

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 7th. May 1864.

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Advert - Wanted.

An practical Engine-Tenter. A middle-aged man would be preferred, also a quantity of colliers, wanted at Spittal Colliery, near Chesterfield. Applications to be made at the works.

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New Holingworth.

On Friday morning last, Alfred Hall, 12 years of age, was driving in the Fairwell Pit, when his horse shied, and six empty wagons passed over his body, so severely injuring him that his life is despaired off. This is the seventh serious accident in this pit in as many weeks, two of them fatal.

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Wages Case.

Turner Ward, colliery proprietor, Killamarsh; was summoned by Peter Belk, for non-payment of his wages, 6-6d. It is the practice at the colliery only to pay wages to Thursday on Saturday, by which means two days are left in the hands of the proprietor to secure the attendance of workmen on Monday. Complainant had left the employment of Mr. Ward on the Saturday, and claimed the two days work. Mr. Ward objected to paying the amount claimed on the grounds that complainant had not complied with the rules of the colliery, and also left the benk in which he was at work in an unsatisfactory state. The Bench ruled that when a man leaves his employ without giving the proper notice, or if given, such notice not having expired, such person forfeits his claim of wages. Dismissed.

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Staveley Works.

Presentation of a Testimonial to Mr. W. Buxton.

In consequence of Mr. William Buxton's recent removal from Staveley to become the viewer of Snibstone Collieries, near Leicester, it was resolved by many colliers and workmen who had been employed under him at Springwell Colliery, Staveley Works, to present him with a lasting memorial of their high regard for his work and conduct whilst he was amongst them. As will appear hereafter, they called to aid other friends of Mr. Buxton; and, as to their result, a valuable and very handsome gold watch bearing an appropriate inscription, with chain and appendages, was presented to that gentleman in the new dining room at Barrow Hill, where at eight o'clock on Monday evening, his Staveley friends, comprising agents, clerks, colliers and others were gathered around him.

Mr. J. Gillatt on being called to the chair said - All knew for what purpose they were met together. He need not dwell on Mr. Buxton's many excellent qualities - his straight-forward honesty of purpose was well known to all at Staveley Works, and if he (Mr. G.), talked till Domesday, he could not say anything better of him. All knew himself to be no speechmaker; he would therefore call upon Mr. Robinson to make the presentation. (Applause).

Mr. T. Robinson, Secretary of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, on rising said: - Gentlemen as a matter of choice I could have wished that the lot had fallen upon someone else, better qualified for this ceremony than myself, but as it has devolved upon me I shall have very great pleasure in making the presentation. And then addressing Mr. Buxton he said - In presenting you with this testimonial of our regard we beg you to accept it from us as a token of the respect and esteem which you have gained by your upright and praiseworthy conduct ?????????? during the many years you have been connected with the Staveley Works, and through which we have intimately known you and have had ample opportunities of judging both your public and private life. Therefore, we do not present you with it out of mere empty compliment to yourself, nor yet as an ostentatious display on our part, but we wish you to know, and those too who live round us, and that your more distant new employers may know, that you left us at Staveley bearing away tangible proofs of our hearty and sincere respect and admiration. (Applause). Depend upon it in this life we reap that which we sow, and if we can act so as to retain our own self-respect, we must and shall gain that of others. It may not always be sunshine with us, and we may often have to plod on wearily and almost hopelessly under adverse circumstance and opposing influences, but sooner or later right becomes might, and the result will be in accordance with our principles and motives. We do not often gather grapes off thorns, nor fig off thistles, but we look at every tree should "bring forth fruit after its kind"; hence on this principle you have toiled like a wise man to merit success by every just and honourable means, we have pleasure in thus testifying that you have striven wisely and well, and have gained for yourself a lucrative and most respectable position in life by the best of all means; steady unflinching industry, unimpeachable honesty, firm adherence to truth, whether favourable to your own personal interests or not, and a faithful discharge, and I will add a successful discharge too, of the duties that devolved upon you. (Renewed Cheers). You have had the satisfaction yourself of knowing from the lips of your late employer, Mr. Barrow, that he was well pleased with your services, and that can be no little gratification to you; and, therefore, the skill and conduct you have practised at Staveley must avail you as equally well in your new field of

