

TEES WOOLLEN COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE is hereby Given, that the Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting of the TEE WOOLLEN COMPANY (LIMITED) will be held at their Office, in Thornegate Street, Barnard Castle, in the County of Durham, on THURSDAY, the 28th day of AUGUST, 1862, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

T. RICHARDSON, Chairman.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, a good FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE and GARDEN, situate in the Broadgates, Barnard Castle, and now in the occupation of JAMES ELLIOTT and others.

The House is divided into tenements, comprises every requisite convenience, and is in an excellent state of repair.

The tenants will show the premises, and further particulars may be learnt on application to

MR. BARNES, Solicitor, Barnard Castle.

Barnard Castle, Aug. 12th, 1862.

BARNARD CASTLE FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GALA, ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th, 1862.

In addition to the

EXHIBITION,

There will be a grand performance by the splendid BAND OF THE 10th HUSSARS;

THE LANCASHIRE PRIZE HAND BELL RINGERS

From Wigan, and the

BARNARD CASTLE BRASS BAND.

Several Glee will be sung by

EMINENT VOCALISTS

From the Yorkshire Concerts.

GRAND EVENING CONCERT

Of Vocal and Instrumental Music, in the MECHANICS' NEW HALL.

Further particulars will shortly be published.

THE Teesdale Mercury.

BARNARD CASTLE, AUGUST 13th, 1862.

The Barnard Castle Horticultural Society's Anniversary will this year hold out unusual attractions to Visitors. From advertisement it will be seen that the Programme is of a very popular order.

CRIME in this and the adjoining County of Northumberland would appear to be on the increase. Our columns this week contain an account of a dreadful murder perpetrated near Durham, on Sunday last, and a shocking case of attempted murder and suicide at Newcastle, on Monday.

LOCAL & GENERAL NEWS.

Mr. George Oliver, late of Middleton-in-Teesdale, and brother of Dr. Oliver, Stockton-on-Tees, past the first M.B. examination at the University of London, commencing on the last Monday in July, and terminating August 6th, 1862.

BARNARD CASTLE.—NARROW ESCAPE OF A CHILD FROM DROWNING.—On Friday last, Mr. Henry Raine, of Bridgegate, went into the garden of his son-in-law, Mr. Appleby (which adjoins the river Tees), to see the river, which was considerably flooded. Whilst looking over the wall at the bottom of the garden, he heard a child cry. At first he could not perceive whence the sound proceeded, till looking more intently, he saw the head of a little boy above the surface of the water. Mr. Raine, (who is upwards of 80 years of age) by great exertion, contrived to rescue the child, who had slipped from the path, and who, but for Mr. Raine's assistance, would assuredly have been drowned. Mr. Raine, who is very infirm, was so exhausted with his exertions in bringing the child out of the water, that it was an hour before he recovered sufficiently to proceed home; and he is worthy of the highest praise for his humane conduct. The father of the child is named Chisman, and is employed at Mr. Budd's mill.

THE CASE OF MR. OXLADE.—On Friday evening last, a public meeting was held in the Witham Testimonial, Barnard Castle, to consider the case of Mr. Oxlade. The chair was occupied by Mr. Gorton, who, at some length, explained the object of the meeting. Mr. Oxlade, he said, had by an honorable course of industry, amassed a considerable fortune, when, owing to a law-suit with the North-Eastern Railway Company, in defence of his rights, he had been reduced to beggary, and was now incarcerated in York Castle. He was suffering great privations, being but a "poor debtor," and his wife and family were in danger of starvation. Mr. W. Kipling then submitted a series of resolutions to the meeting; and after a discussion in which Messrs. Wimpenny, Welford, Wigman, Metcalf, and others took part, the resolutions were slightly modified, and passed. It then appeared from a statement made by Mr. Kipling, that the sum of £4 had already been collected in the town for the benefit of Mr. Oxlade, and deposited in Messrs. Backhouse's Bank. A resolution was passed that this sum should be obtained at once, if possible, and forwarded to Mr. Oxlade. A committee was appointed to obtain further subscriptions; and a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

