

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd September 1864.

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Pit Accident.

As a Mr. Dolphin, miner, of Saltergate, was ascending a pit at Staveley, belonging to the Staveley Coal and Ironstone Company (Limited). on the afternoon of Wednesday last, a brick-end fell and struck him at the back of his head, and afflicting such injuries as necessitated immediate removal home in a cart. Dr. Foulds was immediately called in and dressed his wounds, and under his treatment is progressing favourably.

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The Colliers Strike in the Midland Counties.

The men on strike continue to assemble in great numbers daily in various parts of the district. Their conduct is peaceable, and their advice to their fellow men is still to stand out against the reduction. Extra police and the Worcester and Staffordshire Constabulary are daily called up to attend the gatherings, but they have not seen anything in the behaviour of the colliers to call for their interference. On Thursday last some 6,000 or 7,000 met in the Lindon Fields, near Dudley, with bands, flags, banners, whistles, etc. Some of them afterwards marched to the Limerick and other places and held other meetings. It is to be regretted that a great number of those who got into work have by these demonstrations been induced to go out again. One feature in the results of the strike is of a very grotesque and almost melancholy character. After holding their meetings some of the men form companies, and parade the towns in the most ludicrous costume, playing tin whistles, drums, and concertinas in the most discordant fashion. These are accompanied by men who carry boxes to the purpose of holding any money which they may succeed in begging from the passers-by. Although the utmost determination is expressed by the men to stand out, it is thought by some that the struggle must very soon come to an end. The money collected for their support is not nearly sufficient to supply them with the common necessaries of life, and those who are now subscribing to the funds of the union will soon tire of supporting men out of work. Some of the men, too, are becoming sensible that the strike is driving the trade out of the district, and this, upon the principle that "a little leaven leaveneth the whole number", is regarded hopefully.

Birmingham Post.

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Charge of Stealing a Colliers Pick.

Thomas Gaut, a collier, was charged with stealing a pick at Barlow, the property of Francis Stevenson. Mr. Cutts defended the prisoner. Prosecutor stated that he had missed the pick on the Thursday but one previous, and he had afterwards found the prisoner using it. He knew it was his pick by the marks that were on it. It was worth 1-6d. On being cross-examined by Mr. Cutts, prosecutor admitted that, when he went into prisoners stall, the pick was not concealed. After a few words from Mr. Cutts in defence, the Bench came to the conclusion that no jury would commit upon such evidence, and discharged the prisoner.

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Inquest.

Before C.S.B. Busby, Esq.

On Monday last an Inquest was held at the New Inn, Clay Cross, on the body of Joseph Key, coal-miner, aged 44 years who fell down the shaft of a coal-pit belonging to the Clay Cross Company on the 2nd. inst. Verdict "Accidental Death".

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Disorderly Servants.

George Johnson, George Stevens, and Henry Bennett, colliers, were charged by Mr. Knight, coal proprietor, Dronfield, with absenting themselves from their employment without giving the customary fortnight's notice. They left the complainants employment without giving the stated notice. The defendants admitted the fact of having left their work without giving the necessary notice, but it was in consequence of receiving notice from their last employers, Messrs. Johnson, Lucas and Company, to the effect that if they did not return to their work a summons should be taken out against them for having left work without notice. The Bench dismissed the summons on the defendants agreeing to pay costs, it being clear that the defendants must serve Messrs. Johnson, Lucas and Company, until due notice had been given, before Mr. Knight could claim their services.

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Page 4 Col. 2

Disorderly Servants.

Charles Cooper, and Horatio Cooper, colliers, in the employ of Messrs. Addy and Ward, were charged by Mr. Carr, the manager of the colliery, with absenting themselves from work two days last week contrary to the rules posted up at the colliery. Mr. Carr said that he was sorry to bring the case before the magistrates, as these men were two of the best workmen in the pit, but for examples sake he must do so as a great many men at the colliery were continually being absent from work. He did not wish to press the case further than to show to the other men that such conduct must be punished. Ordered to pay the costs amounting to 6-6d. each.

