

The Mining Journal

6<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 525 Col. 3

#### Important Mineral Trial.

The Great Barmote Court, for deciding mineral disputes in the Wapentake of Wirksworth. Was held last week in the Moot Hall, Derbyshire. W.E. Mousley, Esq., as steward of the Court, presided as judge; and, after the usual routine business of adjusting the ore "dishes" had been got through, a jury of miners was sworn, and the Court proceeded with the important mineral trial, "Greatrex v. Spencer." Spencer and Company had sunk several shafts in a field called Westow, at Brassington, one of which they named Hall's Founder, in the mineral title called Victoria. The ground in this part of the Queen's Field presents the unusual circumstance of there being what is called a flat work, meaning a work of lead ore, spreading laterally and horizontally, at about 3 fms from the surface, similar to a coal bed, while, underneath this, 7 fms still deeper, a rake work, or vertical vein of lead, commences, and extends downwards. Those who are not versed in mining affairs will better understand this, when we state that a section cut through the flat work, which is superposed on the rake work, at a transverse section to the latter, would in shape nearly approach the letter T, the flat work forming the top, the rake work the upright part of the letter. In the course of the mineral operations of the defendants, they discovered this lower vein, and plaintiffs shortly after sank three or four shafts in search of the same vein, within which is called the founder meer of the defendant's title. Defendants had freed their flat work, according to mineral custom, about 20 yards from their founder shaft; while the plaintiffs, who had also discovered the flat work, alleging they had an old title there, had freed that as a new vein, and called it Prince Albert. The defendants had also freed their rake work, lying under the flat work, by the name of Hall's Vein. The question at issue now was – and it was a new question in lead mining in the Derbyshire Queen's Field – whether the flat work could belong to, and be worked by, one party, and the rake work underneath be taken up and worked by another. The question was decided by the plaintiffs' own acts – namely, having freed both the flat work and the pipe work as new veins, whilst the defendants had taken up and freed both veins for new or old; and plaintiffs, consequently, lost on the merits. By this decision, it appears that, under circumstances similar to those narrated, two separate titles may possibly exist in the Queen's Field, under the same surface.

The Mining Journal

6<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 525 Col. 3

Ironstone.

We understand that an extensive seam of ironstone has lately been discovered on the estate of Milliken, which, from the analysis of Professor Thomson, of Glasgow, promises to be of a most valuable description. Operations are now in progress to make it available.

The Mining Journal

6<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 525 Col. 3

The Lead Trade.

The Morning Post, after quoting our statistics of the week before last, says – “A correspondent reminds us, with reference to these statements, that it would be unfair towards many of the mines included in the several lists, to permit them to pass without an observation. It is mentioned, for example, that of the Cardiganshire Mines, the Cwm Sebon contains 40ozs of silver to the ton of lead, the Llanfair 80ozs, and the Goginan 30 to 32ozs. These mines, it is added, and, indeed, all in the district, except one unfortunate and ill-advised adventure, now abandoned, are worked by the cheap mode of water-power, and also drained by the same agency, or by level. It is feared that the failure of the North and South Wales Bank, by restricting the circulation of the neighbourhood, may impede, for the moment, the progress of an interest so vital to the welfare of this remote district; but it is suggested that an opportunity offers for the establishment of a branch of the Bank of England. It will be perceived, that the get of ore in Great Britain has declined, whilst the price of lead, which, in better times, would have gone much higher, has been maintained against the ebbing tide of the money market. If a fair inquiry were made by capitalists, as to the success and capability of Cardiganshire mining operations, it is probable that this branch of our native industry would be much more effectively supported than have been foreign railways, foreign loans, and other equally questionable matters. The average liberal profits of mines in the quarter alluded to entitle them to a decided preference even over the competing railways of the United Kingdom. The shares of Messrs. Gower, Nephews, and Co., in the Cwm Ystwyth Mines, will, it is expected, shortly be offered for sale. This mine, we are apprised, has made the fortunes of Sir Thomas Bonsall and Mr. Lewis Pugh. Some private adventurers of high promise, or rather, as we are told, of assured prospects, await the participation of the public.”

The Mining Journal

13th November 1847

Page 538 Col. 2

Wheal Andrew and Nangiles.

