

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 4th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 1

Advert - Sale by Mr. Dixon.

Unstone Iron Works.

Mr. Charles Dixon begs to announce that the sale of wood and metal patterns; 3 horse steam engine, by Gough; pipe and other boxes, core barrels, pipe moving machine, turned and bored socket pipes; steam pipes; thrashing machine by hand and horse power; and a great variety of valuable property, advertised to take place (consequent upon Messrs. Rangeley, Wright, and Company, relinquishing the iron foundry portion of their business) on Thursday the 9th. instant, will not, from the great number of lots, with the previous arrangements necessary, take place until the following week.

The time of sale, with full particulars, will appear in future advertisements.

Catalogues will be ready eight days before the sale, to be had of the auctioneer; or by post, on enclosing to him four postage stamps.

Central Chambers, High Street, Sheffield, February 1st., 1854.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 4th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 5

Advert - Mining Shares.

On Sale, 5, 10, and 8 shares in the Victoria Lead Mine, Ashover. Apply F.T., Times Office, Chesterfield.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 4th. February 1854

Page 6 Col. 1

Cholera at the Marquis of Breadalbane's Slate Quarries in Argyllshire.

A correspondent of the Daily News states that Asiatic cholera of a most virulent type has broken out among the quarries at the village of Eardle. Up to Saturday, 10 cases and 4 deaths were reported. The houses composing this village are about as unlike modern cottages as can well be imagined. Almost all the cottages have now two families inhabiting them, while the accommodation is far too small for one family. Moreover, no effort has been made to cleanse the village by means of drains, open gutters running parallel to the rows of houses and are the only contrivances for carrying off the waste water, and indeed all the filth of the place. The gutters are virtually so many stagnant cess pools opposite every door, poisoning the air with the seeds of contagious infection at all seasons. No sooner is a member of a family attacked, than the poor ignorant people set up a sort of quarantine, and shun the plague houses in panic.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 4th. February 1854

Page 6 Col. 6

No Headline.

A dreadful accident occurred recently in the coal pit of St. Suzanne, at Marchienne-au-Pont, in Belgium. Towards three in the morning an explosion of firedamp took place which led to the fall of large masses of earth, rock, and coal, which locked up the gallery leading to the mouth of the pit. There were at the time from 28 to 30 men in the pit, and the stoppage in the gallery prevented their receiving a sufficient supply of air from the exterior to support life. Of that number, 24 rushed after the fall of earth in the direction of the mouth of the pit, but being unable to remove the immense mass of rubbish before them, they perished on the spot. Their bodies were all found next day. Two young workmen were found in other part of the pit, badly burnt but still alive. As the foreman perished with the others, it is not possible to ascertain exactly who will survive. It is certain, however, that 25 persons have perished.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 4th. February 1854

Page 8 Col. 2

Allen v. Bradholme.

This was an assault case. The defendant, Bradholme, the over-looker of Lockoford coalpit, Tapton, being charged with striking complainant, a boy about 13 years of age, who worked in the pit. The boy Allen deposed that while at work in the mine at Tapton, on Wednesday, Bradholme desired him to get a wagon on to the tram road, which was then off. He could not do so, and defendant beat him severely with a stick. This was not the first time that Bradholme had beaten him, as well as other boys. He struck him several heavy blows, and he was bruised by the flogging. A lad named Gibbons corroborated plaintiff's evidence, adding the defendant also threw a lump of coal at the boy. Bradholme, being asked what he had to say for himself, replied with some vehemence that he did flog the boy, but only with the same stick he used to the ponies in the colliery. The boy was sent to shove the wagon on to the line, but after waiting for his return about twenty minutes or half an hour, he walked towards the tramway, and found Allen still there, with another lad, both of whom had blown out their lamps. He should have returned for assistance if he could not have got the wagon right himself. Defendant was fined 5-0d. and costs (amounting altogether to 24-6d.), and in default of payment, one month's imprisonment. Mr. Milnes observing that if prisoner was brought to the court again, he would be dealt more severely with. It was not to be tolerated that boys should be beaten in this manner.

Steven Brock (who did not appear), was charged by John Innocent with assaulting him on Monday last, at a pit on Speedwell bank, Staveley. A dispute arose between two men, and Innocent, as overlooker of the pit, settled it, when the assault complained of took place, which consisted of defendant throwing a piece of ballast at complainant. It appeared that there was a fortnight's wages due to Brock, but unpaid, and the magistrates ordered that it should be applied towards paying a fine of £1-0-0d. and costs.

Thomas Hopkinson was charged by Mr. Superintendent Radford with not taking proper care of his horse and wagon on Monday last, at North Wingfield. The charge was admitted, and defendant was ordered to pay expenses, as it was his first offense.

