

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 1.

Advert - Coal! Coal!! Coal!!!

Reduction in Price.

Messrs. Nicholls and Fletcher, of Loundsley Green Colliery, are supplying Black Shale coal (Dressed and Screened), 5-6d. at the pit; Slack, 2-0d. ditto.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 3.

Leader - Strike of Workmen at Staveley.

The depression which has characterised the iron and coal trades, as well as all other branches of English Industry throughout the country, arising mainly from the unfortunate strife in America, has induced a number of coal and iron masters to reduce the price of labour 10 percent. We are not aware whether this movement is contemplated by all the ironmasters, but it is pretty certain that if it be adopted in one district the reduction will become general. In Yorkshire and Lancashire several firms have followed this course. We learn also that Mr. Barrow, of Staveley, has formally given notice of his intention to reduce all the workmen in his employ 10 percent. A portion of the notices expired on Saturday last, and the remainder this day. We learn that the moulders, fitters, and engine drivers in his employ have refused to accept the reduction, and have been out on strike since Monday. A deputation from this department of his workmen, armed with a numerously signed requisition from themselves, waited upon Mr. Barrow, and after resumed work at a reduction of 5 percent, for that gentleman declined to accede to their proposition. The notices to the men employed in the collieries and the ironstone mines do not expire until this day (Saturday), and so far as we have been able to learn, no organised expression of their views has been made, and therefore we are in ignorance of what course they may adopt. With regard to the contemplated reduction, the matter is one of the highest importance, not only to the men themselves, but to the whole of the trading classes of this district; and every step that may be taken in reference to it, requires more than ordinary judgement and precaution - an ill-advised course might lead to the infliction of much misery and loss, but if the workmen adopt a right step they may lessen the evil of many of its difficulties. The past history of disputes between master and workmen has abundantly shown that the suspension of labour in order to enforce a capitalist to agree to certain terms has been a suicidal course. We would strongly urge upon the workmen the necessity of avoiding a strike and all its consequent evils; and we recommend the adoption of a conciliatory course as the safest method of redressing their grievances. Unfortunately the social elevation of the working collier has been somewhat neglected by those upon whom rests the responsibility of attending to his mental culture, and few there are amongst this numerous and hardworking class whom have had the forethought and prudence to prepare for a period of adversity and depression. They are, consequently, unable to fight the battle of labour against capital, and are therefore at the mercy of those by whom they are employed. Much has been done, we must admit, to provide for their religious welfare by the large employers of labour; but until the mind of the working man is more elevated in the social scale, it is impossible that he can receive those great religious convictions with that truthfulness and sincerity, which is essential to fix them impressively upon his mind. We shall never hesitate to advocate the interests of the working classes, nor to use our best efforts to crush opposition in whatever form it may appear, but we must intimate to working men, that unless they are more provident in husbanding their means, and more attentive to their social advancement, they will never be in a position to resist reductions in the price of their labour, not to occupy that status in society to which they are legitimately entitled.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 7.

Serious Accident.

On Thursday last, a serious accident happened to a man named Patrick Davy, a collier, who was employed at Mr. Clayton's pit at Tapton. Davy was at work holeing, when a portion of bind fell upon him, and injured him severely; he was removed to the Chesterfield Hospital, where he was found to be suffering from a concussion of the brain. He is under the care of Thomas Jones, Esq., and is progressing favourably.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Derbyshire Minerals and the Exhibition.

Several of the ironmasters and coalowners of Derbyshire are preparing specimens of ironstone and coal for the forthcoming Exhibition. We believe that the county of Derby will be fairly represented in minerals. The quality of the iron now made from Derbyshire clay hardstone cannot be excelled. The county will supply the want that is now experienced in South Staffordshire of an abundance supply of good ironstone. The demand for good Derbyshire iron is rapidly increasing. The superior quality of the iron is evident from the severe tests to which armour plates have been subjected made from Derbyshire iron.

Messrs. Beale and Company, Park Gate Iron Works, Rotherham, and Messrs. John Brown and Company, Atlas Steel and Spring Works, Sheffield, are largely engaged in this manufacture from Derbyshire iron. The Clay Cross Company, Messrs. Whitehouse and Sons, and the Sheepbridge Iron Company, have each a furnace making cold blast iron, which is used for armour plates and other purposes requiring great tenacity.

