# Berwick Advertiser 1878.

NB – Gap between Dec. 1877 and Jan. 11 1878.

February 8, Front Page, column 1.

Mr Purves is instructed to sell by auction at the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb.1878 at one o'clock precisely. A pair of excellent carriage horses, elegant landau, Nottingham basket, phaeton, harness etc. etc lately belonging to Walter Carter, Esq. of Ayton, deceased, as formerly advertised. Berwick 30<sup>th</sup> January, 1878.

February 8, Local News, column 3.

CORN EXCHANGE COMPANY - On Saturday afternoon the annual meeting of the shareholders in this concern was held in one of the side rooms of the Corn Exchange. Mr D Logan in the chair. Mr J Wight read the annual financial statement from which it appeared that the total income had been £421 13s 11d, made up of £196 as cash from stalls, £44 12s 6d from season tickets, penny admission £62 10s 6d, rents £119 18s 9d &c. After paying all expenses there was £180 2s 11d as net profit. The cash in hand amounted to £21 13s 3d, and the [the rest of the sentence is illegible]. Mr Wight read the directors' report which is as follows: - Your directors have the pleasure of again meeting you on this occasion, and laying before you a statement of the income and expenditure liabilities and assets of the company for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1877. The various accounts have been examined and approved by your directors and duly attested by the auditors, and a printed copy of the account current and balance have been sent to each shareholder, from which you will observe there is a balance of £1842s 11d available as a dividend, and your directors recommend the present meeting to declare a dividend of five per cent upon the paid capital of the company. In compliance with your regulations they beg further to state that during the past year there have been 3 meetings of directors of these Messrs Crossman, Darling and J H Black have attended three. Messrs D Logan and Bird two; Messrs Clay, Berwick, J Black and Clay, Kerchester one; and Mr George Hogg none. The three retiring directors are Messrs John Black, Clay, Kerchester and George Hogg; but who are eligible for re-election (signed) D Logan, Chairman. - On the motion of the chairman seconded by Mr G Brown and the report was adopted. The three retiring directors were re-elected on the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr Bird [?]. Mr Wight, secretary and treasurer and Mr [?], auditor were also reappointed. The proceedings then terminated.

February 15, Front Page, column 3.

Choral Union Concert. Corn Exchange, Berwick. Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 1878. Music Haydn's oratorio The Creation. Soloists: Miss Jane Robinson of Wakefield and Yorkshire concerts (soprano). Mr Thomas Richardson (tenor). Mr Andrew McCall, principal basso of York Minster (bass). Orchestra: 1<sup>st</sup> violins: Miss A Dreschler-Hamilton, Mr H Dambmann, Mr W

Davis. 2<sup>nd</sup> violins: Mr W H Cole, Mr E W Jenkins. Violas: Mr Adam Hamilton, Mr H B Stewart. Violincello: Mr Carl Dreschler-Hamilton. Contrabasso: Mr W Wallace. Flute: Mr F Zoblinski. Oboe: Mr Akeroyd. Clarinette: Mr B V Sorge, Mr R S Auld. Fagotto: Mr James Heathhoote. Organist: Miss Cuthbertson. Conductor: Mr Barker.

Doors open at 7:30, concert at 8 prompt, carriages at 10:15. Tickets- reserved seats (numbered) 3s; second seats, 2s; promenade 1s; and Book of Words price 6d may be had from A Paton and H Plenderleith & Son, booksellers, High Street, Richardson Brothers, grocers, Hide Hill, and D Miller, printer, Church Street.

February 15, p. 2, column 2.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. Friday (today) and Saturday Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Messrs Bowers & Co, London, beg respectfully to inform the public of Berwick and vicinity that they will dispose of, by public auction, a choice selection of high class pictures, comprising original water colour drawings by eminent artists, oil paintings, oleographs, proof engravings &c, framed and unframed, also a lot of splendid mirrors in gilt frames. Sale to commence on Friday at 2 o'clock, thereafter and on Saturday, by private bargain. The pictures on view during the morning of sale to which connoisseurs are respectfully invited.

James J Oswald, auctioneer. Berwick 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1878.

February 22, p. 2, column 1.

Children's special service mission. Mr Josiah Spiers in Corn Exchange, April 8<sup>th</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup>.

February 22, Local Gossip, column 3.

It is proposed to have, in a short time, in the Corn Exchange, some special missionary services for the children attending all the Sunday schools in the borough. Mr Spiers, who has been most successful in efforts of this kind elsewhere, being the gentleman who is to conduct them. This is a new feature of religious work, but one that requires development. In fact, upon it a very great deal depends; if the movement had been adopted sooner perhaps there would not have been so much reason to deplore the fact that in this town as well as almost every other, many more keep away from church than those who go to it, and now that the experiment of pleasing children with religious services for the purpose of attracting them to these is to be tried, let us hope that the seed of future good will be sown.

March 8, p. 2, column 1.

CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK. Positively three nights only. Commencing Monday, March 11, 1878. Miss Annie de Montford, the famous mesmerist, in her remarkable entertainment.

De Montford	of Mental	Mesmerist		
De Montford	MAGNETISM	I. Mesmerist.		
De Montford	Pronounced	Mesmerist		
By the press and the public to be the most				
De Montford	POWERFUL MESMERIST		Mesmerist	
De Montford	in the world		Mesmerist.	

Reserved seats, 2s; second, 1s; back, 6. Doors open at 7:30; commence at 8. For opinions of the English and American press read the *Daily Mesmerist*.

Manager.....Mr Edwin Hall.

March 8, p. 2, column 6.

CHORAL UNION CONCERT. Shakespeare has said "We are never merry when we hear sweet music" but there can be no doubt that if it has not an exhilarating effect its power to soothe and refine is undisputed, for the same writer says-" [quote illegible].

It is desirable therefore that in all communities opportunities should be afforded for studying this fine art, and the people of Berwick ought to be thankful they possess societies, whose aim is not only to teach their members a knowledge of music by which they may be elevated and [?], as a moral point of view, but also to give the public entertainments where they may listen with pleasure and admiration to the "concord of sweet sounds" or "touches of harmony" which singers, after undergoing a course of training are then able to produce. One of these societies is the Choral Union, and its annual concert took place on Tuesday night, the music which was then sung being Hayden's Creation, the third oratorio now performed by this association. Most of our readers will know that the composer of this work was an Austrian, and that it is his masterpiece. Although written in his old age the harmonies are pervaded with the vigour of youth, and the oratorio is considered by some to be equal to the finest productions of Handel. The Creation was first performed in Vienna in 1799; it was received with enthusiasm, and speedily made its way through Europe. Excluding the Messiah and Elijah no work has been so popular as the Creation, a result due to the fact that it possesses many ear-catching qualities. The oratorio abounds with melodies that immediately arrest the attention of the audience, and are not soon forgotten. As instances we may cite such pieces as "With verdure clad," "The Heavens are telling," "Most beautiful appear," "On thee each living soul awaits," and "Of stars the fairest pledge of day,". Moreover the effect is never weakened by excessive diffuseness; the Creation being much shorter than either

Messiah or Elijah. Hayden's sacred music has been said to lack the element of grandeur. He seldom approaches, and rarely equals the dignity of Handel in his choruses. Havden had a cheerful nature, and this was manifested in his works. He said on this subject "whenever I think of God, I can only conceive of him as a being infinitely great and infinitely good. This last quality of the Divine nature inspires me with such confidence and joy that I believe I should set even a Misere to lively music." Hence the exhilarant character of the oratorio under notice. When it is borne in mind that the composer was almost seventy years old, the exultation of such choruses as "The marvellous Work." "Awake the Harp." " The Lord is great," and "Sing the Lord, ye voices all," is remarkable. The effect of joyousness in the Creation is caused by the frequent se of major keys. Another point of interest in this oratorio is the instrumentation. Hayden's scores are of remarkable elegance. The cheerful character of the work is apparent also in the accompaniment of the choruses. The orchestra is used so judiciously that though often very prominent it is never obtrusive. The accompaniments of the solo music are distinguished by their delicacy, especially in the dexterous and frequent introduction of the wind instruments. The first part of the oratorio begins with a representation of chaos; to this succeeds the opening recitative "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth," the calling of light out of darkness; the creation of the firmament; of storms, clouds, thunder and lightning, rain, hail and snow; the separation of land, the creation of the vegetable kingdom, and of the sun, moon and stars. In the second part we have the creation of birds, fishes, beasts, and reptiles, narrated and illustrated by descriptive music; the climax being reached at the text "And God created man in His own image," as well as the following well-known song. "In native worth"; after which the heavenly [?] announcers the completion of the work of creation. The third part is a sort of appendix to the other two. In it our first parents are introduced before the fall, singing the praises of God, which are echoed by the angelic choir; thereafter they give vent to their conjugal affection in the beautiful duet "Graceful consort," and a grand chorus concluded the work.

Of the ability of the Choral Union to undertake this oratorio it is almost needless to speak; the fact that the members had already performed the Messiah and Elijah was sufficient to qualify and justify them in attempting the Creation, and the manner in which they acquitted themselves on Tuesday night was deserving of all praise. The parts were almost equally balanced, and the vocalists, who numbered about 120, sang with the most admirable taste and accuracy, thus reflecting great credit not only upon their intelligence and accomplishments but also upon the indefatigable and satisfactory tuition of their talented conductor, Mr H Barker, who, along with Miss Cuthbertson, their efficient accompanist, must have devoted a deal of time and labour to the work of preparation. To help the chorus the following musicians comprised the orchestra: - [list of musicians illegible]. [Here follows a detailed description of the oratorio, most of it is almost impossible to read].

March 8, Local News, p. 3, column 3.

Songs of Scotland. As will be seen from our advertising columns, Mr Hamilton Corbett will give one of his entertainments tonight in the Corn Exchange. This vocalist has earned high encomium and his performances are deserving of patronage.

## March 15, p. 2, column 1.

Boz at Berwick, Corn Exchange, last night Friday 15. Tickets and plan at Mr Henderson, bookseller, Western Lane. First visit to Berwick after a most successful stay of seven weeks at the Operetta House, Edinburgh of the sensational conjurer Boz, in his marvellous and bewildering entertainment of NECROMANTIC GEMS, concluding with BOZ'S EXTRAORDINARY FEASTS in the DARK SÉANCE, exactly as given by those great spiritualists, the Davenport Brothers, including the whole of the wonderful manifestations – the floating instruments and the incomprehensible coat feat, together with a series of original and sensational effects which apparently upset the laws of nature, and have caused so many thousands of persons to believe in spiritualism, and must be seen to be believed.

DARK SÉANCE, 1s extra. H Buchanan, Manager.

Reserved seats, 2s; second do., 1s; back do., 6d. Doors open at 7:30, commence at 8.

March 15, Local News p. 3, column 4.

Entertainment – On Friday night Mr Hamilton Corbett appeared before a Berwick audience in the Corn Exchange. He rendered some Scotch songs with much pathos and taste, while he interspersed some interesting information and several humorous anecdotes among them. Mr Beardsmore was an efficient accompanist.

March 15, Local News p. 3, column 4.

Mesmerism – During the early part of the week Miss Annie de Montford first gave three entertainments in the Corn Exchange, which was on each occasion filled. Some persons were placed under mesmeric spell of the performer and while in the trance went through a number of ludicrous tricks and antics to the great amusement of the spectators.

March 22, p. 2, column 1.

Lecture on Egypt and the Holy Land. The Rev Dr Ritchie, of Dunse, will deliver a historical and descriptive lecture on the above subject, in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on the evening of Thursday March 28, 1878, at half past seven. The Rev Robert Scott will occupy the chair. The lecture will be illustrated by an exhibition of photographic views of Egypt and the Holy Land, by Mr George Bruce.

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Tickets: - Gallery 2s; body of hall 1s; promenade 6d. For particulars see bills.

April 5, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Choral Union – The annual soiree and conversazione of the Choral Union was held in the Corn Exchange last night, the President Mr Willits, in the chair. After partaking of an abundant supply of tea and spice loaf &c, the members and their friends spent a most enjoyable evening in games, dancing &c, some excellent songs also were given by members of the class. We understand that it is the intention of the committee to give two concerts next year, viz. the Messiah, and a secular concert of selections.

