

The Mining Journal

4<sup>th</sup> March 1848

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#### Accidents

*Earl Cramlington Colliery* – W. Tranent, who was employed to watch the fire and oil the engine, when necessary, at the pit now being sunk at the Shank House, was, unfortunately, drawn into the machinery, and his body was crushed in a horrible manner.

*Fatal Steam Boiler Explosion – Three Lives Lost* – Another dreadful fatality, from the explosion of a boiler, took place on Tuesday morning, when a boiler exploded at the cotton mill of Mr. Richard Walker, Blue Pitts, near Rochdale. The end of the boiler was blown out, and three persons were killed almost instantaneously – two other were seriously injured, and one of them was dying. The roof of the engine-house was blown off, and the building considerably damaged. The engineer and tenter were two of the killed. Mr. Walker's mill has not been long erected, and the probability is, that the boiler was nearly new.

*Neath* – John Hill, aged 64, was killed by a fall of stone, while working under Messrs. Penrose and Evans.

*Merthyr* – D. Davies was killed by a fall of stone from the top of a level at Penydarran.

*Dudley Port, Tipton* – J. Sharwoods, while hooking the skip to the chain in Mr. Hopkins's coal pit, was caught by his clothes, and carried a considerable way up the shaft, when they gave way, and he fell down the shaft and was killed.

*Old Buffery Works, Netherton* – J. Raybould fell into the fly-wheel pit of an old engine he was working, and was so mutilated, that he died shortly afterwards.

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British Mining (Part)

*West Wheal Maria* – The western engine-shaft is down below the 64fm level about 4fms 1ft; the ground in which is much the same for sinking as last reported. February 29.

*Wheal Adams* – The new engine-shaft is cleared and secured 15ft below the 50fm level, at which depth the ground is not crushed, nor the timbers removed. We are engaged in fixing a lift of pumps today, which will be completed by tomorrow morning, when we shall resume clearing up; and we hope that nothing will retard our progress, in reaching the 60fm level at the time mentioned in our last report. The jack lode, in the 40, is a little improved. Other places are without alteration. We sampled yesterday a parcel of silver-lead ore, computed 28 tons, samples of which were forwarded to the smelters, to whom were also sent samples of a parcel of mundic ores (about 20 tons), containing both lead and silver. The produce of both parcels shall be sent you by Thursday's post. We have finished our plan of the 18fm level, and I have commenced about the others; as soon as they are completed, they shall be forwarded to you. – February 29.

*Wheal Anderton* – The lode in the 70fm level, west of engine-shaft, still retains its size (6ft wide), but very much improved in quality – a very good lode for tin, 3ft big; we are now drawing some excellent work from the end, and stamping rich tinstuff from the back, which is working on tribute to great advantage for the tributers, as well as the shareholders, and there is every probability of its duration both in depth and extension; the lode east of the slide, in the same level, is 4ft wide, very regular, producing some rich work, but not yet extended far enough from slide to form so satisfactory an opinion as to future results as I can of the west. The lode in the 60fm level is large and productive, the end being driven, and back stoped after it, at 6-0d in £1 (no tutwork) – men doing very well at that price. The other pitches are still returning a sufficient quantity of ore to remunerate the labourers at 6-6d and 8-0d in £1. The lode in the winze, sinking under the 60fm level, about 7fms west of the 70 end, is large, and very likely to have the same shoot of ore we are stoping and driving on in the 60 west of said winze. We are sinking the engine-shaft by nine men towards an 80fm level, with all possible dispatch. I shall be ready to send off a good parcel of tin in less than a fortnight; and, from present prospects, there is every probability of increasing our samplings.

*Wheal Barbara* – In this mine our works are progressing favourably; the steam-engine will, I expect, go to work next Saturday week, which would have been in action at this time, but for the very stormy weather we have experienced. – February 29.

*Wheal Mary Ann* – The 30fm level cross-cut, at Pollard's Shaft, is extended towards the lode 3fms, but we have not yet cut it; however we expect hourly to do so. There is no alteration in the other parts of the mine since my last report, worth communicating. We are getting on pretty well with the quantity of ores for the next sampling. – February 29.