TEESDALE UNION.—The usual fortnightly meeting of the Board of Guardians was held in the Board-room, on Wednesday last, the 6th inst. There were present:—The Rev. W. F. Wharton in the chair, Mr. Leonard Baw in the vice-chair, Messrs W. Trotter, R. Teesdale, Geo. Bainbridge, A. Hilton, J. Stubbs, A. B. Nicholson, Wm. H. Scarre, H. Heolop, R. Blenkinsop, E. Graham, Wm. Watkin, W. W. Hawdon, S. Nelson, J. Hunter, Geo. Brown, Wm. Shaw, T. Tarn, B. D. Middleton, G. Richardson, J. Walton, J. Scott, G. Brownless, A. Todd, Hodgson (Barnard), J. Dittor, E. Raine, J. Hutcheson, H. Dent, Rayson, Hodgson, and the Rev. H. Cleveland. The usual business being disposed of, the guardians proceeded to the election of clerk, the situation having become vacant through the resignation of Mr. Geo. Brown. A letter was read from the Poor Law Board accepting Mr. Brown's resignation, and expressing their regret that the guardians were about to lose the services of a man who had been so long and so faithfully connected with the Union. The Board then joined with the Poor Law Board in their regret at losing Mr. Brown's services, which have now extended over a period of above a quarter of a century, and desire to convey to Mr. Brown their best wishes for his well-being in his future engagements.—Applications for the office of clerk were read from Mr. Barnes, Mr. Cleveland, Mr. B. Metcalf, and Mr. Perkins. The number was for Mr. Barnes, 25; Mr. Cleveland, 9; and Mr. Perkins, 2. Mr. Metcalf, none. Mr. Barnes was declared elected.

DEATH OF MR. MATTHEW WHEATLEY.

Mr. Matthew Wheatley, a gentleman well known in Newcastle, died last week, at the comparatively early age of sixty-one. Mr. Wheatley was an active partner in the old established iron business at Stockbridge, which bears his name, and was all his life intimately connected with the Ravensworth property, for some portion of which he succeeded his father as agent. Mr. Wheatley was a man of considerable ability, but his quiet retiring habits prevented him from taking any part in public affairs. He was a B.A. of the University of Cambridge, and had a taste for antiquarian and literary matters. For several years past he took a warm interest in the Newcastle Infirmary. He was never married, and leaves, it is understood, a large fortune—probably upwards of £100,000.

REMARKABLE ESCAPE OF A CHILD.—A startling occurrence happened on Monday evening last on the Glasgow and South-Western Railway, near Thornhill. A young man, named James Russell, Kilmarnock, was coming south in the express train from Glasgow to Carlisle, accompanied by a sister about six years of age. About six o'clock, when the train was between Thornhill and Closeburn, the little fellow went to look out at the carriage window, but on his putting his hand on the door, it flew open, and he was precipitated from the carriage on to the "six feet" between the lines. His brother called to the engine-driver—the carriage from which the youth fell being next the engine—and the train was stopped and backed. A little beyond Cample viaduct they met the child coming along the "six feet" crying for his brother, and, saving a cut on the head and a few bruises, little the worse of his mishap.—*Dumfries Courier.*

REPORT OF THE VOLUNTEER COMMISSION.—The report of the Volunteer Commission, which is looked forward to with so much interest by every Volunteer, is in the printer's hands and will be distributed to members in the course of the week. The Commissioners have gone thoroughly into the whole question, and they have, it is understood, agreed to the following recommendations:—They propose that the staff of all regiments shall be continued as at present, and be paid out of the national funds. Next, that every effective be entitled to receive £1 per annum; that is to say, that the commanding officer is to be allowed that amount to be applied as he shall think best, but for the advantage of the corps. If it is applied for clothing, then the officer commanding is restricted to the choice of four colours—viz., blue for Artillery and Engineers, and green, grey, or scarlet for the Rifles. The grey to be in accordance with the colour selected by the War-office, the Lord-Lieutenant of counties having a veto on the colour, so that they make the Volunteers in counties as nearly similar as possible. The Commissioners further recommend that a sum of 10s per man be allowed to all those who have passed through certain stages in musketry practice, and have obtained certificates of efficiency. The recommendation is one which we regard as of great importance, as upon the skill in the use of the rifle the efficiency of the Volunteers forces totally depends. They also recommend, on excellence of shooting will have a most beneficial effect. Officers of regiments and companies will urge their men on to practice with a view of obtaining the extra 10s per man. In many small corps, should the whole of the men be made effective—which is not only possible, but easy of accomplishment—the 80s per man will enable them to keep the corps in the best order. Without this aid the number of men would gradually fall off. The Commissioners, in addition to these gratuities, propose to give a further sum of 4s per head for all Volunteers living beyond five miles from head quarters, or the usual place of drill. This sum is given with the view of assisting Volunteers engaged in agricultural pursuits, who cannot afford the expense of riding to the place of rendezvous, and is proposed for the purpose of inducing countrymen to join the Volunteer uniform and to carry the rifle. These are the principal recommendations of the Commissioners, and we believe they will meet with general approval. At present the sum voted in aid of the Volunteers does not exceed £400,000. The sum which the Government are prepared to carry into effect, the large sum the country will be increased to about £170,000 or £180,000.—*Observer.*