Mr. Barrow, of the Staveley Works, will show coals and ironstones from which the castings of the exhibition building have been made. Butterley Company will show materials from which they make iron, which is rolled into heavy masses for girders, etc. They have just rolled an immense plate, 34 feet long, 7 feet wide in the middle, and 2½ inches thick, for one side of a pumping engine beam. New works are going to be erected at Whittington, near Chesterfield, for the manufacture of steel. We have no doubt but that in a few years the whole of Derbyshire pig iron will be manufactured in the county. The importance of good iron is becoming more evident daily, and our railway companies are particular in stipulating for quality rather than for low prices. We therefore hope that the Derbyshire ironmasters will make such a show at the Exhibition as will draw the attention of both English and Continental consumers to the merits of the articles, and the excellence of Derbyshire iron, which bids fair to take a high rank in the estimation of the world.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Buried Alive.

A very singular accident occurred to a miner named George Wilson, employed at the colliery of Messrs. Badger, of Dronfield. It appeared that the man was engaged working in a drift, when a portion of the roof fell, and completely cut off all communication with him and the rest of the men in the pit. Some of the workmen hearing an unusual noise, as from the falling of materials, went to the place, and found it impossible to communicate with the unfortunate man until the greater part of the material had been cleared away. They were aware that only Wilson was working in this part of the pit, and some fears were entertained whether he had escaped instant death or not. After listening attentively for some time, they heard a noise, which they believed to be occasioned by Wilson attempting to remove some of the fallen material. They knew, however, that it would be impossible for him to accomplish the object, there being no exit for it in his part of the mine. They proceeded at once to remove the debris, which was a work of considerable difficulty, owing to the limited amount of room in the drift, in which only two men could work at a time, but by relays of men the drift was open in about 12 hours after the accident, and Wilson was extracted alive, amidst the congratulations of his fellow workmen. The narrow escape of instant death, and the reflections which had crossed his mind during his temporary earth entombment, may be easily imagined, but not readily described.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 1.

No Headline.

Three more lives have been lost by an accident which occurred at one of the pits belonging to the Messrs. Darlington, between Hawarden and Kings Ferry. Three men, named Prince, Jones, and Weigh, were engaged in repairing the pit, standing on a suspended stage, when one of the connecting ropes broke, and the unfortunate men were precipitated down the pit into water about 10 yards deep and were drowned. Two of the bodies have been recovered.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 2.

Awful Colliery Accident at Cethin.

Merthyr, Feb. 20. - The full extent of the awful calamity has been revealed; 48 blackened and bruised bodies have been brought to bank, and one or two men are yet unaccounted for. Cethin colliery is situated about two miles from Merthyr Tydvil, and is an extensive and well managed balance pit, extending in its furthest direction about a mile and a half below ground. The shaft is 126 yards in depth, and the workings are so subdivided and the arrangements so excellent that in the event of an explosion it would be confined to the place where it originated. Thus, in the present case, the accident was solely confined to the two headings forming No. 4 Foot Vein, or seam - the Yard Seam and other portions of the pit escaping altogether. But even with these arrangements the pit has a bad name. A few years ago the headings were flooded with gas, though fortunately no one was below with a naked light; so the gas ascended the shaft in a great volume, penetrated actually to the lodge at the mouth, and exploded at the fire, severely injuring two men in the lodge and causing great damage. The present dreadful event, which has thrown the whole neighbourhood into mourning, occurred between one and two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, and, as many of the poor fellows had their jackets on and their bread tins under their arms, the supposition is that the men had struck work for dinner. It is very probable that at this junction some incautious man either opened the lamp or struck a match in order to light his pipe, and at once caused the fearful calamity. Mr. William Jones, the able manager of the Cyfarthfa Works; Mr. Kirkhame, the colliery manager; and Mr. Moody with Mr. Lawreck, colliery manager of Plymouth Works, descended the pit immediately after the accident, and worked nobly in order to rescue those who might yet be alive. But the task was one of great danger. The insidious choke-damp, or carbonic acid gas, which is evolved by an explosion, combined with a most offensive stench from the smell of singed bodies and burnt horses, rendered exploration most difficult, so much so that two volunteers were dragged from the bottom of the pit insensible, and nearly all suffered extremely. At length by forcing down large quantities of water, which fell to the bottom and caused a great draught, the explorers were enabled to penetrate with safety. When they reached the Four-Foot seam the spectacle was harrowing. In every direction bodies were met with, in every conceivable form of death produced by violence. Some, it is true, looked as tranquil as if they slept; but the mass were bruised and battered, and the workings were destroyed to a ruinous degree. One by one the bodies were found and placed near the bottom of the shaft, and when the number of 47 had been collected, and the greater part recognised, preparations were made for taking them up the shaft. At seven o'clock, on a dark, dull night, the rain falling, and the hills narrowing together in appearance and adding to the solemn gloom, the first batch of bodies was brought to bank. Thousands were assembled round, and on these, among whom, here and there, were the sorrowing bereaved, the flame of torches glared, making a fearful and most gloomy picture. Batch by batch, tram-full after tram-full, they were brought up, and then conveyed by the Cyfarthfa Railway to Merthyr. In every corner of Merthyr the sorrows of crushed homes were revealed that night, every group in the street had some new horror to relate, and general mourning and earnest sympathy abounded.