*Wheal Trelawney Mine* – The ground in the 62 cross-cut, west of Phillip's Shaft, is favourable for driving. The lode in the 52 south is large, and worth £9 per fm; in this level north, the lode is 2ft wide, composed of gossan, mundic, and lead, and worth £8 per fm; the ground in both ends is easier than for some time past; the stopes in the back of this level are much as usual – looking well. The lode in the 42 north is 18in wide, composed of can and lead, and worth £10 per fathom; the stopes in the back of this level are without any material change since my last –

producing a fair quantity of lead. The lode in the 32 north is 1ft wide, composed of can, spar, and lead, and worth £7 per fathom; in driving the last 3fms here, we have had repeated changes in the ground and lode, and, consequently, have been expecting to meet with the fair run of ground driven through in the 22fm level, where the lode was much more productive than it has been for several fathoms at this level; however, we hope to meet with it soon; the stopes in the back of this level are producing a fair quantity of ore. The ground sinking under the 42fm level, in Trelayney's Shaft, is considerably eased, and I think we shall get through the elvans in a short time. We have met with elvans in driving the 22 cross-cut west, between which and the killas there are some branches, composed of hardish quartz and carbonate of lime. At Vivian's, the 30fm level north is very similar to my last report; as is also the cross-cut driving towards the shaft – February 22. – The 62 cross-cut is extended 4fms 2ft from Phillips's Shaft, where the ground is favourable; and I expect to see the lode here by the latter part of this month. The lode in the 52 south is worth £10 per fm; and in the 52 north, which is improved, is worth £11 per fm; the stopes, in the back of this level, which have produced more than an average quantity of lead, are producing a fair quantity at present. The lode in the 42 north is worth £10 per fm, and the ground rather hard; the stopes here, and to the south of the shaft, are improved since my last. The lode in the 32fm level north is worth £5 per fm; we set a new stope, in the back of this level, on Friday last, from which we expect a fair quantity of lead; the old stopes are much as usual. Trelawney Engine Shaft is sunk 5fms under the 42fm level, where we have clean killas ground, which is favourable for sink. I cannot speak of any changes in the 22 cross-cut, east of this shaft. At Vivian's, in the last four weeks, the 30fm level has been driven 13½fms upon a beautiful lode, chiefly composed of gossan, can, and lead; and if the present fair ground continue, we shall open here, in a short time, a good length of ore ground. We weighed off January ores, on Thursday last, 83 tons 7 cwts 1 qr., and shall sample February ores today, computed 83 tons; and I think the prospects of the mine altogether are very encouraging. – February 29.

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No Headline

A deputation of the Iron Trade of South Staffordshire, on the Health of Towns Bill, had an interview with Viscount Morpeth yesterday, at the office of her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests, Whitehall Place. The deputation consisted of Lord Ingestre, Hon. C. Villiers, Mr. Thornely, Hon. E. Littleton, Alderman Copeland, Colonel Anson, Mr. Sparrow, Mr. Phillip Williams, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Barker.

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The Nithsdale Iron-Works.

The ironworks now in course of erection at New Cumnock, in the Vale of Nith, are likely to alter the character of this hitherto secluded neighbourhood. The new ironworks are situated on the property of Mr. Hyslop, about a mile from New Cumnock. The furnaces are partly erected, as well as a little town of workmen's cottages, called Craig Bank; and the railways, etc., in connection with them, are going on steadily towards completion. The mineral property taken by the company is extensive, and abounds with coal and ironstone. The clay ironstone seams are in great abundance, and have been hitherto considered as the source from which the company were to derive their supply of ore. A discovery made a few days ago by Mr. Dickinson, the managing agent, of two seams of excellent black-band ironstone, each 18 inches thick, and lying within 3 feet of each other, is now, however, likely to open out more extended views to the company.

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Duckmanton Iron-Works.