April 12, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Conversazione – On Tuesday evening an entertainment of this kind was given in the Long Room of the Corn Exchange under the auspices of the Philharmonic Society. Mr T Rees Evans presided, and made a few introductory remarks after which the company, which numbered about 140, engaged in dancing, games etc. Refreshments were supplied in the course of the evening, which was spent in a very enjoyable manner.

April 26, p. 4, column 3.

OUR PUBLIC HALLS. Sir – That Berwick is very much in want of a good public hall is a fact generally felt and acknowledged. Of all the halls in the town, only one – the Corn Exchange – is available for public hire; and this being the case we wish to make a few remarks upon the merits and demerits of that building, regarding its suitability, or unsuitability as a place for giving public entertainments.

At the very outset we venture to say the only merit our Corn Exchange is possessed of, is its capacity. It will accommodate, no not accommodate, it will hold a great number of people, and this is the one solitary advantage in its favour. Its cold cheerless walls, sweeping draughts, and leaky roof render it by no means easy to fill with an audience, and equally uneasy for an audience to sit in. Let us suppose an entertainment given in this hall, the attraction being sufficiently powerful to induce us to turn out in numbers large enough to fill the room. Well, what do we find?

Invariably in our experience we have found the place very little more than half seated, and consequently a great many people standing who ought to have been furnished with a seat. The seated portion of the hall, however, is not much more comfortable than the unseated. Indeed, we question if it be nor preferable to stand rather than pay extra money for the punishment of sitting upon a rude, hard, coarse board, unfurnished with any support for our back. In this respect the gallery has an advantage each seat having a back, although nothing but the bare boards to sit upon. In fact the seating of the hall is not decent and quite

unbecomes the audience which at times gathers in it. So much for the public portion of the room. Turn we now to the accommodation for artists, and what do we find? Two small anterooms, dirty, dingy, and unfurnished. Occasionally, though rarely, we have found the room well supplied with seats. For this, however, we have not to thank the proprietors of the Corn Exchange, but the parts giving the performance who having some regard for the comfort of the audience, has hired seats wherewith to furnish the room. This of course means extra expense, a serious consideration in the engaging of Berwick Corn Exchange, the hire of the room alone being most exorbitant and much above what is charged for comfortably and elegantly furnished halls in other towns.

We protest our Corn Exchange will not bear comparison with other halls quite close at hand to us. Look at Galashiels, Hawick, or even Jedburgh. Each of these places possesses a good comfortable hall seated with some regard to the comfort respectability of the people frequenting them; and each has a platform already fitted up on which stands a grand pianoforte for the use of artists, and comfortable and [?] ante-rooms.

Compared with these halls the ante-rooms of our hall are no better than stables, and we know well how [?] our Corn Exchange is talked of by many who have had occasion to hire the place. The unreasonably dear charge in conjunction with [rest of article illegible].

June 21, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Equitable Benefit Building Society – The annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Monday in the Corn exchange. There was a fair attendance and Mr Morales occupied the chair. The audited accounts, particulars of which have already been published were passed and approved. Four advanced and four ordinary shares were reported to have been completed. All the office-bearers were re-elected. It was stated that during the past half-year a large sum of money had been advanced on good security and that there was a prospect of a good deal more being lent on satisfactory terms.

July 12, p. 2, column 1.

St Mary's Church Bazaar. A bazaar in connection with St Mary's Church, Berwick, will be held in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Tuesday and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August under distinguished patronage. The object of the bazaar is to raise funds to secure the removal of the organ to a chamber to be built adjoining the chancel, and for minor improvements in the church.

The bazaar will be opened on Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of August at noon by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne.

Prices of admission: from 12-5, 1s and from 6-10 6d.

Berwick 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1878.

July 19, p. 2, column 1.

A bazaar will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept.  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$ , 1878, in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, Berwick-on-Tweed, towards raising the sum of £1500, required for building a new church for the parish of Duddo.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

The Duchess of Northumberland.

Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford.

The Earl of Home.

The Countess of Erroll.

The Countess of Glasgow.

The Countess of Tankerville.

The Countess Percy.

Lady Elizabeth Grey.

Lady Louisa Hamilton.

The Hon. Mrs Baillie Hamilton.

The Hon. Mrs Askew.

Lady Ridley.

Mrs Andrews, Felton Park.

Mrs Wilson-Atkinson, Acton House.

Mrs Barclay, 23A, Brunton Street, W.

Mrs A H Browne, Callaly Castle.

Mrs Craster, Craster Tower.

Mrs Henry Creswell, Preston Tower.

Mrs Crossman, Cheswick House.

Mrs Dand, Morwick Hall.

Mrs Forbes, Westcotes House.

Mrs Forster, Castle Hill.

Mrs Gen. Brown Grieve, Orde House. Mrs Grey, Milfield Hill. Mrs Gilbert, Cantley Manor, Norwich. Mrs Hans Hamilton, 1, Chesterfield Gardens, W. Mrs Huntley, Carham Hall. Mrs Hodgson Hinde, Crosby Lodge, Torquay. Mrs Ilderton, Ilderton Rectory. Mrs Kissman, Ordnance House. Miss Leather, Midleton Hall. Mrs Lawson, Longhirst. Mrs Compton Lundie, Spittal House. Mrs Neville, Ford Rectory. Mrs Orde, Nunnykirk. Mrs Parker, Bells Hill Hall. Mrs Rea, Doddington. Mrs Robertson, Wellington Terrace, Berwick. Mrs A Dalgarno Robinson, Vicarage, Wormwood Scrubbs, W. Mrs Scargill, Etal Manor House. Mrs Sitwell, Barmoor. Mrs Taylor, Beadnell House. Mrs Wilson-Todd, Halnaby Hill, Darlington. Mrs Thompson, KIrknewton House. Mrs Vansittart, Cool Bawn, Castle Connell. Miss Wood, Tughall Hall. Mrs Beverly Wilson, Duddo Vicarage.

STALLHOLDERS.

Mrs Neville, Ford Rectory, Cornhill, Northumberland.

Mrs Parker, Bell's Hill Hall, Belford.

Mrs Scargill, Etal Manor House, Cornhill, Northumberland.

Mrs Beverley Wilson, Duddo Vicarage, Norham, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

We earnestly ask for contributions, which it will be a favour to have sent as early as possible, and not later than the  $24^{th}$  August.

Duddo, July 17, 1878.

July 26, p. 2, column 1.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH BAZAAR.

A bazaar in connection with St Mary's Church, Berwick, will be held in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> August next, Under the following distinguished patronage: -

PATRONS.

His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, K. G.

Sir Dudley C. Marjoribanks, M.P.

Captain Milne Home, M. P.

The Venerable The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne.

His Worship the Mayor of Berwick.

The Sheriff of Berwick.

The Rev. J. Irwin, M. A. Rector of Hurworth.

The Rev. J. Edmund Long, Curate of Berwick.

Colonel Lambert and Major Fitzroy, and Officers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers.

Colonel Reed and the Officers of the Northumberland Artillery Militia.

Major Renton, J. P., Mordington.

Captain Forbes, R. N., J. P.

Dr Richardson, R. N., J. P.

John Wilkie, Esq., J.P. Foulden.

Ralph Forster, Esq., J. P.

W. Compton Lundie, Esq. S. Sanderson, Esq., The Elms. PATRONESSES. The Most Noble Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford. The Countess of Tankerville. Lady Marjoribanks. Lady Houstoun, Boswell. Lady Louisa Hamilton. Mrs Irwin. Miss Milne Home. Mrs Macbraire Mrs Forster, Castle Hill. Mrs Sanderson, The Elms. Mrs Forbes. Mrs Richardson. Mrs Clay, Cheltenham Mrs Kinman. Mrs Lowrey.

The bazaar will be opened on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> August at noon by the VENERABLE THE ARCHDEACON OF LINDISFARNE.

Prices of admission to the bazaar: - from 12 till 5 1s; and from 6 till 10 6d.

Berwick, 25<sup>th</sup> July 1878.

August 2, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Bazaar. – It will be seen from our advertising columns that a bazaar to raise funds for removing the organ at St. Mary's Church is to be opened on Tuesday next by the Venerable Archdeacon Hamilton. A large assortment of useful and fancy articles will, we understand, be offered for sale, and in addition to other attractions, and band under the leadership of Mr

McLeod will be in attendance. At the opening ceremony a special hymn, composed for the occasion by the Rev. B J Holmes, will be sung by the boys of the choir.

August 9, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. Mr James J Oswald is instructed to sell in front of the Corn Exchange, on Saturday first, 10<sup>th</sup> Aug. at 10 o'clock, an excellent dog cart.

Berwick 8<sup>th</sup> August, 1878.

August 9, p. 2, column 4.

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH BAZAAR.

An imitation of an oriental mart, got up for the purpose of raising money for some good object may not be a swindle, but it is not unlike that in the facility with which it succeeds in emptying people's pockets, and giving in many instances but little in return for the money spent. As long, however, as the fancy fair finds support, so long will it remain a recognised means of aiding some benevolent or charitable work, and seeing that a bazaar brings much "grist to the mill" where nothing else would, people who are immediately interested in any object which requires pecuniary assistance from the public will not willingly let the institution die. In Berwick there has been at least one market of this kind every year for time some past, but the public never seem to weary of the tag which it imposes and they countenance each with a liberality which says much for the good feeling and cordiality that subsists amongst the community. Undoubtedly a bazaar would never succeed but for the ladies, whose competition in such a cause is ever most zealous and admirable, there always being that keen emulation to excel each other which is so profitable to the exchequer of the fancy fair, and agreeable to the promoters of it, since they have not to count the cost of the various articles that are contributed to swell the revenue of the undertaking, and which, therefore, represent all gain and no loss. To the ladies, consequently, all honour is due, not merely as preliminary tax gatherers, but also as importune and persevering beggars on the occasion of the bazaar, and they then besiege all visitors - both masculine and feminine - and by their irresistible and persuasive pleading in advertising their wares, succeed in obtaining donations or cash for the goods for sale, and thus add to the funds of the mart. Somebody has said that silence is golden. It must be obvious, however, that this rule must be reversed in the case of a bazaar, as the ladies could not transmute their articles into gold if they did not exercise their powers of speech, which are extremely valuable for such an event, as

"A woman's eloquence

So racy 'tis and flowing,

And then her tongue, so nicely hung,

The least touch sets it going."

Especially when she has something to sell at an affair of this kind.

The bazaar under notice was held on Tuesday and Wednesday in the Corn Exchange, and was in connection with St. Mary's Church, Castlegate, the object of it being to raise funds for the removal of the organ from the west end of the building to the Chancel, and for other necessary alterations and improvements. A subscription list was opened some time ago, and it has been very well responded to, but the total amount raised was far short of that required, and hence a bazaar was resorted to. Preparations for it had been going on for many months, and the result of these labours was, that when the opening ceremony took place on Tuesday, the Corn Exchange contained a large assortment of useful and fancy articles of various kinds, which were arranged with much taste upon ten stalls running round the room. These were draped above with white muslin, while beneath was a border of red calico. In the centre of the hall was a table upon which were flowers and other articles. At the upper end of the hall was a platform, behind which was red, white, and blue drapery, with three flags in the centre, while the windows in the rear were draped to appear as if they were of stained glass. The pillars near the door were also encircled with tricolour calico.

The stallholders and their assistants were as follow:- Mrs Lowrey, assisted by Mrs James Henderson, Ancroft Vicarage, and Mrs W Hindmarsh, Lilburn Hill; Mrs Forbes, assisted by Miss Kinnear, and Miss Larken; Miss Bruce, Foulden House, assisted by Miss Gibbs; Miss Thompson, assisted by Miss E Henderson and Miss Matthews; Mrs Leonard, Mrs Mark, assisted by Miss Leonard and Miss Mark; Mrs Grahame, Mrs Reddo, and Mrs M'Gill, assisted by Misses Grahame, Misses Rollo, and Miss Robson; Mrs Henderson and Misses Park, assisted by Miss Rankin, Miss Nettleton, and Miss Cuthbertson; Miss Weatherhead, assisted by Misses Robertson, Middle Ord, and Miss V Lambert, Bournemouth; Mrs Pratt, assisted by Miss Sarah Gray, and Miss H Pratt. Refreshment stall – Mrs Kinsman.

