiasm at the end of the service.

Langleydale School.

Five scholars attending the above school have made a house-to-house collection for the benefit of the Russian Poles. The head teacher sincerely thanks the subscribers for their contributions, large or small, and hopes that the next collection, which is for the Serbians, will be larger than the present. The countryside has been divided into 5 districts, and the following are the contributors:—(a) Miss A M Wilson, 1s; Jessie Wilson, 1s; Mr Jno. Wilson, 2s 6d; Mr W Beadle, 2s 6d; Mr A Foster, 1s; Mr Jno. Hall, 1s; Miss L Hall, 6d; Mr R Hall, 6d; Mrs W Watson, 1s; Mr Jno. Porter, 1s; Miss A. Heslop, 1s; Mr Jos. Porter, 1s; Mr A Robinson, 1s; Mr E Nixon, 2s; Mr F Hall, 6d; total, 17s 6d. (b) Mr Jos. Wilson, 1s; Mr Kellett, 1s; Mrs G Bell, 1s; Mrs I Tallentire, 1s; Mrs Metcalfe, 1s; Mrs Hay, 3d; Mrs Featherstone, 2d; Mrs Richardson, 1s; Mrs Walker Wilson, 1s; total, 7s 5d. (c) Mr Willie Walton, 1s; Mr W Parkin, 1s; Mrs Dunn, 1s; Mrs Favell, 1s; total, 4s. (d) Mrs C Littlefair, 6d; Mrs Hutchinson, 3d; Miss Heslop, 2s 6d; Mr Geo. Tallentire, 6d; Mrs Bayles, 6d; Mr J Bell, 1s; Mr I Preston, 1s; Mrs Jno. Beadle, 2s; Mrs J Tallentire, 6d; Mrs Lee, 3d; Mrs Porter, 3d; Mr W H Berry, 2s 6d; Mr Wilf. Walton, 1s; total, 12s 9d. (e) Mr J S Metcalfe, 1s; Miss Robson, 6d; Mrs J Robson, 6d; Mrs Thompson, 6d; Mr J Bentham, 6d. Total, £2 4s 8d.

Notice to the Public of Barnard Castle and Neighbouring District.—Messrs Parkin and Company, Monumental Masons, have had landed in their yard, in Crook-lane, a consignment of Marble Curb, Tombstones, and Crosses of various sizes and designs from Italy, and are in a position to show to their customers the actual sizes and workmanship. Prices will be found most reasonable. They thank their patrons for past favours.—Note the situation of our yard—Crook-lane, opposite Territorial Hall, Barnard Castle.

Now that the Lambing season is here Farmers will be able to obtain a good, fresh stock of Sweet Nitre, Laudanum, Veterinary Homeopathics, and Lambing Oils and Teats, at lowest prices, from G. Clarkson Marker, Chemist (opposite Galgate entrance to Auction Mart), Barnard Castle.

NORTH-EASTERN CYCLISTS' MEET.

A Recruiting Carnival to be Held at Whitsuntide.

The thirty-eighth annual meeting of the North-Eastern Cyclists' Meet was held at the Victoria and Comet Hotel, Newcastle, on Monday night, Mr D. B. Allan, the president, occupying the chair.—The treasurer's report showed a balance in hand of £5 9s. 9½d., and the North-Eastern Railway Company, it appeared, declined to run cheap excursions to Barnard Castle on Whit-Monday.—Major J. W. B. Heslop, commanding the Teesdale Volunteer Training Corps; Mr Harry Walker, chairman of the local Urban District Council; and Mr Councillor John Wiseman, vice-chairman of the local Parliamentary Recruiting Committee, attended as a deputation from Barnard Castle. —The President invited suggestions for celebrating the ensuing Whitsuntide, and Mr Walker, on behalf of this town, gave the Meet a cordial invitation to come to Barnard Castle again.—Mr Wiseman, in supporting Mr Walker's remarks, said it was obvious to most people that it was undesirable to hold a carnival in a similar form to the events of previous years, owing to the crisis through which the nation was passing, and, whilst they were anxious not to do anything that would bring men away from their duties in producing munitions of war, the deputation thought it would be very desirable if the North-Eastern Cyclists would come to Barnard Castle and assist the Parliamentary Recruiting Committee by holding a demonstration, and endeavouring to raise funds for the Teesdale Volunteer Training Corps.—Major Heslop upheld this sentiment, and pointed out the importance of recruiting. Whilst Barnard Castle itself had done well, said he, the agricultural districts had not come forward as one would have wished, and he thought that a recruiting meeting at the week-end would be productive of very good results.—Mr Woods moved that the Meet be held at Barnard Castle, this year, and he was supported by Mr Stephenson, the sporting editor of the "Newcastle Journal," who suggested the advisability of having military sports or an athletic tournament.—This was agreed upon, and the details were left for the Barnard Castle committee to manage.—The President and the whole band of loyal and patriotic officials are going to act again this year, and it is pleasing to remember that Mr John Murray, who left this town a short time ago, spoke most favourably of the project initiated by the gentlemen from Barnard Castle.