GRAND BALLOON ASCENT: THE FIRST EVER MADE IN MIDDLESEX.—On Monday evening, Professor Simmons, the well-known American aeronaut, made a most magnificent ascent in his new balloon, the "Raven," from the enclosed road at the top of Stockton-street. The intention commenced about noon, and the balloon was fully inflated by four o'clock, in which state it remained (while the various other performances were going on) until a little after five o'clock, when the professor commenced the operation of attaching the car. Shortly before six o'clock, the machine, being released from those who held it, ascended majestically into the air, amid the shouts of many thousands of spectators, who had completely lined the streets and every available eminence. Great excitement was manifested when Mr. Simmons, at an altitude of, we should think, 500 feet, climbed up into the rigging, giving great effect to the scene. The balloon passed over the iron-works, and then, ascending to a great altitude, rapidly traversed the country, apparently in a body of vapour, until it appeared a mere speck. The balloon, which is composed of a mixture of Indian Tassar silk and French embroidery cambric, is a beautifully symmetrical machine. It stands nearly 80 feet high with the car attached. A more majestic ascent cannot be imagined, as it rose nearly vertically when released from terra firma. Mr. Simmons showed a very scientific knowledge in his management of the inflation, and the officers of the Gas Company spoke very approvingly of the tightness and soundness of the balloon. It remained fully an hour and a half without receiving any gas, and not the slightest diminution in the machine was discernible. This must be a great advantage to aeronauts, as it enables Mr. Simmons to make ascents from places where there is only a small supply of gas. We are informed by Mr. S. that shortly after passing over the iron works he gained an altitude of about ten thousand feet, and after crossing the bend of the Tees, discovered a meadow studied with people and he thought (as he afterwards learned) a signal ground before alighting in the North Sea, after being up about an hour resolved to attempt a descent, if possible, in the aforementioned meadow; in the descent he could see that great excitement was reigning in the crowd below, and striking terra firma found himself in the midst of a large concourse of school children, who had collected for a day's enjoyment in the beautiful meadow belonging to Mr. John Owen, and close to West Hartlepool. The whole town came running out, and in a very short time a vast concourse of people had assembled to witness the great novelty. A pleasing spectacle was produced during the ascent of the balloon the aeronaut threw out a great number of bills, presenting the appearance of a snow storm. This made the aeronaut's 68th ascent. He ascended from Norwich last Wednesday taking Mr. Youens, of London with him, putting his passengers out at Spitzworth, and reascended to complete his trip alone. Amongst his numerous engagements he ascends on business as a furniture broker in the Dog Bank, on Monday next. The aeronaut returned to Middleborough, by the excursion steam-boat from Hartlepool, the same night about half-past 10 o'clock.

STAINDROP.—There are 9 new Claims this year, for the Election of Knights of the Shire, and 5 re-claims, making a total of 14.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The Hay is nearly all got in, and the remaining crops are looking well. On Thursday and Friday last, a considerable quantity of rain fell, which has a salutary effect upon the pastures.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF CLEVELAND and Lady Augusta Powlett arrived at Raby Castle on Thursday last. His Grace and Her Ladyship attended Divine Service at Staindrop Church on Sunday.

