

Helpers of the Barnard Castle Ladies' Association Thanked.

To the Editor of the "Teendale Mercury,"

DEAR SIR,—Will you allow me again to trespass on your valuable space and thank the many helpers of the Harvard Castle Ladies' Association for War Relief for the articles that have so willingly been made from wool and material supplied from the depot, and also for gifts received?

On Tuesday morning the Emergency Committee meeting was held at the Vicarage, and the following articles were on view:—45 belts, 149 pairs of socks, 34 mufflers, 10 pairs of heelless socks, 49 pairs of mittens, 4 pairs of slippers, 10 Cardigan jackets and jerseys, 6

These articles were forwarded the following day to the British Red Cross Society, Lady Londonderry, for Durdams at the front; Major Done, for the 19th Field Company, Royal Engineers, at Colchester, some Barnard Castle men being in that company; and to the head of the Navy League Depot; and also a consignment to Colwyn Waters, for a consignment to the English Fische

I should like to add a little incident that came to my knowledge, and which should give the women workers of our ancient little town fresh encouragement and renewed energy. One of the 6th Durham's said to a comrade one morning, "I had given me from the store yesterday a flannel shirt and pair of socks which came from Bernard Casie, and were made by some kind soul there, and I have never been so comfortable in my life."

Now may I be allowed to make a little appeal for the drivers of the transport waggons of the 6th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, at Bensham, Gateshead? I want 40 pairs of mittens, and, if possible, 40 mufflers (any length of muffler will be acceptable) to forward to the officer in charge of the transport, that he may personally distribute them to a pair of mittens

and a comforter. It is very cold work driving, and the men's hands get numbed. I do not wish this to be a burden on the funds of our War Relief Committee, so I make this personal appeal, and am myself providing what I can, but I shall be most grateful to any kind friend who will forward to me at the Vicarage as soon as possible either of these articles.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

SARAH E. BIRCHAM

**Christmas and New Year's Eve in the
Trenches.**

"Jack Johnson's " 1915 Greeting.
Mr. Walker Waite, the Bank, Barnard Castle,

J. H. Pessord, of the 1st Leicester Regiment (machine gun section), who is a relative by marriage, in which reference is made to the late festive season in the trenches. The writer says they had a fairly decent time on Christmas and New Year's Eve. On Christmas Eve the Germans shouted, and wished the English a "merry Christmas," and gave them a song. The British troops also cheered, and in turn also rendered a song—"Has anybody seen a German band?" The Huns cheered and clapped.

ditty—"I want to go home!" The contending forces, in fact, were singing and shouting to each other all night and all Christmas Day. "On New Year's Eve their big guns—Jack Johnson's," as we call them—started firing at eleven o'clock by our time, and we all thought we were in for it. But they first sent one shell, then nine, then one, and finally five. When we came to think it out, eleven o'clock

and they had, in fact, sent over 1915' to greet the new year, and they did the same with the rifles from the trenches, and then shouted over, wishing us a happy new year. We shouted and asked them if they were 'fed up', and they said they were. There was hardly a shot fired by either side all Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. I have had a few narrow escapes, but I thank God daily for having brought me through so far safely. There are

live men in our regiment. We have earned the distinguished conduct medal, and one got the Victoria Cross. So we have not done so badly. I should just like to get one or the other of them, but everybody does not get the chance, as the things meritorious are done either without thinking of the risk, or on the spur of the moment. Our regiment have been praised for the work they have done. I do

Large, fresh stocks of Homoeopathic Medicines for Cattle, Foot Rot Lotion and Ointment, Scour Cure, Sheep Dips of all makes, Tar, Grease, Machine Oil, etc., at R. W.

WEDDINGS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

ELLIS: CHATT.—At All Saints', Manchester, on the 9th January, 1915, Private James Ellis, of the 13th Manchester Regiment, to Margaret Elizabeth Chapp, 12, Whitfield-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

BARKER.—On January 3rd, at Gladstone House, Greenbank Road, Darlington, George Barker, aged 78 years. Was interred at Westgate Cemetery, Darlington, on January 6th.

DONALD.—At Thornegate, Barnard Castle, Raugh, beloved wife of the late Joseph Donald, aged 65 years. Was interred at Starforth, on Monday, January 11th.

FOOTE.—At 8, Market place, Barnard Castle, on Tuesday, January 12th, Mary, beloved wife of the late John Foote, aged 74 years.

FURTTES.—At 6, the Esplanade, Sunderland, on the 11th instant, aged 68 years, Elizabeth, widow of the late W. H. Furttcs. Interment accepted this intimation.

12 o'clock noon, for Bishopwearmouth Cemetery.

In Memoriam.

HUTCHINSON.—In loving memory of John, the dearly beloved husband of Margaret Hutchinson, late of Seagrass Road House, Eppersgill, who departed this life on January 15th, 1913.

Though parting hours will come;
But still we hope to meet again
In our eternal home.

Ever remembered by his widow and family.

JACKSON.—To the gentle memory of **James Jackson**, who died at Ronaldskirk, on **January 14th, 1914.**

W miss thee at a thousand turns
Along life's weary track;
Not a sorrow or a joy, but we
Long to call thee back.

WALKER.—In loving memory of my dear father
Thomas Walton Walker, who passed away
on January 10th, 1909.—From his loving son
and daughter, and family, Mr and Mrs
Bateman, Manchester.

'Tis sweet to know we'll meet again,
Where parting is no more;
And that the one we lov'd so well
Has only gone before.

