

Berwick Advertiser, 1883

Gap between Dec. 15, 1882 and Jan. 5, 1883.

January 26, Local News p. 3, column 5.

FINE ART EXHIBITION – We beg to direct the attention of our readers to a number of watercolour paintings, oil pictures and sketches in black and white, executed by Mr Cormack Brown and now on view in the long room of the Corn Exchange in this town. The artist has here produced about forty pictures, which bear witness to his mastery and skill. Among them are several views of scenery about Ayton Castle, the picturesque fishing village of [next five words illegible] and Norham Castle. The principal oil picture is a copy of “The Descent from the Cross” by Rubens, which is now in the cross aisle at Antwerp Cathedral, and which was executed by this celebrated painter for the Fraternity of the [?]. The copy is the property of Mr Douglass Murray, Long Yester. In addition to Mr Cormack Brown’s own paintings, several pictures have been lent for the occasion by A Mitchell Innes, Esq., Ayton Castle; H M H Jerningham, Esq., M P, Longridge Towers; and others. Several of these have been done by Mr Cormack Brown himself, and they are remarkable for brilliancy and colouring and correctness of delineation – notably the views of Ayton Castle and grounds, and Norham Castle and grounds. Amongst the sketches are several studies of heads, such as those of a black man, a French detective [??]. Several portraits also adorn the room, such as those of Carlyle, Lord Beaconsfield, Mr Morrith of Rokeby, &c. There is also a noble picture of Antwerp Cathedral and market place in which the [?] of architecture is drawn with accuracy, and several figures are shown to display the varied pursuits of mankind. Sundry copies of pictures by the great masters also adorn the room. A visit to the exhibition will repay anyone.

February 16, Local News p. 3, column 6.

Equitable Benefit Building Society – At a meeting of the members of this society held in the Corn Exchange on Tuesday night, Mr Morales in the chair. Mr Ralph Dixon was elected secretary in room of the late Mr J Husband. There were four candidates for the office.

February 23, Front Page, column 2.

Notice. The annual general meeting of Berwick Corn Exchange Company, Limited, will be held within the offices of the Company, at the Corn Exchange, on Saturday 24th inst., at a quarter past one o’clock.

By order of the Directors

R Thompson, Secretary

Berwick-upon-Tweed, 10th Feb. 1883.

February 23, Front Page, column 7.

CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK. Positively for one week only. Commence Monday, February 26th, 1883. GRAND FASHIONABLE DAY PERFORMANCES ON WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT 3.

Afternoons at 3. Doors open at 2:30. Carriages at 4:45. Nightly at 8. Doors open at 7:30. Carriages at 10. Admission: - Stalls (carpeted) 3s; second class, 2s; third class 1s; promenade 6d. Children under 10, and schools over ten in number half price to first, second and third seats only. Family ticket, to admit five to stalls, 12s; second seats, 8s; but these tickets must be obtained at Drummonds, Hide Hill, where plan can be seen and seat secured without any extra charge. Messrs Poole (late Poole and Young), established 1818.

New panorama of THE WORLD depicting the most important events of modern times, including the great engineering and other triumphs of late years. [the rest of the advertisement is very difficult to read].

February 23, p. 2, column 1.

Great sale of oil paintings – Corn Exchange, Berwick. Mr J Oswald begs to announce the sale of oil paintings will be continued today (Friday). By private treaty from 10 a.m.

March 2, p. 2, column 2.

Great sale of oil paintings – Long Room, Corn Exchange, Berwick. The sale of oil Paintings will be continued (today) and (tomorrow) when, to clear the remainder the very lowest prices will be quoted. Positively the last two days.

J Oswald, auctioneer.

March 2, Local News p. 3, column 4.

SALE OF SHARES – On Saturday, Mr J. D. Purves offered for sale by auction in the Corn Exchange, a number of shares in local concerns. There was a fair attendance. Mr J. K. Weatherhead having read the conditions of sale, Mr Purves first put up 50 £10 shares (fully paid up) of the Berwick Salmon Fisheries Company Limited, and stated that during 11 years the total dividend paid was 65 per cent or an average of about 6 per cent per annum. Some years as much as 25 per cent had been paid. Bidding began at £10 per share and ultimately the total number were sold to Mr T. G. Turner, Berwick, for £11 17s 6d each. Ten £10 shares (£5 only paid) in the same company were then offered and knocked down to Mr Turner also at £6 17s 6d each. Mr Purves next offered 13 £10 shares (fully paid up) in the Berwick Corn Exchange Company (Limited), and bidding began for these at £8, but they were ultimately sold for £10 5s each to Mr James R. Black, Cheswick. Two £10 shares (£5 only paid up) in the same company were also sold to Mr Black at £5 each.

March 2, Local News p. 3, column 4.

BERWICK CORN EXCHANGE COMPANY – The annual meeting of the shareholders of the company was held in the Corn Exchange on Saturday – Mr D. Logan, chairman of the directors in the chair. The secretary Mr R. Thompson read the annual report as follows: - Gentlemen – Your directors have pleasure in again meeting you and submitting to you an account of the income and expenditure, liabilities and assets of the company for the year ending 31st December 1882. The various accounts have been examined and approved by your directors, and duly attested by the auditor, and a printed copy of the account current, and balance account has been sent to the shareholders from which you will observe that the net profits have been £108 0s 4d, while the balance of the reserve fund amounts to £109 6s 2d which makes an amount of £277 6s 6d available from which to declare a dividend. Your directors recommend the present meeting to declare a dividend of five per cent upon the paid capital of the company. A heating apparatus at the cost of £176 10s has been placed in the building during the past year, which your directors trust will be found of great benefit to be a means of inducing more entertainments to be held in the hall. In compliance with the regulations your directors have to report that they held eight meetings during the past year. Of these Messrs Logan, J. R. Black, and J. B. Bird have attended eight meetings; Messrs A. Darling and John Clay, seven; Mr R. G. Bolam, five; Mr M. G. Crossman, four; Mr John Black one; and Mr George Hogg, none. The retiring directors are Messrs M. G. Crossman, John Black and George Hogg, but who are eligible for re-election. Mr R. Thompson next read the annual balance sheet which showed that the income was £584 4s 1d, and the expenditure, £366 3s 9d, leaving a balance of £168 0s 4d. The outlay included £223 1s 2d for repairs, &c, including heating apparatus. The reserve fund was £189 6s 2d. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr Hogg, the report and balance sheet were adopted. The retiring directors were re-elected. Mr Roxburgh was again appointed auditor, and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

March 2, Local News p. 3, column 4.

POOLE'S PANORAMA – This exhibition has been open this week in the Corn Exchange, and has nightly drawn large and admiring audiences. The pictures shown embrace the principal scenery and grand sights in the world, exhibiting various customs, manners, sports, and pastimes in a great number of countries. There are also representations of the chief events in the Russian, Turkish, Zulu, Afghan, Boer and Egyptian wars, including General [Hol...’s] triumphant entry into Cabul, the sailing of the steamship “German” up the harbour of Port Natal, and the bombardment of Alexandria, all of which are given in a remarkably realistic manner by moving figures and with startling mechanical effects. Many of the pictures are also shown under different aspects, such as by day and night, also by moonlight. The exhibition itself is quite a treat, and is well worth a visit, but in addition to it there is an excellent company of vocalists and musicians, whose efforts are very meritorious and enjoyable. Miss Florence Garland and Miss Kitty Clare are both excellent singers, and render songs in a charming manner, while Mr Charles Williams gives them efficient aid in duets. Mr Orville Pitcher as an exponent of Ethiopian eccentricity creates much laughter by his stump speech and other extravagances, while Mr G. A. Poole, who acts as guide, occasionally sings a funny song, which is greatly appreciated. The instrumental music, which is supplied by a well-appointed orchestra, is also good, and the whole makes up an entertainment of first class and pleasant character, which affords instruction as well as amusement.

March 16, p. 2, column 1.

To let that large room in Sandgate presently occupied as the art classroom. Apply to Thomas Carter & Sons, Corn Exchange Buildings, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

March 30, Local News, p. 3, column 5.

CHORAL UNION – We beg to draw the attention of our readers to the concert which is to be given by this excellent musical society in the Corn Exchange next Thursday evening, when Mendelsohn's oratorio of "Elijah" will be performed. The chorus will number 80 voices, at least, while the professional singers, who are to take the solos, are vocalists of acknowledged and undoubted ability. A great attraction will be the instrumental music which will be of a superior order, as the name of Mr J. H. Amers of Newcastle is a sufficient guarantor that the orchestra will be composed of excellent musicians. Moreover their ranks are to be strengthened by the [?] of some local talented amateurs. We hope a crowded audience will reward the Choral Union.

April 6, Local News p. 3, column 5.

CHORAL UNION – This musical society, under the leadership of Mr Benjamin Barker, gave its annual concert last night to a large and appreciative audience in the Corn Exchange. The chorus numbered about 100, and the orchestra, assisted by some local amateurs, was under the direction of Mr J. H. Amers of Newcastle. The soloists were Madame Adeline Tomsett, soprano; Miss Amy Ronayne, contralto; Mr D Whitehead, tenor; and Mr Wm. Riley, bass, all of whom did ample justice to their parts. The choruses were also effectively rendered. Miss J. Cuthbertson acted as accompanist. We shall give an extended critique of the concert next week.

June 8, p. 2, column 1.

Long Room, Corn Exchange. Important sale of Nottingham lace curtains. Mr Jas. J. Oswald has received instructions from Messrs Samuel Peace & Son, Nottingham, to sell by auction as above, on Tuesday 12th June, a valuable consignment of lace goods, direct from the loom. Particulars in catalogue which may be had from the auctioneer. On view morning of sale from 10 a.m.

Berwick 7th June 1883.

June 15, p. 2, column 1.

The Equitable Benefit Building Society, Berwick-on-Tweed. The annual general meeting of the society will be held in the Committee room the Corn exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed, on the evening of Monday 11th June, 1883, at half past seven o'clock.

Ralph Dixon, Sec.

The society continues to advance money on approved security.

June 22, p. 2, column 3.

A PUBLIC SOIREE was held in the Corn Exchange, at which about 600 people were present. The tables were presided over by the ladies of the congregation, and were decorated with flowers. Rev. John Smith, M.A. Wallace Green Church, presided, and after tea had been enjoyed by the company, made a few remarks expressing the pleasure of himself and the community at the ordination of Rev. J. Rorke to the pastoral charge of Church Street Church. Thereafter addresses suitable to the occasion were delivered by Rev. James Jeffrey, Glasgow; Rev. Hugh Glen, Stuartfield; Rev. J. Davidson, Beaumont Union; Rev. John Young, M.A., Newington, Edinburgh; Rev. John Beveridge, M.A., Stow; Mr Andrew [?], Glasgow; Rev. J. Todd, Duns; Rev. J. Douglas, Foulden; and Rev. Principal Cairns, D.D.. In the course of the proceedings, Mr W. Young, junior, presented Mr Rorke, in the name of the ladies of the Church, with a handsome pulpit robe; while he also gave the Chairman, on behalf of the congregation, a number of books as a mark of gratitude for his services to the Church as moderator of session during the vacancy. Mr Rorke and the Chairman suitably acknowledged the gifts and the former expressed the deep feeling of responsibility under which he laboured in undertaking charge of the congregation of Church Street Church. At intervals the choir, which was led by Mr T. Smith, sang to harmonium accompaniment by Miss J. Cuthbertson, a number of hymns and anthems including the following: - "Vital spark of heavenly flame." "Send forth the honour of His name," "Angels ever bright and fair," "Great and marvellous," "Lord of all power and might," "Now thank we all our God," The usual vote of thanks brought an enjoyable and profitable entertainment to a close.

June 22, Local News p. 3, column 3.

Freehold premises for sale .On Tuesday afternoon Mr James J. Oswald, auctioneer, offered for sale by auction in the Corn Exchange those premises situated in Chapel Street, in the occupation of Mr John Baxter and others, consisting of front messuage, let out in tenements, with a horse stable and cow byre (to accommodate two horses and four cows), and several out houses and large yard behind. Mr J Dunlop, solicitor, read the conditions of sale, and thereafter Mr Oswald collected offers for the property. Bidding began at £200 and rose to £270 whereupon Mr Dunlop gave the reserved price of £380 and the property was bought in.

June 22, Local News p. 3, column 6.

BERWICK EQUITABLE BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY. – The annual general meeting of this society was held in the Committee Room of the Corn Exchange on Monday evening. – Mr T. Morallee in the chair. Mr R. Dixon, secretary, read the minutes of the last meeting which were signed. The accounts which had been audited by Messrs R. Roxburgh and John Moffat, were approved and passed. The total receipts forward were £34,908 19s 3d, and the subscriptions for six months had amounted to £867 0s 11d, while interest on debenture was £33 15s. The total receipts amounted to £35,812 9s 11d. The total payments up to date had been £34,816 1s 1d; 12 ordinary shares worth £300 had been completed; while [?] worth £87 7s 11d had been withdrawn; and £600 had been deposited in the bank. There are at present [538?] ordinary shares worth £6579 1s 9d and the net extra protia amount to £669 7s 3d.

There had been advanced on 337 shares £8425 of which £4604 11s remained to be paid. The Society also holds debentures worth £1949 18s 1d, and the reserved fund amounts to £77 15s 6d. The vidimus of liabilities and assets indicates the net extra profits actually made at this date, after crediting all the shares of the Society with the subscriptions and accumulated compound interest thereon at the rate of 5 per cent per annum. The net extra profits now yield a bonus of £2 0s 5d per share of 11 years' standing; £1 12s 5d per share of 10 years' standing; £1 1s 10d per share of 9 years' standing; £1 0s 2d per shares of 8 years' standing; 16s 2d per share of 7 years' standing; 11s 11d per share of 6 years' standing; 8s 10d per share of 5 years' standing; 7s 6d per share of 4 years' standing; 2s 6d per share of 3 years' standing. The Society consists of 111 members, holding 895 shares, 337 of which are advanced. On the motion of Mr Shrimpton, Tweedmouth, two advanced shares were declared completed. The retiring directors were Messrs Dickinson, Riddle, Watson, and Stokes. The three former were re-elected, and in the place of the last, who stated that he did not wish to be reappointed, Mr John Gregson was chosen. Mr James R. Dickinson was reappointed steward, and Alexander Robertson, Esq., Wellington Terrace, was re-elected President. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

July 13, Front Page, column 7.

THE BERWICK & TWEEDMOUTH GAS LIGHT COMPANY. The annual meeting of the shareholders of the above comp[any will be held in the Long Room, Corn Exchange Buildings, Sandgate, Berwick-on-Tweed, on Wednesday, the 18th July instant, at 12 o'clock noon, for the dispatch, among other things, of the following business, viz: -

- 1st. To receive the balance sheet, and the report of the directors and auditor thereon.
- 2nd To appoint or re-elect three directors, on three of the present directors retiring.
- 3rd To elect an auditor.
- 4th To take into consideration the propriety of declared a dividend; and which will be paid immediately after the business of the meeting is transacted.

T. G. Turner, secretary.

High Street, Berwick, 5th July, 1883.

September 21, Front Page, column 6.

VALUABLE FEEHOLD PROPERTIES IN BERWICK-UPON-TWEED FOR SALE. To be exposed for sale by public auction, within the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Wednesday, the 3rd of October next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, precisely, (subject to conditions to be then read), Mr J. J. Oswald, auctioneer.

LOT 1.

All that old-established and fully licensed house, known as the CANNON TAVERN, situate in Church Street, in Berwick-upon-Tweed, let to the Border Brewery Coy, as yearly tenants. Together with the stabling and large yard and appurtenances behind the same. And also, all

those two dwelling houses situate behind the above, with the garden and appurtenances thereto belonging.

LOT 2.

All that messuage or dwelling house and shop with the yard and premises behind, situate and being Nos. 23 & 25 in West Street, Berwick, as the same are in the respective occupations of Mr Cowen and Mr Landreth.

This lot has a large yard behind, and is situate in one of the principal thoroughfares of the town, and could, at a small outlay, and with advantage be converted into business premises.

LOT 3.

All that messuage and dwelling house facing the Bank Hill, with entrance from the Golden Square, as the same is in the occupation of Miss Fleming.

This lot, from its situation, affords an opportunity of obtaining a small and pleasantly situated house, with an extensive and varied view, which rarely occurs.