labour, and will not fail to bring round the same profitable results to your present employers at the Snibstone Collieries, as a secondary consequence to yourself also. In presenting you with this our parting gift, believe us that we wish you every success and happiness that can possibly be yours in the world, and as we have no wish to be forgotten by you, no not even when grey hairs are plentiful on your head, we have engraved, in the inner case of your handsome and valuable watch the following words; - "Presented to W. Buxton, as a mark of esteem, by a few friends on his leaving Staveley Works, May 2nd, 1864". Be pleased, therefore, to accept it from us as a mark of our esteem, and when you wind it up doubt not that your memory will be wound up with it too, and many an incident of your Staveley life, in connection with your old Staveley friends, will be "set agoing at the same time". Consider it a freewill offering, presented by free and willing heart, and as such we beg your acceptance of it. (Applause).

Mr. Buxton thanked the company as follows: - He eulogised Mr. Woodhouse, who was his master at Staveley. As a civil engineer and a gentleman, Mr. Woodhouse had been a friend to him when he most needed one. (Cheers). On looking round at the many friendly faces that he knew, he felt how unable he was to express his feelings: Those feelings he thought were mutual; and he hoped that they would so continue whilst life lasted. (Cheers). He really believed that no other colliery owner in the world had such managers and officials as Mr. Barrow had; they worked hand in hand together, without any cross-purposes. He thought that the form of testimonial most appropriate, for he should think of them when he wound it up, that he was winding his friends to his heart. He concluded by saying that he was no speaker, but they might in some measure take the expression of his countenance as an index of his heart, and excuse his defects of speech. Again heartily thanking them he sat down amidst long continuous applause.

Mr. W.F. Howard, mining surveyor, said; If I may be allowed to adapt Burns - "The watch is but for merits stand,

The mans a gourd for all that"

Mr. Buxton had quoted some lines from a teapot; the words of a good old song were equally appropriate,

"Let us speak of a man as we find him,

And censure alone what we see,

And should a man blame,

Lets remind him, that from faults ??????????"

Very few words of his would be enough on this occasion, and pleasant was the privilege to say them. He had known better, perhaps, than any there the labours and anxieties of their friend Buxton at Springwell Colliery; and he could testify at the perseverance, sound judgement, and ability with which Mr. Buxton had met and surmounted many difficulties. He knew that Mr. Buxton had, and deserved, the entire confidence of Mr. Woodhouse, that he had been faithful to Mr. Barrow, and that he had fulfilled his duties diligently, carefully and without ostentation. He had always found Mr. Buxton up to the mark; he went to work, and he did it thoroughly. The same qualities brought to bear on his new undertaking must necessarily lead to satisfactory and beneficial results - such as had marked the rise and development of the Springwell Colliery. All present would join him (Mr. Howard) in heartily wishing Mr. Buxton God-speed. (Loud Cheers).

Henry Dakin, a collier, detailed the steps that were taken when first the idea of the presentation was mooted. He had been one of a deputation of the colliery workmen; they first called on Mr. Barrow, and asked him to give them a start by heading the subscription. Mr. Barrow very emphatically said, "No, I won't start it but if there is a man on earth I respect it is Mr. Buxton; so, do what you can, and see me again". We then called on Mr. Robinson, and hadn't much difficulty with him: they then knew they should work it. They had met with opposition it was true, that acted only as a stimulant. When he looked at the watch, he felt they must congratulate themselves on having him Mr. Robinson's guiding hand. (Cheers). Mr. Buxton was a man of his word, and had always supported a liberal and a genuine thing, being genuine himself.

(Cheers, and Laughter). He should respect Mr. Buxton while ever he lived; he ended a humorous speech by echoing the good wishes of the previous speaker.

Mr. Gains expressed his friendly regard for Mr. Buxton, who again thanked his friends, whether subscribers or not, and whether absent or present, for their kind thoughts towards him.

Mr. Robinson proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, who was always to be relied on when a kind act had to be done, Carried by acclamation.

The testimonial was a massive gold lever watch, with gold dial, with chronometer balance, three pairs of extra jewelled holes, maintaining power to keep going whilst winding; a right dead-coloured gold ????? drop chain, with appropriate appendages; supplied by Mr. John Robinson, South Street, Chesterfield.

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The Lock-out of the South Yorkshire Colliers.