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No Headline

The workpeople of the Devonshire Silkstone Colliery, near Chesterfield, were treated by the contractor on Saturday last, on the completion of the engine chimney. The feast was provided at the Prince of Wales Inn, Whittington Moor. After dinner the manager of the works was called to the chair, when success to the Company was drunk, and other toasts followed.

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Page 3 Col. 1

Murderous Assault at Eckington.

At noon on Saturday it was rumoured in Eckington that a murder had been committed in the Park Pit and the story proved not to be entirely without foundation. Messrs. J. and G. Wells, of Eckington, coal owners, have a colliery in Renishaw Park, near to the Eckington Railway Station. A large number of men and boys are employed, and amongst them are Peter Spalling, an Irish youth, Sam Mallinder, another youth, both loaders and trammers, and William Marples, a married man and a collier. Mallinder was tramping for Marples and when he got to the ginny, Spalling was also there. A dispute arose between them about a corve of coals, and Spalling being the stronger of the two, succeeded in sending a corve down the ginny to the pit bottom first. When Mallinder returned to his bank for more coals, he informed Marples (who is his uncle) what had taken place. Marples then went to the ginny, and took a lock peg with him. Spalling was sitting upon a corve at the top end of the ginny. Marples went up to him and struck him five or six times over the back part of the head behind the right ear. Spalling became insensible, and fell down upon the tramway amongst some water. When he afterwards became conscious, Marples was standing over him with the lock-peg in one hand and a candle in the other. Spalling said "Marples thou hast killed me", and Marples replied that he would kill him if he meddled with another corve of his. Spalling was then conveyed to his lodgings at Eckington. When Superintendent Chawner was informed of the matter he immediately called in Mr. Simpson, assistant to J.T. Jones, Esq., Eckington, surgeon, who, after examining the injured man pronounced that his life was in danger. Mr. Chawner gave information to H. Bowden, Esq., J.P., and that gentleman promptly attended at that place where the injured man lies, and took his deposition in the presence of Marples who had been apprehended. Marples was removed in custody. The injured man now lies in a very precarious state, and very little hopes are entertained for his recovery.

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Page 3 Col. 2

Wages Claim.

Edward Clay again appeared before the Bench, asking for an order for wages to be made on Job Spendlove for £4-13-1½d. Mr. Cutts appeared for the defendant, and argued that although defendant was a contractor under the Dunstan and Barlow Ironstone Company, and had employed the defendant, yet, when he was taken ill, he informed him that he would have to work on his own account, and receive his wages from the Company. Adjourned for a fortnight, in order that the cashier of the works might be present. Samuel Brown v. Jeb Spendlove, for £2-14-8d. was also adjourned on the same conditions.

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Saturday 24th. September 1864.

Page 3 Col. 1 to 4.

The Staveley Coal and Iron Company.

Inspection of the Works.

The prosperity of Staveley is so intimately bound up with the commercial interests of this town and neighbourhood, that we are glad, therefore, that these extensive works have been purchased by a company, and with Mr. Barrow at their head, they are sure to prosper. On Friday the new company paid a visit of inspection to their property. The bulk of the share-holders are Manchester gentlemen, and they arrived about twelve o'clock, and were met at the station by a party of their brother proprietors. A special train was in readiness to convey them to the different pits, and, as soon as the party were comfortably seated, the train proceeded to Springwell Colliery, Mr. Martyn Seymour, the resident viewer acting as the conductor. Coal is drawn from an engine-shaft and an open drift, the shaft and the drift raising about 500 tons per day each. After examining the pumping engine, of 80 h.p., the party returned to Staveley Station, and from thence proceeded to the New and Old Hollingwood Pits, where there is a communication between the two mines; next to Speedwell, and then to the model colliery "Seymour", producing its 1,000 tons of coal per day. The blast furnaces, the foundry where the huge pipes were in process of casting, the workshops, etc., were all visited, and the company were truly delighted with everything.

About 3 o'clock the party proceeded to the Dining Hall, where a first class collation was provided, the same being served by Mr. and Mrs. Hill, the managers of the Hall.