The respective tenants will, on application, show the premises, and further particulars may be obtained from Mr George Brown, Palace Green; the auctioneer; and Mr Dunlop, solicitor, Berwick.

5, Quay Walls. 19th Sept. 1883.

September 21, p. 2, column 2.

Corn Exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed. One night only, Friday, September 28, 1883. A grand performance will be given by the world-renowned Matthews Minstrels. The original CCC registered. This famous company comprises the best selected vocalists, comedians, instrumentalists, dancers &c ever introduced into minstreley. New ballads, new sketches, charming part songs and choruses. The premier troupe of the world. Commence at 8, doors open at 7:30. Reserved seats (numbered) 3s. Unreserved seats 2s, 1s and 6d. Children under 12 half price to first and second seats only. Tickets &c and plan of the reserved seats at Mr John Drummond's, 38, Hide Hill.

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

THE MATTHEWS MINSTRELS - This well-known troupe gave on Friday night an entertainment in the Corn Exchange. There was a large audience, who gave the performers a hearty reception. The company included fourteen vocalists, who on Friday night were backed by an efficient party of instrumentalists, eight in number, whose playing throughout was much appreciated. The first part of the programme included a number of nigger melodies and pathetic ballads, most of which were fairly rendered. One or two of the sentimental songs were sung in a thoroughly satisfactory manner – notably “A flower from mother's grave,” which was given by Mr G. Buckley, a gentleman possessed of a fine deep bass voice, with touching pathos. The chorus was also daintily rendered by the company. Mr Clarence Le Norman was very successful in his singing of the ballads, “Voice of the Mountain Land.” Mr Harry Matthews and Mr W. Matthews sustained their reputation as lively “corner” men, and

kept the audience in good humour by their jokes and comic ditties. Mr H. Matthews sang in an amusing way "Mary's gone with a coon"; and Mr W. Matthews was equally entertaining in a song with a laughing chorus, which set the niggers rolling off their chairs. The company I strong in dancers, and both in the first and second parts exhibitions of their agility were frequently given. A "status clog dance," in which six performers simultaneously took part, was loudly applauded. A hearty laugh was enjoyed at the burlesque tragedy of Damon and Pythisa which was enacted by the Messrs Matthews; and an operatic burlesque, with the Messrs Matthews and Messrs H. Walters and Fred Osburne for principals, was also much enjoyed. Altogether the performers gave the audience a very enjoyable evening's entertainment.

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

Mr T Rees Evans, organist of Berwick Parish Church, is to hold a meeting in the long room of the Corn Exchange, on Tuesday night, for the purpose of making arrangements to hold a concert on behalf of Berwick Infirmary. Saturday evening concerts also are contemplated.

December 14, p. 2, column 1.

The Equitable Benefit Building Society, Berwick-on-Tweed. The half-yearly general meeting of the society will be held in the Committee Room of the Corn Exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed, on the evening of Monday, 17th December, 1883, at half past seven o'clock.

Ralph Dixon, Secretary

NB. The society continues to advance money on approved security.

Berwick Advertiser, 1884.

January 25, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. Sale of paintings, bronzes, china and art cabinets. Mr James J. Oswald is instructed to offer for sale by auction in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Wednesday, 30th inst. At 12 o'clock. The splendid collection of paintings, bronzes, china, art cabinets &c at present on exhibition and sale in the Corn Exchange. May be seen on Tuesday from 12 till 4 o'clock.

Berwick, 24th January, 1884.

January 25, p. 2, column 1.

IMPORTANT AND HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE SALE OF CHINA, PORCELAIN, GLASS, EARTHENWARE &c.

Mr James J. Oswald is instructed to offer for sale by public auction, (without reserve), in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5th, 6th and 7th February, 1884, at 2 o'clock afternoon, and at 7 o'clock in the evening, each day, a large and varied stock of china, porcelain, glass, earthenware, &c, being part of the stock of a large manufacturing firm in the Potteries, who are winding up their estate.

This sale presents a favourable opportunity to hotel keepers, private families and others, as the stock is of the newest design suitable for the season, and to be sold without reserve.

The stock embraces: - dinner services, tea services, breakfast services, single and double toilet services, elegant dessert services, dejeuner services, trinket services, tete-a-tete sets. Large quantities of large flower pots, vases, Dresden figures, &c, and a large quantity of earthenware, for ordinary use.

May be viewed on morning of sale. An experienced packer will be in attendance.

James J. Oswald, auctioneer.

February 1, p. 2, column 2.

Desirable investments for sale. To be sold by public auction within the Corn Exchange (side room), Berwick-on-Tweed on Saturday the 16th day of February, 1884, at 1 o'clock p.m. precisely by Mr J.D. Purves, auctioneer. 88 £10 shares (fully paid up) of The Berwick Salmon Fisheries Company Limited. The shares will be offered in lots to suit purchasers. Further particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained on application to Messrs Sanderson & J.K. Weatherhead, solicitors, Berwick-upon-Tweed, or the auctioneer.

Berwick-upon-Tweed, 31st January 1884.

February 1, Local News p. 3, column 5.

CORN EXCHANGE COMPANY. – The annual meeting of the shareholders of this company was held in the Corn Exchange on Saturday – Mr D. Logan, chairman of the directors presiding. Mr R. Thompson, secretary read the annual report as follows: - Gentlemen, - Your directors have pleasure in again meeting you and submitting to you an account of the income and expenditure, liabilities and assets of the company for the year ending 31st December 1883. The various accounts have been examined and approved by your directors, and duly attested by the auditor, and a printed copy of the account current and balance account has been sent to each shareholder. From this you will see that the net profits have been £132 19s 4d, and the reserve fund amounts to £103 1s 6d. The amount available for dividend is not so large as in recent years, but this is owing to a large amount of repairs and improvements executed during the past year, and also to the addition to the company's property of 200 chairs, the larger portion of the cost of the latter being defrayed out of revenue. Your directors therefore recommend the present meeting to declare a dividend of three and a half per cent upon the paid-up capital of the company. The sum required to pay this dividend is £122 10s 0d, which deducted from £132 19s 4d, the amount of profit, leaves a balance of £10 9s 4d to be carried to the reserve fund, thereby increasing the reserve to £113 10s 10d. In compliance with the regulations, your directors have to report that they held four meetings during the past year. Of these Mr D. Logan attended four; Messrs J.B. Bird, James R. Black, Jno Clay, M.G. Crossman, and R.G. Bolam, three; Messrs Jno. Black and A Darling, two; and Mr Geo. Hogg, none. The retiring directors are Messrs Jno. Black, A. Darling, and Geo. Hogg, but who are eligible for re-election. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr Black, the report was adopted. – The chairman said he was sorry the dividend was not so large as in former years, but the report fully explained the cause. – Mr Hogg, Coldstream: What is the cause of the falling off? – The chairman – Extra repairs. The secretary – We have provided two hundred chairs, and £15 has been paid into the capital account. We have had to paint and paper the rooms upstairs, and there are other things of that kind. – Ald. Thompson – Is the cost of the heating apparatus there. – The secretary – That was defrayed previously. – The chairman moved the re-appointment of the retiring directors. Mr Hogg – What state is the building in? The repairs have been heavy the last two or three years. Is it in a good state? The chairman – We have competition, and we want to keep the rooms as comfortable as possible. That necessitates extra outlay. – Ald. Thompson seconded the motion. – On the motion of Mr Clay, Kerchester, seconded by Mr M. G. Crossman, Mr R. Roxburghe was re-elected auditor, and the usual vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

February 15, p.2, column 1.

CORN EXCHANGE, (long room), BERWICK-ON-TWEED. IMPORTANT TO PARTIES FURNISHING, HOTEL AND RESTAURANT KEEPERS, AND OTHERS. Highly important and attractive sale of marble clocks, French and Florentine bronzes; also a fine collection of Sheffield silver-plated goods, table and other cutlery.

Mr James J. Oswald has received instructions from Messrs Wilson Bros., St Mary's Works, Sheffield, to sell by auction, on Wednesday and Thursday, February 20th and 21st, 1884, a choice collection of the above goods, comprising in electro-plate and cutlery, almost every article in table appointments connected with the trade, consisting of fruit and flower stands, dish covers, entrée dishes, soup tureens, salvers, coffee trays, 10 tea and coffee services, 24 cruets (4, 5, and 6 bottles), 20 butter coolers, 12 tea pots, 5 tea kettles on stands with lamps, 15 biscuit caddies, four 6-up egg frames, 14 cake and bread baskets, 14 pickle frames, four liqueur frames, 18 claret and hot water jugs, 250 doz. Of table spoons and forks, 105 doz.

Table and dessert knives, 95 pairs of carvers, 5 doz. Steels, 18 toast racks, sets of fruit knives and forks in mahogany cases with ivory, pearl, and silver-plated handles. Sets of fish knives and forks in mahogany cases; and a variety of other goods too numerous to mention in an advertisement.

PS – The auctioneer begs to call the particular attention of intending purchasers to the above stock, as the offer of such a fine class of goods by auction to the public seldom occurs. Sale at 2 and 7 p.m. each day. Private sale during the day.

February 15, Local News p. 3, column 3.

EQUITABLE BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY. – On Tuesday night a meeting of the members of this society was held in the Corn Exchange. Mr A. Robertson, Wellington Terrace, president, occupied the chair, and there was a numerous attendance of members. An alteration in the rules as prepared by Mr S. Sanderson, solicitor to the society, was agreed to unanimously, to the effect that the directors have power to determine upon the compulsory withdrawal of not more than 4 un-advanced shares at a time by each member when the state of the funds justified such a course. Some discussion ensued regarding the revision of the rules applicable to advanced members or borrowers, and this subject was referred to a Committee for consideration. Mr Stokoe, Tweedmouth, said a very erroneous impression prevailed regarding the terms upon which the society lent money. It was generally supposed that borrowers were charged 6 per cent, but it should be understood that those to whom money was advanced also participated in the profits of the society. He had gone very carefully over the figures with the late Mr Husband, and it was found that in no case had the interest upon loans exceeded 4 ¼ or 4 ½ per cent. It was suggested that the repayment of advances might be extended over a period of 20m years instead of 13 as at present, and it was explained that the rules provided for this arrangement, but hitherto it had not been acted upon by any borrowers.

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

POPULAR CONCERT. – The second of a series of fortnightly entertainments given by Mr T. Rees Evans was held on Monday night in the Corn Exchange, which was well filled by a numerous audience, amongst whom, however, were several disorderly boys and young men, who at intervals created a great deal of unnecessary noise and sometimes forgot good manners. There was a choir of about fifty and a number of instrumentalists to minister to the enjoyment of the assembly. The programme began with an orchestra selection “The New and Old Love Waltzes,” by Caroline Lowthian. The performers were: - 1st violins – Messrs Borthwick and Hogg; 2nd violins – Messrs David and Lounton; flute – Mr W. Green; cornet – Mr J. M’Leod; clarinet – Mr M’Leod; cornet – Mr Fairbairn; tympanium and triangle – Sergeant Brock, King’s Own Borderers; harmonium Miss Henderson; pianoforte – Miss Evans. This piece was executed with much care and taste, the voluptuous music receiving at the hand of the performers every justice. Mrs Locke, an amateur from London, then gave “The Swiss Flower Girl” with a due appreciation of the idea conveyed in it and an encore was demanded. She was followed by Mr W. Cook, whose resonant tenor voice was heard to advantage in “The good ship Rover.” The choir then sang “Come to the fair,” from ‘Martha’ by Flotow and the lively music was delivered in such an effective manner as to leave a pleasing impression. Mr W. Green came next with a solo on the flute, “The Bloom is on the

Rye," to pianoforte accompaniment by Miss Evans. This was performed with a fluency and grace that met with much applause. Miss Roxburghe and Miss Spaven succeeded with a duet, "The Flower Gatherers," in which their voices blended harmoniously and produced an agreeable result. The next performer was Mr A. Smith, Tweedmouth, but owing to the offensive reception given to his efforts by a certain [deurqueurs?], the words of his song "Beautiful Summer," could not be heard. The disorderly conduct of some of the audience had by this time become so intolerable and impudent that Mr Evans felt himself called upon to state that he could not think of inviting people to come there and sing if they were to be subjected to such insulting and dastardly treatment. He asked for silence during the delivery of the next item on the programme, which was an orchestral intermezzo – a very beautiful movement. Those who could not appreciate it would he hoped, allow those who could, a remark which elicited sympathetic approval from the sensible part of the audience. The music as performed fully justified the eulogium passed on it by Mr Evans, as the strains possessed a delicate sweetness and melodic charm, which fell gratefully on the ear after the clamour that had gone before. It was greeted with much applause. Thereafter Rev. A.E. Tollemache, Etal, sang an amusing song entitled "Just as Well," which put the audience in good humour, and induced them to recall the vocalist. The choir followed with "Spring's bright glances" from 'La Somnambula' by Bellini. This was sung with a jocund freshness and vigour, which met with much approbation. Mrs Locke followed with another song "Let me dream again," which was well received, but her voice had not sufficient strength to be heard in all parts of the hall. Sergeant Major Fairbairn then performed as a solo on the cornet, "The Better Land," to harmonium accompaniment by Mr W. Green, and this he delivered with much manipulative dexterity and musicianly feeling. It was succeeded by the humorous duet "No Sir," sung by Rev. A.E. Tollemache and Miss A. Henderson, which excited the risible faculties of the audience, and resulted in an encore. Thereafter Miss Roxburghe sang "The ?? Mountains" to pianoforte accompaniment by her [?]. This young lady is improving in her style every time she appears in public, and on this occasion she excelled her previous efforts. The entertainment was brought to a conclusion with the National Anthem. Mr Evans intimated that the last concert of this series would be given on the evening of Shrove Tuesday, and the audience then dispersed. A good deal of indignation was then [the rest of the article is illegible].

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

SALE OF SHARES - On Saturday afternoon Mr J. D. Purves sold by auction in the Corn Exchange, 88 £10 shares in the Berwick Salmon Fisheries Company. There was a numerous attendance of bidders. Mr J.K. Weatherhead, of the firm of Messrs Sanderson & J.K. Weatherhead, solicitors, Berwick, read the conditions of sale, after which Mr Purves offered a few preliminary remarks, in the course of which he said at former occasions like this they had usually been favoured with the presence of Mr M.G. Crossman and Mr G.L. Paulin, the Chairman and Secretary of the Berwick Salmon Fisheries Company. These gentlemen were, however, absent that day, and he was sure he spoke the sentiments of all present when he said that they very much deplored the loss that these gentlemen had sustained, and the circumstances in which they were obliged to be absent. They all very much sympathised with these gentlemen as well as with their families and relatives. Proceedings with the business Mr Purves said if they took the dividends paid by the Berwick Salmon Fisheries Company for a number of years back they would find a very good average dividend. In 1872 it was 25 per cent. Mr Black – 15 of that was a bonus. Mr Purves said that was part of the profit. In 1873 the dividend was 15 per cent; next year 5; next 0; next 2 ½ ; next 5; next 0; next 5; next 0;

next 2 ½ ; next 5; next 4 ½ ; which made for 12 years a total of 69 ½ or an average of 5 ¾ per cent. The Company had now purchases a large number of fisheries which they worked themselves. Bidding then began at £10 a share, and proceeded until £11 15s was reached, when Mr J. K. Weatherhead announced that the sale was open. Bidding was then continued, and reached £12, at which the whole of the 88 shares were knocked down to Councillor R. Boston, Spittal.

February 29, Local News p. 3, column 4.

