

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 14th. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 3-4.

Treat to the Workmen of Cliff Colliery, Clay Cross.

On Monday last, Messrs. Taylor and Elliott invited their workmen to a dinner at Mr. Farnsworth's George and Dragon Inn, when upwards of 70 partook of a substantial excellent dinner of roast beef, joints of mutton, plum pudding, etc. After the cloth was drawn, Mr. Taylor presided, when the usual toasts were given. Amongst the most prominent were the proprietors, their wives and families, the managers success to Cliff Colliery etc. During the evening the chairman delivered an address to workmen showing the relationship existing between masters and men, their relative duties to each other calling their attention especially to the evil tendency and fatal results strikes must effect on all parties, urging the men to sobriety, to education their children and to labour to the utmost to secure domestic happiness. During the evening the workmen proposed the commencement of a sick club which was unanimously approved of by the whole of the workmen, Messrs. Taylor and Elliott commencing with a donation of £5. The evening throughout was spent in a very social manner and this sort of gathering cannot fail to be productive of good to both master and men. A vote of thanks was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Farnsworth for the excellent dinner and the admirable arrangements by which the whole were carried out.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 14th. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 4.

Accident at Alfreton.

A serious accident occurred on Tuesday, the 3rd. instant, at the colliery of W. Palmer Morewood, Esq., to a poor man named John Kerry, who on coming down the gateway, accidentally put out his light, and not knowing which way to turn, he ran against some waggons which knocked him down, putting his right thigh bone completely out of socket, and bruising him very much about the body. He was taken home in a cart, and Drs. Spencer and Turner were soon in attendance; every attention was given to him, and he is now going on very favourably.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 14th. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 4.

Great Hucklow Mining Company v. The Mill Dam Company.

At the opening of Vice-Chancellor Stuart's Court, the first day of Hilary Term, the defendants applied to plaintiff's counsel to consent to the further hearing being postponed. The ground chiefly assigned for the application was that defendants had some intricate maps to prepare, which they had not had sufficient time to get ready. After some discussion plaintiffs consented to the case being postponed to the 3rd. of Seal - the 25th. instant, on condition that defendants sent copies of any additional affidavits they may file to plaintiff's solicitor in the country, by the 17th., if possible; plaintiffs agreeing to send copies of the affidavits (if any) they may file in answer thereto. Plaintiff insisted upon this condition, as defendant had not filed any affidavits since the injunction was granted, and plaintiffs believed the alleged "intricacy" was not in the maps, but the affidavits. Plaintiffs also wished to guard against any further delay otherwise the defendants putting off doing their affidavits until the day preceding that fixed for the motion being heard. The injunction to be continued to the 26th. instant.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 14th. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Mining in Derbyshire.

The Great Hucklow Mining Company have obtained an injunction in Chancery to restrain the Mill Dam Company from pumping and otherwise throwing water into the Great Hucklow Mine, whereby damages, for which they claim £1,000 compensation, have been occasioned. The statements against the Mill Dam Company appear anything but creditable to the committee, and although a sale has been recently made at £1-8-6d. premium, the proceedings are not likely to improve the position of that concern. It appears that the Company is not registered; that many of the reports sent out with the sanction of the committee are not founded on fact, whilst in others important facts are suppressed; and that the Gateside Mine has been falsely represented as the property of the Mill Dam Company, the fact being that only that part of the mine under water was purchased of Clement Morton, whilst the upper part was simply leased to the Company by the said Clement Morton, upon condition that he should be employed as manager of the Company, who are to pay the royalty upon all the ores raised, and that if for any reason he was dismissed, the lease should become void; and that the secretary of the Company (a lead smelter) had been permitted to purchase ore without competition below its marketable value. The case will probably be ultimately referred to a Mineral Jury, whose duty will be to try the rights of the Company to the water course in dispute. Indeed, Mill Dam's have been the only shares sold on the Exchange during the week. The prospects of Eyam are improving, and the shares are taking an upward turn. There is a steady increase in the ore got at Mill Town Mine. In a late communication an error occurred in stating the last dividends; a sum of 5-0d. per share, or equal to 25 percent on the capital, was divided. The error consisted in stating the dividend at 5-0d. percent. North Derbyshire is going on satisfactorily as regards sinking, and it is now proved that the new engine is fully capable of discharging the water. The New Midland Company are raising additional capital by issuing £1 shares at a discount of 10-0d., and they have purchased another mine in the neighbourhood of Matlock; their object is to sink still further down the old shaft.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 5.

