

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 2nd. Sept. 1865.

Page 2 Col. 6.

The Staveley Coal and Iron Co.

The Annual Meeting of the Staveley Coal and Iron Co. Ltd. was held at Manchester on the 28th. August. The Report and Statement of Accounts were adopted and a dividend of £6 per share on the old shares, and, £1 per share on the new shares, was declared, making with the interim dividend of £5 per share, £13½ per cent on the paid up and borrowed capital of the company; which to the 30th. June 1865 amounted to £514,940. The retiring Directors, Benjamin Whitworth Esq. M.P., Charles Patrick Stewart Esq, Charles Markham Esq. were re-elected.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 2nd. Sept. 1865.

Page 2 Column 7.

Accidents at Clay Cross.

On Thursday last the adjourned inquests touching the death of Wm. Pointon, was held at the house of Mr. John Froggatt, the Crown Inn, Clay Cross, who had been killed by a train of loaded waggons running over him. After evidence had been addressed, the Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death". At the same time and place an inquest was held touching the death of Robert Briggs, who had been mortally injured by a fall of bind, was held, and the Jury, after inquiring into the circumstances of the accident, returned a verdict of "Accidental Death". On the same day an inquest was held at the Royal Oak Inn, at North Wingfield, to enquire into the death of a youth 12 years of age, named John Scott, who had been crushed between two waggons laden with coal in one of the Clay Cross Company's Pits on the 15th. inst. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 2nd. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Fatal Ironstone Mine Accident - Inquest on the bodies.

On Monday last the adjourned inquest touching the deaths of Daniel Cooke, aged 17, and William Booth, aged 15 years, was held at the Fleur-de-Lis Inn, Unstone, before Mr. Busby, Coroner. Mr. Evans, the Government Inspector, was present. James Clarke deposed that he was working in No. 2 Pit where Wm. Booth was killed. On the morning of the 8th. of August he went down in the same cage with Booth close to the bottom. The cage checked, then went down to the bottom, and then sprang up again, taking Booth with it. Witness was thrown out. Immediately the witness had got just out of the bottom, the cage and Booth fell together, Booth being killed on the spot. In answer to the Government Inspector, witness said there were 16 pits worked by two drums driven by one engine. Frank Lowe said he worked with Daniel Cooke, the other person killed, in No. 3 Pit. On the 8th. of August he went down with deceased and a boy called Hibberd. On reaching the bottom Hibberd and witness sprang out, but before Cooke could get out the cage went up again, and the next instant Cooke fell dead at the bottom, the cage remaining at the top. John Wilson saw the accident at No. 3 Pit and heard something break in the drum and the cage went up to the pulley wheel where the rope broke. The cage fell on the pit bank close to the mouth of the pit. Cooke seemed doubled up at the pulley and then fell down the pit. Witness looked at the drum and saw that there was a cog wheel broken. Benjamin Draycott said the horizontal drum worked seven shafts and communicated its motion by means of cog wheels to the perpendicular drum, which works nine shafts. The first half of the shafts were tried with loaded corves before the men went down. Boys then got into the cages which had been tried and went down, whilst the other shafts were being tried. One half of the shafts pulled against the other half. When the accident occurred the cages with men in were close to the bottom, and the trial cages were at the top. He was about to stop the engine when it commenced to revolve, but witness stopped it as quickly as possible. Witness found a cog wheel was broken on the drum, apparently by some pin which had been misplaced. The upright shaft of the drum was broken just above the cog wheel. Vincent Cooke deposed to a flaw in the upright shaft. James Pollard, engineer, Renishaw, said it was not right, in his judgement, to draw empty cages against full ones, and in no case should 16 pits be worked by one engine. Mr. Samuel Hague, mineral agent, Whittington, deposed to the depths and distances of the several pits. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death", and the coroner said he was requested by them to state that they were of the opinion the works were insufficiently managed, from the fact that there were 16 or 18 shafts of different depths and distances worked by one engine and the engineer having only 3 in view of him from the engine house. There were other matters which the Jury suggested, and they requested the owners to secure a more efficient system of management.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 16th. Sept. 1865.

Page 2 Column 5.

Alfreton - Coal Pit Accident.