In our Notices to Correspondents, in the Journal of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult., we alluded to the complaints of an adventurer, in the above mines, respecting the inefficiency of the underground agency. We have this week received another communication, in which he reiterates the charges, and states that he cannot, as we recommended, lay his complaints before a committee of management, as the adventure is managed by Capt. Francis solely, who calls the meetings, which generally consist of only about one-third of the shareholders; and, although he has appealed several times to them, the same course is pursued, which he declares, unless speedily altered, must inevitably stop the undertaking. The majority of the shares are held in London, and if things are really as bad as our correspondent represents them, we would seriously recommend him to communicate with some of the holders, and arrange for a general meeting, not only to take the case into consideration, but for taking measures for grappling immediately with the difficulty, and establishing a better state of things. Surely, if the adventure is managed by Capt. Francis he cannot refuse to call a legal meeting in London, on a requisition to that effect from a number of holders, holding a large interest in the mine.

The Mining Journal

13th November 1847

Page 538 Col. 2

Accidents.

North Fowey Consols – Mark Smith fell down the shaft here, and was killed.

Newquay Consols – J. Holman was struck on the head by a balance-bob, which was being raised into its place, and killed.

Polgooth – T. Skewes was killed by a fall of roof.

Wheal Kitty – While H. Bray was working at the 40fm level, and was in the act of driving his barrow to the plat, by some means his candle went out, and he fell about 10 fathoms, and died shortly after.

Dowlais Iron Works – Two persons were killed, by an accidental explosion of gunpowder, at these works, on Saturday last.

Durham – M. Hunter was killed by a fall of roof at Lord Londonderry's Nicholson Colliery.

Main Vawr Colliery, Risca – Explosion – A fatal explosion of fire-damp occurred here on Sunday last, by which Thomas Cook lost his life, and his brother Stephen, and two others, dreadfully injured. There was but a small accumulation of gas, and the accident occurred through the recklessness of the men, in carrying their lamps without the gauze shield over them – John Coleman, aged 10 years, a nephew of the deceased, was killed on Monday by a fall of coal, and five brothers, and two grandsons, have likewise been killed by explosions.

North Elswick Colliery, Durham – As G. Buckham was sending a tub of lime down the pit, his foot slipped, and, knocking his head violently against a post, he was killed.

Bromley, near Brierley Hill – As G. Ashman and a companion were employed getting coal at Messrs. Firmstone's, a quantity fell, and buried poor Ashman under its weight.

Hart's Hill, Brockmoor – As S. Bedard was getting coal at Messrs. Cochrane's Colliery, a quantity of coal fell and buried him; he died shortly after, from the effects of his injuries.

Bilston – Fatal Accident to a Woman – As Eliza Hollingshead was assisting as a bank's girl at the mouth of a pit in the neighbourhood, and was in the act of pushing a skip from the platform on to the bank, the catch gave way – the platform fell back, and the deceased (who was standing between two men) fell backwards down the pit, which is 84 yards deep, and was killed on the spot. The two men narrowly escaped with their lives, by jumping off the platform to the side of the pit – catching hold of the frame, whilst their legs hung down the pit until they were rescued from their perilous position. – J. Jones was killed in a stone pit, in Mr. Banks's field, by about 3 tons of stone and clod falling upon him: he had been warned that the stone was unsafe, but he tried it with his pick, and said it was all safe, which, unfortunately, proved otherwise – E. Malony died from the effects of injuries received while working in a colliery here – While M. Maloney was working in one of the pits of Messrs. Pemberton's colliery, a clod of earth fell and killed him.

Darlaston – P M'Cue was killed by a fall of earth at Mr. Addenbrooke's Colliery.

Rowley Regis – M. Attwood, aged 12 years, was found dead at the bottom of the shaft of the stone pit of the British Iron Company, at Cradley Heath. It appeared that there was a gin near the bottom of the shaft, from which a large arm projected; and that, when any empty skips are being let down to the deep part of the pit, this gin revolves with considerable speed – and it is supposed that the deceased had incautiously gone too near it, and was struck by the arm. – Birmingham Advertiser.

Wolverhampton – A collier, named Dandy, while working in a pit on the Dudley Road, had one of his legs and collar bone broken – and subsequently died from his injuries.

