

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 5 Col. 2.

No Headline.

A paragraph in The Times states that "The Lord Mayor has remitted to the local committee of the Clay Cross Explosion Fund, the sum of £1,496-10-6d., being the amount raised at the Mansion House for the relief of the widows and orphans of the men killed in the recent accident at the Clay Cross Colliery. The fund in the city is now closed. By the kindness of Mr. Baggallay, the treasurer of Bridewell Hospital, seven of the orphans have been received into King Edward's Schools at Witley, Surrey". It will thus be seen that the total subscription for the country at large was less than one thousand pounds, as the above sum includes the Clay Cross Company's donation of £500. It is fortunate that we in Derbyshire can help ourselves, or the poor widows and orphans would have fared badly. The total fund is a handsome one, but it has almost all been raised locally - I mean in this county and the adjoining districts. Why the Lord Mayor's appeal fell so dead is a mystery to everyone, for a glance at the London papers any day, shows successful appeals for objects of almost every kind, many of them certainly far inferior in their urgency to that from Clay Cross.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 5 Col. 4.

Staveley Coal and Iron Company.

The directors have resolved to pay in February £2 per share on A shares, 6-8d. per share on the B and D shares, £2 per share on the C shares, 10-0d per share on the Preference shares, on account of the annual dividend for the year ending June 30th.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 2.

Fatal Accident to a Collier at Killamarsh.

On Monday last an inquest was held at the Traveller's Rest, High Moor, before Mr. Coroner C.G. Busby, touching the death of a collier named Benjamin Booth, of Killamarsh, who met with an accident whilst at work in the West Kiveton Pit, on the 18th. of December last, and who died on the 26th. January.

Harriett Booth identified the body as that of her late husband, aged 45 years, who died on the 26th. of January. Deceased had never been an ailing man until the 18th. of December, when he was brought home suffering from a broken leg. He had met with an accident whilst working at the West Kiveton Colliery. On the 12th. of January witness called in Dr. Robertson as deceased complained of pain in the foot. Deceased seemed to be going on well until lately, when the inflammation went to his body, and he died from the effect of it. Deceased was quite sensible, and attached no blame to anyone for the accident.

Robert Walker, collier, spoke to working with deceased in December last. Deceased had holed about a foot away from the sprag, and was in the act of holing, when a piece of coal - about half a hundredweight - fell upon him, and struck him on the left leg, which broke it.

John Alexander Robertson, M.D., spoke to attending deceased on the 13th. of January. He did not complain of pain in his leg, but in his chest and left side. Witness examined his chest and found a good deal of consolidation in the left and right lung. He was suffering from a congestion of the lungs. Undoubtably the effect of the accident had been to accelerate deceased's death. The fact of him lying on his back in bed would add to the disease. Without the accident deceased would in all probability have been alive now.

The jury returned a verdict that deceased had died through congestion of the lungs accelerated by injuries received by a fall of coal in the mine.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 3.

Cruelty to a Pony at Staveley.

A youth named Herbert Orwin, a pony driver at Saint John's Colliery, Staveley, was summoned for cruelly ill-treating a pony by knocking its eye out on the 18th. of January. A youth named Cooper was called, who spoke to working in the same pit as the defendant. On the day named he heard defendant striking the pony with a stick, and on going to him, he said that the pony had dragged him in the mud. A short time afterwards when the pony was examined his eye was found to be knocked out. Defendant admitted striking the animal on the back but denied inflicting any injury to the eye. Two excellent testimonials as to the defendant's character were handed in, and the Bench taking these into consideration, and being also of an opinion that the injury was done accidentally, only ordered the youth to pay costs, but hoped it would be a warning to him in the future.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 3.

Serious Charges against a Barlborough Underviewer.

