

## LOCAL AND OTHER NOTES.

Our readers will be glad to know that Captain Myers-Wayman, of the 20th Durham Light Infantry, who is well known and highly esteemed at Barnard Castle, is now enjoying a little convalescence at Blackpool, after nearly five months in hospital, having undergone three operations. Fortunately the gallant officer's injured leg may be said to have been saved, but, so far, he has unhappily not recovered the use of the limb, and can only get about on crutches. Captain Wayman has been much reduced in weight, but we are exceedingly glad to think that he is now doing well, and that he has every hope of recovering full use of the limb in time.

Our local dog fanciers will be interested to learn that "Barnard's Chief," the smooth-haired fox terrier, bred by Mr G. W. Morton, of Barnard Castle, and sold to go to America, has "made good" on his second appearance on the American show bench, winning both the "limit" and "open" competitions.

Staff-Sergeant T. B. Allison, of the Army Service Corps, has been granted a commission, and the intelligence will be received with great favour at Middleton-in-Teesdale, where the promising young soldier is well known. Second-Lieutenant Allison's father was manager of Middleton mill from 1880 to 1897, and the officer just promoted was a personal friend of Mr W. Wood, also of Middleton, who is making his mark as Editor of the "Somerset County Gazette."

Mr R. B. Morton has received a grateful letter from the Glove and Waistcoat Society, 75, Chancery Lane, London, acknowledging "The splendid parcel containing 347 gloves and the large pieces of fur, and we beg that you will thank on our behalf all the members of the Barnard Castle War Emergency Committee who have contributed to the contents of the parcel." The acknowledgement, of course, includes contributions by the general public.

Mr W. W. Hall, late Colour-Sergeant F Company (Barnard Castle) 6th Durham Light Infantry, has been appointed a second-lieutenant in the Royal Defence Corps.

Mr Hicks, of Kirkby Stephen, will shortly join the Inns of Court Battalion.

Private W. Waine, Bank, Barnard Castle, of the Royal Army Service Corps, has arrived from France on a few days' furlough.

Sister C. Watson, daughter of Mrs Watson, of Greta Bridge, who formerly nursed in a hospital at Brighton, has arrived in Mesopotamia, where she will take up military nursing.

Last week the Rev. J. B. Robinson forwarded 480 eggs to the depot for our wounded soldiers and sailors.

In connection with the National Service Recruiting Campaign, so far as it relates to the Startforth Rural Area, anyone requiring information, or willing to act as a canvasser, can apply to Mr T. C. Nicholson, acting Clerk to the Startforth Rural District Council, at Messrs Watson's office, at Barnard Castle; or to Mr J. A. Gargett, organiser for the district, at Bowes.

Private T. Bewick, son of Mr and Mrs J. W. Bewick, of Streatlam, is home on his draft leave. He left Streatlam four years ago for Canada, being an estate architect, and was held in high esteem by his fellow-workmen and friends. He married Miss Waller, daughter of Mrs Waller, of Woodland, and the late Mr J. Waller, for many years consulting engineer to the Woodland collieries. Mr Waller was known all over Durham county as an able inventor, having created many appliances now in use at the Woodland collieries. Mrs Bewick will undoubtedly be able to tell many interesting stories of her voyage across the Atlantic, as it was at the time when so many ships were being sunk. It goes without saying that her old friends at Staington, and her old scholars at the school, where she so long taught, will be delighted to see her once again. Private Bewick looks very well indeed, and his many friends wish him God-speed. Mr Bewick, senior, is head forester on the Streatlam estates, and an ardent churchman. Another son, Corporal Harry Bewick, has been severely wounded in France, but we are glad to say that he is improving now.

A story is told of a groover who occupied the highest house in Teesdale, and it may be worth repeating in view of the severity of the present storm. On being told one morning in the mine-shop that an expedition had started for the North Pole, the man positively refused to believe the story. Asked for the reason of his incredulity he naively declared "that if such a thing had happened they would have passed our house!"

Mr Dalgarno, of the Bowes Museum, has been elected a member of the Royal Horticultural Society Panel of Volunteer Garden Experts, which has been formed throughout Great Britain.

The Zetland Foxhounds will meet to-morrow at 11.30, at Melsonby, and on Saturday at Selby, at 12 o'clock.