At noon there was a large and fashionable including the Ven Archdeacon Hamilton; R Crossman, Esq., Cheswick; W Compton Lundie, Esq., Spittal House; Rev R J Holmes, St Mary's, Berwick; Rev [J Hender..?], Ancroft; Rev B S Wilson, Ancroft; Rev Clementi Smith, Bay View, Berwick; Rev E Long, curate, Berwick; Capt Forbes, R N; Mr Weatherhead; Dr Richardson, R N; Mr A R Lowrey; Mr T Allan, Hornecliffe House, &c. After prayers a hymn specially composed for the occasion was sung by the boys of the choir to harmonium accompaniment by Miss Cuthbertson and then

Archdeacon Hamilton said – Ladies and gentlemen – It has given Lady Louisa Hamilton, my daughter, and myself very sincere pleasure to accept the invitation of the Vicar of St Mary's, and to be present here today, to do what we may be able to advance the good work which he has in hand. It is now just 10 years since Bishop [Loughly?] consecrated St Mary's Church – and it has seldom fallen to the lot of any one to look back with more genuine satisfaction than is given to those of us who were present upon that agreeable occasion, and who can now contemplate the real usefulness and great spiritual good effected by the erection of this new parish. Soon after the consecration of the Church, admirable schools were founded, which are

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held to be sufficient to supply the educational wants of the district, and a Vicarage House immediately followed, which has secured in perpetuity a resident Clergyman within the call of any of the inhabitants. I shall always look back with the highest satisfaction to the fortunate selection which I was able to make of the first member of your new parish; for Mr Irwin's ability and industry will be long affectionately remembered by you all; and it is owing to the good work so ably carried on by him for 17 years and which has been taken up with equal energy by the present Vicar, that we are called together today; for unless the work of these two faithful ministers of Christ had been valued by the parishioners of St Mary's, there would have been no need for the enlargement of the church. Such are the agreeable reminiscences of the short history of this new Parish; but we cannot look back for 20 years without missing many who, if they had been spared to us, would today have joined in our congratulations upon the blessing which has rested upon their work for God's honour, and his people's spiritual welfare. The humble-minded and personally pious founder of St Mary's Church, Captain Gordon, would today rejoice that the objects of his munificence had been realised. The kind-hearted and generous Miss Askews and their equally benevolent brother would indeed have joined in the work of today with heart and purse, and thus helped to complete the good which their liberality initiated; and I cannot forbear referring to Mr Dunlop, who with persevering zeal continued from the opening of he Church until his death to transact the secular business, and to contribute to the sustentation of the services of St Mary's as its first ever faithful churchwarden. If those who have been removed from us could join in our present review of the history of the Church of England in this borough for the last quarter of a century, they would add their thankfulness to ours, that during that period the churches have been doubled in numbers, and each of the new parishes sufficiently endowed by the liberality of the Dean and Chapter of Durham, and Vicarage house also obtained – that some seven large and efficient schools have been erected and maintained by the voluntary efforts of churchmen and that by this timely extension of the school accommodation within the borough, the supplementary accommodation contemplated by the legislature by means of Board Schools has not been required in Berwick-on-Tweed. Nor do I think that the extension of the benefits of the Church of England for spiritual and educational needs of the people in this country, has been less in other places than Berwick [next section illegible]

The Rev B G Holmes said that before the company proceeded to the more immediate business of the bazaar he had a very pleasing duty to perform, in which he was sure he would be supported by everyone present and that was to propose that their best thanks be given to the Ven Archdeacon Hamilton for his extreme kindness in coming to them on that auspicious occasion. (Applause). When he wrote to invite the rev. gentleman, by return of post he received from the ven Archdeacon a most kind and gratifying letter in which he said he would be glad to do his very utmost to promote the cause they had in hand. He was quite sure they had all listened with great pleasure to the excellent speech the Ven Archdeacon had delivered, and they had no doubt that the Archdeacon's heart was in very close community with the welfare of the Church in this good old Border town, and that nothing would please him better than to see the church prospering in the future as she had done in the past. (Applause). He had not had the pleasure to live long in their midst, but he had lives sufficiently long to know this – that Archdeacon Hamilton's name was a household word in Berwick, and that the remembrance of his great kindness and courtesy of disposition was very dear to many hearts, and that was one reason he took it that he saw such a very large and influential assembly. He most heartily thanked all kind friends who had come forward so liberally in this endeavour, and he trusted that they would know that altogether out of the abundance of the heart the mouth was said to speak yet sometimes out of the abundance of the heart the mouth refused to utter one's feelings. (Applause). That was his state at that time, and therefore they would not expect him to add more except to propose a hearty vote of thanks to the Ven Archdeacon for his presence on that occasion. (Applause). The Ven Archdeacon Hamilton said that he was much obliged for the compliment. He had always received kindness from the people of Berwick, and he valued very much the vote of thanks given him by them. They, however, had their duty to do, viz., to raise £300, and therefore he would not delay them, but propose that they set to work at once.

The stall-holders and assistants then proceeded to their labours and for several hours business proceeded briskly, as the large number of people present during the day spent freely. At night when the price of admission was lowered, the Corn Exchange was thronged, and the devices resorted to for the purpose of extorting money were almost too numerous to mention. The old system of hawking articles and inviting a certain number of subscriptions in order to dispose of them by lottery was followed to a large extent, and by this means many people's pockets became lighter. Visitors to the bazaar could also have their fortune told by a gipsy or e weighed for a penny, while bouquets were offered to them at various prices. In addition to all these, and the attractions of the stalls there were one or two ingenious inventions got up for amusement and profit. One of these was a Loan Art Exhibition by Mr R Fleming, which was extremely clever and mirth provoking, although it did cause some disappointment to a few, who from the show bill anticipated an interesting collection of pictures and other specimens of art. The objects exhibited comprised a lot of curious articles; for instance."Pleasant memories of childhood," (by Tophi?) were represented by some sweetmeats. "The meeting of Blucher and Wellington," (by Shumacher) was portrayed by two boots; the portrait of the Queen by a postage stamp; the Belle of the Town, (by Statham) by the town crier's bell; "Lynx(links) in Repose," by a chair lying on the table; bracelets, the property of her Majesty," by a pair of handcuffs; "John Bright," by a roasting jack; "Peel, by some orange peel; "Bacon," by a slice of bacon; "a liberal patron of the fine arts," by a looking glass; and the "Red Sea" by a capital C painted red. There was also an exhibition by Messrs Molinero and [Buonhotno?], alias Messrs L Millerand and Goodman, of "their wondrous and justly celebrated collection of wild animals, embracing and comprising rare specimens from all parts of the celestial and terrestrial globes, including lions, tigers, elephants, dromedaries, the [bossindicus?], the manatee, from the Westminster aquarium, the two-headed ox, and many others". Besides this show there was also a very curious and ludicrous lecture, replete with some funny zoological information, while Signor Joycee and his performing dog Bonzo, engaged for the occasion "at enormous expense" added not a little to the pleasure of the entertainment, which consisted of a number of magic lantern views of various quadrupeds and bipeds. When the bazaar closed on Tuesday night about £200 had been taken. Business was resumed with renewed vigour and energy on Wednesday, when the proceedings were much the same as those of the previous day. There was not such a large attendance a on

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Tuesday, but a considerable quantity of goods were disposed of. All was not sold, however, when the bazaar was closed at then o'clock by a verse of the National Anthem after the Rev B J Holmes had thanked all who had been kind enough to assist in promoting the object of the bazaar. On Wednesday upwards of £130 was taken, and the total proceeds amounted to about £330, which together with £120previously subscribed, makes a total of nearly £450.

#### August 16, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Berwick-upon-Tweed. For one night only, Friday, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1878, the famous Matthews Minstrels, the original C.C.C. established 1863. Reserved seats, numbered, 2s; second seats, 1s; third seats, 6d; children under 12 half price to first and second seats only. For tickets &c and plan of the reserved seats, apply to Mr Paton, High Street. Doors open at 7:30, commence at 8. Carriages at 10. Children in arms not admitted as they disturb the singing.

## 23 August, p. 2, column 1.

The Right Honourable Earl Percy, MP, has kindly consented to open the Duddo Church Bazaar in the Corn Exchange, Berwick-upon-Tweed, at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, which will be held on that and the following day under the most distinguished patronage. A band, a superior loan exhibition and all the attractions usual at bazaars.

A concert will be kindly given by ladies and gentlemen on Tuesday evening at 8 and on Wednesday at 3p.m.. Both light and substantial refreshments provided. Admission – from 12-6 p.m., 1s; children half price; from 6-10 p.m., 6d, admission to the concert (by ticket)' 1s each.

All contribution of work &c not sent by Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> may be sent direct to the Corn Exchange, Berwick on Monday Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, and flowers, fruit &c will be thankfully accepted on both of the bazaar days.

August 30, Local News p. 3, column 3.

THE MATTHEWS' MINSTRELS – This troupe gave an entertainment on Friday night in the Corn Exchange, to a large and appreciative audience. The company have undergone few if any changes since its last appearance here, the old familiar faces of William and Harry Matthews, who are still as funny as ever as [?] and tambourine, Mr C Garland, the splendid tenor, Mr Charles Smith, the Yankee clipper, and others being at once recognised on the company making their appearance on the platform. That the troupe shows no sign of failing, and that it is as good, if not better, than ever, was [?] apparent on Friday night, when an excellent programme was gone through in a style which provoked demands for encores frequently. Indeed, a more excellent company of minstrels it would be difficult to find. Such

a singer as Mr Garland is a host in himself. He delighted his hearers with an admirable rendering of "The Blue Alsatian Mountain" in which his splendid tenor voice was heard to great advantage, creating an undeniable demand for an encore. The company possess another good tenor, Mr C Pelham, who also gave great satisfaction by the style in which he contributed one or two songs. The place of centre man is now taken by Mr C F Loraine – a gentleman possessing a good bass voice, which he can use to great advantage. That indispensable member of a minstrel troupe -a soprano singer -is ably filled by Mr J C Talbot, who has previously made his appearance with the Matthews Brothers in Berwick. His singing as a prima donna in a burlesque operatic selection was both excellent and amusing, and was loudly applauded. Mr Charles Smith showed his marvellous power of balance on an ordinary pair of skates, which were held up for inspection of the audience, in a Canadian skate dance, and also sang a comical song in a most amusing manner. The programme included a comical sketch, entitled "Hemmed in," performed by William and Harry Matthews, J C Talbot, and C Garland, and concluded with a "Plantation Walk Round." The success of the Brothers Matthews in their respective parts of bones and tambourine is so well known that it is almost needless to say that their singing and acting created no end of amusement.

#### September 6, p. 2, column 1.

CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK - The Metropolitan and Continental Fine Art Society, will exhibit a collection of valuable oil paintings in the Long Room, Corn Exchange, on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup>, 1878, from 10 a.m. – This society containing very clever Italian, French, Austrian, German, Belgian, and Holland artists, who are well known on the Continent, and have exhibited their works in different exhibitions, have now sent a collection of their highly finished oil paintings to England, t introduce their works in this locality. Mr A L Miller is instructed to catalogue and sell the above paintings by public auction on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, September, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup>, 1878. The sale will commence each day punctually at three and seven o'clock, except Monday, at three o'clock only. On view mornings of sale. This collection of highly finished modern oil paintings, comprising landscapes, cattle, figures, river, mountain, and lake scenery, views in Norway, Bavaria, Hungary, Upper and Lower Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Rome, Normandy, the Tyrol, on the Rhine, Holland, Germany etc., are all in very superior gilt frames. The whole to be sold without reserve.

September 6, p. 2, column 7.

