

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. February 1862.

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Advert - Tapton New Colliery, Newbold Road, Chesterfield.

The Company are now prepared to supply the best house, fire, and other coal at the following prices: -

Superior Black Shale (Screened and Picked)	8-0d. per ton delivered.
Superior Black Shale (Unscreened)	7-0d. per ton delivered.
Household	6-4d. per ton delivered.
Slack	4-3d. per ton delivered.

Orders received by Mr. W. Wyatt, Beetwell Street; Mr. Whitehead, the coalyard, Cavendish Street; and Mr. Mountney's, hat manufacturer, Market Place, Chesterfield.

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Leader - The Hartley Pit Accident.

We will not harrow the feelings of our readers by a reiteration of the tragic details which invest this awful calamity with such terrible interest. What could have been more distressing than to observe a row of more than 200 coffins waiting to receive the dead? Another thing which gives additional gloom to this event is the feeling how little able our experience and scientific knowledge prove to prevent such fearful sacrifices of life. No-one saw any danger in there being no exit to workings but a shaft of 600 feet in depth. Science has arranged admirably for the interior safety and healthiness of the mine. Galleries and ventilation, water and firedamp, have all been taken care of by the best methods. Where danger might be thought off, danger had been brought to a minimum. But the mischief came from what was supposed to be absolutely safe. Who would have thought of the beam of iron snapping? Who would have thought of the shaft being jammed up, not with the loose rubbish of its sides - that had been guarded against - but by the timber which fenced and secured it? The blame is laid, to a certain extent, on the untrustworthy nature of cast iron. Doubtless cast iron is more treacherous than wrought iron: but many proofs have shown that we are not sure of wrought iron. It is said that a new shaft of the depth of the old one could have been sunk for £2,000, and the cost would have been saved in a very few years by dispensing with a certain length of tramways and the cost of labour in working them. Again, £1,500 a year has been put down as the cost of keeping bratticing at one pit in order, so that a saving in the cost of working the Hartley Pit would have been effected had there been two shafts at the mine. The immense sacrifice of life has naturally attracted the attention of the government, and Mr. Hedley, the Inspector of Derbyshire, has received a circular letter from the Home Office, requiring him to furnish information with regard to the mode in which the collieries in his district are worked, and the shafts belonging to each. No doubt the objects of this enquiry is to put the Government in possession of information with a view to the adoption or otherwise of some legislative measure affecting the working of collieries generally, something must be done to guard against these fearful sacrifices of life. The poor widows and orphans at Hartley call loudly for protection, and the working colliers demand it.

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No Headline.

There is promise of prompt legislative action in the matter of the Hartley Collieries. Our readers will have learnt with gratification that the Home Secretary has addressed a circular letter to the Inspectors, directing them to make returns of various particulars relating to mining operations, especially to indicate such mines as are worked by a single shaft. The opinion of these experienced men is likewise asked as to the expediency of enactment that all mines should be worked by two shafts. This is as it should be - the matter has been attended to with a promptitude which reflects the highest credit on the chief of the Home Department. If Lord Palmerston's government employ themselves during the coming parliamentary session with maturing such measures as that which I have indicated, we shall be well content that what we are pleased to term "first class legislation" should remain in abeyance. It is, I suspect, the general opinion that there is greater need for some of these small measures of social reform, than the renewed spasmodic effort for the extension of the franchise. I care not to enquire whether it be constitutionally right that such a measure should originate with the Sovereign, but it is scarcely possible to resist the conclusion that to the deep sympathy which the Queen has felt for the "poor widows and mothers", whose heavy affliction has pierced the veil of her own sorrow, we possibly owe the enquiry which may result in sounder and wiser laws for the protection of our mining operatives.

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The Hartley Colliery Accident.

On Sunday evening last the Reverend F. Bishop, minister at the Unitarian Chapel, Chesterfield, delivered a very impressive discourse on the subject of the awful calamity at this colliery. The chapel was crowded in every part, and the reverend gentleman, amongst other things, dwelt with much earnestness on the uncertainty of life, and of the necessity of being prepared for death.

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Page 3 Col. 1.

Improved Safety Lamps.

We have had a specimen of safety lamps, for miners, exhibited at our office, which appears to be superior in construction to the ordinary ones; although comparatively new in England, it has long been used on the Continent, and supersedes all others. It somewhat resembles a chimney, having a glass without gauze at the bottom, tempered so as to bear being made red hot without breakage. At the top is fixed a gauze guard, and through it a tube or chimney, which causes a draught, and carries off the heated air, which the construction of the lamp generates. Its action assimilates with the lamp known as a Geoncess, having a current of air through the tube, which, in the presence of foul air, extinguishes the light, so that no danger can arise from coming into contact with explosive gases. The light emitted appears to surpass by many degrees the ordinary lamp, and renders any attempt to expose the naked flame quite unnecessary for common purposes. A specimen of the lamp has been left in our office, which we shall be glad to show on application.

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Page 3 Col. 2.

Leaving Work.

Henry Bostock, a collier employed by the New Tapton Company, was charged with leaving his work without giving the usual notice. Prisoner pleaded guilty, and begged to return to his work, which he was allowed to do so on payment of expenses.

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Page 3 Col. 5.

Stoney Middleton.

Serious Accident.