A report has been prevalent, during the last few days, that this important establishment had recommenced working, but we are sorry to state that the information was premature. The mistake most likely arose from the fact, that some of the ironstone miners had resumed their employ, it being expedient to keep some of the pits in a state of workmanship, to prevent their getting dilapidated. We, however, hope that, in the course of a fortnight or three weeks, to be enabled to give better news respecting the works themselves.

Derby Mercury

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The Leicestershire Coal Fields.

These fields (from which the counties of Rutland, Stamford, Peterborough, and the neighbourhood, will, on the opening of the railway now in course of construction, derive their principal supply of coal) extend under a surface, in that county along, of 35,000 acres – viz: from Lount in the north, to Bagworth (and probably further<sup>o</sup> in the south, and from Coleorton and Whitwick in the east, to Oakthorpe and Swebstone in the west, and there is little doubt that they unite with the Derbyshire and Warwickshire fields. Nearly the whole of these coals are accessible for getting. The Derbyshire coal from Clay Cross, near Chesterfield, and other places, will be, immediately on the opening of the railway to Peterborough, brought along the line. Stamford formerly was supplied with coals by sea and the River Wellend, and by canal from Derbyshire; but since the opening of the Leicester and Swannington Railway, about 17 years since, the Derbyshire coal has, in a great degree, been supplanted by that of Leicestershire; and there is little doubt that sea-coal will, ere long, be entirely superseded in the neighbourhood. Considerable quantities may also be expected from the Nottinghamshire pits by the Erewash Valley railway to the Midland line.

Nottingham Mercury

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Accidents.

*Great Polgooth Mine.* A young man, named Tonkin, fell out of the ladders to a depth of 30 fathoms, and was so severely injured, that little hopes are entertained of his recovery.

*United Mines.* R. Webster was killed on Tuesday last, by falling down the mine, a distance of upwards of 400 feet.

*South Wheal Francis.* W. Gundry met his death by falling into a shaft from the 60 to the 70 fathom level, whilst handing some timber from one part of the shaft to another.

*Balleswidden Mine.* T. Eddy and R. Tonkin were suffocated under a large mass of ground which fell and buried them whilst at their labour in the 70fm level.

*Levant Mine.* As a miner, named Grenfell, and his son, were passing through one of the levels, they came in contact with the tram-waggon, when Grenfell, in endeavouring to save his son, broke his own leg, and is now lying in a very precarious state. In the same mine, and on the same day, a boy fell out of a ladder, and was precipitated 11fms, but received very little injury.

*Murton Pit, Durham.* J. Holmes was killed by a quantity of stones falling from the roof.

*Ludworth Colliery.* Joseph Farrow, deputy overman, was crushed by a part of the roof falling upon him. The place was considered perfectly safe.

*Blaina.* A poor man, named John Price, collier, was killed in the Cwm Celyn three-quarters coal-pit, by the top falling upon him. He was taken out quite dead.

*Pontypool.* On the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst., a poor fellow, named T. Gregory, was killed by a fall of mine and rubbish in the Race level. The deceased had but recently resumed his work, after a severe fit of illness. – Monmouthshire Merlin.

*Benton Quarry, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne.* As the quarrymen were engaged blasting rock, on Monday last, a considerable explosion was effected; and while they were removing the fragments in the usual manner, a large mass of stone with its capping of shale suddenly fell, and descended like an avalanche on the men below – eight were killed, and several others very severely injured.

*Hall Park Colliery, Bilston.* Two colliers, named Green and Dodd, foolishly got upon the water-barrel, at the bottom of the shaft, for the purpose of going up the pit. It, however, went steadily all the way up, and when they got to the top, the banksman pushed the waggon partly over the pit; but, finding that the engineman had not drawn the barrel quite high enough to enable him to push the waggon completely over, he called out twice to the engineman, "pull up." The engineman mistook this direction for a request to "short" – that is, to let the barrel a little lower down; and, as it lowered upon the waggon, the barrel tilted on one side. Dodd, who was on the side that tilted, fearing the barrel would fall against him, jumped off upon the side of the pit; but Green, who was on the opposite side, either jumped off, or was thrown off, the barrel, and fell to the bottom of the pit, which is upwards of 100 yards deep. The deceased was shortly afterwards brought up the pit quite dead. Dodd escaped uninjured.