William Burton, of Barlborough, the late deputy under-viewer of the Cottam Colliery at Barlborough, belonging to Messrs. Appleby and Co., was summoned under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1872, on three charges, namely: - with a violation of the second general law, by being the person appointed for the purpose and neglecting to inspect with a safety lamp the No. 3 heading of the mine and roadways leading thereto, and making a false report on the condition thereof, so far as the ventilation was concerned; also with a violation of the 11th. special rule, by neglecting to make the necessary examination of the mine before the workmen and boys descended, and leaving a mark or signal at each working place, showing the date of his examination; and also with a violation of the 17th. special rule in force in the said mine, by neglecting to see that the doors, sheets, and brattices, were immediately put where required. Mr. F. Parker Rhodes of Rotherham, appeared for the prosecution. The facts of the case were as follows: the defendant was employed on the night turn, and he was the appointed person to examine the mine for gas. On the 10th. inst. William Bracker, another official of the colliery, examined the pit at half past nine o'clock at night. The defendant's duty was to have examined it before five o'clock the next morning. A little after seven o'clock a.m. on the 11th. inst. some men in proceeding to their work with a naked candle as usual, a slight explosion of gas occurred, whereby William Kerry, a collier, residing at Emmett Car, Renishaw, and a young man named Frank Womack, a resident at Spink Hill, were badly burnt in No. 3 heading. After the explosion defendant's report book was examined and found to contain a report by him that he had made the necessary examination and found all right, and upon being questioned by Mr. David Spence, the colliery manager, he admitted his default to him. Mr. W.E. Clegg, of Sheffield, who appeared for the defense, stated that the defendant was guilty of the neglect, and as Mr. Rhodes had decided to ask for a conviction on one summons only, he would shorten the case. He remarked that the defendant was unwell on the night in question, and expected that another competent man would make the examination for him, and asked the justices to inflict a fine. Mr. Blake remarked that colliery officials must not neglect their important duty, and in the present case the defendant was liable to imprisonment without a fine. The justices decided to impose a fine of £2 and the costs, £1-7-0d. for the first mentioned offense, and allowed the other summons to be withdrawn on payment of costs, 16-0d.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 3.

Breach of Contract at Mosborough.

Charles Rotherham, of Half Way Houses, Mosborough, a collier, was summoned under the Employers and Workmen Act, 1875, to answer the claim of Mr. John Worrall, a colliery proprietor, of Mosborough, for 5-0d. damages sustained by him through the defendant leaving his work on the 5th. of January inst., and since absenting himself. The justices gave a verdict for the amount claimed and the costs, 13-0d.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 8 Col. 3.

Fatal Accident at the Pilsley Colliery.

Mr. Coroner C.G. Busby held an inquest on Thursday at the Star Inn, Pilsley, on the body of a colliery labourer named Henry Williamson, aged 53, who was killed by being pressed between two buffers on Wednesday last, whilst at work in the above colliery. The following evidence was adduced; William Stewart, of Clay Cross, a colliery labourer, spoke to working with deceased on the day named, on the bank at the Pilsley colliery. Deceased's duty was when the slack waggons were filled under the screens, and to push them down the incline to the weighing machine. About one o'clock in the afternoon deceased was pushing one of the waggons down the incline with his chest against one of the buffers, when another waggon - which was stationary when deceased began moving the waggons - came down the incline and jammed deceased between the shoulders against the buffers. Deceased might have set the waggon in motion by pushing at the side instead of at the buffer. Witness heard him cry out and immediately seized a brake stick and stopped the waggons, when deceased fell to the ground. Deceased was taken into a cabin close by, where he died in about five minutes afterwards. It is a rule at the colliery that men should not go at the back of the waggons whilst they are being moved, but remain at the side. The verdict of "Accidental Death" was, however, returned.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 3rd. February 1883.

Page 8 Col. 5.

Lecture on Coal.