A Pit on Fire – A pit at the colliery of Messrs. Izon and Co., Hart's Hill, took fire on Tuesday morning last, in consequence of what is called the "breeding fire" communicating with a quantity of slack and other combustible materials lying about the pit. The flames spread with alarming rapidity – speedily bursting forth at the mouth of the pit, and presenting a fearful appearance. Fortunately, the men were not in the pit at the time – their hour for commencing work not having arrived; no other damage was, therefore, done, than the destruction of a horse, which was suffocated by the sulphur. The raging element was speedily extinguished by the men closing up the mouth of the pit, and preventing the admission of air. – Birmingham Journal.

Brampton Moor – J. Briggs was sadly injured by a fall of earth, but is now fast recovering. – C. Boham, ironstone getter, at Hady, had set a shot, and had given the signal to be drawn up; but on rising and seeing his powder can, he called to the men at the top to stop, and then threw his cap at the fusee: thinking he had knocked it out, he descended to fetch his powder-can; when nearly at the bottom, the shot went off, and the fragment's of stone cut his face in a dreadful manner.

Calow, near Chesterfield – J. Calegon, aged 14, in attempting to descend the pit by the rope, missed his catch – was precipitated to the bottom, about 40 yards, and was killed.

Awful Death of a Man at Ketley Ironworks. – A shocking occurrence happened to a young man, named Powell, who was crushed to death by the falling of an immense boiler, weighing out at 12 tons, belonging to Messrs. Blackwell, Jones, and Oakes. The deceased was a labourer, employed at the Oak Farm Works; and, on the occasion of the accident, was sent with the boiler in question to superintend its removal.

West Bromwich – As H. Walton and J. Payne were in a working, a short distance from each other, a large portion of the mass of coal they were getting suddenly detached itself, and, falling upon Walton, injured him so severely, that he died soon afterwards.

Comical Incaution, yet nearly Fatal – One night last week, at Lodge Hill, near New Durham, an old pitman, named Marley, was preparing cartridges by candle light for blasting coal, and filling straws with gunpowder for the same purpose. His gunpowder magazine (an old teapot) stood beside him. Having filled one of his straws, how did the old man seal it? He shoved one end of it among the grease of his candle, just below the flame! He did this so cleverly, that it caught fire, and exploded his powder magazine! Both he and a little girl were burnt by the explosion. "Burnt children," says the adage, "dread the fire." The little girl will keep out of the way the next time the old gentleman prepares his fireworks; but whether he himself will be wiser for his warning is doubtful. – Gateshead Observer.

The Mining Journal

20<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 552 Col. 1

The Great Tunnel under Liverpool.

This work is about the only one in connection with the London and North-Western system on which there are no particular appearances of suspension, the object being to connect, as soon as possible, by a tunnel of 2.5 miles, the goods depot at Edgehill with the North Docks at the water's edge, where the bulk of all the foreign shipping centres. When completed, ship's cargoes will be taken direct to Edgehill, without the present excessive cost of cartage. The tunnel is called the Victoria Tunnel, and its contractors, Messrs. Holmes and M'Cormack, who have between 1000 and 2000 men on it at work, have already carried the driftway half through. The operations are very dangerous, and in some places shake the foundations of the houses, which, at many points, are only from 50 to 80 ft above the level where the rails are to be laid, while in other places there is a variation of from 90 to 100 ft. The tunnel undermines in its course three or four places of worship – churches, Quakers' meeting-houses, and Baptist chapels – which will be only 66 ft above the roll of the locomotive. One half the tunnel is good to work through, consisting of rock and sandstone; but, as it approaches the docks, the soil is of a treacherous kind and rubbish. The railway company have to pay compensation to the owners of every house and building the tunnel passes under.

The Mining Journal

20<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 552 Col. 1

#### High Tor Tunnels

The important works at these tunnels, at Matlock, on the Manchester, Matlock and Ambergate Railway, are progressing so prosperously as could be wished. The tunnel at the north end, or that nearest Matlock Bridge, is now completed for the distance of 80 yards; and, at the south, or Matlock Bath end, 50 yards of tunnel have been finished, besides a heading 28 yards, in the heavy middle cutting, where the tunnel is but just commenced. Between 30 and 40 yards of tunnelling have been cut during the last month; and we hear, from the best authority, that there is every probability of these tunnels being completed by August next. The excavation at the Willersley Tunnel – in many respects more difficult than those above notices – are in all parts in full activity, being at eight points at once. There are two steam-engines on the works, and neither skill nor experience has been spared by the contractor, Mr. Harding, who, there is no doubt, will complete this undertaking most satisfactorily within the given space. It is gratifying to be enabled to add, that no accident worth naming has occurred at either of the above works for some weeks. – Derbyshire Courier.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 2

Accidents.