*Graveland Old Colliery, Rowley.* C. Spinks was killed here by a fall of coal.

*Fatal Accident at Balleswidden.* We regret to state, that on Wednesday last, T. Eddy and W. Penaiuna, met with their deaths at this mine. It appears that they worked upon tribute in the 70fm level; and for the preceding three days had proposed to take down a rock, but did not do so, in order to obtain the tin beneath it. On Wednesday, however, while in the act of removing the rock, it fell, and buried them. We understand that orders were given not to work at the place where the accident occurred. – Penzance Journal.

*Bunn's Lane Colliery, Dudley.* J. Turner was killed by a fall of coal.

*The Fatal Boiler Explosion at Blue Pitts, near Rochdale.* The adjourned inquest was held at Manchester yesterday, respecting the deaths of four young men, who were killed by the explosion of a steam boiler, the particulars of which have already been published. Mr. Nasmyth, of Patricroft, gave it as his opinion, that the boiler had had too much pressure. It appeared, by other evidence, that when the explosion took place, the gauge was at 14in – it had usually been worked at 18in pressure. Mr. Robert Wilkinson, engineer at the Lowmoor Company, near Bradford, where the engine was made, said that the engine, when made, was not intended to work at more than 6in pressure. In 1843 the boiler was repaired, and two stays put in it; and of late it had been worked at 18in pressure, and previous to the stays being placed, it had been worked at 12in pressure. There was no evidence to show that Mr. Walker, or the manager at the mill, were at all implicated, but that the management of the engine had been left to the engineer, who was one of the four men killed. He had been engineer about six months, at 14-0d per week wages; he had been fireman 12 months previous to that. The fireman had had his situation only three weeks, at 10-0d per week wages. The Jury returned the following verdict: - "That William Wild and the others came to their deaths by the bursting of a steam-boiler, the stays of which were insecure; and it is the opinion of the Jury, that two of the cotters were out at the time of explosion. The Jury are also of opinion, that the boiler was never intended to sustain the pressure to which it has been subjected for some time back."

*Dreadful Explosion – Four Lives Lost.* We regret that an accident, attended with loss of life, took place at the malleable ironworks of Messrs. Murrays and Buttery – the Monkland Iron Company – near Holytown. The River Calder passes there through a deep ravine; on the right bank a rolling-mill was erected about five years ago; and, to meet the increased demands of railways, another was erected and put in operation during last summer. It is understood to be the strongest in Scotland, and of a very powerful description. Both mills were in full operation, and all hands were at work in them at seven o'clock yesterday morning, when suddenly a fearful explosion was heard. It proved to be the great boiler of one of the steam-engines – about 80 horse-power – of the new rolling mill. The boiler was blown into the air: and, flying across the river, it descended through the roof of the older mill, spreading devastation all around. Mr. Buttery was instantly at the spot, who sent for medical aid, and gave prompt directions for everything useful for the relief of the surviving sufferers. The sheriff and procurator-fiscal of the Airdrie district were sent for, to investigate the cause of the accident. Four dead bodies were found, much mangled; and several other men received severe injuries. The man in charge of the boiler is unhurt. – Edinburgh Advertiser.

*Explosion of Fire-damp in America.* An English miner, named John Jackson, employed in the mines of Messrs. Mann and Williams, at Mount Laffee, was so much injured by an explosion of fire-damp, which occurred the week before last, that he died on Saturday last, aged about 40 years. He leaves a wife and six children in England, whom he sent for about six weeks ago; and they are, , perhaps, even now making arrangements to meet him here – little expecting the wreck which awaits their hopes! This life is, at most, a fitful thing. – Miners' Journal, Feb. 12.

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Letter: Great Wheal Frederick Mine.