An accident of a serious nature, but providentially unattended with loss of life or personal injury, occurred in Middleton Dale, on Sunday morning, the 26th. inst. A mining water level is being driven across (under) Middleton Dale by the Eyam and Water Groove Mining Companies. A drawing shaft has been sunk on the north side of the Turnpike road, close to the high cliffs, which is worked by a gin and pulleys. On the morning in question, a mass of limestone became detached from one of the turret shaped rocks, just over the shaft, and in its fall smashed the gin and the shaft gear, and, like the sad calamity at Hartley Colliery, drove a considerable portion of rubbish into the shaft. It being Sunday no miners were at work, or some lives would have been lost. A number of miners were sent the same day to the place to ascertain the amount of damage done, and to restore the works to their previous state.

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Page 3 Col. 6.

The Hartley Colliery Accident.

The subscriptions in London yesterday, (Friday) are exceedingly large, and an influential movement is being organised in favour of the double shaft system.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. February 1862.

Page 4 Col. 3-4.

The Hartley Pit Catastrophe.

New Hartley Colliery, Friday, Noon,

The following is a list of the bereaved, made after a careful visitation by the parochial officers: -

Widows	103	
Children		257
Sisters, supported by Brothers	27	
Orphans	2	
Parents, supported by Sons	16	
Aunt, supported by Nephew	1	
Grandmother, supported by Grandson	1	
Total	407	

The real number of lost men and boys is 219, and the village present a truly melancholy spectacle - a spectacle such as has never been witnessed in the north country before, as only 25 of its working population are left alive by the calamity, the survivors being women, children, and old people. Every house appears a house of mourning. The cottages have the blinds of their windows down and most of the inmates have relatives, some of whom have come a considerable distance, staying with them, and assisting them in their trouble. The immediate necessities of the poor widows and orphans have been attended to by benevolent persons who have come out from neighbouring towns. Lord Hastings, the owner of the royalty of the mine, and of the Seaton Delavel estate, has sent one of his stewards from Norfolk, to see that the wants of the poor people are attended to, with an offer to procure whatever was needed. The kind message sent down by Her Majesty to the poor widows has caused a feeling of gratitude through the whole county of Northumberland. During the night Mr. Coulson's sinkers have been kept employed "cribbing" up the sides of the shaft. About nine o'clock this morning they had got the canvas brattice down to the obstruction, with strong hopes of speedily continuing it to the Yard Seam, when it was anticipated that a good stream of air would have been driven down the shaft into the workings, sufficiently strong to have enabled large working parties to have got into the seam with a view to send the bodies to bank. But, at the time mentioned, a heavy fall of stone and rubbish took place from the obstruction into the bottom of the pit. A quantity of gas came away, and every man in the shaft had to be brought to bank immediately. Some hopes were entertained that this fall may have completely removed the obstruction, but it is impossible for any one to again venture into the shaft with safety to life until it clears itself of the gas, which will, of course, be a matter of time. There is, therefore, no hope of getting any of the bodies to bank today. Carts are bringing loads of coffins to the pit which have been made at neighbouring collieries. A quantity of disinfecting fluids is also in readiness, and every other preparation has been made to bring the bodies to bank with decency and safety; but until the obstructions are removed from the shaft nothing can be done. There are fewer persons at the pit today than on any former day since the catastrophe. Everything is going on orderly and quietly.

Hartley, Eight P.M.

The shaft appears to have entirely cleared itself of the obstruction, and every hope is entertained that the dead bodies will be got up by the morning. £4,000 has been subscribed at a meeting held in Newcastle today, for the relief of the bereaved.

Recovery of the Bodies.

New Hartley, Saturday, 6 P.M.

We have today been witnessing the last heart rending scenes in the awful drama upon which we have been looking from the pit heap of Hartley, almost night and day, since yesterday week. By entirely working all last night Mr. Coulson's sinkers got the cloth bratticing complete; and the shaft having been reported clear of gas and safe, a large working gang of colliers proceeded down into the workings to send the bodies to bank. As soon as the men got into the Yard Seam they came upon a body - that of a fine stout young fellow, who was sitting, apparently sleeping, on a seat made into the side of the coal, only a few feet from the shaft. His name was Galligar. His flannel trousers were doubled up, and he just looked as if he was resting after a hard day's toil. Five or ten yards within the seam were found a large number of bodies - men and lads, lying in rows. They were lying in three rows on each side, all quiet and placid, as if sleeping off a heavy day's work. Boys were lying with their heads on the shoulders of their fathers; and one poor fellow had his arm tenderly clasped round the neck of his brother; one or two brothers were lying locked in each other's arms; but all lay as if death had crept quietly upon them. Beyond this company of sleepers, a man lay propping open a door, as if he had resisted the insidious poison of the mine longer than the rest, and had risen to open one of the doors in the hope of obtaining fresh air. Two stout men were lying upon the ashes of the furnace; but beyond that point, and further within the workings, are corpses, which the working parties have not deemed it prudent to examine until the whole of the bodies are sent up out of the gallery and those parts next the shaft. It was intended to coffin the bodies down in the pit; but, as it was discovered that they were not so far advanced in decomposition as at first suspected, it was determined, in order to save time, to bring them up on slings, and coffin them on the bank. A considerable staff of surgeons was assembled at the pit mouth, and every precaution was adopted, both there and down in the workings, by the plentiful use of disinfectants, to neutralise any ill effects likely to arise from the effluvia from the bodies.

