

Speech Day At the County School.

THOROUGHLY PRACTICAL ADDRESS BY LORD LONDONDERRY.

Last Friday afternoon the Marquess of Londonderry, K.G., distributed the prizes and university certificates at the North Eastern County School. There was an overwhelming and pleasantly large attendance of parents and friends of the pupils, who were, as usual, entertained to luncheon in the dining hall earlier in the day.

Accompanying Lord Londonderry to the platform were Lord and Lady Barnard, the Lord Bishop of Durham, Mr. John Smith, J.P., the Rev. Dr. Pearce, Mr. R. T. Richardson, J.P., Mr. R. R. Rodman, the Rev. L. R. Ashby, M.A., Mr. T. Douglas, J.P., Mr. W. J. Watson, the Rev. A. H. Ford, Mr. C. C. Pannett, Mr. J. G. Hall, Mr. J. A. Robson, Durham County Secretary for Higher Education; Captain David Breton, the Rev. F. L. Breton, M.A., Headmaster, and Messrs F. D. Waldron, A. W. Ridout, H. J. Hunting, J. E. Barnard, H. W. Low, F. O. Kennan, G. E. Parkinson, F. Boardman, W. Blackett, E. Balgarnie, J. Robinson, S. R. E. Phillips, and R. P. Sleeman, all Masters of the School.

Statement by the Headmaster. The Rev. F. L. Breton, M.A., the Headmaster, in reading the annual report, warmly reviewed the efforts which he was sure would be made by the sympathetic interest of one who was fully aware how difficult and how important was the work of education in all its branches, and they were hopeful that he would be able to do much to help the County School, and to secure the interest and support of the three great counties which lie between the River and the Sea.

What the School is Actually Doing. As the result of the education of the past and present boys of the school, he found that of those sent up for the Cambridge local examinations, 14 boys took honours, including 8 in the first class. But of 3,500 candidates from all the schools, only 105 took first-class honours, and 8 went from Barnard Castle School. (Hear, hear.) Then, again, Atkinson won the silver medal, and he offered him his sincere congratulations, and he thought the whole school should congratulate him on the great work he had done.

Continental Europe. In casting his mind back a few years—and he thought no one would contradict him—he found that until recent years the whole system of secondary education in this country was a by-word in other countries, and a source of reproach to ourselves. It had been recognised during those past years that many countries outstripped us with regard to their system of secondary education, and were turning out yearly, he might almost say monthly, men who were competing with us in our great commercial interests who were far better educated to compete with us than we were to compete with them.

The Country's Awakening. Great interest in the matter had been aroused in all parts of the country, and therefore it was that they had such a large number of schools at the present moment devoting themselves to the higher training of their students. He thought that a school was that which he had the honour of addressing. Barnard Castle had not been behindhand in recognising the necessity of turning out the class of boys to whom he had alluded, and it had done so very well. It was one of the few secondary schools in which the vast and overwhelming majority of the boys belonging to it boarded on the premises.

Training for a Commercial Career. In the past there had been many who rather looked down on a school where the curriculum tended more to the instruction of science than to classics, but he thought that day was rather gone by, and whilst classics must be closely attended to and be of valuable service to some schools, it might be that in the County of Durham, where the commercial interests were so great, instruction in science and technical character would be found of greater advantage. He was glad to think that that new type of education was not disregarded by the more modern done at the great universities.

Lord Londonderry then distributed the prizes, and afterwards delivered an address, in which he reviewed that Lady Londonderry, owing to a misapprehension on his part entirely as to the date on which the proceedings were to take place, had made other arrangements, and was consequently unable to accompany him. He accepted their invitation with feelings of the very greatest pleasure.

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NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

Table with columns for stations (London, Darlington, Newcastle, etc.), times (p.m., a.m.), and branch names (Barnard Castle and South Durham Branch, Barnard Castle and Bishop Auckland Branch, Tees Valley Branch).

Market Trains. Will run on Oct. 2nd, and alternate Wednesdays.

Table with columns for stations (London, York, Darlington, etc.) and times.

Sunday Trains. To and from Barnard Castle.

Table with columns for stations (Darlington, Barnard Castle, etc.) and times.

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Bowes Manor. ANCIENT COURT DAY AND DINNER.

The Administration of a Colossal Property. The ancient Manor Court of Bowes, existing for time out of memory, was held in the Grammar School, on Saturday, and the proceedings were opened not by stilted fanfare's blast, but by a solemn oration in Latin.

The Chairman was glad that the old minute-book had been nicely copied, and if it was only indexed, it would become a valuable document of reference. The records went back as far as 1772. The Chairman said the Lords in Trust had arranged with the Field Reeves for the work done for Driggill, and he hoped the other would be finally accepted.

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THE GANISTER COMPANY.

The Chairman heard at the last meeting of the Lords in Trust that the ganister company which was floated so successfully, was being wound up, with £75 in arrears. We agreed to waive £50 of that if he agreed to pay the difference, and we arranged for a further term of five years, but that was a conditional proposition.

Alleged Encroachment.

The Chairman then referred to a proposed graduated scale for encroachments—Mr. Michal Clarkson: May I be allowed to ask if I am in any way complicated? Will it concern me when the Chairman says to do with it to everybody? Mr. Holmes: It will apply to every encroachment.

More Encroachments Considered.

It was stated that if the meeting would grant Mr. Howland's enclosure he would remove it at any time if they gave him six months' notice to clear it all away. The Chairman then outlined an application from Mr. Thomas Alderson, of Bowes Villa, in which it was proposed to enclose 3,000 square yards at the west end of the village of Bowes which was now waste, at a yearly rent of £10.

Starforth Council Trouble.

In view of the speedy settlement of the claims of the freeholders against the Starforth Rural District Council, in respect to the Quarry the Steward said he was still negotiating with the Clerk—Mr. York moved, and it was unanimously resolved, that the Lords in Trust take immediate action against the Council.

THE CELEBRATED "JONES."

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