Yorkshire – Fatal Quarry Accident. On Tuesday last, a man, named Ibbetson, was dashed to pieces by falling into a stone quarry, about 12 yards deep, at Potternewton, near Leeds, where he was employed as a workman by Mr. J.B. Lucas. He was lowering the tub, or box, in which the wall-stones are drawn up from the quarry, and, whilst adjusting the crane, he fell in. He has left a widow and large family to lament his loss.

Brancepeth Colliery. As J. Stoker, deputy-overman, was removing a pit prop (contrary to the advice of another overman), a stone fell upon him, and he was killed.

Shut End, Wolverhampton. As R. Lord was stooping to pick up a crow-bar, about four or five tons of coal fell upon him, and, when taken from under it, he was quite dead. The pit, which is the property of Messrs. Cooksey and Fellows, was stated to be properly worked and timbered, and the coal fell in consequence of two faulty places, or veins, in the coal, which could not be seen before the coal was down.

Oak Farm Iron-Works. W. Cannon, while cleaning some pinions belonging to an iron mill, was drawn through the boxes between the pinions and the rolls. There was a deep wound over his right eye – his left leg was almost severed from his body, and his bowels were squeezed out. It was supposed that his apron, or some part of his clothes, became entangled in the boxes, which caused him to be drawn in and thus crushed to death.

Cwm Avon. On Thursday last, a collier, named Jones, was engaged in one of the levels belonging to the Governor and Company of Copper Miners, at Cwm Avon, when a quantity of earth fell, in forming a hollow, in which he became quite entombed. He remained in his subterranean cell for five or six hours – all his cries and prayers failing to bring any person to his assistance. Eventually, some of his fellow workmen, who heard his lamentations, came and rescued him from his uncomfortable and somewhat perilous situation. – Swansea Herald.

Clay Cross. A few days ago, J. Green, lost one, if not both, of his eyes, by an explosion of gunpowder, in a pit at the Clay Cross Colliery. He was setting a blast, when the drill, with which he was ramming, came in contact with some hard substance, which immediately struck fire, and caused the explosion.

Accident at Ripley. S. Stocks was killed in an ironstone pit; it appeared he had filled a box at the bottom of the shaft with bind, which was being drawn out by a chain, when, reaching near the top, one of the links of the chain (which was nearly new), broke, and the box and contents fell down the shaft, and struck the head of the deceased with great violence, which caused instant death. – Derby Reporter.

Death from the Explosion of a Boiler. As T. Kidson, a labourer, employed by Messrs. G.B. Thorneycroft and Co., at their iron-works, at Bradley, was employed piling iron in the furnace, the boiler burst, and the deceased immediately afterwards was found lying under the wall of an adjoining boiler, badly scalded and burnt, and partially covered with red-hot bricks. Assistance was promptly rendered, and the deceased conveyed home and attended; he lingered until the following Sunday morning, when he died from the effects of the burns and scalds. On examining

the boiler, the state of which was minutely inquired into, the bottom was found to have burst from the top, round the crest plates. It was an old boiler, but had undergone a thorough repair three or four months ago, and the plates, at the thinnest part, were full three-sixteenths of an inch thick; the valves were found in good working order, and there appeared a sufficient quantity of water in at the time of the explosion. The boiler had been cleaned on the morning of the occurrence, and the main lid screwed on about an hour before the explosion. Fire had been put under the boiler about three-quarters of an hour before the lid was screwed down – the boiler being filled with water at that time. No cause could be assigned for the explosion; nor was blame attached to the man who had the care of the engine, who was also much injured. – Wolverhampton Chronicle.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 2

Mineral Resources of South Wales.