Sir, Mr. Thomas has conferred with us in reference to some recent publications in the Mining Journal, injurious to his interest in the above-mentioned mine; and, under his instructions, we have commenced legal proceedings on account of those publications. We have thought it right to give you this intimation, as a reason for your receiving no further communications from Mr. Thomas on the subject of the publication in question; and we have only to add, that Mr. Thomas will now submit the matters to the consideration of a jury. – Perhaps you will think it right to publish this communication in your Journal tomorrow.

We are, Sir, your most obedient servants,  
Dean, Leeks, Dixon, and Redpath

[We have no other remark to make on the notice of Messrs. Dean and Co., than to state, that we are in communication with the writers of the several letters, and shall be enabled to announce the result in our next week's Journal. We may, however, add, that Mr. F.S. Thomas must give us credit for acting with perfect fairness in the matter, and with more courtesy than himself – inasmuch, as we have not only devoted some considerable space in our present Number for his reply to the statements complained of, but also inserted a further report on the mine from Capt. Spargo.]

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East Wheal Rose.

By Balance of last account, £3028-8-10d; November proceeds of lead sold 12<sup>th</sup>, £2452-5-0d; 27<sup>th</sup> ditto, £2671-15-7d; December 10<sup>th</sup>, £2145-2-0d; 24<sup>th</sup> ditto, £2470-7-7d; 31<sup>st</sup> ditto (Oxman's), £493-12-7d; ditto (North Wheal Rose), £353-16-0d; Cargoll adventurers, for supplies, water charges, &c., £517-13-11d; ditto, for three-fourths of profit for Nov. and Dec., £1536-2-7d = £15,668-16-1d – To costs for Nov., £2361-13-9d; surgeon and club, £34-7-6d; cost for Dec., £2247-2-7d; surgeon and club, £32-0-6d; bills these months, £2240-1-5d; coal ditto, £300; income tax, £100-12-3d; dues, £692-6-3d; waywardens of Newlyn, £50; by dividend of £40 per share, £5120 = £13,178-15-3d: leaving balance, £2490-0-10d.

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Fowey Consols.

At a meeting of adventurers, the accounts for September, October, November and December were examined and passed showing – By balance at end of August, £8154-17-4d; ores sold, £13,656-4-10d - £21,811-2-2d. – To costs, &c, £14,112-6-9d: balance in favour of adventurers, £7698-15-5d.

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North Pool.

A meeting of adventurers was held at the mine, on Tuesday last, when the following accounts for November and December were examined, and allowed, and a dividend of £15 per share declared: - By balance at end of October, £480-3-9d; ores sold (less dues), £3385-11-7d - £3865-15-4d. - To costs for November and December, £1845-17-10d; dividend of £15 per share, £1500 = £3345-17-10d - Balance in favour of adventurers, £519-17-6d.

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South Wheal Frances, March 6.

By copper ores sold 2<sup>nd</sup> December, £1813-0-11d; ditto, 6<sup>th</sup> January, £2876-9-1d; tin ores sold 3<sup>rd</sup> March, £300-18-4d; deduct 1/15<sup>th</sup> dues, £332-13-10d = £4657-14-6d. Labour cost for December 1847 and January 1848, £1564-17-10d; merchants' bills, including balance of engine, £1803-5-10d; showing profit of £1289-10-10d; add balance in hand to end of November 1847, £260-14-3d = £1550-5-1d. By dividend declared this day of £10 per 1/124<sup>th</sup> share, £1240: leaves now in hand, £310-5-1d.

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South Wheal Trelawney.

A meeting of shareholders was held yesterday (Friday), the 10<sup>th</sup> inst., at the office of the company, in accordance with the notice convening the same. Charles Chippendale, Esq., in the chair. – The accounts submitted presented a balance of £118 against the company, to cover which, and for further operations, a call of 50-0d per share was made – Capt. Lean's report was read, by which we learn, that the shaft will be completed to the 30fm level, and the lode cut, about midsummer next. (We are not prepared to publish the report this week.)

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Wheal Lovell.