The lock-out of the colliers in the South Yorkshire district continues, without the slightest hopes of its terminating, at least for some time to come, as both parties evidently look upon the matter as a trial of strength. Of the 3,700 men out of employ, little more than one third belong to the miners union, or are entitled to receive support from it's fund. The remaining two thirds are now suffering great privation, as the Board of Guardians have, in a great number of cases, refused outdoor relief, offering ords for the workhouse. A good many families went into the house, but a single night in it was enough for nearly all of them, and the next morning found them on their road homewards, preferring outdoors liberty and want to the cold routine of the union. The union men appear quite content with the allowance made to them, expecting that it will increase on their position being made better known by delegates just sent out. To lessen the number of hands receiving relief, several noblemen and gentlemen in London are interesting themselves in securing assisted passages for single men to the northern states of America, and it is arranged that those desirous of emigrating will only be required to find £7 towards the cost of their passage. A great number of the men locked-out have recently joined the union, so that the struggle will be a severe and protracted one, entailing a vast amount of misery and want amongst the young and helpless.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 14th. May 1864.

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Fatal Accident from Fire-Damp Explosion.

On Friday last, an explosion of fire-damp took place in the Clay Cross Company's No. 4 Main Pit, whereby two men, named Michael Flannery and John Garvey, were severely injured. They were conveyed to the Clay Cross Company's hospital, where, despite every attention, Flannery died on Tuesday morning. Garvey is recovering. An Inquest was opened before C.S.B. Busby, Esq., on Thursday, and adjourned.

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The Alleged Turnpike Road Nuisance.

The charge preferred against Samuel Lancaster, Esq., colliery proprietor, by John Bradbury, surveyor, for allowing water from one of his pits to run onto the Derby and Sheffield Turnpike Road, at Newbold, reported in our impression of the 30th. ult., was compromised, defendant agreeing to make such arrangements as would arrest the nuisance.

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Neglect of Work.

Four men, named respectively John Lock, George Robinson, Edward French and Henry Hibbard were each charged with absenting themselves from the service of Messrs. Appleby, colliery proprietors, of Whittington - the two former on the 2nd., and the two latter on the 3rd. instant.

Each pleaded not guilty.

The prosecutor, Samuel Hague, manager of the works, stated that he engaged the defendants at various times. They did not sign any rules, but they each received a copy of them.

Mr. Maynard - When you hired defendant Lock, had you any conversation with him? Did you say he would have to give you 28 days notice, or vice versa Complainant - Yes, Sir. Lock and Robinson neglected their work about two months ago and I gave them notice. They have been drinking all week, and that is the cause of my bringing them before you.

Mr. Maynard - I suppose they did leave Complainant: - No, Sir; They begged I would overlook it. They worked last Saturday, but not since.

Lock - He never gave me notice at all.

Mr. Maynard - Then, when you gave them notice, they came back again, and you have continued to pay all their wages up to last Saturday, and they have never shown up since Lock - Yes, Sir, we have. We were there last Wednesday.

Complainant - There is plenty of work on the pit benk now.

Lock - It was last Wednesday but one. They were setting sleepers.

Complainant - They have been drinking every bit of the week up to yesterday.

Robinson - We have not sufficient wood to go on with.

Mr. Barrow - When did you work last Lock - We went last Thursday, and yesterday too.

Complainant - On Thursday morning, they got to work, and setting their heads together, they determined to go off drinking.

Lock - If we had stopped we could not work.

Complainant - They have not been to work since last Saturday. They came last Thursday morning, but before they saw me, they ran off.

Robinson - I went on Thursday morning, and before I fairly got to work, a lump of bind fell on me and hurt me.

French - We were working on the 3rd. instant, and it began raining. It is not fit to be at our work in the rain.

Mr. Maynard (to Complainant) - Robinson says that he was at work on Thursday morning, and it rained Complainant - Others worked, and they might. All our other contractors were at work.

Hibbard - The stuff is drawn out by the strength of men, and it is not safe for the men at the pit-bottom.

Mr. Maynard - Was there anyone in pits similar to yours French - I don't know, Sir.

Mr. Maynard - Have they ever worked on rainy days Complainant - Yes, Sir.

Lock - It is not above three or four months since, "Your Honour", they had to play a fortnight, on their account, waiting for wood.

Mr. Maynard - Did you go to work again after that? Lock - Yes, Sir; We did.

Complainant - It is not my desire to bring them here, or any other men. But it is simply for an example.

Mr. Maynard (to Complainant) - Is there anything due to them Complainant - I cannot tell as I have not made the measurement this week.