No Headline.

On Saturday last the resident viewer of the Staveley collieries, Derbyshire, Mr. Seymour, and the other heads of the departments, dined together at the Crown Inn, to celebrate the mutual good fellowship which prevails at these works. Mr. Seymour presided, and there were present about 66 in number. There were the usual loyal toasts given, as well as the healths of Mr. R. Barrow, the proprietor of the works, and the Duke of Devonshire, owner of the minerals. The works are now in a very prosperous condition and the quantity of coal now got exceeds the returns this time last year, by 2,000 tons. The new pit which has been sunk down to the hard coal is going on exceedingly well, and this mineral has been adopted for locomotive purposes.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 5.

No Headline.

We observe amongst the list of patents sealed to the week ending January the 14th., 1860, that Charles Tapp and James Bryant Tapp, engineers, Tipton Foundry, Chesterfield, have obtained one for improvements applicable to steam boilers and furnaces for consuming smoke and economising fuel in the generation of steam, and in the apparatus connected therewith, dated the 21st. July, 1859.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 5.

Dangerous Spoil.

On Sunday night, or early on Monday morning, a store situate on the top of Hady Hill, near Chesterfield, belonging to Mr. R. Barrow, of the Staveley Works, was broken into, and three barrels, each containing about 56 pounds of gunpowder, were emptied of their contents, and the material carried away, the kegs being left behind. A fourth keg had been examined, but the thieves, thinking no doubt, that they had already secured enough of the explosive material, declined to make prey of it, and left it behind with the head of the keg off. Store robberies, of all descriptions, are very frequent among the public works in this locality, showing that the places of reception for such property are easy to be met with. The police have their eyes upon one or two of the more notorious of these, and are using every effort to bring some of the receivers of stolen property to justice.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 1.

No Headline.

The men and boys employed at the colliery of William Palmer Morewood, Esq., of Alfreton, had their annual dinner given to them on Saturday the 14th. instant, by their worthy master. 140 sat down to a most substantial dinner at the house of Mr. Pidcock, of the Cross Keys, Swanwick; and 100 at Mr. Briddon's, of Greenhill Lane. After dinner the usual healths were drunk with musical honours in bumpers of nut-brown ale. At a reasonable hour the parties broke up, all highly gratified with their days entertainment.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Fatal Accident in an Ironstone Pit.

On Tuesday, the 17th. inst., an inquest was held before Mr. Busby, coroner, at the justice room, Alfreton, on the body of Richard Ball, aged 11 years, who was killed on the morning of the 17th. inst., in an ironstone pit at Oakerthorpe, the property of Moses Marshall. It appeared from the evidence of Joseph Smith that himself and deceased went to work on the previous night about 7 p.m., and about 4 o'clock the next morning deceased said he would go up. Smith desired him not, but he however went; and having fastened himself in the rope, detached it from the box at the bottom. The box at the top having been released from the weight at the bottom, began to descend at great velocity, drawing him up to the beams with great force, from which he was hurled to the bottom of the shaft, some 30 yards deep, killing him instantly. The poor lad received shocking injuries. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Colliery Accident.

At Highfield, near Alfreton, on Tuesday, the 17th. inst., an accident of a serious nature occurred to a poor lad named William Powis, aged 12 years, in the colliery of William Worswick, Esq., by which he was seriously crushed in the body, and was conveyed to Alfreton, where he was attended by Mr. Turner and his assistant, under whom he is progressing favourably.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 1.

No Headline.

The lead mines of Derbyshire are, on the whole, in a satisfactory position, and several whose prospects were dim a short time ago are becoming brighter. The Mill Town, at Ashover, is making steady progress, and working at a good profit, the company being in a position to continue to pay 25 percent.