About a quarter before eleven, the signal was given to the engineman, and the first two bodies were brought to bank. They were attired in the usual pit garb - a flannel jacket and waistcoat, and a pair of short flannel drawers, blue stockings, and strong shoes, the knees and part of the leg being exposed, as is seen in the dress of a Highlander. The first two men brought to bank did not seem to have suffered much from the effects of hunger. In the pockets of several of the men and lads subsequently brought up, corn was found - evidently a part of the division of the horse bin, in the stable. As soon as they were brought to bank the bodies were wrapped in a cotton sheet, and if they were identified their names were inscribed upon a coffin into which they were placed. The coffin was then removed to one of the carts in waiting, and immediately conveyed home. Of course many distressing scenes have been witnessed today. As each poor widow began to put her house in order to receive the remains of her lost husband, or a mother those of her child, the scenes of misery in this bereaved community cannot be described.

The subscriptions to the fund for the permanent relief of the bereaved families is being liberally taken up by all classes. As is reported, £4,000 was subscribed at a meeting held at Newcastle yesterday. Amongst the subscriptions that have come in today, are £300 from Lord Hastings, and £100 from Messrs. Meux and Co., the London brewers. A large delegate meeting of miners and other trades has been held at Newcastle today. The double shaft movement and other matters in connection with mining affairs were discussed, and arrangements were made for united action to raise subscriptions for the bereaved.

New Hartley, Sunday, 10 P.M.

The working parties, by working short shifts, succeeded in sending 199 corpses to bank by five o'clock this morning. These, with the five men killed in the shaft on the day of the accident, are supposed to be the whole of the men lost in the mine, as, after various inquiries today, no more appear to be missing. At eleven o'clock today the last of the sinkers came out of the pit. They have explored the working of the mine as far as the staple, and find that the water has risen three fathoms up the staple from the Low Main. The following entry in the time book of Amour, the back foreman, whose body was found near the furnace, is the only memorial left by the dead men.

"Friday afternoon, half past two o'clock, Edward Armstrong, Thomas Gledstone, John Hardy, Thomas Bell, and others, took seriously ill. we all had a prayer meeting, at a quarter to two o'clock, when Tibbs, Henry Sharp, H. Gibson, and W. Palmer (here is a blank) exhorted us again, and Sharp also."

20,000 persons have been congregated here today. The larger portion of them were colliers, some of whom had travelled a long distance. The scene in the pit rows will never be forgotten. Almost every cottage contained a coffin with the remains of a lost one, some two, one five, and one poor woman had no fewer than seven coffins piled up in her cottage, containing the remains of her husband, five sons, and a boy they had brought up and educated. Long strings of carts arrived at one o'clock; and when the coffins were brought to the doors, and the hymn, "O God, our help in ages past," was sung in mournful cadence, amid the wailing of the widows and the sobs of the orphan children, the effect was almost overpowering. The larger proportion of the interments (about one hundred and fifty) took place at Earsdon Church. Mr. Hugh Taylor, of Backworth, and other influential gentlemen were present to see that every decent respect was shown to the remains. The other bodies were interred at Hooton and Cramlington. The following letter, written to Mr. Carr, the head viewer of the colliery, by command of Her Majesty, was read by the incumbent of Earsdon at a large religious meeting held on the pit-heap here today: -

"Osborne, January 23, 1862.

Sir, - The Queen, in the midst of her own overwhelming grief, has taken the deepest interest in the mournful accident at Hartley, and up to the last had hoped that at least a considerable number of the poor people might have been recovered alive. The appalling news since received has affected the Queen very much. Her Majesty commands me to say that her tenderest sympathy is with the poor widows and mothers, and that her own misery only makes her feel the more for them. Her Majesty hopes that everything will be done as far as possible to alleviate their distress, and Her Majesty will have a sad satisfaction in assisting in such measures. Pray let me know what is doing. - I have the honour to be your obedient servant.

C.B. Phipps"

At a large meeting of delegate pitmen held in Newcastle yesterday, it was determined to petition Parliament to appoint a special committee to inquire into the whole question of working mines.

£17,000 is the sum stated to be required for the permanent relief of the widows and orphans; but that amount is likely to be soon exceeded. several thousands have already been subscribed in Northumberland alone, and efforts are being made throughout the country to lessen the force of the calamity which has overtaken the sufferers of Hartley. Her Majesty has subscribed £200; the Earl of Durham's name is down for a similar amount; and the West Ardsley

(Yorkshire) Coal Company contributes £100. But the most pleasing feature of this movement is the heartiness with which it has been taken up by the working classes, and especially the miners of the country, who are eagerly putting down their mites in support of so commendable an object.

The Burial of the Dead Bodies.

(From the Northern Daily Express)

In the course of Saturday forenoon, intelligence was dispatched to the county coroner, informing him that the pit was so far cleared as to admit of the bodies being brought up. Accordingly that functionary hastened to the spot, and having empanelled the jury who sat on the first five men, he and they proceeded to the pit head, and viewed a number of the bodies as they were brought to bank.

And now we come to the closing scene in this terribly impressive drama which has arrested the attention of the whole country during the past week. Under the circumstances, it was of course absolutely necessary that the internments should follow immediately upon the recovery of the bodies. The mournful rites of sepulture were accordingly fixed to take place on Sunday, and as was to be expected, with the favourable weather which prevailed, the event attracted an immense concourse of spectators. From an early hour in the morning, all the roads converging towards the colliery were covered with pedestrians, about whose destination there could not possibly be any mistake. Bye-and- bye the railway began to pour in heavy train loads in quick succession, and by eleven o'clock the neighbourhood of the pit was all alive with human beings. The crowd hourly increased during the forenoon, and at one period of the day there could not have been less than twenty thousand people upon the ground. The great centre of attraction seemed to be the hamlet of New Hartley, where preparations were early in progress for the internment of some of the sufferers. All along the line of cottages streamed a great throng of people interrupted every few yards by groups of loiterers who had paused opposite certain doors, as if struck by some strange fascination. The cause might be readily divined. Almost every house contained its coffin, but what seemed almost to petrify the spectators with horror was the spectacle presented in not a few cottages, of three, four, or more corpses piled up together or laid side by side, in positions where they could scarcely fail to attract the attention of the passers-by.