An interesting lecture on "Our Coal, how it is got and the lives of those who get it", was delivered in the Town Hall (Wirksworth), on Thursday evening last, by Mr. W. Walker, of High Peak Junction, who appears to have had considerable practical experience amongst coal pits and colliers, and has made the study of coal his "hobby" for almost the whole of his life. A number of diagrams, sketched by the lecturer himself, were hung near the platform, illustrating the mode of sinking a shaft; the interior of the pit at Clay Cross wherein the recent explosion occurred: a section of the earth's crust: the different signs of vegetation frequently met with in beds of coal; all of which proved a great assistance to both lecturer and the public. Three different kinds of safety lamps, including the well known Davy lamp, were placed on the table for the lecturer, who entered into a full explanation of the uses, advantages and disadvantages of each, and in their different modes of action on coming in contact with that dangerous element in coal pits - gas. So far as time would admit, Mr. Walker traced the history of coal from its discovery to the present period with a description of its geological formation and situation as indicated by the strata, and various minerals surrounding it in the earth, and the chemical changes it had to undergo before being transformed into coal. He also dwelt on the recent explosion at Clay Cross, and the state in which he found the workings in examining them a short time after the explosion had taken place. By means of his diagram he showed where the explosion occurred, where the men were at work, and where some of the bodies were found, and characterised the force of the explosion as being very great indeed. His instructive and very able lecture was brought to a conclusion with a touching illumination of the collier's passing a happy evening with their wives and little ones the night previous to the sad calamity, and their leaving home full of life and spirit next morning, to be borne back a mangled blackened corpse in the space of a few hours. He earnestly entreated all to open their hearts and purses to succour the widows and orphans of those unfortunate men, and to remember when sitting by their cheerful firesides these cold wintry evenings, the great dangers colliers have to encounter before being able to furnish us with "Our Coal". Mr. Walker resumed his seat amongst prolonged applause, and a collection on behalf of the explosion fund was then made, realising £5-0-1d. Mr. Stone proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and testified to the pleasure he had experienced in listening to him, which was cordially seconded by Mr. Beesley, who remarked he hoped they would soon have the pleasure of hearing him again, and he knew Mr. Walker to be well up in bees and bee culture. In responding Mr. Walker said there were many interesting points about "Our Coal" which he fully intended touching upon but he had already kept them too long. He ought really to have divided his lecture into two nights, he might possibly on some future occasion return and finish it. A vote of thanks was then passed to the chairman, to which the gentleman briefly replied, and the audience then dispersed.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 7th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Removing a Danger Signal in a Colliery.

An Exemplary Sentence.

At the Alfreton Petty Sessions on Friday last, before Messrs. G.C. Hall and W.G. Turbutt, Samuel West, a stallman, in the employ of the Babbington Colliery Company, working at Birchwood, was charged with removing a danger signal in the pit, contrary to Special Rule 46. Mr. C.G. Busby appeared for the Babbington company, and in opening the case said that though he did not wish to be vindictive, yet, with the fearful explosion at Clay Cross which had so recently taken place before them, he felt compelled to ask their worships to deal with the case in the light of the terrible risk that was run. He would venture to remind their worships that they had power to deal with the case without giving the option of a fine. James Wild, night deputy, said that at one o'clock in the morning of the 26th. ult., he went into defendant's stall, and found some gas half a yard thick in a break in the gate. Witness at once put up a printed paper having upon it in large letters "Danger: No naked lights to be taken past this point". One such notice he put on the door of the gate, and the second below nearer to the coal-face. No-one could go into the stall without seeing these signals. Witness then entered the fact into the report book that he had found gas in defendant's stall, and he also told the underviewer. Witness saw defendant the same morning on the pit-bank, and told him that there was gas in his gate and cautioned him. W. Shoeter, underviewer, said that he went down the pit at five o'clock, and on seeing defendant he gave him a safety lamp, and told him he must not take a naked light. Thomas Jackson, a gang boy, said that he saw defendant go up to the door of stall 14, and open the door. He then called witness into the stall, when he had propped the gate open. Witness had with him an oil lamp, and went into the stall with it. He saw no danger signal. The door being propped open, the printed signal was at the back of the door, witness could not see it. Nor did he see the second danger signal between the break and the stall. S. Collier, day deputy, having seen the report of gas in the stall in the report book, went to remove the gas and do away with the signals. He found the first signal on the door, but the door stood open so that it could not be seen. The second signal was down, and was lying folded on defendant's box. Mr. Chamberlain, said that on his attention being called to the matter, he went with last witness into the stall and charged defendant with the removal of the signals. Defendant acknowledged that he had done it. He told witness that he had tried the place, and, finding there was no gas, he took the signal down. Defendant said that he was very sorry that it had happened. He did it in a moment of thoughtlessness. Mr. Chamberlain, in reply to the chairman, said that defendant's general character was very good. The chairman, addressing defendant, said that the case was a very painful one. They could not imagine anyone in his senses doing such a thing. The rules were framed in the interests of the men as well as in the interests of the owners. It was very painful for them to send a man in his position to prison, but they were bound to do it as an example. He would not be allowed to pay a fine but must go to prison for two months hard labour.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 7th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 6.