The directors of the New Midland, also at Ashover, are sanguine of success, though about £8,000 have been expended upon the mine and plant. They have better faith than your correspondent. We had anticipated that the Chancery proceedings instituted against the Mill Dam Company would have affected the value of that stock in the market, but at present no effect has been produced, indeed, the shares are in good demand. Eyam mine is improving, Peak Forest, as well as the Peak United, are looking much better. These are the only mining shares which are now enquired after. The North of England Insurance Company's shares are now quoted at 5-0d. each and since the amalgamation with the London and Liverpool Company they have gone down 25-0d. The mineral traffic on the Midland is increasing weekly to a very large extent, and the shares in the Company are in great demand.

Mining Journal.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 2.

Court of Chancery.

Tuesday, January the 10th.

Before the Master of the Rolls.

Morrison v. Barrow - The First Trial by Jury in an Equity Court.

Although for some years the Chancery Court has been empowered by the legislature to summon juries for the trial of matters in dispute, this is the first instance in which an Equity Judge has sanctioned that mode of trial in an Equity Court. The case was opened on Tuesday, and was not concluded till Thursday.

The plaintiff, the patentee of an invention for purifying small coal, and thereby rendering it of greater value, especially when converting to coke; and the defendant is the owner of extensive collieries and iron works at Staveley, Derbyshire. In July, 1856, the plaintiff and the defendant entered into an agreement whereby the defendant agreed to deliver to the plaintiff 900 tons at least, weekly, of small coal, for the purpose of being converted into coke. The agreement was full of various stipulations that rendered its strict performance a very difficult matter and several actions at law between the parties having been commenced to enforce its observance, the plaintiff in May last, proposed to Mr. John Heaton, who, it appears, has a pecuniary interest, either as partner or in some other character, in the defendants collieries, to supersede the agreement to make a settlement of the matter in dispute by a new and less complicated agreement; and in August the new agreement was accordingly prepared, to which Mr. Heaton affixed his signature "for Richard Barrow", the defendant. The defendant, however, repudiated the agreement, and denied that he had given authority to Mr. Heaton to sign it on his behalf. The question of whether Mr. Heaton had acted with the authority of the defendant now came before His Honour.

Mr. R. Palmer, Mr. Fooks, and Mr. MacAulay appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Lush, and Mr. Hislop Clark for the defendant.

A great deal of evidence having been submitted, His Honour summed up to the jury, who after a short consultation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 21st. January 1860.

Page 4 Col. 2.

The Supply of Coal to the Metropolis.

The usual quarterly and yearly returns of the quantity of coal conveyed to the metropolis from all parts of the kingdom, have just been issued. The total weight of coal carried for the three months, ending December the 31st., 1859, was 333,371 tons 16 cwt., of which 159,829 tons 9½ cwt., passed over the London and North Western line; 127,267 tons 11 cwt. were carried by the Great Northern; 13,762 tons by the Midland; 23,631 tons 6 cwt. by the Eastern Counties; 9,913 tons by the Great Western; 3,115 tons 17 cwt. by the South Eastern; 2,199 tons 9 cwt. by the South Western; 4,131 tons 1 cwt. by the Hertford, Luton and Dunstable; 194 tons by the London and Brighton; and 126 tons by the Tilbury and Southend. For the respective months (October, November, December) the following has been the coal traffic of the above lines (in round numbers), the London and North Western 44,275, 63,100, and 52,953 tons; Great Northern, 33,414, 52,905 and 40,948 tons; Midland, 3,577, 4,897, and 5,288 tons; Eastern Counties, 6,121, 10,031, and 7,477 tons; Great Western, 4,014, 3,583, and 2,316 tons; South Eastern, 1,660, 1,854, and - tons; South Western, 878, - , and 1,321 tons; Hertford, Luton and Dunstable, 4,131 tons (December); London and Brighton, 194 tons (November); Tilbury and Southend, 126 tons (November). The total traffic for the year 1859 has been as follows; - London and North Western, 533,730 tons 9 cwt.; Great Northern, 431,500 tons 18 cwt.; Eastern Counties, 102,551 tons 13 cwt.; Great Western, 51,882 tons; Midland, 39,570 tons; South Eastern, 12,891 tons 1 cwt.; South Western, 9,917 tons 5 cwt.; Hertford, Luton and Dunstable, 7,787 tons 2 cwt.; London and Brighton, 731 tons; and London and Tilbury, 508 tons; making a grand total of 1,181,769 tons 8 cwt., exclusive of canal and seaborne coal. As compared with 1858 there is an increase of 648 tons 3 cwt., in the present year; but in canals a decrease of 3,260 tons, that for 1858 being 20,224 tons 10 cwt., against 16,964 tons 10 cwt. for 1859. During the months of December last there were 1,524 tons 2 cwt. of coal more carried to the metropolis than for the same month of 1858; and of the grand total nearly one eighth has been furnished by the celebrated Clay Cross pits.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 2.