POPULAR CONCERT – The third and last of the series of these entertainments this season by Mr T. Rees Evans and a company of local amateurs was given on Tuesday night in the Corn Exchange to a numerous audience who, with a few exceptions, were very orderly and attentive to the efforts of the performers to contribute to their enjoyment. In the absence of Mr T. Rees Evans who was lecturing at Coldstream, his place as conductor was ably filled by his son Mr Becket Evans. The programme began with a piece which called the orchestral forces into play. [?] was “Dream Faces,” by Josef Meissler and it was executed by the following performers: - 1st violins – Messrs Borthwick and Hogg; 2nd violins – Messrs Davis and Lounton; flute – Mr W. green; cornet – Mr J. M’Leod; clarinet – Mr M’Leod; viola – Mr Fairbairn; tympanum and triangle – Sergeant Brock, King’s Own Borderers; harmonium – Miss Henderson; pianoforte – Miss Evans. This waltz music was rendered with much taste and skill, the repetition of the rolling passages being varied by vocal accompaniment which made the performance the more effective. It was followed by the chorus “Ye Banks and Braes” harmonised by Sir George Macfarren. The plaintive strains of this well-known piece were developed in a harmonious and pleasing style. Then came a humorous song “The Chimney Corner,” which was sung by Mr Smith, who although not possessing a very telling voice, yet delivered the music with lively and amusing gestures, which excited the risible faculties of the audience, who insisted on an encore. Mr W. Green next performed Sir Henry Bishop’s well-known but difficult air “Bid Me Discourse,” on the flute to pianoforte accompaniment by Miss a’Beckett Evans, with such spirit and facility that the audience would not rest satisfied till he repeated a part. Mr Henry Wood, Tweedmouth, succeeded with the song “Hark the Drum.” This was delivered with true martial effect as it had had both bugle and drum accompaniment. Mr Wood, however, who has been suffering from an affection of the throat, was not at his best, although he sang in a conscientious manner, and the audience would fain have recalled him, but the music was too exacting to permit of an encore. This was succeeded by the trio “Come to the old Oak Tree,” by Mrs Green, Mrs Robson and Mrs T. Rees Evans, whose voices co-mingled in a pleasing manner, and made a good impression on those who listened to them. Miss Charlton next sang “Lillian” to a flute obligato by Mr Green, and to this she did much justice, for which she received hearty applause. Then came another contribution by the orchestra who performed “Olivia” by Roeckel. The [?] or first part was marked by a slow deliberate movement of peculiar rhythm which contrasted finely with the animated passages of the gavotte or second part. The chords of the music were very sweet, and the piece was much appreciated and enjoyed. Mr Smith followed with another humorous song which received as enthusiastic a reception as his first one, and he was again recalled. The chorus then sang “Hark! Music swelling,” from Rossini’s opera Semiramide. The representation of harmony rising and falling amid discordant sounds was finely set forth in this effort, which was the greatest yet performed by the chorus. Mr J. M’Leod succeeded with a solo on the cornet which he executed with much skill and vivacity. The performance so highly pleased the audience that Mr M’Leod was recalled. Mrs Robson next sang “The Land o’ the Leal” in a sympathetic style and with much melodiousness. Mr

Borthwick followed with a gavotte by Reasche, to harmonium accompaniment by Miss Evans. This lively music was executed with a delicacy, crispness and firmness of touch which delighted the audience and secured for the performer an enthusiastic encore. Miss Charlton came next with "Five o'clock in the morning," which was sung with sweetness of tone and spirit. The last song was "My Sweetheart when a Boy" which was delivered by Mr H. Wood with pathos and taste. At this stage Mr W. Green intimated that this would conclude the series of popular concerts for this winter, but as the effort of the performers to please the public, humble though they were, had been appreciated, Mr Evans hoped to resume them next winter. This announcement was greeted with much applause. Mr Green concluded by intimating that the first practice for the Infirmary concert would be held next Wednesday night in the long room of the Corn Exchange. The entertainment was brought to a conclusion with the National Anthem. In the course of the proceedings the pipers of the King's Own Borderers, by the kind permission of Colonel Dela Fose, C.B., performed a selection of airs, to which the audience beat time with their feet. We regret to say that a few efforts were made to disturb the concert, but these fortunately failed. Some persons at one time allowed a pigeon to escape and fly in the room; while at another they set fire to a cracker, which flew about and discharged itself in a corner of the hall. The pigeon, after fluttering against the wall in a state of fright, sank down in the gallery, where it was quietly pocketed by a lady. We are glad to say that the temper of the audience generally, was decidedly against these dastardly and indecent attempts on the part of ill-bred persons to interrupt their enjoyment, and the cries of "Put him out," which greeted the author of these silly freaks, ought to convince them that if they persist in what is likely to become an intolerable nuisance, they will receive as little consideration at the hands of the public as they seem to have for others. An example made of one or two offenders would have a wonderful effect in [over-swing?] the rest, and unless there is better behaviour at our public entertainments this will have to be done.

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

Lecture – A course of lectures to the 1st Bat. of Tweed Artillery Volunteers, was commenced in the Long Room of the Corn Exchange on Tuesday night. The lecturer was Captain Darling, who discussed upon "Military Tactics" in an able style. On the motion of Captain Caverhill a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Captain Darling.

March 21, Front Page, column 3.

Choral Union Concert. The committee of the Choral Union beg to announce that their annual concert will be given in the Corn Exchange on the evening of Monday March 31st, 1884. The programme will include part songs, glees, duets and songs. Conductor Mr Barker. Accompanist Mrs Barker assisted by a local orchestra consisting of the leading amateurs of the district. Doors open at half past seven o'clock. Concert at 8. Carriages may be ordered at 10.

April 4, p. 2, column 2.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. To be sold by auction in front of the Corn Exchange, on Saturday, 12th April, 1884. A quantity of hay forks, grapes, manure forks, spades, shovels &c. James J. Oswald, auctioneer.

April 4, Local News p. 3, column 4.

CHORAL UNION CONCERT – During the winter hat has just gone, it seemed at one time as if there would be no effort on the part of local musical amateurs to revive the societies that formerly flourished in our midst. Happily, however, this prospect was falsified, and during the last two months we have had a fair share of concerts conducted entirely by local talent. First, Mr T. Rees Evans, organist of the Parish Church, inaugurated his fortnightly entertainments, which were a great success. His efforts were speedily followed by the resurrection of the Choral Union and it is the concert of this society which we have now to notice. Although the members did not commence practice until a short time ago they set to work with a will, and in consequence of the thorough training which they had previously experienced from their painstaking and efficient conductor, Mr Benjamin Barker, they were enabled in this short time at their disposal, to master the music submitted for study, especially as it was comparatively easy after the severe task of learning such oratorios as “Elijah,” “the Creation,” and “the Messiah,” in previous years. The concert took place on Monday evening in the Corn Exchange, which was filled by a large and appreciative audience. The entertainment possessed a certain novel interest in the fact that it was to introduce to the public for the first time the Berwick Orchestral Society, which was recently formed under Bandmaster Sergeant Fairbairn of the Northumberland Artillery Militia. Its full strength on this occasion, however, was not represented, as only the following performers took part in the concert: - First fiddles – Mr T. Borthwick; Mr Hogg; Mr R. Lumsden, Shoreswood. Second fiddles – Mr W. L. Miller; Mr Robertson; Mr Lounton; Mr Davis. Flute – Mr Green. Clarinette – Mr B. Weatherhead. Violincello – Mr W. Weatherhead. Double basses – Mr R. Weddell; Mr Renwick. Cornet – Mr Fairbairn. Drum – Sergeant Brock, K.O.B. The vocalists and instrumentalists were accommodated on a sloping platform at the east end of the room, and numbered in all about 80. The programme began with the overture “La Couronne d’Or,” in the performance of which the orchestra proved their facility of execution and musical taste. The other piece which the instrumentalists gave by themselves was a valse “My Queen,” from melodies by Bucalossie, and this was delivered with much spirit, the recurring passages being very suggestive of the revolutions of the dance. The efforts of the orchestra, barring a slight discord once or twice, were very creditable, considering the short time they have been in practice. The choristers had seven pieces allotted to them, and they discharged their work in an able manner. Regarding the robustness of their singing or the correctness of their intonation no fault could be found, but we should have liked their modulation to have been more accentuated in the pianissimo passages, because it is in the softness of expression that the highest musical art is to be found, and the most pleasing or striking effects are to be obtained. With this exception we have no fault to find with the united efforts of the vocalists, who acquitted themselves admirably and enunciated the words of the music with much distinctness. The first chorus “The song to Pan” was sung with an enthusiasm and fervour worthy of an invocation to the god of nature; while the glee, “Once upon my cheek,” afforded the singers an opportunity of displaying their skill in taking up the fugal passages. The part song “The Nightingale” was very sweetly sung, and reminded one of the dulcet and plaintive notes of the midnight warbler. “Moonlight on the lake” was given with refreshing vigour, its effect being heightened by the orchestral accompaniment which was very suggestive of the dancing waves and [?] of the wind. The part song “Hark! The convent Bells” was sung with devotional feeling, while “The Fisherman” was delivered with joyousness and freedom which savoured of a life on the ocean. The last chorus was in support of a solo sung by Miss Roxburgh, and Mr J. Cowe. It was “Goodnight farewell,” and came very appropriately at the end of the entertainment. It was sung in a pleasing manner. The first solo singer was Sergeant

Rowe of the Northumberland Artillery Militia, who delivered the song "Too late," with a pathos and clearness of pronunciation, which found much favour with the audience, who insisted upon an encore. Sergeant Rowe should avoid slurring some of his notes. Miss Paton afterwards sang "Two Children," but this song did not seem to be appreciated, although Miss Paton rendered it with much taste and skill. Miss Roxburgh followed with "The Lover and the Bird," which proved more acceptable. She delivered this song with a suavity of tone and agility of voice that secured for her an encore. Mr J. Cowe came next with the nautical song "I'm afloat," which he gave with an abandon and absence of affectation that might be imitated by some other musical amateurs, who aim at what they consider style and consequently suffer from artificial restraint. Mr Cowe sang with much naturalness, and his effort was a great success, despite a slight tendency to unduly emphasise unimportant words or syllables. He received an enthusiastic encore. Mr A. Paton, junior, succeeded with "The Oak and the Ivy," in which his mellow voice was heard to advantage. Miss Robson sang "Kilkarney," and gave proof of a good voice, but it was not in tune with the accompaniment, which somewhat marred the effect. She was, however, recalled, and did better in her second effort. Mr T. Richardson followed with "Macgregor's Gathering," which he delivered with martial energy and fire. The singer was in good voice and we have never heard him sing better than when he delivered "the White Squall," in response to an irresistible encore. In both songs his clarion tones and distinctness of enunciation were very marked. The programme included a trio "Maiden Fair," by Messrs P. Richardson, A. and R. Paton, but, although the music was good, and it was sung conscientiously, it failed to make much impression on the audience. The duet "The flight of the swallows" by Misses Paton and Roxburgh, was a somewhat severe test of the powers of the vocalists, and some of the passages were not effectively sung, but on the whole the piece was creditably rendered. The entertainment was brought to a conclusion by the singing of the National Anthem. We must not omit to mention that Mr Barker proved an efficient conductor, as he kept the performers well under control; while Miss Barker, who made her debut as accompanist, gave much satisfaction and promise of greater deeds in the future.

April 25, p. 2, column 1.

Infirmary Concert, Corn Exchange, Berwick, Tuesday evening next. Carefully selected programme of choral and orchestral music. Reserved seats and gallery, 2s; body of hall, 1s; back seats, 6d. Tickets at all booksellers.

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

The Infirmary Concert. This entertainment is to be given in the Corn Exchange on Tuesday night when a varied programme of vocal and instrumental music will be performed. Several Scotch and Irish airs will be given, these forming a distinctive feature of the programme, while the orchestral contribution will be more elaborate than is normally the case. We hope that the benevolent object for which the concert is given will appeal to the sympathies of the public, and that the entertainment will be enjoyed by a large audience.

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

LOCAL GOSSIP. The Infirmary Concert this week will probably terminate for a season the entertainments given at Berwick by native talent. It is a matter for regret that the cultivation of music should have, until the latter part of the winter, been so much neglected, and that in consequence no societies for pursuing the art of singing should have flourished in our midst. But for the example set by Mr T. Rees Evans in holding fortnightly entertainments, it is extremely doubtful whether the Choral Union would have been revived; however the former seemed to act as a stimulus, and therefore we have had not only a concert by the latter society, but also an entertainment this week on behalf of Berwick Infirmary. For this the services of all local amateurs were invited, but only about seventy offered. When a concert in aid of the same institution was last given the number of performers was much larger and most of the church choirs in the town came forward. On this occasion very few have done so. However, the fact that the Choral Union at their annual concert could only muster something like 80 or 90 performers shows that there is not the same enthusiasm for music as was experienced some years ago, when not only the Choral Union flourished, but the Tonic Sol-Fa Association and Mr T. Rees Evan's class were in existence. At that time it would be no exaggeration to say that these had a membership of 250. What is the cause of the declension? No doubt many young men and women in Berwick might be classed as a shifting population, and therefore several who were members of musical societies have left the town, which, in fact, is to a large extent a nursery for others. But although many who were members of local musical societies have left Berwick, others come up to take their place. If they do not study music like their predecessors, this neglect of a fine art on their part is to be regretted, as there can be little doubt that they would be benefitted by attention to it. Next winter an effort will be made to increase the cultivation of music in the town, as we are promised a continuation of the fortnightly concerts inaugurated by Mr T. Rees Evans, for which the public who appreciate entertainments should be grateful; while it is probable the Choral Union will make an early start.

May 23. P. 2, column 1.

Berwick Corn Exchange shares (two) for sale. Apply to Romanes & Munro C.A.46 Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

May 23, p. 2, column 1.

Long Room, Corn Exchange, Berwick, sale of lace curtains &c. Mr James J. Oswald will sell by auction as above on Tuesday first, 27th May, a large consignment of new lace window curtains in white ecru and colours consigned direct from Messrs Samuel Peach & Son, Nottingham, the manufacturers, consisting of curtain nets, anti-macassars, ottoman and couch covers, window valances, table covers, counterpanes, d'oyles &c. All perfectly new and unsoiled. Sale at 2 and 7 o'clock prompt. On view morning of sale.

June 6, p.2, column 2.

The Equitable Building Society, Berwick-upon-Tweed. The annual general meeting of the society will be held in the committee room, Corn Exchange, Berwick-upon-Tweed, on the morning of Monday first, 9th June 1884, at half past seven o'clock.

Ralph Dixon, secretary.

The society continues to advance money on approved security.

June 13, Local News p. 3, column 6.

EQUITABLE BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY. – The annual general meeting of this society was held on Monday night in the Corn Exchange. Mr T. Morallee presided. The half-yearly accounts, a summary of which appeared in the *Advertiser* last week, were approved of and adopted. These showed that while £7390 1s 7d represented the present value of 592 ordinary shares, there had been advanced £7425, of which there had been repaid £3869 2s 11d. The net extra profits had been £643 11s, and the society consisted of 103 members, holding 889 shares, of which 297 are advanced. The retiring directors, Messrs Dunlop, Rea, Ross and Shrimpton were re-elected, while Messrs John Garden and J. Hickey was [sic] chosen to fill two vacancies at the Board, caused by directors ceasing to hold the necessary qualification. The Chairman read a letter from Mr A. Robertson, Wellington Terrace, tendering his resignation as President of the Society. It was agreed to accept this, and a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr Robertson for his past services. The Chairman said the next business was the taking into consideration the expediency of obtaining a certificate of Incorporation of the Society, under the Building Societies Act, 1874. It was stated that the benefit to be derived by this was that it would facilitate the working of the Society. As there were some doubts whether the individual liability of the members might be affected by the change, it was decided to re-consider the subject at an adjourned meeting. The Secretary, Mr Ralph Dixon, then proceeded to read a set of new rules which had been prepared to increase the usefulness of the Society, but full discussion of these could not be completed that evening, and the consideration of some had to be deferred till another meeting.

August 29, p. 2 column 2.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. Monday Oct. 6th. The Fisk University Jubilee Singers. (E.J. Loudin, Manager).

September 26, Front Page.

Return of the original Fisk University Jubilee Singers in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Monday 6th October 1884, under distinguished patronage. Slave songs, quaint melodies, and weird. Tickets: Gallery and front seats (reserved and numbered), 3s; second seats, 2s; third seats and promenade, 1s. Tickets and plan of the hall at Mr A. Paton, bookseller, High Street. Doors open at 7:30. To commence at 8.

September 26, Local News p. 3, column 3.

THE JUBILEE SINGERS. – It is now thirteen years since this company was originally organised from the students of Fisk University, for the purpose of relieving the school of a debt which was then resting upon them. All the members of the original company had, we

believe, been slaves, and many of them had been bought and sold. Their experience during the interval has been of a varied and most flattering character; for, not only have they been welcomed with the utmost cordiality by crowded audiences, but they have appeared before many of the Sovereigns of Europe and four of the Presidents of the United States of America. Since the formation of the company it has undergone various changes, by which it has been materially strengthened and it now consists of eleven persons, amongst whom are many of the old favourites. Miss Mattie L. Lawrence sings the soprano solos with great ability, and possesses a voice rich in tone and of great compass. The music of their "spirituals" or sacred songs is quaint and weird, and the harmony is very fine, and the balance of parts almost, if not quite perfect. The Jubilee Singers are announced to re-appear in the Corn Exchange on the 6th Oct., and we anticipate for them a hearty welcome.