ATTEMPTED MURDER & SUICIDE IN THE DOG BANK, NEWCASTLE.—On Monday morning, a good deal of excitement was occasioned in the town by a report which got abroad at an early hour, that a woman residing in the Dog Bank had attempted to murder her husband, and afterwards to destroy her own life. On making inquiry we found the story to be quite correct, and ascertained the following particulars of the melancholy affair. Samuel McLaughlin, the person whose life has been spared, is a man about 50 years of age, who carries on business as a furniture broker in the Dog Bank, and is residing with his wife in a room attached to his shop. The wife, Bridget McLaughlin, is 13 years younger than her husband, the latter having been a widower when she married him. For some years past it appears that the couple have led an uncomfortable life, being both a good deal addicted to dissipated habits. So far as we can learn, there has been no serious quarrel between them, but there has been some transgression between them of late to account for the woman's extraordinary conduct. According to the husband's account he retired to rest about 9 o'clock on the Sunday evening. He afterwards called repeatedly to his wife to come to bed, but she as often refused to comply, and it was not till half-past 12 that he placed her in bed. She then lay fast asleep and did not awake till about a quarter past 4 in the morning, when his wife requested him to get up and give her a drink. This he did, and, having also taken a drink himself, he returned to bed, and again

DURHAM. BRUTAL MURDER OF AN OLD WOMAN NEAR DURHAM.

Intelligence reached Durham on Sunday morning of a cold-blooded murder having been committed near Plawsworth, distant about four miles from that city, which exceeds in atrocity many of those which have unfortunately been somewhat frequent of late. The victim of the murdered woman is Ann Halliday, aged 85 years. Within about a quarter of a mile from Broadmayers—or what is better known by the name of Nettlesworth, a pit village—two cottages stand on the brow of a hill. In one of these the poor old woman, who has been the victim of this atrocity, has lived for a long period highly respected by the village, and those with whom she was acquainted. In the adjoining cottage, for the past three weeks, an Irishman, named John Cox, a pitman employed at the Nettlesworth Colliery, belonging to Messrs George Elliott and Co., his wife and their young infant have resided. Previous to their coming here nothing is known of their history, nor does it appear that Halliday was on terms of intimacy with them beyond passing acquaintance. Mrs. Halliday, we may state, has been separated for upwards of 20 years from her husband, who has for some time kept a public house in the village, and allowed his wife weekly 8s, which, with what the parish authorities gave her, was the sum which she had for her maintenance. The first intimation of the murder having been committed was by Cox's wife having awoke several persons in the village about three o'clock in the morning, with the information that she heard Mrs. Halliday moaning in the house. Several females, who were acquainted with Mrs. Halliday, immediately proceeded to the house, and found her lying on the floor, by the side of the bed, in a pool of blood. From the information which we have been able to obtain, it appears that she was alive when they found her, and was able to make some remarks which have led to the apprehension of the two Coxes, but in the present state of the case it would be premature to point them out as the guilty parties. Admission had been obtained to the house by the person who committed the deed by placing a poker under the door and raising it off the hinges; the lock having then slipped back an entrance was at once effected. The time at which this took place was, it is supposed, somewhere between two and three o'clock; for it was exactly three when the woman Cox arrived at Halliday's public-house, and awoke them by saying that Mrs. Halliday was dying, remarking at the same time that she thought the old woman was in a fit. After entrance was obtained, the murderer or murderers, for it is uncertain whether there were one or two concerned in the deed, went in, and there is every probability of her recovery. As for the husband he was allowed to proceed home after his wounds had been dressed, and in his case, as already stated, there is little or no fear of dangerous consequences.

At the Police Court, yesterday morning, Mr. Sargeant, referring to the charge sheet, informed the magistrates that Bridget McLaughlin was charged with cutting her husband's throat and attempting to cut her own. The husband was unable to appear, and they had been obliged to send the woman to the Infirmary. He, therefore, asked that the investigation of the case by their Worship should be postponed. An adjournment was granted accordingly.—*Northern Express.*

SOUTH DURHAM & LANCASHIRE UNION RAILWAY.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the South Durham Railway Company was held on Tuesday, at the King's Head, Barnard Castle. Present: J. Whitwell (presiding), H. Pease, M.P., T. Mac Nary, R. Thompson, W. H. Wakefield, W. R. L. Hopkins, J. Wilson, Jas. Thompson, I. Wilson, and Jno. J. Wilson, Esq.

