

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 4th. January 1862.

Page 2 Col. 1.

Advert - New Brampton Colliery.

Loundsley Green, near Chesterfield.

Messrs. Nicholls and Fletcher beg to inform the public that they are now prepared to supply coal and slack at the undermentioned prices, viz.

Black Shale Coal, dressed and screened.	5-10d. at the pit
Slack	2-11d. at the pit.

Terms - Cash on Delivery.

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Advert - Alton Colliery, Ashover, Chesterfield.

Fletcher and Cheetham, beg to inform the public that they are now manufacturing encaustic and flowered floor tiles, coke, furnace fire bricks and blue bricks.

Prices may be had on application.

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Page 2 Col. 2.

Advert - The Hasland Colliery Company Limited.

Registered pursuant to the Joint Stock Companies Acts, 1856-7, and 8, by which the liability of each shareholder, is limited to the amount of shares subscribed for.

Capital.

£5,000 in 1,000 shares of £5 each.

Directors.

C. Black, Esq., M.D., Chesterfield
Mr. W.F. Hawkins, Belper
Mr. Wordsworth, Chesterfield
Mr. John Clayton, Tapton, Chesterfield
Mr. Benjamin Wade, Belper
Mr. John Gothard, Chesterfield
Mr. John Watson, Chesterfield
Mr. Joseph Clayton, Chesterfield
Mr. Charles Wharton, Chesterfield
with power to add to their number.

Bankers.

The Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Banking Company.

Solicitor.

Mr. Robert Whall, Chesterfield.

Secretary.

Mr. Henry Buxton, Brewery Street, Chesterfield.

Prospectus.

This Company is incorporated for the purpose of working and raising the well known Dunston coal, on the estates of the Rev. J. Boyer, E.C Bower, Esq., and his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, situate in the township of Hasland, about one quarter of a mile from the borough of Chesterfield, in the county of Derby.

The coal has been proved by a shaft already sunk, 63 yards deep from the surface, and about 10 or 12 acres of the coal has been got. The quality is good for household, gas, and other purposes, and from its contiguity to the important town of Chesterfield, commands a steady and increasing sale.

The colliery has been examined by Messrs. Woodhouse and Jeffcock, civil and mining engineers, of Derby, and their opinion is, that under proper and efficient management, the works can be carried on and made to realise a handsome profit.

The capital is being raised to complete the purchase of the plant and leases, which have been valued at £2,500, and to provide for the further extension of the works.

The plant consists of pumping and winding engines, in excellent working order, machine offices, dwelling houses, stabling, carpenter and smith's shops, rails, etc., and everything complete and ready for raising coal as soon as the capital is subscribed.

A considerable amount of capital being already subscribed, persons desirous of holding shares will do well to make early application, as the directors are desirous to commence operations at once.

Applications for shares to be accompanied with a deposit of £1 per share, may be made to Mr. Henry Buxton, the secretary; or to the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Banking Company, Chesterfield.

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Page 3 Col. 2.

No Headline.

The local share markets are dull, nothing doing except in Milldam, Prince of Wales, and one or two railway stocks.

Mining Journal.

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Page 3 Col. 2.

No Headline.

The new branch of the Midland Railway, from Pye Bridge to Alfreton, which opened an exit for the coal of the Erewash Valley coalfields to the northern and southern markets, will be opened for passenger traffic in the early part of this year. The line has been worked with the mineral traffic for some time.

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Page 3 Col. 2.

Fatal Accident in a Coal Mine.

On Monday afternoon an inquest was held at Sheffield, before John Webster, Esq., deputy coroner, on view of the body of Ezra Sellars, aged 18 years, the son of John Sellars, who resides in South Street, Park. It appeared on the 4th. instant that deceased was working at the Manor Castle Pit. Some "corves" having run off the tramway, he and a man named Bingley replaced them and put them in motion. Before, however, the "corves" had proceeded far, the chain by which they were propelled broke, and they returned down the incline with great force, striking, in their course, the deceased on the left leg. He was removed the same day to the Infirmary, where he lingered until Sunday. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

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Page 3 Col. 2.

A Persevering Man.

Some time ago, Mr. Seymour, the resident viewer of the Staveley Works, declared that he would not rest satisfied until the Seymour Pit (which was called after his name) should yield 1,000 tons per day. On Friday last he was determined to ascertain what quantity could be drawn out of the pit within 12 hours and a half, and on the aggregate weight being calculated it was found to amount to 1,147 tons 17 cwts.; and out of this quantity there was only 25 tons 2cwt. of slack. Mr. Barrow can now congratulate Mr. Seymour on having accomplished a thing with is unparalleled in the history of coal mining. The coal was the Top Hard of Derbyshire, and there is a great demand for it, particularly for locomotive purposes, and for marine engines.

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Page 2 Col. 3-5.

Chesterfield: Its Progress and its Papers.

The Derbyshire Red Book, 1862. Derby: Bemrose and Sons.

This is a work which cannot fail to be of value to business men, and all interested in the trade of the county. We hope to learn next year that its first issue, in 1862, will be successful, and be but the forerunner of a long series of annuals. It gives a variety of miscellaneous intelligence relating to the county, its public officers, fairs, sessions, county courts, weights and measures, newspapers, etc. Out of this Chesterfield is, of course, not omitted, and we must confess that we find a piece of information here which is decidedly "news" to us. Foremost amongst the county newspapers we find the following entry -

"Derbyshire Courier is published every Friday night, at Chesterfield. Its politics liberal (the italics are our own); in price 3½d., 4½d."