The Bench then deliberated, and decided that defendants should each return to his work, and pay, including costs - Lock and Robinson 17-0d. each, and French and Hibbard 11-0d. each.

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Advert - Wanted a Wheelwright and Carpenter, accustomed to Colliery work. Apply to Unstone Ironworks.

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The Eyam Mining Company.

On Wednesday the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Eyam Mining Company was held at the Black Rock, Castle Street. Thomas Waterhouse, Esq., in the absence of T.J. Parker, Esq., was called to the chair. Mr. Esam, the Company's secretary, read the notice convening the meeting. The report of the directors states that the outlay on the mine during the past year has greatly exceeded the income; but the large and costly works at the New Engine's Mine are every day drawing nearer to completion. The accounts showed that during the past year the sales of ore have produced £4,244; Calls, £1,392; and £173 from sundry sources. The principle items of expenditure have been - £4,685 on cost sheets, £700 for New Engine, and £518 for materials purchased from the North Derbyshire Mining Company. The balance in the bank has been reduced from £1,354 last audit to £427. The report of Mr. George Maltby, the Company's agent, was also read and adopted. Messrs. Thomas James Parker, John Fordham, William Hobson, John Elliott, George Wilson, T. Waterhouse, William Marples and Charles Goodwin were elected a committee of management for the ensuing years. The thanks of the meeting were voted to the chairman, treasurer, committee, and auditors for their services during the past year, and to the chairman for his services on the present occasion.

Sheffield Independent.

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Further Movement among Colliers.

On Monday, between 1,000 and 2,000 colliers assembled at an open-air meeting at Tipton, South Staffordshire, considered the course to be pursued relative to notice that expired on Saturday, by which the employers of about the same number of miners nearer to Wolverhampton required them to submit to a reduction of 3d. per day in their wages, which in the instances referred to have recently been 3-6d. per day. The determination of the meeting seemed very decided in favour of the notice being resisted, a resolution was come to, amidst considerable applause, to support the men as long as they remained on strike, for it was argued that the projected reduction from 3-6d. to 3-3d. was preliminary to a reduction from 3-3d. at which the large number are at work, to 3-0d. In the determination to support their fellows, the speakers said they were supported by the Miners National Association, who would also contribute to their support. Several ironmasters, holding the first position in the iron trade of South Staffordshire, would be greatly inconvenienced by the decision of Monday, when the men will get about 10-0d. per week.

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Advert - South Yorkshire Strike of Colliers.

To the Editor of the Derbyshire Times.

The Oaks Colliery.

Sir,

Coalmasters who have locked out their workmen, in consequence of the colliers at the Oaks and High Royd Collieries having left their work because an advance of 10% in their wages was not given, are desirous that a proper statement should be published of the wages paid at both the last mentioned pits.

Below I send you a detailed statement of wages paid at the Oaks Pit for twelve weeks prior to the colliers leaving their work, after the expiration of the notices they had given. To ensure strict impartiality and accuracy the books of the colliery have been submitted to the inspection of three gentlemen who have signed the certificate at the foot of the statement, whose names and position would at once be a guarantee that the statement is correct, and to whom the coalmasters are deeply indebted for the trouble they have taken in this matter.

A similar statement will be very shortly published relative to the High Royd Colliery.

It will be seen from the statement referred to, that the net earnings per day of eight hours, after making the necessary deductions for oil, tools, and payments to hurriers, shows as follows: -

In "Strait" work, 8-2¼d.

In "Bank" work, 4-11½d.

Whilst the average throughout the pit, taking the last 62 days the colliery worked, shows a net earning of 5-1½d. per man for eight hours, during the whole of these 62 days the colliers were restricting their "gettings" of coal, otherwise they might have realised higher wages. Each collier is allowed half a ton of coal per fortnight, at the rate of 1-4d. per ton; selling price per ton of the same coals being 5-0d.

Yours, Very Obediently,
William H. Peacock,
Secretary to the Coalmasters Association.

Barnsley, 16th. May, 1864.

Statement Referred to.

Oaks Colliery.

Statement of Collieries and Hurriers' Earnings during the last 12 Weeks the Colliery Worked,

Viz. from Dec. 12th, 1863, to Feb. 20th., 1864.

Debit.

Dec 12th., 1863. To Gross Wages paid for Coals getting, Pitwork 10 days.
Total £488-17-2½d.

