

# TODAY'S NEWS

*Have I got old news for you?*

## Lochwinnoch - Bits & Bobs 1897

1897

The **Parish Council** have agreed to **double** the allowance to the **poor** for the week in which the Diamond Jubilee celebration takes place.

1897

**Not a few** people in the district were disturbed in the early hours of Wednesday morning by the heavy fall of **rain**. The River Cart and its tributaries overflowed their banks, submerging fields, at one point flooding the railway line, and rendering many roads **impassable**.

1897

In Lochwinnoch **U.P. Church** on Monday evening, Mr Whytock delivered an interesting lecture, illustrated with lime-light views, on "**Missionary work on the Congo**" to an appreciative audience.

At the meeting of the Guild in Lochwinnoch **Parish Church**, last Sabbath afternoon, Mr Robert Blair read an able paper on "**The Lost Sheep**"

**W**ithin the last year or so no fewer than eighteen two-storey tenements have been added to the village, and there are indications that the boom is not yet over. A large block is at present being put in High Street, and a cottage being erected at Braehead. Amongst prospective additions is a large hall in connection with the Parish Church, subscriptions for which are being raised.

**S**ince the unfortunate burning of Calder Cabinet Works about six months ago, the firm of Messrs. Hunter, Hamilton, and Crawford has been broken up. Mr. Hunter has built a large factory upon the old site, and Messrs. Hamilton and Crawford have erected a commodious establishment, which they have designated Lochhead Works, upon ground immediately behind the Parish and Free Churches. Cabinet-making has now been commenced in both works, but it will some little time before they are in full swing. The number of cabinetmakers employed by the old firm was 150 and it is stated that the two new works could accommodate double that number.

**I** have read with interest your correspondents "True North " letter on the cardinal points at Catrine. We have a similar case here. Part of the Parish Church spire was re-built some years ago The cardinal points were renewed and re-set, and, as has

1897

**Fair Holidays.**— The local works closed on Thursday for the annual Fair Holidays, and will not open till Monday week. Special facilities for travelling are being offered by the Glasgow & South-Western Railway Company, and these are likely to be largely taken advantage of.

1897

**The weather** during the week having been fine, many farmers in the district have commenced to cut their hay. On one or two farms the hay is standing in **ricks**. The crop is a fairly good one.

1897

The **Fair holidays are over** for another year, and the local holidaymakers have all returned to their daily labours **refreshed and invigorated**. I hope, after their brief period of relaxation, Mr Williamson's laundry resumed operations towards the end of last week, the Cabinet Works opened on Monday, and Tuesday morning saw the Silk Factory started. But while there were many families in Lochwinnoch enjoying themselves at the coast and in the country last week, their places in the village were taken for the time being by **Glasgow visitors**, who, in the presence of that section of the community who cannot be tempted to spend their holidays and their money away from home, caused the village to present a lively aspect.

been done at Catrine, instead of being set to the true north have been set to the then magnetic north, and of course by this time neither point to the magnetic nor true north.

**C**hildren's Excursion from Renfrew to Lochwinnoch.

There were 250 youngsters present, and they were driven in ten brakes, each drawn by four horses, kindly granted Councillor John Clark. By the kind permission of Provost Mackenzie, Milliken, and Mr. Shand Harvie, Castle Semple, the brakes were allowed to be driven through the policies, and the privilege very highly appreciated. The party were afterwards driven to Lochwinnoch, where, after abundant refreshments had been served, an interesting programme of sports was gone through. Valuable prizes were competed for, and in addition the children were presented with articles of clothing.

**W**hen last at Lochwinnoch I noticed that a new pillar oil lamp had been erected at the south-west corner of the new bridge over the Calder—a much-needed illuminator—though only of oil. Also that the overhanging branches of the trees on the right-hand side of the road from the new bridge to the old bridge had been cut. Another boon and blessing to travellers by that way on dark nights.

**I**s the "last word" for 1897, I wish our readers " A Happy New Year and many returns."