At a meeting of adventurers, held at the mine, yesterday week, the accounts, of which the following is an abstract, were passed: - To balance from last account, £4291-16-5d; cost, &c., for October, November and December, £3047-12-9d = £7339-9-2d. - By ores sold, £4684-13-3d: balance against adventurers, £2654-15-11d.

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Wheal Margaret.

Account to end of December, 1847: - By tin sold, £3156-7-3d; balance at last account, £1078-13-6d = £4235-0-9d. Labour cost and carriage, £1981-14-0d; coals, £187-16-4d; lord's dues, £127-13-5d; marchant's bills, £612-6-4d; on account of steam-stamps, &c., £250 = £3159-10-1d: leaving balance, £1075-10-8d; deduct dividend, £896; balance in favour of adventurers, £179-10-8d.

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Mining Notabilia [Extracts from our Correspondence].

We understand that some highly influential parties have taken up the antimony Mines at Tregear, in the parish of St. Kew. These mines were discovered last autumn, since which considerable quantities of antimony ore have been raised and sent to London. I lately visited the mines, and made a personal inspection of them; the stones of solid antimony are extremely remarkable, not only for their size, but also their beauty. I have since seen several of the stones of ore raised from these mines at the offices of the company in Lombard Street, and they are well worthy of an inspection from the mineralogist, and parties connected with mining. The lodes were large, and apparently productive; the miners were sanguine of large returns, which I think strongly will be the case, and it is considered in the neighbourhood a first-rate adventure.

*Tavy Consols.* Several shares have changed hands this week from £10 to £12-10-0d. I am not aware of any that can be got for less than £15 at this time; in fact, shares are cheap almost at any price, if things continue to improve as they have for the last two months. They had a lode in the end of the 36 last Friday (I was on the mine), worth £100 per fathom; and the captain writes this day to say, "If possible the lode is better than ever."

We received the following report, &c., by this morning's post:-

*Tavy Consols.* – The lode in the 36fm level west is as good as ever – in fact, I may say, it is improved, if possible, from last week, and is good enough; the leader of solid ore is 5ft wide. We have an excellent lode in the shaft, not quite so good as the end; but I think it will soon be as good, as the dip of the ore is east, and it is best in the west end of the shaft. The pitches in the 12fm level are all looking well, and we have let a new pitch in the bottom of the 12fm level, close to the cross-course. We have holed from the 24 to the 12fm level, and have set six men to drive on the lode in the 24, west of the cross-course, and two men to drive on the lead lode north, to cut the north copper lode, which I calculate is now about 2fms north of the end – altogether, the mine looks exceedingly well. – W. Goss, Captain: March 9.

Shares are in demand, and many have changed hands - £10 is freely offered; but no sellers to be found at the price.

Tavy Consols Mine was commenced in the latter end of 1845, but very little done until January, 1846, since which the shaft has been sunk 37fms below adit. The adit level, on the 12 and 24fm levels, is driven west to the cross-course, or lead lode. All necessary machinery is erected – viz.: a 40ft waterwheel, with flat-rods to pump the mine; a grinder house, stamps, jigging machine, and drawing machine, which are all worked by a 24ft waterwheel; floors laid out, and every convenience for working to a depth of 120 to 150fms; the cost to the shareholders has been £4 per share. Already the mine has returned £300 worth of ore, and is likely, from present appearances, to be a great and lasting mine; the next level will be opened about July; the shaft is 10ft long by 6ft 6ins wide, and is sinking at £17 per fm, and the last 2fms gave the adventurers 30 tons of ore. The mine is altogether out of debt, except the current expenses, and only one call, of 5-0d per share, has been called since Midsummer last. No further call will be wanted, from present appearances; but the shareholders may fairly calculate on a dividend within a few months, as every day is laying open tribute ground, which will soon be available for stoping.

[From the Plymouth Journal.]