The owner of the colliery has addressed the following letter to the Times in reference to the calamity: -

"Sir, - I thank you for your very fair and proper observations in your impression of this morning upon the lamentable occurrence at my Cethin Colliery, near Merthyr Tydvil. By yesterday's post I had a letter from my son, stating in few words (for the post was leaving) the

simple fact of the awful occurrence, and this morning I have had the following information from him, which I shall be glad if you will insert in this place." : -

Cyfarthfa, Feb. 20.

"My dear Father, - I grieve to repeat the accident at Cethin yesterday is a most awful one - forty-six men killed in the whole, and four horses. It is most dreadful, and the whole place is quite upset by it. All the men being killed, there is no means of knowing exactly the cause of it; but it seems by all to be thought that it arose from an air- door being left open. The men were at dinner in different places, and in some of their mouths bread and cheese were found so these must have died instantaneously, and no mark of injury on them; their features were quite placid, being killed by the 'after-damp'; others were burnt sadly , and some frightfully bruised - their heads split in half. It was seven o'clock before they got all the bodies up, as the falls prevented the men from getting to them. It is a most dreadful occurrence, and makes us all feel quite wretched. We are, of course, doing all we can in every way, and last night carpenters and sawyers were working all night at coffins and new air-doors. The Mine Inspector will be here to-day, and I will let you know all that takes place. By all I can hear, I believe it must have been by leaving an air-door open, for there was no fear of fire-damp in that place. The colliers are mostly all out throughout the works, and nothing doing underground, so I expect mills and forges will be idle tomorrow. The poor fellows will be buried on Saturday.

Robert Thompson Crawshay."

"For more than fifty years I have myself, with the best professional assistance in the different departments which I could procure, conducted my works at Merthyr Tydvil, and during this period I cannot remember more than a single death at one time from accident here. I am quite appalled at this present awful and calamitous loss of life, and would ere this have been upon the spot; but, entering, as I shall be in a few days, my 75th. year, and suffering severely from rheumatism and neuralgia, I do not feel equal to the melancholy task. I have, however, directed my son that nothing be spared for the relief of any poor creatures who may be living and injured, and I am sure his own feelings will have insured this.

I am also earnestly desirous that the most searching and public enquiry may be made into the cause of this lamentable accident - that my pits, engines, air ways, and all connected with the colliery, be subjected to the closest scrutiny of the best professional skill and knowledge to be procured upon the subject. Every possible opportunity and facility of investigation shall be afforded by my son; and I am as anxious as you or the public can be to know whether I am deceived or not in the professional talent which I employ, at great expense, to conduct, regulate, and carry on my works of all kinds, underground and above ground, so that every advantage of ventilation and safety may be afforded to my workmen; and I shall hope to find, after the closest examination of all the facts in this deplorable case, that it has arisen from accident, neglect, or carelessness of the poor creatures themselves, rather than from want of proper means provided for their safety by their employer: and I am, I think, sanctioned in this expectation by the long continued freedom from any very severe accident at my works.

I beg to apologise for this intrusion upon your valuable columns, and am, Sir,
Your before obliged servant,
William Crawshay.

London, Feb. 21."

The body of the missing miner has been recovered, making a total of fifty sufferers by the fearful explosion. A coroner's inquest was opened on Friday, at ten o'clock, at the Bush Inn, Merthyr, before G. Overton, Esq., coroner of the district. It being desirable that the funerals