Grassmoor - Theft of a Pick Blade - Heavy Sentence.

A collier named Reuben Wigley, of Grassmoor, was summoned by Avery Orwin, another collier, for stealing a pick blade on the 25th. of January. Mr. Middleton appeared on behalf of the complainant, whilst defendant was represented by Mr. Cutts. It appeared from the evidence adduced that both men worked at the Grassmoor Colliery Company, and on the day named when complainant had finished his work he placed his picks as usual in a tub along with a number of others, from which place they were taken to the sharpening shop by the man whose duty it was to sharpen the picks. The initials "A.O." were also marked on complainant's picks. On the following Monday the complainant missed one of his picks, and accordingly went into the sharpening shop, where he found the pick, which he identified as his property in the bundle of the defendant. The initials had also been hammered and "R.W." the defendant's initials placed on in their stead. Defendant was charged with an offense but denied it, alleging that the pick was his property. The matter was brought before Mr. Winter Barnes at the office, where defendant still adhered to the same statement. Mr. Cutts, on behalf of the defendant, contended that as there was a large number of picks together in the sharpening shop it was highly probable that the pick had been placed there in defendant's bundle by mistake. The Bench decided to convict, and a fine of £3 inclusive of costs was inflicted or one month's imprisonment with hard labour in default of payment.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 7th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 6.

A Warning to Colliers.

Joseph Brown, a collier, of Tupton, was summoned by the Grassmoor Colliery Company, for leaving their service without just cause, and claimed 10-0d. compensation. Mr. Middleton appeared on behalf of the Company. Defendant stated that he had just cause to absent himself from work, and said that on the 11th. of January he went to work, but the pit having a holiday he had to proceed home again. The following day, however, he might have gone to work but did not, thinking that there might be another holiday, and went on the Saturday and worked, although the other men had a holiday. When he went for his money he found that 5-0d. had been stopped, and accordingly went to the underviewer and asked the reason, when he was told that it was for absenting himself on the Friday. Defendant explained that he went to work on the Saturday to make up for the previous day. As the 5-0d. was refused him he did not go to work on the following Monday. He was aware that he ought to have given 14 days notice. Mr. Middleton stated that the 5-0d. was stopped for a load of coals which defendant had obtained. Defendant denied that any coals were mentioned when he received his money. The Bench said that defendant should have given proper notice, and then, if he thought fit, to bring a claim against the Company for the money which he alleged had been unduly withheld from him. He would be fined 5-0d., and 10-0d compensation. John Maycock, collier, of Brampton, was summoned for a similar offense, and a like amount of compensation was claimed. It appeared that defendant had made a contract to do certain work at the colliery which he performed in an unsatisfactory manner. He refused to amend the work, alleging that it was done according to the contract, and as no waller was given him defendant left the pit, hence the present claim. This defendant was also mulcted in a similar penalty. Mr. A. Barnes retired during the hearing of these cases.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 7th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 7.

The Removal of the Dronfield Steel Works.

Notice given to the Workmen.