DUDDO CHURCH BAZAAR. On Tuesday and Wednesday a bazaar was held in the Corn Exchange for the purpose of raising funds towards the building of a new Episcopal Church for the parish of Duddo, the existing structure being small and uncomfortable, and in the opinion of the Vicar and others not favourably situated for the convenience of the parishioners. Notwithstanding the drain upon the purse of people in the locality in connection

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with previous undertakings of the same character, there was on this occasion no appearance of any shortcoming, as the Corn Exchange on Tuesday was filled with a large quantity of useful and fancy goods arranged on stalls round the room and in the middle of the hall, which plainly showed that although begging or solicitation to purchase might be the principal part of the proceedings, still all who chose to lighten their pockets would get value for their money. To add to the attraction of the bazaar the various parts of the building which admitted of it were gay with decorations of flowers and calico, done by Mr Caseford, gardener to F Scargill, Esq., Etal Manor House, which together with the goods displayed on the stalls, gave the room a very pretty and pleasing appearance. As the hour for commencing the proceedings approached, the hall began to be filled with a large and fashionable assemblage, amongst whom were the Right Hon. Earl Percy, M.P., the Rev. the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne, and Lady Louisa Hamilton; Lady Hall, Dunglass; the Hon. Mrs Askew; Captain and Mrs and Misses D Milne Home, Paxton House; Colonel McDonald, St Martin's, Perth; Mr Ralph Forster, Whitsome Hill; Captain Williams, Clarence Dale; Mr and Mrs Scargill and party, Etal Manor House; Miss Bruce, Barmoor; Miss Sitwell, Barmoor; Mrs Gregson, Lowlynn; the Rev Mr Neville and Mrs Neville, For Rectory; Misses Nichol, Berrington; the Rev B S Wilson and Mrs Wilson, Duddo; Captain Wood, and Miss Wood, Beadnell; Mr and Mrs A R Lowrey, Castle Vale; Mrs Robertson and party, Berwick; Mrs Rowe, the Vicarage, Berwick; the Rev John Henderson, Ancroft Vicarage; Mrs and Miss Alder, Halidon Hill; Mrs and Miss Makins, Berwick; Mr Stewart Macaskie, London; Mrs Parker and Miss Parker, Bells Hill Hall; the Misses Robertson; Mrs and the Misses Carr, Hay Farm House; Miss McKay; General Hope, Earlston; the Rev Mr Darnell, Bamborough; Mr Carr, Felkington; Miss Darling, Berwick; Dr Davidson, Tweedmouth; Miss Riddell, Ravensdowne, Berwick; Mrs Forster and party, Castle Hill; Mr Bolam, Ravensdowne; Mrs Thompson and party, Norham West Mains; Mrs Hindmarsh, Beal; Rev F and Mrs Dodd, Lowick &c.

The Rev B S Wilson said he had the great honour and privilege of announcing that the Right Honourable Earl Percy had kindly come to open the bazaar.

Earl Percy said – Ladies and Gentlemen – You have been invited here today to take part in one of those efforts which the Church of England makes from time to time to meet the requirements of the people, and to fulfil the duties of her position. The circumstances which call forth these efforts are various. Sometimes they are due to the increase of the population; sometimes to the migration of it; and sometimes to the decay of the present structures of the Church; but to whatever cause they are due they appeal most forcibly to all those who really have at heart the welfare of their fellow Christian (Applause). There is nothing more odious than the attempt to precicate the conduct of our forefathers by comparing it with what we consider the greater zeal shown by ourselves; but, without falling into this error, I think we cannot but admit – and if we are obliged to recognise the fact, I think we ought to confess it freely – that perhaps some of those difficulties with which the Church is surrounded are due to a lack of energy on the part of her children in former years. If that be the case it is very satisfactory to see that all the members of the Church of England are now fully awakened to their duties, and the claims that are upon them, and are determined adequately to meet them. If the zeal which they display is duly tempered with charity – that charity which it is our duty

to recommend, both by practice and precept, then there will be nothing of an aggressive character in it, and the Church will work hand in hand with all who seek the welfare of their brethren, and she will recognise all that has been done, and is still being done, by those who are not members of her communion; while at the same time she will be more resolved than ever to offer to those who are willing to subject themselves to her ministrations, those blessings which it is her power to bestow. (Applause). That she is actuated by these sentiments we must all confess. If sometimes we see zeal not always tempered by discretion, she may well claim the exercise of that charity which she will ever be ready to extend to others. On an occasion like the present, I feel that we shall meet together in a right spirit, if we are determined, on the one hand, to recognise all that is done by others for the good and for the religious welfare of our fellows, and on the other hand if we are determined to carry out our own duty to the fullest extent. (Applause). I believe we are met together in that spirit, therefore it has given me great pleasure to take part in these proceedings. The particular circumstances which have called forth this effort, I will not enlarge upon; because in the first place living in the neighbourhood as you do, you are probably far better acquainted with the requirements of the locality, and, because, secondly, I see from the display around me, that you have recognised those requirements, and that you have used the most strenuous efforts to fulfil them. I may just mention to you, that I have been glad to learn, that about one third of the money which is required to build the church has already either been collected or promised, and I am glad also to hear that it has been promised by those whose promises are so certain to be fulfilled, that the money which has not yet been collected, may be regarded as in fact in the bank.£500 has already been collected, but before the church can be built £1500 will be required at least; and I think those who know what the expense of church building generally is, will think that a moderate sum. I have only one word more to say. It is sometimes remarked that the building of bazaars for this purpose is a matter of doubtful propriety. Well, all I can say about that is that every nation has its idiosyncrasy, and the idiosyncrasy of the English nation is that they cannot go through any serious undertaking whether it be a European congress or the erection of a church without a dinner or a bazaar. I therefore call upon you to be true to the tradition of Englishness, and to be as extravagant in your outlay on the present occasion as the strength of your purses will permit. I have only now, in conclusion, to express my best wishes for the success of the bazaar, and to declare it open. (Applause).

Rev B S Wilson said – Ladies and gentlemen – It falls to my duty as clergyman of the parish which is to be benefitted by this bazaar, to move a resolution, in which I am sure you will cordially join, viz., to accord a hearty vote of thanks to Earl Percy, not only for his very great kindness in coming here, a long distance, to open the bazaar, but also for the very able and nice way in which he has done it. (Applause) I should have wished that this resolution might have been moved by some one else more accustomed to public speaking in this time than I am, as bazaars do no come very often in the life of a clergyman, but I have no wish to shirk my duty, especially as it is so pleasant. I feel most grateful to his lordship for coming, and I do offer my hearty thanks to him, not only for opening the bazaar, but also for the greater honour of assisting me to obtain the support of those kind and noble ladies who have become patronesses or who are present at the opening of the bazaar. I beg also to thank his lordship in

the name of Mrs Wilson and others, who have had then practical working of the preliminary arrangements. I feel sure that to his presence we are in a great measure indebted for the influential assembly which I have the pleasure of seeing here. (Applause). I sincerely hope that this bazaar will bring in a sufficient sum to show that we are really in earnest, and that we wish to commence the building of this church next year. I can only repeat my sincere thanks to his lordship, and to all those kind friends who have come this day to assist in the undertaking. (Applause).

Colonel W MacDonald MacDonald of Rossie and St Martins said - Ladies and gentlemen- I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution under these very happy circumstances. I have casually dropped upon this varied scene, which I did not expect to see when I intended to come to Berwick. I think this is a scene which one will not soon forget - those dear ladies round us, and all the work which I see has accumulated under their hands. I am sure I have very great pleasure also in seconding a vote of thanks to earl Percy, and I need not say much of him in this neighbourhood. His name is as familiar as household words even in the great metropolis, therefore, on the borders of Northumberland, I fancy it is little necessary to speak in his praise. I can only reciprocate what has already been so well said, that I have seldom heard a bazaar more ably or more appropriately opened; and if its success is in proportion to those happy words which have fallen from the noble earl it ought to be great indeed. (Applause). The object there can be no doubt is a good one; arguments are unnecessary in the matter; facts are stubborn things; in my Scottish tongue they are "chiels that wunna ding"; and I think from that the facts in the present case that aid is needed in this work. I have no objection to offer to bazaars – I think they are happy combinations to bring out the skill of the fair sex; and we know they are ever ready with their warm hearts, and their ready fingers to aid every good and noble work. I can only say that I hope this bazaar may produce nearly all that you need, and that my friend, who so kindly wrote to me to ask me to take part in the proceedings of today, may have that burden of debt, which is ever a sad burden on a clergyman's heart, removed from him; and that this church may be handed over to him to work that blessed work which he is appointed to do, without those cares and anxieties which debt ever brings to a clergyman's heart, I willingly second the motion.

The vote was passed with acclamation.

Earl Percy thanked those present, and said he was always very glad to be able in any way to meet the necessities either of the clergy or of their brethren, and to supplement their efforts in every way (Applause).

Household furniture[A list of stallholders follows -very difficult to read].

September 13, p. 2, column 1.

Dancing – Mr R R Todd respectfully intimates that an evening class for beginners will resume this season in the Long Room, Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> September.

September 27, p. 2, column 1.

R Lambert will sell by auction in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Wednesday next at eleven o'clock all the new household furniture, and other effects, of Mr Dods, cabinet maker, Berwick (who is retiring from business) including set of mahogany telescope, dining, loo, and other tables, sofa, easy, and other chairs, chests of drawers. Elizabethan and iron bedsteads, carpets, curtains, matting, and sundry other useful articles as per handbill. Also on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 2 o'clock at Mr Dods's premises in Bridge Street, all the stock-in-trade, including benches, turning lathe, deals, and other goods suitable for cabinet makers and others. Furniture on view the day before the sale from 2 to 4 o'clock.

October 11, p. 2, column 1.

Grand evening concert on Thursday evening next in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, under the management of Mr T Rees Evans.

October 25, Local News p. 3, column 4.

EVENING CONCERT - The concert given by Mr T Rees Evans on Thursday night, to which we briefly alluded in our last issue, was not so well attended as the merits of the different artistes deserved, and we are sorry to learn that the result will prove a pecuniary loss to our enterprising townsman. The excuse for the meagre attendance at Mr Evan's concerts has generally been that the music was of too classical a character to be appreciated by the public generally, but on this occasion there was a fair admixture of music of a popular character so the excuse will not hold in the present instance. We regret this want of patronage [next couple of words illegible] point of view as singers and musicians cannot be expected to visit the town unless they are [rest of article difficult to read].

November 22, Local News p. 3, column 4.

Ball – On Tuesday night the local lodge of Odd Fellows gave a ball in the Corn Exchange, which was decorated with flags and evergreens for the occasion. About 100 couples engaged in the 'poetry of motion' in the area of the hall, while several persons watched their movements from the gallery. The masters of ceremonies were Messrs Wood and Hood, while the music was supplied by Mr Hogg's quadrille band. Refreshments were provided by Mr A Cant, Dock Inn, Tweedmouth. Dancing was continued with great spirit until an early hour next morning. December 6, front Page, column 1.

The Berwick Equitable Benefit Building Society. (Article itself illegible).

December 6, Front Page, column 7.

Flour for cakes and pastry. The subscriber directs attention to his stock of \Hungarian, French, and self-raising flour, which will be found most suitable for cakes and pastry. William Anderson, Corn Exchange Building, Berwick.

December 6, p. 2, column 1.

"Twa Hours at Hame". Corn Exchange, Berwick, one night only, Friday 20<sup>th</sup>, December 1878. Mr Kennedy, the Scottish vocalist will give his entertainment on the songs of Scotland assisted by the following members of his family: -

Mrs Helen Kennedy (soprano);

Miss Lizzie Kennedy (soprano);

Miss Marjorie Kennedy (contralto);

Mr David Kennedy (tenor);

Mr Robert Kennedy (tenor);

Mr James Kennedy (baritone);

Pianoforte – The mister Kennedy.

Admission: 1s; front seats 2s. Tickets may be had of Mr Henderson, bookseller. Commence at eight o'clock.

December 6, p. 2, column 2.

Notice – At a meeting of the creditors of the late Alex. Winter of Hutton Hall, held in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. last, it was agreed to wind up the estate for the benefit of the creditors. All persons having claims against the late Alex. Winter are requested to lodge the same with the undersigned before 31<sup>st</sup> December inst, and those indebted are requested to make payment within the like period.