The arrangements for the internments were of the simplest character. It being designed that the bodies, with a few exceptions, should be buried at Earsdon, where an additional plot of ground given by the Duke of Northumberland had been consecrated by the Bishop of Durham, a large number of carts had been provided for the conveyance of the remains to their last resting place. Between one and two o'clock, these vehicles were drawn up before the cottages to receive their respective loads, amid an immense assemblage of spectators. The last painful parting of bereaved relatives from the remains of their loved and lost ones was witnessed by the onlookers with unmistakable emotion, and many an eye little used to weeping dropped a tear over the distressing scene. At last the preliminary proceedings, including in many cases devotional exercises, were completed, and the melancholy cortege slowly got under way for the place internment. The carts, carrying two, three, and in some instances four coffins apiece, followed one another at regular intervals, each being closely followed by relatives and friends of the poor fellows whose bodies it conveyed. Past the colliery, amid dense crowds of sympathising spectators, the procession struggled slowly along, taking the route past Avenue Row, along the Avenue, and by the Shields and Morpeth turnpike road, to Earsdon Churchyard. At various points along the route, additional carts fell in as the cortege passed the cottages, which had contributed their mournful loads, simultaneously with this. Another procession, precisely similar in its character, was advancing by another route from Old Hartley.

Arrived at Earsdon, where the blinds of the windows were all drawn in respect to the dead, the stream of carts gradually accumulated in front of the churchyard gates till presenting nearly the whole of the coffins at a glance, they gave the spectator a terribly vivid idea of the extent of the calamity. With the exception of a few cases in which families possessed burying grounds in the churchyard, it had been arranged that the bodies should be deposited in a sloping plot of ground to the north side of the enclosure, kindly granted for the purpose by the Duke of Northumberland. Unfortunately the formation of the graves had proved a work of unexpected difficulty, owing to their having in great part to be cut out of stone, and the task was not completed when the coffins arrived on the ground. The graves consisted of pits of various sizes, some intended for family groups, being made to receive two, three, or four coffins, and others capable of containing from thirty to forty. During the afternoon the operations of the workmen employed in the excavations had been watched by an immense crowd of spectators, and the number of these was considerably increased after the arrival of the funeral procession.

The cortege, on reaching the churchyard, was received by the Revds. Messrs. Mason, Jones, and Carr, the last mentioned gentleman a brother of Mr. Charles Carr, viewer of the Hartley Colliery. The burial service was at once proceeded with, in the presence of an overflowing congregation, Mr. Carr taking the occasion to address to the people a few practical remarks, suggested by the melancholy event. After some delay the operation of consigning the bodies to their last resting place was commenced under the direction of Mr. Hugh Taylor, and as each pit was filled one or other of the reverend gentlemen just mentioned read the concluding portion of the burial service over the remains committed to its keeping. The mournful ceremonial was necessarily a protracted one, and it was scarcely half over at half past four o'clock. Besides the bodies interred at Earsdon, being those of by far the greater proportion of the lost miners, a few, not more than twenty, we believe, were conveyed to other churchyards in the neighbourhood, such as Cowpen, Seaton Sluice, and Cramlington.

In the course of the afternoon a large sum was realised for the Relief Fund in the shape of sixpences paid by visitors for being allowed to look over the pit heap and engine-house, to which such a melancholy interest has been attached.

Mr. Holland, the inspector of graveyards, was sent down by the Government to see the proper sanitary requirements were attended to in the internment of the dead.

The Times' reporter, writing on Saturday, says; - "I am sorry to say that there is reason to fear that some of the men who were at the bottom of the shaft waiting to be taken up were surprised by the fall there, and would have their retreat to the middle seam cut off. If that be the case they would perish miserably by drowning, as the water rose slowly on the stoppage of the pumps, and their bodies will not be recovered until the shaft is perfectly cleared".

New Hartley, Monday, Noon.

The pit is deserted this morning, there being few people about. It is not known what will be done to clear the mine of the water, which is rapidly rising in the workings, or whether the pit will be worked again. But it is known that the accident will be a serious matter for the owners, Messrs. Carr Brothers. The explosion at Burradon is known to have cost the owners of that pit at least £10,000. The clergy are visiting the bereaved families this morning, and reading the Queen's affecting message for them. It is found to be a great source of consolation.

Hartley, 5.30 P.M., Monday.

There have been very few people at Hartley today. The mine has been left in charge of Mr. Humble and his son, who admit people on to the pitheap by the payment of 6d. each towards the relief fund. The graves at Earsdon, left unfinished last night, have been closed up today. The inquest will be opened next Monday, at Seaton Delaval. The aspect of the pit villages is very desolate. A member of the Newcastle Committee has been going about giving relief to the widows. The relatives of the deceased have been searching in the rubbish and clothes brought up from the Yard Seam for memorandums of the dead, but nothing of any importance has been found.