Mr. Blackburn, agent to Mr. Barrow, applied for a warrant to apprehend a runaway collier, which was granted.

Derbyshire Advertiser.

Saturday 10th. February 1854

Supplement - Page 2. Col. 3

Eight Days in a Derbyshire Mine.

Near the road leading from Cromford to Wirksworth, is a mine called Godbehere's Founder, in which the following remarkable event occurred at the commencement of the year 1797. Two miners, named John Boden and Anthony Pearson, went into the mine on the morning of the 13th. of January, and while they were at work, Pearson at a depth of 44 yards, and Boden at the depth of 20, the earth above them, together with a quantity of water, suddenly rushed in, and filled the mine to the depth of about 54 yards. The other miners immediately began to draw out the rubbish in search of their lost companions, and on the third day after, Pearson was discovered, dead, in an upright posture. The miners would have discontinued their exertions, as there seemed little probability of their labours being to any avail; but being encouraged to proceed (chiefly by the influence of persuasions of Charles Hurt, Esq., of Wirksworth), they at length discovered Boden, about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 20th.; and though he had not received any kind of nourishment during the eight days of his confinement, he was still living, but greatly emaciated. On being taken out, and treated with proper care, he so far recovered, as to be able to return to his work in the space of 14 weeks.

To render the particulars of this extraordinary escape more intelligible, it should be observed, that the entrance to the mine is by a perpendicular shaft, 44 yards deep, from the bottom of which extends a gait, or drift (a passage in a horizontal direction) 8 yards in length, at the end of which descends a second shaft, or as the miners term it, a turn, to a depth of 16 yards. At the bottom of this is another gait, about 12 yards in length, from the extremity of which another shaft extends to a depth of nearly 24 yards. At the top of every shaft a windlass was placed, for the purpose of drawing up whatever might be extracted from the mine; and Pearson's employment was to draw up to the top of the second shaft the ore, etc., which was obtained by Boden at the bottom.

At the distance of 20 yards from the entrance into the mine was a pool of water, which, though generally containing but a small quantity, had, at the time of the accident, been much increased through wet weather. The ground between the mine and the pool, had been undermined in searching for lead ore; but it is supposed, that the additional weight of water over the vacuity, had forced down the earth, which filled the mine to a depth of 10 yards in the second shaft. As the earth that rushed in descended below, Pearson's station at the mouth of the shaft, was closed, and he was consequently jammed in there, and was discovered dead, as already mentioned. The remarkable circumstance, that the rubbish did not sink into the mine so low as to reach Boden, but stopped in its descent a few above him, may in some measures be accounted for, by observing, that the part of the mine where the fall ended, was somewhat straightened by the projection of a large stone, an obstacle which Boden had ineffectually attempted to remove.

It appears from the conversation afterwards held with the man thus strangely preserved from death, that after contemplating his horrid situation awhile, during the first hours of his imprisonment, he lay down and slept. On awaking the idea of perishing from want of food rushed upon his mind, and he recollected that he had 4 lbs. of candles with him in the mine: with these, when pressed by hunger, he endeavoured to appease his appetite, but after two or three vain attempts to swallow such loathsome food, he desisted, and the candles were found after his release; his thirst, which he had no means of alleviating, was excessive. Feeling extremely cold,

he tried to remove this inconvenience, by exercising himself in turning the windlass at the further end of the shaft; but having the misfortune to let the handle fall into the shaft below, he was deprived of this resource.

After the space of three or four days had passed as he imagined, being almost in a state of distraction, he ascended by means of a rope which hung down, to that part of the mine where the rubbish had stopped in its descent, and by labouring hard, caused a large quantity of it to fall to the bottom of the shaft. He was employed in this manner, when, at length he heard the miners at work above him, and by the expedience of knocking with a stone, continued to appraise them that he was still alive. Though it is evident from this circumstance, that he retained his senses, he can hardly be persuaded that he was deprived of them, and fancied that he was prompted to make the signals by some friendly voice, receiving from it an assurance, that if he did so, he should be rescued from his dreadful prison.

The signals he made were heard by the miners about 8 hours before they reached him; and he described himself so terrified by their noise, and by apprehensions that persons were coming to murder him, that certainly should have destroyed himself, if he had not been closely confined by the earth which he had drawn down, which so filled the lower part of the shaft, that he was almost prevented from moving. In the midst of the panic that agitated him he swallowed a considerable quantity of earth, which was afterwards expelled by proper remedies. He complained most that his legs were benumbed to the dead; and their natural heat being restored by friction, no bad consequence ensued. When the accident happened, he was 49 years of age, and then weighed upwards of 12 stones; but the thought that he was reduced to half that weight by his confinement in the mine. The anniversary of his deliverance from his subterranean prison, he regarded as a day of thankfulness and jubilee; and surely few individuals have ever had more reason than this man, to express their gratitude to a protecting providence.