It was officially announced last week that Captain J. W. Hills, M.P., of the Durham Light Infantry (Special Reserve), who has been temporary major with a Service Battalion of the "Faithful Durhams," was acting Lieutenant-Colonel for nearly two months.

Private Willie Harris, who was wounded in the "big push" of 1st July last year, has been spending a few hours' leave this week-end with his parents at 15, Horse-market, prior to his sailing for further foreign active service. We wish him the best of luck.

"Green Leaves Fallen" is the title of a series of stories and little essays, just issued, written by the late Mrs Maud Edleston, and edited by her bereaved husband. The foreword is from the pen of the Lord Bishop of Durham, who truly says that "the pure and delicate quality of the brief pieces, alike in their humour, seriousness and pathos, and in the wide variety which ranges from the 'Golden Guinea' and 'Tom Thumb' to the 'Chitral Expedition,' and to an excellent sketch of the life of Jeremy Taylor, makes the collection precious to the friends of the writer." There is real local smatch and interest in the thought of the original of "Marmaduke Thwaite," who was no other than Mr George Tennink, the well-known parish clerk of Gainford. Surely the little souvenir is a green garland of foliage which may be fallen, but yet is full of life.

To-morrow a sale of work will take place in the Unitarian Church, Barnard Castle.

It is noted that War Savings Association meetings are to be held at Staindrop on April 2nd; Cockfield, April 3rd; and Langleydale, April 5th.

## UPPER DALE NOTES.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Mr John Gedling, who was for a number of years head clerk at Middleton railway-station, and was afterwards stationmaster at St. John's Chapel and Piercebridge, and now stationmaster at Mickleton, has been appointed to a similar position at Wooperton.

Meetings have been held at Middleton and Newbiggin during last week with a view to forming committees of the War Savings Association. On Thursday night a meeting was held at Middleton, over which Mr R. W. Raine, J.P., presided, and Mr Bryant, secretary of the County Association, gave an address. It was decided to form a local committee, with Messrs R. W. Raine as chairman; W. F. Walton, secretary; and James Watson, treasurer. The officers chosen for the committee at Newbiggin were—Chairman, Mr J. Dickinson; secretary, Miss Hall; and treasurer, Mr R. Scott.

Private G. W. Walton, of Wesley-terrace, Middleton, who enlisted at the outbreak of war, and has been through some severe battles in France, visited his home after having been in hospital in Ireland suffering from wounds to the legs caused by a shell bursting on his machine-guns.

A largely attended meeting was held at the Temperance Hotel on Tuesday night week, over which Mr R. W. Raine, J.P., presided, to organise a Sailor's Day in Teesdale to provide funds to help dependents of sailors who have been wounded or lost their lives through the war. A strong committee was appointed, and a flag day is to be held on Saturday, April 21st, and an effort is to be made to hold a jamboree and concert at Middleton and Newbiggin.

The annual ratepayers' meeting was held on Friday at the Town Hall, Middleton, when the various accounts were submitted by the Clerk, and passed as satisfactory. At the close the Parish Council had a special assembly to receive applications for allotment gardens. The demand was larger than anticipated, but with the field Lord Barnard has placed at the disposal of the Council, all requests will be met.

An entertainment was given in the Wesleyan school-room, Newbiggin, on Saturday night. Mr P. Readle presided, and an interesting programme was ably rendered by friends from the neighbourhood, their efforts being highly appreciated. The proceeds are to be devoted to the benefit of the local soldiers.

## Farming Changes in Weardale and Teesdale.

Froegarth Farm, in Upper Teesdale, which the late Mr Thomas Gibson Tarr carried on, has been taken by Mr Thomas Gibson, of Widdi Bark. The farm at Widdi Bark, thus vacant, has been taken over by Mr Jonathan Tarr, Birkdale. Mr R. Robinson is relinquishing his farm at Shipley, and is going to "G.B." Farm, near Winston. Miss Hodgson is retiring. Mr Kidd is leaving Manor Farm, West Layton, and is being succeeded by Mr Barnes, from Haltwhistle. Mr R. Brown is relinquishing Little Newbiggin Farm and going to Wether Hill, of which he is the owner. The new tenant of the Shipley Farm is Mr Peter Alderson, of Grace Cottage Farm, just above Romaldkirk. It is understood that Mr Anderson, Eggleston, is going to Grace Cottage. Trees Farm, Biscoe, which Mr Watson has relinquished on joining the Army, has been taken by Mr Bert Calton, from Stainmore, a member of a well known and respected Birmingham family.