Meeting of Colliers.

At a numerous meeting of colliers at Newcastle on Saturday, it was stated that the miners connected with the various pits in the district intended to raise subscriptions in aid of the sufferers, and it was hoped that from £30 to £50 would be raised at each pit. During the meeting the following letter from the Home Office was read:-

"I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to request that you will transmit to him, at your earliest convenience, a return, showing the number of single brattice shafts in the several collieries in your district - (applause) - their depth, diameter, and the mode in which they are sub-divided; and also of the number of collieries in your district with more than one separate and distinct shaft; and stating in each case whether ventilating furnaces are used below ground. I am further to request that you will state your opinion as to the principle of requiring that, in all large collieries, there should be two distinct shafts." (Applause).

Subsequently the following resolution was adopted: - "That a petition be sent from this meeting to the two Houses of the Legislature, praying that a special committee be appointed to inquire into the general question of accidents in collieries, with a view to devising some plan by which a repetition of the dreadful calamities that have lately taken place can be obviated; and that in the opinion of this meeting, no colliery should be worked without two independent pits having been first sunk for the security of the men in the mine."

Touching Incidents.

Some of the poor men, when found, were lying calmly as if the destroyer had overtaken them in their sleep, while others appeared to have struggled with the invader. The most heart rending and touching sight of the whole was that of a father on his knees, while his little son clung lovingly round his neck, and the twain were clasped in a loving embrace - "even in death they were not divided." Many of the bodies were in a half-recumbent position, and nearly the whole of them appeared as if they had calmly resigned themselves to their inevitable fate.

It was peculiarly affecting to see the bodies of many of the poor men hoisted up the shaft stiff and cold, with their "tommy bags" in their pockets filled with beans and oats, some of them even having their tin can slung round their necks. Two bodies were brought up together - namely, William Tibbs and William Cross, the latter on the back of the former, and his arms clasped firmly round his neck. Doubtless these two men perished together, the one in his humane attempt to save the life of the other. Tibbs' face was very much swollen and discoloured, an appearance generally presented by all the men found lying with their faces downwards, whereas in the case of those with their faces upturned the features retained their original character. One of the bodies sent up was so frightfully disfigured as to baffle every effort as to identification; while the corpse of a poor boy was sent up the shaft looking as calm and placid as if he had fallen into a gentle sleep, with his tin can slung round his neck.

A watch was found on the person of William Gledstone; it had stopped at twenty minutes past one o'clock. A boy, named Mark Bell, was of the most signal service in identifying the corpses brought to bank, and has thereby been the means of preventing a great deal of painful confusion.

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No Headline.

On Monday, two sad traces of the deceased men were found in the Hartley Pit. On a box which belonged to James Bewicke, were the words, addressed to his wife: - "Friday - My dear Sarah, I leave you". On another box, the late owner of which is not known, was scratched a brief prayer - "Mercy, O God".

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Page 2 Col. 2.

Advert - Tapton Colliery.

John Clayton begs to inform the public that he has reopened his old pit, at Tapton, and is enabled to deliver coals in Chesterfield at the following prices -

Large Coal	8-0d. per ton delivered
Bright Coal	7-0d. per ton delivered.

Orders will receive prompt attention on being left at the office of the colliery, Ingmanwell Meadow, Chesterfield.

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Page 2 Col. 6.

The Hartley Colliery Catastrophe.

We are informed by a Bristol gentleman, that when the public meeting was held there yesterday (Friday) week, £650 was subscribed during the day, before even a single application had been made. This is really generous. The subscription up till yesterday had reached about £1,000.

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Page 3 Col. 1.

Summonses for Wages.

James Needham, miner, Whittington, was summoned by William Newbold for non-payment of 19- 2d. wages. The same defendant was also summoned by Lewis Jones for non-payment of £1-2-8d. The defendant admitted both summonses to be due, but pleaded his inability to pay. The magistrates ordered the payment of both summonses, with costs.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Lodging in a Pit Cabin.

John Lilley, alias Dolar, of Gainsborough, collier, was found, on Sunday night last, in a pit cabin belonging to Messrs. J. and G. Wells, at Bramley Moor Colliery. 21 days.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Masbro' - Colliery Accident.

On Friday, about one o'clock, at Mr. Luke Worrell's pit, as William Redfern was ascending the shaft, sitting on the burders, he fell off when about half way up, a distance of 24 feet. As soon as the accident had occurred, Mr. Luke Worrell, jun., descended the pit and brought Redfern up. When he got out, he was able to walk to the cabin, and even proposed to walk home, but he was conveyed hither. He was badly hurt in the back, side, and mouth. A medical gentleman from Eckington, visited him in the course of the afternoon. It need hardly be stated that the accident was entirely Redfern's own fault, as it was his duty to come up in a corve.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Sheffield - Bankruptcy Court, Saturday.

William Higginbottom, ironstone dealer, Whittington, passed his examination. Mr. Unwin, who appeared for the assignees, offered no opposition. Discharge to issue in 31 days.

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Page 3 Col. 4.

Hartley Colliery Accident - Further Particulars.

Hartley, Tuesday. - The appearance of the scene of the late unfortunate calamity is, if anything, still more gloomy and desolate than yesterday. The excitement upon the accident has now somewhat abated, and but a few visitors approach the place which has been for the last few days the centre of attraction and anxiety of the whole country. A number of tin cans, bottles, etc., brought up from the pit, still remain unclaimed, and are special objects of interest to strangers. In the "lodge" are also a few of the tin cans belonging to the men, together with some old articles of clothing which have been saved from the pit, and are there for the purpose of identification.

