

Derbyshire Times

Saturday 4th September 1858

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An Advert - Sale by Mr. Hatton

Colliery Materials, Pony, and other Effects

To be sold by Auction, by Mr. Hatton

On Wednesday, September 8th, 1858, at the colliery now worked by Thomas Cartledge, at Dunston, under distress for rent, the following Colliery materials.

Two wire riddles, 4 planks, lot of iron, lot of wood, large hammer, two shovels, two grate shovels, two water tubs, six corves, a bank hook, a lot of puncheons, about ten tons of coal, a one horse gin, gin rope, turn-barrel and stakes, fire pan, chain, lot of bricks, posts and rails, lot of stone, and miscellaneous articles.

Also a pony and set of shaft gearing.

Sale at 12 o'clock.

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Fall in the Price of Copper

An unexpected reduction of a half-penny per pound having taken place in the price of copper, we are informed that rolled brass, brass tubing, and brass wire, will be lowered one farthing per pound in consequence.

Birmingham Post.

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The Colliers Strike

Another open-air meeting of colliers was held on Monday evening, near Hanley, North Staffordshire. At Bedminster, on Tuesday, nine colliers belonging to the Bedminster Company's colliery were charged with a conspiracy to prevent a collier from working at the said colliery, and committed to prison.

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County Court at Chesterfield

Hardy v. Morrell - Jury Case.

Plaintiff sought to recover £15-15-0d, which was money which had been lent defendant. Defendant had put in a set-off, which plaintiff would not allow. Mr. Busby appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendant supported his own case.

After the plaintiff had been examined, the defendant began to cross-examine him, when it was found the set-off was for labour done whilst partner with defendant in working some pits.

His Honour said he could not entertain partnership disputes as set-offs, that he must make a separate claim for it. He could not see why the Jury had been brought here, and he had no advocate.

The defendant then admitted that plaintiff's claim was right, and the Jury gave a verdict for the full amount, to be paid by instalments of £3 per month. The first instalment to commence the next Court, which would enable him to bring an action for his claim before any money was paid.

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No Headline

The sale of colliery materials by Mr. Hatton, advertised in another column, will not take place.

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Assault in a Pit.

John Ward summoned Robert Locock for assaulting him in the Hollingwood Pit, at Staveley. Complainant said that defendant had got his pick. When he asked him for it, he said that it was not his, and struck complainant several times in the face. Fined 5-0d. and costs.

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Fatal Accident.

On Monday afternoon, a fatal accident occurred at Vizzard's colliery, near Barnsley. A miner named Joseph Hoyle, in going to his work, attempted to jump upon a train going towards the colliery. In doing so he missed his hold and 7 wagons passed over him. He died while being conveyed to the Sheffield Infirmary.

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Advert - Wallsend Collieries, Newbold Road, Chesterfield

Town Agency: Mr. Wallis, Market Hall; Mr. Jeffreys, Church Lane

Orders will meet with prompt attention.

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Advert: Birchill New Colliery, Hasland.

Sale by Auction, on Tuesday, 21st September, at Birchill New Colliery, Hasland, in consequence of the removal of Mr. Pierce. One portable steam engine, 6 horsepower; 2 horses and gearing; 2 broad wheeled carts, 1 narrow ditto; 1 portable flour mill, 24 inch French Stones; Corn Crusher and Linseed Mill, also a field of Mangold Wurtzel, and part of the household furniture. Further particulars next week.

Coal reduced to 6d. a ton for cash, apply to Mr. Richard Thornley at the colliery.

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Ejecting Colliers.

At the Wakefield Petty Sessions, on Monday last, Mr. Scruton, manager of Messrs. Pope and Pearson's collieries, at Whitwood, applied for a number of warrants for the purpose of ejecting 20 colliers, who occupy houses at Whitwood and Altofts. The warrants were granted.

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Mining in Derbyshire.

On Wednesday the first General Meeting of the shareholders of the Peak Forest Mining Company was held at the house of Mr Fordham, Castle Street, Mr John Pitt in the chair, when a very satisfactory report of the progress of the Company, since its formation in January last, was submitted to the meeting. Directors, officers, and auditors of the Company were elected for the ensuing 12 months.

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Eyam.