On Friday the 8th. inst. an inquest was held at Alfreton before C.S.B. Busby Esq. on the body of William Stones, coalminer, aged 31 years, who was injured in a coal pit belonging to Messrs. Morewood's Colliery on Wednesday the 30th. August. It appeared that the deceased had been driving a heading to communicate with an old level. He had got a head through into the old level and went into the old level to dress up the junction when a piece of coal about 10 cwt. fell upon him injuring him very severely upon his head and body. The heading was not timbered because the roof was good and when the coal fell it was solid to the bottom. Deceased was attended by Mr. Fielding and lingered until Thursday the 7th. inst. when he died. There did not appear to be any blame attached to anyone and the Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 16th. Sept. 1865.

Page 2 Column 5.

Discovery of Silver Coins.

A few days ago as two men in the employment of Mrs. Grace Gyte, Sheldon, near Bakewell, were engaged in sinking a hole for a gate-post in the Hall Field, Sheldon. They found a lead dish in which was deposited 170 ancient silver coins. Mrs. Gyte has had a large sum of money offered for them. The coins are in an excellent state of preservation.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 16th. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Column 4.

Breach of Colliery Rules.

Joseph Tomlinson, William Turner, Paul Carnally, John Croft, William Nadin, John Blocock and Beaumont Weston were charged by Mr. Carr, the manager of Messrs. Addy and Ward's coal-pit, with the above offense. The first five were colliers, the other two colliery carpenters. It appeared from the statement of Mr. Carr that there was a great deal of insubordination at the pit and the defendants had absented themselves from their employment on several days in the month of August. He laid the complaint on Tuesday the 22nd. of August as all the defendants were absent on that day. He produced the rules of the colliery and also the book of agreements wherein the names of the defendants were subscribed but it appeared that the defendant Weston had not subscribed to the rules. The defendants Tomlinson, Turner, Carnally and Croft stated that they were all willing to work but in consequence of ill-health they were not able to do so every day in consequence of the wet condition of the pit which gave them rheumatism. The defendant Carnally said that he had a sore on his heel which gathered, for in working in the water he was so much worse that on the days in question he could not work but had sent word to the foreman to that effect. As regards the defendants Blocock and Weston it appeared that a notice had been posted on one of the doors to the effect that the colliery rules would be enforced on and after August the 22nd. and they believed the rules of the colliery did not apply to them. Weston said that he had not had a copy of the rules and should not submit to them as he had not signed such rules. Mr. Addy said that he had never been to the Court before in connection with these men but he felt so strongly on this occasion that he wished the law to be carried out. The Bench decided to deal leniently with the defendants and ordered each to pay 6-6d. with costs. On hearing this the defendants Blocock, Weston, Nadin and Turner said that they would not pay a penny and appeared to think undue severity had been shown towards them. Consequently they were committed for one month each. Afterwards Weston's wife paid the amount for her husband and he was discharged.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 16th. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Column 5.

Breach of Colliery Rules.

Thomas Colton, collier, Monkey Park, Clay Cross, was charged on a warrant by George Parker, agent to the Clay Cross Company, with riding on the skips in the pit and endangering his own life. Committed to 2 months hard labour.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 16th. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Column 5.

Neglecting Work.

Thomas Marriot, collier, Clay Cross, was charged on a warrant by George Parker, agent to the Clay Cross Company, with neglecting his work on the 25th. of August without the consent of his master and without any lawful excuse. Committed to 2 months hard labour.

Stephen Hinks, collier, Clay Cross, was charged under warrant by the same prosecutor with neglecting his work on the 16th. of August without the consent of his master and without any lawful excuse. Ordered to return to work and pay costs of £1-0- 10d.

Thomas Wild, collier, Clay Cross, was charged on a warrant, with neglecting his work on the 21st. of August without the consent of his master or without any lawful excuse. Ordered to return to work and pay costs of 19-10d.

George Green, collier, Newmarket, Clay Cross, was charged on a warrant with neglecting his work on the 9th. of August without the consent of his master or without any lawful excuse. Ordered to pay 19-10d. costs and return to work.

Charles Wise, collier, Danesmoor, was similarly charged by Robert Steveson, agent to the same Company, with neglect of work. Committed for 2 months to hard labour.