The nature of the relief, which is only intended to be temporary until the committee have an opportunity of properly apportioning the funds at their disposal, was the sum of 10-0d. per week being allowed to every widow, and 3-0d. per week for every child. The committee also, in cases of present sickness, or, as in some cases, where women are near their confinement, allowed 10-0d. more to meet the necessary wants of the case. They were also able in the course of their visitation to obtain some very valuable data on which to found a statistical statement to accompany their report, which will be made to the general committee at a future meeting. Meanwhile, presents of clothing continue to pour in from different quarters.

The Prince of Wales, following the benevolent example of his Royal Mother, sent a letter to Mr. Carr on Monday, expressing his sympathy with the sufferers, and enclosing the handsome sum of £100 towards the relief fund. A kind and sympathising letter from Her Majesty, on the 23rd. inst., having called forth such expressions of gratitude from the bereaved, a number of copies have been printed on mourning paper, enclosed in appropriate envelopes, and one furnished to each family. Mr. Hornsby, the Relieving Officer, notwithstanding the ready and acceptable relief afforded by the committee, has again been most indefatigable in attention to the wants and necessities of the bereaved, many things being required by some of these poor creatures that came more immediately within his province than that of the committee. Thus far, then, it may be said that the temporary and immediate claims of the sufferers have been properly and efficiently met; it would be well, therefore, if those who are anxious to assist in alleviating the distress caused by this dire calamity, should do so by contributing to the relief fund, instead of scattering their benefactions promiscuously among the sufferers.

On Monday, the water bottles, tin candle boxes, shot boxes, leather hats, and whatever could be gathered up in the Yard Seam belonging to the lost men and lads, were brought to "bank", and have been carefully searched by the widows and friends, everyone anxious to possess himself or herself of a precious memento of their "own". The result of the scrutiny was, that upon a shot box belonging to James Bewick, a pitman, residing at Hartley, the following inscription was found to have been scratched: - "Friday afternoon. My dear Sarah, I leave you". A few straggling words of love wrung from a strong man in his death agony broke off here, nothing further being recorded upon the box. It seems to be evident that all, or at any rate the vast majority, of those in the pit died on Friday night. Some might possibly have survived till Saturday, or even Sunday, though this is highly improbable. It is quite certain, however, that had poor Bewick lived any longer he would have completed the letter which he had begun. The great probability is that the fatal stythe overcame all in the pit early on Friday evening, and that they

all died during the course of the night, while in the deep sleep into which they had been thrown by the gas. So far nothing, however, has been discovered to enable us for a moment to conceive the conduct of the men in the time they were shut up till their death, save the brief memorandum found in Amour's pocket book relating to the prayer meeting. We can, however, easily imagine that the time was chiefly taken up in those religious services which must have afforded them some comfort.

The jury have returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. February 1862.

Page 4 Col. 4.

No Headline.

On Saturday evening the donations sent to the Lord Mayor of London towards the relief of the distressed people of Hartley Colliery amounted in the whole to upwards of £7,130, of which £1,397 odd was received in the course of the day.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 3.

No Headline.

The Butterley Company have given £100 towards the relief of the sufferers by the Hartley Colliery Accident.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Mansfield - The Hartley Catastrophe.

Mr. Robert White, of the Swan Hotel, whose has always the welfare of the public at heart, suggested a public meeting of the inhabitants be called for the purpose of raising a subscription for the fatherless and widows in their affliction. Seldom has a calamity called forth a larger amount of sympathy than is now manifested on behalf of the relatives of the sufferers, and we hope our townsmen will do all they can in assisting Mr. White in his laudable endeavours.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 5.

Sheffield - Bankruptcy Court.

This court was held on Saturday, before Mr. Registrar Payne. J.B. and C. Tapp, of Chesterfield, boilermakers, passed their last examination, and received order of discharge, Mr. T. Smith, who appeared for the assignees, offering no opposition.

Thomas Lister, of Whittington, colliery proprietor, passed his examination without opposition, and received order of discharge.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 6.

Local Stock.

Mines.

Feb. Feb. 14.

3	Brightside and Froggatt Grove	0.25....0.57½
7.5	Eyam	20.....21
1	Mill Town	5-0d...6-0d.
3	Mill Dam	1.5....1.25
3½	North Derbyshire	0.25....0.5
9.25	Peak United	4.....5
1½	Peak Forest	0.66..0.33dis
1.25	Prince of Wales	18.....20½

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. February 1862.

Page 4 Col. 5.

Appeals in Rate Cases.

Butterley Company, Seeley and Company, W.P. Morewood, Esq., James Oakes, Esq., coalmasters, in the parish of Alfreton, appealed against the assessments of their collieries and works, made by Mr. George Buxton, the assistant overseer of the parish, for excessive ratings over last years rates. The overseers declined to support Mr. Buxton, and the case fell to the ground.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. February 1862.

Page 4 Col. 5.

Cruelty to a Pony.

George Russ, collier, of Tupton, was brought up on a warrant by Mr. John Brown, collier viewer to the Clay Cross Company, with cruelly ill-using a pony, their property, in the No. 4 Main Pit, on the 1st. inst. Defendant, it appeared from Mr. Brown's statement, struck the pony twice with the pick, the point of which penetrated two inches into its hind parts. Defendant said he had only struck the pony once. Mr. Brown, in reply to the Bench, said that Russ, before this charge, conducted himself well. Fined 5-0d., and £1-1-0d. costs, or in default, 21 days imprisonment at the house of correction.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 2 Col. 5.