*Wheal Franco* – A general meeting was held on Wednesday last. The committee reported that they had cash in hand £386-9-4d, of which £354-12-3d had been a profit, realised during the last four months. In addition to this, about £600 worth of ore has been shipped, but is not paid for; another parcel of about the same value (£600), is also ready to be shipped, and there is in addition, at grass, not dressed, about £600 worth more; so that there is about £1800 worth of ore which has not, of course, been brought into the committee's cash account. There is a good lode in east of the cross-course, the 47fm level – indeed, better than could be expected; also, in this level, to the east of the cross-course, there is a good ore lode, which is daily getting more settled. The lode in the 62fm level has been hove by a slide, and has consequently been cut much sooner than was expected. On the whole, the prospects of the mine never were so good as they are at this time.

*Plymouth Wheal Yeoland* – The eastern and western levels have considerably improved since the general meeting. The sump is being sunk perpendicularly in the country – consequently nothing will be developed by the sinking of this engine-shaft until a cross lode has been driven, and the lode cut in the 22fm level. The new south lode is very rich.

*Birch Tor* - Seven tons of tin are dressed and ready to be sent off.

*Exmoor Eliza* – In this mine the lode has been cut in the 12fm level. This mine certainly is amongst the most promising of the growing speculations.

*Wheal Anderton* – In the 70 east, lode very much improved, and is very good.

*Wheal Ash* – In the sump there is still a large course of mundic, mixed with spar, &c.

*Wheal Trehane (near Liskeard)* – This promising little mine sampled 70 tons of silver-lead ore last week, for which £22-10-0d per ton had been offered up to Saturday, but all the tenders had not then been received.

*Wheal Calstock* – Another lode has been cut in the deep adit level, and the intersecting of the lodes at the point of junction of several lodes is anxiously looked for.

*Hawkmoor* – This sett is again taken, and is to be shortly set to work in 128 shares.

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East Caradon.

A correspondent writes us, that an improvement has taken place in the prospects of this mine, within the past few days, in the lode at the bottom of the shaft, about 6fms under the adit.

West Briton

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Balleswidden Mine.

The Penzance Journal, referring to the meeting of adventurers in this mine, the particulars of which appeared in last week's Mining Journal, says – "Although there has been a profit during the two months of £24-1-6d, the extremely low price of the produce of the mine at the present moment, has, we are sure very reluctantly, compelled them to decide upon calling a special meeting, to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of suspending all workings on the mine from that date, until such an improvement shall take place in the price of tin, to enable the mine to be worked with a profit to the adventurers. This is, indeed, sad news. We regret it exceedingly; and hundreds, nay thousands, of the inhabitants of the far west, will feel it most severely, if such an event shall come to pass. At this extensive mine, there are no fewer than between 700 and 800 persons (whose wages for November and December, amounted to £3215-10-2d) constantly employed, and certainly not less than 2000 persons dependent upon those 700 or 800 for daily support, to say nothing of the indirect benefit of the mine for the parish of Saint Just, and town of Penzance. But while we deplore the circumstance that must inevitably lead to such a result, we can hardly expect the spirited adventurers to carry on so large and expensive a concern, involving so great an outlay, under present auspices. Sure we are that the adventurers, one and all, will equally regret to be compelled to resort to such an alternative. We trust, however, that before the period named for holding the meeting shall arrive, the price of one of the staple commodities of the county will have improved, and that we may have – "a better price for tin".

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Monmouthshire.

The colliers are still out, and there is not the slightest probability of their resuming work for some weeks. Trade is very dull at Newport, and vessels which have been lying in that port for weeks, expecting cargoes, are leaving to seek for freights elsewhere; added to this, a new poor-rate of 2-0d in £1 has been granted, which is very much disapproved of by the inhabitants of that town.

Cambrian

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Accidents

*New Earth Colliery, Oldham* – R. Evans was killed, in consequence of injuries received by an explosion of firedamp.

*Sholver Moor Colliery, Oldham* – As J. Wadsworth was at work at the bottom of the pit, a stone fell and killed him.

*Rowley Regis* – As F. Smith, a boy 13 years of age, was standing in a careless manner by a skip which was being dragged to the mouth of a coal-pit, belonging to Messrs. Whitehouse and Peacock, some part of the tackling catching his flannel frock, he was dragged over the mouth of the pit, and fell to the bottom.