The 1st of September being the anniversary of the Brightside Accident Club, the members and friends of this Society, to the number of 70, assembled together in a large room, which was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens, at the house of Mr. William Bland, Forester's Arms Inn, Eyam, where a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding was provided in a manner which did credit to the worthy host and hostess. When the cloth was removed, Mr. Abraham Goodwin was unanimously called to the chair, and after the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been given and duly responded to, they were followed by "The Brightside Mining Company and Working Miners", the Secretary took the opportunity of congratulating the members on the prosperous condition of the Club, and proposed "The Health of the Honorary Members", which was most enthusiastically responded to. The conviviality of the meeting was much promoted by the vocal and instrumental abilities of Mr. Heathcote, and Mr. Sanderson from Sheffield; and after a few brief remarks from the worthy chairman, and a vote of thanks being passed to him, he vacated the Chair and the dancing commenced, and was kept up with great spirit until 11 o'clock, when thanks were given to the worthy host and hostess, and all separated highly delighted with their evening's entertainment.

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Essay on Coal, by an Oxford Examination Candidate.

The following paper on "Coal" was delivered in by one of the candidates to the examiners at Cheltenham: -

"Coal is a black material. The way they produce it is this. First they dig a large pit in the earth. Then they cut down a quantity of timber, and put it in the pit, and cover the whole with peat. Then they burn the timber. After it has been burnt once it becomes charcoal, and out of the charcoal they make oxygen gas, by which we light our streets and houses".

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Accident.

Mr. Busby held an inquest on Wednesday at the White Horse Inn, Woolley Moor, on the body of Samuel Morton, who had been killed the previous day by a fall of coal whilst working in one of the Clay Cross Company's pits. Verdict, "Accidental Death".

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Turning of the Sod of another Extensive Colliery at Staveley.

The enterprising proprietor of the Staveley Works having determined with the indomitable spirit of one of England's merchant princes, despite the recent casualties and the already enormous investment, to still further extend the above works, it was proposed to sink another shaft to the Staveley Top Hard seam, near Woodthorpe. The sod-turning of the new enterprise took place on Thursday Last, the 16th inst. Amongst those present we noted the Reverend J. Boyer, Mrs. And Miss Boyer, Miss Barrow, Miss B. Barrow, Dr. Markham, of London; W. Markham, Esq., of the North Midland Railway, Mr Heaton, Mr and Mrs Seymour, Mr and Mrs Robinson, Mr and Mrs Gibson, Mr Ireland, Mr Gillatt, Mr Howard, etc., the whole of the Work's officials, and a numerous body of workmen with their wives and families.

Mr Barrow gallantly placed his carriage at the service of the ladies destined to turn the sods, and accompanied them to the ground, where the whole of the party arrived at half past twelve o'clock. A most sumptuous entertainment was provided by the liberal owner for the occasion, and everything was done that seemed expedient and consistent with the inauguration of so auspicious an undertaking. About ten minutes after the arrival of the party, the business of the day was proceeded with, and Mr Seymour, taking his stand in the centre of the intended shaft, Mrs Seymour on one hand, and Mrs Robinson on the other, under his direction the ladies simultaneously cast the sods over the boundary, each lady depositing a sovereign in the hole, amidst loud and prolonged cheering, and cried of "Success to the Seymour Pit". If the goodwill of those present can contribute to the prosperity of the enterprise, it must of necessity be a most prosperous one, for a more hearty expression of sympathy we never heard. Mr Barrow then invited the ladies and the company to partake of a collation prepared for them, after "their arduous labour" and the agents and workmen were also regaled with the good cheer to their hearts content.

Ever foremost in the van of gallantry, Mr Barrow then proposed a toast to the ladies who had broken the ground, and expressing his sincere thanks, said he felt highly honoured by the compliment they had paid him and hoped he should have the pleasure of meeting them all again that day 12 months, on the occasion of winning the coal.

Mr Seymour acknowledged the toast on the part of the ladies.

Mr Heaton then proposed the health of Mr. Barrow, and said he believed that none present enjoyed such an occasion as the one before them more than did their esteemed host, and none felt more interest in the furtherance of such objects, as the one they were now called upon to inaugurate, and he (Mr Barrow) did. Not so much for his own interest however as the interests of those he employed, and in the furtherance of these objects he believed, nothing could daunt him. He had been in the commercial world for many years, and had known many of the greatest moments, yet he might say he never yet met one who possessed so indomitable a spirit as Mr Barrow. In conclusion he prayed God to bless him (Mr Barrow's) efforts to benefit his people, and hoped that all would commence the present undertaking, not relying on their own strength, but rather trust that aid from above, which alone can give the increase.

The toasts were responded to most cordially by all present, and cheered loudly.