William Young, Pier Maltings, 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1878.

## December 20, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed. For one night only Friday next, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. The famous Matthews Minstrels, universally acknowledged the premier musical organisation of the world, and as the sources whence all imitators obtain the salient features of the entertainment so long identified with the name Matthews Minstrels. Grand Monster Programme, everything new, delightful ballads, charming part songs, choruses, comic sketches etc. Admission 2s; 1s; 6d. Tickets, programme &c at Mr Paton's. Doors open at 7:30. Commence at 8.

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NB – Gap between 20 Dec. 1878 – 17 Jan. 1879.

January 24, Front Page, column 5.

Berwick Corn Exchange, Co. (Limited). The annual meeting of shareholders in the above company will be held in the Exchange Buildings on Saturday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, at a quarter before two o'clock.

By order.

January 31, Front Page, column 5.

Drapers' Ball. The Drapers' Ball will be held in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Tuesday Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1879. Tickets to be had at any of the drapery establishments or of the Committee. Doors open at 8:30. Dancing to commence at 9 o'clock. Tickets – Ladies, 2s; double 3s.

February 7, Front Page, column 5.

Berwick Corn Exchange. Alteration of market hours. Notice is hereby given that on that and after Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> inst., the above exchange will open for public business at half past eleven o'clock, and will close at half past one o'clock.

By Order. Berwick 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1879.

February 7, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. Dramatic recital and selection of readings by Mr Walter Bentley and Miss M Bell (Mrs Foster Reid) on Monday evening, 17<sup>th</sup> February, commencing at 8:15. Carriages may be ordered for 10 o'clock. Tickets 2s; 1s; and a few at 6d, and programmes may be had at the usual places. Further particulars in programmes and future advertisements.

February 7, Local News, p. 3, column 3.

CORN EXCHANGE COMPANY (LIMITED). – On Saturday the annual general meeting of the shareholders was held in the Corn Exchange. There were present – Mr D Logan, Berwick (in the chair), the Sheriff of Berwick; Messrs R G Bolam, Berwick; Rutherford, Printonan; Clay, Kerchester; Bird, Fishwick; J R Black, Ford West Field; and Mr A Darling, Berwick. Mr J Wight, Berwick, read the directors' report, which is as follows:-

"Directors' report for the year ending Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1878. – Gentlemen, - Your directors have the pleasure of again meeting you on this occasion and laying before you a statement of the income and expenditure, liabilities, and assets of the company for the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 1878. The various accounts have been examined and approved by your directors and duly attested by the auditor, and a printed copy of the account currant and balance account has been sent to each shareholder, from which you will observe there is a balance of £175 13s 8d available as dividend, and your directors recommend the present meeting to declare a dividend of five per cent upon the paid up; capital of the company. In compliance with your regulations they beg further to state that during the past year there have been three meetings of directors; of them Messrs Darling and Logan have attended 3; and Messrs Crossman, Clay (Kerchester), Clay (Berwick), and Bird 2; Messrs Jno Black and Jas H Black 1; and Mr G Hogg none. The three retiring directors are Messrs John Black, Jas R Black, and G Hogg, but who are eligible for re-election.

#### David Logan, Chairman.

Mr Wight also read a statement of the accounts, from which it appeared that the income, which included [£83?] for stalls, £42 for season tickets, 10s for daily tickets, £62 4s 11d for penny admissions and [£26 12s 6d] for rents, amounted to £434 7s 5d. After paying all expenses there was a balance at hand, being net profits, of £175 13 s 8d. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr R G Bolam the report and statement of accounts were approved of and adopted. On the motion of the latter [?] the three retiring directors were re-elected. Mr Robt. Roxborough was also re-appointed auditor. Mr Clay said he must congratulate the company upon the Corn Exchange having attained a position which few such establishments had reached. Farmers and others had now had [?] of the Corn Exchange, both as regarded its capability for business purposes and its suitability for their accommodation. They found it to be one of the best buildings of the kind in the north of England, while the way in which it had been conducted must have been satisfactory to everyone connected with it. There was, however, one issue present, which might still increase the usefulness of the Corn Exchange. It was this – to make the time of the opening of the market half-an-hour earlier, viz. half past eleven o'clock. All the trains from the north, west and south, came in at a time which would enable sellers of grain to reach the Corn Exchange with great convenience at that time, and he wanted to believe that the corn merchants would make it equally convenient to be at their stalls at that hour. If this alteration was made, the market would be closed, the selling of grain, and the payment for it accomplished a little after one o'clock; and this would enable people who came from directions time to get other business arrangements conducted, so that they might have the opportunity of going home by the early trains. He begged to move that the Corn Exchange be opened in future at half past eleven o'clock. [The rest is illegible].

February 7, Local News, p. 3, column 5.

Drapers' Ball – On Tuesday night the assistants in the various clothiers' establishments in the town held their annual ball in the Corn Exchange, in celebration of the early closing

movement. The building was decorated with flags for the occasion. About 17 couples were present and engaged in dancing to the strains of Mr Hogg's quadrille band. Refreshments were produced by Mr A Purves, Cannon Tavern. The proceedings which were of a very enjoyable character, terminated at an early hour next morning.

## February 7, Local News, p. 3, column 5.

The Royal Hand Bell Ringers. Tonight the Royal Poland Street hand bell ringers will give their popular musical, recitative, and campanological entertainment in the Corn Exchange here, as given by them before the Queen and Royal family, and other distinguished personages, and a special afternoon entertainment for the children of Sunday- and Day Schools will be given at 4 p.m. The Royal Hand bell Ringers are so well-known that they scarcely call for any commendation from us, but we hope the audiences on both occasions will be such as the fame of the company entitles us to expect and such as they have had on two previous occasions while visiting the town. By the kind permission by the Mayor the hand bell ringers will play a selection of tunes upon the bells in the Town Hall, at a quarter to seven o'clock this evening.

February 7, Front Page.

Choral Union Concert, Corn Exchange, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. Handel's Oratorio of the Messiah with orchestral accompaniment. Soloists: soprano – Miss Robinson. Contralto, Madame Armitage; Tenor, Mr Thomas Richardson; Bass, Mr Thomas Dodds. Tickets – reserved seats (numbered), 3s; second seats, 2s; promenade 1s to be had at Mr Paton's and the usual places.

February 11, Front Page, column 1.

# CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK. DRAMATIC RECITAL BY MR WALTER BENTLEY AND MISS M BELL (Mrs Forester Reid), on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1879.

Guilty or Not Guilty Anon. And Adventures at Margate From Ingoldsby Legends. Miss M Bell. Dream of Eugene Aram Hood. Mr Walter Bentley.

HAMLET – Act III, Scene III.

Queen	Miss M Bell.	
Hamlet	Mr Walter Bentley.	
Interval.		
Death of Marmion	Scott.	
Miss M Bell.		
[?] Dream (Richard III)	Shakespeare.	
Mr Walter Bentley.		
The Broken Bowl	Mrs Morton.	
Miss M Bell.		
Scene from "The Man of the World". Macklin		
Mr Walter Bentley.		

Doors open at 7:30, commence at 8:15. Carriages to be ordered at 10.

First seats, 2s; second seats, 1s; back seats, 6d. Tickets to be had from Mr Paton, High Street, or at the door on the evening of entertainment.

February 14, p. 3, column 3.

Campanological entertainment – On Friday afternoon and evening the Royal Hand Bell Ringers gave an entertainment in the Corn Exchange to numerous audiences, who were much gratified with the performances. The manner in which the five executants made use of the silvery toned instruments to produce a harmonious jingle, and to interpret various pieces of music gave evidence of much skill and taste. The programme was varied by some glee which were rendered in an effective manner, while a humorous sketch entitles "a musical family" which was given by Mr Pritchard, produced great laughter. Mr D S Miller was an excellent conductor. He alluded to the peal of bells in the spire of the Town Hall, upon which the ringers had performed previous to the entertainment. Of the eight bells one was cracked, but the peal was a very fine one, and there were few in the country to match it.

March 7, p. 4, column 2.

# BERWICK CHORAL UNION. ANNUAL CONCERT.

This musical society, now in the tenth year of its existence, maintains its energy unimpaired; and after a season of practice it once more appeared in public on Friday night last, when at its annual concert it gave Handel's oratorio of "The Messiah." This is the second time that this

work has been sung by the Choral Union, but to most of the members the music was entirely new, as they have only recently joined the society, so that the labour of mastering the difficulties which the oratorio presents, was by no means lessened by the repetition of the work. Constant study, perseverance, and a determination to conquer all obstacles had, however familiarised the singers with the technical intricacies and beauties of "The Messiah" and hence on Friday night we had the pleasure of listening to a performance finished in detail, and impressive and successful on the whole. The large hall of the Corn Exchange, with the exception of a few reserved seats near the platform, were completely filled by an appreciative audience.

The subject of this oratorio, which is the best known and therefore the most appreciated of Handel's works, is the Gospel – the "good tidings" which in all ages have been those of "great joy" to mankind – and with true estimation of its grandeur, the story is conveyed, in the sublime words of the Bible, by a succession of suitable texts arranged with great skill and judgement so as to from a connected narrative. The first part of the work is devoted chiefly to prophecy, and relates the promise of the Messiah, the command to make ready, and the preparation needful for His coming, the manner of His birth, His titles, and concludes by describing the actual events connected with the Nativity, as well as the wonderful characteristics of the Saviour. The second part has reference to His sufferings, the mocking unbelief of me, His death and resurrection, His ascension as King of Glory, the subsequent preaching and spread of the Gospel, the opposition it is destined to encounter, the ultimate destruction of all enemies, the triumph and the universal reign of Christ. The third part embraces the second coming of Christ, the resurrection, the final redemption of man from sin and its consequences, and the triumphant song of the redeemed. The Messiah was written in twenty-three days, and at a time when Handel had reached the age of fifty-six. The fact that "The Messiah" was the last work which Handel conducted invests it with peculiar interest; it was at Covent Garden on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1759; and after returning home he was seized with a mortal exhaustion from which he never recovered. The composer expired at the age of seventy-four, on Good Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> April, the seventeenth anniversary of the first performance of "the Messiah", and one week after his last public celebration of the glories of the Redeemer. Since that period the sacred oratorio has been extremely popular; and to an extent that can scarcely be overestimated, it has promoted the holy mission of charity and benevolence - fed the hungry, clothes the naked, and fostered the orphans. In Handel's time the art of instrumentation was in its infancy; but in "the Messiah" as now produced, the genius of the great composer has found a worthy exponent in Mozart, who, besides modernizing it, has added accompaniments to the original score, filled up blanks, and supplied in the orchestra such effects as Handel would have produced on the organ. M Schoelcher, in writing of him, says – "Of all musicians no one has better realised the dreams of those heavenly songs which glorify the Majesty of Jehovah. No one before him and no one after him has ever composed choruses comparable to his, or known how to employ and combine with an equal power the different forces of the human voice. When you have heard an oratorio ten or twelve times, when the first transports of admiration have passed away, when you can more calmly appreciate your emotions and taste them all the better for being in full possession of yourself, these choruses develop themselves before you like a dream filled

with interest; you see each group of the different registers advancing successively as bravely as a battalion marching to the assault, halt, unfold their strength, and at length display their united power in a majestic and wonderful finale. The transitions are so ably managed and the effects are of such incredible perfection that you seem to hear ten thousand voices, whose harmonious clamour is loud enough to reach the skies. In this sense the 'Hallelujah' of "the Messiah" is an explosion of incommensurable beauty."