The following report was presented and passed:— "The directors have the satisfaction of reporting to the shareholders that the bill for amalgamating this company with the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company, on terms as to fixed dividends and otherwise, has been passed by the House of Commons, and is now before the House of Lords. The shares held in this company will, after the first of January next, be exchanged for preference stock on the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company, of which due notice will be given. "The works on the proposed part of this railway, from Barnard Castle to West Auckland, are in such a state of progress as to justify your directors in anticipating that they will be completed about the end of the present year. "Pursuant to the existing arrangement with the Stockton and Darlington, now confirmed by Parliament, a dividend will be paid for the half-year at the rate of 4 per cent. "The accounts for the half-year are audited, and the balance sheet will be produced. "The balance sheet showed that £392,922 had been received on share account, £180,537 on loans, and £235,998 on advances. Unpaid accounts amounted to £23,462, and payable bills to £6,654, making a total capital of £667,434. The disbursements from the commencement of the undertaking have been as follows:—preliminary and parliamentary, £7,320; general, £6,546; agency, £2,620; office establishment, £2,742; rates and taxes, £2,446; direction and auditing, £1,874; general law charges, £1,397; valuations, arbitrations, &c., £720; engineering, £7,498; land (own), £45,708; (tenants), £2,039; construction (works), £24,918; 503; (materials), £78,141; interest and commission, £30,921; balance, £214,587. Out of the £7,000 received from the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company in respect of the working of the past half-year, £6,133 8s 4d is put down to dividends, and £866 11s 8d to interest. "The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the meeting on the successful result of the company's application to Parliament for the Amalgamation Act, by which the permanence of their dividends had now been secured by legislative authority. "MR. WOODWARD (a shareholder) said before the report was adopted, he should like to refer to a matter in which he thought the shareholders and the public could not fail to take an interest, namely, the formation of that part of their line between Barnard Castle and West Auckland, by which the route for coal and coke would be so much improved and shortened. He had watched the progress of that line for upwards of two years, very closely, and was concerned to see the miserable slow progress which it made. Somebody, he thought, should really see to hastening these works. The viaduct at Langleydale had been going on since its commencement at a snail's pace, and some important cuttings and works yet remained to be done. If the report was then unanimously adopted, and a resolution passed declaring a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent., pursuant to the arrangements with the Stockton and Darlington Company. "A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting."

ATTEMPTED MURDER & SUICIDE IN THE DOG BANK, NEWCASTLE.

On Monday morning, a good deal of excitement was occasioned in the town by a report which got abroad at an early hour, that a woman residing in the Dog Bank had attempted to murder her husband, and afterwards to destroy her own life. On making inquiry we found the story to be quite correct, and ascertained the following particulars of the melancholy affair. Samuel McLaughlin, the person whose life has been spared, is a man about 50 years of age, who carries on business as a furniture broker in the Dog Bank, and is residing with his wife in a room attached to his shop. The wife, Bridget McLaughlin, is 13 years younger than her husband, the latter having been a widower when she married him. For some years past it appears that the couple have led an uncomfortable life, being both a good deal addicted to dissipated habits. So far as we can learn, there has been no serious quarrel between them, but there has been some transgression between them of late to account for the woman's extraordinary conduct. According to the husband's account he retired to rest about 9 o'clock on the Sunday evening. He afterwards called repeatedly to his wife to come to bed, but she as often refused to comply, and it was not till half-past 12 that he placed her in bed. She then lay fast asleep and did not awake till about a quarter past 4 in the morning, when his wife requested him to get up and give her a drink. This he did, and, having also taken a drink himself, he returned to bed, and again