The following gentlemen were present. Directors: Richard Barrow, Esq., Ringwood Hall; Alderman Pochin, Manchester; Thomas Vickers, Esq., Manchester; Jno. Whitehead, Jnr., Esq., Manchester; Jas. Holden, Esq., Manchester; John J. Barrow, Esq., Cliff Park, Devon; Charles Markham, Esq., Belper. Visitors; Godfrey Heathcote, Esq., Chesterfield; Jas. Brotherton, Esq., London; James Allport, Esq., Derby; Samuel Swarbrick, Esq., Derby; C.S.B. Busby, Esq., Chesterfield; William Fowler, Esq., Whittington; Thomas Carrington, Esq., Chesterfield; John Hedley, Esq., Derby; Thomas Evans, Esq., Derby; The Rev. Jno. Boyer, Chesterfield; The Rev. A.T. Blythe, Staveley; The Rev. B. Mansdale, North Wingfield; The Rev. E. Hewlet, Manchester; Edward Unwin, Esq., Sheffield; Henry Unwin, Esq., Sheffield; Josh. Pettifor, Esq., Derby; Lieutenant J.B. White, Chesterfield; Edward Bannister, Esq., Grimsby; Hugh Young, Esq., Birmingham; Edward Whine, Esq., Birmingham; Chas. Coote, Esq., St. Ives; - Fosbrooke, Esq., Chesterfield; William Foyster, Esq., Manchester; Robert Whitworth, Esq., Manchester; ..... Esq., Manchester; Jno. Ashbury, Esq., London; J.D. Ellis, Esq., Sheffield; J.F. Swallow, Esq., Mosborough; Thomas Hale, Esq., Surgeon, Barrow Hill; G.B. Thorpe, Esq., Staveley; Mr. John Clarke, Staveley; Richard Swallow, Esq., Mosborough. Shareholders: Messrs. Josh. Walker, Broomhurst; Thomas Hudson, Manchester; John Hall, Manchester; A.K. Whitehead, Manchester; Thomas Chadwick, Manchester; Edward Hunt, Manchester; George Wood, Manchester; William Lomax, Manchester; Thomas Percival, Manchester; H. Hardie, Manchester; H. Patteson, Manchester; George Marples, Sheffield; T.W. Collier, Manchester; R.M. Shipman, Manchester; Charles Ellis, Manchester; John Gray, Manchester; John Goodier, Manchester; John Burt, Manchester; Andrew Hamilton, Manchester; John Jones, Rhodes; Bryce Smith, Manchester; James N. Sykes, Huddersfield; William Sumner, Manchester; Francis Clegg, Manchester; William Sykes, Huddersfield; William Vickers, Manchester; H.P. Bagshaw, Stalybridge; James Thomas, Manchester; Josh. Donnell, Stalybridge. There were also present Mr. Robinson, Secretary to the

Company; Mr. Martyn Seymour, Viewer; Mr. Ireland, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gillett; Mr. Knighton, Mr. Rogerson, Mr. Howard, Mr. Marriott and Mr. De Vine, etc.

The chair was occupied by R. Barrow, Esq., the vice-chairs by Mr. Seymour, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Ireland.

The chairman, commencing the toast list, said: The first toast that I have to propose needs no comment from me to make it acceptable to the loyal assembly. It is "Our Beloved Queen". Drank with all the honours.

The chairman said that the next toast on his list is "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family", not forgetting the little sprig of royalty - Prince Victor. (Cheers). The chairman, again rising, proposed "The Army, Navy and Volunteers". No remarks of mine can add to their present honour and renown. The volunteers are far beyond any praise that I can bestow upon them. I beg to couple the name of Captain White with this toast.

Lieutenant White said it would ill-become him to say anything on behalf of the Army and Navy, but on behalf of the Volunteers he might say that they had already done the greatest achievement of modern times in enabling this country to attain and maintain a firm tone to other nations. He trusted that their services might never be required; but if they should be, he hoped they would never disgrace their country. (Cheers).

The chairman: The next toast that I the honour to propose is "The Lord Lieutenant of the County". (Applause). It would be presumptuous in me to dilate upon the high character of the Duke of Devonshire as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; but, upon the present occasion, I could wish to consider his Grace as the noble landlord of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company. The Duke is not only a great practical agriculturist, but he is well acquainted with the various minerals that lie in his extensive estates, and who can form a pretty correct opinion of their value, and understand whether these minerals are worked properly. His Grace is a thorough man of business, and it is with such noblemen that large business transactions are conducted pleasantly and with facility. I have no doubt that the board of directors of the Staveley Company will so work these minerals, and carry on the iron- works, that they will be mutually advantageous to landlord and tenant. Without further preface, gentlemen, I will propose "The Health of his Grace the most Noble Duke of Devonshire, and long life to him". (Loud Cheers).