Advert - On Sale.

39 yards of 10 inch bore pump trees complete with bucket piece, clack piece, working barrel, wind bore, etc.; bucket and clack for ditto, with 20 yards of rods with joints and plates, one 5½ inch square iron shaft with crank for pumping, one 5½ inch square iron shaft with large spur and pinion wheel and drum pulley, pedestals and caps for ditto, fitted with brass steps, also one small engine beam with wrought iron centres.

For price, etc., apply to Mr. Brockmer, Owlcotes Colliery office, Heath.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 3.

Death from Burning.

At the Municipal Hall, Chesterfield, on Tuesday morning last, an inquest was held on the body of Matthew Walker, who died on the 22nd. instant from injuries received from burning on the 6th. of January, while mending the engine fires belonging to the Lings Colliery Company, at Wingerworth. Mrs. Newcombe, matron to the hospital, said: On the 8th. of January deceased was brought to the hospital. He was in a very exhausted state, both from cold and exhaustion. At the time deceased came in, Dr. Black and Mr. Smith came into the hospital. Deceased was not one of their patients, but one of Mr. Jones's. I sent for Mr. Jones. Previous to his (Mr. Jones) arrival, Dr. Black said deceased was in a very low state, and ordered some brandy to be given him directly. He had three ounces of brandy, when all three doctors examined him. Mr. Smith told me that he found deceased on his couch on the 7th. inst., in a very exhausted state, and he had only a part of his trousers, his shirt, and his boots on, and he been that way since the accident. I asked deceased how the accident happened. He said he was going to mend his fires, and had a long way to get to them; he had frequently gone down on his hands and knees to the place, but had not done so on that night. He said that when stooping down to mind the fire a cinder fell on his foot, and he rolled over and fell backwards into the fire. He managed to get out himself. I asked him if anyone saw him in or near the fire; he said no-one had seen him and that he ran to a house in the brickyard, and was glad enough to lie down on a sofa there. He had lodged there before. He said no-one had dressed his wounds. I noticed a piece of cotton wool on his wound, and asked him who had put it on him; He said that Mr. Smith had, and was the first man who had seen him, who had ordered him to go to the hospital directly. I asked deceased why he had not come before; he said they always killed them when they came to the hospital, but hoped I would do the best for him. He died on Sunday from his injuries. His burns were both severe and extensive. I never saw a man in such a neglected state in my life. The parties with whom deceased lodged, are highly blameable and severe censure was passed upon them. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 2 Col. 4.

No Headline.

A few days ago, two youths, named Holmes and Wright, being at work in the Mill Town Mine, were both crushed by the falling of soil and rock of some tons weight. Holmes was much injured, and his recovery is doubtful; Wright is not so bad hurt.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 2.

Ward v. White.

Claim £8-6-8d., the value of a foal which fell down a pit shaft in defendant's field, near Dronfield, into which it had strayed. Mr. Cutts conducted the defence.

No fault whatever, as regards the accident, could be proved against the defendant, the foal having escaped from plaintiff's field owing to the insufficiency of his fence gate, and the judgement was given for the defendant, with costs.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 3.

Assault in a Pit at Staveley.