In an enquiry instituted before the High Sheriff, to discover the value of some property in the Parish of Llanwonno, required for an extension of the South Wales Railway, the chief point urged in favour of Mr. Vaughan, the owner of the land, was, that the taking it would destroy his privilege as owner of the keys to the two valleys, as the establishment of the railway would have the effect of throwing open those districts. A witness, named Joseph, estimated that in Rhondda Fawr valley there were 375,000,000 tons of available minerals; and in Rhondda Fach 194,000,000; he also added, that the *mineral resources of Monmouthshire were speedily becoming exhausted*, a circumstance which would render it necessary that the products of the two Rhondda should at no distant day be taken into the market, thereby enhancing the value of the "way-leave" privilege of Mr. Edwards Vaughan. The loss of this privilege, for conveyance of minerals from the Rhondda Fach Valley, witness estimated at £2031; and with reference to the Rhondda Fawr Valley, the estimate was about £2843. In his cross-examination, he said this valuation was based on the principle that Mr. Edwards Vaughan should be dealt with differently from any other landowner in the valley; but then, he added, that that gentleman's position was different, as there was only one feasible mode of bringing the minerals of the two Rhonddas down – namely, by passing over his property – Sir Thomas Phillips cross-examined the various witnesses at some length; and in an able reply, the arguments of Sergeant Kinglake (for the plaintiff), were noticed in detail; and also the discrepancies in the valuations set up by the respective witnesses. It was contended, if the claim for "way-leave compensation" should be granted, it would effectively stop all further railway extension in the Rhondda Valleys, the minerals of which would have to remain unworked. At the close of the evidence, the learned Coroner having briefly, but most clearly, summed up the evidence, the room was cleared, after which the jury proceeded with their deliberations. In the course of about half an hour they returned a verdict for Mr. Edwards Vaughan – damages, £300 – viz: value of the land, £225; severance and general damages, £75 – in all £300.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 2

Cwmavon Works.

On Tuesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> inst., a new mill, called the "Great Western," was started, for the first time, at these large and rapidly extending works, which bid fair to outrival most of the Welsh iron-works, in superior arrangements, and in the superiority of its magnificent workshops, machinery, and Manufactured produce. This mill is the sixth that has been erected within the space of two years, and is calculated to manufacture the produce of 40 puddling furnaces, and will make the total number erected within the time mentioned to be 68 puddling, and 20 balling, furnaces, which will be all in full operation before New Year's Day. Within the same time 500 comfortable and commodious cottages have been built for the workmen; and the secluded valley, which until of late years contained only a few scattered rows of houses on the hill sides, is now teeming with a population of 5000 persons – every week adding to their number. These extensive works, which comprise iron, copper, tin and chemical works, are under the able and judicious management of T.R. Guppy, Esq.; and the astonishing amount of work done, and of alterations and improvements made, within the last two years in this valley, bear ample testimony to his scientific skill and to his energetic and persevering industry. The "Great Western Mill" was commenced in July last, and has been completed in four months. The engine is small, but powerful, double cylinder, 20 inch diameter each, and 2ft. stroke, and is intended to drive four pair of rolls. It started well, and it is surprising to see so small a machine drive the ponderous wheels and rolls with such power and velocity. The whole of the mills are under the superintendence of that old and experienced mill manager, Mr. Nathaniel Evans, late of the Dowlais Iron Works. The severe pressure in the money market, and the consequent stagnation of trade, has thrown a gloom over the present prospects of the iron trade, and a reduction of wages is, therefore, contemplated at these works, and must necessarily take place; but it is consoling to reflect, that they will give employment to thousands during the ensuing winter, that would otherwise have to roam far and wide to seek employment, and to keep themselves and families from starvation. – Merthyr Guardian.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 2

Risca Coal Works.

We understand that the Risca works have been disposed of, and they have fetched upwards of £100,000. – Worcester Chronicle.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 2

Probable Dissolution of the Colliers' Union.

Much dissatisfaction and disunion at present exists in this once formidable body. The complaints are loud, that the salary of the "Attorney-General" is too great, and that he must consent to a considerable reduction, or abandon his post. He, in turn, claims arrears (it is so reported) amounting to £1500. Many collieries are entirely stopped, and several others are, we are told, on the point of stopping, and discharging their men. The funds of the union are almost exhausted, and the present subscriptions very scanty; and, with these prospects, in the face of large stocks of coal on every pit brow, Mr. Roberts chance of payment of arrears is very poor; and the union, minus both leader and funds, must, of necessity, be at an end. The poor colliers themselves will, it is feared (should the coal proprietors close their works on a more extended scale), be in great distress; for they have no money wherewith to relieve any considerable number of sick or unemployed, the whole of the heavy subscriptions having been swallowed to pay the union expenses, the charges of delegates, and the large salary of their chief. – Liverpool Mercury.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

The Cost-Book System.