Mr. Busby acknowledged the toast on behalf of the Duke of Devonshire in an able speech, in which he referred to the success of the Staveley Works, which he attributed to the indomitable energy of Mr. Barrow, whom he styled the real King of Diamonds. (Loud Applause). After alluding to the large contracts that had been executed, not only for England, but the Continent, he proposed "The Health of Mr. Barrow, the Chairman".

The Chairman, in responding to his health, said: I am much gratified by the very kind compliments that have been paid to me by Mr. Busby, and am highly flattered by the reception that the toast has met with. So long as I have the honour to continue as chairman of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, and have my health, it will be my delight and my pride to make the concern answer the expectations of the proprietors. (Hear, hear). I have had much uphill work for many years, but by perseverance and a very large outlay of capital, I have brought Staveley Works to their present proud position. (Loud Applause).

Mr. Fowler said that having been called upon so suddenly and so unexpectedly, he was quite unable to do adequate justice to the toast which had been so kindly placed in his hands. He had been asked to propose "Success to the Staveley Coal and Iron Company", and in doing so he could not help alluding to an individual who had laid the foundations of its success, and who had

carried the success to a triumphal issue. (Cheers). It was to Mr. Barrow, by his great energy - and by his great ability and powers of organisation, that the Staveley establishment had become one of the great, if not the greatest, commercial institutions in the country. (Hear). It was a proud thing to be a Lord Lieutenant of the County, to be the proud owner of hereditary acres, but it was a far prouder thing for a man who, by his industry, to have made a princely fortune for himself, but above all to have seen the means of giving daily bread to thousands, thus showing that whilst he was making the fortune for himself, he was not neglecting the interests and welfare of those around him. (Loud Cheers). They had seen ample evidence in the schools - in that Hall - of the legacy he had left to those he was handing over, to some measure, his property. (Hear, hear). In taking possession of the Staveley Coal and Iron property, they had possessed themselves of one of the most valuable, and one of the best properties in the kingdom. They were indebted to Mr. Barrow for having by his skill and ability organised that property which he had now handed over to them, and he had no doubt they would use the property with all due regards to their own interests and those associated with them, and that they would maintain the good feeling to all with whom they might come into contact in the conducting of that great property. There was no-one present who was not a shareholder but wished he was one, and all wished success to the Staveley Coal and Iron Company. (Cheers).

The Chairman said - Gentlemen, I am sure that my brother directors and the shareholders of the Staveley Company will join me in thanking Mr. Fowler and the visitors present for their good wishes to the success of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company. As many of the shareholders may not have been at Staveley before today, it may not be uninteresting for them to learn something of the progress of these works. When I came to Staveley about twenty years since, were raised about 50,000 tons of coal, and made about 5,000 tons of iron castings annually. I gradually increased the quantity to 50,000(?) tons of coal, and 15,000 tons of castings per year. We now draw about 750,000 tons of coal, and make about 20,000 tons of castings, and in a short time we expect to raise 1,000,000 tons of coal, and make 25,000 tons of castings per annum. All railway companies are desirous of having Staveley Top Hard coal for their locomotives. The engines which brought the gentlemen from Manchester this morning used "Staveley Top Hard Coal", and the extensive works of John Brown and Company, at Sheffield, the great armour-plate establishment, are daily supplied with Staveley coal. (Cheers). To give you some idea of the capacity of these works, I may mention that the columns and girders, and all the ironwork in general required for the erection of the Great Exhibition building in 1862, were made at the Staveley works, and were acknowledged by Mr. Fairburn, of Manchester - no mean authority - to be the best lot of castings he had ever seen. (Hear). I merely take the credit for this and other large transactions in a commercial point of view, the credit for the mechanical part of the work is entirely due to the heads of the different departments of the Staveley works, so long as the Company retains their services, I have no fear for everything going on satisfactory. (Loud Cheers).