Mr Barrow briefly responded, and thanked Mr Heaton for the honour done him, but he said that he was afraid Mr Heaton had said more good things of him than he merited, he believed, nevertheless, that he had the sympathy of all present, and begged him to assure the whole of his agents and workmen that along with his own he had their interests at heart, and would do everything in his power for the furtherance of their well-being and happiness.

Mr Markham then proposed the health of Mr Seymour, and stated that he had known the Staveley Works for many years. From this acquaintance, and from other sources, he also knew there was great credit due to Mr Seymour for the improved condition and progress of the Staveley Collieries, and he had no doubt from his known perseverance and energy the winning would be speedily brought to a successful issue. He believed, also, the undertaking would prove a most profitable one, as this is, undoubtedly, a most important seam of coal. He most heartily wished Mr Seymour success in the work before him.

Mr Seymour replied, and said he felt highly honoured by the great compliment his employer, Mr Barrow, had paid him, by calling the colliery the Seymour Colliery, he didn't deserve such a compliment, all the practical experience and talent which he possessed should be brought to bear upon the undertaking, and he would make it his thought night and day, until it was brought to a successful termination. That being done, Mr Barrow would then be in a position to supply any increase in demand for so valuable a coal. It would be his earnest wish to do everything in his power for so energetic and fearless a capitalist as Mr Barrow is. He was proud to say too, that he was not limited in his means, while Mr Barrow took care to always give his agents ample means to work his collieries most effectually, and with safety to the workmen, which he considered a most important and desirable point in the management of such large collieries as those of Mr Barrow's. He cordially thanked Mr Markham for the compliment he had paid him, and sat down, amidst loud and long continued cheers.

The health's of the Reverend J. Boyer and Mrs Boyer, and the whole of the members of the Barrow family were then proposed by Mr Heaton, and warmly responded to by the Reverend J. Boyer.

A succession of health's were then drunk amidst constant cheers, amongst whom Mr Heaton, Mr Markham, Mr J.T. Woodhouse, Mr Gillatt, Mr Howard, Mr Robinson and staff, Mr Ireland, Mr Gibson, Mr Knighton, and the whole of the agents of the works.

Previous to Mr Barrow leaving the table the vast sinker Thomas Emerson, was called up, his health proposed by Mr Barrow, and drunk with great applause.

In reply the worthy sinker declared his inability to make a speech, but assured Mr Barrow, which was far better, he would "hev her doon afore twelve months". Mr Barrow laughed heartily and assured him "that would do".

Mr Barrow then called upon the assembled multitude to give three genuine English cheers for the ladies who had turned the sod, and who now left the ground in their worthy host's carriage, amidst the thunders of the people, who renewed their cheers as Mr Barrow immediately followed. The thunder now grew "fast and furious", which lasted as long as the good cheer held out, and everybody departed in good humour with themselves and everything about them.

On the occasion of such an undertaking as the present we cannot refrain from some comment upon the spirit of enterprise which has led to this undertaking. It is a spirit which must at once excite our admiration and gratitude. Our admiration as it is one of the glorious characteristics which have made England the first amongst the nations. Hot headed politicians may cry up War as the means of attaining national greatness; the subtle diplomatist always

claims it as owing to his foresight and cunning, but both must stand by when a certain prince puts in his claim - for commerce has done more for British greatness than ever did Wellington in the field, or Chatham in the Cabinet. It claims our gratitude as the fulfilling of a great trust to the ..... mass. The capitalist has indeed many and weighty responsibilities. His wealth is but a trust kept in charge for his fellow men, and the office but too frequently a thankless one. Few however, can charge the proprietor of the Staveley Works with shrinking from the responsibilities of his position. We have but to look round the locality now, and remember what it once was to be convinced that this man in a thousand has indeed spared neither pocket nor interest to benefit the people amongst whom his lot has been cast, and nobly fulfilled the trust which providence has reposed to him. The rich mineral resources of the neighbourhood have been developed with an energy truly astonishing, and a flood of wealth poured into the surrounding districts which has doubtless proved the blessing and support of thousands. Nor is this spirit likely to die. The proprietor is as indomitable as ever. In the person of Mr Seymour, the colliery viewer, he has one who will carry out every enterprise with a talent and energy worthy of such an employer, and he has also, we trust, got a class of workmen who will prove worthy of both. For to you, workmen, also remains a duty to be done, a responsibility to be discharged. You are bound to meet such enterprise with willing arm and ready sympathy. To you, in the words of ..... Haliburton, we would say, "Work and see how well you will be. Work and see how cheerful you will be. Work and see how independent you will be. Work and see how happy your family will be. Work and see how religious you will be, or before you know where you are, instead of rapining at Providence, you will find yourselves offering up thanks for all the numerous blessings you enjoy". Above all study contentment for after all that is the true root of social happiness. He was a true philosopher that knew the secret of life who said "My wealth consists not in the greatness of my riches but in the fewness of my wants". Remember that when we limit our desires we increase our wealth. Hence you will find many a rich man poor, and a poor man rich.