October 3, Front Page , column 7.

Corn Exchange, Berwick. Saturday (tomorrow) 4th October at 1 o'clock Mr Ralph Dixon will sell by auction as above a very superior consignment of Haarlem flower bulbs.

2, St. Mary's Place, Berwick, 3rd Oct, 1884.

October 10, Local News p. 3, column 2.

THE JUBILEE SINGERS – On Monday night these vocalists gave an entertainment in the Corn Exchange, which was packed by a numerous and highly appreciative audience. Owing to some defect in the arrangements it was a good while before all the people got seated and the singers appeared on the platform. There were, as on the last visit of the vocalists, four sopranos, two contraltos, two tenors and two basses. The singers appeared to even more advantage on this occasion, as the long experience they have had enabled them to exhibit more judgement and taste in the management and control of their voices. The programme consisted primarily of slave songs or spiritual melodies, sung by negroes when captives in the Southern States of America. The Jubilee Singers seem to have brought the art of pianissimo vocalisation to perfection, as in some of their songs the music became scarcely audible, though at other times it was thundered forth like the sound of a mighty cataract.

"For its tones by turn were glad,

Sweetly solemn, wildly sad."

A very fine effect was produced by the soft and dulcet tones of the singers dying away to cadences no louder than whispers. Some old favourites again appeared on the programme, such as "Steal away to Jesus," "There's a meeting here tonight," "Roll Jordan Roll," &c. In the middle of the first part Mr Loudin sang "Friend of the Brave," in which his powerful and resonant bass voice was heard to much advantage. In response to a cordial encore he gave "I love a hearty good laugh," which received even more favour. The second part began with a part song entitled "Bells," in which the "jingle jangle," was very faithfully imitated. The song "John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave," was also sung as being appropriate to the cause of freedom. Its delivery was very different from the vulgar interpretation we occasionally hear in the streets. Many of the songs were enthusiastically encored. In the course of the evening opportunity was taken to offer for sale a volume containing a history of the lives of the Jubilee Singers, and the music of their songs.

October 17, Front Page, column 1.

Berwick-upon-Tweed Liberal Association Reform demonstration. Franchise Bill. An open-air demonstration will be held at Berwick-upon-Tweed on Saturday afternoon, 18th October, 1884. A procession will be formed in Castlegate at half-past two o'clock, and march through the principal streets of the borough; thereafter a meeting will be held in the Corn Exchange at five o'clock when resolutions will be submitted. All are invited to attend whether electors or not. N.B. The gallery in the Corn Exchange will be reserved for ladies. Several of the farmers and employers in the district have kindly consented to grant their employees a half holiday on the occasion.

Berwick-upon-Tweed, October, 1884. James Allan, President.

Rob. Weddell, Hon. Sec.

October 17, Front Page, column 3.

Issue of shares. The directors of the Berwick Corn Exchange Company (limited) offer for public subscription, at not less than par, 42 un-allotted £10 shares in the same company. The shares to bear date of 1st January, 1885, and to be paid in full on that date. Application to be made to the secretary on or before October 22nd, after which the directors will proceed to allot the shares.

By order of the directors. R. Thompson, Secretary

Berwick-upon-Tweed, 4th October, 1884.

October 17, p. 2, column 1.

To the electors of Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal and polling district of Berwick.. Earl Percy, M.P.; Sir M.W. Ridley, M.P.; and Col. Milne Home, M.P., will address the electors in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Wednesday the 22nd instant at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7. Watson Askew Esq. in the chair. Admission by ticket. Tickets to be had of Messrs H.G. M'Creath; Wm. Weatherhead; H.A. Peters; L.W. Logan; Geo. Moor; Ralph Thompson; Joseph Park; S.M. Cook; E. Willoby, junior; H.E. Nicholson; T.H. Pattison, and George Payne, Corn Exchange. The gallery is reserved for ladies.

Berwick, October 1884. W.M. Weatherhead, Hon. Sec.

H. Alder Peters, Hon. Sec.

October 24, p. 2, column 5.

BERWICK. On Wednesday night Earl Percy, M.P., Sir Matthew White Ridley, M.P., and Colonel Milne Home, M.P., addressed a meeting in the Corn Exchange. The large hall, which accommodates about 2000 people, was crowded, and amongst those present was a considerable number of Liberals. The gallery was occupied solely by ladies. Admission to the

meeting was by ticket. The Corn Exchange was prettily decorated for the occasion, the platform and background being draped with crimson, relived with a motto "Peace with honour," and the walls and front of the gallery being ornamented with the national colours. The chair was occupied by Mr Watson Askew of Pallinsburn, who was supported by Earl Percy, SIR Matthew White Ridley, Colonel Milne Home, Ald. James Allan (Mayor of Berwick), Captain Forbes, R.N., Sheriff of Berwick, Captain Norman, R.N.; Colonel De La Fossier, commanding 25th Regimental District; Major Shirley; Captain Romanes, King's Own Borderers; Colonel Foster, Sarson Seal; Mr M'Creath, Berwick; Mr A.R. Lowrey, Councillor L.T. Fleming; Mr Nicholson; Mr S.H. Smith, Galagate House, Norham; Mr R.G. Bolam, and other gentlemen. The leading occupants of the platform were loudly cheered as they entered the hall.

Earl Percy M.P. on rising was received with loud cheers. The demonstration he said that had taken place during the last few months, however, easily they might have been got up by both sides had done an [?] [?] of good (Cheers). It was worthy of remark that the first instance which had occurred when he had had the honour of a seat in Parliament [next five line illegible] – it was worthy of note that the first attempt of this kind during recent years should have originated in the great centre of Radicalism, in that paradise of the Radical party, Birmingham - (cheers) – and that a Cabinet Minister should be found to excuse such a proceeding – ("shame") – He was afraid that the example of Birmingham was being taken up in more places than one. They had had something like rowdyism at Coventry; they had had something like an attempt to stifle free expression of opinion at Giusborough; and only yesterday they had had a most determined and, he would say, a most cowardly attack at Dumfries upon Lord Salisbury. (Cheers.). When their opponents condescended to conduct of that kind, he thought he must assume that the Conservative arguments had been found to be un-answerable. Proceedings to justify the action of the House of Lords in reference to the Franchise Bill, he asked what was the present state of political affairs in this country? They had now at the head of affairs a Prime Minister – (loud cheers) – whom the Liberal party was never tired of reminding us was the most powerful Minister that had been at the head of affairs during a great number of years. He was powerful at any rate in this, that he commanded a very large majority in the House of Commons – (hear,hear) – and in that he had a power over the seats of the Liberal members – a power which was conferred on him by the working of the Caucus. (laughter and cheers). There were multitudes of liberal members who dare not take an independent course – (hisses and counter cheers) – if they ever hoped to be returned again to the House of Commons. Because of these reasons, and of course, he admitted because of that eloquence and these talents which they must all admire – (cheers) – the Prime Minister was the most powerful Minister of the Crown who had for many years held place. Now, what had the action of the House of Lords been? The House of Lords had had a bill sent up to them conferring the franchise on certain large classes of the people, but not securing the right of the people of exercising that the franchise in a fair and just manner. They refused to pass it till they should see the scheme of redistribution which the Government had in hand, and he asked them whether, if they were to have a Second Chamber at all, it was possible for it to act with less power than the House of Lords had exercised? (Cheers.) In conclusion, he claimed for the Conservative party that they were acting in the interests of every man and every class in this country. (Cheers.)

Colonel Milne Home, M.P., who was received with cheers, alluding to the statement so frequently made on Liberal platforms, that the House of Lords had rejected the Franchise Bill, and were bent on denying to the people their rights, said the policy of the Liberal party throughout this agitation had been a policy of misrepresentation. They remembered the saying, "A lie that is part truth is very difficult to fight." This was exemplified in the agitation

against the House of Lords. The House of Lords and the Conservative party did not want to stop the Franchise Bill; they desired it to pass – (cheers) – but only on such conditions as would secure fair play to the people. (Oh, oh, and cheers). If this bill were passed as it was, they would do a great deal of injustice, not only to the people who possessed the franchise, but to those whom they proposed to enfranchise. (A voice – “Give us the bill,” laughter and cheers.) Had any of those before him received or accepted an invitation to Dalmeny, the seat of the Earl of Rosebery, on a recent occasion? Lord Rosebery had a great meeting there, and he was informed that on the back of the cards of invitation were written three noble watchwords – Retrenchment, Industry, Peace.” (Cheers) But take them as a text, and ask how, in the first place, retrenchment had been carried out by the present Government? If the Prime Minister, whom they cheered so much (loud cheers) – were here, or his henchman, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he would ask them how much more cheaply they had conducted the affairs of the country than their predecessors? But he would appeal to the pockets of the people and ask the taxpayers of Berwick if their taxes were any less during the Liberal administration than before? (A voice – “More,” and laughter) Exactly: more. (Hisses and counter cheers) But he could tell them where they had retrenched – in reducing the navy to starvation point; and in the army he could tell them where there was absolute waste. There was a vote at this moment, the non-effective vote, as it was called, of £500,000 a year, that might have been saved entirely if they had only left promotion and appointment of the officers as it used to be in former times. Take the next watchword, “Industry,” and he maintained that under this Government trade was languishing, (A voice “what was it in 1879”) thousands of people were out of work at Newcastle, Sunderland, Glasgow and other great centres of population, and all the while the Government were encouraging the giving of large and important contracts to foreign countries. Agriculture was in a like condition. It was high time that the great question of protection of our own trade against other countries should be looked into. He was in favour of free trade, but let trade be free, and don’t let it be unfair. Let it be thoroughly free all round, because if it is not free all round, it is not fair. (Hear, hear) The third great watchword was “Peace”. It was one of the strangest things in the world that this Government should claim peace as the result of their policy or achievements. The country had never been free from war since the present Government entered upon office, and the country seemed to be getting deeper and deeper involved every day everywhere throughout the world. (cheers.)

Sir Matthew White Ridley, M.P., reviewed the leading features of the recent agitation, and said the outcome of that agitation was first that the question before the country was now more thoroughly understood; and secondly, that the House of Lords had been strengthened in the position which it took up in August. (Cheers.) He defended the action of the House of Lords in regard to the Franchise Bill. Speaking of the policy of the Government with respect to Ireland, he had noticed with pleasure the promotion of Mr Trevelyan (cheers) to Cabinet rank (renewed cheers). He congratulated him and he congratulated him further upon having ceased to be Chief Secretary for Ireland (Cheers.) He did not congratulate Ireland, because, though a political opponent of Mr Trevelyan, he hoped he recognised the courageous manner in which he had endeavoured to face, and had faced the great and difficult problem of the Government of that country (Cheers.) He admitted to the full the administrative ability, personal courage, even of both Lord Spencer and Mr Trevelyan, and it was a good thing that they in Northumberland were able to congratulate themselves that Mr Trevelyan as a Northumbrian, if not by birth, at least by inheritance, that he was one of themselves. (Cheers.) But as regards the policy of the Government in Ireland, when he recalled Mr Gladstone’s description of the tranquillity that reigned there when he assumed office in 1880 and the chaos, crimes and agitation that prevailed since; when he recalled the Coercion Act, the strongest ever

employed to keep down a rebellious people, he could not help asking what the result of their policy had been. Speaking of the Franchise Bill agitation, he said if the Government should see their way to propose a scheme of redistribution which could be made the basis of a fair plan, he trusted and believed it would be fairly and adequately discussed, not only by the Conservative party in the House of Commons, but by the House of Lords. If that was done there would be no difficulty in the position at all. There was adequate time to lay both Franchise and Redistribution Bills together before Parliament; and if the Government should do that, he ventured to say that the Franchise Bill would not take long in passing the House of Commons, and that a considerable portion of the session might be devoted to redistribution and to other useful measures of legislation. (Cheers)

On the motion of Councillor M'Creath, seconded by Captain Norman, R.N., a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the speakers, and a similar compliment to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

October 24, p. 5, column 4.

GREAT MEETING IN THE CORN EXCHANGE. At the Corn Exchange there was placed in front of the gallery the following inscriptions "Peace, retrenchment and reform," "Time is on our side," "Junior Liberal Club," and a portrait of Mr Gladstone in the middle. In front of the recess on the north side was a banner, on which was painted "England expects every man to do his duty," At each side of the platform were other flags. On one was "Grey -Liberty, prosperity and peace," on the other "Civil, religious, and commercial liberty." The procession reached the Corn Exchange fully half an hour before the time announced for the commencement of the public meeting, and the patience and good humour with which the large assemblage waited until the speakers made their appearance, was worthy of all praise. On the platform were the Mayor of Berwick, President of the Liberal Association (in the chair); Mr Jerningham, M.P.; Hon. E. Marjoribanks, M.P.; Sir Edward Grey, Bart, Falloden; Mr George Weatherhead, Berwick; Mr George Laidler, Tweedmouth; and Mr Robert Boston, Spittal, Vice-Presidents of the Liberal Association; Rev. J. Smith, M.A., Berwick; Rev. R.C. Inglis, M.A., Berwick; Rev. A. Alexander, M.A., Spittal; Mr T. Allan, Horncliffe House; Mr W. Alder, Berwick; Mr Craik, Berwick; Mr D. Tait, Scremerston; Mr Nesbit, Bridge Street; Mr J. Black, Tweedmouth; Mr R. Weddell, Honorary Secretary to Berwick Liberal Association; Mr A. Paton, Berwick; Dr Richardson, R.N., Berwick; Dr Paxton, Berwick; Mr W. Easton, Donaldson's Lodge; Mr John Brown, Ancroft; Mr H. Morrill, Tweedmouth Station; Ald. A. Darling, Berwick; Mr John Clay, Kerchester; Mr Hindmarsh, Beal; Mr Clark, Belford, &c. As each of these mounted the platform they were greeted with hearty applause.

The Mayor said - At the last General Election the leaders of the Liberal Party pledged themselves to bring forward at the first convenient opportunity, a Franchise Bill which would place those residing in counties upon the same footing as those resident in boroughs. (Applause) Her Majesty's Government duly redeemed this pledge last Session by introducing a bill to that effect, which, after a long and weary struggle against obstruction of every kind, was at last triumphantly carried in the House of Commons, showing once more, that now, the same as fifty-two years ago, the Liberal Party takes the lead in all matters of Reform extending the rights of the people. (Applause). This Franchise Bill, as passed by the House of Commons, provided for the enfranchisement of two millions of our fellow countrymen, who, by every law of justice and equity, are entitled to have votes for the election of members of

Parliament, and this Bill should have been the law of the land at the present moment, but when the Bill was sent to the House of Lords, the Conservative Party there unfortunately rejected it, which has caused an immense amount of discontent and dissatisfaction throughout the whole country. In consequence of this there have been an immense number of demonstrations all over the country – demonstrations of different kinds – some got up by means of picnics, cheap trips, cheap refreshments and cheap firework. The demonstration of today is not only an unqualified success, but is entirely the spontaneous action of those who have taken part in it, without canvassing or solicitation of any kind or nature whatever, and it has been specially gratifying to see amongst us today so many of the veterans who took part in the demonstrations and rejoicings when the Reform Bill was passed in 1832. To them I beg to offer, on behalf of our Liberal Association, and of all present, our most hearty thanks for their presence and sympathy on this occasion. (Applause.) We are assembled here for the purpose of having certain resolutions submitted, and, if approved of, thereby adding our testimony to the huge mountain of evidence already accumulated, showing that the nation is thoroughly in earnest in desiring that this Franchise Bill should forthwith become the law of the land. I have no doubt that the resolutions to be submitted will receive your hearty approval, so that they may be forwarded to Mr Gladstone, and thereby give all the moral support in our power to strengthen the hands of Her Majesty's Government in this great national crisis (Applause.) The House of Commons will again assemble in a few days for the special purpose of passing another Franchise Bill, and I am sure we earnestly hope that when it is again sent to the House of Lords the Conservative party there will be so well advised as to reconsider their former decision with regard to the Franchise question, and endeavour to act more in conformity and more in harmony with the strongly expressed will of the nation. We are to have the pleasure of hearing several speakers on this occasion, to all of them I confidently expect you will give a calm, patient and attentive hearing (Applause.) Before proceeding with the business of the meeting I may mention that the Committee of the Liberal Association invited several other gentlemen to be present, who, however, from other engagements were unable to attend, and Mr Weddell will be pleased to read their replies (Applause.)