In order to give a proper interpretation of this glorious oratorio, the services of an orchestra, and of professional singers were necessary, and these were engaged at a cost of about £50; so that it will be seen the Choral Union, in order to afford a treat to the public of Berwick, have to undergo considerable pecuniary sacrifices; in fact it is doubtful if the audience on Friday night, large as it was, was sufficiently numerous to make the entertainment remunerative to the promoters. The instrumentalists were - first violins - Madame Woycke, Miss A Dreschler Hamilton, Mr H Dambmann; second violins - Mr W H Cole, Mr Barrett; violas Mr Adam Hamilton, Mr R B Stewart; violoncello - Mr Carl Dreschler Hamilton; contra basso - Mr W Wallace. These, it is needless to say, fully sustained the reputation they have gained here in former years; their careful, skilful, and tasteful manipulation of the various instruments, added not a little to the success of the performance. The manner in which they played the overture to the first part, and the pastoral symphony, was exquisite, and all that could be desired. In the former the sweetness of the Messianic prophecies, over which a veil was hung, creating a yearning feeling of something still to come – a void in the heart of man, that could only be filled by a realised Messiah, and the sudden joyous burst that dispels the idea of mystery, were well developed, while the refreshing repose of the latter, which Handel adopted from one of the melodies of the Pifferara or Pipers of Calabria, used at Rome from time immemorial during the Holy week, was very evident.

Miss J Robinson, of Wakefield and Yorkshire concerts, was the soprano soloist. This was her second appearance before a Berwick audience, she having sung here last year also. On this occasion Miss Robinson showed considerable improvement. Her well cultivated, tuneful, sympathetic and silvery-toned voice was heard to great advantage in the various recitatives and airs which were allotted to her. Of these the best rendered was "I know that my Redeemer liveth," which is a grand embodiment of faith and has by universal assent been ranked as the greatest of Handel's songs. It was given with exquisite taste, feeling, and sweetness. Miss Robinson also realised the exultant enthusiasm of "Rejoice greatly," and gave a highly [?] interpretation of "Come unto Him," which has been characterised as "a thing of beauty and a joy forever." The only other air given by her which calls for particular notice is "How beautiful," the graceful motion and repose of which found an adequate exponent in the vocalist. The contralto soloist was Madame Armitage, Bradford, who acquitted herself in a highly satisfactory manner, though suffering from a slight cold. She possesses a flexible voice, of extensive range and good quality, which she has thoroughly under command. She was very successful in "O thou that tellest," which is by some thought the most popular air in the whole oratorio. The melody was given with a full appreciation of its striking beauties, and supported by the joyous and flowing accompaniment, had a very fine effect. In "He shall [?] His Flock," the vocalist also made an excellent impression, but

perhaps her best effort was in "He was [?]," an air which is "the very echo of the words." Effective use was made in this song by Madame Armitage of the lower notes of her register, and this was the more apparent by the peculiar character of the accompaniment, which left the voice comparatively uncontrolled. The tenor soloist was Mr Thomas Richardson, a member of the Choral Union, who has now rendered good service to it. Every year we notice improvement in this singer's style, and on this occasion he showed a considerable advance upon previous performances. In the different recitatives and airs assigned to him the melodious timbre of his powerful and telling voice asserted itself unmistakably, while the expression he infused into them indicated that the vocalist appreciated what he was singing. The tenor part is one of the heaviest in the work, but Mr Richardson executed the whole of it in a highly creditable manner. He was most successful in "Comfort ye," the assurance of consolation followed by the prophetic announcement of the advent of the Messiah being declaimed with great power and dignity. In "Every Valley," too, his treatment was most effective and the word painting of which Handel was so fond was well brought out. In "Thy Rebuke hath broken His Heart," "Behold and see" "He was out off, and "But thou didst not leave," the intense pathos and immensity of grief so touchingly depicted in the text, were skilfully interpreted, while the embodiment of the sense of utter desolation was well developed. The other recitative and air which Mr Richardson sang, were "He that dwelleth in heaven" and "Thou shalt break them". Of this the Rev John Newton, in a volume of sermons said –"The music of this passage is so well adapted to the idea which it expresses that it makes the hearer tremble with fear," It was rendered in a very satisfactory manner. [the rest of the article is illegible].

# March 21, p. 2, column 2.

CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK. Positively for four days only, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1879.

Notice – No matter how great the success, this entertainment cannot remain beyond the above dates, as it is already announced to open in Town Hall, Greenock, on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> March.

# PROFESSOR PEPPER'S GHOST! GOMPETZ'S SPECTROSCOPE, AND SPECTRAL OPERA COMPANY.

The new and astounding effects will be developed by an ingenious application of the NEW MAGNESIUM LIGHT, which, with the lime, and other lights, will be under the management of Mr S Boness.

Doors open every evening at half-past 7, to commence at 8; carriages at 10.

Reserved seats, (nearest the illusion), 3s; first class, 2s; second class, 1s; third class, 6d. Juveniles under twelve and schools, half price to first and second seats only. Tickets to be had at Mr Paton's, High Street.

## March 21, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Gompetz's Opera Company – Next week 14 artistes comprising the above people, will give entertainments in the Corn Exchange. The effect of these will be enhanced by the introduction of the spectroscope, magnesium, oxy-hydrogen, and other lights, by which various optic delusions will be produced. The company has visited the town before, and the entertainments hitherto given by it have been of a pleasant, instructive and high class character. The entertainments will therefore, no doubt, receive patronage commensurate with their merits.

#### March 28, Local News p. 3, column 4.

The Spectral Opera Company – This troupe of artistes has been performing in the Corn Exchange every night this week its last performance being given last evening. The pieces performed have been Schiller's "Storm of Thoughts"; Goethe's "Faust"; and Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol". The acting and singing in each of these were on the whole excellent and gave much satisfaction to the somewhat numerous audiences, while the effect was heightened by various spectroscopic introductions that caused much applause. The entertainment concluded last night with a laughable farce which was highly amusing and much provoking. In addition to the histrionic and spectacular treat, various sentimental and comic songs were given, while instrumental music was also provided.

April 18, Front Page, column 7

Choral Union concert, Corn Exchange, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Songs, duets, glees etc.

Admission: 2s, 1s and 6d. Tickets to be had at the usual places.

April 25, Local News p. 3, column 5.

Choral Union – Last night this society gave a concert in the Corn Exchange. Our critique is held over until next week.

May 2, Local News, p. 3, column 5.

CHORAL UNION - On Thursday night last week the members of this society gave their second concert this season. The object aimed at in giving a supplementary entertainment was to raise funds to meet the heavy expenditure incurred by the employment of an orchestra and professional singers at the oratorio given by the Union; and we were glad to se the public responded so liberally to the appeal thus mad to them. The audience was not only numerous but also appreciative, and made frequent demands upon the singers for repetitions of the

morceaux which pleased them. The programme was composed of solos, duets, a trio, glees, and choruses, most of which were rendered in a very satisfactory manner. The burden of the work fell upon Mr Thomas Richardson and Miss Paton both of whom were highly successful in their various essays. The former sang "Good Bye Sweetheart," (Balfe) and "My Pretty Jane," (Bishop) with much expression, his smooth easy and flowing style of singing being heard to great advantage in each. For both of the songs he obtained a deserved encore, and for the latter he substituted "The Flaunting Flag of Liberty." Miss Paton's special effort was "Should he upbraid," (Bishop) which, although it makes great demands upon the vocal power of a singer, was executed in a manner that would satisfy the most fastidious. In reply to an encore she gave "Home Sweet Home," a song which strongly appealed to the feelings of the audience, not merely on account of its sentiments, but because it was a song with so much pathos and taste. Miss Paton also took part in two duets, one "I've wandered in Dreams," with Mr P Richardson, and the other "Through Valley," with Mr T Richardson. In both, all the vocalists distinguished themselves by the careful and pleasant way in which they interpreted the music. A trio "Ye Shepherds tell Me," (Mazzinghi) was sung by Messrs P Richardson, G Duncan, and A Lounton, whose voices [?] harmoniously and produced a gratifying [?]. "Time has no thinned" was [??]> Mr R Paton sang "Jack's Yarn [?], but a little more animation in his style would have been an improvement. Mr G Duncan who possesses a rich and resonant voice, sang "Love's Request," (Reichardt), with much feeling, and it was received with great acceptance by the audience, who demanded an encore. The part song "O by rivers" was rendered by Miss L Miller, Miss Pearson, Miss Duncan, Mr J Wilson, and Mr Bateman; each part was sung conscientiously, the soprano coming out very distinctly. The trio in "The Chough and Crow" was taken by Miss Paton, Miss Duncan, and Mr R Paton, all of whom gave a good account of themselves.. The first named lady also sang the solo in "Now tramp o'er moss and fell." With regard to the choruses and glees they were rendered with all the elan, spirit and attention to light and shade for which the Choral Union is famous. The basses were rather weak but the volume of the sound produced by the singers was full and sweet. The only effort with which we were disposed to find fault was the "Soldiers Chorus," from Faust, which was rendered by the men alone; some of the high notes were rough, and the Berwick burr was occasionally very perceptible. These cruduities, however, were perhaps unavoidable. Mr B Barker was an efficient conductor, while J Cuthbertson ably discharged the duties of accompanist. It is to be hoped that in future the Choral Union will favour us with a few more concerts of this kind. There is no reason why it should not give two entertainments in the year; if one were devoted to sacred music and the other to secular, probably the desires of all the people would be satisfied, while a concert such as that which we had on Thursday night may be the means of discovering and developing latent musical talent.

May 9, Front Page, column 2.

Corn Exchange, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Two night sonly. Friday & Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. Grand fashionable morning performance on Saturday at 3 p.m. The original and only Australian General Ton Thumbs, Commodore Knott, and party, will give their unique

entertainment. Admission: first seats, 2s; second seats, 1s; back seats, 6d. Children half price to first and second seats. Tickets at Mr Alex. Paton's, High Street. Doors open at 7:30 to commence at 8. Carriages ordered at 10 o'clock.

May 23, Local News, p. 3, column 4.

GENERAL TOM THUMB AND COMMODORE KNOTT. – These two Lilliputians, together with Professor Millar, and his daughter, are to give entertainments in the Corn Exchange here tonight and tomorrow, when we have no doubt large numbers will be attracted to see the little men as well as the veteran professor of legerdemain. In addition to these attractions several electro-plated articles are to be given away. The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette says: - "Back in the days when life was a comparatively new possession to us, when the number of years was represented by a single figure, or at most by a modest instalment of teens, when hope and imagination lived together and all things seemed possible, we delighted to pore over those pages of Gulliver's Travels which recounted his adventures in the land of Lilliput, and wished - what child has not – that we could have been there with him. With Australian Tom Thumb and Commodore Knott before us we almost felt on the threshold of that region of romance, and were inclined to envy the juveniles around, who, not being deeply immersed in years or experience, could let their fancy fly without restraint and live upon it swings. Mr J Armstrong, the Australian Tom Thumb, who born at Melbourne, has journeyed about in South Africa, is well-known all over England, and has just returned from America, is a very great traveller for such a very small man. This miniature representation of folks which one meets with every day, is life-like in all save size, and his dancing is remarkably good. The Commodore comes from a well-to-do family who are well-known in South Devon. He is decidedly talented, as might be gathered from that he played clown last winter through the entire run of the Crystal Palace pantomime, and there is a jollity about his face that, like a signboard, announces the proprietor to be a retailer of fun. Professor Miller with his excellent jokes, anecdotes, and legerdemain, ties the various items of the programme together in the most happy manner possible."

June 6, Front Page, column 2.

The Berwick Equitable Benefit Building Society. The annual general meeting of this society will be held in the Committee Room of the Corn Exchange, on the evening of Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 1879 at half past seven o'clock. The society continues to advance many an approved security.

Alex. Robertson, President

John Husband, Secretary.

June 13, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Seizure of butter – On Saturday the Inspector of Weights and Measures tasted the fresh butter offered for sale in the Exchange, and seized 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. which was deficient in weight. This is the smallest quantity that has ever been forfeited.

June 20, Local News, p. 3, column 3.

Equitable Benefit Building Society – The half yearly meeting of this society was held in the long Room of the Corn Exchange on Monday night. Mr T Morallee in the chair. The retiring directors were re-elected with the exception of Mr J Gibson, in whose room Mr F Mason was chosen. The other officials were re-appointed.

July 18, p. 2, column 7.