New Works at Tapton.

We authority for stating that Mr. Butcher, of Sheffield, has purchased a large piece of land at Tapton, for the erection of extensive iron and steel works, which will afford employment for a great number of hands. The works will be commenced during the ensuing spring. It has been erroneously stated that Messrs. Brassey and Company, were to be the proprietors of these works.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 2 Col. 5-6.

Chesterfield and Midland Silkstone Colliery Company.

Steps have been taken to ensure a vigorous development of this property, it having been proved to contain seams of the best descriptions of coal. Contracts have been entered into for sinking three shafts and erecting the necessary machinery. Messrs. Surain and Company, who are sinking within a hundred yards of the above property, have just completed their shaft, and obtained coal of the best quality. Contracts have also been entered into for a large quantity of rails, for the purpose of constructing a line of railway from the pits mouth to the junction of the Midland Railway.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 1-2.

Hancock v. Barrow and Barrow v. Hancock.

The plaintiff was William Hancock, ironstone mine contractor; and the defendant was Richard Barrow, Esq., of Staveley. The action was to recover £9-9-0d., a balance of account for getting ironstone from the defendant's pits at Hady. Mr. Barrow also sought to recover from the plaintiff the sum of £13, for money alleged to have been overpaid to Hancock. Mr. Cutts appeared for Mr. Hancock, and Mr. Busby for Mr. Barrow. The case was exceedingly lengthy, and so intricate in its details, that the judge and the greater part of the spectators in court appeared to be in a fog. The facts would seem to be, that in October, 1858, Hancock commenced to work an ironstone pit at Hady, at a rate of 10-0d. per yard, and afterwards at 9-0d., the pit being finished in June, 1861, and the balance of 4-0d. was paid to him as a settlement between himself and Mr. Barrow. When he took the pit, there was 72 yards of heading done, and when he left it 82, for which he was to receive an allowance of 6-0d. per yard. Hancock contended, through his solicitor, Mr. Cutts, that it was agreed that 1-0d. per yard was to be stopped as a guarantee that he would leave as much heading as he found, which he did. £19-12-0d. was allowed for shoal not got, which, with cash advanced, made up the claim of £9-9-0d. The plaintiff was examined and corroborated these facts. Cross-examined by Mr. Busby: I will swear that I have not received 9-0d. per ton. I did not receive £53 for dead-work. For the defendant, Mr. Busby contended that it was impossible to regulate the payments for work done at ironstone mines, in any other way than the present mode which was adopted throughout Derbyshire. His Honour: You go on from year to year with an unbalanced account. John Turton, the overman at the Hady pits, proved that Hancock agreed to work the first pit at 9-0d. per yard, and the second, or Knighton's Pit, at 8-0d. per yard, allowing for 1-0d. to be deducted on account of a debt due to Mr. Barrow, at the time the first pit was finished. Cross-examined by Mr. Cutts: Ironstone would loose weight, perhaps a quarter of a hundredweight to a ton. Re-examined by Mr. Busby: The men are bound to send the ironstone clean. Mr. Martyn Seymour, resident manager at Staveley Works, was examined as to the contract entered between himself and Hancock, which was, that the latter should get the ironstone in the first pit at 9-0d. per ton, and the second pit at 8-0d. Hancock expressly desired him that 1-0d. should be deducted on account of the debt due to the first pit, of £20-7-6d. Cross-examined by Mr. Cutts: Is it now the invariable practise at collieries to weigh the coal at pit mouth? Yes, but it is not practicable to do so at iron mines. Is it not to the advantage of the men that it should be weighed at the pit mouth? Is gains weight in rainy weather. Then it would not be to your advantage to weigh it at the pit's mouth? It would be to the advantage of the men. Due you check the book kept by the clerks from your own observation? I do, or the men would soon get into Mr. Barrow. His Honour: How is it that you have paid Hancock £17 too much. Mr. Seymour: It is done by deception, in showing a greater bulk of ironstone that actually exists. Cross-examined by Mr. Cutts: Have you ever complained of Hancock? Yes, I have stopped his wages because he was packing his stone improperly. Would ironstone loose in weight by exposure? There is no loss in ironstone. Does it grow? (Laughter). Geologists don't say so. Will not the stone oxidise? Calcining will reduce it. You had better try the experiment, Mr. Cutts. But you allow this stone to be exposed to wet, to purify? We have no such trickery as that. Mr. Barrow does not believe in trickery. I don't attribute trickery to Mr. Barrow. You say that the man has received £53 for dead-work? How does he get the money? Because I gave him an order for it. I hope you don't insinuate that I give orders without paying the men. I cannot favour Mr. Barrow when I have the poor man's case in hand. The men would soon be back to my office if they did not get paid. How many men have you under your care? About 2,000 men and boys. You recall a conversation between Hancock and yourself, but I want to know how you can be so

accurate, when you have so many men to look after? There is no difficulty in that; if I promise a man a thing I always perform it. Mr. Beddow, accountant at Mr. Barrow's office, spoke to the accuracy of the books, and Mr. Cooke, another clerk, deposed the correctness of the weights. Mr. Cutts summed up the evidence, and commented strongly against the present mode of regulating ironstone mines between master and workman. His Honour said this was another instance of the unfortunate consequence and difficulty in dealing with these ironstone pits, where men go on working for a period of 3 years, without having accounts properly balanced. In all such cases he always drew the inference against the master. After going minutely into the accounts, taking into consideration the cross- action, His Honour gave a verdict in favour of Mr. Barrow, of £7-2-0d. to be paid by instalments of 10-0d. per month.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 2.