Mr Wedell then read the following letter from Sir W. Crossman: -

Portsmouth, 15th Oct. 1884.

My dear Mr Allan – I have received a notice of the intended open air demonstration in favour of the Franchise Bill, to be held at Berwick on Saturday next. I regret extremely that I shall not be able to be present to express my entire sympathy with the object of the meeting; I trust that no action on the part of the House of Lords, when the bill is again sent to them, will cause any further delay in granting to those dwellers in the country districts, who are at present disenfranchised, those constitutional rights to which they are entitled.

I presume you will be Chairman of the meeting, but if any other gentleman is in that position, I hope you will hand this letter to him.

Yours sincerely,

Signed W. Crossman.

James Allan, Esq., President of Berwick-upon-Tweed Liberal Association.

Apologies for absence were also read from Mr John Morley, M.P., Mr T. Butt, M.P.; Mr G.A. Grey, Milfield; and Mr Thomas Rule, Norham.

Mr A Taylor, Berryburn, moved the following resolution: - That this meeting desires to declare its [una.....ted?] confidence in the Right Honourable William Ewart Gladstone and Her Majesty's present Liberal Government; also to express an earnest hope that the Government will, by every constitutional means in their power, carry on the contest until the Franchise Bill is passed into law, and justice is done to those of our fellow countrymen who at present are deprived of the votes which they are entitled to possess. He said the large company there present proved that the demonstration of that day had been a great success (Applause.) We had not yet forgotten what Lord Salisbury said some time ago that the people did not desire the extension of the franchise. If Lord Salisbury had been present that day he would have been greatly disappointed; he would have seen many labouring men with sun-burnt faces anxiously looking for the extension of the franchise (Applause.) The question might be asked "What good will it do the labouring classes if they were admitted to the civil and political privileges of the country? Well, that remained to be proved, and time should do that; but they said a vote was their right, and they demanded it. (Applause.) They, as labouring men, were loyal subjects, they loved their sovereign, they respected the laws, and why should they not be enfranchised? They would get the suffrage, however, and that very soon, too. The signs of the times pointed in that direction, (Applause.) The Conservatives said they ought to have it, but instead of urging it forward they began to argue about the redistribution of seats. They feared that if two million of working men were added to the list of voters, many more Liberal members would be sent to Parliament. (Applause.) The working men did desire the franchise, although he admitted there might be some who after a heavy day's work could think of nothing but sleep. As the old rhyme put it

They eat, they work, they sleep. What then?

They wake to eat and work again.

However, their noses were not always at the grindstone; they had at times leisure to think, and then they demanded their rights as men to send representatives to the House of Commons. (Applause.)

Mr Wm. Easton, Donaldson's Lodge, said that as a working man, and one representing a large class of citizens who ought to have political rights, he was glad to see that they would never be content until they had their due. Why should those who live in the country not have the same privilege as their fellow working men in the town? Were they less capable of exercising the right which the franchise would give them? Did they not contribute to the wealth of this great nation to which they belonged? Were they not as loyal to the Crown as the men who lived in the town? The thing could not rest longer in its present position. He believed that the present Liberal Government would persistently carry on the work until the two millions of men were enfranchised, and had justice done to them. The resolution just read gave expression to confidence in our noble Prime Minister, (Applause), and he believed that in his hands their cause was sure to succeed (Applause.) It seemed very strange that the franchise as it stood should give a man a vote at one time, and take it from him at another. That was the position he had been in. Some years ago he had a vote simply because he paid a certain amount of rent, but because he turned his attention in another direction, he lost his political right, not because his judgement was warped, not because his reason had lost its throne, not because he loved his country less, not because he was not so capable of exercising his mental powers. If they were to have the franchise at all, they must stand by the present Government (Applause.) They, however, must go in for the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill. (Applause)

Mr Jerningham, M.P., who on rising to support the resolution was loudly cheered, said it was the duty of every man calling himself a Liberal, and especially the duty of every member of Parliament who gave his support to Mr Gladstone – (Cheers) – not to lose an opportunity of addressing a Liberal audience and more especially for the members of various places in England to address their constituencies on the subject of the franchise. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He congratulated them on coming there that day in such numbers, because there was nothing more eloquent than numbers, which pointed to a purpose, to a desire, and to a will. The purpose was to carry out that franchise; the wish was that it should be carried out; and the will was that they must have it – (cheers) – and he wanted to impress upon them that it was by assemblages of that particular kind that the Government was enabled, through the voice of the press, to know what the feeling was in each portion of England. They had had demonstrations of a Liberal character all over England, and it was meet and proper and essential that they should have one there, as they were in that quarter the connecting link between Liberal Scotland and Liberal England. (Cheers.) Well, he had said they were the connecting link, and he would add they were a powerful link. They gave him no uncertain answer when he asked them three years ago to send him to Parliament and support the extension of the franchise, and he could assure them he had never missed being present at a single division on the franchise bill. (Cheers.) If the Conservatives, he said, for political purposes of their own, during the administration of Lord Beaconsfield gave a vote to householders in boroughs, it became an absolute necessity not to create distinction between Englishmen who lived outside the boroughs – it might be a yard from the borough boundaries – and those who lived in the boroughs – (hear, hear) – and as Liberals they could not admit that there was any difference in intellect, power or right between those living in the outskirts of the borough and those residing within the borough. They were all equal before the law, and they ought to be equal regarding their rights. (Hear, hear, and cheers) Mr Jerningham then went on to contend that the House of Lords was justified in throwing out the Franchise Bill. The House of Lords had refused the measure because it was not complete, but he held that the Government wisely saw that as the House of Commons was at present constituted, it was absolutely impossible to reconcile all interests and do justice to all desires by introducing the two bills at the same time. (Cheers) When he looked into the matter he could not conceive that the Government could have done more, and assuredly if the Government were supposed by their adversaries to have been able to have done more, they had an equal right to consider that the Government had done as much as they could; and why, he asked, should they give in to their adversaries if they thought so? (Cheers) He should be extremely sorry if the government, having done, as he believed, ample justice in the circumstances, gave in one single inch now. (Cheers) It was there that the will came in; they must will that they must not give way. The House of Lords had hitherto had this great merit; it had recognised what was really wanted by the people; but then it had been guided hitherto by men not so [?] and so enthusiastic of themselves as the present [?]. The present Conservative leader of the House of Lords was a man of great eloquence, great talent, and great cleverness – (hear, hear, from Mr Hills on the platform) – but the more eloquent and clever he was, and the more talent he possessed, the less he was justified in opposing the will of the people. (Cheers.) The passing of the Franchise Bill meant two millions of capital with which the Conservatives would like to meddle. They wished by unconstitutional means to dissolve Parliament and upon the present register obtain a majority, owing to some misfortune which had occurred in Egypt or elsewhere. The people, however, should not be blinded by such objections. (Applause.) In conclusion, he asked them to be in earnest that the resolution which had been put to them meant that they had confidence in the Government and that they believed the extension of the Franchise to be necessary, and the objections to the Bill futile. (Loud cheers.)

Sir Edward Grey said he could not hope to advance any arguments as worthy as those the audience had heard already, but there was one thing he could do, and which most Tory speakers did not do – that was to confine himself to what he really believed was the true point at issue and that only. (Applause.) When first the present Franchise Bill was introduced into Parliament, the point at issue stood out clearly enough, but since then a number of persons had raised a vast number of arguments, not on the main principle of the bill but on certain side issues and details which he ventures to say were totally beside the real question which the country had now to consider. (Applause.) It seemed to him that the real point was this. The Franchise was extended to the boroughs in 1867 – but not to the counties, and for the last 17 years there had been certain just dues owing to the men of the counties. The best thing therefore was to make reparation as soon as possible. This could only be done by the passing of the Franchise Bill, and the simplest way for that measure to become law, was by both parties agreeing together and co-operating solidly in its support. If the parties failed to agree, and that was the fault of each, they were both equally to blame, but if one party had done all they could to bring about an agreement, and the other had refused to meet them half way, then they were totally to blame. (Applause.) The first objection the Conservatives offered was that they were afraid the Redistribution Bill would not be passed in time. Mr Gladstone, in deference to the scruples of the House of Lords, made a private offer through Earl Granville to Lord Cairns, in which he proposed to overcome that by a special autumn session, so that the House of Commons would have had the whole of 1885 to pass the Redistribution Bill. Many thought this a fair offer, and Lord Weymss brought forward a resolution on the subject, but the Tories would not have that motion at all. Lord Hartington only the other day made an offer in which he said if the Conservatives only promised to pass the measure, the Government would show a draft of the Redistribution Bill. However, a draft of that had appeared, and yet the Tories would not agree. Lord Salisbury said he would not agree because the Redistribution Bill was not favourable enough to the Tory party. As the effect of that measure would be to take away members from the Liberal boroughs, and increase the members of Conservative counties, he would like to know what could be fairer to the Conservative party than that. (Laughter). Lord Salisbury said that if the government introduced a Redistribution Bill it would not be fair when it had passed the Lower House. He believed Lord Salisbury to be a most respectable man, but he could not conceive how his Lordship could say at one moment that he trusted the people, and at the next that he could not trust the chosen representatives of the people to pass a fair Redistribution Bill. (Applause.) If any one thought there was a chance of a compromise being brought about he would refer him to a speech by Lord Randolph Churchill –(howls) – the other day in which he called compromise “snivel and drivel.” He thought he might fairly say that the Liberal leaders would not snivel and drivel any longer. (Applause) We might see now that it was not because the Tory party could not pass the bill, but because they would not, that it had not become law. We ought therefore to remind them of the old proverb which said that the horse which could go and would not go, must be made to go. (Laughter and applause.) Lord Salisbury was a most influential man, who in 1867 resigned rather than extend the franchise to the boroughs. At Plymouth, a few months ago, he said the agricultural labourers were not fit to have a vote, and was it likely that he was now anxious to extend the franchise? The Tories generally said the same thing. They were now converted to the principle of the bill, but their conversion was only one of months. Let them look at the other side. We had Mr Gladstone, Lord Hartington, Sir Charles Dilke, and that tried and trusted friend of the agricultural labourer Mr George Trevelyan – who had struggled against an overwhelming majority in past years, simply for what the Government were trying to do now. (Applause.) And how could they compare the Tory party with such men as these. The management of the Franchise Bill should be entrusted without reserve to its old and trusted friends, headed by Mr Gladstone (applause) – and not to

such newly converted proselytes as the Tories. He thought the only thing for them to do was to step in and sign the blank cheque which Lord Salisbury refused to give Mr Gladstone. (Applause.) The Tories called our Franchise demonstration picnic, our voters paid roughs, and the whole agitation a big fraud, but if we looked at facts we would find that the Tories were converted to the principle of the bill by the very agitation which they pretended to despise. He did not think that would have happened and he did not think the Tories would have been very anxious to extend the franchise to the counties if the rural people had not done so much by agitation already. They, however, should not let the thing rest there. They seemed to him to be playing at that game at which a body of men at one end of a rope tried to pull another over a given line. He thought they had been pulling so hard that they had brought the Tories first to the edge of the boundary, and one more good pull would bring them over. (Applause.) He should like to see the Franchise Bill passed by ordinary measures, but if it could not be then they must back up Mr Gladstone when he adopted extraordinary measures. The principal keynote of his speeches would depend on theirs. (Applause.) He would not be found wanting if the accorded to him that support which they had given him hitherto. He did not feel much anxiety about the fate of the bill, and was sure that before many months were over we should have a full, fair, and un-jerrymandered measure of reform passed. It was only necessary to stand firm for a little more to overcome the last expiring struggle of the graceless opposition which the bill had experienced, and he therefore thought the meeting could do no better than pass the resolution. (Applause.)

Mr John Brown, Ancroft, said twelve months ago we had very different ideas urged against the Franchise Bill than we heard now. We were told at that time that the men were ignorant and not fit to have a vote, but now we found Lord Salisbury cordially concurring, and giving a vote which he said the men were not fit to use. They might if they were to use the vocabulary of Lord Randolph Churchill – (howls) – he was not the best man to quote, but still they might use his words and say the Conservatives were “Chucking up the sponge” in this direction. (Interruption.) About a week ago a gentleman said to him “I have spoken to a number of men and they don’t want the Franchise,” implying that because these persons did not wish for it, others who did should not get it. If, however, it was the right of these men they were entitled to it, unless the whole lot said they did not want it. There were to be two millions enfranchised, but suppose one half did not want a vote, they could stay at home on an election day. Was that any reason why men should be debarred from their natural rights, because some were stupid enough not to take advantage of them. That would be direct injustice. They were told that the present Conservative party were very anxious to pass a Reform Bill, but before we trusted the Franchise in their hands we should have a knowledge of their history. If we wanted to know what a man’s conduct was likely to be in the future, the best thing was to know what it had been in the past. In 1866 then, some Conservatives voted against a very modest and moderate measure of reform brought in by Mr Gladstone. In 1867 they themselves brought in a Reform Bill in some respects more liberally worded, but not so honest or straight forward. They in effect said “You men who live in boroughs shall have the franchise, but you who live in the country shall have it on a very different basis.” People in rural districts were quite at a loss to understand what was the meaning of actions of that sort. They did not see why agricultural labourers were not just as fit to vote as men who lived in the town. If they looked at the Parliament of 1867, they would find that a large majority of Liberal members were sent from boroughs, and a large majority of Tory members were sent from counties. Mr Disraeli therefore thought he could indulge in a little cheap generosity. He knew it could be no worse for the Conservative party in the boroughs, and therefore he came down as low as he could, and gave a very liberal measure practically household suffrage in towns, but when he got to the counties, and came in contact with the territorial influence of

dukes, earls, lords, and landed proprietors, he had to be exceedingly cautious, and therefore he invented a plan drawing the line above agricultural labourers, and kept them all out. The present Franchise Bill had therefore become necessary, because of what the Conservatives did not do. He would, therefore, like to ask, were we likely to put such a measure in the hands of men who had acted in that way? He wished them now to observe the position of the present Liberal Government, which was organised powerful and effective. The Tories had enfranchised men in the counties, simply because they paid certain rents, and they would have us believe that they were seeking intelligence and ability. He did not believe a word of this. He thought they were seeking “controllability” so as they could manipulate and manage the county constituencies. A general election took place in 1874, and with 200,000 less votes than the Liberals, the Tories had 50 more members in Parliament. That was their idea of right and justice, and if we heard Lord Salisbury and other members of the Tory party talking of a proper Reform and Redistribution Bill was he to blame if he thought it meant a copy of those passed about 20 years ago. He could understand it in no other light. (Applause.) Now Lord Salisbury left the Government in 1867 in company with two other gentlemen, simply because they brought in a Reform Bill. The people therefore ought to trust the Liberal Party, who were the trusted and tried friends of Reform, rather than any new convert, however plausible he could be. (Applause.) So long as we had Mr Gladstone, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr Chamberlain, and others, he did not think we need borrow any Conservatives to do our work. After alluding to the Conservative meeting at Kelso the other week and the speech of the Hon. E. Stanhope regarding agricultural topics, Mr Brown went on to say that our Tory friends told us if we gave the agricultural labourers votes, farmers would be swamped. He did not understand this. Tories learnt the word “swamp” at a very early age and used it extensively in their grown-up years. He did not believe that farmers would be swamped by the agricultural labourers. They had the most perfect confidence in them. They had, however, been swamped during the last century by farmers, and he had no hesitation in saying that. Did they want proof? Let them take the records of the vote in 1832, when the grandfather of Sir Edward Grey contested the northern division of Northumberland. They would see opposite the names of the tenants who occupied leases of farms owned by Tory landlords “C” for Conservative until one got almost tired of looking at the “C”, - (Laughter) - while at the other were only a few “L’s” for Liberal. Although he was not saying anything complimentary to the class to which he belonged, he found it his bounden duty to say what was right. At the close of that election Sir George Grey said territorial influence would be a thing of the past, and he believed that. Did we think that in this part of the country they would stand with two Conservative members representing them, and do nothing for 32 years if the agricultural labourers had voted? Certainly not. He had lived in the northern division of Northumberland all his life, and he had seen only one election, when Mr John Clay came to their rescue. (Applause.) Lord Salisbury had said he would yield when the country had spoken. He would like to ask if it had not spoken in 1880 and spoken in the clearest possible accent? Moreover, the contested elections since then had not materially brought down the Liberal working majority. The very bill that they were there to advocate had been passed by a majority of 130 at its second reading. It was said Mr Gladstone had driven the Liberal members like a wheel. He did not believe that they voted contrary to their opinion. He thought Liberal members did their duty, not because Mr Gladstone asked them, but spontaneously, willingly and honourably. (Applause.) Lord Salisbury had discovered that we should have another election before the Franchise Bill was passed, but where did he get that in the British constitution? How often had the nation to speak before his lordship would listen? It had spoken once so very loud that he thought the very [?] of Tor opinion felt it like an earthquake. Would that not convince them? If the company present did not want the Franchise what were they there for? What was the meaning of the thousands and the tens of thousands advocating their cause if

they did not want the Franchise? Had they gone mad, or what was the matter? (Laughter.) They had come there to demand their rights, and he believed they would get them. Lord Salisbury had no right to demand that the nation should say twice what it wished with regard to the Franchise Bill. His duty was to pass it. (Applause)

As the Mayor was about to put the resolution to the meeting, Mr Joseph John Hills, honorary secretary to the Sunderland Fishermen's Society (who occupied a seat on the platform), came forward with a document in his hand, amid a storm of groans and hisses. The meeting absolutely refused to hear him, notwithstanding repeated appeals on the part of the Mayor, and Mr Hills returned to his seat. On quiet being restored he again advanced to the front of the platform, but the disturbance which ensued prevented him from being heard. He was known, however, to have read a resolution, which, by request he handed to a reporter, but the Mayor promptly demanded it. The Mayor then read the resolution as follows: - That this meeting, while approving of the Franchise Reform Bill is of opinion that without the passing of a satisfactory Redistribution Bill it ought not to come into operation.