"Derbyshire Times is published every Saturday, at 1d. The office is in Chesterfield"

We certainly were not aware that our friend the Courier, had turned its coat, neither do we believe it. In these days of competition there is no knowing to what a newspaper may descend; but we must say that in all our controversies with the Courier we have never laid so grave a charge at its door as that contained in the DERBYSHIRE RED BOOK. We have always given our contemporary credit for the consistent advocacy of Conservatism, and we have always regarded him as the opponent of the great majority of those measures which we ourselves advocate on the part of the liberal party of Chesterfield and North Derbyshire. We shall certainly not be sorry to hear that the Courier has turned from the error of its ways; we are ready at any moment to offer the right hand of fellowship to our erring brother, and admit him within the camp of the great liberal party which we represent. At the same time we should respect him more as our opponent than our friend because we like to see a journal consistent in its politics. We cannot believe that the Courier has turned its coat. Answer it, Messrs. Bemrose, of Derby, have you or have you not libelled our respectable contemporary? Politics, it is thought by some weak-minded and grasping journalists, are to be made subservient to pecuniary matters. "We will be neutral," says one new aspirant for fame. "We will not be a party paper", says another. "What does all this mean?" Why nothing more nor less than an intention to be all things to all men, to gammon both parties, and get as much as possible out of each. Now it is necessary that there shall be two parties in the State, and on the part of the liberal party, which must ever be the party of working men, we caution the public against prints which blow hot and cold - prints which have no purpose to serve but their own advancement. Commend us to the editor who speaks his mind fearlessly upon any topic in which the nation's welfare is concerned, and whether we differ from him or not we shall respect his honest opinions. But the milk-sop who "mews" with the cat and barks with the dog; or the man who changes his political bias to suit his pocket, are contemptible and unworthy of the recognition of respectable, honest and thinking men. Now as we certainly do not class our old- established friend, the Courier, amongst such papers as are not willing to sacrifice something for a great principle, we can almost on our part say that Mr. Bemrose has made a mistake, that we have still in Chesterfield one Conservative newspaper and one Liberal.

The book before us is another of the many proofs we have daily, of the continued progress and prosperity of Chesterfield and the adjacent neighbourhood. It shows that the town is receiving increased attention from its neighbours, and we dare say in future years, perhaps not within the memory of the writer, Chesterfield will outstrip the capital of the county. We make the following extracts from an article on the mineral wealth of the county:--

The Production and Distribution of Coal.

For the production of coal in the county of Derby, there are 153 collieries, with steam power equal at least to 10,000 horses, for raising coals from an aggregate depth of shafts of about 30,000 yards. More than 1,200 horses and ponies are employed in the transit of coals in the mines underground, and about 17,000 men and boys. In the ironstone mines there are employed underground about 2,500 men and boys, producing upwards of 400,000 tons of ironstone annually.

The largest collieries are those belonging to Richard Barrow, Esq., of Staveley, which are capable of raising 800,000 tons of coal annually, from 5 shafts. The last new shaft can raise 1,000 tons daily. More than 1,100 tons have been raised in one day of twelve hours.

The Butterley Company have power of production equal to 700,000 or 800,000 tons annually, from fourteen shafts.

The Clay Cross Company (W. Jackson, Esq., and partners), have a power of production equal to 500,000 tons annually, from three shafts. Barber, Walker, and Company, of upwards of 400,000 tons from six shafts. These are the largest producers, and these quantities mentioned are what the respective collieries can raise if the demand requires it. There are other large collieries, as the Shipley, A.M. Mundy, Esq., owner; Swanwick, A.P. Morewood, Esq., owner; the Riddings, James Oakes, Esq., and Co., owners; Cinder Hill and Babbington, Thomas North, Esq., owner; Wingerworth and Grassmoor collieries, all of which raise large quantities. The seams worked extensively in Derbyshire for sale, are the Top Hard, No. 2, in section; Dunstan Seam, No. 3; Main Soft, No. 7; Deep Hard, No. 8; Black Shale and Silkstone, No. 12; and Kilburne, No. 14. It may be remarked that at one of Messrs. Oakes' collieries, near Alfreton, Petroleum or Mineral tar has for many years been exuding from a rock above the Kilburne, No. 14 seam or section. As much as 100 gallons weekly was at one time yielded, but now it is nearly exhausted. Messrs. Young and Company were the first to refine this for oiling delicate machinery such as watches, etc. The American Mineral Oil is similar to this.

The production of coals in Derbyshire is distributed over a great extent of country. On the South-West side to Bristol, largely to the Eastern counties, to London, and the south coast, for household consumption. The Clay Cross Company alone send upwards of 300,000 tons annually to London, to the south of London, and the Eastern Counties. This supply is chiefly the Silkstone Coal, (seam No., 12 on section) which now ranks high for household purposes. This coal successfully competes with the Northumberland and Durham coals in the London and other southern markets to which Mr. Barrow, the Butterley Company, Barber, Walker, and Co., and other owners, also supply large quantities. The hard coals of Derbyshire are extensively used for locomotive purposes in the Midland Counties and south of England; besides large exportations to France, Russia, and other parts of the Continent for locomotive use. Mr. Barrow, and the Butterley Company, Messrs. Barber, Walker, and Co., are the largest raisers of hard coal. The consumption of coals at the iron and mine works in the county is about 1,000,000 tons.

Iron Manufactories.

There are fifteen manufactories of pig iron in the county, with 23 furnaces in blast, producing about 126,000 tons of pig iron annually.

The produce of twelve furnaces is sold out of the county, to be manufactured into bars, armour plates, boiler plates, sheets, and for railway purposes. The Butterley Company manufactures the produce of five furnaces into superior bar iron, boiler plates, sheets, and large girders for armour-plated vessels, and other purposes. At the present time this company are rolling the largest and heaviest girders which have yet been produced, thus keeping pace with the times which require such heavy masses of manufactured material. The iron manufactured by this eminent and spirited company will stand the test with the best brands of the country.

Richard Barrow, Esq., of Staveley, uses the iron made by himself, as well as from two other furnaces in the county for castings of every description. So extensive and complete are these Works, that upwards of 4,000 tons of girders, columns, etc., for the Exhibition building of 1862, were turned out at them in three months, besides making all the patterns, and without interfering with the ordinary work of the foundries. Mr. Barrow has now an order for two miles of railing for the galleries of the Exhibition building, which will be completed in a month.

James Oakes and Co., have long been celebrated for the excellency of their castings in gas and water pipes, as well as every other description. This firm has for many years enjoyed a high reputation for the good quality of workmanship and material.

Iron made from the materials of Derbyshire will bear comparison with the iron from any part of the country. The pig iron from West Hallam Works, H.B. Whitehouse and Sons, stood the greatest test at Woolwich some time ago of any iron selected from the bulk.