should take place as early as possible, it was proposed that the jury should at once proceed to view the bodies, and that afterwards the inquiry should be adjourned to a future day for the production of evidence. The duty of viewing was a very painful one, and occupied a number of hours. When it was concluded, the inquiry was adjourned till the 4th. of March. The excitement consequent upon the terrible catastrophe is now to some degree subsiding. The efforts of the officials connected with the colliery are being perseveringly directed to the all-important object of restoring the ventilation. The incidents of the calamity are peculiarly distressing. One family lost five of its members. A boy was found with his hand firmly clenched between his teeth, as if to the last moment he had struggled to keep his mouth open, gasping for air. A man was brought to bank with his handkerchief so firmly thrust in his mouth that great exertion was required to withdraw it. It is supposed that he had a moment's warning of the explosion, and instantly put his handkerchief in his mouth, in order to prevent the gas from being inhaled. The workings are so extensive, that men in the same portion of the pit wherein the accident was, did not hear of it until some time after. Two boys, who happened to be near the mouth of the pit, rushed to the bottom, were taken up, and from them the first tidings were gathered of the catastrophe. One case was specially distressing. A poor collier and his boy worked together. The man was in delicate health, and earned but little, and in addition, for the last day or two had such a dread of fire, on account of the murky condition of the weather that he stayed away from work. Wednesday came. His wife said, "We shall be starved if you don't go to work," and he went; the poor man and his boy went without breakfast, for there was no bread, only a crust, and that was given to the boy. At eight, both were brought home dead!

Merthyr Tydvil, Feb. 23. - The funeral of the unfortunate individuals who fell victims to this dire calamity at Cethin pit, took place on Saturday. They were not all buried in the same place; some were interred at Cefn cemetery, situated on the slopes of a mountain, about two miles from the town of Merthyr, others in the old cemetery of St. David's; several were buried at Aberdare, and one was taken down to Neath. The profoundest sympathy with the bereaved was evinced by the traders of the town, and shutters, as a sign of mourning, remained up during the greater part of the day. At noon, the vast establishments of Cyfarthfa and Ynysfach suspended operations, and by 2 p.m. the streets were thronged by thousands of both sexes and all ages repairing to the respective abodes of their late fellow workmen. Nearly all the hapless forty-eight were young men, and men in the prime of life - only one exceeding fifty; the remainder were on average about thirty-five years of age. When we consider this, the disaster appears more disastrous still, for what might not such a body of powerful men achieve!

The coffins were furnished by the proprietor of the colliery, and the funerals were of a most respectable character. Hymns were sung by large choirs, as is customary at Welsh funerals, and the touching strains, as they pealed forth upon the murky air, imparted an awful solemnity to the dismal train as one after another in rapid succession moved onward to the places of interment. Never did the people of Merthyr behold such a fearful spectacle.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 1st. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 4.

Codnor Park.

Two monster rails, weighing respectively 1 ton each, were rolled at the ironworks on Saturday last; one to the length of 120 feet, and the other 110 feet. On the previous Saturday, a side for an engine beam, of wrought iron, was rolled, 37 feet long, 7 feet wide in the centre, and 2½ inches in thickness. Other works equally surprising are in progress, in armour plates, and machinery of the most colossal magnitude. When the new works are completed, Codnor Park will be second to none of the ironworks in the kingdom; and the specimens of iron intended for the Exhibition in May will, though executed at the old works, be worthy of the world wide repute of this powerful company.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 3.

No Headline.

The accident which we last week reported to have occurred at Mr. Clayton's pit, at Tupton, took place at the Hunger-Hill ironstone works.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 3-4.

The Staveley Colliers and the Ten Percent Reduction.