A voice – “Nonsense,” and uproar.

The Mayor – Seconded by whom? (Loud cries of “nobody,” and “Put him out.”)

The Mayor then declared that, as there was no seconder the motion fell to the ground, and that the resolution as proposed by Mr Taylor and seconded by Mr Easton had been unanimously carried.

Mr Hills again stepped forward, and said something to the Mayor.

A voice – “Who is he?”

Another voice – “He is a strange species of fish which came up with the trawlers.”

When silence had been restored the Mayor said Mr Hills had protested to him against his decision. He could only say that he protested against Mr Hills protest.

After a short scuffle with someone carrying a banner Mr Hills descended from the platform, and made his way to the door of the hall amid a great deal noise and laughter which interrupted the proceedings for a while.

Mr Clark, Belford, said an old proverb remarked that nothing happened but the unexpected. That had occurred to him. He was there by proxy, and he was wondering how he came to be there. He had come without his spectacles and without a speech (Laughter.) To be forewarned was to be [?]. However, he would read the resolution which was as follows: - That this meeting desires to express its strong disapproval of the action taken by the Conservative Party in the House of Lords in regard to the Franchise Bill, and protests against the unconstitutional attempt to force a dissolution of the Commons House of Parliament, which is solely within the province of the Crown.

He was one of those unfortunate two millions who had not a vote. One of the previous speakers had said he once had a vote, but he had shifted to another part of the county and had lost it. He was nearly 54 years of age and lived in the village of Belford where there were about 800 people. He had never had a vote. Were he to shift to Berwick or Newcastle he would get one, but if he removed again to Belford, according to the present state of the law he should lose it. Would his manhood deteriorate by his shifting back to Belford? He was an

Englishman, and a law-abiding subject. He paid in the shape of direct taxation 3s a week, and when he thought he had not a vote, he felt indignant. (Applause.)

Mr George Laidler, Tweedmouth, rose to second the motion. He thought that in a great political crisis like the present, when the will of the nation had been set aside and when thus the efforts of its representatives had been set at defiance by the action of Lord Salisbury and his followers in the House of Lords, it was the duty of every Liberal and every supporter of Mr Gladstone and his Government to uphold the Prime Minister in his efforts to carry the bill into law. He thought this borough had shown unmistakably that day what side it was on. The demonstration that had been held showed that this borough was essentially Liberal and had determined to support Mr Gladstone in his efforts to give the Franchise Bill to the people and to protest against the unconstitutional action of the House of Lords. (Applause.) The motion said nothing about the dissolution of the House of Lords. He thought the country was not quite prepared for that question. There were a good many staunch friends of the people in the House of Lords and to advocate the abolition of that House would be to punish their friends as well as their political opponents – would be causing the innocent to suffer with the guilty. (Applause.)

The Hon. Edward Marjoribanks, M.P., in supporting the resolution, said the great demonstration which they had held that day spoke far more eloquently than any speech, as it showed more clearly the intense desire of Berwick that the Reform Bill should be passed. (Applause.) At these Reform demonstrations it seemed to him that it was for those who wanted to get the Franchise to speak, and for members of Parliament to come to these meetings to hear what the people had to say – (Applause) – and that was the difference between the Liberal party and the Conservatives – (hear, hear) – for they would remember that the late Mr Disraeli said he required to educate his party in order that they might understand what reform meant. The Liberal Party, on the contrary, might take their impressions from the constituencies which preferred those views which were in accordance with the general welfare of the nation. (Applause) He did not know whether they had seen a clever cartoon in *Punch* a few weeks ago, wherein Sir S.N. Northcote and Lord John Manners were represented as being on the Scotch moors with guns on their arms looking very jaded indeed; to them came John Bull, who said, "No use coming here, these moors have been shot over already." (Laughter) Now, that seemed very like the case in Berwick, from the scene they witnessed that night. The whole subject of Reform had been thoroughly thrashed out during the last few weeks, and if any of the great guns of the Conservative party came here to tell the people of Berwick anything about the Reform Bill, he was afraid they would receive very little support indeed. (Applause.) This franchise demonstration, and these resolutions, came with a very good grace from Berwick, because they knew that under the Redistribution Bill they in Berwick would lose one member and it was therefore a very magnanimous thing on their part to come there in hundreds and thousands to say that they wished the Franchise Bill to pass because it would be for the good of the nation. (Applause.) He looked upon the resolution which had been submitted that day as being most admirably worded, very moderate in terms, and such as anyone could support without the least qualm. There was no talk about the abolition of the House of Lords or any other [?] scheme. (Applause.) The resolution simply said that the Lords had no right to force dissolution of Parliament. It stated that when there arise a difference between the two parties in the House of Commons, they should not, at the dictation of the Lords, be sent about their business to ask their masters if they had done wrong, and in addition, fined two millions pounds, because that he believed, was about the expense of a general election. (Applause.) There was no need for this; they had the votes in the House of Commons, and they had the votes at the great meetings which had been held during the past few weeks that reform was required; and they

had also the declaration of the Tory leaders that they were in favour of reform. (Applause.) But the Tories said that the Government wanted to force a dissolution on the extended franchise without a redistribution scheme, and thereby obtain some advantage from the bill. He denied that, and believed that with a Redistribution Bill the Liberals would have an increase of 50 fold. In 1880, when the Liberal Government came into power, they had a Liberal majority of voters of 464,894, and in 1874, when the Conservative Government were returned, the Liberals, nevertheless, had a majority of 213,999 voters for their candidates. (Applause.) He had been much pleased with the enthusiastic meeting that day, and he had no doubt that their member, Mr Jerningham, would be more convinced than ever that the best thing he could do was to support the Franchise Bill with all his power in the future as he had done in the past. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried amid cheers.

Mr George Weatherhead, Berwick, afterwards proposed that a copy of the resolution so unanimously passed be sent to Mr Gladstone. (Cheers.)

Mr Robert Boston, Spittal, said when he looked around and saw their pleasant and smiling faces, and saw also that figurehead in front of them, "the grand old man," he thought that demonstration and meeting that night spoke volumes for the northernmost borough in England, and more than that, he thought it would [?] to the honour of the ancient borough of Berwick that there had been such a turnout that day. He had much pleasure in seconding the motion.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr John Clay, Kerchester, said the duty he had to perform that night was a very pleasant one; it was a duty which he believed every one would heartily concur with. It was to propose a vote of thanks to the reformers of 1832. (Cheers.) He was happy to see so many of them had turned out that day. It was rather a significant matter that he had to propose the vote, as he himself, he was proud to say, had the honour to stand on that platform with Lord Grey, when he went through the Border counties in his triumphal tour on the Reform Bill.

Councillor Nesbit, Berwick, seconded the resolution and accused Lord Salisbury of saying that the county constituents were indifferent to the franchise.

The votes having been accorded, Mr Paton, Berwick, said he believed he was the Benjamin of the great family of reformers who figured so conspicuously in 1832. It was worthy of consideration that they numbered about 35, and that their united ages amounted to more than 2000 years. (Laughter.) There was a mighty contrast between this demonstration and that which preceded the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832. Then there were black flags and skulls and crossbones carried through the streets of Edinburgh, which he witnessed himself.

Mr Morrill, Tweedmouth, said his motion had been intended to be in reference to disapproval of the action of the House of Lords. He was, however, not going to speak of that, but would simply say that in his opinion the gravest aspect of that question touching us socially and not politically, had not been referred to. There might be an outcome from that action, which we would have a fair chance of judging in the middle of December. He only hoped the Peers would be wise in time. What he had now got to do was to propose enfranchisement to all from that meeting that night. He had been asked to propose a vote of thanks to the various speakers. There was no need to put that into shape. The audience had by acclamation, and by a little ill manner now and then testified how they had appreciated what had been said. One

delightful element in connection with the speeches delivered that night, had been that they were made by men who evidently understood the question, who in their life and position had felt the hardship and the humiliation that rested upon them as British citizens. (Applause.) He would not risk the chance of invidiousness by individual reference to the speakers. He referred to them in the total. (Applause.)

Mr J Black, Tweedmouth, seconded the motion. He had no doubt in his own mind that the Franchise Bill would be carried. He argued from the experience of the past. He would point to nihilism of Russia with its upheavals of society invading the privacy of the palace; to eh socialism of Germany which ransacked the brain of the mighty Bismarck; and to the [?] of France, which was the nightmare of the French Republic. He would argue that if we had been saved from these it was by periodical and timely concessions on the part of the Sovereign and the Government of the day. With the firm front that had been advocated by the speakers, there could be no doubt they would have the result they desired. Our constitution was a glorious structure, but it could be improved. (Applause.)

Mr Jerningham said that the meeting had been harmonious. There had been one interruption, but it only showed how Conservatives bungled everything they undertook. One of them had actually crept up to the platform, and if he had only been clever enough, or if his party had only stood by him, which they never did in time of need, there would have also been a seconder to his amendment. As it was that amendment broke down ignominiously as it ought to have done. He begged to move a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding. He had preserved peace he had retrenched the speech, and he had let them talk about what they had come there for – reform. (Applause.)

Hon. E Marjoribanks seconded the motion and said Ald. Allan showed equal dignity either when filling the civic chair or presiding at public meetings. (Applause.)

The Mayor said that day had ben to him one of intense satisfaction and enjoyment. He had not thought it possible or probable that they would have had such a glorious demonstration which was a pleasure to him and to all who took part in it. He thanked them most heartily, and proposed that a similar compliment should be paid to them who had kindly provided banners for the occasion, which added very materially to the imposing aspect of the procession. Before separating he wished them to sing a verse of “God save the Queen.”

The audience having complied with this request the proceedings terminated.

November 7, p. 2, column 1.

The annual general meeting of the Border Counties agricultural Association (limited) will be held in the office of the Association, Corn Exchange, Berwick-upon-Tweed, on Saturday 15 November, at a quarter past one o'clock.

R Thompson, Secretary

Berwick-upon-Tweed, 1st November 1884.

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

Berwick Orchestral Society – We are glad to notice this society, which was started in the beginning of the year, intends to give a public concert in the Corn Exchange on the 10th prox.. The society has already made one or two important appearances, notably at the Choral Union concert last winter, and at Norham a few weeks ago. The members have all through the year been quietly and assiduously practising under the able guidance of Mr Fairbairn (to whom they feel exceedingly indebted for his labour of love in trying to develop the latent orchestral talent which has hitherto, so to speak, only slumbered in our ancient borough), and as the society has, we understand, arranged that the concert in question shall be in the nature of a complimentary benefit to their worthy conductor, we feel certain that the bill of fare which will be provided, will secure for the beneficiary a bumper house.

November 7, p. 4, column 2.

EAST OF BERWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the members of this Association was held in the Corn Exchange, Berwick, on Saturday – Mr J. Melrose, Coldstream, president in the chair. It had been intended to have a lecture upon Manitoba by Dr Stevenson Macadam, Edinburgh, but owing to the absence of that gentleman from illness a handbill was issued stating that it had been postponed, and this had the effect of deterring many people from attending. The attendance therefore was small.

Mr Doughty (of Messrs Bowhill and Doughty, writers, Ayton, secretaries to the Association) read the minutes of last meeting which referred to the proposal to reduce the annual subscription.

Mr Gibson, Guns Green – I don't think it was quite settled that the charge was to be £1 1s. The times are telling upon proprietors as well as upon tenants, and the subscriptions should be lowered accordingly.

Mr Muirhead, Paxton – There might be a want of funds if the subscriptions are lowered.

Mr Doughty – I am happy to say that the present financial statement of hard cash and not merely on paper is better than ever. There is at the credit of the Association waiting to be disposed of the sum of £44 17s; and that is independent of the profit from the Reston Show, which after allowing £7 for the prize to Mr Mein, Lamberton, leaves a surplus of £6 10s 6d in the bank.

Mr Gibson – When the funds are in such a flourishing condition, I think the subscriptions for landlords should be reduced.

Mr Muirhead – What was the previous charge?

Mr Doughty – For the information of the members I have prepared a statement of the subscriptions according to the old and the new scale. Under the former the regular subscriptions were £49 4s. In reality we have got a little more than the subscriptions because the Hon. E. Marjoribanks, M.P., has given us £5 a year whereas the charge was only 21s. Under the new scale the subscriptions would be £38 8s.

Mr Muirhead – If that is not enough for the expenditure there is no reason for reducing the subscriptions.

Mr Doughty – The expenditure was £39 which includes an exceptional vote of £10 10s to the Reston Show, and one and a half years; pay to the analyst.

Mr Muirhead – That means an annual outlay of £28 and you are reducing the subscriptions to £37.

Mr Doughty – Yes.

Mr Muirhead – That is by not interfering with the proprietors' subscriptions?

Mr Doughty – No.

The Chairman – What would be the difference if the proprietors' subscriptions were reduced to 10s 6d.

Mr Doughty – It would make the income as nearly as possible £30.

Mr Muirhead – Then there will be no necessity for keeping up the subscriptions.

The Chairman – The way I look at it is this. Some proprietors may be discouraged from entering by the subscription of £1 1s when the tenants of 50 acres and upwards as well as the public are giving only 5s.

Mr Muirhead – My idea was to enable the Association to get as much finds as possible.

The Chairman – Some proprietors might think the Association was charging them more than a fair proportion. I don't think many would grudge 21s, but it is a pity to run any risk if there is a chance of gaining more members, especially amongst the small proprietors.

Mr Doughty – It is well to take into account that there are large and small proprietors, just as there are large and small tenants. Some of the small proprietors may be discouraged from entering by the charge of £1 1s.

Mr Muirhead – How would it do to make the subscription £1 1s for large and 10s 6d for small tenants?

The Chairman – Where would you draw the difference?

Mr Muirhead – At 2000 acres.

The Chairman - £2000 a year; let us take the income.

Major Campbell Renton thought at all meetings like this they should keep to the subject. The chairman had gone off the rails, and they should get on again. The income had nothing whatever to do with the matter; it was the acreage and they should stick to that.

The Chairman said his idea was to fix a point. The acreage was not always a criterion of the rental. He had no feeling whatever save to benefit the Association. He was sorry that Major Campbell Renton had taken umbrage and he withdrew his motion, leaving the Association to dispose of it as they thought proper.

Mr Doughty then read the annual report as follows: - Since the date of the last report four general meetings of the Association have been held.

On 3rd November, 1883, office-bearers were appointed and the last report was adopted.