Isaac Shaw, collier, Clay Cross, was likewise charged with the same offense. Committed to 6 weeks hard labour.

William Holmes, alias Gingo, collier, Tupton, was sentenced to 1 months hard labour for the same offense.

Joseph Limb, collier, Underhill, Nottinghamshire, was charged with leaving his work without notice and was ordered to pay the costs of £1-11-4d. and return to work.

William Webster, collier, of Basford, Notts., was similarly charged with leaving work without notice and was ordered to pay £1-11-4d. costs and return to work.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 16th. Sept. 1865.

Page 4 Column 3.

Colliery Accident near Wigan.

8 Persons killed.

(Summary) Colliery called California Pit. One of the extensive pits belonging to the Kirkless Hall Coal and Iron Company situated near the township of Aspull about three miles from Wigan. The wire rope broke.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 23rd. Sept. 1865.

Page 2 Column 6.

Accident at Morton.

Since the commencement of the new pits at Morton the works have happily been carried on without any accident occurring. On Saturday last, however, a man named Wigley, who resides at the lodge gates of Gladwin Turbutt Esq. while working in the new pit had his leg broken by a fall of bind from the roof. He was removed to the Companies' hospital where he received the prompt attentions of Dr. Wilson, who on examining the injury found it necessary to amputate the limb. The operation was cleverly performed with the happy statement that the patient is progressing favourably.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 23rd. Sept. 1865.

Page 2 Column 6.

Lost and Found in a Coal Pit.

On the 9th. inst. a man named Joseph Johnson, better by the cognomen of Old Blucher, was lost for 8 hours in one of the soft coal pits belonging to A.M. Mundy Esq. Old Blucher has been used to working on the pit bank for the greater part of his life which in some part accounts for his mishap below the surface. At 5 o'clock in the morning he descended the shaft to work at a pump and should have come out at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, but not making his appearance at half past five, five workmen were sent down in search of him. After a fruitless search for four hours he was given up by them as lost. Mr. S. Farnsworth, a bailiff, and nine other workmen then descended the shaft and plodded through every part of the pit for about two hours calling upon Blucher to answer and at last he responded and was found in No. 8 airway. A strong current of air had put his light out and he missed his way and after a walk of several miles in search of the shaft he laid himself down and had given up all hope for the night. The bailiff and the workmen released him from his imprisonment soon after twelve p.m. to the joy of his wife and family. Great praise is due to Mr. H.H. West (Mr. Mundy's agent) who used every effort to have Old Blucher released and did not leave the pitbank until he had seen him safely landed on Terra Firma. Old Blucher, being thirsty, as rapidly as possible sought refreshment and has since resumed his work.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 23rd. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Column 2.

Neglect of Work.

John Limb, William Webster, Charles Wise, Isaac Shaw and William Holmes, colliers, were charged by George Stevenson, underviewer No. 4 Pit, Clay Cross, with neglecting their work Limb and Webster were ordered to pay £1-11-4d. each and to return to work. Wise was committed to prison for 2 months, Shaw for 6 weeks and Holmes for 1 month, all with hard labour.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 23rd. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Column 2.

Breach of Colliery Rules.

Thomas Colton, Thomas Marriott, Stephen Hinks, George Green and Thomas Wild, were charged by George Parker, underviewer, of No. 2 Pit, Clay Cross, with a breach of Colliery Rules. Colton and Marriott were committed to prison for 2 months with hard labour, Hinks was ordered to pay £1-0-10d. and Green and Wild to pay 19-10d. each and ordered to return to work.

Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald.

Saturday 23rd. Sept. 1865.

Page 3 Column 2.

Assault in a Pit.

William Bexton, corporal at No. 2 Pit, Clay Cross, was charged by John Windle, a lad, with assaulting him. Complainant said that defendant struck him two or three times with his open hand. The latter denied the former's statement and asserted that he merely pushed him. The agent, George Parker, informed the magistrates that defendant went across some waggons and detached them so that they ran down an incline doing damage to the amount of £10 or £12. But for the lad having committed such an offense he would not have been assaulted. He was ordered not to go across the waggons but did so notwithstanding. The magistrates dismissed the case.