

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 5th. March 1859.

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Advert - Hasland Colliery.

Coal at Reduced Prices.

Best House Coal	5-10d. at the pit.
Best Cobbles	5-0d. at the pit.
Unscreened Cobbles	3-4d. at the pit.
Engine Slack	2-3d. at the pit.

Delivered in Chesterfield, 1-3d. extra.

All orders left with Mr. Morris Langton, or at the office, Hasland Lane, will be promptly attended to.

Knowles, Clayton, and Company.

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Advert - The Whittington Freehold Estate and Colliery Company. (Limited)

Registered Pursuant to the Joint Stock Companies Acts 1856 and 1857 (By which the liability of shareholders is limited to their subscriptions).

Capital £60,000 in 12,000 shares of £5 each.

Deposit on application £1 per share, and £1 on allotment (but no further calls will be made until after 12 months, with the remainder will be called at intervals of not less than 6 months as and when required).

Directors.

John Brown, Esq, Rose Hill, Chesterfield, Director of the Union Bank, Sheffield.
Henry Rangeley, Esq., Unstone Ironworks, Sheffield.
William Tuxford, Esq., 106 Upper Thames Street, London.
F.E. Pierce, Esq., Whittington, Chesterfield.
Robert Simpson, Esq., 4 Charlotte Row, London; Blaina Ironworks, Monmouthshire.
John Stanton, Esq., M.D., Upper George Street, Bryanston Square.

Bankers.

Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smith, London.
Messrs. Crompton, Newton, and Company, Chesterfield.

Solicitors.

Messrs. Tucker, Greville, and Tucker, 28 St. Swithin's Lane.
William Clayton, Esq., solicitor, Chesterfield.

Auditors.

Messrs. Harding, Pellen, and Company, Public Accountants, Lothbury, London.
Mr. Henry Osborne, Chesterfield Bank.

Brokers.

London - Messrs. Scrutton, and Son, 81 Old Broad Street.
Sheffield - Messrs. F.E. and S. Smith, George Street.
Leeds - Mr. T.E. Plint, Park Row.
Liverpool - Messrs. Theakstone and Hargreaves, India Buildings, and J.W.S. May, Dale Street.
Manchester - Messrs. Johnston and Sons, Stock Exchange.
Bristol - Mr. John Kempson Thomas.

Secretary: - Mr. H.R. Downman.

Offices

27a. Bucklersbury.

This Company has been formed for the purchase of the freehold landed estate of 152 acres, together with the machinery, plant, and the coal, ironstone, and minerals, thereunder; as also under 119 acres of land adjoining, embracing five seams of first rate coal, together nearly 900 acres, adapted for house, gas, coke, and manufacturing purposes.

The property is situated in the parish of Whittington, near Chesterfield, on a branch of the Midland Railway, near the Chesterfield Canal.

The colliery is raising above 750 tons per week, which is contracted for by highly respectable firms, whilst the machinery is capable of raising 1,000 tons per week; and as soon as the lower seams are reached the outlay of which is provided for in the capital of £10,000, at least 2,000 tons per week, independently of the ironstone, will be raised.

The present returns from the land, colliery and ironstone after all the deductions, will give a net profit of 16 per cent. to the shareholders, and when the workings are extended (within two years) nearly double that profit may be relied on.

By the arrangement for the purchase £20,000 remains on mortgage over a period of years, and not more than £2 will be called up for the first twelve months, and £2 during the second year, beyond which it is not expected further calls will be made.

Full particulars, together with the valuations and estimates of Messrs. Jeffcock and Walker, Haslehurst, and others, and the calculations of an experienced mineral agent, will appear in the prospectus, which, with forms of application, may be had in the offices of the company, and the respective solicitors and brokers, to applications for shares are to be addressed.

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Miners Petition to the House of Commons.

A petition has been prepared for presentation to the House of Commons on behalf of the workers in coal-mines of Great Britain and Ireland, who believe that their condition demands amelioration by legislative enactment. The petitioners pray for a limitation of work to eight hours per day; a similar provision for children with respect to half time on instruction to that which prevails in cotton and woollen factories; the regulation and making compulsory upon coal proprietors to adopt the safety cage and other appliances for the safety of the miners; a law for a levy of a tax of a farthing per ton on all coal sold, for the support of the widows and orphans of those who lose their lives in the mines, and the education of their children and the establishment of a miners home for disabled miners; and lastly, for a clause for the introduction the apprenticeship system among the mining population, in order that greater efficiency and practical knowledge may be secured. In support of these demands a number of reasons are appended.

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Lundhill Explosion.