On 2nd February, 1884, a report was submitted of experiments conducted or concluded during the year 1883 by Mr A.S. Logan, Mr John Caverhill, and Mr William Purves, in the application of manures to turnip crops, as also a report of experiments conducted by Mr Caverhill in regard to Swedish turnips v. yellow turnips, as tested in the feeding of sheep. An analytical report by Dr Stevenson Macadam upon a sample of ensilage taken from Mr Melrose's silo at Newmains, was also brought before the meeting.

A Committee was appointed to draw up a report upon the Compensation Clauses of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act, 1883. A lecture was delivered by Mr Bird, Fishwick, upon foot-and-mouth disease, and the measures used for its prevention.

On 10th May, 1884, the report of the Committee upon the Compensation Clauses of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 1883, was received, and discussed and a table of exhaustion of manures &c, was adopted as one which might reasonably be followed as an average scale for medium land, leaving it to arbiters to make such modifications or alterations, if any, in respect of the state and class of land as they may determine in each particular case as it arises.

On the 26th July, 1884, a sum of £10 10s was voted from the Association funds in aid of Reston Show, and the draft prospectus of the Farmers' Supply Association was read and discussed. A proposal was made that the present scale of members' subscriptions should be altered, and this motion will come up for disposal at the annual general meeting.

The terms of the motion are set forth at length in the circulars calling the meeting.

Your reporters have arranged for the delivery, at the ensuing general meeting, of a lecture upon "Manitoba, and the North West Provinces of Canada," by Dr Stevenson Macadam, who has just returned from America.

The standards of the Highland Society have again been adopted as the basis of values of measure for 1884.

During the year 1883-4 one sample of Ichaboe guano, one sample of fish guano, and four samples of turnip manure of different kinds, have been analysed for the Association, and the Directors beg to refer to the table herewith submitted for the results.

No seeds have been sent in for testing during the year, and no cases of depredations by dogs have required to be prosecuted.

The fourth annual show of stock &c., was held at Reston on the 8th August 1884, and was successful. The drawings at the gate were much above those of 1883. After depositing in bank the £7 required to meet the prize for the best shorthorn bull, which does not fall to be paid over until next year, after the conditions under which it is given are fulfilled, there is at credit of the Reston show account a sum of £6 10s 6d, which has been deposited in bank in the Convener's name. The show accounts are herewith submitted.

The financial accounts of the Association, apart from the show, are also herewith submitted, and show a balance of £44 17s in favour of the Association. The arrears of subscriptions are now reduced to a minimum, and the special thanks of the Association are due to those members who have given their services in getting in the arrears. Several new members have been admitted during the year, and the directors hope that if the proposed alteration on the rates of subscription is adopted, there will be a great increase of members, which will make up the decrease in the subscriptions, and they take this opportunity of asking members to

bring the Association under the favourable notice of their friends and neighbours who have not already joined in. Your directors recommend the nomination of Major Charles Frederick Campbell Renton of Mordington, one of the original members and a former president, as president for the ensuing year, and the nomination of the following gentlemen as Vice-Presidents, Viz:-

David Milne-Home, Esq., of Milne Graden.

John Wilson, Esq., Wellnage.

John Allan, Esq., of Peelwalls.

Lieut.-Colonel David Milne-Home of Wedderburn, M.P.

The Hon. Edward Marjoribanks, M.P.

Alex. Mitchell Innes, Esq., of Ayton.

The Hon. R. Bailie Hamilton of Langton.

James Mack, Esq., of Coveyheugh.

Jonathan Melrose, Esq., of Moneynut.

The ordinary directors consist of the following eight members, Viz: - Mr Craw, Foulden West Mains. Mr M'Gall, Hallydown. Mr Caverhill, Greenburn. Mr Muirhead, Paxton. Mr Allan, Redheugh. Mr Middleton, Kimmerghame Mains. Mr Jack, Foulden, Newton. Mr Logan, Ferneycastle.

And of these Mr Craw and Mr M'Gall retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election.

Mr Gibson read a letter from Mr Craw, Foulden West Mains, resigning office as a member of committee, and suggesting Mr Middleton, Ayton Cocklaw, in his place.

Mr Gibson moved, and Mr Young, Blackadder West, seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

Mr Doughty said he had received a letter from Dr Stevenson Macadam stating that he was unable to attend to give his lecture upon Manitoba, owing to an attack of diarrhoea.

The Chairman – I think it might be advisable to record that the letter had been read, that we regret exceedingly the cause of his absence, and sympathise with him in the circumstances.

Major Campbell Reston – It is the custom when anything is proposed that somebody seconds it. This Association should not be different from others. It has been proposed to record regret at the absence of Dr Macadam. Someone should second the motion. Do it in the regular form – not the dog in the manger plan.

The Chairman – Pardon me; you think that someone apart from the Chairman should make the motion.

Major Campbell Renton – Not at all.

Mr Gibson – I second the chairman's motion.

Major Campbell Renton – That is quite sufficient, considering there are so few I am very glad that Dr Macadam has not come, because he might think that the Association was composed of only five or six members, and that therefore it was not worth his while to come here to give his lecture on Canada or any other place.

Mr Doughty – Some people were under the impression that because Dr Macadam was not here there would be no meeting. Those who came with the express purpose of listening to Dr Macadam’s lecture would go away with the one o’clock train.

Major Campbell Renton – Of course these things all require explanation to those who don’t know that Tom Jones, Dick and Harry had gone home. Any gentleman coming here to lecture and seeing five or six people would say “I don’t think the East of Berwickshire Agricultural Association cares much about my lecture.”

Mr Allan, Redheugh – It was known in the [market?] that he would not be here.

The Chairman – There is one person present who [next nine lines illegible].

Major Campbell Renton – I am very glad to hear [?] of members state that. These things don’t go down now-a-days. “The proof of the pudding is the eating of it” they say in Scotland.

[Next paragraph illegible]

Major Renton was elected President for the ensuing year in accordance with the terms of the Directors’ report.

The new President having taken the chair said he would do anything he possible could. Nothing would give him greater pleasure than to do anything for the county, particularly this end of it. He begged leave to thank them. At the same time he wished the Association had got a younger man. Age told upon him, and he could not go about the county in and weather attending meetings. The President, if he could, should always be present at any meeting. He supposed when he was absent that some other gentleman, who were office-bearers would take his place. The programme of business was to return thanks to the late President, and you those who had gone out of office; also to try to come to some definite conclusion about the landlords’ subscription; whether it is to be £1 1s or £10s 6d. That should be settled. His own idea was that the proprietors who cared for, and interested themselves about the Association were quite willing to pay £1 1s. He was quite sure his neighbours were quite willing to pay £1 1s. There would be many proprietors in the county who cared very little about it. He was sorry to say it, but there were a great number of them. He did not think the Association would gain much by reducing the subscriptions to 10s 6d.

Mr Allan – I second that it stand as present.

The Chairman – Carried.

Mr Young – I think it is rather hurried to say that is carried. There is a feeling the reverse of it, viz., that the proprietors’ subscription should be reduced in the same ratio as the other members’. The amount that would be thus obtained, seems quite sufficient to carry on the Association, and if the reduction tends to add to the number of the members, we will gain more influence and efficiency than by maintaining the present charge. If there should be kind hearted genial proprietor who would be willing to give £1 1s, the treasurer will reject it. Our idea is that the proprietors regardless of their acreage should be reduced to 10s 6d. The point

raised about the acreage seemed to us to be much more understandable when it was suggested that the criterion should be pounds rather than acres, because in some parts of the county 2000 acres would represent a small income, while in others it would make a large revenue. Regardless of that, however, I move that the landed proprietors pay 10s 6d instead of £1 1s at present while the amount for tenants be as recommended in the report.

The Chairman – You should stick to one point at first and say nothing about the tenants.

Mr Gibson – I second the amendment. In doing so I may state that there was one proprietor who refused to pay his subscription simply because it was £1 1s. I say no further.

The Chairman – Thank you. I am much obliged to you. It is carried that the proprietors' subscription is to be 10s 6d. The next is that farmers of 50 acres and upwards, pay 5s, I have never heard a word about this charge.

Mr Muirhead – I second the motion that the subscriptions for farmers of 50 acres and upwards pay 5s.

The Chairman – Has anyone anything to say against that? We will be very happy to hear him. As no one appears willing to say anything against it, we may consider it carried.

The Chairman – Farmers under 50 acres to pay 2s. I have never heard whether they think that too much or too little.

Mr Allan – I second that the motion be carried.

The Chairman – If any other person wishes to join, he can by paying 5s.

Mr Gibson seconded the motion.

The Chairman – Has anybody got anything to say against that?

Mr Melrose expressed his strong feeling of gratitude to all members of the Association for the way they had assisted him during the two years he had occupied the chair, and especially his strong feeling of thankfulness to the office bearers for the very kindly interest and relief they had given in everything connected with the business of the society. It had been to him a very pleasant experience. It perhaps might be proper for him to explain that at the last meeting, when the question of proprietors' subscriptions was discussed, he believed he stood alone in suggesting that the subscription of 21s should be continued. He did so, although he was a small proprietor in comparison with many others, because he had a feeling that it was the interest of the proprietors quite as much as the interest of the tenants that this Association should be properly supported.

The Chairman – A vote of thanks to the retiring office bearers. I am quite sure you will agree to that. Mr Doughty asked me to mention the proposal to change the show from Reston to Duns.

Mr Doughty – Such a thing has been considered by the Directors, but they have not yet seen their way to make any report. The subject has not yet got that length.

The Chairman – It is sometimes difficult to get at a thing. I think myself, if the matter is plainly stated, I cannot see why we should not move that the show be held at Reston or Duns if it will be an advantage to the Association. Do you understand me?

Mr Allan – Put it to the meeting.

Mr Muirhead – Would it not be better to bring the matter up at a large meeting? There are only a few members present.

This was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Logan, a vote of thanks was passed to Major Renton for presiding.

The Chairman – I beg to thank you. The new President hopes and expects that when there is a meeting the members will attend. It has nothing to do with Tom Jones, Dick or Harry going away, because there is no lecture.

The proceeding then terminated.

November 14, p. 2, column 1.

Corn Exchange, Monday, Nov. 17th, for one day only. Great attraction. Harvey's wonderful midgets, Princess Lottie, prince Midge, Miss Jennie Morgan, and general Tot, the four smallest and most perfectly formed little people the world has ever produced. Come and see them. Along with the choir of boy vocalists, they give a charming and unique entertainment in a midget concert. Also Mdlle Lottie Adelinade Lara, the marvellous child pianist 10 years of age. Two receptions – afternoon 2:30 till 5; evening 7:30 till 9:30. Admission – Reserved seats, 2s; front seats, 1s; back seats, 6d. Tickets and plan of hall at Mr A. Paton's, High Street.

November 14, Local News p. 3, column 5.

Harvey's Midgets. We should draw the attention of our readers to the concert in the Corn Exchange, which is to be given on Monday night by these miniature curiosities. From reports of their performances elsewhere, we have no doubt the entertainment will be most enjoyable.

November 21. p.2, column 1.

BERWICK ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY. FIRST ANNUAL CONCERT. AT THE CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK. On Wednesday, 10th December, 1884. Under distinguished patronage. The programme will consist of orchestral selections and instrumental and vocal solos. Admission – 2s, 1s, and 6d. Tickets may be obtained from Mr Paton, bookseller, High Street, and Mr Henderson, bookseller, West Street. Doors open at 7:30; concert to commence at 8.

November 21, p. 2, column 2.

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER BALL IN THE CORN EXCHANGE, BERWICK, on Tuesday, December 9th, 1884. Under the patronage of the Mayor and Sheriff, Colonel D. Milne Home, M.P., H.E.H. Jerningham, M.P., Colonel Sir W. Crossman, R.E., Col. Dellafosse, C.B., officers of the K.O.B.'s, and the officers of the Artillery and Rifle Volunteer Corps. Members

of the Army, Navy, and reserve Forces in uniform. Double tickets, 4s. Dancing to commence at 9 o'clock, p.m. Civilian's double tickets, 5s; ladies' single tickets, 2s. Tickets to be had from Mr Henderson, West Street, Berwick; Mr S. Steven, fruiterer, High Street, Berwick; Mr T. Wright, and Mr J. Campbell, Church Street, Berwick; and members of the Committee.

November 21, p. 2, column 2.

CORN EXCHANGE, FOR TWO NIGHTS ONLY. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21st and 22nd. Frank Marriott's Christy's Minstrels (patronised by royalty.) Come and see the royal entertainment. The talented Miss Rose and Richard Watson, the refined and classical duettists. The American burlesque Company in their original burlesque sketches and extravaganzas. Messrs T. & R. Trelfer, the great American song and dance men, and champions high pedestal dancers of the world. The Marriott's Royal Minstrels' walk round. The unrivalled best troupe travelling. Doors open at 7:30. To commence at 8. Admission: - reserved seats, 2s; gallery and unreserved, 1s; back seats, 6d. Children half price.

November 28, p. 2, column 3.

Corn Exchange, Berwick, Saturday 6th Dec. 1884 at 1 o'clock. Mr Ralph Dixon will sell by auction a above a large consignment of excellent flour sacks, suitable for potatoes, grain &c 2, St. Mary's Place. Berwick, 27 Nov. 1884.

November 28, Local News p. 3, column 6.

INTERESTING ENTETAINMENT. – On Wednesday evening, Miss Evelyn Grey and Mr A. Gordon gave an exposition of spiritualism and successfully conducted thought-reading experiments in the Corn Exchange. The following committee of local gentlemen, with Councillor Young in the chair, were on the platform, and took part in the performance: - Dr Mackay; Mr Peters, solicitor; Mr E. Willoby; Mr H.W. Willits, schoolmaster; Mr A. Lawson, hatter; and Mr Gibson of the Grammar School. There was only a moderate attendance, but the entertainment was a success. The first experiment to show how easy it is to deceive the senses, was made on the Chairman and Dr Mackay, blindfolded, who had to listen to the tinkling of two coins by Mr Gordon, and point out where they believed the sound came from. The guess was wrong in every case. The next deception was with Mr E. Willoby, who was made to believe he had hold of both hands of Mr Gordon when he had only one, the performer being free to play what trick he chose with the hand at liberty. Blood writing was next exposed. Four gentlemen in the audience wrote one number each on paper, which the chairman added up. He then set fire to the paper and gave it to Mr Gordon, who sprinkled its ashes on the arm of Miss Grey and dusted them off, when the total of the four numbers was found printed on the arm. Dr Mackay and Mr Peters then bound Miss Grey hand and foot in a cabinet and beside some bells. The cabinet was closed and the bells were heard to ring separately. Miss Grey then called for "light;" the cabinet was again thrown open, and she was seen to be secure as before. Next two pieces of wood, and hammer and nails were placed beside her, and the curtains closed, but when it was opened out the pieces of wood were found nailed together and a chair rested upside down on Miss Grey's knees. Afterwards a slate was placed beside that lady and a pencil at her feet. The Chairman, when the cabinet

was closed, asked aloud "Is it going to rain tonight?" and it was stated that the answer would be written on the slate, but instead, when the cabinet was thrown open, the question was found written thereon. The result was, however, considered satisfactory. The Chairman was next blindfolded, handcuffed, and seated in the cabinet beside Miss Grey, when a banjo beside them was sounded and the Chairman felt a hand taking away his watch. That article was subsequently found in the pocket of Mr Willoby. Thereafter Mr Gibson printed privately the name of a dead friend on paper and held it to his forehead, whilst Mr Gordon, who was at the other end of the platform, revealed the name, James Young, on a blackboard. The Chairman was then asked to wish to be taken to an individual in the audience; he did so, and Miss Grey led him, but not directly, to which Mr Miller, Hide Hill, who the Chairman, admitted was the person he thought of. Next, Dr Mackay in the absence of Miss Grey, hid his scarf pin inside the hat of Mr Henry Weddell; and on her return, Miss Grey led Dr Mackay to that gentleman, and found the pin. Miss Grey again retired, and Mr Peters told the audience he wished that lady to take Bandmaster Fairbairn's cap, and placed it on the head of Mr Paton, bookseller. This the lady accomplished. The last experiment was given to show how thought reading might be applied to the detection of crime. The Chairman, Miss Grey being absent, hid a lamp, supposed to be dynamite with a six-minutes fuse, beside one of the pillars nearest the gallery, from which point he was supposed to wish to blow up the building. Miss Grey was allowed six minutes to find out the lamp, but she reached it at the end of three minutes. On the motion of the chairman, Miss Grey was awarded a vote of thanks – Last night a performance, mainly expository of the above, was given before an appreciative audience.