Pearson was a native of Bonsall, and a pupil of the free school in that village. He had made considerable progress in learning, and it was often remarked by his old master to his relatives that in respect to his talents he was "buried alive", which literally took place.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 7 Col. 1

No Headline.

The quantity of gold from Mount Alexander at Bendigo is again on the increase; while that from all the other fields is decreasing. A rush has taken place at the Goulburn, to a new gully, which is reported as turning out well. Some extravagant reports have been circulated regarding the success of some diggers at Ballarat, which, but for the inundation of the hole, would have been rich beyond belief. It is stated that steam power is to be had recourse to for pumping out the water, which perhaps will be more economical than waiting its subsidence, seeing that such tempting prizes are to be obtained as forty pounds weight to the bucket full. When the steam engine is in operation, and such results realised, then will be the time for others to follow the example.

Australian and New Zealand Gazette.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 8 Col. 6

Advert - Sale by Mr. Dixon.

Unstone Iron Works - Important and Unreserved Sale of Valuable Foundry Plant, Wood and Metal Patterns, Core Barrels, Pipe and other Boxes, powerful Wood and Iron Cranes, Steam Engine, Threshing Machines, Metal Pipes, etc., etc.

To be sold by Auction, by Mr. Charles Dixon, on Thursday and Friday, the 16th. and 17th. days of February instant, at Unstone Iron Works, near Sheffield, by orders of Messrs. Rangeley, Wright, and Company, who are relinquishing the iron foundry business, the whole of the valuable stock and plant connected with the foundry.

The first days sale will comprise the very extensive and varied stock of wood patterns for pipes, columns, girders, retorts, boxes, standards, core boxes, shafts, wheels, grates, tram rails, elaborate palisading for tombs, and various articles for locks and flood-gates, ingot moulds, in mahogany, also ropes and sundry other property.

The second days sale will embrace the extensive stock of metal patterns for 6, 8, 10, and 24 inch pipes, retorts, a variety of socket pipes, pipe dishes and kellet, manglers, hoops, railway cogged and other wheels in great variety, crabs, chill, kellet and core boxes, cranes, carriages, bed plates, standards, columns, fire doors, gutters, large engine beam, dry sand pipes of various bores, grates, pulley wheels, turnip chopper, ranges, palisades, window frames, boxes. Also girder boxes complete, pipe proving machine, cast metal socket and pipes of various other sizes, 40 four inch pipes turned and bored; 2 metal rollers, crane nadles for 30, 50, and 80 hundredweight; one powerful single purchase crane, with racks, stocks, and chains complete, one ditto very powerful double purchase with blocks complete; metal single purchase ditto; iron and metal ditto; carriage stove; a considerable number of metal weights, two gas purifiers, dray for leading timber; two horse thrashing machine by Grant's of Stamford; one four horse ditto; turning lathe; three horse steam engine with boiler; five ton weighing machine; three ton wagon boiler; a large gin; metal cistern, air pump and condenser; 20 yards of six inch pump pipes with working barrel with clack; 20 yards of four inch ditto; wrought iron cistern; capstan with rope, three legs and pulleys; a gin and headgear, with a large amount of other important property, too numerous to particularise.

The sale to commence each day, at eleven o'clock, and to continue without intermission till the close.

Catalogues are now ready and may be had from the auctioneer, at his offices, Central Chambers, High Street, Sheffield, or free by post, by application to him.

Unstone is situate on the Turnpike road, seven miles from Sheffield, and five from Chesterfield, which is the nearest railway station.

Goodwin's coach from Dronfield, will meet the 9.10 train from Dronfield each morning of the sale, at the Midland Station, Sheffield, and will proceed, calling at the George Hotel, direct to Unstone, returning to Sheffield after the close of business.

Sheffield, February 9th., 1854.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 2 Col. 1

Calver Sough and Wren Park Mines.

A meeting of the shareholders of this mining company was held on Tuesday, at the Coffee Rooms, Bank Street, Sheffield, when the committee resolved: That the mines should be most vigorously proceeded with, and that a call of ten shillings per share shall be made, payable on the 1st. of March. From the evidence adduced before the committee it was evident to the shareholders that their prospects were indeed glowing, as the mine clearly possesses lead to an enormous extent, and now that the mines are about to be vigorously worked, unusually advantageous speculation will have been made by those who are fortunate enough to hold shares.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 2 Col. 2

Fox v. Middleton.