fell asleep. About half an hour afterwards he was again awake, this time by the horrible sensation of some one cutting his throat. On opening his eyes he found his wife sitting up in bed and holding a razor in her hand, with which she had already inflicted a severe wound on his throat. The woman presently attempted to complete her desperate purpose by aiming a second stroke at his throat, but this he contrived to parry, receiving, however, in doing so, a deep gash on the right arm, and a cut on the left hand. He sprang out of bed, and, without putting on his clothes, ran up Pilgrim Street to the Manors Police Station, marking the road he traversed by drops of blood. On reaching the station he told his story, to the effect above indicated. The officer in charge at once sent for information to the police surgeon, and within a few minutes Mr. Daggleish was in attendance. On examination it was found that the unfortunate man had sustained a severe wound in the throat, extending several inches underneath the jaw. Had the gash been a little more towards one side of the neck the fatal purpose with which the injury was inflicted, would in all probability have been accomplished. As it is, however, no danger to the man's life is apprehended. He returned to his home, and it seemed that at the time when the occurrence took place, P.C. (25) Bugless happened to be on duty in Butcher Bank. He was there accosted by a person who informed him that a man in a state of nakedness, and with his throat cut, had just run up Pilgrim Street. Proceeding up the bank, the officer cut his hand and throat behind the door. He at once laid hold of her, and with some difficulty succeeded in possessing himself of the weapon she had been making use of, and which we may here state consisted of an old razor stuck into a wooden handle. The officer tied up with a handkerchief the wound which the woman had inflicted on her throat, and forthwith conducted her to the station, where she in return received the attention of Mr. Daggleish. Her injuries were found to be of a more serious character than those she had inflicted on her husband. There were two large wounds on the throat extending from the ear to the chin, and in such a position that if they had gone half an inch deeper her throat would have severed the jugular vein and resulted fatally. Her injuries having been properly attended to, the wretched woman was retained at the Manors Station till about half-past 9 o'clock, when Dr. Rayne directed her removal to the Infirmary. On arriving at that institution she was able to walk up stairs to the ward; and on making inquiry of the officer last night we were informed that there is every probability of her recovery. As for the husband he was allowed to proceed home after his wounds had been dressed, and in his case, as already stated, there is little or no fear of dangerous consequences.

The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the King's Head, Barnard Castle, on Tuesday. Present:—Admiral Russell Elliot (chairman), Wm. Hopes, Wm. Crackenthorpe, Wm. Brougham, R. Thompson, T. Mac Nary, and W. Fulton, Esqs. The following is a copy of the report:— "The directors have to report that this line was opened for mineral traffic on the 8th day of April, 1862, and for passenger traffic on the 7th day of June. "The directors have much satisfaction in being able to inform you that a bill has been passed by the House of Commons for amalgamating this company with the Stockton and Darlington Company, on the terms as to fixed dividends, from the time of opening, already agreed upon and reported to you. "The bill brought into Parliament for extending your line into Penrith, and also for obtaining a connection with the Cockerham, Keswick, and Penrith Railway, now in course of formation, has passed the legislature, on terms calculated to save the company considerable cost in works of construction. Arrangements having previously been made with the London and North Western Railway Company, the act provides that the line will be extended to the Lancashire and Carlisle Railway at Clifton village, and from thence running powers are given to the Stockton and Darlington Company, on the terms as to fixed dividends, already agreed upon and reported to you. "The first half-yearly dividend will be made at the next half-yearly meeting. "The accounts of the company have been audited, and will be laid before you. "The balance sheet gave the total capital at £203,913, which was made up of £129,941 on shares, £25,900 on sundries, £44,903 on loans, and £2,268 on unpaid accounts. The disbursements were, preliminary and parliamentary, £4,058; general, £1,522; direction and auditing, £2,446; agency, £2,620; engineering, £2,477; land (own), £45,708; (tenants), £2,039; construction (works), £24,918; 503; (materials), £78,141; interest and commission, £27,099; extension bill deposit, £2,200, &c.; balance, £22,968. "On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Brougham, the above report and statement of accounts were adopted; and the thanks of the meeting, at the instance of Mr. Crackenthorpe, who was supported by Mr. Thompson, were accorded to the chairman."

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY'S HALF YEARLY REPORT.

