

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 11th. August 1860.

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Metals and Mining in the District.

Unfortunately this is unreadable on the microfilm.

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Page 4 Col. 1.

Termination of the South Yorkshire Lock-Out.

We are glad to state that the lock-out has now terminated in a satisfactory manner, and that not a day or two need only elapse before all the men are again at work. The proceedings of the last few days have shown that there was really no contest whatever. The first step towards the adjustment may be traced from the proceedings of a meeting of the masters on Friday evening last, when it was announced that the only recusant colliery, Messrs. Sturgess, Paley, and Company, had assented to the terms agreed upon by the colliery delegates and the committee of the Master's Association. Mr. Clarke's men having previously retracted, the only matter for consideration was as to Messrs. Smith, Carr and Smith's colliery. It had been previously arranged with regard to that colliery that men should be appointed on the part of the masters and the men, who were to work in the pit for a fortnight, each side having overlookers, so that it may be seen what a man really could earn, and then fix a price accordingly. The men and overlookers having been duly appointed, the next and only question was as to the referee. Four gentlemen were named, and amongst others Colonel Daly, from whom to select. So far the matter was pressed till Tuesday, when the Masters Association held a meeting at the King's Head Inn. There was a very large attendance, every colliery being represented. The position of affairs having been stated, and the only thing then remaining to settle the dispute, the case of Messrs. Smith, Carr, and Smith was then gone into. The agreement formerly entered into was then assented to, and the parties nominated to take charge of the men who were to work for a fortnight in the pit; they were on the part of the Association, Mr. Beecher, engineer, for Messrs. Newton, Chambers, and Company, of Thorncliffe, and Mr. Suidal on the part of the men. Four gentlemen were then proposed, one of whom to be umpire should there be any disagreement; they were Colonel Daly, R. Thorpe, Esq., Mr. John Walker, engineer, of Mosborough Colliery, and Mr. Embleton, engineer, Leeds. It was then agreed that Messrs. Suidal and Beecher should draw the names from a hat, and the parties so drawn to stand in the order in which they came out, and in case the first refused the next to be taken and so on. The first name drawn was that of Colonel Daly, and then Mr. Thorpe. We have been informed that on Saturday last a deputation from the miners waited upon Colonel Daly, when the gallant gentleman agreed to act if appointed. We have every confidence in stating that a better selection for both sides could not have been made. The last and most important question - the resuming of work, was next brought forward, when it was arranged that all or such of the men as desired should commence work on Thursday last at their respective collieries. The amount paid by the collier's executive to the men while out, we understand, has been nearly £1,100 per week.

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Accident.

James Watson, of Ashover, pit sinker, was at work a short ago at Corbriggs, near Hasland, when some earth fell on his head, which caused a severe wound, thought to be dangerous. Hopes are now entertained of his recovery.

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Fatal Pit Accident.

An inquest was held on the Tuesday afternoon, at the Miner's Arms, Rawmarsh, before Thomas Badger, Esq., coroner, on the body of a man named Thomas Feetam, aged 36 years, who had been killed on the previous afternoon in the Warren Vale Pit. Whilst the deceased and a companion were "holing", a fall of coal took place, owing, it was believed, to an insufficiency of "spragging". The deceased had spragged the work to some extent, but from some cause or other a slip took place, and he was partly buried under it. He was immediately rescued, but died the same evening. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

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The Iron and Coal Trades of Yorkshire and Derbyshire.

August 16: A very confident tone has prevailed during the week in the iron trade. A large number of orders have been received, and rates are decidedly firmer than we have known them for some time past. The great activity has prevailed in the works of two of our largest Yorkshire houses, which have been employed by the Government in making ordinance. There is also a very good demand for plates for ship building purposes, and also for rails for export. The home consumption, too, for manufactured iron is on the increase.