Mr. Stone for plaintiff, and Mr. A.C. Branson for defendant. This was an action brought by plaintiff, as the owner or occupier of a certain plot of ground near Great Hucklow, where mining operations had been carried on for the value of sand, gravel, etc., removed by the defendant. Evidence was given by several persons as to the fact of removal - the lease of the plot (11 acres 0 roods and 2 perches) to Fox - the account of conveyance to the owner (Lomas), to 30 years elapsing without claim being made by the miners of the gravel, etc. On the other hand, it was contended that portions had subsequently been taken from adjoining owners, and thrown to the plot as occasion required for mining purposes, and that the gravel removed was on these portions. After much conflicting evidence, his Honour, with a plan of the ground before him, felt bound to decide that he had no jurisdiction; the main question appeared to him to be one of title.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 2 Col. 2

Ashover.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Victoria Midland Lead Mine, Ashover, was held at the Red Lion Inn, of that place, on Tuesday, but owing to Ashover being so far from the Midland Railway, and the meeting being held in the evening, it was but thinly attended. There were much better hopes of the favourable progression of the mine, than there was some two or three months previous, and in a very short time they would be proceeded with by sinking the pits, when with more hands they will be ready for market in a fortnight, and it is hoped before that period, those shareholders who hold nuggets of this ore, will have the opportunity of sending them to the mine to be ground by the great masticator crusher.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 2 Col. 3

Brimington - Colliery Accident.

About ten o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning, an accident occurred to Patrick Donnelly, an Irishman, which is likely to terminate fatally. The man works at Knowles' ironstone works, Brimington Common, and while engaged in wheeling a barrow, (as we believe) it tipped over the pit mouth, and dragging Donnelly over with it, broke his back.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 11th. February 1854

Page 2 Col. 3

Staveley.

Mr. Barrow, proprietor of the Staveley Coal and Iron Works, has issued a circular to his workmen (in consequence of the death of one of his colliers by fighting in a beer-house) offering to establish in Staveley a savings bank to give every facility to his workmen to save a portion of the high rate of wages they are now receiving, instead of spending it so recklessly, and bringing upon themselves and families such ruinous consequences as are frequently witnessed, and also offers to assist in establishing a sick fund as well, for accidents, and will give himself £100 per year to such fund on condition only that the men attend their work and be steady.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 3 Col. 4

The Iron Trade of South Wales.

At the present moment the whole of the iron works in the southern part of the Principality are in full work, and now that the Ebbw Vale strike has ceased, the whole of the furnaces are in full blast. In fact, it is stated that the trade was never in a more healthy state than at present. A firmer tone has been given to the pig trade; and the make of pigs and their conversion into manufactured iron seems to have been better and more evenly adjusted. It is expected that prices will be fully maintained; indeed, from the scarcity and high prices of fuel, there is not any chance of a retrograde movement in the prices.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 3 Col. 6

Coal at Cape Patterson.

Accounts from Sydney announce that new and extensive seams of coal had been found at Cape Patterson, which is not very far from Sydney. The coal is on the sea board, and is represented to be workable. Three seams have been laid open, one 18 feet in breadth, and six feet thick. A body of men have been immediately dispatched to commence working operations, and should the result be such as the discoverers or promoters of the measure anticipate, it will be a matter of considerable importance, not only to the colony, but also for the steam interest. A deposit of freestone had also been found, and reliably suited for public and other large buildings. Tin is also mentioned as having been discovered in the tailings of the gold deposits.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 3 Col. 6

General Diffusion of Gold.

Dr. Percy and his assistants have, during the past year, been pursuing a series of investigations at the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street, having reference to the discovery of gold in commercial lead, lead compounds, and lead ores. In every case hitherto brought under examination the precious metal has been discovered to the extent of being recognisable to the eye. This circumstance, extraordinary though it be, yields in point of curiosity to another. Dr. Percy has discovered gold in lead solutions. How the precious metal should be capable of remaining thus dissolved is beyond the power of chemists to suggest. Dr. Percy intimates that hitherto it has been impossible to obtain lead free from gold; and states, moreover, that it may hereafter turn out that gold is universally present in the ocean. Thus, instead of being the most rare, gold is amongst the most widely diffused of known metals.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 8 Col. 5

Loco-ford Colliery, Tapton.