On Saturday week, being the anniversary of the Lundhill Explosion, there was (by particular desire of the miners in the district) a very impressive sermon preached in Darfield Church, in the afternoon by the Revd. W. Wilkinson, of Sheffield, on Luke 16, chap. XXIX, 30th. and 31st. verses. There was a good attendance of miners, their wives and families.

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Fatal Accident.

An accident attended with fatal consequences, happened of Thursday, to John Briggs, aged 16, at the Wingerworth collieries. An inquest was held on Friday morning, before C.S.B. Busby, Esq. The following evidence was adduced: - Thomas Gilden, of Chesterfield, ironstone miner, deposed; I work at Messrs. Yates' ironstone pit, Speighthill, Wingerworth. Deceased was working at the same pit near me, on Thursday, at half-past two. A piece of bind fell from the roof 2ft. 9ins. by 1ft. 6ins. It fell on deceased's head, and killed him directly. He was filling a corve, loading the dirt up. I was only a yard from him. One roof is propped up with puncheons. I set the props about a yard apart. The place was properly propped up and secured. John Kershaw is underground bailiff. I am "butty" with Isaac Palfreyman. I haven't seen any printed rules. They had been working under the pit hole one hour and a half. It slipped all at once. William Bend, deposed: I was working yesterday in the pit about a yard from deceased. Some stuff fell from the roof on the back of his neck and killed him directly. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of "Accidental Death". The pits belong to the Wingerworth Company, and are now under the management of a very efficient superintendent, Mr. Pendleton, late of the Staveley works, who is most careful in taking every precaution to guard against accidents of this nature. The present casualty was purely accidental, as one of the underground viewers had only a short time previously passed the spot. The body was removed to the Barley Mow Inn to await the coroner's inquest.

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Testimonial.

On Monday, the 7th. inst., the workmen of the West Staveley Colliery, met at the house of Mr. Bomford, the Miners' Arms, for the purpose of presenting James Hudson, Esq., their late viewer, with a token of their esteem and respect before his departure. It consisted of a very handsome silver chalice, elaborately chased in gilt, bearing the following inscription: - "Presented to Jas. Hudson, Esq., by the workmen of the West Staveley Colliery, in token of our esteem and respect - March 7th., 1859". The greatest good feeling, good order, and harmony prevailed on the occasion, much regret was expressed on parting. A most excellent supper was provided, and all passed off well. The Staveley ringers attended, and added greatly to the harmony of the evening, eliciting the greatest applause for their proficiency in the use of their bells.

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Dreadful Accident in a Lead Mine.

Two Lives Lost.

An inquest was held at Crich on Thursday, before W. Whiston, Esq., on the bodies of William Doxey and Robert Buckley, aged 22 years each. The deceaseds were employed in preparing for a blast of stone in a lead mine, and two other men were also employed in a like manner a short distance above the deceased. The two last men had their blasts ready for firing and gave the usual signal for the others to get out of the way, and before the blast exploded there was plenty of time for all to get to a place of safety during the explosion. The two unfortunate men, Doxey and Buckley, did not appear to have taken any notice of the signal, and the consequence of not doing so was the loss of their lives. Doxey was killed instantly, but Buckley was alive: he was removed home, where he died shortly after his arrival. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death", in each case.

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Killamarsh - Inquest.

An inquest was held before Mr. Busby, on the 4th. instant, on the body of James Shemmells, who had been killed at the colliery. Joseph Batty, of Killamarsh, coal-miner, deposed: I was under the drum of the engine at the colliery of myself and Thomas Webster, Killamarsh. It was the drum the rope winds on, which goes down the pit. The engine was still and I was screwing some bolts tight on the drum. This was at twelve at noon on Thursday. I didn't see deceased till after the accident. When I had screwed the bolts I told the engine-tenter to go on (he is aged 27). He started the engine, and set the pump in gear and the drum in motion. I was in a stooping position. The engine gave a jerk. I turned my head and saw deceased's face just at the edge of the wall. I screamed to the engine-tenter to stop. He did so directly. We have a brake to it and it stopped instantly. I got over and got hold of deceased. He was so crushed I could not remove him. They had to reverse the engine to get him out. He was jammed between the crank and the wall plate. I didn't know that he was about. He had no business there. He was quite dead. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

The Mining Journal

March 12th 1859.

Craven Moor Mines

Report by Mr Evan Hopkins.