The following is the report of the Directors of this Company. "The statements of the company's accounts for the past half-year, with the report of the auditors, is presented herewith. The amount of receipts (including £1,346 3s from last half year), is £220,766 11s 6d. The expenditure has been £113,572 18s 9d, leaving a balance of £107,193 15s 9d which, after payment of interest on loans and preference dividends, is equal to a dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, leaving a balance of £1,201 12s 5d, to be carried to the current half-year. During a period of general depression in the commerce of the country, which has been largely felt by the railway interest, your directors have observed with pleasure the steady increase of your traffic returns, as compared with the corresponding weeks of the previous year; whilst the extensions westward have contributed to this result, it is mainly to be ascribed to the progressive development of the iron trade of the district; in order to foster which, it has been wise to continue the drawback latterly made to this branch of industry; this item amounts during the past half year to about £8,000. This allowance, together with the maintenance of the South Durham line and of the Saltburn branch, which during the past half year has been a charge against the revenue, will account for the heavier per centage on the working expenses as exhibited in the accounts. The Eden Valley Railway, uniting the South Durham line with the Lancashire and Carlisle, near Penrith, via Appleby, was opened for public traffic on the 9th of June last. The act for the improvement of your line between Crook and the Tow Law iron-works, as mentioned in the last half-yearly report, has received the sanction of Parliament. The bill for the amalgamation of the South Durham and Eden Valley railways with your railways has also received the royal assent; by this act the extension of the West Yorkshire branch—about 2½ miles—is made part of your line. Your directors have pleasure in adding that, although several petitions were lodged against this bill, amicable arrangements were entered into with the principal petitioners, and the bill passed unopposed, thus the important advantages which it confers have been obtained without the expense of a Parliamentary contest. Your Board cannot but believe that the recent changes in the management of the West Hartlepool harbour and railway company's affairs will tend to greater harmony amongst the railway interests of the district. Arrangements have been made with the London and North Western Company which empower you to run the Eden Valley trains over that company's line between Clifton and the town of Penrith; this will also facilitate the direct traffic to and from the Cockerham and Keswick line, the works of which are now in progress. These arrangements will, no doubt, conduce greatly to public accommodation, and to the development of the east and west coast trade, giving also a direct route to the Irish ports. The cordial understanding with the North Eastern Company has been maintained; the adjustment of accounts with them, as in 1861, has been left until the close of the year. The accounts of the locomotive and wagon department have had the continued attention of your directors; they believe the rolling stock of all descriptions, as well as the permanent way, are thoroughly upheld, and are in a satisfactory and efficient state. The amount of your debt due has been reduced £25,724 15s 2d during the half-year. The state of the money market has enabled the directors to bring the average rate of interest to about 4½ per cent.; the capital now required could undoubtedly be obtained at low rates, but the obligation to make periodic calls on the unpaid ordinary shares is considered binding by your board, though this question has necessarily a direct tendency to reduce for the time being the rate of dividend. Your directors refer with confidence to the vast mineral resources which have been developed by your undertaking, and feel unabated confidence in its present position and future prospects. (Signed) H. PASCOE SMITH, Deputy Chairman.

The auditors report that they have examined the accounts of the Company for the year ending June 30, 1862, and find them correct.

MARRIAGE. At Barnham, on the 28th ult., Mr. Geo. Moss to Miss Jane Wiseman.

DEATHS. At Lane Head, Middleton, on the 31st ult., aged 53 years, Ann, wife of Mr. W. Braham, deeply lamented. At Mill, Newbrough, on the 31st ult., Frances, wife of Mr. W. Hunt, aged 40 years.

MARKETS. Newcastle, Tuesday.—The supply of beef comprised 893 head. The number of sheep was 8,350. Pigs, 213. Prices.—Beasts, prime heifers, 7s 9d to 8s 0d; secondary sorts, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; good steers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; middling, 7s 0d to 7s 3d; cows, 6s 0d to 7s 0d; stags, 6s 0d to 6s 3d; pork, (large), 6s 0d to 7s 0d; small, 6s 0d to 6s 3d per stone of 14 lb. Sheep.—Good vendable wethers, 7d to 7½d; middling, 6½d to 6¾d; tups, ewes, &c., 6d to 6½d; Lambs, 7d to 7½d per lb., sinking off.

EDEN VALLEY RAILWAY.

The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the King's Head, Barnard Castle, on Tuesday. Present:—Admiral Russell Elliot (chairman), Wm. Hopes, Wm. Crackenthorpe, Wm. Brougham, R. Thompson, T. Mac Nary, and W. Fulton, Esqs. The following is a copy of the report:—

"The directors have to report that this line was opened for mineral traffic on the 8th day of April, 1862, and for passenger traffic on the 7th day of June. "The directors have much satisfaction in being able to inform you that a bill has been passed by the House of Commons for amalgamating this company with the Stockton and Darlington Company, on the terms as to fixed dividends, from the time of opening, already agreed upon and reported to you. "The bill brought into Parliament for extending your line into Penrith, and also for obtaining a connection with the Cockerham, Keswick, and Penrith Railway, now in course of formation, has passed the legislature, on terms calculated to save the company considerable cost in works of construction. Arrangements having previously been made with the London and North Western Railway Company, the act provides that the line will be extended to the Lancashire and Carlisle Railway at Clifton village, and from thence running powers are given to the Stockton and Darlington Company, on the terms as to fixed dividends, already agreed upon and reported to you. "The first half-yearly dividend will be made at the next half-yearly meeting. "The accounts of the company have been audited, and will be laid before you. "The balance sheet gave the total capital at £203,913, which was made up of £129,941 on shares, £25,900 on sundries, £44,903 on loans, and £2,268 on unpaid accounts. The disbursements were, preliminary and parliamentary, £4,058; general, £1,522; direction and auditing, £2,446; agency, £2,620; engineering, £2,477; land (own), £45,708; (tenants), £2,039; construction (works), £24,918; 503; (materials), £78,141; interest and commission, £27,099; extension bill deposit, £2,200, &c.; balance, £22,968. "On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Brougham, the above report and statement of accounts were adopted; and the thanks of the meeting, at the instance of Mr. Crackenthorpe, who was supported by Mr. Thompson, were accorded to the chairman."