Dec 24th., 1863. Do. Do. Do. 11 days.
Total £587-18-11¼d.

Jan. 9th., 1864. Do. Do. Do. 7 days.
Total £329-3-5½d.

Jan. 23rd., 1864. Do. Do. Do. 11 days.
Total £590-11-6½d.

Feb. 6th., 1864. Do. Do. Do. 11 days
Total £575-18-6d.

Feb. 20th., 1864. Do. Do. Do. 12 days.
Total £600-5-4d.

Making a Grand Total of £3,172-15-0d

Credit.

Dec. 12th., 1863. By Deductions, Repaid by Colliers for Tools, Oil, etc.
£14-17-0d.

Dec. 24th., 1863. Do. Do.
£18-12-5d.

Jan. 9th., 1864. Do. Do.
£9-7-3d.

Jan. 23rd., 1864. Do. Do.
£18-16-10d.

Feb. 6th., 1864. Do. Do.
£18-3-5d.

Feb. 20th., 1864. Do. Do.
£24-11-9d.

Making a Grand Total of £104-8-3d

Amount paid to Hurriers, at an average of 3-4d. per day.
£1,232-16-8d.

Amount paid to Colliers, showing a daily average throughout the pit of 5-1½d.
per day.

£1,835-9-8d.

Making a Grand Total of £3,174-15-0d.

Average for eight good "Banksmen" during the twelve weeks in good and bad places.

John Bexon 58 days net earnings £25-3-8½d. Paid for hurrying 4-6½d. total £4-7-0d. Average at 7-2d. per day was £20-16-8½d.

Richard Clarkson, net earnings for 61 days, £30-8-3d. Hurrying 61 days at 3-6d. is £10-13-6d. Average at 6-5½d. per day was £19-14-9d.

James Barker, net earnings for 61 days, £28-4-9. Hurrying for 61 days at 3-4d. is £10-3-4d. Average at 5-11d. is £18-1-5d.

James Barker, Jnr, net earnings for 62 days, £28-12-7½d. Hurrying for 62 days at 3-0d. is £9-6-9d. Average at 6-2 d is £19-6-7½d.

Joseph Dyson, net earnings for 60 days, £27-4-6d. Hurrying for 60 days at 3-4d. is £10-0-0d. Average at 5-9d. is £17-4-6d.

Thomas Bexon, net earnings for 56 days, £20-16-10d. Hurrying for 56 days at 3-0d. is £8-8-0d. Average at 4-5¼d. is £12-8-10d.

Frederick Holdsworth, net earnings for 58 days, £25-4-9d. Hurrying for 58 days at 3-4d. is £9-13-4d. Average at 5-4½d. is £15-11-5½d.

William Ward, net earnings for 60 days, £25-11-6d. Hurrying for 60 days at 3-4d. is £10-0-0d. Average at 5-2¼d is £15-11-6d.

These eight men worked 59 and a third days each, or 476 days, or 5 days nearly per week, average 5-9 d per man per day. Total is £138-15-9½d.

Average for eight less experienced "Banksmen" working in good and bad places.

Charles Randerson 55 days net earnings £17-17-10½d. Paid for hurrying £4-11-8d. Average at 4-10d. per day was £13-6-2½d.

George Banks 62 days net earnings £23-18-1d. Paid for hurrying 62 days at 3-0d. is £9-6-0d. Average at 4-8½d. per day was £14-12-1d.

Henry Hitchin 53 days net earnings £18-13-11d. Paid for hurrying 53 days at 3-4d. is £8-16-8d. Average at 3-8d. per day was £9-17-3d.

George Abbott 59 days net earnings £16-19-3½d. Paid for hurrying 59 days at 2-6d. is £7-7-6d. Average at 3-3d. per day was £9-11-9½d.

Henry Vickers 58 days net earnings £16-6-2d. Paid for hurrying 58 days at 2-6d. per day was £7-5-0d. Average at 3-1½d. per day was £9-1-12d.

Joseph Watson (alias Cotter) 62 days net earnings £26-13-10½d. Paid for hurrying 62 days at 4-0d. per day was £12-8-0d. Average at 4-7¼d. per day was £14-5-10½d.

Thomas Sugden 49 days net earnings £18-18-6d. Paid for hurrying 49 days at 3-6d. per day was £8-11-6d. Average at 4-2½d. per day was £10-7-0d.