MILITARY WEDDING AT LOW FELL.

A Local Bridegroom.

A wedding of local interest was solemnized at St. Helen's Church, Low Fell, on Monday, the contracting parties being Corporal S. R. Ball (1st Line 6th Battalion the Durham Light Infantry), third son of Mrs Hall, Galgate, Barnard Castle, and Miss Mabel Clayton, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Clayton, of Lockerbie House, Low Fell. The bride looked charming dressed in a grey costume and biscuit Tagal hat, trimmed with violets and corn heads, and carried a shower bouquet, the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaid was Miss A. Hall, sister of the bridegroom, and she was attired in a mauve costume, with hat to match, and carried a bouquet of narcissi, the gift of her brother. Private J. B. Harper ably fulfilled the duties of best man. A guard of honour, with crossed bayonets, in charge of Lieutenant H. R. Nicholson, awaited the bridal pair, and the happy couple walked under this glittering arch of steel. A large crowd assembled to witness this pretty sight. In view of the fact that Corporal S. R. Ball is about to go on active service, the honeymoon is postponed until after the Allies have returned from Berlin. A reception was held at Lockerbie House, where many friends assembled to wish the newly-wedded couple prosperity and happiness. The presents were numerous and costly, and special mention should be made of a marble clock and bronzes, a present from the platoon in which the bridegroom is held in much esteem.

Barnard Castle and District Rifle Club.

The final score in the Young cup competition was held on Monday sen., when Mr W. Ridsdale again proved the winner. The number of entries this year has been very good, and the shooting excellent, although practice for members this season so far has been limited to evenings. The results leave little to be desired. We congratulate Mr W. Ridsdale on his splendid shooting, and also on the fact that, this being the third year in succession in which he has won the cup, it now becomes his own property. His final score was a possible (100). While congratulating the winner, we must not forget the word of encouragement due to Mr B. Jackson for the splendid effort he made to wrest the cup from the former. He has proved himself worthy of honour. Though a junior and a new member he has made great headway in miniature shooting, and has pulled off more than one prize, including the junior cup. He kept the lead in the Young cup competition until the final stage. We feel sure that he will soon become a shot of whom we shall all be proud. The club has, this season, obtained third place in the Teesdale league, and hope next season, with the aid of the new members, to head the league. The ladies' section is improving, and we trust we shall soon have a competition for ladies only. The club is now without a cup for competition, and must rely upon the generosity of those friends and patrons who have already done so much for the club, which can do with more members, the subscriptions being:—Gentlemen, 5/-; ladies, 4/-; juniors, 2/6. Persons desirous of joining should apply to any of the committee, or the honorary secretary, Mr P. S. Little.

Belgian Refugees and the French Language.

To the Editor of the "Teesdale Mercury."

SIR,—May I again trespass on your space on behalf of the Belgian refugees, this time to bring before the notice of your readers the desire of two of the refugees at Cotherstone to help the Cotherstone committee by giving French lessons? They do not propose at present to form a class, but would be prepared to give lessons to pupils in Barnard Castle at their own homes. I shall be glad to answer any enquiries as to terms or credentials.—Yours faithfully, J. INGRAM DAWSON.
Barnard Castle, 13th April, 1915.

Large, fresh stocks of Homeopathic Medicines for Cattle, Foot Rot Lotion and Ointment, Scour Cure, Sheep Dips of all makes, Tar, Grease, Machine Oil, etc., at R. W. Raine's, Chemist, Barnard Castle.

Zemoline Skin Ointment is the Ointment with a 10 years'-non-failure reputation, 1/1½ pot jar, from Mason's Drug Stores, the Zemoline Depôt, Barnard Castle.

Best Kitchen or Cooking Coal, 17s. per ton. —W. Hunton York, 25, Horse Market, Barnard Castle.

Photographers visiting Barnard Castle will find at Raine's, the Chemist, an expert willing to give advice, also fresh stocks of Plates, Papers, and other photographic materials—R. W. Raine, Chemist, Barnard Castle.

For Hard Wear we offer the Wellington Cover at 8/-, and an Inner Tube of Stout Red Rubber at 4/6.—Teesdale Cycle Depot.

SUCCESSFUL CONCERT AT LARTINGTON.