The test of armour plate at Portsmouth, November 22, 1861, made by John Brown and Company, of Sheffield, of cold and hot blast iron, from the Sheepbridge Iron Works, Chesterfield, Messrs. W. Fowler and Co., proprietors, exceeds every test hitherto made.

For the manufacture of bar iron, boiler plates, railway material, and steel, the following works are established: -

Butterley Company, Alfreton, manufacturers of bar iron, boiler plates, sheets and heavy girders.

Frith and Sons, Whittington. Chesterfield, large manufacturers of steel.

Webster's and Company, Killamarsh, near Chesterfield, manufacturers of steel and wire.

James Eastwood and Sons, Derby, manufacturers of bar iron, steel iron, forgings and vices of all descriptions, railway wrought iron wheels, tyres and axles.

Castings of all descriptions are largely made by Richard Barrow, Esq., Staveley; by James Oakes, Esq., and Co., Riddings, Alfreton; and by Messrs. Appleby and Company, Renishaw Works, near Chesterfield, etc.

The Clay Cross and the Sheepbridge Companies make heavy castings.

As the material of South Staffordshire (which has so long been celebrated for its superior make of iron), is being rapidly exhausted, and cannot supply all the existing works, no doubt the manufacture of malleable iron will be extensively developed in Derbyshire. There are in the county many eligible sites for the erection of rolling mills, with ample supplies of good water,

adjoining collieries producing coals suitable for iron manufacture, and small coals for engine purposes. So extensive and profitable a field for labour and capital, it is to be hoped, will not be suffered to be much longer unoccupied.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Summons for Wages.

William Higginbottom summoned Emerson Bainbridge, and Company, of West Staveley Colliery, for refusing to pay 12-6d. which he alleged was due to him for wages. Mr. Busby appeared for defendant. Complainant said he had worked for Messrs. Bainbridge for the last sixteen months. He was a locomotive engine driver, engaged at 25-0d. per week. The last settling he had with them was about 3 weeks ago. The fitters were at work 3 nights repairing the engine, and he was ordered to sit up with them. It was wages for those 3 nights for which he had summoned the defendants. Mr. Busby contended that complainant had contracted to work for 25 shillings per week, and no number of hours was agreed upon. He had received 25-0d. for the weeks work, and therefore, under the present information he could not recover the amount. Applicant wished to know if he had been forced to work night and day for the 25 shillings per week. The magistrates said there was an informality in the summons, and as Mr. Busby had made the objection they must dismiss the case. He was advised to enter a plaint in the County Court for the recovery of the debt.

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Page 3 Col. 1.

No Headline.

Messrs. Samuel Beal and Company gave their annual treat to the colliers employed at the Newbold Colliery, in connection with the Newbold Ironworks, on Saturday evening last, when about 100 sat down to an excellent supper, at the Nag's Head Inn, Newbold, which was provided in a most ample manner by Mrs. Hall, when the men and boys did ample justice.

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Page 3 Col. 1.

The Hasland Colliery Company.

We understand the shares and capital required to purchase the plant and leases belonging to the late firm of Knowles, Clayton, and Company, is being subscribed in a very satisfactory manner. Messrs. Woodhouse and Jeffcock, the eminent mining engineers, are of the opinion that the Company, under judicious and efficient management, must be successful. The prospectus appears in our advertising columns.

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Page 3 Col. 5.

The Ironmaster's Quarterly Meeting.

The ironmasters quarterly meeting took place at the(?) Birmingham, on Monday. The meeting was numerously attended. The business done was merely nominal, being less in amount, perhaps, than ever was transacted at a Birmingham Quarter day. I do not believe than a single thousand tons of pigs changed hands in a line. The great sales of haematite pigs which usually take place at these meetings well all ignored, and the iron trade has received a blow by the insolence of the American rowdies from which it will not recover for months to come. It would be useless to quote prices of pig iron, there having been comparatively little or nothing done. The ruling rates, however, were from 1-3d. to 2-6d. less than last quarter day.

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Saturday 25th. January 1862.

Page 2 Col. 6.

No Headline.

A miner, whose name we have been unable to learn, was very seriously crushed and injured at the Hady pits, yesterday. (Friday).

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Page 3 Col. 1.

Stealing Boots.

William Barlow, a tramp, was charged by Samuel Twigge, of Calver, with stealing a pair of boots at the engine house of Brightside Mine, on the 9th. of January. The prisoner was traced by Constable Fisher to Winster, where he was apprehended in a lodging house in bed, and the boots were found by the bed-side. The prisoner denied that he had stolen the boots, and said that he had brought them in Manchester. He afterwards pleaded guilty and was committed for 2 months.

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Page 3 Col. 1.

Felony.

Joseph Dawson was charged by George Hodgkinson, of Calver, miner, with stealing a cloth cap from the engine house, Brightside Mine, on the 9th. of January. The prisoner was apprehended by Constable Fisher at the Union, having received a ticket from the police station for that establishment. The prisoner pleaded guilty. Committed for two months imprisonment.

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Page 3 Col. 1.

No Headline.

Last week, some clothing, belonging to the miners making the tunnels between Bakewell and Buxton, were stolen, the men leaving a part of their working clothes in these places during the night. Navvies or miners are suspected, as no strangers would venture in these places, and the offenders must know of these things being there.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. January 1862.

Page 3 Col. 2-3.

Informations against Coal Owners.

George Hoskin, of Brampton, owner of the Boythorpe Colliery, was charged on three indictments, by Mr. John Hedley, the Government Inspector of Mines, with not publishing the general rules at his colliery, under the 23rd. and 24th. Vic., section 15; also with not having the shaft secure by being cased, and for not appointing an office to pay wages. Mr. Busby appeared to support the information, and Mr. Cutts appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Busby explained that it was necessary to enforce a strict observance of the Act, in order to protect the lives of the numerous workmen employed in collieries, and to secure regularity and discipline in mines. The penalty for each offense was not exceeding £20.