On Friday last, a small portion of the tubbing of this pit gave way, and a small quantity of water came in, rendering the pit insecure and dangerous. About 170 men were discharged, but fortunately the derangement is only temporary. On Wednesday the works were thoroughly examined by James Campbell, Esq., engineer, accompanied by Messrs. Howe and Alexander, and the result arrived at by those gentlemen, was that the damage could be easily repaired. Thus our readers, many of whom have no doubt heard of the disaster, will be glad to hear that the mischief done is not so extensive as it was believed to be. We understand that it is probable that the discharged men will resume their work next week.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 8 Col. 5

Whittington - Severe Accident.

On Wednesday last a man of the name of Thomas Meads was unhooking his horse from a truck running on a line of rails newly opened in connection with Messrs. Higginbotham and Company's colliery, Glasshouse Common, Whittington, the horse suddenly turned upon him, knocking him down, and at that instance one or more ???????? passed over his left leg, lacerating the top parts which ????? ????? in a frightful manner. It was feared that immediate amputation would be required; but Dr. Black on his arrival did not then deem it necessary to resort to that operation. He removed the broken pieces of bone ??????? in number, and we hear that as yet the man is doing well.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 5

No Headline.

Henry Taylor, a collier, was charged with absconding from Mr. Barrow's ironworks, at Staveley, on the 9th. of February, he having agreed at the previous leaving, he should give a months notice. Mr. Buxton (agent to Mr. Barrow) was examined by Mr. Busby, and proved, that a friend of his had told him, that defendant was not ill as he represented himself to be, and that this was not the first time he had absconded. Michael Lannan and John Callaghan were charged with a similar offense. The prisoners, it was proved, were bound by a similar agreement to that into which Taylor had entered, and had left their work at twelve o'clock on Wednesday last. The men before they left complained that the work was too much for them, but Buxton contradicted this statement, and said that they had done much more on some occasions. Lannan did not complain so much of the work but of a bad pain felt in his chest. This is the first offense of either prisoner. Mr. Cottingham thought that none of the prisoners had given satisfactory reasons for leaving, when Lannan said he had never signed any such agreement as that referred to. Mr. Waller, considerably cautioned the man not to thus make his case worse; when the book was brought his mark was proved. Lannan was committed to Derby for a month, and the other prisoners for 21 days.

Edmund Burke, a "butty" ironstone getter, was summoned by Timothy Linch, for £1-13-7d. of which the defendant declared only 5-6d. was due. The debt was alleged to be due for wages from Burke, who keeps the "Duke of Wellington beer-house", in South Street, Chesterfield, and who hired Linch at 2-2d. per day, in November last, to work in a coal pit, and there was 16 days pay due. On defendant's being closely questioned by Mr. Waller, after a great deal of Irish evasion, got him, defendant, to admit that instead of giving his men money he gave them an order to go and get provisions at a provision shop kept by Mrs. Whittingham, on the truck system. This is how defendant made out only 5-6d. to be due. Mr. Cottingham directed the whole amount claimed to be paid, as, also, all the costs, amounting in the aggregate to £2-4-5d.

Derbyshire Times. - Supplement.

Saturday 18th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 6

Lead Mining in the Peak of Derbyshire.

Many and successful are the efforts that have of late been made in several mining localities to restore this useful branch of labour, which is now affording considerable employment to the class of workman here alluded to, and is at the present time in a position to offer great facilities to labour; several of the miners in the liberties of Hassop and Calver being prepared to augment their employment, thus affording an opportunity to men in other districts, who may be partially or unremuneratively employed, to avail themselves of the opportunity now presented, to procure sufficiency of employment, in order to enable them to command the necessary and ordinary comforts of life. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon those who, with the ability, have the disposition to make researches in the bowels of the earth to benefit themselves and their fellow men. In all such adventures, combination of effort is essentially necessary to produce the required effect. Several efficient companies have been formed, from time to time, who have laboured assiduously to produce the efficiency of purpose referred to. Amongst the rest, a few spirited individuals, who have the advantage of possessing local knowledge, a short time ago commenced operations at a mine, named the "Enterprise" at the extremity of the Combs valley, situate within 1 mile of Stoney Middleton. They have already made a rich discovery, and are now actively employed making the necessary preparations for dressing the ore from the mine. They have every confidence of a speedy and prosperous undertaking, and in celebration of their commencement, regaled their men on Wednesday last with a roast beef and plum pudding, not forgetting a liberal supply of "home-brewed", a reward which no doubt will be duly appreciated by those who had the pleasure to partake of it.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 1

Advert. - Sale by Mr. Wheatley.

Griffin Foundry, Chesterfield.

To Engineers, Machine Makers, Smiths, Brokers, and others.