In my last report, dated 30th October, I stated that the new (Derby) shaft was being sunk at about the centre of five veins - Woodhouse, Hardgate, Longthorn, Gin Shaft and North Veins - as represented in the transverse section; and that the Hardgate and Woodhouse Veins had been wrought by former miners to the depth of the 42 Fathom Level, and in some places still deeper, especially near the joint water level. I further observed that the ore-ground now standing in the Hardgate Vein was below the 42 Fathom Level, and that the shaft, when it reached the 47 Fathom Level, would begin to lay open productive ground to the west. Since that time the shaft has been completed to the 47 Fathom Level, and ore ground has been opened out under the 42 Fathom Level west, where parties are now employed in driving and stoping in the Hardgate Vein westward. The Bed Level above (the 42 Fathom Level), is also being re-opened at the rate of about 60 feet per month, and is expected to reach productive mineral ground in the course of about three months. This level is intersected by a number of cross clay veins, running more or less north and south, which have dislocated both Hardgate and Longthorn Veins for several feet and have apparently rendered the veins for many fathoms on the west side of the joints, broken and unproductive. It is therefore necessary to extend the levels beyond this barren band to reach the productive ground westward. These cross clay veins contain lumps of lead ore in places and should be opened for a few fathoms as they may lead to the discovery of side branches, more especially where the main veins are broken, such as the Hardgate and Longthorn Veins. There is a large piece of unproductive ground in the Hardgate Vein, opposite the shaft, at the depth of from 43 to 48 Fathoms, consequently it is essential to sink this shaft without delay, to the 56 Fathom Level, (the water level), so as to get at the ore ground which is seen under the barren part in the 56 Fathom Level, driving west towards the shaft. At a corresponding depth in Longthorn Vein we see a similar band of hard, unproductive ground in the 42 Fathom Level crosscut, immediately under the rich bunch of ore; therefore it is not advisable to drive many fathoms through this hard, barren part of the vein. It is preferable to drive an intermediate level in the bottom of the bunch above, and another level in the ore ground below the 56 Fathom Level, and leave the barren part to stand between. The general appearance of Longthorn Vein in the workings below the 30 Fathom Level is exceedingly favourable. The vein in places is very wide and branchy, and variable in its underlay. Some good branches of ore may still be still standing further north, at the level of the 42 Fathom Level crosscut. I should therefore recommend a trial for a few fathoms in the clay vein seen to the west of the crosscut; it would not cost much, and may lead to good results.

I inspected the joint water level from the Craven Moor to the Cockhill Mines, and came out at the mouth. I saw that there was a great deal of ore ground standing in the Hardgate Vein, above the water level, to the east, which will become immediately available when the shaft is completed to the required depth. The other veins to the north, (which are all more or less standing below the 30 Fathom Level), can be explored westwards from the deep level in the lower range of productive ground. Hence the necessity of completing the shaft as soon as possible, so as to place the mines in a proper condition to develop the veins under the old workings, and westwards towards the unbroken ground, as well as eastwards under the grit.

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Advert - New Lockoford Colliery.

Best Dunstone Coal, 5-6d. per ton, at the pit, delivered in Chesterfield, 7-0d.

Joseph Lambert and Company, proprietors.

Orders received by J. Lambert, St. Mary's Gate, or George Bonsall, Station Lane.

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Petition of Pitmen.

The Mining Journal has the following: - A petition has been drawn up for presentation at the House of Commons on behalf of the workers in coal-mines in Great Britain and Ireland. The main object of the petition is to obtain the limitation of the working time in coal-mines to eight hours a day. Various reasons are urged in favour of this restriction, amongst which are the admitted facts that working in bad air away from daylight, is far more exhausting than it is under any other circumstances, and that a miners occupation being particularly dusty and dirty he requires a longer time to clean himself; that he is, in short, not good for anything until he has had an hour and a halfs time after his work is over to wash and refresh himself. The other objects of the petition are; that children under 14 should only work half-time; that coalowners shall be obliged to use the patent safety cage, and such other scientific means of saving life as may be from time to time invented; that a fund be provided by law to support disabled miners and the widows and orphans of those who have lost their lives in mines; and that the apprenticeship system be introduced into mines; and that the machinery used in raising coal should only be allowed to work nine hours a day. The apprenticeship system is needed, the petition states, to protect the pitmen from the dangers to which they are exposed from the inexperience of novices, in justification of the restriction in the time working machinery, they state that if an Eight Hours Bill were enforced without any such restriction, the masters would work the pits by relays the whole 24 hours, and that the air would be thus in a continued state of explosive impurity. - (We heartily wish that the desires of the pitmen may be realised, and that the legislature will interpose between them and the system which leaves them at the mercy of unprincipled employers. Owing to the many dangers to which this class of our operative population are subject, some provision in accordance with the suggestion of the petition if no better plan can be found should be made for their wives and families, seeing that they are so liable to be deprived of the support of their natural protectors. Though in the abstract we dislike the principle of legislative interference between the employer and the employed, it is the evils entailed by private cupidity who every day grow more manifest we should be inclined to support a restorative system which should counteract the dreadful consequences which are heaped on our operative population. We therefore heartily wish the pitmen success in their appeal, and we hope it will only be a precursor of a similar movement in other trades. - Ed. D.T.).