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

We beg to draw the attention of the readers to the first concert of the Berwick Orchestral Society, which takes place on Wednesday night in the Corn Exchange. An attractive programme has been made and we have no doubt the entertainment will be a success.

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

New scenery &c for the Corn Exchange. On Wednesday night we had the pleasure of inspecting stage accessories obtained for the Corn Exchange which has been licensed for the performance of stage plays. Mr H. Crow, painter, Berwick, was the artist engaged to depict the scenes and he has displayed much ability and taste in his work. The drop scene is a view of Berwick from Tweedmouth. In the foreground is the river upon whose surface float some vessels. In the distance are the Ramparts, the bridge and the buildings of Berwick. The perspective is good and the tints are natural and effective. The other scenes consist of representations of a room, a garden and a loch, all of which are marked by equal merit. The [plumberry?/plumbing?] with the stage was done by Messrs J. Wilson & Son, Bridge Street. We may mention that the Corn Exchange is now provided with swing doors for convenience of egress and that curtains are placed across the doors to prevent draughts of cold air.

December 12, Front Page, column 8.

VOLUNTEER BALL AT BERWICK.

The annual gathering of our amateur soldiers for a night's entertainment, in the shape of a dance took place on Tuesday evening, when the Volunteers of Berwick had their yearly ball. The event took place in the Corn Exchange, and was as usual a great success, thanks to the exertions of the Committee, which was constituted as follows: - Artillery – Quarter Master Sergeant Patterson (chairman); Sergeant Major Nicholson (secretary and treasurer); Sergeant Major Douglas; Sergeant Campbell; Corporal Shearlaw; Bombardier H. Patterson; Bombardier Johnston Pattison; Gunner A. Fife; and Gunner Joseph Pattison. Rifles – Sergeant Allan; Corporal Jackson; Corporal Cook; Private Dumble; Private Ormiston; and Private R. C. Steven. A quantity of evergreens as in former years was placed by Lieut. Colonel Milne Home, M.P., Paxton, at the disposal of the Committee, who superintended the decorations, which were executed by Gunner Joseph Paxton, on whom they reflected much credit by the tasteful manner in which they were done. For the convenience of the votaries of the “poetry of motion”, a temporary superficial floor was laid down by Messrs J. Cockburn & Son, Castlegate, and this rendered the pursuit of the active pleasures of the evening less fatiguing than they would otherwise have been. At the east part of the hall the windows were screened by red curtains. On one of these was placed the royal coat of arms bordered with evergreens. At the side of this were two flags, and above three small banners and two bugles. On the curtains at each side were the mottoes, “Defence not defiance,” and “Ready aye Ready,” Near to these were two circles of bayonets set off on blue ground, with gilt Maltese crosses. These, as well as the other decorations of armour, were the work of Sergeant Instructors Attridge and Shiel. Beneath the royal coat of arms were the seats for the orchestra, in front of which was a large steel engraving representing the Queen, and portraits of Major Allan, and the officers of the 1st Berwick-on-Tweed Artillery Corps. The stalls round the hall were screened of by means of cardinal calico, surmounted with a fancy border, semicircles at bayonets, ram rods and evergreens. The alcove of the north part of the hall was adorned with a shield representing the Berwick coat of arms, small banners, and leaves. Round the room were hung portraits of the Review at Edinburgh and of various scenes of Volunteer life &c. The space underneath the gallery was hid from view and upon the material used as a screen were pictures and the motto “Long live our Officers.” The rails of the gallery were relieved by red and blue calico, and in front of them were circles of ramrods and bayonets, small banners, also wreaths of evergreens to which were attached Chinese lanterns and padella lights. Entrance to the area for dancing was obtained by two doorways, which were adorned with crimson tops and draped with muslin curtains. From the roof of the building hung two large garlands which crossed each other in the centre of the hall. At the meeting point was a design and several small fancy illuminations. Shrubs were placed on the stalls to represent a conservatory and here several chairs were placed so that people could sit and view the dancers. An interesting feature of the decorations, which were very attractive and pleasing, was an old flag hung in the alcove at the north part of the hall, about 100 years old which belonged to the original Independent Volunteers of Berwick, and which was lent for the occasion by Mr W.P. Carr, Churchwarden of Berwick Parish Church in the vestry of which it is kept.

Among those present were Colonel Delafosse C.B., commanding 25th Regimental District; Captain Romanes and Lieut. Rea, King's Own Borderers; Major Allan, Captain Commandant Caverhill, Captain Darling, Dr. Fraser, Lieuts. Robertson, Grey, Herriott, and Peters, Berwick Artillery Volunteers; Captain Weddell, Berwick Rifles; Surgeon Caverhill, East Lothian and Berwickshire Yeomanry ; Lieut. Johnston, Eyemouth Artillery Volunteers; the Sheriff, &c.

The ball began at nine o'clock, when there were about 500 people in the hall. It was led off by the Mayor with Miss Herriott, and the Sheriff with Miss Ada Carr. When the company were engaged in “tripping the light fantastic toe” in “many a winding bout,” the scene was

one of great animation and seemed to afford much pleasure to all concerned in it. For those indisposed to pursue callisthenic exercises other amusements were provided. Dancing was continued with unabated vigour until an advanced hour next morning.

The music, which was much appreciated, was supplied by a local orchestra under Bandmaster Fairbairn, 3rd Brigade N.D.R.A., and leader of Berwick Orchestra Society; while refreshments and supper were supplied by Gunner Greenwood, Roxburgh Hotel, Spittal, who gave every satisfaction as purveyor.

The masters of Ceremonies were Bombardier Johnston Pattison, and Gunner Joseph Pattison, who from the hour of commencing the proceedings till the close were attentive to their duties, and caused everything to go as “merry as marriage bells.”

The following was the programme: -

Grand March	Commandant
Contra Dance (Triumph)	
Valse	Sooner or Later
Quadrille	Irish
Polka	Arling
Valse	Parthenia
Contra Dance (Milanese)	
Lancers	Opera Comique
Valse and	Jeunesse [D..?]
Galop	Iolanthe
Highland Schottische	Prince Charlie
Contra Dance (Petronella)	
Valse	La Valette
Quadrille	Jelly Girls
Polka	Hornpipe
Reel	MacLeod o' Ramsay
Lancers	Here and There
Valse and	Unter den Linden
Galop	John Peel
Circassian Circle	Sorcerer
Mazurka	Il Trovatore

Quadrille	Bonnie Scotland
Schottische	Florrie
Spanish Waltz	Zotte
Polka	Gelachter
Lancers	Rip Van Winkle
Valse	[Promotionen?]
Highland Schottische	Stuart

December 12, p.2, column 6.

BERWICK ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

In years gone by we have had several societies of amateurs devoted to the cultivation of singing, but instrumental music was to a great extent neglected. About twelve months ago, therefore, Mr W. R. Fairbairn, Bandmaster of the 3rd Brigade Northern Division Royal Artillery, conceived the happy idea of starting classes and forming an orchestra. This conception resulted in the birth of the Society whose name appears at the head of this article, and whose first annual concert on Wednesday night in the Corn Exchange, it is our duty to notice. Several of the members have appeared in public to assist at various entertainments, but this was the first occasion on which the whole available strength of Berwick Orchestral Society, assisted by some friends from a distance, submitted its performances to the criticism of a Berwick audience. Considering that the members have not had twelve months to practise, their efforts on Wednesday night were most praiseworthy, and proved that while Mr Fairbairn had been an excellent and painstaking teacher, those under his leadership had been apt and persevering pupils evidently endowed with a love of the muses or they could not have acquitted themselves so well as they did. Before proceeding further we may state that the orchestra was constituted as follows: - Messrs Borthwick, Davies, Lounton, Wallace, Barker, Robertson, Hogg, Lumsden and Evans, violin; Mr Cook, viola; Messrs Weddell and Fletcher, contrabasso; Messrs Green and Redfearn, flute and piccolo; Mr Lax, oboe; Messrs B. Weatherhead and R. Smith, clarionet; Miss Weatherhead, pianoforte; Mr Cunnington, bassoon; Messrs Stamma and Fair, cornet-a-pistons; Mr A. L. Miller, trombone; Mr John Wilson, timpani etc. It should also be stated that the accompanist was Miss Mary Green, who in the execution of her duties displayed much judgement and skill.

We were glad to see the Corn Exchange filled by a large and appreciative audience, as this was another indication that the good folks of Berwick are ever ready to support and value local talent in whatever shape it may develop itself. As a succession of instrumental music might have proved monotonous, the programme was judiciously varied by means of part songs and solos, the latter of which were given by amateurs of acknowledged merit and ability. The programme began with the overture, "La Ruche D'or," by [B?], by the united force of the orchestra. The introductory slow movement was performed with smoothness and accuracy, and it formed a pleasing prelude to the accelerated time of the latter part, which was delivered with much effect. In the course of its execution passages were taken up alternately by the wind and string instruments with facility and skill, qualities in fact, which marked the entire performance. Mr J. Redfearn followed with the "Keel row," which he gave

as a solo with variations on the piccolo according to the setting of [B?]. The lively strains of the music were well brought out by the jubilant tones of the instrument, which by means of the digital dexterity of the performer, was heard to great advantage. The piece was so much appreciated that it had to be repeated. Mr T. Richardson next gave "The Bloom is on the Rye," by Bishop, to piano accompaniment by Miss Green, and this pretty tenor song was interpreted with distinctness of enunciation and clearness of intonation by the singer, who was in excellent voice. An encore was demanded and given. Mr Percy Lax, Newcastle, next gave as a solo with variations on the oboe "Jenny Jones," by Barratt. The rich sound of this instrument was fully elicited by the performer, who exhibited much manipulative skill and musical taste in using the oboe, which is capable of every shade of expression. The air, although not attractive, was executed with much care. A sustained trill towards the close astonished the audience. A repetition was called for, and fully accorded. Next came a composition by the conductor Mr Fairbairn, dedicated to the members of the Berwick Orchestral Society. It was entitled "Dilettante." It was performed by the whole strength of the band. The music opened with a slow movement by all the instruments, followed by a passage for the violins, after which the strain was taken up in quicker time by the cornet, then slow by the violoncello with a repeat by the flute. Subsequently all the instruments joined in the voluptuous music of a waltz, after which came a solo on the violin with flute obligato, this being followed by a quick movement on the part of the whole instruments gradually accelerating till it ended up in a galop. The composition contained several pretty and effective passages. Its delivery gave much pleasure. The solo on the cornet was given by Mr Stammaas, on the violoncello by Mr W. Weatherhead, on the flute Mr Green, and on the violin by Mr Borthwick. Next came the song, "A Winter Story," by Watson, given by Miss Mary Green, whose sweet voice delivered the touching verses with much pathos and intelligence, though her words were not clearly heard. She was accompanied on the piano by her brother. The next was a fantasie from Verdi's "Il Trovatore," by [Remusat?], performed as a solo on the flute, whose dulcet and fluent tones in the hands of Mr W. Green did ample justice to the fanciful music. He was accompanied on the pianoforte by Miss Green. At the close hearty applause was awarded the performers. Next came a part song "Beauteous Valse" by Taylor and a waltz, "See Saw" by Crowe, given by a chorus of 20 boys, aided by some members of the Society. The description of circling motion—"round and round to music's swell of melodies enchanting" was well interpreted, though there was a slight harshness amongst the juveniles. The instrumental part followed, and after a few impressive passages the little men struck in with the remainder of the vocal music "See Saw," which was sweeter, more flowing and harmonious than their previous effort. Its effect was heightened by the orchestral accompaniment which formed an agreeable contrast to the ring of their merry voices. This in fact was one of the best and most enjoyable pieces of the evening, it being all the more so on account of its novelty. It was greeted with quite a furore and had to be repeated.

The second part opened with "The Surprise" symphony respecting which the notes on the programme informed us that it is one of the twelve composed on Haydn's first visit to England in 1790. He observed that the English who liked his compositions much when the movement was "allegro," generally went to sleep, or held whispered conversations when it was "andante," whatever their beauties might be. He, in consequence wrote an "Andante," full of sweetness and flowing melody, the sound of all the instruments in which gradually diminishes, when from the moment they all arrive at "pianissimo," a loud stroke of drum, cymbals &c., coupled with a full chord from the entire orchestra, makes the inattentive audience start and brings them back *suo loco*. The various characteristics of the piece were developed with much faithfulness and the result was very gratifying to the ear. Next came "The Swiss Boy," by [Bussel?] played as a solo with variations on the bassoon by Mr J

Cunnington, Newcastle, who succeeded in extracting from that instrument a wonderful amount of lively melody, notwithstanding the deep and low sound of its notes. Next came the song "Forget, forgive," by Wellings which was rendered by Miss Green with violoncello obligato by Mr W. Weatherhead. In this the lady's cultured voice was heard to much advantage. The song was accompanied on the piano by Mr Green. Then followed a "Musical Mystery" entitled "The Ghost" by Langey. Its weird strains, with the introduction of a clock striking midnight and suggestions of restless and evil spirits haunting a house, received careful treatment and produced quite an "uncanny" impression. This was succeeded by the grand valse, "La Riviere du Diamants," by Porcher, given as a solo on the violin by Mr Borthwick, who on this occasion displayed all his wonted ability in handling the instrument, which, owing to an accident, however, he had to give up in favour of several others, some of which also came to grief by the snapping of strings. He received an enthusiastic encore and gave "The Flowers in the Forest." Next came Mr T. Richardson, who gave "The Death of Nelson," by Braham, with telling effect. It was re-demanded and a verse was repeated. This was followed by "The last Rose of Summer," given as a solo with variations on the clarionet by Mr R Smith, Newcastle. The pathetic music found an able exponent in the performer, who delivered the exquisite strains of this gem with much feeling and taste. He was recalled. The last piece on the programme was the overture "Le Diademe," by Hermann, given by the whole strength of the orchestra, who brought out the beauties of harmony which mark the piece in a satisfactory style. The entertainment was brought to a close with the National Anthem, but not till about eleven o'clock, by reason of the voracious appetite of the audience for encores.

Mr Fairbairn proved an excellent conductor, but we trust that in future he and all other leaders of musical societies will sternly set their faces against the demands of auditories for repetitions, as these are becoming an intolerable nuisance. People seem to have no conscience in their calls upon performers, and they seldom seem to study what fatigue must be undergone by them in the execution of their tasks. On Wednesday night several people had to leave the concert long before it terminated, on account of the length to which the programme was protracted.

At the conclusion of the concert, the Sheriff rose and said that in the absence of his Worship the Mayor, he thought that a pleasurable duty devolved on him. He said that the Berwick Orchestral Society was formed in February last with the laudable object of fostering orchestral talent in Berwick. The main objects of the concert were to call attention to the Society and to be for the benefit of the able and energetic trainer and conductor, Mr Bandmaster Fairbairn. (Applause.) In the ordinary commonplace matters of everyday life, as long as a successful result was realised people did not concern themselves too closely to consider the steps by which the end was obtained; but in judging of this delightful concert as a whole they would not be oblivious of the time, the trouble, the anxiety, the large amount of practice both in private and public which must have been necessary to produce so successful a result. Where all had acquitted themselves so well it would be invidious to particularise; and while the best acknowledgement of his audience were due to all the ladies and gentlemen, not forgetting the boys who had so kindly exerted themselves to entertain them, they were especially due to Mr Fairbairn, who had been most successful in winding up his troupe to concert pitch. (Applause.)

December 19, Front Page, column 7.

Corn Exchange. For six nights, commencing Jan. 5, 1885, Mr Haldane Crichton's celebrated company in "The Member of Slocum." The most successful and entertaining of the comedies by the well-known author Mr G.R. Sims. Splendid new scenery and accessories.

December 19, Local News, p. 3. , column 3.

Equitable Benefit Building Society. The half-yearly general meeting of the members of this society was held in the Corn Exchange on Monday night. Mr T. Morallee, chairman of Directors, presiding. The audited accounts were passed and approved. It was stated that the new rules had been revised by the Registrar of Friendly Societies. This was adopted with a few alterations suggested by the Registrar. The shares of the Society are now divided into Ordinary Preference and deposit shares of £25 each. The Preference shares are entitled to a fixed rate of dividend, 4 per cent, payable half-yearly