Mr. Hedley was then examined. He said: In April last I visited the defendant's colliery, and found he had not published a copy of the new general rules, as required by the Act. I directed him what to do and promised to send over rules which he must hang up in the office 14 days, and after that to forward them to the Secretary of State, stating that they had been published as required by the Act. I sent him the rules two or three days afterwards. On the 2nd. of December I was at the colliery again, and found the rules were not published.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cutts: Did you consider it a colliery at all in April last? I consider it a colliery when they take off the first sod. Were there any rules posted there? The old rules were posted at that time. I told him they would not do.

Mr. Cutts: Now, Mr. Hedley, I must subject you to the same rules of cross-examination as any other man.

Mr. Hedley: I beg you will make no difference whatever with me.

Mr. Busby: It is Mr. Cutts' habit to be irregular.

Mr. Maynard: Mr. Hedley must use his own discretion as to answering the questions.

Mr. Cutts (exhibiting general rules): Were these rules, or a copy of them, posted in the engine- house.

Mr. Hedley: A copy of some general rules were posted. I objected to them, and wished other rules to be distributed. Mr. Hoskin produced a copy of rules which were stuck in a corner of the engine- house.

Mr. Cutts: Did you tell Mr. Hoskin that the rules would not do.

Mr. Hedley: We have an entire code of special rules for my own district. He did not tell me the rules had been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. I know he has not sanctioned these rules for Derbyshire.

Mr. Cutts: Will you state your reason for such belief?

Mr. Hedley: I have settled with the coal owners of my district for a certain code of rules, and before the Secretary of State sanctions them, I have to report upon them. He could not sanction these rules, as they are inapplicable to my district.

Mr. Cutts: Then you mean to say the Secretary of State cannot sanction rules without your interference.

Mr. Hedley: He does not.

Mr. Cutts: Don't you know from the Secretary of State that Hoskin has complied with the rules.

Mr. Hedley: He has complied since December, so far as forwarding rules.

Mr. Cutts: You laid an information against Mr. Hoskin, in connection with a partner, two years ago, and he was convicted. Have you had any complaints since?

Mr. Hedley: Altogether, I have had a good deal of trouble with him.

Mr. Cutts: Have you laid any information against the large coal-owners as well as the little ones?

Mr. Hedley: Yes, against Messrs. Wells, of Eckington, and Lord Middleton.

Mr. Cutts: You asked him if a person, named John Brown, of Rose Hill, was not a partner.

Mr. Hedley: No, I did not. I know nothing of Mr. Brown in the matter.

Mr. Cutts: When Hoskin said he would comply with the Act, you did not take much notice.

Mr. Hedley: I spoke very warmly.

Mr. Cutts: And you turned your back towards him.

Mr. Hedley: Well, perhaps I did.

Mr. Cutts: Is that the proper address for an inspector when he goes to view a colliery?

Mr. Hedley: I generally address people with courtesy.

Mr. Cutts: Did you ever hear of an accident at this pit, or a person injured, or Hoskin summoned for wages either the magistrates or in the County Court?

Mr. Hedley: No, I have not.

Mr. Maynard: The Act says the rules must be at the principal office or place of business at the colliery. What do you call a place of business.

Mr. Hedley: Certainly, I don't call an engine-house a place of business. Besides, the colliers are prohibited from going into it, except by express permission.

Mr. Cutts: Is there any other building besides the engine-house in which rules could be posted?

Mr. Hedley: There ought to be.

Mr. Cutts: It does not follow that there should be an office built for the express purpose of exhibiting the rules. There has been no accident at the colliery.

Mr. Maynard: An accident has not happened, but what has that to do with the rules which a man is bound to stick up in a conspicuous place?

Mr. Cutts: I say, as a point of law, that Hoskin has complied with the Act if the rules are stuck up in any place.

Mr. Maynard: But you have not proved that the rules have been put up anywhere yet. I should be against anything put up in the engine-house.

Mr. Cutts: The colliery has not been actually worked.

Mr. Hedley: They have been drawing coals.

This was the case for the complainant on the first information.

Mr. Cutts addressed the Court for the defendant. He said that about twelve months ago Mr. Hoskin commenced to make this colliery, which was yet in an unfinished state, and not fully at work. This allegation was that he did not post in a conspicuous part of the colliery a copy of the general rules, according to the Act. He (Mr. Cutts) said that as a dry point of law that it was not necessary to have the rules of the colliery affixed until it was established, because if it was necessary to have them at all, it was requisite to exhibit them directly the first sod was turned, and before any building was erected.

Mr. Busby submitted that Mr. Cutts was under a misapprehension.

Mr. Cutts said the rules which were approved by the Secretary of State were posted in compliance with the Act. The only place in which the small amount of wages could be paid was the engine-house; and the rules were posted there and sufficiently displayed. It was too bad that Hoskin should be pounced upon in this hawk sort of a manner and called up to answer these charges. If the Bench were determined to convict, he should certainly ask for a case to be submitted to the Court of Queen's Bench. He then called the following witnesses: -

Thomas Shaw said he had worked at the colliery since its commencement; had seen the general rules in the engine-house, and always received his wages there. The old rules were in the engine-house until the new ones had been approved by the Secretary of State.

Cross-examined by Mr. Busby: They were hung against the wall, behind the steam-gauge. They were not hung outside the engine-house. I know that colliers are not allowed to go inside the engine-house. They were on the wall when Mr. Hedley came. I am engine-tenter, and go at six o'clock and leave at five in the evening.

Re-examined by Mr. Cutts: The rules were so placed that any one could see or read them.

Samuel Marsh, another collier, corroborated the statement of the last witness.

Mr. Maynard: The magistrates are of opinion that they should convict. I am very sorry that Mr. Cutts should have used such language as he has done. The motives of a gentleman who is doing his duty ought not to be called into question, and I think the remarks very unnecessary indeed. I am glad to say it is contrary to the wish of the Bench that such observations should be used.

Mr. Hedley: I don't care much about it.

Mr. Maynard: It is not right that you should be likened to a hawk pouncing upon its prey.

Mr. Cutts: That is public opinion.

Mr. Busby: Certainly not; it is most untrue.

Mr. Cutts: I am sorry to come under the censure of the Bench, but I shall always do my duty.

Mr. Maynard: You may do it quietly, without abusing a man who is doing his duty.

Mr. Cutts: Whatever may be the conviction, I promise you to take it somewhere else.