As we intimated last week, the notice given to the colliers at Staveley by Mr. Barrow, expired on Saturday last, and the contract which existed between them and their employers was virtually at an end, the men being left the option of either continuing work at a reduction of ten per cent, or of seeking it elsewhere. It is not a matter of surprise that any reduction in the wages of working men should be received with disfavour, and that they should resort to all legitimate means to obtain "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work" Workmen of all classes have an undoubted right to sell their labour upon what terms they please. The sweat of his brow is indeed the labourer's capital, not even employers can object to that simile. Therefore the men have a perfect right to strike if they please, but is it wise to do so? Certainly not, until every means of conciliation has been tried and failed. A strike is universally allowed to be one of the most serious evils which can be encountered in the operations of trade; yet some persons think that, however mischievous, they are necessary and not preventable. Let us make the inquiry for ourselves. The science of economics undoubtably tells us that the price of labour, like that of any other commodity, must be regulated by supply and demand - a fact which working-men themselves acknowledge by striking with the view of withdrawing labour from the market so as to make it scarce, and consequently to increase its price. If labour increases wealth, it must be obvious that every pound withdrawn from the labour market is capital lost for ever. Strikes have varied considerably in their duration - from a week to eight or nine months. Suppose a strike for 10 percent to be successful after the expiration of a month's struggle, it would require nearly ten months to make up for the sacrifice of wages, to say nothing of the percentage upon the capital thus sacrificed. It has been estimated that since the year 1842, colliers have spent upon strikes about a quarter of a million of money. It has also been calculated that not less than a million per annum is sacrificed, for the bread of 38,470 persons, with their natural increase forever. Without an increase of capital there can be no increased demand for labour, which is the only safe criterion for increased wages. Much has been said and written against the formation of Unions for the protection of trade. We confess that we can see nothing very objectionable in a body of men uniting for the protection of their own labour, provided their united efforts are directed in a proper course. The objects of the Union should not be to encourage and foster strikes, but so economise the expenditure of the working man, to assist him and his family in case of sickness, accident, or death, to settle amicably all disputes in reference to wages, to enquire into the state of trade, and numerous other functions, and, if need be, to remove a portion of such labour to localities where it may be most required, but it does seem to us suicidal for a large body of people to reduce themselves from the position of independent labourers unto that of beggars. If a body of workmen become dissatisfied with their wages, it is a duty they owe to their families to continue in work until they can improve their conditions by removal or otherwise; but not to sacrifice capital and throw themselves on the charity of the public. There is only one mode of legitimately increasing wages, namely, to increase capital, which, for the sake of profit, is seeking employment. wages cannot be forced up so long as trade is depressed and the market is overstocked with labourers. The two great things which build up prosperity are labour and capital, and the more productive we can make them, the more shall we improve the position of the working man. It having been represented to Mr. Barrow that the colliers wished to have an interview with that gentleman in respect of the dispute, it was arranged that all persons interested should attend at Seymour, where Mr. Barrow ?????????? ?????? ??????. Accordingly at six o'clock on ??????? evening that gentleman (six or seven lines missing)

a drug on the market, and he remarked to them that if they would meet him on the question of prices he would do his utmost to find them employment. And whilst he expressed his entire abhorrence of anything approaching intimidation, he hoped that all who were disposed to work would be allowed to do so without interference or molestation. There was nothing which an Englishman prized so dearly as the liberty of the subject, and he hoped no attempt would be made to destroy it. Mr. Seymour also pointed out to the men several matters in connection with the dispute, so as to remove several erroneous impressions under which they appeared to be labouring. There was a divided "feeling" prevalent amongst the men - one portion of them returned to work at the reduced prices, but the other part refused to do so except at the late prices, and they left the works. A proposition had been ?????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ? ?, but that gentleman would not alter his decision. On Tuesday and Wednesday a number of men on strike returned to their work, so that we may reasonably conclude that nearly all have resumed their employment. It must be remembered that the reduction is not only being made at Staveley, but that the wages of colliers have been lowered nearly throughout the whole of the coal producing districts. Whilst the reduction, therefore, is general, the men have no alternative but to submit, as it is not probable that they could improve their position elsewhere. We are only alluding to the ten percent, as we are not aware that any other arrangement has been made by which the earnings of the working colliers have been lessened. We have shown that a strike, in nine cases out of ten, does most damage, not only to the men themselves, but to their wives and children, and it also paralyses the trading interests of the whole district, and spreads disaster wherever its influence is felt. Whenever we see any species of tyranny or oppression is being practised by a master over his workmen, we shall always expose and denounce it in unmeasured terms; but whilst advocating the interests and welfare of the working man, we desire to impress upon them the fact that it is their duty to show their employers that courtesy which is due to them, and whilst asserting their rights they should avoid dictation or intimidation, and pursue a course of action which will elevate them in the estimation of all right-minded men.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 6.

Our Mineral Products and the Exhibition of 1862.

The class which includes Mining, Quarrying, Metallurgy, and Mineral Products consists of 334 exhibitors. Messrs. Barber and Walker will contribute specimens of Nottinghamshire coal; Mr. Barrow, of Staveley Works, Derbyshire coal; Messrs. Brown and Jeffcock will illustrate the Yorkshire coalfields. Messrs. Brown and Rennie the districts of the blackband; the famous Butterley Iron Company will show a section of a coalpit at Alfreton. Iron, lead, copper, and their ores will be exhibited by Messrs. Woodhouse and Jeffcock of Derby (iron), and other mine properties in various quarters of the United Kingdom.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Metals and Mining in this District.

The directors of the North Derbyshire Mining Company have determined to suspend all further operations at the mine until the whole of the arrears of call are paid up, or the shares of the defaulters are forfeited. Notice has been furnished to those in arrears, that should they not pay forthwith proceedings will be commenced against them.

The Mill Dam Company are flooded out by their neighbours, the Great Hucklow Company, between whom a law suit is now pending. The latter company have stopped the flow of water in the swallow which has produced this fact.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 2.