The following is the report of the Directors of this Company. "The statements of the company's accounts for the past half-year, with the report of the auditors, is presented herewith. The amount of receipts (including £1,346 3s from last half year), is £220,766 11s 6d. The expenditure has been £113,572 18s 9d, leaving a balance of £107,193 15s 9d which, after payment of interest on loans and preference dividends, is equal to a dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, leaving a balance of £1,201 12s 5d, to be carried to the current half-year. During a period of general depression in the commerce of the country, which has been largely felt by the railway interest, your directors have observed with pleasure the steady increase of your traffic returns, as compared with the corresponding weeks of the previous year; whilst the extensions westward have contributed to this result, it is mainly to be ascribed to the progressive development of the iron trade of the district; in order to foster which, it has been wise to continue the drawback latterly made to this branch of industry; this item amounts during the past half year to about £8,000. This allowance, together with the maintenance of the South Durham line and of the Saltburn branch, which during the past half year has been a charge against the revenue, will account for the heavier per centage on the working expenses as exhibited in the accounts. The Eden Valley Railway, uniting the South Durham line with the Lancashire and Carlisle, near Penrith, via Appleby, was opened for public traffic on the 9th of June last. The act for the improvement of your line between Crook and the Tow Law iron-works, as mentioned in the last half-yearly report, has received the sanction of Parliament. The bill for the amalgamation of the South Durham and Eden Valley railways with your railways has also received the royal assent; by this act the extension of the West Yorkshire branch—about 2½ miles—is made part of your line. Your directors have pleasure in adding that, although several petitions were lodged against this bill, amicable arrangements were entered into with the principal petitioners, and the bill passed unopposed, thus the important advantages which it confers have been obtained without the expense of a Parliamentary contest. Your Board cannot but believe that the recent changes in the management of the West Hartlepool harbour and railway company's affairs will tend to greater harmony amongst the railway interests of the district. Arrangements have been made with the London and North Western Company which empower you to run the Eden Valley trains over that company's line between Clifton and the town of Penrith; this will also facilitate the direct traffic to and from the Cockerham and Keswick line, the works of which are now in progress. These arrangements will, no doubt, conduce greatly to public accommodation, and to the development of the east and west coast trade, giving also a direct route to the Irish ports. The cordial understanding with the North Eastern Company has been maintained; the adjustment of accounts with them, as in 1861, has been left until the close of the year. The accounts of the locomotive and wagon department have had the continued attention of your directors; they believe the rolling stock of all descriptions, as well as the permanent way, are thoroughly upheld, and are in a satisfactory and efficient state. The amount of your debt due has been reduced £25,724 15s 2d during the half-year. The state of the money market has enabled the directors to bring the average rate of interest to about 4½ per cent.; the capital now required could undoubtedly be obtained at low rates, but the obligation to make periodic calls on the unpaid ordinary shares is considered binding by your board, though this question has necessarily a direct tendency to reduce for the time being the rate of dividend. Your directors refer with confidence to the vast mineral resources which have been developed by your undertaking, and feel unabated confidence in its present position and future prospects. (Signed) H. PASCOE SMITH, Deputy Chairman.

The auditors report that they have examined the accounts of the Company for the year ending June 30, 1862, and find them correct.

MARRIAGE. At Barnham, on the 28th ult., Mr. Geo. Moss to Miss Jane Wiseman.

DEATHS. At Lane Head, Middleton, on the 31st ult., aged 53 years, Ann, wife of Mr. W. Braham, deeply lamented. At Mill, Newbrough, on the 31st ult., Frances, wife of Mr. W. Hunt, aged 40 years.

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