The defendant was then convicted in a penalty of £5 and costs.

The next information was for not providing an office to pay wages.

Mr. Busby said it was admitted that there was no office, and he should in this case be content with a nominal penalty; but if the point was contested, he should press for a severe penalty.

Mr. Cutts said that Mr. Hedley, not content with laying one information, had actually brought three charges against the defendant, upon points which were more a matter of construction of an Act of Parliament than a wilful disobedience of the law. It was never intended that a man employing four or five men should build a splendid office to pay wages. The object of the legislature was that the men should be paid at the colliery, and not put under the temptation of being paid in a public house and spending their money in drink, and a very proper provision it was. He put it as a very proper thing for their consideration that where a man like Hoskin, who had obeyed the law in spirit, should not be called upon to adhere to it to the letter.

Mr. Maynard expressed a wish that the information might be withdrawn.

Mr. Busby: These cases are considered to be extremely important, and I ask the Bench to inflict some nominal penalty.

Mr. Cutts: I ask no favour; whatever is meted out to me I shall measure again.

Mr. Busby: I must ask the Bench for a conviction.

The Bench imposed a penalty of 1-0d. and costs.

Mr. Busby said the next information was for not casing the shaft. The men were subjected to great danger, especially in going up and down the shaft. He would take this opportunity of saying that he could conceive nothing more immoral or more disgraceful to

insinuate a want of public duty towards a gentleman who had to fulfil a most responsible and a most unpleasant duty. What could be more easy than to overlook these cases; but what would be the responsibility of a man who thus failed to protect life when life was liable to sacrifice? If a gentleman is bound to perform unpleasant duties, is he to be subject to the remarks and attacks of an advocate, - such remarks which have been made far outstrip the rights of an advocate, and which, if permitted, would tend to prevent public officers from doing their duty. He was sure the Bench would feel that these remarks were neither inappropriate or undeserved.

Mr. Hedley said he went down the shaft on the 2nd. of December, to examine the low coal in the shaft. The strata below was loose, and he pulled pieces off, and if they had fallen upon the heads of those at the bottom of the shaft, it would have done them great injury. The shaft was not safe, and he considered it ought to be cased.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cutts: I asked Hoskin if it was cased, and he said it was down to the coal, but below it was not. I have not been informed that Hoskin took the lining of the shaft to the bottom.

Mr. Busby said he pressed for a conviction in this case.

Mr. Cutts contended that as Mr. Hoskin had complied with the Act in casing the shaft, the penalty should not be enforced. He also hoped that he should be more courteously treated.

Mr. Busby said he should certainly ask for a penalty.

Mr. Cutts: I stand here as a British advocate, and men who may be opposed to me may suppose I have exceeded the limits of discretion in the observations which I felt I was compelled to make in the discharge of my duty. It has been frequently attempted by Mr. Busby, in cases in which he has been opposed to me, in the most pedantic manner, to attempt to lay down rules by which I shall be guided in the advocacy of a case. I shall not uphold to his dictation. If I do wrong, I shall be answerable for it; but so long as I am an advocate I shall do my duty to my client, and I shall speak fearlessly if I see the occasion for it. I do not wish to be discourteous to the Bench. I only look simply at the fact ---- -

Mr. Busby: You are speaking now for the benefit of those behind you (the spectators in court).

Mr. Cutts: I thank you for that. If you attempt to stop me, it must come from another place. I see we have the gentlemen of the Press present -----

Mr. Maynard: Oh, I think it very immaterial what the gentlemen of the Press may say.

Mr. Cutts: Still, Sir, I have right to exercise the functions of an advocate when I am entrusted with the advocacy of a case in which a little man is charged with breaking a penal Act of Parliament, and where the informations have been mostly laid against little men.

Mr. Busby: That is not true, Mr. Cutts.

Mr. Cutts: It is not unlike the truth when you consider the few informations which have been laid against large coal owners. How is it that there should be so many informations against a man when there has not been a single accident or injury of any kind to the men employed at the pit.

Mr. Maynard: Well, Mr. Cutts, this is only occupying our time.

Mr. Busby: Mr. Cutts is addressing the gentlemen of the Press, and he wishes them to take it down.

Mr. Maynard: Very well, let them take it down.

Mr. Cutts: I have spoken rather warmly, but I have expressed feelings which I could not hold. There is an undue pressure put upon a little man. The inspector must prefer charges against parties, and the little men are picked out. I should like to see the duties discharged in a more general manner.

Mr. Maynard: Mr. Hedley has not laid information only against the owners of small collieries, but against large ones also. I apprehend Mr. Hedley is very unwilling to lay these informations, but if he cannot enforce compliance without resorting to the law, he is obliged to do so.

Mr. Cutts: But why lay three informations.

Mr. Maynard: I don't know Mr. Hedley's feelings.

Mr. Cutts: I cannot assume that he was unwilling.

Mr. Maynard: I am afraid you assume a great deal which you ought not to do.

The defendant was then fined £1 and costs.

Information against the Heath Colliery.

George Goodwin was charged, on three informations, with not publishing the general rules at his colliery, at Heath, for not appointing an office to pay wages, and for not providing proper means for communicating from the bottom to the top of the shaft. Mr. Busby said the defendant had consented to a penalty of £1 each on the first and second informations, and £3 on the third. These penalties were accordingly imposed, Mr. Maynard remarking that these cases were very different to the last, as Mr. Goodwin had not been previously warned that he was infringing the law.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. January 1862.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Cruelty to a Pony.

John Godber, of the Lings Colliery, North Wingfield, charged Herbert Hall, with ill-using a pony, on the 6th. of December. Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 5-0d. and costs, or 7 days hard labour.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. January 1862.

Page 3 Col. 4.

No Headline.

Francis Rockcliffe Pierce, of the Whittington Collieries, charged John Leader, with leaving his service on the 12th. of November, without notice. The case was dismissed.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. January 1862.

Page 3 Col. 6.

The New Hartley Colliery Accident.

The whole of the 215 bodies have been found - all dead. The scenes at the pit are heart rending.

A telegram was received from Osborne on Thursday: - "The Queen is most anxious to know of the safety of the men in the pit. Her whole heart bleeds".

