

The Craven Herald

May 27th 1882.

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Narrow Escape

On Tuesday afternoon, whilst John Metcalfe, Underground Viewer, and Joseph Hodgson were engaged in changing a bucket connected with the large pumping engine, in performing which they were held by a rope in the shaft which runs over an iron pulley at the top of the shear-legs, some part of the shafting at the top, for some unaccountable reason, broke. Fortunately, however, it did not give way further or the two men would have been precipitated to the bottom of the shaft. They remained patiently in their predicament until means were provided to draw them out, which work was accomplished in about an hour.

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Colliery Accident.

On Tuesday morning last an accident occurred at the Wilson Wood Colliery, which might easily have terminated fatally. It appears that there is a steep incline in the workings, at which there is a pulley fixed round which a chain runs. The loaded waggons are attached at one end, and the empty ones at the other. The full waggons on running down the incline draws up the empty ones. It appears that, on the occasion in question, at the meeting place, by some means the full and empty waggons were brought to a stand. Thomas Woods, a young man employed at the Colliery, went to the place for the purpose of starting off the waggons. When he had got them unfixd they started at a rapid rate, and the poor fellow's head was caught between the top part of the waggons and the roof of the pit, and he was crushed in a shocking manner. He was at once removed home, and Dr Griffiths, of Ingleton, was soon in attendance. Although yet in a very precarious state, Woods is progressing as favourably as can be expected. It appears that there should have been someone to brake the waggons, but there was not, and had Woods been aware of this, the accident might not have happened.