Reduction of Collier's Wages.

John Hodkin, contractor at the Sheepbridge Colliery, was summoned by Isaac Tagg for non-payment of 5-0d. wages. The complainant said he worked for defendant at one of the Sheepbridge collieries, at 4-0d. per day, and during the last fortnight he had reduced him to 3-6d. The defendant said that Mr. Carr, the manager, had dropped the wages of the men, and he told complainant that he should have to drop him. The complainant said he was willing to be dropped if defendant would keep him at work. He left his work and then came again, and in consequence of his being away he lost 3 tubs of coal which he should have been paid for at 8d. each. The magistrate said that defendant was aware of the drop in the mens wages, and they should dismiss the case. Complainant was ordered to pay costs.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 8th. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 5.

Staveley.

All the colliers under the charge of Mr. Seymour, at Seymour, Hollingwood, Speedwell, and New Hollingwood resumed full work on Wednesday. Several new hands were employed on Tuesday, and many of the old hands have been thrown out of employment.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 1.

Advert - New Whittington. (part)

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Denham, on the premises lately occupied by Mr. W. Higginbottom, on Tuesday, the 18th. day of March, at 11 o'clock, household furniture, miners tools, etc.

Mining Tools.

Pair of large new bellows, anvil and fire-irons, vice, navy shovel and pick, quarry tools, iron scrats, crap and other iron, corf wheel and pedestal, nuts and bolts, seven wheelbarrows, grindstone and frame, crowbars, churn, drills, 12 oak posts, steel garden spades, wire riddles, joiners cramp, with chased screw, pipe moulds and sockets, new three light cucumber frame, pig trough, pygmy and regency seed potatoes, garden seeds, large Newfoundland dog and kennel.

Chesterfield, March 13th., 1862.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 3.

Advert - Owl Cotes Colliery, Heath.

Hard Coals	6-8d. per ton - 2-6d. leading
Soft Coals	6-0d. per ton - 2-6d. leading

(Cash)

T. Evinson, Agent for Chesterfield.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 6.

Derbyshire Iron.

We have much satisfaction in stating that the superior qualities of Derbyshire iron, as recently proved by the severest tests which could have been applied, has drawn the attention of French consumers of iron to the subject, and several agents from France are now making purchases in Derbyshire.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 6.

Armour Plates.

An entire train of 38 waggons, loaded with 160 tons of armour plates, for the Government frigates, was on Monday morning dispatched from the Atlas Steel and Iron Works (Messrs. John Brown and Company), for London and Portsmouth. A special engine was appointed to take the train to its destination. The introduction of this new manufacture to Sheffield has furnished many with employment who would otherwise be suffering from the stagnation of ordinary trade. The iron used in the manufacture of these plates was made at the works of Messrs. Fowler and Company, Sheepbridge.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 6.

Derbyshire Mining.

The position of our North Derbyshire lead mines is unaltered since our last notice. The North Company have as yet done nothing towards holding a meeting of the shareholders, to lay before them a statement of affairs, which is imperatively demanded, ??????? justly view. The action between the Mill Dam Company and the Great Hucklow Company will be tried at the forthcoming assizes at Derby. The Mill Town Mine, Ashover, is progressing but slowly. Eyam has shown some improvement. The local share markets have been dull, and little business has been transacted, except for railway stocks, owing to the improved nature of the dividends. The new branch of the Erewash Valley Railway, which will be a short route for mineral traffic to the south, via Chesterfield, will be opened on the 1st. of next month.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 15th. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 4.

Caution to Colliers.

Thomas Marsh, collier, of Swanwick, was brought up in custody of Sergeant Adams, charged by Mr. Rawton, agent to W. Worswick, Esq., Highfield Colliery, Alfreton, with absenting himself from his employment at the said colliery. Committed for fourteen days imprisonment.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 2 Col. 1.

Advert - Ashover - New Midland Mine.