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 25th. January 1862.

Page 4 Col. 3-4.

Frightful Colliery Accident.

Two Hundred and Fifteen Lives Lost.

One of the most alarming colliery accidents that have occurred in this country for several years past took place on Thursday morning, Jan. 16, at New Hartley Colliery, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Hartley new pit is situated close to the Hartley Junction of the Blythe and Tyne Railway, and on the western side of the line. It belongs to Messrs. Carr Brothers. The workings have been carried on by means of a single shaft passing through the Yard seam, at a depth of about seventy fathoms, and penetrating to the Low Main, which here lies about 100 fathoms below the surface. Closely adjoining the shaft, on the east side, stands a substantial stone structure, containing the machinery employed for keeping the pit clear of water. The pumping engine is a ponderous looking piece of work - one of the largest, we are told, to be met with in the coal trade - with a power equal to 100 horses. The beam of this machine was an immense beam of iron, weighing almost forty tons. Such a mass indeed as one would suppose capable of enduring a far greater strain than any to which it could possibly be subjected. It is, nevertheless, from the fracture of this that the melancholy affair we have now to chronicle took its origin.

The accident occurred about half-past ten o'clock on Thursday morning, and it could scarcely have happened more inopportune. The process of changing the shaft had just commenced, and of about 200 men and boys believed to have been then in the mine, only two sets, or about sixteen men, had been sent to bank. The third set was on its way, when just as the cage in which the men were "riding" had got half way up, the beam of the pumping engine broke in two at the pivot, the projecting outer half - a beam of iron weighing upwards of 20 tons - falling with a tremendous crash right in the centre of the shaft. The ponderous mass seems to have struck the top of the brattice, and so violent was the shock that the whole of the massive wooden frame work extending from the top to the bottom of the shaft gave way, as if it had been a bundle of lucifer matches, and was hurled downwards as a mere pile of debris towards the bottom of the pit. This avalanche of falling rubbish was, as we have said, encountered by the ascending cage, containing eight miners, about midway up the shaft. The survivors of the party, are said to have stated that they observed something shoot past them with the velocity of a thunderbolt, and presently found themselves overwhelmed by a perfect hail of broken beams and planks. The iron cage in which they were ascending was shattered to pieces by the shock, and two of the unfortunate fellows were killed on the spot, and carried far down amongst the debris. Of the remaining six, three survived, but a short time, and the others were ultimately rescued. All, however, suffered more or less severely from the falling timber, as well as the privations they were exposed to during the twelve weary hours that elapsed before assistance could be conveyed to them. The mass of rubbish completely filled the lower part of the shaft, so as to cut off all chances of escape by that egress for the 200 men and boys employed in the Low Main. There were also in the low main, at the time of the accident, upwards of thirty horses and ponies. These animals, it is supposed, would be in a part of the workings where the water would soon overtake them, and little or no hope was entertained of their being recovered.

The news of the accident, of course spread rapidly throughout the adjoining district, and within a short time the pit-heap was thronged with weeping women, and men whose mournful expression told of their sympathy with their unfortunate comrades entombed below. No time was lost in commencing operations for extricating the buried miners, and, as usual on such occasions, there was no lack of volunteers from the neighbouring collieries to undertake the difficult and dangerous task. The names of five of the poor fellows who have lost their lives are Ralph Robson, William Brown, George Sharp, sen., George Sharp, jun., and Robert Bewick.

The following reports given from time to time will best show the progress of the efforts made for the release of the men, and also the hopes and fears alternately predominant: -

New Hartley Colliery, Saturday Afternoon.

During last night the work of clearing the shaft was prosecuted with vigour by relays of men at intervals of two hours. The workmen succeeded in clearing away a portion of the debris. In the course of the night they recovered two of the bodies of the men who were killed by the falling of the beam. The body of George Sharp, jun., was first recovered, and subsequently the body of George Sharp, sen. About five o'clock this morning they came to the body of Robt. Robson. The bodies were sent up to the upper seam. The men who came out of the pit at one o'clock this afternoon, brought up intelligence that they had got another of the bodies, that of Wm. Brown. It has also been sent to the upper seam, and placed beside those of the others. A fifth remains to be recovered. The number of men and boys known to be in the pit is 215. The number of boys is said to be about 50. There are an overman and three deputy overman in the pit. The men are in the Yard Seam. The authorities of the pit have no fears with regard to the ultimate rescue of the men. The ventilation is known to be thoroughly good, and there is no danger of injury to them from water. The greater portion of the men in the pit have been there since one o'clock on Thursday morning, and they had but little food with them. The boys, however, it is thought, brought down some provision with them. The want of food, however, to the whole party is a source of uneasiness.

Saturday, Nine P.M.

The intelligence from the working parties in the shaft which has just come to bank is less cheering. Mr. Coulson, the master sinker, has sent up a report that the obstructions that exist before the parties can possibly reach the engine drift are of a much more difficult character than could be anticipated. The men and lads imprisoned in the Yard Seam could be heard "jowling" or working in the shaft this morning, but since then they have made no sign, and every effort made tonight to get signals from them has failed. Extra relays of men have been put on, and redoubled exertions will be made during the night to work through the obstructions. The arrival of spectators at the pit mouth is increasing.

Sunday, Six P.M.

The men and lads are still buried at Hartley Pit, and there is no prospect, it is feared, of reaching them tonight. Last night the working parties employed in the rescue were obliged to cease operations more than twelve hours on account of the sides of the shaft threatening to fall in. Sinkers were engaged all last night and most part of today in securing the sides. There is no hope, it is feared, of reaching the men tonight, though it might happen that by the obstruction falling the shaft might be clear in an hour. An enormous concourse of people from all parts thronged the mouth of the pit today, and the excitement is intense and increasing. All through the northern district to-day prayers were offered for the preservation of the men. The surgeons, who have been watching at the bank night and day, are very anxious with regard to the boys, fifty of whom are buried in the pit. The families of the men are exhibiting great fortitude and

patience. The last body of the five men who were killed on Thursday has been found in the debris. Water is supposed to be accumulating in the low seam, but it cannot reach the men for many days, as they are supposed to be in the Yard Seam, and have a pony, with some horse provender there, with fresh water. The ventilation is supposed to be good. The signals from the buried men were repeated with great distinctness this forenoon.