Vice-Chancellor's Court, before Sir J. Wigram, November 20.

Curling v. Flight.

The further arguments in this case were resumed, upon the question, whether the purchaser of shares in a mining adventure in Wales and Cornwall was entitled to further evidence of title than was afforded by a book known among miners as the "cost-book," the purchaser contending that the shares conferred an interest in land. The case has been already noticed by us in the Mining Journal of Saturday last.

Mr. Tillotson (who was with Mr. Wood), on the part of the vendor of the shares, referred to a case before the Master of the Rolls, in which the question arose, whether shares in the Liverpool and Manchester Gas Light Company and the Allington Dock Company were to be considered as giving an interest in land, within the statutes of Mortmain. The shares in the former companies were expressly declared to be a personal estate, but as to the Dock Company shares the Master of the Rolls observed, "A shareholder in one of the companies, whether incorporated or not, has a right to receive dividends due upon his shares – that is, his right to a proportion of the profits arising from the employment of the joint-stock; but, whilst he continues to hold his shares, he has no distinct or separate rights to the land, or any part of it. He has an interest in the enjoyment of the land, but he cannot make any part of it his own, in satisfaction of his claims as a shareholder. He is not in the situation of a mortgagee, who has a legal interest in the land, nor as tenant in common, nor as joint tenant." All the authorities showed that shares in a joint-stock partnership, similar to this mining partnership, were merely personal and not real estate.

The Vice-Chancellor observed, that the difficulty in this case was, that the vendor refused to give the purchaser any further information than was contained in the cost-book, so that he was ignorant of the tenure of the mines, whether they were leaseholds or freeholds. Mr. Tillotson submitted, that the evidence showed that the vendor was fully aware that the mines were managed upon what, by the custom of the country, was known as the Cost-Book Principle.

Mr. Romilly, in reply, endeavoured to point out the fallacy of giving importance to the word "adventure," in the particulars of sale. Assuming that this was merely a share in a joint-stock company, the vendor had failed in making out a sufficient title. The words of the particulars of sale were "part or share" in a mine; this expression was used in reference to each of the eight lots which had been purchased. No one could dispute that there might be a trading partnership in a mine, but the "Cost-book" merely was not evidence of any such partnership. It merely contained the names of certain persons among whom the shares of profits were divisible; but it did not specify the terms of the partnership, nor show how it was constituted, or who had the right of management. "Kempson v. Saunders," 2 Car. And P., decided that, if a party sold a share in a manner not warranted by the original constitution of the company, such a sale or assignment would not convey any interest whatever. How, in this case, could the purchaser of these shares know anything of the constitution of the title to the ownership of the mines by merely seeing names written in the cost-book, of which there was no mention on the conditions of sale? – The Vice-Chancellor asked for the papers, and reserved his judgment.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

Mining Shares.

Right of Refusal to Transfer.

In the Vice-Warden's Court, an important question was decided in the case "Brunton v. Hodge" – as to whether mining shares, when transferred, are subject to any other payment than that of back costs. The case was tried at the last sittings of the Court in August. The defendants were the managing committee of South Wheal Francis, of which mine Mr. Philip Vyvyan Robinson was formerly the purser and a shareholder. In April, 1846, he ceased to be purser, and went to France; but before this, he executed a power of attorney to his son to sell the shares. The latter subsequently sold one share to the plaintiff "for a valuable consideration," of which plaintiff gave notice to the defendants, who stated that back costs were due on the shares, and they refused to enter the transfer to plaintiff in the cost-book. Plaintiff thereon offered to pay the back costs, and tendered, through his solicitor, a sum of money for that purpose, but defendants still refused to accept the transfer, and at the trial they brought evidence to show that there was an unsettled account between them and Mr. Robinson, and they alleged that he was the defaulter on coming to an account. They had, therefore, refused to accept the transfer of Mr. Robinson's shares, even though an offer had been made to pay the back costs on them as a condition of the transfer. The Vice-Warden now delivered judgement in the case – he was of opinion that a mining adventure, such as that before the court, was not the same as an ordinary mercantile partnership, and was not subject to the same law. In the case of a mining adventure in this district, on the Cost-Book System, the shares of each adventure, by the universal practice of the district, may be transferred by the act of the holder (or by an act of law in the case of his bankruptcy or death), without the privity or consent of the body of adventurers, the transfer being subject to the payment of back costs on the share. Then came the question, was the transferee subject to any other condition – to the result of any accounts which the shareholder whom he succeeds had incurred with the adventurer as their customer, their servant, or their agent? He was of opinion that the transferee was not so subject. In the present case, therefore, the plaintiff has a right to have the memorandum of transfer to him entered in the cost-book, on the payment of back costs on the share; and the decree was, that reference be made to the registrar to ascertain the amount of back costs, in order that they may be properly paid before the transfer is registered.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