To be sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Denham, on the premises of the New Midland Mining Company, on Thursday, April 10th., 1862, at 12 o'clock, the whole of the above valuable mining plant, steam engines, pumps, etc.:

Consisting of one vertical high pressure steam engine, cylinder 12¼ diameter, 2ft. 6in. stroke, with metallic piston, wrought iron fly-wheel, shaft complete with feed-pump, hot water cistern, steam and feed pipes: one horizontal high pressure steam engine, cylinder 12 ins. diameter, and 3ft. stroke, with back-motion and brakes, pair of spur wheels, shaft and winding drum attached, 5ft. diameter; one cylindrical boiler, 18 feet long and 3ft. 6in. diameter, with fire doors, grate-bars, and fittings complete; one Cornish boiler 30 feet by 5 feet, with fittings complete; one pair of spur wheels, wrought iron shaft, large crank, connecting rod, and strong cast iron pumping beam 16 feet centre to centre; ore- crushers, 3 pump rods, 40 feet each, with straps and plates; seventeen pump trees, 9in. diameter; and quantity of ditto in shaft, lot of 6in. pump trees, metal plating capstan and rope; seventeen planks 12 feet long and 3in. thick; eight planks, 12 feet long and 4½in. thick; three tubs for washing ore, three ladders; 2 step ditto; two sets of wallows and turnstakes; bellows, anvil, and smiths tools; wrenches, spanners and chisels, oil cans, chains, ropes, grinding stone and frame, sinking trunks and corves, sinkers tools, shear legs and pulley wheel, wheelbarrow, office desk, tool box, etc.; large screw for lifting pumps, etc.

At Westedge.

16 pieces of oak timber, seven ditto of large, six oak trees, and 49 larch poles.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Serious Accidents.

On Tuesday an accident took place in the yard of the Chesterfield Station, to a boy named Joseph Nichols. The lad's father is employed as a carter of ironstone from the station to Newbold, and on the morning on the day named he was stood holding the horse whilst the cart was being loaded. A train came up, when the horse started, knocked the lad down, and the wheel of the cart which contained nearly a ton of ironstone, passed over him. He was removed to the hospital, and is now going on favourably. On Thursday evening a man named Wheeldon was thrown out of a truck at the station, and he fell with his hand on the line, and it was very seriously cut and lacerated. He is going on well.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 3 Col. 6.

Sheffield Share Market, Friday.

The railway market has been flatter this week, and prices of most of the leading stocks have declined, owing to the very unsatisfactory traffic returns which must tell seriously on future dividends, but it should be borne in mind that this is only during the continuance of bad trade, and already there are many indications of improvement. Mines are rather neglected, except the Prince of Wales, which continue in great demand and have been done at £22 premium, and 35 shillings paid. Mill Dam's are firmer since the decision at Derby, and there are no sellers under about 30 shillings premium. North Derbyshire are very flat, and every call seems to be lost. In local stocks a large business done in Banks, and Gas - the latter stock can be brought to pay over 5½ percent, clear of income tax.

From Messrs. F.E. and S. Smith, Shareholders,
1, George Street, Sheffield.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 1.

Embezzlement at Eckington.

Horace Smedley, a respectable looking young man, was placed in the dock on a charge of embezzling, at Eckington, on the 12th. of February, 1862, 9d., and afterwards, on the 5th. of March, 1862, embezzling 2-0d., and again, on the 8th. of March, 1862, embezzling 1-6d., the property of Joseph Wells, and another, his employers.

Mr. Jessell prosecuted; and Mr. Bristowe defended the prisoner.

Joseph Wells deposed to being a coal-owner, at Eckington. The prisoner had been employed by him for upwards of eight years. He was an engine tender, and also kept an account of the coals sold at the Wilmsley pit. His duty was to keep the accounts on a slate. He was to enter all that was sold on credit, and all that was paid for. It was the prisoner's duty to receive the money, and account for it at the general office. He rendered his account every day, or every two or three days at the general office, and a settlement was made by the prisoner with the clerk in the office, fortnightly. He had to transfer the entries from the slate to a book produced, but on referring to it the witness said there was no entries for the various sums mentioned in the indictment.

A man had been set to watch the proceedings of the prisoner, and on the occasions mentioned in the indictment he was found to have received the sums specified without making entries to that effect.

Other witnesses deposed to having paid in money for coals, of which no entry had been made by the prisoner.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Bristowe submitted to the Court that the charge of embezzlement had not been proved, in as much as no days of settlement were properly fixed, so that the intentions of the prisoner could not be known.

His Lordship said the books had been kept incorrectly, and therefore overruled the learned counsel's objection.

Mr. Bristowe then addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner, after which His Lordship summed up, and the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty. He was accordingly discharged.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 4.

Hall and another v. Taylor and another.

The following gentlemen were sworn as a Special Jury to try the cause: - Sir. M.C.B. Cave, bart. (Foreman), Tobias Child, Esq., Josiah Challinor, Esq., F.J. Forman, esq., L.E. Mann, Esq., R.C. Strelley, Esq., T. Pountain, Esq., J.S. Shuttleworth, Esq., J. Bright, Esq., G.C. Hull, Esq., W. Smith, Esq., J.T. Swallow, Esq.