On Friday evening last the workmen employed at night during the week received seven days notice to leave, and similar notices were given to the day men on Saturday. The notices contain no reference to the removal of the works, nor do they offer any inducement to the men to seek re-engagement at Workington.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 10th. February 1883.

Page 1 Col. 7.

Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widow and Orphans Relief Fund.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 10th. February 1883.

Page 4 Col. 4.

Advert - To Sinking Contractors.

The Victoria Coal and Coke Company, Limited, invite tenders for sinking a shaft of 320 yards. Specifications and particulars may be obtained by applying to the company's office, Stanley, near Wakefield.

Tenders to be sent in not later than the 24th. of February, 1883.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 17th. February 1883.

Page 2 Col. 5.

No Headline.

In the Huddersfield County Court, Messrs. John Hague and Sons, colliery proprietors, have been adjudicated bankrupts. The liability was estimated at £12,000.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 17th. February 1883.

Page 5 Col. 2-3.

The Coal Traffic by Railway to London.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 17th. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 6.

Claim for £200 by a Collier.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 17th. February 1883.

Page 8 Col. 2.

Teversal - Accident.

On Friday afternoon an accident happened at the Teversal Colliery to a man named John Ingram, living at Stanton Hill, Skegby. It appears that Ingram was at work in a stall, when a large quantity of coal fell upon him, breaking his leg, and also injuring him in other parts of the body. He was at once conveyed to his home, and his injuries attended to by Dr. Standen, surgeon of the Stanton Iron and Coal Company. Several other miners had a very narrow escape at the same time.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 21st. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 5.

In re the Dronfield Silkstone Coal Company v. Mr. Wake.

In the Chancery division of the High Court, before Mr. Justice Chitty, on Monday, in this case, which was upon a summons which had been adjourned into the Court by the official liquidator of the company, calling upon Mr. Wake, the former chairman of the company, to show cause why he should not pay to the official liquidator the sum of £1,073-12-8d., being the aggregate of a number of payments which had been paid by Mr. James Addy, the managing director of the Company, between the 7th. March, 1879, and the 17th. April. 1879, all of which have been part of the filing of the petition under which the Company was wound up, came up.

Mr. Romer, Q.C., and Mr. Buckley appeared for the official liquidator, and Mr. Ince, Q.C., and Mr. Charles Gould for Mr. Wake.

The counsel for the official liquidator stated that the summons was taken out under the 165th. section of the Companies Acts of 1862, and that the official liquidator alleged that although the payments in question had all been made by Mr. Addy, yet it was a breach of trust on the part of Mr. Wake in allowing such payments to be made. He read the affidavits which had been filed, and amongst them there was an affidavit by Mr. W.F. Addy, late secretary of the company, which stated that he had made all the payments under the direct sanction of Mr. Wake and Mr. James Addy, given at certain director's meetings which he had attended. An affidavit by Mr. Wake, was also read, in which he specifically denied the alleged authority, and also an affidavit by Mr. E.T. Moore, the solicitor of the company, who corroborated Mr. Wake, he saying that he, the solicitor for the company, had attended all the meetings in question, and no such authorities as those spoken of by Mr. W.F. Addy had ever been given by Mr. Wake. An examination which had been taken in London of Mr. Wake at the instance of the official liquidator was also read.

Mr. Ince, Q.C., while proceeding to argue that there was no case on the part of the official liquidator against Mr. Wake, was stopped by the Court.

Mr. Justice Chitty said: I can see no case at all. This is an attempt on the part of the official liquidator to make Mr. Wake, as a director, liable for certain payments made by Mr. Addy, the managing director, partly out of cash in his hands, and partly by cheques on the Company's banking account. It is quite clear that Mr. Wake did not authorise any of the payments in question, or any payments except for current wages, and I am satisfied that he did not know of any other payments being made.

Mr. Ince applied for costs personally against the liquidator, which, after some discussion, the learned judge ordered him to pay, reserving until next week for consideration as to the official liquidator being allowed to pay the costs out of the estate, which is insufficient to pay all the costs incurred in the liquidation proceedings.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 24th. February 1883.