BERWICK AND TWEEDMOUTH GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

The annual meeting o the directors and shareholders of this company was held in the long room of the Corn Exchange on Wednesday, when there were present – Alderman Purves, chairman of Directors (who presided); Councillor Hopper; Messrs Alder, Dumble, Turnes, A Paxton, W Paxton, Dr Fluker, G Brown, Mitchell, Tweedmouth; Wilson, Bridge Street, &c.

The Chairman said the first business was the reading of the balance sheet and Directors' report.

Mr J Wight, secretary and treasurer, then read these as follow:- GENTLEMEN – It affords your Directors great pleasure to meet you again on this occasion and report that the affairs of the Company are in a healthy and prosperous condition.

The

Balance sheet and balance account have been examined and approved by your Directors and duly attested by the Auditor, and a copy of the balance has been sent to each shareholder, from which you will observe there is a net profit of £850 0s 11 ½ d for the year ending the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1879, available as dividend, and your Directors have great pleasure in recommending a dividend of 7 ½ per cent upon the capital of the Company, which dividend the secretary is prepared to pay immediately after the business of the meeting is transacted. This reduced dividend arises chiefly in consequence of the reduction of gas last year from 5s 10d to 5s 5d per 1000 cubic feet and other extra expenses which your Directors sincerely trust will not again occur for several years. During the past year there have been 15 meetings of Directors. The three retiring Directors are – Messrs James Purves, Adam Paxton, and T G Turner, but who are eligible for re-election.

James Purves, Chairman.

The balance sheet was as follows: - income: - By gas sold, £4118 13s 8d; use of meters, £194 1s 1d; coke tar, lime, &c, sold £384 4s; interest on bank account, £3 12s 11d – total, £4700 11s 8d. Expenditure – Salaries, £253; wages, £204 15s 8d; parrot cola, £2421 11s 6d; lime, £110 4s 2d; plumber work, service pipes, &c, £175 3s 5d; printing, stationery, and casual expenses, £57 18s 4d; [?], bricks &c, £234 2s 9d; parochial rates, £99 18s 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  d; rents, £7 3s; property and income tax, £23 0s 5d; meters repairing, &c, £127 17s 11d; bad debts, allowances, &c, £35 15s 3d – total, £3850 10s 8  $\frac{1}{2}$  d. There was thus a balance of £850 0s 11  $\frac{1}{2}$  d in hand available as dividend.

The Chairman said the dividend was not so large as it had been for some time; the Directors, however, had done their very best and had used every economy. They did not wish to draw upon the reserve fund, or perhaps the dividend might have been the same as usual. He thought, however, that the Directors had acted judiciously considering that they must not overlook the interests of the consumers. He had much pleasure in moving the adoption of the report.

Mr Wilson seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed.

Mr Wight then read a list of the attendance of members from which it appeared that there had been 15 meetings. Of these Mr Dumble attended all; Messrs Hopper and Turner, 14; Mr A Paxton, 13; Ald Purves, 9; Messrs Alder, W Paxton, and George Weatherhead 7; and Mr Riddle, 4.

The three retiring directors, Ald Purves, Mr Turner, and Mr A Paxton were then unanimously re-elected by ballot.

Mr Robt. Roxburgh was also again chosen auditor, on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr A Paxton.

The Chairman said they were all aware the dividend this year Was smaller than usual, but the Directors could not help themselves, as it had been caused by circumstances over which they had no control. In the first place there was the reduction in the price of gas, which had been recommended at last annual meeting, and which had therefore affected this year's income, then there had been new retorts, and the additional expense connected with the relaying of gas pipes caused by the repairing of the streets. The Directors had done their very best to keep the outlay as small as possible, and they should be thankful that so much expense would not happen for a very long time again, so that the Directors would soon be in a position to pay a good dividend to the shareholders, and at the same time supply gas to the consumers at a satisfactory price also.

Dr Fluker said he entirely endorsed all that the Chairman had said with regard to the expense on the streets, which he thought had been both judicious and wise. Although only a slight shareholder in the Gas Company yet he had always taken considerable interest in its work in consequence of his official position a medical officer of health for the borough. He thought the leakage of gas must have been a great loss to the Company, for at some places to which his attention had been called the smell was just like that proceeding from a gas meter, so that although there had been a slight decrease in the dividend in consequence of the extra expense, yet he thought the Company would be amply recouped by the great saving it would effect in gas in consequence of the improvements. He thought the inhabitants of the town were much obliged to the Directors for what they had done, for whereas that would provide them with better light it would do something towards keeping the inhabitants in a better state of health particularly in the lower parts of the town where pure air was necessary to maintain life in its integrity. Dr Fluker concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Mr Mitchell seconded the motion.

The Chairman acknowledged the compliment. He thought what the Directors had done, had been very much wanted. The leakage of the pipes had been considerable so that the repairing of them would soon repay itself.

The proceedings then terminated.

September 5, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Berwick, Tuesday, September 9, 1879. Grand Scotch Concert and miscellaneous entertainment which will include scenes from Allan Ramsay's charming pastorals, the Gentle Shepherd, in characters with all the original songs, duets, etc., will be held in the above hall. Doors open at 7:30, concert to begin at 8. Admission – Reserved seats, 2s; second seats, 1s; third seats, 6d. Tickets to be had of Mr Rankin, boot manufacturer, an at the door on evening of concert.

September 5, p. 2, column 5.

FLOWER SHOW. BERWICK. The annual competitive exhibition under the auspices of the Eastern Border Horticultural Society was held in the Corn Exchange on Tuesday. With an energetic committee and staff of officials the exhibition since its commencement until now has gradually risen in importance until it has become one of the principal shows in the Borders. This year it was not expected, in consequence of the unfavourable weather, that the display would equal that of any former year, either in excellence of quality or in number of articles sent for competition, but those entrusted with the management of affairs were agreeably disappointed, for the exhibition, with a few trifling exceptions, was as good a, if not better, than any that has been held in this town. The objects sent for view or competition were arranged on tables round the sides and in the centre of the large hall, the ordinary dingy appearance of which was pleasantly relieved by the brilliance and variety of their hues. To add to the attractions of the show a large collection of majestic and handsome greenhouse and stove plants were sent for exhibition by Captain Milne Home, M P, Paxton House; H Jerningham, Esq., Longridge; T Johnston, Esq., Scremerston Sea House; and Major Campbell Renton, Mordington; while Messrs [?] Hope Nurseries, Berwick, showed a fine stand of cut flowers, including roses, marigolds, phloxes, asters, and fruit trees in pots.

Messrs Stuart, Mein & Allan, Kelso, also showed a splendid collection of roses and bulbs, while some dried [? And ?] from Fauresmith, Orange Free State, South Africa, were exhibited by Rev S Steven. With regard to the articles sent for competition there was a good show. Amongst the flowers, stove and greenhouse plants, bronze and tricolour geraniums, fuchsias, ferus, petunias, asters, marigolds, roses, and gladioli, were numerous and excellent, the blooms being remarkable for their completeness of development and delicacy of tint. Pansies, dahlias, and a few others, however, were not so good as on former occasions, the rain and cold being uncongenial to the perfecting of their tender petals, which lacked the splendour with which they are usually endowed. There was a fine assortment of table, hand, bridal, and everlasting bouquets. All of these had been arranged with great taste, and presented a brilliant and attractive appearance by the richness and contrast of their variegated hues. Some bouquets of wild flowers also were shown, and these were very pretty indeed. Two floral designs were exhibited and both of these were very handsome. The fruit was small in quantity, and rather poor in quality, a result attributable to the want of sunshine during the summer. The only articles in this department which were equal to those of former years were the grapes, which, however, are not affected like apples, pears, and berries, by atmospherical influences. There was a very good show of vegetables, though amongst these were no monstrosities. The leeks, potatoes, turnips, cauliflowers, and cabbages were of superior quality. The judges were: - Mr W Mackay, gardener, Dunse Castle; Mr W Macadam, gardener, Haggerston Castle; Mr W Waite, gardener, Cheswick House; Mr G Statters, gardener, Longridge Towers; and Mr P Common, Chirnside Nursery. Their awards gave general satisfaction. At the conclusion of their labours, they, the Committee and officials dined together at the Hen & Chickens Hotel. In the afternoon the show was open to the public, and it was visited by a large company but not so many as usual, owing probably to the stormy state of the weather. In the evening the exhibition was patronised by a large number of townfolk, who thronged the rooms and viewed the articles or listened to the music, which was discoursed by Mr J Hogg's quadrille band in the gallery. The following is the prize list (here follows an extensive list of the prize winners).

#### September 12, p. 3, column 3.

SCOTCH CONCERT – On Tuesday night a miscellaneous entertainment was given in the Corn Exchange, which was well filled on the occasion by a numerous and appreciative audience. Miss H Hunter, the Scottish prima donna, sang with much pathos and sweetness, "The flowers of the Forest" and "Shy Robin," while Miss J Macgregor sang with piquancy and expression "The brisk young lad," and "I wonder wha'll be my man". Mr W H Darling, the celebrated tenor, rendered with much power and taste some choice morceaux. Mr T Walker also exhibited the richness and resonance of his voice in such pieces as "I fear no foe," "Scots wha hae." In addition to these artistes Mr W Crawford, the Scotch vocalist and comedian, appeared and contributed much to the enjoyment of the audience, by singing several humorous songs. Some duets and quartette gave great satisfaction, and showed how well the voices of the different singers blended. The entertainment was concluded with scenes from Allan Ramsay's charming pastoral "The Gentle Shepherd," in which the performers besides giving more instances of their musical abilities also indicated that they possessed no mean histrionic powers. Mr J M Harkness officiated as accompanist.

October 3, p. 2, column 1.

Dancing Academy – Corn Exchange, Berwick. John Hogg begs to announce that his class will commence on 7<sup>th</sup> October. Juniors at 4 p.m., adults at 8. Terms on application at the hall.

October 17, Local News p. 3, column 3.

The Mayor intends giving a great ball in the Corn Exchange on Thursday evening, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. Invitations have been issued this week, and it is expected that about 400 people will be present.

October 31, p. 2, column 1.

Odd Fellows Ball – Corn Exchange, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Tuesday evening, 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1879. Dancing to commence at 9 o'clock. Music will be supplied by Mr Hogg's Quadrille Band, assisted by W Mcdonald (St.Martins) Pipers. Tickets: members (double 2s 6d; non members (double) 3s 6d; ladies 1s 6d.

November 7, p. 2, column 7.

THE MAYOR'S BALL. Last night this grand entertainment, the only one of the kind given by a Chief Magistrate of Berwick for many years, took place in the Corn Exchange, which for the occasion was transformed into a sort of fairy palace, the arrangement of which gave evidence of the magnificent scale on which the ball was conducted. A bright new floor was laid down, for the purpose of making the principal amusement of the evening less fatiguing than it would otherwise have been. The prosaic merchants' stalls round the hall, which, as reminders of worldly cares, look so much out of place in a ball-room, were screened from view by means of blue and white calico, relieved at the top by a brilliant cardinal red border that was gracefully festooned and thus had a very pretty and pleasing effect. The space underneath the galley also was excluded from the area set apart for dancing, an ornamental door being made in the drapery where the Mayor stood and received his guests as they arrived. From the roof of the Corn Exchange were suspended elegant garlands of evergreens, which hung transversely across and round the room, a circular wreath being attached to the point where they met in the centre. The gallery and the recess on the north side of the hall, were embellished with plants, shrubs, and statuary so as to resemble conservatories. At different parts of the room were tastefully arranged several exotic plants, as well as various objects of art and *certu*, such as a large ebony cabinet inlaid with gold, several handsome gilt