Scotch Mining Statistics.

There are now about 100 blast-furnaces at work in Scotland, each of which will produce on an average 5000 tons of pig-iron a year, or altogether about 500,000 tons. For all the purposes connected with the manufacture of 1 ton of pig-iron, taking it in round numbers, there will be required about three tons of coal, 35cwts of calcined iron-stone, and 10cwts of lime. According to the restricted darg of the Lanarkshire colliers and miners, the labour of one man, supposing him to work the whole, will be equal to the produce of a raw material for 50 tons of pig-iron a year. The manufacture of pig-iron will, therefore, give employment to 10,000 colliers and miners. The manufacture of malleable iron in Scotland will be somewhere about 80,000 tons per annum, which will give employment to 1000 colliers, each ton requiring about four tons of raw coal for its manufacture. Altogether, this will give employment to 11,000 colliers and miners in the manufacture of iron alone in Scotland. For each man employed the population may be estimated at four, which will give a population of between 40,000 and 50,000. For supplying the consumption of Glasgow, 3,000 colliers are required, and taking the whole of Scotland, the number of colliers and miners absolutely working will be about 30,000, and the population about 120,000. This is altogether independent of oncostmen, labourers, mechanics, and others, employed in connection with our collieries and ironstone mines, which will give at least one-half more. The population, therefore, belonging to our coal and ironstone working cannot be estimated at less than 180,000, and is rapidly increasing every day. The quantity of pig-iron made has doubled within the last seven years, which must have added to the mining population above 20,000. – North British Review.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

Sheffield Mining Company.

On Wednesday week, many of the Sheffield Lead Mining Company, visited their works at Eyam, and expressed their unanimous satisfaction at the progress made in their praiseworthy speculation. The level or adit is approaching the goal, and in an exceeding workman-like manner. It may be again repeated, that the all but certain success of this trial will cause innumerable speculations of a similar kind in the great mineral district of the Peak of Derbyshire. – Sheffield Iris.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

Lead Mine at Hucklow.

This little village, in the vicinity of Eyam, has been for several years past the scene of turmoil and bitter contest, respecting the right of a lead mine, claimed by two parties. A widow of the name of Turner, is the principal of one party, and many shareholders comprise the other party. The most inveterate tenacity of assumed right has been exhibited on both sides, but the courage and determination of the widow (Turner) has excited general admiration. The very many brutal contests of the workmen, on both sides, have induced every one to believe that deaths by violence will eventually ensue. At length this case must be decided: a trial in the court of the Duchy of Lancaster, took place last week, and in a short time the result will be known. A review of mineral laws is greatly desirable. – Ibid.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

Cwmavon Copper Works.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

Quarrying in Peel, Isle of Man.

We understand that two gentlemen from England have recently obtained a grant of Peel Quarry (the property of the Crown), from her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods, &c., and intend working it on an extensive scale. – Liverpool Mercury.

The Mining Journal

27<sup>th</sup> November 1847

Page 567 Col. 3

We are sorry to learn, that one of our largest and most respectable founders Mr. David Napier, of Camalachie and Parkhead Forge, Barony Parish, has been obliged to yield to the pressure of the times. His liabilities are stated to be about £40,000. A great number of men may be thus thrown out of employment and many more of the same class will probably be added to the immense body of operatives now without work. – Glasgow Chronicle.