Mr. Markham said that he had great pleasure in proposing the toast "The Railway Representatives" (Cheers) and connecting with that toast the name of Mr. Allport, (Applause). He had had the honour of nearly a ten years acquaintance with that gentleman, and he might mention that Mr. Allport was one of the early pioneers of the railway system, and a gentleman to whom Mr. Barrow was much indebted, Mr. Allport being one of those early pioneers who recognised the importance of the development of the coal and iron trade with regard to the traffic it was likely to bring the railway system generally. He had heard him years ago, when he was in connection with the Birmingham and Derby Railway, relate the circumstances that such was the prejudice against the carriage of minerals, that the coal which they conveyed on the railway, the wagons were covered with a sheet, so that the public might not see them. When Mr. Allport was on the Newcastle and Berwick Railway he startled the great George Hudson with his requirements for wagons for traffic in the conveyance of coal, and those wagons, in the course of time, were all filled with coals. He (Mr. Markham) had been connected with him as assistant

engineer, and though it had often been thought that he was too liberal with coal-owners in the development of the coal trade, no traffic had prospered better, and no man had done more by such liberality to assist in the development of the coal trade. (Cheers). Mr. Allport was a gentleman who had been long connected with the railway world, Indeed, he was acknowledged to be at the head of all the general managers in this country - to be a man with large and comprehensive talents, and a man who had been more intimately associated with the history of progress of the railway world more than any other man. (Cheers). He had allowed articles to be carried at a cheap rate from one end of the country to the other, and in regard to coal he knew it would be more profitable to carry it at a cheap rate, and it was this policy which enabled him to achieve a great success. The Stockton and Darlington Railway had adopted a similar line of policy, and the Midland Railway since Mr. Allports connections with it, had done a great deal to develop the minerals, and to promote thereby it's success, much was due to the guidance of it's general manager. (Cheers).

Mr. Allport, in acknowledging the toast was loudly cheered. He said he was sure that they would excuse any little embarrassment that might arise in him whilst acknowledging the very cordial manner in which they had responded to the toast to his health. It was true that he had now been connected with the railways for very many years. It was about twenty-six years since he had the honour of being appointed manager of a railway and during that time it had always been his constant endeavour to identify the railway interest with interest of the traders upon the line. He remembered some ten or twelve years ago having to appeal to gentlemen who were largely connected with trade, and in showing that it was his constant study to develop the respective sources of their trade. (Hear). Since then he did not believe that he had had any complaint of any kind, large or small, for the last two or three years. It was his constant study to develop the resources of those traders who had settled themselves upon the Midland Railway, and in proof of this he mentioned the fact that some sixteen years ago the Midland only carried some 30,000 tons of coals, whilst now they were carrying something like 6 millions of tons annually. (Cheers). He had told the directors of the Midland Railway that he would guarantee them a traffic of 10 million tons of coal, and he believed that would be a result long before the period he had set down. In the fulfilment of that immense traffic he had been aided not only by the officers of the Midland Railway, but by the commercial community and amongst the parties he had to deal with none could he give a greater need of praise than their worthy chairman. (Cheers). He had seen Mr. Barrow many times, sometimes with fear and trembling. He generally carried two sticks, sometimes when he had walked up to his (Mr. Allports) office, enquiring if the manager was there, he had felt some little dread - (Laughter) - but for the last two or three years he had not felt so much in fear, because Mr. Barrow had been made perfectly aware of his desire to work in perfect amity, feeling that the interest of the railway company and the trader were identical in the development of the resources, not only of the Staveley Company, but of every other company. (Cheers). He was convinced that that was a true policy, as it was by that feeling of amity that the traders and the company could only secure success, and he sincerely hoped that feeling would continue to exist for a long series of years. (Loud Applause).

Mr. Brotherton said that his eloquent friend, Mr. Busby had so ably descanted upon the merits of the Staveley Company that he had left him very little to say, and the fear of Mr. Barrow's two sticks had impressed upon him the necessity of making a very short speech. (Laughter). The toast which had been put into his hands was one that was so fully and sufficiently recommended itself that he had no difficulty giving it. There were very few works in this country with a staff so efficient as the staff of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, and he had very much pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of a gentleman of no mean ability, and who had been raised to the distinction of being their secretary. The toast he had to propose was "The Heads of Department, coupled with the name of Mr. Robinson". (Cheers).