To us it is indeed a cheering sight to see there the venerable and benevolent capitalist, the agent whose intelligence must direct his enterprise, and the workman whose arm was to work out the same, united in one common bond of sympathy, and joining their wishes for the success of the undertaking before them. We trust the workmen will ever see that he has as great an interest in his labour as his master, and with faith in the spirited management of Mr Seymour, and the liberality of his employer, we wish a most hearty success to the "Seymour Pit".

Illustrated London News

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New Coal-field.

An important discovery of coal has recently been made in North Wales, by which it has been found that the Flintshire coal-bed extends into Denbighshire, as far as Denbigh in the Vale of Clwyd, if not farther to the westward. The discovery of coal was made in the vale, where a seam a foot and a half in thickness was discovered close to the surface. The dip is not great, and it is probable that the bed could be worked to profit. An extraordinary stratum of coal has been discovered at the Llwyunion works in Denbighshire.

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Shocking Accident.

A shocking accident occurred to a child 8 years of age named George Pepper, at New Whittington. It was playing around some pits belonging to the West Staveley Colliery Company, and ran down an incline into an old working. Another child that was with it told its parents, and a search was made, and it was found suffocated from firedamp. It was removed to the Wellington Hotel, Whittington, to await an inquest.

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No Headline.

His Grace, the Duke of Devonshire, who, during the shooting season, has been staying at Bolton Abbey, gave on Saturday last, a treat to all the workmen employed in his extensive lead mines at Grassington and Cononley, who, with their wives, came from these places to partake of His Grace's hospitality. We believe the festivity comes on the occasion of the Duke's third visit to these works since they became a part of his property, and it was such that it can't fail to be long remembered by all who were interested, and by all who were visited, by a feeling of pleasure.

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Alleged Robbery at Stonegravels.

George Bower, miner, was charged by Herbert Baggaley, with stealing 17-0d. from his house at Stonegravels on Saturday night last. It appears from the evidence that prosecutor was paying his men, and prisoner who was sat on the side of the table took up the 17-0d. saying "It is my share", and went away. Prosecutor owed him 14-0d. which he .... ..... him. Prisoner proved that he was a partner with prosecutor, and that they were sinking a pit. He was sat at the table looking at the accounts, and when they were paid up he took the 17-0d. which was laid counted on the table as his share. Mr. Maynard said he must discharge the prisoner, and if he had taken more than his share prosecutor must bring an action in the Small Debt Court.

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Meeting of Colliers near Wakefield.

A meeting of colliers connected with the West Riding District was held on Monday, at Bottomabooat, near Wakefield, to determine what steps should be taken in reference to the late 15 percent reduction, and also to consider the intimation given by the masters of their intention of closing several pits in the union. The attendance was considerable, the number of miners present being between 800 and 1000, a miner, named William Hepworth, was called to the chair, and opened the proceedings by urging those present to conduct themselves in an orderly and peaceful manner, and to discuss calmly and dispassionately the various questions that would be brought forward for their consideration. He then called upon James Holder, who addressed the meeting at considerable length, and exhorted the men to continue their resistance to the unwarrantable encroachment upon their rights by their employers. He concluded by moving the following resolution: - "That every miner here present pledges himself not to sign any paper or agreement with his employer without first consulting the general board". The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried without a single dissentient. The meeting was afterwards addressed by several speakers, including Messrs. James Hartley, Daniel Barker, George Lee, and Joseph Prior. A resolution was then proposed to the effect that, while the miners were determined to resist to the utmost of their power, all attempts to reduce their wages, they were willing to meet their employer in a proper spirit with a view to an amicable adjustment of the unfortunate dispute now pending. At the close of the meeting an intimation was given that delegates had been sent to Lancashire, Derbyshire, and Durham, and that a union had been effected with those counties in support of the men now on strike. After the usual votes of thanks the meeting separated, having been conducted throughout with the utmost order.