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and bevelled mirrors, bracket-vases, images, and busts of heathen gods and goddesses, and many eminent men of ancient and modern times, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr W Wilson, sculptor, Tweedmouth. The windows at the upper end of the hall were concealed from view by blue drapery, while above the bench for the orchestra was the Mayor's coat of arms, with the town halberts at each side. Affixed to the walls of the room, stars and circles of bayonets glittered and flashed I the gas-light, producing a very fine effect, which was enhanced by a tasteful assortment of flags and shrubs. Similar ornaments also appeared in front of the recess on north side, while several pretty banners were suspended in front of the gallery, the black railings of which were brought into bold relief by a background of cardinal red calico. All the passages leading to the area for dancing and the staircase were carpeted and draped. To meet the want of the large company which had assembled at the invitation of the Mayor, the whole resources of the Corn Exchange were called into requisition. There was no extra porch outside the door, but a guard of honour was stationed there, consisting of two sergeants and twenty gunners of the Artillery Volunteers, of which the Chief Magistrate is the Captain Commandant. These presented arms to the different officers as they passed through their ranks into the hall. The ladies were accommodated with a room on the right of the entrance which was carpeted and suitably decorated, and where their cloaks &c were deposited. The gentlemen also had the use of an extemporised apartment underneath the gallery for a similar purpose. In a room on the left side of the entrance to the Corn Exchange coffee was served, while at the upper end of the hall was, on each side a ladies' retiring apartment and a card room, the latter being fitted up with small tables and a mirror. The whole arrangement for the decoration of the building were carried out under the superintendence of Mr W Purves, of Messrs Purves & Sons, Hide Hill. He was assisted with the evergreens by Messrs Waite Brothers, of Hope Nurseries. The shrubs and exotic plants were kindly sent by Captain D Milne Home M.P, who has evinced much interest in the success of the ball. The large apartment upstairs was used as a supper room, were purveyed in superior style by Mrs Scott of the Red Lion Hotel, whose cuisine gave the utmost satisfaction. Amongst the various tempting *bonnes* [?] were various kinds of game, a large parcel of which had been sent from Gursachan, by Sir D C Marjoribanks, M.P., with his usual considerate kindness. Another noticeable feature was a magnificent salmon of 20 lb. weight, which had been caught in the Tweed at Horncliffe, on the previous day, by Mr H Christison, who very generously presented it to the Mayor for the supper. The appearance of the viands was received by silver epergnes and choice flowers, the latter being kindly sent from the conservatory at Paxton House, by Capt. Milne Home, M.P.

The ball, which began at nine o'clock, was led off by the Mayor and Mrs Henderson, Coldstream, to music supplied by Mr [Homy's] well known band from Newcastle. From that time till an early hour this morning, dancing was kept up with great spirit and evident enjoyment. When the company was engaged in this pleasant exercise, the *tout ensemble* of the scene was very effective, the handsome and brilliant toilettes of the ladies contrasting well with the dark costumes of the gentlemen, and showing to great advantage the beautiful decorations, which lent' enchantment to the view.'

The following is the programme: -

DANCES	MUSIC
Quadrille	Echoes of the Operas.
Valse	The Arabian Nights.
Galop	Herne the Hunter.
Lancers	Coming of Age.
Valse	Spring Flowers.
Polka	Silver Spring.
Quadrille	Le Dompteur.
Valse	Loved and Lost.
Galop	The Advance Guard.
Contra Dance	The Keel Row.
Lancers	La Favorita.
Valse	Die Hydropaten.
Galop	Up in the Morning.
Quadrille	The Borderers.
Valse	Il Trovatore.
Polka	Fairyland Dreams.
Lancers	Ealington.
Valse	Sweethearts.
Galop	Bachelor's Buttons.
Contra Dance	Corn Riggs.
Valse	The First Kiss.

The Mayor being Captain Commandant of the 1<sup>st</sup> Berwick-on-Tweed Artillery Volunteers, the officers of that corps, Capt. Caverhill, Lieutenants Darling, Robertson, Grey and Herriott, officiated as stewards, in full uniform, and were assisted by Mr Sanderson of the Elms, and Mr Bolan, Ravensdowne. Capt. Caverhill also officiated as Master of the Ceremonies. It is needless to say that all these gentlemen discharged their duties in the most able and satisfactory manner.

The following is a list of those who accepted the Mayor's invitations to the ball: -

Capt. Milne Home, M.P., and Mrs Milne Home; The Sheriff, and Mrs Crossman; Mr and Lady Fanny Marjoribanks, Dunse Castle; Mr and Mrs Jerningham, Longridge Towers; Col., Mrs and Misses Crossman; Col., and Mrs St Clair; Hon. Capt. [Baidhe] Hamilton, Phoenix Park; Hon. Capt. Hewitt, R.N., Spittal House; Major and Mrs Campbell Renton, Mordington; Capt. Vansittart, Castle Connel; Mr Charles Vansittart; Capt. Wilding, R.N.; Major Kysh, Capt. Broad, Capt. Forsyth, Lieut. Cramsie, Lieut. Thurlow, 5<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers; Rev. Mr and Mrs Beverley Wilson, Duddo Vicarage; Rev. Mr and Mrs King, St Mary's Vicarage; Mr and Mrs Allan, of Peelwalls; Mr and Mrs Allan, Horncliffe House; Mr Allan, Eyemouth; Mr and Miss Allan, East Reston; Mr, Mrs, and Miss Alder, Halidon; Miss Allan, Castle Terrace; Mr and Miss Burrell, Broome Park; Mr and Mrs Burrell, Glen Allan; Mr F B Browne, Doxford Hall; Mr and Mrs Bowhill, Ayton; Mr Blake of Twisel; Mr and Miss Bowhill, Marygold; Mr Dixon Browne, Norham Vicarage; Mr Brett Bull, Norham Vicarage; Mr A and Misses Balsillie, Dykegatehead; Mr R Balsillie, Jardinefield; Miss Bell, Darlington; Miss Borthwick, Mindrum; Mr Bell, Moscow; Mr and Mrs Bolam, Ravensdowne; Mr George and Misses Bolam, Ravensdowne; Dr and Mrs Brown, Quay Walls; Mr W Bristow, Mr E Brisow, Sandgate; Miss Crossman, Cheswick House; Mr and Mrs Calder, Little Swinton; Mr T and Miss Calder, Blanerne; Mr and Miss Clay, Kerchester; Mr Caverhill, Greenburn; Mr Calder, Swinton Hill; Mr J Calder, Edinburgh; Mr Calder, Oxenrig; Dr Caverhill, Edinburgh; Mr A Caverhill, Crichness; Miss Crawford, Mount View; Mr and Mrs Caverhill, Abbey St Bathans; Mr C E Colville, Edinburgh; Lieut. Lisle Cookson, Houndwood; Alderman Christison, Mr H and Miss Christison, Bridgend; Mr and Mrs Caverhill, Ravensdowne; Dr and Mrs Cahill, Parade; Mrs and Miss Cockburn, Ravensdowne; Mr Duff, Gle Arthur; Mr and Mrs Doughty, Ayton; Mr Dickson, Wheatlands; Mr Darwell, Turrelaw; Miss Dickson, Ravensdowne; Mr and Mrs Douglas, Spring Bank; Mr T and Miss Darling, Governor's House; Mr and Mrs Dunlop, Marionville; Mr A M Dickins; Mr Eyre, Ladykirk House; Mr and Mrs Friar, Bells Hill; Mr W Ford, Leith; Captain and Mrs Forbes, West Coates House; Miss Kinnear; Mr and Miss Fleming, Castle Terrace; Lieut. Gregson, R N, Lowlyn; Mr D K Gregson; Mr and Misses Glendinning, Broomdykes; Mr T C Gentleman, Edinburgh; Mr and Miss Gilchrist, High Street; Mr J and Miss Grey, Hide Hill; Miss S A Milne Home, Milne Graden; Mr Buchan Hepburn, Smeaton Hepburn; Mr and Mrs Hodgson, Horncliffe Mains; Mr and Mrs Hogg, Quixwood; Mr Hogg, Coldstream; Mr Hunter, Dunse; Mr Hall, Ryelfeld; Mr and Mrs Herriott, Leetside; Mr J Herriott, Ayton; Mr and Mrs Hogg, Presson; Dr and Mrs Henderson, Coldstream; Mr Henderson, East Gordon; Mr Henderson, Middlethird; Mr Herriott, Castlegate; Mr W Herriott; Mr Heron, Tweedmouth; Mr Johnston, Scremerston Sea House; Mrs and Misses Kysh, Ravensdowne; Mr Kysh; Mr Laing, Wark; Mr Liddle, Morris Hall; Lieut. Liddell, N. A. M; Mr and Mrs Lumsden, Shoreswood; Mr and Mrs Logan, Brow-ofthe-Hill; Mr W and Misses Logan; Mr J Logan, Avenue; Misses Leach, Grieve Lodge; Misses Munro, Foulis Castle; Mr and Miss Mein, Lamberton; Mr Maclachlan, Edinburgh; Lieut. Milne, R. N., [Inver...], and Miss Milne; Miss Morrison, Abbey Park; Mr Muirhead, Paxton; Col. Macdonald of St. Martins; Mrs Colin Mackenzie; Mrs Herbert Stepney; Miss Fraser; Miss Harkness; Mr and Mrs Makins, Spa Well Terrace; Mr and Mrs McCreath, Tweedmouth; Mr and Miss Makins, Tweedmouth; Mr and Misses Miller, Sandgate; Capt. [Mordaunt?], 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment; Mr and Miss Marshall, Caldergrove; Captain Norman, R.N., Cheviot House; Mr and Miss Nicholson, Murton; Mr Nichol, Berington; Mr and Mrs Oswald, New Water Haugh; Dr and Misses Paxton, Norham; Mr and Mrs Parker, Bells Hill; Misses [P......], Ava Lodge; Mr [Port....], Norham Vicarage; Mr and Mrs Purves, Castle Terrace; Mr and Mrs Paulin, Leetside; Miss Paxton, Bridge Terrace; Mr Paulin, Quay Walls; Mr Pilkington, Castlegate; Mr and Mrs Robson, Grove Hill; Mr and Miss Robson; Dr and Mrs Richardson, Castle Terrace; Mr, Mrs, and Miss Robertson, Wellington Terrace; Mr Alexander Tower Robertson; Mr John Robertson; Misses Robertson, Middle Ord; Mr and Misses Smith, Melkington; Mr and Miss Smith, [Cre.. House]; [the next couple of names are illegible]; Mr and Miss Stirling, Laurel Bank; Mr and Mrs Stewart, [?]; Mr and Mrs Stewart, Edinburgh; Dr, Mrs and Miss Stewart, Chirnside; Dr Stuart, Dunse; Mr and Mrs Sanderson, The Elders; Mr Evan Sanderson; Mr and Mrs Short, Warren Mills; Alderman, Mrs and Miss Thompson, [M...... Mains]; Mr T W Thompson, Newcastle; Dr Turnbull, Coldstream; Mr Collingwood Thompson, Kirknewton; Mr T Thompson Ir., Bankhill; Mr [???], Norham Vicarage; [next couple of manes illegible]; Mr and Mrs Weddell, Palace; Mr W and Miss Weldell, Avenue House; Mr [?] Weatherhead, Castlegate; Dr Young, Quay Walls.

November 7, Local News p. 3, column 6.

ODDFELLOWS' BALL – On Tuesday night this entertainment was held in the Corn Exchange, which was decorated with bunting and evergreens for the occasion. Suspended from the roof, and stretching across the room transversely, were two rows of variegated flags, while at the point where they met in the centre of the hall, was fixed the silk banner of the Loyal Border Lodge, bearing on one side the insignia of the Independent United Order of Oddfellows, and on the other a representation of the Good Samaritan tending the man who fell among thieves, with the inscription "Go thou and do likewise." At the upper end of the room was a painting of the royal arms, with some colours at each side, while below was a platform for the orchestra. A few evergreens were arranged on the stalls round the hall and to the recess on the north side, while the space underneath the gallery was screened off with drugget. There was rather a numerous attendance, and amongst those present were Col. W Macdonald Macdonald, of Rossie and St Martins; Major Hook, and the Misses Macdonald, etc. There were altogether about 250 people at the ball. Dancing began at nine o'clock, and this pleasant exercise was continued with unabated vigour until an early hour next morning, the music being supplied by the string band under Mr Hogg, assisted by Col. Macdonald's pipers, and the Spittal brass band. Messrs A Hood and J Moor officiated as M. Cs, and as such gave much satisfaction. The refreshments were supplied in the long room upstairs by Mr George Wood of the Coach and Horses Tavern, High Street.

NB – Gap between December 5, 1879 and January 23, 1880.