Mr. Robinson rose to return thanks for himself and the heads of departments. He had been connected with Staveley for many years now and he trusted they knew this much, that it was their duty to consult not only their interests, but to carry out the duties devolving upon their several positions with the men, to give them every satisfaction, (Hear). They knew that the little word "try" would overcome many difficulties, and if they overcame difficulties and endeavour to the utmost of their abilities to promote the welfare of the company, (Applause).

Mr. Seymour said: As I have the honour to be the viewer of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, I have to thank you for the compliment you have paid me by drinking my health, and if could be possible for a man to devote his energies for the purpose of raising coal, I am your man. (Hear and Cheers). Mr. Barrow has alluded to the progress of the Staveley works. I can look back for seven years and ask what is the state of the Staveley Works now, and what was their state seven years ago. When I came to Staveley seven years ago, it had a black look, and I was nearly running back to the county of Durham again, but through the kindness of Mr. Barrow I will stick to him as long as he has a button on his coat. (Laughter and Cheers). Gentleman, I think what you have seen at Staveley today you will be satisfied, the collieries are in a perfect condition. You may depend upon it that these mines will be conducted upon proper principles. The late Inspector of Mines and the present Inspector are both present, and I may tell them that I shall always be happy for any suggestions to be handed to me for the benefit of the working men and of saving their lives when there is any probable danger, I will bring my practical knowledge to bear upon it, (Hear). Gentleman, you have seen today what you will not see in England. In the raising of coal it has been attempted to beat Seymour Pit, but when Seymour Pit is beaten, we begin again, Gentlemen, (hear and Cheers). I have great pleasure in telling the Gentlemen who compose the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, that the Staveley collieries are the safest in England. - (Cheers) - not because there is little gas made, but because they are conducted upon proved principles of ventilation. The Directors have given me every encouragement in applying for the best materials as I told the chairman this morning. He says, "Mr. Seymour, you shall have it". I hope the directors will see the importance of providing materials for the production of coals in large quantities, and if they will pull with us we shall succeed, for I am the gentleman that is to make you money. You have a large expenditure, which must go through my hands, and if you support me thoroughly, depend upon it that you will have a good dividend. (Hear, and Cheers). Gentlemen, before I sit down, I will ask you to drink "Success to the colliers of Staveley", and may they work better. They do work well, and may they make plenty of money and be comfortable, and their wives and children be happy. (Loud Cheers). The toast was most cordially drunk.

Mr. Vickers, one of the directors said he had been called upon to propose a toast. He was sure they had made a mistake in selecting him, but nevertheless he would make the best of it. The toast was "The Health of the Strangers". (Cheers). He was sure when he looked around him, and he saw the gentlemen that he knew to have come a long distance at great inconvenience to themselves to be with them on that occasion, they would join with him in giving them a hearty welcome. (Cheers). He trusted that before a very distant period they might not be strangers, and that they might be fellow proprietors, especially if it was to be so advantageous as they had just heard. For his own part he had some confidence that the good thing would come to pass. He was sure that nothing would be wanting on the part of the directors, as they were now formed, in doing everything that might be both profitable and advantageous to this company, and for the well-being of those gentlemen who had the control of the management thereof. He was sure that their chairman must have shown to them from what he had stated that day, that as long as he was their chairman, their property would be pretty well secured, and pretty safe. He was a citizen of Manchester, and thought he had shown a wise judgement in going to Manchester to find gentlemen of the same stamp as himself to take hold of these works. (Laughter and Cheers). Manchester was the main city of our nation, and the mainspring of our national wealth; and, although their property might possibly be assailed in various ???????, he believed they had a

property second to none in this kingdom. He might give them one instance of the anxious care that the directors had had, and the wish and anxiety they have for the prosperity and well-being of the works. On one occasion one of the directors rushed to the boardroom and said "I have just heard that a new company has been formed to oppose you in this undertaking". They told the director not to be alarmed, that they might get a company together, that they might get the capital subscribed, they would never find the talent. (Cheers and Laughter). It appeared that the proprietors were well pleased with what they had seen that day, and he believed that they would return home well pleased with the days pleasure. He had been asked by one gentleman if this property would give votes in this shire. (Laughter). He thought it would be imprudent if they were allowed to be so. He had not so much more to say on this occasion. As directors they worked under the tuition of their chairman, and he had learned one of the most important lessons in life, and that lesson was to say little and to say it well. (Hear). He concluded by proposing the toast coupled with the name of Mr. Ellis, of Sheffield. (Cheers).