Mr. Wheatley Kirk is instructed by Messrs. Waller and Company (who are declining the fitting-up department, in order to prosecute the foundry trade alone), to sell by auction, on the 1st. day of March next, commencing at eleven for twelve a.m. prompt - the whole of the valuable stock-in-trade, tools, utensils, etc., used in the said engineering and fitting department, among which may be named: -

In fitting shops - Double geared, self-acting slide lathes with six inch centre headstocks, on a cast metal bed, 25 feet long, with top and driving apparatus, etc.; one 12 inch treble geared lathe, on same bed. (may be divided as the bed is in halves). One pair of seven inch headstocks, planing machine, unfinished, to plane 3ft. 6ins. long, by 3ft. wide and 2ft. 9ins. deep, working by a screw; drilling machine and counter shaft, two drilling stocks, drills and braces, screwing tackle, of various sizes; cast steel ?????? tools, rose bits and boring heads, vices, chisels, hammers, files, shafting and belts, blocks and ropes, two single purchase crabs, etc., etc.

In smiths shop - Bellows, anvils, swages, tue-irons, slake troughs, carpenters pitch, etc.

Stock-in-trade embraces new four horse horizontal engine (nearly finished), cylinder six inches, stroke forty inches; old double boiler, weighing about 30 hundredweight; kitchen ranges, fitted and unfitted; sham register fronts, sham stove castings, sundry stove and register panels; seven lengths of new (3ft. 6ins.) hurdles, (14 yards); stable fittings, hay-rack, mangers; ?????? and straw choppers and cutters, new ?????? machine, guttering, rain and water piping, various, with heads and slides for same, seven yards of liquid manure pump; blistered, cast and double sheared steel; letter copying presses, beams, and scales, etc.

Full particulars in catalogues, which may be had at the offices of the auctioneer, 24, Princess Street, Manchester, and 5, Kirkgate, Leeds; or at the works, at Chesterfield, where the same may be seen in motion up to the morning of the sale.

The tenancy and goodwill of this, the fitting and engineering department of Messrs. Waller's business, may be negotiated for by private treaty, or at the time of sale.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 5

Advert. - To be sold by Private Contract.

A substantially erected stone dwelling house, with good stables and suitable outbuildings, situate on Whittington Moor and now used as a beer-house in the occupation of Mr. Elijah Madin.

Also, a newly erected black earthenware manufactory, situate near to the above dwelling house, with all suitable fixtures and other matters for carrying on the same business.

Also all that piece or parcel of land upon part of which the said dwelling house and pottery have been erected containing 3 roods 7 perches.

For further particulars and to treat for the same apply at the office of Mr. Cutts, solicitor, Chesterfield.

16th. February, 1854.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 1 Col. 5

Advert. - Mining Shares.

On Sale - 5 and 10 shares in the Victoria Lead Mine, Ashover. Apply F.T., Times Office,
Chesterfield.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 6 Col. 2

Awful Colliery Explosion at Wigan.

Eighty-eight Lives lost.

On Saturday afternoon, an explosion of firedamp occurred in the Arley Mine of the Ince Hall Coal Company, near Wigan, at the same place where, last March, about 60 lives were lost from a similar cause. In the morning about 240 men and boys had descended the coal pit, and all went on well until about three o'clock, when two reports were heard in quick succession by those at the mouth of the pit, and soon after the signal was given by the colliers below to be drawn up the shaft. About 30 men were taken out after this signal from the South working, who reported an explosion in the North levels, which they said were on fire near the eye of the shaft, so as to cut off the retreat of the workmen there. Mr. Darlington, the manager, was sent for, but some hours elapsed before the fire could be extinguished, so as to enable him and a body of searchers to enter the North levels for the purpose of recovering the colliers who might be still alive. When they did get into the levels they had an appalling task. They encountered heaps of dead. During the afternoon and night not fewer than sixty bodies were taken out of the pit; since then, twenty seven others have been recovered, and one is still missing, making a total of eighty eight persons dead. The whole of the workings have been explored, not only by Mr. Darlington and his assistants, but also by Mr. Dickenson, the Government Inspector of Mines; Mr. Winn, Inspector of South Stafford; Mr. John Mercer, of St. Helens. As yet not a whisper, beyond mere conjecture, has been allowed to transpire. All the bodies have been identified, and it is now found, when they have been washed, that there is much more of burning than was at first expected, and it is remarkable that most of them are burnt about the face. Some have sustained dreadful injuries; one man's head has been shattered to pieces; two of the boys have lost an arm each, and several are very much bruised. There are fewer suffocated than seemed likely. The coroner's inquest was opened on Monday, at the Navigation Inn, but merely for the identification of the bodies, in order to their removal and burial. The yard of the Inn was crowded during the whole of the afternoon by the relatives of the deceased, most of them being witnesses in respect to the bodies. These were "laid out", bound up in calico, in barns and stables -in one ????? 26, in another 22, in another 22, and in a fourth 14; 2 of them had been conveyed to their own homes.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 6 Col. 3

Breach of Contract by Mr. Hudson, M.P., to supply Iron.