## Soldiers' Letters Read at a Local Social.

## "League of the Spiritual War."

A deeply interested and well-attended social was held in the Primitive Methodist school-room, Newgate, on Thursday evening, the Rev. C. H. Lightfoot presiding. A number of letters received from the front were read by ladies, and from others still training at home, some of which are worthy of a permanent record.

Many expressed love for "Old Boys," and of mothers, the girls, teachers and friends. There was in all, whether in antenatal grave or gay, the evidence of British pluck and of confident and patient endurance, amid snow, ice and mud, which were made the subject much more of humour than of any serious distress. It is evident that the boys thoroughly appreciate the remembrance of those left behind, and that absence and hardships deepen their affection for friends and loved ones at home. The Chairman expressed the sorrow felt by all, and sympathy for, Mr and Mrs R. Hopson, the caretakers of the church, whose son, Freddie, after one brief month's absence from home, had died in hospital. Mrs Hopson had been with him in his last hours, and was returning that evening. He would ask them to rise to their feet in this unanimous expression of their grief.—The Rev. J. Hawkins told of the "League of the Spiritual War," which it was hoped would take root in all the churches, to get the names of the men whose religious life had been deepened by their experiences in war, and to show our debt to those who had laid down their lives to save our homes, and our civil and religious liberties. He could not help thinking, when hearing the letters read, that something of German barbarity had arisen from the fact that in Germany they had practically no Sunday schools, and had no great revivals of religion such as began with John Wesley, and practically no free churches or nonconformity. Refreshments were served, and the choir gave the glees, Hunting Day and Sweet and Low; Mrs Byssell, song, Is an old-fashioned town; Miss R. Rector, song, The song the kettle is singing. The choir-leader was Mr W. Coate, and the pianist was Miss White.

Keep the home fires burning,  
While your hearts are yearning:  
Though the lads are far away, they dream of home.  
There's a silver lining,  
Through the dark cloud shining  
Turn the dark cloud inside out  
Till the boys come home.

EVERY WOMAN should send two stamps for our 32-page Illustrated Book containing valuable information how all irregularities and suppressions may be entirely avoided or removed by simple means. Recommended by eminent Physicians as the only safe, sure, and genuine remedy. Never fails. Thousands of testimonials. Established 1892.

MR PAUL BLANCHARD,  
CLAREMONT HOUSE, DALSTON LANE, LONDON.

## National Service Meeting in the Witham Hall.

Under the presidency of Mr F. J. Wilson, J.P., Chairman of the Urban Council, Mr W. Woodhead addressed a well-attended public meeting in the Witham Hall, Barnard Castle, on Monday night. All told, he said our fighting army numbered four millions, and to fill up the gaps as the ranks were depleted it was proposed to select men from the industrial army by voluntary enrolment to liberate men for the regular army; and, in asking for this sacrifice, was Mr Chamberlain seeking an offering equal to that which our men now campaigning in France, Mesopotamia and Egypt had heroically made? They could not have a fighting army without mobility, and they could not have celerity of movement without organization, and exactly the same principle applied to industrial forces. He asked for volunteers from 18 to 61, and outlined the scheme. A schoolmaster at Eggleston had been at length accepted, after many trials, and a brother teacher at Middleton had filled the vacancy, though considerably over 70. That was disinterested patriotism—Mr Dawson explained that an appeal Tribunal would be set up connecting with the scheme, and, in two cases from Barnard Castle, he instanced the wife of a man who was receiving 2s. 6d. a day for seven days a week, and the husband was earning about 22 a week.—Cavassiers in a house-to-house visitation were asked by Mr Woodhead.

## Yesterday's Telegram.

Mr F. J. Wilson, the Chairman of the Council, received the following telegram yesterday from May Tennant, Director of Women's Section, National Service Department:—"Urgent need for women National Service volunteers for land. Board of Agriculture are ready to place 1,500 women in training immediately. Many more wanted later. Should be very grateful if you would make these facts known, and appeal to women to come forward. Enrolment forms, with terms and conditions of service, obtainable at Post Offices and employment exchanges."