Mr. Ellis said that he was very much obliged to them for associating his name with the toast, although unfortunately he had not the honour of being a shareholder in this concern. After the day they had spent it must be a matter of sorrow that he had not had that advantage, notwithstanding he might claim some connection with the Staveley Company. In his capacity as partner in the late firm of John Brown and Company Limited, he had great pleasure in congratulating the shareholders, on the very excellent manner in which the coal was sent to the consumers. (Hear). He was not going to say that the Staveley coal was the very best coal in England, and that there was nothing equal to it; but this he could say, there was no coal ever came to their works - they brought from many different collieries - which was so cleanly picked, and delivered in such a first rate manner, as they received from the Staveley Coal Company. (Cheers). It was their custom with the coal to select the best lumps, which they put into their best furnaces. One third of the coal thus had to be used in inferior furnaces, but the Staveley coal they took right out of the wagon without any selecting whatever, and returned the empty wagon. (Cheers). He did not state this as a compliment, but as a fact, and it was a credit to the way in which the Staveley Coal and Iron Company was managed. They could not help having enjoyed themselves that day, to have felt great admiration for the grand manner in which their friend, the chairman, had managed the concern previously, (Hear, and Cheers). He had the honour of knowing three or four directors of the company, and he had every reason to believe that the concern would not only do as well as it had done, but very much better. On the part of the visitors, as well as himself, he thanked the directors and shareholders of the company for the very pleasant day they had spent. (Cheers).

Upon the invitation of the chairman the company then left the dining hall, and proceeded to the chairman's mansion at Ringwood, where they were again hospitably entertained. The company promenaded the beautiful gardens, and pleasure ground, the conservatories, the vineries, which have made Ringwood so justly celebrated. Everything bore the impress of the taste and design of a master hand. The gardens and pleasure grounds were in the most complete order, and the best possible condition, which reflects great credit upon the ability of Mr. Petch, the head gardener. The company were highly delighted with the fairy-like aspect of Ringwood.

Dinners for the Clerks, etc.

A sumptuous collation was provided at the new dining hall, Barrow Hill, at half past seven of Friday evening, by the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, to which the entire staff of their clerks were invited, to celebrate the general meeting of the shareholders and guests of the works. Mr. J.V. Jarrett was appointed as chairman, and Mr. G. Malin, vice- chairman. After the good things provided had been partaken off, and the cloth drawn, the usual loyal toasts were done full justice to. The vice-chairman proposed to the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, in a

very neat and appropriate speech, concluded by coupling with it the health of Mr. Robinson, the highly respected secretary of the company, which was responded to very heartily by the whole of the company standing, and making the new and beautiful hall ring with rounds of continued cheering. Mr. Robinson, in replying, took advantage of the opportunity of impressing upon all present the necessity of union and steady perseverance in their duties, and he could answer that such conduct would meet its reward from the company. Mr. Robinson proposed the health of Mr. Rogerson, the company's farm manager, who returned thanks in a short able speech. The health of the chairman proposed by Mr. W. Hibbert, brought out that gentleman, who, in replying, stated that the pleasure it gave him to meet a large number of fellow workers together in such happy unity, and hoped it would have a lasting impression on their minds for good. Several good songs were given during the evening, Mr. Baldie, in his inimitable mimicry materially added to the conviviality of the evening. The company separated highly delighted with their evenings enjoyment. During the evening a very graceful compliment was paid by Mr. Robinson, to Mr. Rill, the superintendent of the dining hall, and upon whose shoulders fell the whole of the management of preparing and providing the entertainments, and the lady's health was drunk very enthusiastically.