Edward Mussongrave 61 days net earnings £23-10-10d. Paid for hurrying 61 days at 3-4d. per day was £10-3-4d. Average at 4-3½d. per day was £13-17-6d.

These eight men on the average worked 57 and three eighth days each , or 459 days. Average daily earning 4-1 d. per man per day. Total is £94-8-10½d.

Comparative Statement of Bankwork between two Colliers.

Joseph Band, earning for 10 days in what he termed a very bad place totals £2-5-2d. Paid for hurrying 10 days and 3-0d., £1-10- 0d. Average at 1-6¼d. per day is 15-2d.

Thomas Carnley succeeded Band in his bad place, and during the last twelve weeks his net earnings for 51 days were £21-1-7¼d. Hurrying 51 days at 3-0d., £7-13-0d. Average at 5-3d. per day is £13-8-3½d.

Average for Seven "Strait-work" men during the above 12 Weeks.

Andrew Barker. Net earnings after deducting stoppages for tools and oil, worked 60 days, £39-18-6½d. Paid for hurrying 60 days, at 3-6d., £10-10-0d. This sum leaves 9-9 d. per day or 1-3d. per hour. Total £29-8-6½.

George Barker. Net earnings for 58 days, £28-2-9½d. Hurrying for 58 days at 3-4d., £9-13-4d. Average 5-8d. per day. Total £16-9- 5½d.

Henry Wood. Net earnings for 60 days, £38-8-11d. Hurrying for 60 days at 3-4d., £10-0-0d. Average 9-5¾d. per day. Total £28-8-11d.

William Wood. Net earnings for 56 days, £34-16-7½d. Hurrying for 56 days at 3-4d., £9-6-8d. Average 9-1¼d. per day. Total £25-9- 11½d.

Thomas Dyson and Partner. Net earnings for 55 days each, £63-17- 11d. Hurrying for 55 days at 3-4d. each, £18-6-8d. Average each collier 8-3¾d. per day. Total £45-11-3d.

John Barker. Net earnings for 62 days, £31-3-7d. Hurrying for 62 days at 3-4d., £10-6-8d. Average 6-8¾d. per day. Total £20-16-11d.

These seven men on the average worked 58 days each in 72 days, or 406 days. Average earnings, 8-2¼d. per day, or 1-0d. per hour. Totals £166-5-0½d.

We have been requested, for the information of the public, to investigate the rate of wages paid to the colliers at the Oaks Pit, and we have given, as far as possible, a correct statement of facts relative thereto. We have complied with the request made to us, hoping by doing so we may be of service, both to the masters and to the men.

We have to state that the foregoing are the facts as shown by the wage-books, which we have examined with great care.

Thomas Edward Taylor, Linen Manufacturer,
Michael Thomas Sadler, Surgeon,
Richard Inns.

Barnsley, 13th. May, 1864.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. May 1864.

Page 3 Col. 1

Explosion of Gas in a Coal Mine at Clay Cross, and Death of Two Men.

On Friday, the 6th. instant, an explosion of gas took place at the No. 4 Main Pit of the Clay Cross Company, by which two poor men, Michael Flannery and Thomas Garvey were dreadfully burned, and of which both have since died. Deceased were both at work on the day in question in one of the many stalls in this pit, which has been but a few years at work, and is considered the safest, and best ventilated and regulated pits in the Company. In any of which, happily, owing to the precautions adopted in ventilation, etc., accidents of this dreadful nature occur but rarely indeed. A young man named Patrick Graham, who was at work in a stall close by, was the first who got to the poor fellows, his attention being directed towards them by the explosion and their piteous cries. On entering their stall, he found poor Flannery on the ground, dreadfully burned, and in great pain. The poor fellows were at once removed to the Company's hospital, at Clay Cross, where every care and attention was paid to them, and all that medical skill could render to alleviate their sufferings and preserve their lives. All, however, proved unavailing, so dreadful were the injuries; Flannery lingered in great agony until three o'clock on the 10th. instant, when death released him from his pain. An inquest was held on his body the same day, at the house of Mr. Mycroft, the New Inn, Clay Cross, before C.S.B. Busby, Esq., coroner. The inquiry was only of a formal nature to allow the certificate of burial, was adjourned to the 23rd. instant. Flannery was buried next day in St. Bartholomew's Churchyard, a large number of persons attending his funeral. The other poor fellow, Thomas Garvey, lingered in great suffering until the 19th. instant, at 5 o'clock in the morning, when death also released him from his earthly worries. An inquest was held on his remains at 10 o'clock in the morning on the 20th. instant, at the house of Mr. M. Mycroft, the New Inn, Clay Cross. The inquiry was only of a formal nature, as in the other case, to allow the coroner to give a certificate for his burial, and was adjourned till the 23rd. instant, for the attendance of the Government Inspector of Mines for the Midlands district. At the adjourned inquest a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

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Letter - Colliers Earnings.