An action was brought, on Saturday, in the Court of Queen's Bench, by Count Seraincourt, against Mr. Hudson, M.P., to recover compensation and damages for an alleged breach of contract, by which the defendant agreed to supply the plaintiff with 20,000 tons of iron. It appeared, from the statements of the learned counsel who opened the case, that the plaintiff was a French Count, and agent for a company which supplied several continental railways with iron. Upon his arrival in England, the plaintiff was introduced to a broker in the City, named Bramwell, who made enquiries concerning the purchase of iron. Among other parties, the defendant was mentioned as likely to be able to supply 20,000 tons of iron, as he was now possessed of about 40,000 tons. A Bought Note was taken to the plaintiff for 20,000 tons of Scotch pig-iron, at 67-6d. per ton, a deposit of 10-0d. per ton to be paid within 14 days, and 10 days notice of delivery of the iron to be given, and the delivery to be within 3 months of the date of the contract. A rise of 5-0d. per ton took place in 2 days after the making of this contract. The plaintiff having given the required notice, tendered the whole amount £67,500, and requested possession of the storekeeper's warrants for the iron. The defendant refused the money, and also £10,000 for the amount of deposit, and would not supply the iron. It was now contended that the plaintiff was entitled to recover the difference between the price of the iron on the day the contract was made, and the 5th. of November, the day on which it should have been delivered, which would amount to £7,500, and that was the sum now sort to be recovered. James Bramwell, a nephew of Alderman Thompson, proved that he had acted as the defendant's broker in the transaction which had given rise to the suit then pending. He had also been Mr. Hudson's broker for many years, transacting a great deal of business for him. Mr. Hudson being ill with the gout, witness went to his residence, and told him that there was a Frenchman who expected to be the buyer of a large quantity of English iron, pig-iron in particular, and that it would be worth his while to sell him 50,000 tons in one line, that was in one contract. "Hudson wished to know what the price was. I told him the plaintiff would be disposed to give 67-6d. a ton for Scotch pig-iron, which the plaintiff said was for actual consumption in France. Hudson said he was satisfied with the price, provided that I knew he had the money to pay the deposit; and upon that he entertained my proposition, and said, "Well, see your way clear, and you can sell him 20,000 tons". I left him and came direct to the City. I saw the plaintiff and his secretary, Mr. Price, on the same day. I delivered a sold bill to the plaintiff the same day. On the Monday and Tuesday, iron rose in price a little. The quantity the plaintiff had bought, if known, was enough to affect the market." Mr. Hudson afterwards declined to deliver the iron, in less than three months after the completion of the contract. According to the terms of the contract - it was a "open" one - he was bound to do so after 10 days notice. Mr. Lorrie, a metal broker, proved that it was usual to give the buyer an option of calling in the iron upon notice. Mr. Hudson was examined, and said that he had not given Bramwell authority to make the contract for the delivery of the iron in less than three months. Lord Kempton(?), in summing up, said that, in his opinion, no bad faith was to be imputed to either party by the case. His Lordship then went through the evidence, and directed them, if they found for the plaintiff, to look to the state of the market on the 16th. November, and take the difference between that day and the 22nd. October, when the contract was made. Mr. Watson tendered a Bill of Exceptions to this ruling. The jury returned to consider their verdict, and after being absent nearly an hour, found a verdict for the plaintiff - damages £4,000.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 6 Col. 5

No Headline.

It has been positively stated by a person who has visited Stirling within these few days, that 6 ounces of pure gold have been picked up at a place called "Letters" in the parish of Balquhadder.

North British Mail.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. February 1854

Page 7 Col. 1

Emigration.

The Australian Diggings.

The following is a communication from Geelong, Victoria, dated November 23rd., 1853: -

