

BRANXTON.

The various bodies responsible for the nomination in the Queen of Allies Day election have been very active in the interests of their respective candidates. This week two socials took place, one under the auspices of the miners, and the other of the friendly societies, and both were well attended. At the former songs were contributed by Misses Allen and Johnson, and Messrs. J. Simpson and T. Lysaght. Mr. R. Belford favoured with a step dance. The office of M.C. was well filled by Mr. T. Lysaght. At the latter social Mr. Perret acted as M.C., and music was supplied by Bendeich's orchestra—violin, Mr. W. Bendeich; piano, Miss Bendeich; cornet, Mr. A. Brown. Extras were supplied by Messrs. Edmonds and Lysaght and Miss Harrigan.

After service on Sunday last the members of the Methodist Church presented Private Geo. Farquhar, who has for some time been associated with the choir, with a pocket testament with handsome Morocco binding, and a money belt, on the occasion of his departure after final leave. Private Farquhar was also entertained by his fellow members of the local lodge of the Grand United Order of Oddfellows, and presented with a sheepskin vest.

Mr. R. McKenzie, who recently had his finger amputated, consequent on having it caught in a boring machine, expects to leave the hospital on Saturday next.

Mr. R. Thrift, a member of the band, met with a painful accident when returning from practice one night last week. In cycling down a steep hill on the way to his home at Elderslie a large stone in the middle of the road escaped his notice. His bike struck the stone, and he struck the road with such force as to splinter his collarbone. Under skilful surgical attention Mr. Thrift is progressing favourably.

The apathy of our Branxton people has been so commented on of late that further mention becomes almost tedious, even at the risk of reaching that point. The writer feels in duty bound to direct attention to the lack of support accorded the Branxton Band. The innumerable occasions on which the band has played (without remuneration) at patriotic and other functions makes it an acquisition to the town, but how few realise it? A manifestation of greater public interest would no doubt encourage the trustees to erect a rotunda on the park, where many a pleasant hour could be passed, someday—perhaps.