A statement having appeared in the public papers, signed by three respectable gentlemen of Barnsley, purporting to be an account of the wages paid at the Oaks Colliery for the last twelve weeks, I trust you will allow me in the name of the Oaks colliers, to give it the most unqualified contradiction, to express my great surprise that gentlemen of influence would attach their names to a document like this, without first allowing us the opportunity of proving whether it was true or not. I should wish the gentlemen in question would inform the public upon which grounds they arrived at the conclusion that the alleged wage-book is right, and then ask them how can they tell what the miners have had to pay out of this to the hurriers? In asking these two I am not prompted by any wish to offend the three gentlemen. My object is to show to them that they have allowed themselves to be made the authors of a misrepresentation. In the document they have issued they are several truths that I shall have time to notice; - Andrew Barker, according to them, £39-18-6d for his last 60 days. They then say his has paid his hurrier 3-6d. per day. Now, Andrew Barker paid his hurrier 3-9d. per day; he had also a boy of his own working with him that he values at 2-0d. per day. So, instead of deducting 3-6d. per day deduct 5-9d., and it will leave him 2-3d. per day less for himself. Frederick Holdsworth has had two hurriers the greater part of the time, so instead of taking 3-4d. per day for his hurrier, take 6-8d., and see where his 3-4d. per day is. The two Woods have had 4 hurriers, and they say only two; so instead of deducting 6-8d. deduct 13-4d., and instead of having 9-0d. per day their wages are about 6-0d. Thomas Dyson and his mate, they say, have two hurriers, at 3-4d. per day; so, instead of having 8-3d. per day, their wages are less than 5-0d. per day. John Bexon pays his hurrier 3-7d. per day, and they allow him 1-6d. per day; this brings his wages from 7-2d. per day to 5-1d.; and we are prepared to prove he has not averaged 4-6d. per day. Edward Musgrave has earned, they say, for the last 61 days, £20-10-10d.; now, this man has worked 68 days for less money than this, - he has earned a trifle over 3-6d. per day, and they give his wages as ??????? per day. I have at the present time notes in my possession for 5 fortnights out of the 6 and I find for these 5 fortnights Henry Hitchen has 14-6d. per week, and they give his wages as 3-8d. per day. In the face of evidence like this we ask these gentlemen, for the sake of their public character, to insist on these books being produced in our presence, to give us a fair opportunity of proving they are wrong, and the Oaks miners had earned no such money. I do not for one moment believe that the gentlemen have done this wilfully; but, of course, when the books were produced they had no means of knowing how many days the men worked, except by the days they were sending coals; and how oft the men of the Oaks Colliery worked when they have sent no coals, at packing, wood taking, and many other ways that the collier will understand; no such gentlemen as these, who know nothing of a miners difficulties, cannot possibly understand it. Of course, the gentlemen have given the cases of some of those men who have made the most money, but we have no doubt, if they will give us the opportunity we shall be able to prove that there are good workers in the Oaks Colliery who have not earned 5-0d. per day. There is no doubt there are some men at the Oaks Colliery who have made good wages, and there are the same at all the collieries, but to choose these men out, and even out their wages 2 and 3 shillings per day more than they really are, is act of unfairness that we cannot pass over; and that, for the sake of the parties who have made it, deserve fully investigating. It is for the purpose of having this fairly proved that we make this statement. We shall be happy to attend upon the parties at any time this book may be produced, and we have no doubt, if they will give us the opportunity, we shall be able to put a different face upon the matter.

I am, Sir, on behalf of the Oaks miners,
Your Truly,
Philip Casey.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 28th. May 1864.

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Colliery Absentee.

James Shooter, in custody, was charged with absenting himself from the service of the Messrs. Coke, coalowners, Pinxton. The prisoner was arrested in Yorkshire. - Ordered to return and pay costs.