Misconduct at a Colliery.

A little boy, named Henry Saxon, was charged by George Godber with misconducting himself at Riddings Colliery, with a breach of the Rules of the colliery, by riding upon a pony in the colliery. Defendant said he was not aware that he was doing wrong, and if so, he was extremely sorry for it. Mr. Godber said his only reason for bringing forward this case was that it was a common occurrence amongst the boys employed at the colliery to ride on the backs of the horses and ponies, and the company were anxious to stop it. He did not wish to press the case, and the company would withdraw it if defendant paid the expenses. The defendant's excuse was that the roads in the colliery were so dirty that he rode on the horse to get out of it. Mr. Godber said the colliery was in a bad state, but it was improving. The magistrates commented upon the dangerous practise of which the defendant had been guilty, and hoped these proceedings would be a warning not only to the defendant, but to the other boys employed at the colliery. As Mr. Godber had expressed a wish not to prosecute, they would only order the payment of expenses, 10-6d.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 2.

Information against a Collier for Paying Wages at a Public House.

Matthew Parker, collier, was summoned by Joseph Pitt for paying wages at a public house, contrary to the Coal Mines Inspection Act. Defendant pleaded Not Guilty. The complainant said: I was employed by Mr. Parkin(?) as banksman at the ironstone mine, in Glasshouse Common, Whittington. On the 18th. of January there was a balance of 8-0d. for wages, due from the previous fortnight, which, with the same owing to me for the last fortnight, amounted to £1-17-3d. I have cautioned Mr. Parkin about paying wages at a public house, and I told him he had better pay us at his own house. He paid me on the 18th. inst., at a beer-house, called the Duke of Cambridge. Defendant: When I took that job, 11 weeks since, did I not say I am going to pay you at my house. Complainant: No, you did not. Defendant: Did you not say that you might as well pay us at a public house, as you could do with a drop of beer at the reckoning. Complainant: No, I deny it. Defendant: When I said I would pay them at a public house, did you not say that a drop of beer would not hurt anyone? Complainant: No, I did not. The defendant, in answer to the charge, said that there was nobody who liked the complainant in Whittington; he was such a singular character, and because he hurried him off his work, he said he would play him a trick. Complainant: You tell a ----- . I have never been out of work in two years. Defendant: I paid him outside the public house. Complainant: You paid me inside the house. Mr. Hellewell, the clerk to the magistrates: It is an ironstone pit or a coal mine, and is the defendant the owner? Complainant: He is only the contractor. The defendant called as witness, Job Allen, who said he saw the defendant paid outside the public house, on the 18th. ult. Complainant (lifting up his arms): O! My -----, what a falsehood. Allen: He paid him £1-17-3d. in the street leading from the forge at Whittington, and opposite the Duke of Cambridge. The complainant and defendant were 10 yards from the house. The complainant told me that he should leave the defendant, he is out of work and nobody will employ him. Cross-examined by the complainant: How long is it since you were a master man? Defendant: 11 weeks. Complainant: I will swear that I have been paid three times in a public house, and the landlord and his wife were present. Mr. Heathcote: Have you got them here as witnesses. Complainant: No, Sir, I have not. Mr. Heathcote: Then you ought to have. Complainant: If the case is postponed, Gentlemen, I will bring more witnesses. Defendant: He knows very well he dare not go to my house to be paid, because he borrowed some money from my wife and has not paid it. Complainant: I have never received a penny except in Sidney Orwin's house. Mr. Barrow: We are satisfied with the evidence for the defendant, and we dismiss the case. The complainant, who looked round the court with an air of surprise, said he had no money. The magistrates allowed him time to pay the costs.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 3 Col. 2-3.

Stealing Coal at Pleasley.

Joseph Hopkinson, a small farmer and higgler, residing at Pleasley, was charged with stealing one hundredweight of coal, the property of W. Galloway, Esq., proprietor of the Heath Colliery. Mr. Busby, solicitor, appeared for the defendant. Mr. W. Goodwin, a clerk at the colliery, proved following the prisoner, with Constable White, to Pleasley, where they saw him take one hundredweight of coals from his cart and place them on his coal heap. The prisoner had carted coals from the colliery to Mansfield, for a number of years. Mr. Busby, for the prisoner, contended that the prisoner had made an agreement with Mr. Brockner, a former clerk, to have one hundredweight of coals allowed him for each load, and the case was adjourned for the purpose of hearing evidence from Mr. Brockner. The prisoner was admitted to bail.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 4 Col. 4.

Coal Mines - Royal Commission.

The Queen has appointed Lord Kinnaird and seven other gentlemen to be Her Majesty's Commissioners to enquire into the conditions of all mines in Great Britain to which the provisions of the Act 23 and 24 c151 do not apply with reference to the health and safety of persons employed in such mines.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 22nd. February 1862.

Page 4 Col. 4.

No Headline.

Messrs. Brassey and Company, the eminent contractors, have purchased an extensive piece of land at Tapton, Derbyshire, for the purpose of establishing a large ironworks. They have also in contemplation the erection of a temporary line from the works to the main line of the Midland, so as to have a complete exit for their mineral produce.