This was an issue sent down by the Court of Chancery, the nature of which will be best understood from the opening statement of Mr. MacAulay.

Mr. MacAulay, Q.C., Mr. Serjeant Hawes, and Mr. Field, were for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Boden, Q.C. and Mr. Stephens, were for the defendants.

Mr. MacAulay in opening the case said - The plaintiffs were proprietors of certain mines in the Hundred of High Peak, and they brought that action against the defendants, who trade under the name of the Mill Dam Mining Company; and in the year 1859, by repeated and hardly intelligible operations, they succeeded in raising a large quantity of water out of their own mines and threw it into the plaintiffs. the plaintiff's mine was called Beech Grove; and the defendants the Gate Side, the Mill Dam, and the Smithy Coe. The three latter mines were till the year 1858 the property of separate proprietors, but until the year 1858, when the company was formed, there had been no water communication between the Mill Dam and the Gateside. In 1851 the water at the Beech Grove stood at the level of 48 fathoms, but the swallow at that time was not known to anyone. In the year 1851 or 1852 the discovery of the swallow (a fissure in the rock) was made by the occupiers of the Beech Grove Mine, and it afforded a natural means of giving an escape to a large quantity of water, so that the Beech Grove proprietors were enabled to take their mining operations deeper. The natural dip was from east to west at the rate of 6 inches in the yard. In 1854 the proprietors of the Beech Grove were formed into a company, and they proposed to avail themselves of the swallow and on sinking deeper they found the valuable beds of ore, which they worked with profit till 1857. In that year the defendants then advertised operations, and called the attention of the public to what they were going to do. The learned counsel then read the advertisement of the defendants in the Mining Journal, showing that it was proposed to form a company to work the Mill Dam, and to drive a level by which a considerable portion of the mining ground would be laid open, and in the Journal of the 13th. of February, 1858, they stated that they were opening a level to let off their water to the swallow of the Hucklow Company, and yet on the pleas they said that the swallow was not on the ground of the Hucklow Company. On the face of their own publication it was quite clear that they had described their operations as novel and original works. In the year 1859 the plaintiff first became aware that any mischief was being done to them, at least 50 people were up to their middle in water before they could escape. The plaintiff, when they perceived what defendants had done, went straight to the Courts of Chancery and obtained an injunction against the defendants, but the Courts of Chancery selected a gentleman of great mining experience to go down and inspect the works, and to report upon three questions - First, "Is the swallow on the plaintiff's mine?" and his opinion was that it was upon the plaintiff's mine. Second question, he believed was, whether the defendants had altered the old drift road, and he would tell the jury that the defendants had cut through the ground between the swallow and the other side, through which the water could be sent into the plaintiff's mine. The third question was whether the defendants had sent the water into the plaintiff's mines, he recorded that had.

A number of witnesses were examined, and after Mr. Boden had addressed the jury for the defendants, and two witnesses had been called, the judge strongly urged the case as a fit one for a reference. It was ultimately referred to Mr. Petherio, mining engineer.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 5.

Greenhill Lane.

An inquest was held at the house of Mr. John Briddon, Greenhill Lane, touching the death of John Husson, miner, aged 20 years. Deceased was employed at a colliery of Messrs. Oates, and was holing, when a portion of the roof fell upon him and killed him. Verdict, "Accidental Death".

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 5.

Death from a fall of Bind.

On Friday Mr. Busby held an inquest at the Furnace in Derby Lane, touching the death of an ironstone miner, named Philip Barber, aged 30, who was killed in the Speight-hill ironworks, the previous day. Deceased was working at the Hunger Hill ironstone pit, ripping a gate road to make it larger, cutting some bind in the roof to make it higher. There was no props, as it required none. It was all on the stratum. A large piece of bind fell across the head and neck of the deceased, who struggled but could not speak, and died immediately. Nearly a ton weight fell upon him. The deceased worked for John Fieldhouse, who had cautioned him that what he was doing would set the bind at liberty. He sounded the piece before it fell. Charles Houghton, overlooker of the pits, said that the work was safe if the deceased had not got too far in his cutting. He should have taken it down as he loosened it, he ought to have had props. A verdict was Accidental Death was returned.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 29th. March 1862.

Page 4 Col. 6.

Aaron Storer v. Nicholls and Fletcher.

The plaintiff is a collier, and defendants are coalmasters at Brampton. This was a claim for certain work done in the defendant's colliery. The plaintiff could not substantiate the claim, and the judge gave a verdict for the defendants.