John Siddall, "corporal" at the Speedwell Pit, Staveley, was charged with assaulting an Irishman, named Thomas Lee, on the 16th. inst. Mr. Busby appeared for the defendant. From the evidence adduced it would appear that plaintiff had been in the habit of entering the pit at a later hour than the other men, and was also in the habit of making his way out before the proper time. On the previous night, a man named Scott, had asked him to pull a "corve" away, but he having prepared to go, he refused, at the same time swearing at him. On the next morning defendant (having been acquainted with what had taken place on the previous night) when he got to the pit, asked him the reason for such conduct, and plaintiff alleged with an oath that he struck him in the eye, which was then discoloured. Defendant, however, denied this, and the magistrates being of the same opinion, dismissed the case, at the same time, much to his surprise, ordering plaintiff to pay 4-6d. costs.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 3.

Caution to Coal Miners.

Edward Wass, Vincent Hawkins, and John Bell, were charged with leaving their work at North Wingfield, without giving the notice required by the rules. They were in the employ of Messrs. Chambers and Company, colliery owners, of North Wingfield, for whom Mr. Busby appeared. They all pleaded guilty, and on promising not to offend again, were set at liberty.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Assault at Staveley.

George Winson charge Joseph Wass and Richard Wass with assaulting him, at Staveley, on the 12th. instant. Plaintiff said that last Thursday he went to his work at the Speedwell Pit, at a little before 6 in the morning. Defendant's butty told him he had made too much slack, and Joseph Wass put his fist in his (plaintiff's) face, and swore at him. Joseph Wass came and struck him, and said if his brother would not thrash him he would, and hit him. Joseph Wass afterwards came and hit him. Fined 2-6d. each with costs, or 14 days imprisonment.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. January 1860.

Page 3 Col. 4.

The Iron and Coal Trades of Derbyshire.

The coal trade is quite as active as it has been during the most severe period of the winter season, and the orders for steam coal are largely on the increase, and for this quality it is difficult to meet the demand. In the South Yorkshire district the greatest activity prevails, and now the Great Northern Railway has reduced the rates, and afforded great facilities for conveyance, a large additional supply is being poured into the southern markets. The men are all at work, and there is an entire absence of strikes, although there is a strong feeling prevalent among the miners in the neighbourhood of Leeds that they ought to seek for an advance of wages. The introduction of gas into the South Yorkshire collieries is being proceeded with to a greater extent than formerly. It has been found a great advantage when used at the bottom of pit shafts as compared with oil lamps. Preparations are being made in the Erewash Valley for sinking two new pits, contiguous to the railway. A scheme was mooted some time ago at Clay Cross, by one of the proprietors of the large works, who should offer employment for the female portion of the colliery population. Mr. Jackson, the gentleman alluded to, suggested that capital would easily be found by a company to build a large factory, which would afford employment for the daughters of colliers. He showed that the sons of colliers, after arriving at a proper age to work could easily find employment in the pits, but there were no means of finding sufficient labour for the female portion of the community. The idea appears to be gaining ground that a company will be formed under limited liability.

The injunction in the case of the Great Hucklow Mining Company against the Mill Dam Mining Company has been continued to the 26th. inst., on the ground that defendants had some intricate maps to prepare, the defendants agreeing to send affidavits to plaintiff's solicitor, at Castleton. A statement has appeared that the shareholders are dissatisfied with the directors, and they (the shareholders) complain of being deceived. We have been present at several meetings when the question of opening the level to let off the water has been discussed, and, therefore, on this point the shareholders must have been aware of the circumstance. We admit that Mr. Clement Morton, the manager, made a very "cunning" bargain because he said that that portion of the mine which by reason of the water he could not work himself without machinery, which he was not in a position to provide. The importance of purchasing the Gateside Mine from Mr. Morton was always urgently pressed upon the directors by the shareholders resident in Hucklow, who professed to know the value of the property to the Mill Dam Company. The secretary of the Mill Dam Company (Mr. Fairburn) is a lead smelter, and if the shareholders believe lead has been sold to him under its market value they will have the means of testing it at the next meeting. That gentleman assures us that he can only put in a ticket, as other parties, and he refused to purchase on any other terms. It is unfortunate for the Company that they have become involved in Chancery proceedings, which we hope will soon be settled. There is nothing new to notice with regard to the position or prospects of the other lead mines since our last letter.

The railway between Rowsley and Buxton is being proceeded with, and it will behove all interested in mining to promote its interest.

There has been nothing of particular moment in the share market - all stocks dull.

Mining Journal.