The following is from the second edition of the Newcastle Daily Journal of Monday: - "Late last night, the stone which has been such a terrible bar to the progress of the workmen was cleared away, but immense difficulty is still experienced with the rubbish. The progress made throughout the night has been but small. There has not been the slightest cessation in the labour in the shaft since it was first organised; and during the night the shaftsmen have been too busy to pause to "jowl" down to the poor fellows below. What their condition must be by this time, now that they have all been four days and four nights in the pit, cannot be imagined." In a late edition, the same journal says: - "Mr. Coulson has just (two p.m.) sent word up the shaft that he expects to be at the men within four hours. Mr. Coulson, while down the shaft a few hours ago, saw some smoke ascending; and it is therefore certain that the prisoners have a fire lighted. If this be so, it affords grounds for great hope that a large number of men are alive."

Shields, Monday, 7 P.M.

It is feared that several, if not many, hours must elapse before the men are reached. The excitement in the village, and also the large towns in the neighbourhood, is overwhelming with regard to the fate of the men, but it is very much feared another night must pass before their condition is known.

New Hartley, Tuesday Morning.

The full force of the terrible calamity that has occurred in this village has broken upon us this morning. During yesterday afternoon and evening, the public mind was buoyed up with hope that, as the sinkers had got the sides of the shaft secured, and were lifting the broken timber with tolerable rapidity, the Yard Seam, where the lost two hundred men and lads are supposed to be, would be reached towards midnight, however, as the loose stone and rubbish began to fall from the timber, "stythe" was perceived to be coming up, and one or two of the sinkers suffered from the effects of it. This morning, about five o'clock, Mr. W. Coulson, jun., one of the master sinkers, Richard Wilson, John Siddle, and Matthew Dodds, sinkers, were working a hole down from the stage, when there was a sudden fall of stone, and an emission of gas from below; the whole of the men became fearfully affected by it, but had, fortunately, strength to knock, and their companions immediately were sent down with "corves" from the high seam, and were just in time to get them into the corves and remove them to "bank." One of the sinkers, Richard Wilson, it was for some time feared would die; but they are all happily recovering. The furnace smoke of the pit generates, amongst other gases, a very deadly one - carbonic oxide. This gas, owing to the blocking-up of the shaft, was accumulating in the Yard Coal in the immediate neighbourhood of the shaft, and it was this gas which nearly destroyed the lives of the sinkers this morning. Of course, after they were brought up, no one could venture down into the shaft, but after a consultation among the viewers, it was determined to form an "up-cast" and "down-cast" from the main seam down to the Yard Seam, by means of a cloth brattice, an operation that will occupy a good part of today, it is feared. There is no up-cast and down-cast from the bank to the main seam by means of a staple. It is thought that the shaft cleared itself of the obstructions by the fall when the gas came away, but that cannot be as yet ascertained until the shaft is cleared of gas.

Discovery of the Bodies.

New Hartley, Tuesday, Nine A.M.

As to the fate of the men, there is still some hope; and this view is entertained by Mr. Foster; also by Mr. Atkinson, the government inspector, and other viewers of very great experience. The gas that nearly suffocated the sinkers in the shaft is not the gas usually emitted in the mine; and, being extremely light and volatile, it would attempt, as an old pitman said, to sail above the air in the pit; hence it would find its way into the shaft, and not into the workings. The view now taken is this: - The men have not been heard "jowling" since Sunday afternoon. On Sunday morning, there was a fall of stone in the shaft, which would make the obstruction in the shaft more compact, and cause this gas to accumulate there. Some of the men, it is thought, may have come into the shaft, and, having either felt the effects of the gas or been stricken down by it, the body of the men and lads may have returned more into the workings, where the air would be comparatively pure. But, after all, this theory is only like the last plank held by the drowning mariner. Today, blank despair prevails throughout the village and district.

Eleven. A.M.

The workmen are going on making the cloth brattice from the main seam. About an hour ago a cat was put into a basket. and lowered down into the shaft from the main seam to twenty eight fathoms. It was kept down half an hour. When brought up it was found to be stupefied, and died in a very short time. The men, consequently, at present refuse to go down unless the brattice is completed.

Eight P.M.

Down to seven o'clock nothing special had been done at New Hartley. It is hoped to get the cloth brattice (which is made of prepared canvas, manufactured at Manchester) fixed in the shaft by to-morrow morning; but several hours must elapse before operations are recommenced, for there is still a danger of falls of stone in the shaft. A meeting of the leading mining engineers in the district was held in the village this afternoon, to consider what is best to be done in the emergency. They think that the plans already adopted are the best. A fan-blast has been put up to assist the ventilation. A meeting of pitmen was also held this afternoon, and a double shaft movement was commenced. Somewhat riotous proceedings were likely to have occurred through pitmen being excluded from the pit mouth, whilst respectably dressed people were admitted thereto. The affair was quieted by everybody, except the working parties and officials, being removed from the pit mouth. The viewers still speak with confidence that the stronger men may yet be alive in the Yard Seam.

3.40 P.M.

An inquest was held this afternoon, at Seaton-de-Lavel, on the bodies of the five men killed in the shaft while descending in the cage. The evidence showed that the breaking of the beam was a pure accident, and the jury returned a verdict to that effect.

Operations in the shaft may be considered as absolutely suspended, in so far as relates to anything being done which could be available towards saving the lives of the men.

The authorities at the colliery have abandoned all hope that a single man or boy will be brought out of the pit alive; even the most sanguine are compelled to admit that there is no hope whatever that the poor creatures are now alive, much less that the pit could be cleared in time to rescue them, "supposing them still living". The gas in the pit is carbonic acid, and there is no

doubt that it did the whole of its deadly work on the unfortunate creatures so long ago as Saturday morning, when the rappings or the jowlings were last heard. This circumstance has been kept concealed from the men and the public, lest it should discourage those who had so nobly exerted themselves to rescue the prisoners. There is most intense excitement not only in Newcastle but throughout the district. The accident though unprecedented in its fatality is not so in its nature.

