

The Mining Journal

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 1837

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Providential Escape.

A most providential escape from immediate death occurred on Saturday morning last, at the colliery belonging to Messrs. Bennett and Co., Brampton Moor, near Chesterfield. The colliery consisting of about ten in number, including one or two boys, were going to their work, and were all but in the very act of descending, when a most tremendous rush of water was heard into the pit, which in a few minutes filled up the shaft to the very amazing depth of thirty feet of water. The usual time for the men to go down was half an hour earlier than they were ready to descend on this morning, though the delay, we are informed, arose from no real necessity; no particular reason appeared to exist why, on this very morning, they should be later than usual.

Derby Reporter.

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River Wear Vend of Coals.

The following statement extends from the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June to, and with, the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1836, and was sworn to by the staithmen of the coal-owners under-mentioned, before the commissioners of the River Wear, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January, 1837. The first column exhibits the quantity supplied to glass-houses, limekilns, &c, exempt from duty; and the second column shipped and chargeable with duty: -

Trustees of the Marquess of Londonderry, from Pensher Colliery	1803	10,581
Trustees of the Marquess of Londonderry, from Pensher Colliery, led to Wearmouth		25,019
The Earl of Durham	2188	66,355
The Hetton Coal Company	2751	65,388
Russell and Company (Washington Colliery)	1336	304
Russell and Company (North Hetton Colliery)	71	3589
Trustees of the Marquis of Londonderry, the Earl of Durham, and the Hetton Coal Company (North Hetton Colliery)	288	7329
M.J. Davison, Esq. (Beamish Colliery)	320	10,421½
Stobart and Co. (Fatfield Colliery)	3579	10,056
Bell and Co. (Shield Row Colliery)		7902
Pemberton and Co. (Monkwearmouth Colliery)	128	6640
Clark and Co. (Haswell Colliery)		13,380
Bell and Co. (Belmont Colliery)		3494
Braddyl and Co. (South Hetton Colliery)		2724
Total	12,584	238,192½
Shipped and chargeable with duty, for first half-year, ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June 1836		197,813
Shipped and chargeable with duty, for second half-year, ending 31 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 1836		238,192½
Total for the Year		436,005½

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Kerrow Tin Mining Company

A Special General Meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held at the offices, 4 Leadenhall Street, on Saturday, the 11<sup>th</sup> ult.

Edward Garland, Esq., in the Chair.

The advertisement convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman stated, in accordance with the terms of the advertisement, that the meeting had been convened for the purpose of considering the propriety of dissolving the Company; he regretted that the last call the directors had made (with the approbation of the shareholders), had been so ill responded to, the result of which was, that the Company had not only been left unable to carry on the operations, but that it had incurred a debt to the amount of £600. He proceeded to state that he had caused valuations to be made of the stock of materials belonging to the Company, the result of which was, that £1775 was the sum they were calculated upon to produce if sold separate, but their value as stock on the mine was considerably greater; he also stated the probable cost of working the mine, if the Company were to resolve on continuing operations, which would be £800 to prove the lodes, but to sink deeper and effectually to bring the mine into an efficient state of operations, would require £2,000; the captains who had furnished this intelligence were Messrs. Stephens and Browne, letters from whom had been received. Mr. Browne, the late agent, had also lately informed the directors that he had received nine petitions, brought against the company by merchants in arrear of payment. The Chairman dwelt particularly on the necessity of economy; they had urged on Mr. Browne for some time past, but were sorry to have occasion to state that they did not think Mr. Browne had done his utmost to lessen the charges, although the mines had been kept only in such a state as to preserve their title to it. He concluded by seriously advising the proprietors to abandon the undertaking, not because it had turned out to be unproductive, but because their means of effectually proving the mine fell far short of the sum required, there being only £160 paid upon the last call.

A Shareholder here rose, and expressed himself highly dissatisfied with what had fallen from the Chairman, it being plainly stated in the prospectus, that no machinery would be required, there being at all times a sufficient supply of water; and further, that in his opinion, Mr. Browne had not acted honourably towards the Company.

Mr. Wilson asked if Mr. Browne's accounts were found to be correct, and thought that the merchant's account should not be paid till all his books had been examined.

The Chairman replied, that they had the vouchers up every month, and knew of no error in particular to which they could refer, but that they had found fault generally with the expenditure, as exceeding what, in their opinion, it ought to have been. Mr. Browne, however, had offered to show to the directors, all the books and accounts in his possession.

A Shareholder inquired if the shares on which the last instalment had not been paid were forfeited, to which the chairman replied, that they had been forfeited, but were restored by the directors, according to the powers vested in them by the regulations on the script.

The proprietor who made the enquiry contended that the directors, after having advertised the forfeiture of the shares, had no power to restore them, and that those shareholders had given up all right and title to any benefits arising from the shares so forfeited.

After some further conversation, it was agreed that the directors had acted with due propriety in restoring the forfeited shares, but the business of the day being more particularly concerning the dissolution of the company, Mr. Saunders rose to move that the Company be dissolved, as no one had evinced a desire to move that the Company should continue further operations, which motion was seconded by Mr. Strong, and carried, subject to confirmation at another special meeting, to be held for that purpose. Thanks having been voted to the directors, the meeting adjourned.