The coal trade is very active, and the demand for the season of the year has never been known to be so large. The export demand, too, is on the increase. The strike of the South Yorkshire colliers is not yet terminated; the men at Messrs. Newton, Chambers, and Company, having refused to return to work until the new rates are withdrawn. These rules have been framed with a view to afford some protection to the employer against strikes, as it has been found impossible to conduct large works on the system now adopted.

Another railway project is being attempted, and if it should succeed it will open out a new and valuable coalfield, besides affording a direct communication between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The communication by railway between Nottingham, Sheffield, and Manchester is a subject that has for some time been under consideration, but apparently without any ultimate result. The most practical direction for a line of rails, and one which would have a two-fold object in view - the shortest and cheapest route to command the greatest amount of traffic, both for minerals and passengers, is by the present existing line of railway from Nottingham to Mansfield, and thence by Skegby and Hardwick Park up the vale of the Dawlee river, to join the main line of the North Midland at Eckington Station; thence by the branch of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway to Sheffield and Manchester. This route would pass through one of the finest mineral districts in the kingdom, which would open one of the most extensive fields for capitalists. On leaving Mansfield and Skegby the line would pass to the right of Hardstoft, Stainsby, Heath, Sutton, Scarsdale, and Duckmanton; and to the left of Ankerbold, Old Hucknall, Glapwell, Palterton, Bolsover, Norbriggs and Marsden Moor. The proposed route would require very little cutting, and would well repay the outlay which would be required.

The making of the railway from Pye Bridge to Clay Cross is proceeding satisfactorily, and we hear of some new works which are to be erected in close proximity to the line. This route will afford an exit for coal from a large district of country which hitherto has been without the advantages of railway communication, and consequently only partly developed in its mineral resources. The making of the line between Rowsley and Buxton, to complete the communication between London and Manchester, is now an actual fact, as a contract has been let, and the works are being proceeded with. In a district like the Peak of Derbyshire it is impossible to estimate the value of this line to the mineral interest. No doubt several descriptions of minerals will then be brought into the market which have been excluded for the want of a cheaper mode of conveyance than the present - that of ?????????.

The mineral traffic of the South Yorkshire Railway has been affected by the dispute between the coalmasters and the men; but taking the general traffic of the line into consideration, there has been a satisfactory increase. The progress of the line into Sheffield has been retarded, owing to the land not being got as early as was anticipated. The half years

income of the mineral traffic has been £34,650-3- 7d., showing an increase of £4,675-8-2d., and the quantity carried has been 489,394 tons, as compared with 414,446 tons for the preceding half year.

The wet season is much against the Derbyshire mines, and creates a dull feeling in the local stockmarket. During the week there has not been a sale of sufficient note to alter the quotations of the stocks, some of which are exceedingly low, particularly Mill Town, and which no mine in Derbyshire has a better prospect. The mine is now actually making a profit, and yet the shares are quoted at and below par. We are at a loss to account for such a state of things, especially when some mine shares are held at a premium which never yet paid a dividend at all.

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No Headline.

Isaac Milner was sued by Samuel Froggatt for the sum of 15-0d. due to him as wages. It appeared that defendant had engaged Froggatt as banksman, to be paid fortnightly. Defendant said: A few days ago Froggatt commenced throwing bricks and other things down the pit, breaking several things and almost killing a boy, and when asked what was his reason for doing so, he coolly replied he was vexed. It appeared also that there had been an accident the day before at the same pit, it was Froggatt's duty to assist Milner in repairing the damage, instead of doing which he said he should leave, thus dismissing himself from the work, and by so doing was no entitled to receive his wages until the end of the fortnight. The magistrates dismissed the case, informing plaintiff he might go to the County Court if he chose.

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No Headline.

The "lock-out" amongst the colliers in South Yorkshire still continues, although efforts have been made to bring the workmen and the employers to terms. A meeting of the employers was held a few days back, but nothing was resolved upon. A feeling was indeed expressed that the work on one side, or the strike on the other, should be complete - that there should be no half and half measures: but the meeting was adjourned.