## The Death of an Infant: Yesterday's Inquest.

## The Coroner Suggests State Interference in Rearing Children.

Yesterday afternoon Mr Coroner J. T. Proud and a jury investigated the cause of death associated with a child, named Christopher Pevs, aged about nine weeks, born at Driffield on the 22nd of January, and placed with a foster mother at Barnard Castle on the 28th of February last.—The Coroner asked the mother of the child why she discontinued giving the child the breast?—Witness: Because I had to go out to work for him, and I was obliged to take him off it.—The Coroner: And you fed him afterwards with condensed milk.—The foster mother, a widow, said the child was brought to her to nurse a month that day. It was not a healthy child when it came, but a poor, delicate little thing. She changed the food of the child, giving it barley water and cow's milk, with a small piece of rusk sometimes. She saw no improvement whatever in the child, and sent for a doctor on Saturday morning, because the deceased would not take his food. The child showed no suffering whatever. She had five shillings a week for the boy's maintenance.—Dr. Leishman said he saw the child on Saturday morning. It was extremely emaciated, and practically moribund, and would weigh about three pounds. There were evidences of mal-nutrition, and he noticed tubercular glands in the abdomen, which he thought were secondary and not primarily the cause of death.—The Coroner: As a matter of fact a child has no digestive organ?—Witness: No digestive organs for anything solid.—The Coroner: What do you think was the cause of death?—Witness said vitality became very low, and the child died from exhaustion as the result of badly digested or assimilated food. If the child had continued at the mother's breast it would have been definitely better child.—The Coroner, who was intensely grieved, and felt keenly in this matter, suggested State interference in the care of children.—Mr Nixon, Inspector under the Children's Act, said the deceased child and another were duly registered. Altogether there were five children in the house, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

## FOR ACUTE RHEUMATISM AND SERIOUS KIDNEY TROUBLE.

Miss Helen Cooper, Trained Nurse, explains a natural and permanent cure at home by the same treatment used in hospitals.

When even slight kidney derangement is neglected there is not only the risk of Bright's disease, dropsy, or other practically incurable maladies, but the certainty that rheumatic disorders must eventually result. I know from years of hospital experience that rheumatism, gout, lumbago, sciatica, neuritis, bladder or gall-stone, etc., are all simply the penalties of neglecting kidneys which have become weakened so they cease to excrete the constantly accumulating uric acid. However, no one need be a martyr to these complaints for a single day. Simply flush, cleanse and purify the kidneys occasionally by drinking a tumbler of water to which a level teaspoonful of pure refined alkali saltrates has been added. Any chemist can supply this pleasant-tasting standard compound at slight cost, and it dissolves sharp uric acid crystals as hot water dissolves sugar. When dissolved they cannot be painful, nor lodge in joints and muscles; also, the acid is then quickly filtered out and expelled by the kidneys. The saltrated water will also stimulate a torpid liver or clogged intestines, clearing them and the entire system of poisonous impurities or acids, sour bile, mucus, and bacteria.—H.C.

EXPERIENCED POULTRY KEEPERES assert their fowls having Ovum, Thorley's Poultry Spice, do keep healthy, and lay abundance of eggs.—Ovum is sold by G. Clarkson Harker, M.P.S., Chemist, etc., 24, Horse-market, Barnard Castle.

LADIES.

BLANCHARD'S PILLS

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## THE LOCAL URBAN COUNCIL.