*Haswell Colliery* – As W. Middleton was proceeding up the incline, a train of laden coal waggons suddenly came up, run over, and killed him.

*Pit-House Lane* – F. Craggs, a pitman, was crushed to death in the Resolution Pit.

*Thornley* – W. Forster was killed by a fall of roof.

*Walldridge Fell* – J. Hones was killed by a fall of stone.

*Newcastle, Benton Quarry* – As six or seven men were engaged on a stage, hauling up a heavy stone, the stage gave way, and precipitated them to the bottom. All are more or less injured, and one of them, N. Gascoigne, died next day.

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Accidents.

*Lady Shore Colliery.* As S. Stranding and his son were at work in a portion of the mine in which there was a pipe for the purpose of ventilation, he, unfortunately, threw his shirt over the pipe in such a manner as to render it ineffectual. A quantity of foul air consequently accumulated, and, by the light of a candle, with which they were working, ignited, and burnt them severely. The lad is expected to recover.

*Loss of Life from Quarrying Operations.* A large blasting operation being about to take place at St. Catherine's Bay, Jersey, on Tuesday, Mr. Dixon, the director of the works, had stationed himself on the height of the quarry, to witness the effect, but a mass a rock, weighing 5 tons, having been detached, he was precipitated to the bottom, and almost instantly killed. Mr. Dixon was about 30 years of age, and has left a wife and four children to lament his loss. – Guernsey Star.

*Whitwell Colliery, Newcastle.* An explosion, attended with fatal consequences, occurred here on Saturday week; between 8 and 9 o'clock, one of the two boilers in use at the colliery was dislodged from its seat, and blown into the air, when an explosion again took place, which rent the boiler in twain – one part falling about 70, and the other about 100, yards from its place. Fortunately the boiler took a northerly direction, or the damage might have been much greater. The second boiler was driven off its seat by the force of the explosion, and the whole of the mason work displaced. Part of the working engine-house was stove in, and the roof thrown off. The brakesman, W. Patterson, and T. Bones, who was acting as fireman, were discovered through the means of Patterson. Assistance was immediately on the spot, and they were speedily extricated. Bones was dead when taken out, and Patterson was severely scalded, burned, and bruised, and now lies in a dangerous state. M. Cook, the master blacksmith, who was examining a leak in the boiler at the time of the explosion, had his collar bone broken, and met with other casualties. R. Stephenson, the banksman, was also severely bruised about the arms, legs, and body, but is now considered out of danger. – Newcastle Advertiser.

*Cwmavon – Fatal Accident* – T. Jenkins had just opened a gate to admit the trams filled with coals, which were passing down the slope to the Express mill, when, by some means, he was thrown down by the foremost tram; and, melancholy to relate, the tram passed over the unfortunate man's neck, nearly severing his head from his body.

*Dreadful Explosion on Board a Vessel laden with Steam Coal* – An inquest was held at the Town Hall, Cardiff, on Thursday last, before R.L. Reece, Esq., coroner, on view of the body of J. Grocey, chief mate of the barque Neptune, of Jersey, now lying in the Bute Dock. It appeared in evidence. That the vessel above named was loaded with steam coal, and was lying near Mr. Powell's wharf. On Wednesday night, the deceased having lighted a Lucifer match, a terrific explosion took place in the hold, by the force of which the whole of the cabin and main hatchway were blown to atoms. The capstan was blown up to the height of the main rigging. The mate was killed on the spot – his remains presenting a most frightful spectacle. A boy, named R. Smith, had his hands and face burnt, but not severely; and another boy had his hair and eyebrows singed. The captain and his wife, who usually slept on board, were on shore that night! The damage sustained by the vessel is estimated at £400. Verdict – Accidental Death. [Accidents of this nature may be avoided by merely taking the precaution of keeping open the hatches for a

few hours after the shipment of the cargo, that the gas, which is occasionally evolved from the Merthyr coal, may escape.] – Swansea Herald.