Page 2 Col. 5.

The Baddesley Colliery Explosion.

Distribution of Albert medals.

On Monday afternoon a public meeting was held in the Corn Exchange, Atherstone, for the purpose of presenting the Albert medals awarded by the Queen to the volunteer searchers, "in recognition of their noble exertions on the occasion of the fire and explosion at the Baddesley Collieries on May the 1st. and 2nd, 1882". Lord Leigh, Lord Lieutenant of the County, presided, and there was a crowded attendance amongst those on the platform being the Marchioness of Hastings, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Mr. A.W. Peel, M.P. for Warwick, Dr. Hammond, Mr. C.V. Lowe, Messrs. T. Wynne and T. Evans (Inspector's of Mines), Mr. S. Chamberlayne, Mr. J.C. Fowke, the Revd. G.E.F. Matthews, etc. Lord Leigh, who was received with loud applause, expressed the great pleasure which it gave him to have been called upon by the Home Secretary to preside upon that interesting occasion, and to have the great honour presenting the Albert Medal to those gallant men who on a recent occasion displayed such conspicuous bravery in the immediate neighbourhood. Having sketched the history of the medal, his Lordship read documents setting forth the reasons for which the awards were made. His Lordship afterwards pinned the medals on the recipients as follows: First class medals: Mr. Reuben Smallman, mining engineer; Mr. Arthur Henry Stokes, Inspector of Mines; Mr. Charles Day, collier; Mr. Charles Chetwyn, collier. Second class medals: Mr. Samuel Spruce, mining engineer, Tamworth; Mr. Frederick Samuel Marsh, certified colliery manager; Mr. Thomas H. Motteram, colliery manager; Mr. William Morris, collier; Mr. William Pickering, collier; Mr. Joseph Chetwyn, collier. As the recipients of the medals stepped to the platform they were greeted with warm cheering, and the noble chairman said he did not believe any brave soldier who had the Victoria Cross presented to him performed a more gallant action than any of these brave men to whom Her Majesty had awarded these Albert Medals. (Loud Applause). It may be added that Mr. Stokes already wore the Silver Medal of the Order of St. John, awarded to him for securing a miner who had been entombed in a lead mine for five days, in circumstances of peculiar danger, some four years ago. Lord Leigh afterwards read a touching letter he had received from the widow of Mr. Dugdale (the owner of the mine), who had lost his life in a noble manner by heroically endeavouring to save the lives of others. His Lordship concluded by saying that he had also received a letter from the brother of Mrs. Dugdale (Mr. G.L. Trevelyan), the Chief Secretary for Ireland (Loud Applause) of whom they all ought to be proud, who had himself shown conspicuous gallantry on land (Applause) and whom they hoped to see shortly rewarded by Ireland being brought to a proper and satisfactory state. (Loud Applause). He was also pleased to see on the platform the respected father of the Chief Secretary, and whom they begged to congratulate on his son's marked success in Ireland. (Loud Applause). Mr. Smallman returned thanks on behalf of the recipients of the medals, and Mr. A.W. Peel, M.P., in a brief speech, proposed, "That this meeting does highly appreciate and commend the noble and devoted gallantry of the Albert medallists, and those who worked with them on the 2nd. May, 1882". Mr. C. Vero, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. J.S. Dugdale moved a vote of thanks to those who had exerted themselves for the benefit of the sufferers, and to the medical profession, and to the general public who had subscribed to the fund, remarking that the amount had been so satisfactory that there was no case of distress which would not be relieved. (Applause). Bishop Mitchinson, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. Sir Charles Trevelyan proposed a vote of thanks to Lord Leigh, and expressed his daughter's (Mrs. Dugdale's) gratitude for the sympathy which had been shown to her by her neighbours and the public, and said that

she had sent her two sons there to bear testimony to the feeling with which she regarded her neighbours and friends in the whole district. (Applause). The proposition having been seconded, was carried with acclamation, and brought the proceedings to a close.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 24th. February 1883.

Page 4 Col. 1-2.