## The New Overseers.

Mr F. J. Wilson, J.P., presided at the monthly meeting on Thursday night, when all the members were present excepting Lieutenant-Colonel Watson, who is on military service, the attendance including Messrs J. Wiseman, R. Woodham, J. Guy, R. Arrowsmith, O. Smith, W. Hodgson, C. Dedley, T. Thompson, H. Walker, the Rev. H. W. Bircham, Messrs J. I. Dawson (clerk), J. H. Velte (assistant-clerk), C. H. Welford, M.D. (medical officer), C. J. G. Martin (inspector), L. Simpson (surveyor), and F. V. Ord (collector).—The height of the reservoir was reported to be 20 feet 9 inches, and 15s. was accepted for the brickwork of the old blacksmith's forge at the Thorngate Mill, Mr W. Coates being the purchaser.—Two cases of diphtheria had occurred, together with other notifiable diseases, and the hospital had been opened.—In reference to the conversion of a privy-ashby at 9, Wood-street, a letter was read from the owner, at a meeting of the sanitary committee, when the action of the Inspector in serving the notice was confirmed, but it was recommended that the work be allowed to stand over until the end of the year, the notice being then enforced, and the Clerk to write to the owner to this effect.—After discussion the full Council agreed to refer the question to the next meeting of the Sanitary Committee.—The Town Head road improvement scheme was introduced by the Surveyor, who said he had that day met Mr Brown, the Deputy County Surveyor, on the spot, when the local Surveyor had produced an amended plan and detailed estimate.—Mr Brown approved of the same, and agreed to lay the project before the Works' Committee and try to get a grant towards the cost.—It was understood that the matter would have come before the Teesdale Guardians, and the question was adjourned.—Lord Barnard, in a thoughtful letter, accepted the renewal of the Council's confidence in reappointing him a Trustee of the Bowes Museum, and assured the members that he greatly appreciated the fact, and added that any suggestion they might put forth would receive every consideration.—The new overseers are Messrs R. J. Wilson, J. Guy and Harry Carter.—The Chairman submitted a really valuable and succinct report on housing and town planning, which appears in extenso on page eight, and for which Mr Wilson was warmly thanked.—Mr Arrowsmith: How many good habitable houses have there been pulled down in Barnard Castle? I think that is a very important point!—The Chairman said they had no information available on the issue raised.—On the question of allotments the Clerk stated that exception had been taken to the appropriation of the intake, which was meadow land for the mill horses. The War Agricultural Committee had sent a person to examine the land, and it would be further examined on the following day by direction of the same authority.—Mr Arrowsmith held that in exercising their compulsory powers they should make all alike.—The Clerk said the County Committee had the judicial power.—Mr Guy reported that Mr Harris would be agreeable that his one-and-a-half acre field in Crook-lane should be taken, but the opinion had been expressed that there was a lot of expense attached to this land in fencing.—Mr Arrowsmith said that Mr York had offered handsomely, and he did not think his second field should be taken.—Mr Hedley remarked that it should never be forgotten that Mr York's Crook-lane field also required fencing.—The Barnard Castle Branch of Malta Charities was registered under the War Charities Act.—"Pig keeping" was referred to.—The need of conserving waste food and paper was emphasised by Lord Rhonda.—In the matter of national service a letter was read from the Agricultural Commissioners for the four northern counties, and the dates of impending special meetings were fixed.

BOWES BAND OF HOPE.

It was intended that the last meeting should be conducted by lady members of the Band of Hope, but, owing to the death of a near relative, Miss Cooper, Gilmonby, and Miss Bayles, Hullands, were unable to take part.

The Honorary Secretary (Miss Meynell, Station House), and Mr G. Donald, Bowes Gate (the honorary treasurer), stepped into the breach, and addresses were given by Mrs W. Richardson and the above-named. Miss Ida Allison presided.

The Secretary had a pleasing duty to perform, when she announced that Mr Clarkson Harker had awarded a back prize to each of the three girls and the boy who had sent in essays of the lecture which he had delivered at the previous meeting. The names of the competitors were Hilda Mary Mason, Eunice Barwise, Harriet Shaw and Arthur Donald.

The prize essay was by Hilda M. Mason. Recitations were given by Albert Kidd, Albert Donald, Bertie Barwise, Eva Addison, Nancy Guy, Nellie Alderson and Miss Buck; violin duet by Miss Lee and Mr Peter Walker; and a solo by Mrs Albert Walker. Miss Walker, of Gilmonby, accompanied. At the close several young men signed the pledge.

The next meeting will be held on the 31st of March.

## ALLOTMENT GARDENS.

To the Editor of the "Teesdale Mercury."

DEAR SIR,—May I remind amateur gardeners and allotment holders that I am at liberty any evening during the week, and will, on receipt of a post-card or personal interview, visit any allotment (new or old) in the district,