The Diggings must form a subject a great interest to all concerned in England's prosperity. I will, therefore, give you the last accounts of those to the west, viz., Ballarat, Eureka and Creswick's Creek. At Ballarat the winter rains caused great damage to all the rich holes in the Prince Regent's gully, some of them being 100 to 120 feet deep, and having been formed at an expense, often, of £60 and £100 to those engaged sinking them. many of these when the floods came down tumbled in, causing great loss of money, and often also involving with it broken legs and arms to those who happened to be working below at the time. In spite of all this very large yields of gold have been got out of this one gully, which forms a continuation of the old Canadian Gully line of gold. I know of one instance that I can speak positively of. A ship's carpenter came out from Liverpool in a vessel as "chips" on board of her; as soon as the vessel cast anchor he got his wife, a passenger on board, to get his things on shore, when he soon found means to get away. He came to Geelong, and actually got some assistance from a person I know to enable him to reach Ballarat, he commenced digging with a party who were glad of his mechanical skill to fix the slabs. In six weeks he returned to this place, having made as his share £7,000. The party was composed of six, who worked alternately night and day. They had one of the richest holes in the spot called the Jeweller's Shop. I still adhere to the opinion I have often before expressed, that such lucky men as these I have alluded to form the exception; the rule will be found that most gain little over the ordinary wages paid in the towns - say from half an ounce to one ounce per diem per man. The agitation that was going on when last I addressed you respecting the license fee, became at one time a very hot and feverish, and many fully expected a turn-out, en mass, of the diggers, which I believe would be the case, but for the timely concession of the Government reducing the fee to 30-0d for three months. One of the party I came out with, "our captain", is secretary to the Gold-diggers Association. He with his brother delegates were examined before the committee that sat in Melbourne, and I have no doubt gave the Government much useful information which the Empeye's and the various camps on the different diggings could not. When I formed one of the digging community, ????????? with the puffed up manner of many holding government employment. Once so grossly did the issuer of licences so forget himself, as to openly insult some 20 persons waiting to pay their monthly fee, that I went with two others and complained to the commissioners, who merely said, Mr. ----- has an arduous task, and could not help at times being bilious, when Mr. Commissioner quietly resumed his ???, a habit greatly indulged in at the "camp,". Then again men have been found without a licence, and on being "pulled up" before His Worship, a fee of £5 has been inflicted or a month on the roads. These and other great grievances made the diggers rebel, and once set in action they will not cease until they get a share of the franchise, and a chance of buying a small allotment in the vicinity of the diggings, to enable them to grow vegetables. So much are vegetables wanted at Ballarat that a single cabbage freely sells at 7 shillings and 8 shillings; and the lack of green fruit has brought out scurvy and other cutaneous complaints amongst many of the diggers. The Association I have mentioned are still agitating for these desiderata, and I fancy from the correspondence that is published every now and then that the government have caught some Tartars. The Ballarat Association is composed of men of some standing, such as doctors, store-keepers, and others, who have no ulterior purpose to serve

beyond the object in hand. The squatting interest forms a great clog on any great expansion of the outlying districts, most of the latter being comprised in their runs. Only fancy one man having a run of 80 miles of fertile country on the banks of the Murray, for which he only pays a nominal rental of £10 per annum. The government have the power of circumscribing these immense tracts of country, as runs, and bringing the land into the market for sale, but they are lukewarm in the matter, from the fact of nearly all of them being directly or indirectly mixed up with the "The Interest", as it is termed, in the Legislative Council. "The Interest" now, undoubtably, is (whatever it formerly may have been) the mercantile. Only a few days since, from the niggardly way in which the Government bring in land, four small allotments near Geelong, of one quarter acre each, brought £2,000, £2,040, £3,000, and £2,800, land that before the diggings would have been dear at £1 the acre. Has a larger quantity been brought into the sale, such monstrous prices could not have been realised. Trade is getting brisk now the roads are open, after the rainy season is over - only ten days since £50 and £45 per ton was paid for bullock drays to Ballarat, a distance of 65 miles; now they are glad to get £8 and £10. Much do the diggers complain of the road not being put into something like travelling order. Not a farthing has been spent on the road to Ballarat since the diggings were discovered, with the exception of a most trumpery bridge at Bate's-ford, and an apology for one at a place called Burnt-bridge. The result of this neglect is, that things in the winter season get enormously high. At one period this winter flour was £80 per ton, and only a week's consumption on hand; fortunately, the roads opened out and relieved the famine that was fast approaching. Bullock drays were a month and six weeks on the road. Last consignments are daily arriving here of all useful articles. Still most articles of consumption are very dear, and will continue to be so, I equally expect, throughout the summer. Porter and Ale are commanding high figures; hay and oats also are scarce. Currants can scarcely be had for money, and flour is daily getting up in price. Labour is still most handsomely remunerated. Carpenters, bricklayers, and blacksmiths get freely £1-15-0d. to £2-0-0d. per day. White hats are all the rage, and cannot be bought for five times the price they command in England. Latrobe's successor has not yet arrived, nor do they "vulgar herd" know the fortunate individual. It is a subject that is beginning to cause some ugly remarks against the Colonial Secretary at home, for keeping people in such suspense, seeing that most will be glad to see Mr. Latrobe's back turned on a country that he has done little to improve, but much to retard.