Father O'Leary's concert for the Belgian refugees was held at the Lartington Institute on Thursday last. It was a very marked success from every point of view. The receipts amounted to the handsome sum of £4. Mr John Smith, J.P., Barnard Castle, presided, and discharged the duties of chairman in his usual efficient manner. The concert opened with selections on the piano by Miss Mollie Smith. Her manipulation of the key-board left nothing to be desired. Scout Charles Smith, who is only eleven years of age, gave two delightful recitations that were very much appreciated. His brother scouts have every reason to be proud of him. Miss Praet, of Antwerp, one of the Belgian refugees, recited in French for the benefit of the Belgians. She, too, may well be proud of her elocutionary talent, and should continue to cultivate it. Her father, Mr Praet, also delighted the audience with a comic song in French, entitled, "The captain's jacket." Mr G. W. Richardson, of Barnard Castle, upheld his usual distinguished reputation as a humorist, and was very much enjoyed. Mr A. Lyons, from Malton, architect of the new church at Lartington, also gave some humorous selections that were highly applauded. Miss Russell rendered a violin solo with marked ability. Pianoforte duets were given by the Misses Smith, and by Misses Smith and Jackson in masterly style. Miss Eva Smith, who is home on holidays from the Convent of Mercy, Sunderland, danced the Highland fling and scarf dance with a charming grace and excellence that speaks eloquently both for her training and talent. Another very distinguished feature of the concert was the presence of the 1st Barnard Castle Company of Girl Guides, with their captain, Miss M. A. Smith. They sang the national anthems, four of them holding a flag on which the name of King Albert, the brave king of the Belgians, was inscribed, and to which his photo was attached. Thursday happened to be King Albert's birthday. Other items included songs by Mrs Borrowdale, Miss Lyons, Miss Manby, Mr John Smith (chairman), Mr Louis Smith, and Mr Wilfred Smith, all of whom acquitted themselves with distinct credit, and were loudly applauded. Miss Mollie Smith, Miss M. A. Smith, Miss Suddes, and Miss Lyons played the accompaniments on the piano. —Father O'Leary proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the artistes.—Mr Smith suitably responded.

Tea and Concert at Winston.

The annual tea and concert was held on Friday last. The day was fine, and there was a capital attendance. Tables were provided by Mrs Hughes, the Rectory; Mrs T. Walton, Primrose Farm; and Mrs R. W. Simpson, Church Farm. Subscriptions were announced from the Countess Brownlow, 21s.; Mrs Stanton, 10s.; Mrs Thompson, 21s.; and Mrs Beadon, 10s. At the concert in the evening the Rector presided, and the school-room was crowded to the door. An excellent programme had been arranged by Mr E. Hardy, and a most agreeable social event and treat it proved. The following artistes contributed to the evening's harmony:—Instrumentalists—piano, Miss Hardy; mandolin, Mrs Rennie, Sunderland; violin, Master O. Pawson, Darlington; vocalists, Rev. C. Hilton Hutchinson, Wycliffe Rectory; Mr Place, Gainford; Miss Pattinson, Miss E. Pattinson, and Miss Walker; the junior choir girls, Essie Coats, Gladys and Mary Sowerby, Emma Lamb, Annie Eggleston, and Ina Dickinson. Two very amusing dialogues were well rendered, namely: "The contrasts" (by permission of Messrs Abel Heywood and Son, Manchester), by Misses Hardy and Eleanor Gallise; and "Dorothy's victory," by Misses A. and E. Pattinson. Miss Hardy accompanied throughout, and a most exhilarating evening was brought to a close with the usual votes of thanks and the national anthem.

Funeral of the late Mrs J. T. Young, of Barnard Castle.

The death took place on Friday last of Mrs Young, wife of Mr J. T. Young, jeweller, of Greenwich House, Market-place, Barnard Castle. The deceased lady was very well known and highly respected. The funeral took place on Monday afternoon, at St. Mary's Parish Church Cemetery, Barnard Castle, amidst every token of the deepest respect. Previous to the interment a short service was conducted at Greenwich House by the Rev. J. Penrose Hodgson (superintendent Wesleyan minister) and the Rev. F. G. Gatehouse, who also officiated at the graveside. Blinds were drawn as the mournful procession took its way to the place of sepulchre. The inscription on the breastplate of the coffin, which was of fumed oak, with brass mountings, was as follows:—"Annie Young, died April 9th, 1915, aged 66 years." The grave was beautifully lined with evergreens. The principal mourners were:—Mr J. T. Young (widower); Mrs C. Cochrane, West Derby, near Liverpool (daughter); Mr and Mrs A. J. Young, Barnard Castle (son and daughter-in-law); Captain A. and Mrs Little, Gosforth, Newcastle (son-in-law and daughter); and Mr and Mrs S. K. Young, Blyth (brother-in-law and sister-in-law). The general mourners included the Revs. J. W. Escott, T. Baron, and Spencer Wade, Messrs M. J. Dixon, J.P., C. S. Martin, J.P., Wm. Hutchinson, J.P., O. S. Scott, W. Hodgson, Geo. White, J. G. Johnson, J. Clarkson, J. Lyon, Smith, J. W. Hunter, K. Arrowsmith, J. G. Harris, J. T. Pearson, T. Dent (Bowes Museum), J. G. Jackson, R. B. Gent, J. E. Dent, T. Bainbridge, J. R. Arrowsmith, E. Watson, P. Hunter, P. S. Little, H. E. Raine, and Miss Drummond, Barnard Castle; and others. The following gentlemen acted as bearers:—Messrs J. G. Burn, J. Guy, Hodgson Thompson, G. Craig, Albert Winpenny, and G. C. Barker. Lovely floral tributes were sent, namely:—"From her loving husband and children"; "With love and sorrow," from Winifred and Seymour; "With loving sympathy," from all at Meldon House; "With Mr and Mrs M. J. Dixon's deepest sympathy," Woodleigh, Barnard Castle; "