Advert - Boythorpe Coal.

Reduction in Prices.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Best Silkstone House Coal | 10 - 6d. per ton. |
| Best Tupton House Coal | 9 - 10d. per ton. |
| Screened Cobbles | 7 - 4d. per ton. |
| Screened Nuts | 7 - 4d. per ton. |
| Slack | 5 - 1d. per ton. |

Delivered to any part of Chesterfield.

Town Agent - Mr. W. Littlewood - Gluman Gate, Chesterfield.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 24th. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 7.

Sheldon - The "Find" of Zinc Ore at the Magpie Mine.

The directors of this mine have, we understand, decided to cease working the lead veins for the present, and confine the labours of their men to getting the zinc ore, the existence of large quantities of which was discovered some time since. It is said, that 100 tons per week can be raised and washed, and that this quantity will be raised as soon as necessary arrangements are completed.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 24th. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 7.

Supposed Gold Mine in Wales.

A few days ago a lad, aged 15, named John Evans, whilst digging for copper at Llanelltyd, North Wales, found what are stated to be several pieces of pure gold, and it is believed that a gold mine exists in that neighbourhood. An exploring expedition has been formed, and operations have been already commenced.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 24th. February 1883.

Page 6 Col. 7.

No Headline.

A terrible disaster occurred in a coal mine in Illinois, which owing to the floods was suddenly filled with water, 75 men who were at work being drowned. Another disaster has occurred in Jeffersonville, in Indiana, by the fall of a house in which 300 people had taken refuge from the floods. Seven persons were killed and many injured.

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 24th. February 1883.

Page 8 Col. 3.

Fatal Accident at the Unstone Colliery.

On Wednesday afternoon an inquest was held before the coroner, Mr. C.G. Busby, at the Sheffield House Inn, Unstone, on the body of a youth named William Smedley, aged 14 years, son of a coal miner, named Charles Smedley, who was killed at the Unstone Main Colliery, on the 19th. instant. It appears from the evidence adduced that deceased was pony driving and had taken two tubs to one of the stalls. He returned with the intention of bringing other tubs, but not being forthcoming a search was made for him, when he was found about 200 yards from the stall lying on his back on the empty road. The waggons which deceased was bringing were standing near the deceased, and his feet were close to the horses heels. Where deceased was driving there were several cross-beams in the roof which would be about 6 inches above the waggons. Deceased must have been riding in one of the tubs and caught his head on one of the cross-beams, although it was against the rules of the colliery to ride in the tubs. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 28th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 1.

Theft of Coal at Whittington.

Daniel Winfield, an old man residing at Whittington Moor, was summonsed by the Sheepbridge Company for stealing a quantity of coal on the 17th. of February at Whittington. The company consented to the case being withdrawn which the magistrates granted. Defendant had to pay the costs, 3-6d.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 28th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 4.

Dronfield - Final Notice at the Steel Works.

It is now understood to have been finally resolved to set the above works down on Saturday, the 3rd. of March. Notices have been posted at the works, informing the men that the company will find work for as many as possible in the removal to and the erection of the plant at Workington. Those wishing to engage for Workington are to make application to Mr. James Duffield, manager.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 28th. February 1883.

Page 3 Col. 7.

Miners Conference.

On Saturday an adjourned conference of delegates, representing about 15,000 of the miners of Derbyshire, was held at the Sun Hotel, Chesterfield, for the purpose of receiving reports as to the results of the meetings at the various pits on the question of restricting the output. Mr. John Smith, of Danesmoor, presided, and about 50 delegates were present. The reports were all favourable to the adoption of the "Leeds programme", the chief point of which is that the men shall only work 8 hours a day for 5 days per week. A series of resolutions adopted at the meeting in Chesterfield a fortnight ago were approved. Mr. James Haslam, of Clay Cross, (Secretary of the Derbyshire Miners' Association) and Mr. Jonathan Catchpole, of Whittington Moor were chosen to represent the district at the general conference to be held at Manchester.