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Manslaughter.

On Saturday last, the 12th. inst., an inquest was held at the Crown Inn, Clay Cross, on the body of William Manyon, of the same place, coal-miner. The inquest was adjourned until Monday, the 14th., for a post-mortem examination to be made. From the evidence adduced, it appeared that on Sunday night, the 23rd. of January, a number of miners and others were at the New Inn Public House, when a quarrel ensued. The deceased called Michael Donellan a liar and a perjurer several times. Donellan knocked the deceased down, and a "tussle" ensued, and a man called "Engine Jack" joining in the fray, and knocking deceased down. The landlord turned them out, when "Engine Jack" again knocked deceased down and kicked him; others also kicked him when he was down and he was brutally ill-treated. Deceased staggered to Mr. Mackarsie's surgery and called him up, but whilst in the yard "Engine Jack" was seen to follow him up and begin kicking him whilst laying on the steps. When Mr. Mackarsie and his assistant came down, deceased was insensible and covered with blood, having several cut wounds about his head and otherwise seriously injured. Deceased was removed home and properly attended to, but he never recovered, and died on Friday the 11th. of March. The jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against John Donellan and John Connorlin, otherwise "Engine Jack".

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Whittington Colliery Company.

This company is fully formed under the Limited Liability Act, and 10-0d. premium is offered on the £5 shares.

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Clay Cross - Accidental Death.

An inquest was held on Friday last, at this place before C.S.B. Busby, coroner, on the body of Richard Boot, coal-miner, who accidentally met his death by falling on a pick-axe. John Heckstall, of Clay Cross, coal-miner, stated - Deceased was aged 62 years. He died on Saturday last. About 4 o'clock that morning he was brought home with a wound in his left shoulder, in the hollow just inside the collar bone. Witness remained with him until he died at half-past ten the same night. He was faint from the loss of blood, but he could not tell how the accident happened. He died from the loss of blood from the wound. Henry Boot of Clay Cross, coal-miner, the youngest son of deceased, deposed that on Saturday morning between three and four a.m. he was going in company with deceased to work. They were going down the incline which ran the limestone down to the Clay Cross furnace. Deceased had two picks, which he was carrying under his arm. He caught his foot in passing against the wire rope that let waggons down. He fell sideways on the point of one pick which ran into his left shoulder. He bled very much. He lifted himself up and pulled the pick out. He said "I believe I shall have to go home again". He then fell down again. He never spoke afterwards. Two men came up and he was taken home. Witness went to rattle up Mr. Mackarsie, whose assistant Mr. Smith of Chesterfield attended him until he died. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

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The High Peak Mining Act - Wilson v. Walton and others.

This was a peculiar cause, possessing of little public interest except so far that it was connected with the provisions of the curious High Peak Mining Act. The action was brought to recover damages from a trespass, and also for carrying away a tub belonging to the plaintiff. A conference took place, and ultimately the plaintiff agreed to accept a 40-0d. verdict with costs.

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Appalling Death of Two Men.

A most appalling catastrophe occurred at North Shields, last week. In the outskirts, there is a landsale pit known as Preston New Winning, and the waterworks company have arranged for a supply of water from it. Between four and five o'clock, Mr. Thomas Wilson, foreman to Messrs. Hepple and Landells, engine-wrights, and Mr. Thomas Proctor, foreman to the waterworks, descended into the pit to look after the workmen employed putting the pipe in. They went down in a cage, and scarcely got to the bottom when a most frightful catastrophe occurred. The banksman, John Hardman, had not noticed that the cage had gone down, he being engaged in talking to some cartmen. He pushed a tub to the shaft, but observing, too late, that the cage had gone, he held on by it. It dragged him after it, and he and it fell down the shaft. They fell on Mr. Wilson, who was killed on the spot. Hardman's back was broken, and he died very shortly after. The tub also struck Mr. Proctor, breaking one of his thighs, and otherwise injuring him; and from enquiries made on Wednesday morning, there were very slight hopes indeed of his recovery.

Illustrated London News

Saturday 26th. March 1859

Boiler Explosion and Loss of Four Lives.

On Sunday morning a terrible boiler explosion occurred at Kelloe South Pit, about three miles from Durham. There are four boilers at the colliery, placed parallel to each other. The whole of them had undergone the usual examination about half an hour before the explosion, and they were then considered to be all right. The explosion shook the buildings for miles around ; and, on the atmosphere becoming cleared, it was discovered that three of the four boilers had been thrown from their seats and rent in pieces. The dead bodies of three men were discovered in the fire holes. Two other men, named West and Jackson, who were near the fire holes at the time of the accident, were dreadfully scalded, and one of them died on the following day. Several others were injured.