New Hartley, Wednesday Noon.

During the whole of last night workmen were employed putting up the cloth brattice in the shaft at Hartley Colliery. The bratticing is now completed, and the men are securing it by means of bunting. Pipes have been fixed between the engine furnaces and the high seam, which are improving the ventilation. The sides of the shaft have now been made quite secure, and the pumps which were broken, and were in a dangerous condition, have been made safe by means of large chains, brought from Hawks and Craushay's(?) works. From the report of the last shift that has come to bank, it is expected that the exploring parties will go down to work their way, if possible, to the coal seam this afternoon. Mr. G.B. Foster and Mr. Daghish have been down as far as the high seam, and they report very favourably of the work accomplished by the sinkers during the night. Independently of the 50 volunteer workmen, whose services have been so freely given, there are other volunteers, with practical knowledge and scientific attainments, who have divided themselves into two sections, under the able guidance of Mr. G.B. Foster, of North Seaton, and T.G. Hurst, of Backworth. The following is a list of the two sections who are banded together for the purpose of exploring the workings as soon as the state of the air will admit: - First section, under the guidance of Mr. Foster: Mr. Coulson, master sinker; Mr. J. Todd, viewer; Mr. T. Sanderson, viewer; Mr. W. Telford, viewer; Mr. J. Humble, viewer; Mr. J. Humble, jun., viewer; Mr. W. Cole, viewer. Second section, under the guidance of Mr. T.G. Hurst: Mr. S. Crone, viewer; Mr. J. Marshall, engineer; Mr. T. Robson, viewer; Mr. W.K. Horsley, engineer; Mr. G. Golightley, engineer; Mr. R. Parker, overman.

The ventilation of the shaft, consequent on the appliance of the canvas brattice, was so rapidly improved that every hour the men were able to proceed considerably further down the shaft, and ultimately succeeded in getting to the debris itself. At half-past eleven o'clock some of the party that were down had to retire in consequence of another escape of gas. One of those - George Emmerson - had, before retiring, succeeded in getting into the furnace drift, and when there he found some tools supposed to have belonged to some of the men that had been working in the drift, but a puff of bad air catching him he had to retire, not, however, before he had succeeded in bringing some of these tools away with him. He was taken into the engine house and attended to by Dr. Pyle, of Sunderland, and shortly afterwards recovered. It appears from his own statement since his recovery, that he got over the top of the cistern into the furnace drift, when he got so much affected by the gas that he had to be brought to bank. He had succeeded in getting a great distance down the drift leading into the Yard Seam, and there saw a number of tools supposed to have belonged to the immured men. He also observed a portion of timber which had been an obstruction to them, sawn and hacked, clearly indicating that the imprisoned men had been using their utmost efforts to assist in delivering themselves from their captivity. The presence of gas, however, becoming so strong, he was obliged to retire rather hastily, but not before he had brought away with him the tools already alluded to, and which consisted of two axes and a saw, together with an old backskin. The two axes have since been identified as belonging to John Tennant and Thomas Sharp, two of the deputies who are at present in the pit. The same is known to belong to the low seam, and is supposed to have been brought up by the men from thence to aid them in their melancholy task of forcing a passage by the furnace drift into the shaft, and which clearly shows that the men must have been in the Yard Seam, if they are not there still. The backskin is said to belong to one of the two insetters of the low seam, namely, George Laws and William Trumont. It is further stated by Emerson that he

neither saw or heard anything of the immured men, and it is therefore supposed that they must have retired further into the seam. At the time Emmerson was at the furnace drift two men named Edward Davidson and John Bowes were at the bucket door, and they stated that it had been so warm that they were unable to remain, and had consequently to retire and follow Emmerson up.

At half-past twelve Mr. John Taylor, viewer, Mr. Humble, viewer, Mr. Coulson, master sinker, and Mr. George Emmerson, sinker, went down the pit, for the purpose of ascertaining the state of affairs. Drs. Henry Ward, of Blyth, Lambert, Nichol, and Ambrose volunteered to go down the pit on the discovery of the men. During the afternoon a number of gentlemen arrived from Newcastle and neighbourhood, among others the Lord Bishop of Durham, accompanied by his chaplain, the Revd. Mr. Hitchcock, and at once entered into arrangements with the resident clergy for the visiting of the families of the immured men.

New Hartley, Wednesday, 10 P.M.

At last the working parties have penetrated the obstruction in the shaft, and have got into the Yard Seam. Not a man or boy living. An awful spectacle presented itself to the explorers. Men are lying dead in every direction, the bulk being near to the shaft. Most of them appear to have slept away placidly, though some strong men have struggled desperately for life. Within the workings of the pit, the working parties have seen little boys in the arms of their fathers; brothers sleeping the sleep of death in the arms of brothers. The "corn bins" were found empty, but the pony lying dead in the Yard Seam was untouched. The air was very foul in the shaft; so that most of the volunteers who has penetrated into the pit have been brought to bank seriously ill. The men were ordered, about nine o'clock, not to go down the shaft again until the ventilation has improved.

The village of New Hartley is a scene of misery, desolation, and woe, as nearly the entire working population have been stricken with death.

Wednesday Evening.

A communication has been effected to the Yard Seam, and within a short distance of the entrance thereto two saws and an axe have been found, belonging to some of the poor fellows. The appearance of the timber still sticking in the shaft shows that attempts had been made by the prisoners to cut away as far as they could, in order to reach the obstruction in the shaft. The tools found are rusty, as though not recently used, and the head of the axe has the appearance of having been used for "jowling". By an effort almost superhuman, Adams, a volunteer, entered the Yard Seam, where he discovered several bodies. Proceeding through a "clack door" more bodies were found, and on entering through another door a similar result showed the fatal effects of the gas. Adams was too much exhausted to remain longer, and came to the bank. The distressing intelligence was received by the large crowds with deep gloom.

Five O'clock.

More than 60 of the men and boys have been found dead in the furnace drift, and there is scarcely any hope but that the rest have shared the same fate. The men have died of suffocation. There is a faint possibility that some of the men may be alive in the low workings, where there is a large collection of atmospheric air.

another account states that the number of bodies found was nearly 100.