

Derbyshire Times.

Saturday 6th. January 1883.

Page 4 Col. 4.

Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widow's and Orphans Relief Fund.

The Committee gratefully acknowledges the following Additional Contributions to the above- named Fund.

	£	s	d
Amount previously advertised	6261	19	3½
Manager and Workmen of the Bretby Collieries, Burton-on-Trent, per Mr. Johnson.	29	12	0
Workmen of the Kiveton Park Collieries	21	0	0
Offertory, Christ Church, Belper	14	0	0
Agents and Workmen of the Babbington Coal Company, Birchwood Collieries	12	5	3
Workmen of the West Hallam Coal and Iron Co., per Mr. J.H. Mosley	10	8	0
Long Eaton Rangers Football Club, per Mr. W.G. Newsam	5	5	0
Mr. E.Y. Pearson, Birmingham	5	5	0
Offertory, Alfreton Church	5	3	1
Messrs. W.C. Long and Co., "Sheffield Daily Telegraph"	5	0	0
Workmen at the Dale Pit, Stanton Iron Co's., per Mr. E. Repton	2	7	5
Mr. Richard Lane, Skegby	2	2	0
Servants at Alfreton Hall, per Mr. Colby	2	1	0
Extra donation to the late Concert at Bakewell, per Mr. W.G. Gaiger	1	10	6
Mr. J. Deamley, Manchester, per Mr. Joseph Marriott	1	6	6
Mr. J. Lingard, Brimington	1	1	0
Mr. C. Preston, Brimington	1	1	0
Mr. R. Marshall and Friend, Clay Cross	1	1	0
Messrs. Jevons and Mellor, Birmingham, per Mr. Bassett	1	1	0
Sums under £1	4	13	5½
	6391	2	6

The above list does not include the Mansion House Fund.

Further subscriptions are earnestly solicited, as the amount received and promised is totally inadequate to meet the demands that are made on the Committee.

Subscription lists are now lying at Messrs. Crompton and Evans, Union Bank, Limited, Chesterfield and Derby; at the Sheffield Banking Company, and at the Sheffield Union Bank, Chesterfield and Sheffield; and their respective Branch Banks; Cheques and Drafts may also be made payable to

A. Linacre, Honorary Secretary.

High Street, Clay Cross

December 28th., 1882.

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Clay Cross Miners and Restriction of Output.

A meeting of miners was held on Tuesday evening, in the large room at the Angel Hotel, Clay Cross, for the purpose of considering the question of restricting the output. The large room was filled with coal-miners. Mr. James Jones presided, and there was present Mr. James Haslam (secretary to the Derbyshire Miners' Association), and deputations from other parts of the county. The following resolutions were laid before the meeting, as agreed upon at the conference at Manchester: - "That in the opinion of this conference the time has come when working miners ought to regulate the production of coal, in order that their interest may be properly protected and wages raised to a higher standard than they are at present. This is the more necessary seeing that during the last two years we have had increased production, unparalled in the history of mining in this country". The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to: - "That this meeting objects to the keeping of four days in hand from the men, and also expresses its objection to being ruled by the overground men in this question". "That Messrs. James Haslam and James Brailsford be the deputation to wait upon the masters on this subject".

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Somercotes - Miners' Association.

On Saturday afternoon the first meeting of the Council of the Somercotes and District Miners' Association was at the Old English Gentleman Inn, Lower Somercotes. Delegates attended from all the branches of the Association, and presented satisfactory reports from their several districts. The financial situation of the Association was shown to be highly satisfactory.

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Concert in aid of the Clay Cross Relief Fund at Chatsworth.

A long report of a New Years concert held at Chatsworth in aid of the Fund.

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Coates Park Miners and the Safety Lamp.

Since the explosion at the Parkhouse pit, near Danesmoor, a little gas has been found in the Coates Park Colliery near Somercotes, under the low temperature that has so generally prevailed. The discovery of the gas led to the issuing of an order by the manager that in certain parts of the pit safety lamps were to be used. On Friday evening a meeting of the men was held at the Old English Gentleman Inn, Lower Somercotes, for the purpose of considering the question of the introduction of the lamps, and its effect upon the earnings of the men. It was shown that the use of the lamp, so impeded the getting of coal, that, in order to produce the same quantity, more men had to be employed, and thus the earnings of the men were reduced. It was further stated that intimation had been received from the manager to effect that the men would be expected to pay half the cost of the lamp. The cost of the lamp was not stated, but it is one of the most costly of the safety lamps in use. A resolution was unanimously passed amounting in effect to an absolute refusal on the part of the men to bear any share in the cost of the lamps. A deputation was appointed to wait upon Mr. Laverick, the manager, to ask for an advance of 4d. a ton in all cases where lamps were used, as compensation for the loss sustained by their use. The deputation was also instructed to acquaint the manager with the refusal of the men to bear any part in the expense, and also to inform him that it affected their sight.

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Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widow's and Orphans Relief Fund.

The Committee gratefully acknowledges the following Additional Contributions to the above- named Fund.

	£	s	d
Amount previously advertised	6391	2	6
Proceeds of a Concert at Chatsworth, per Mr. E. Frith	32	17	6
Workmen of the Newstead Colliery	7	14	0
Derbyshire Engine Drivers' Association, per Mr. Geo. Rowarth	7	10	0
Mr. G.C. Hall, Swanwick Grange	5	0	0
Offertory, Swanwick Church	4	13	6
Cage Collection, Leicester, per Mr. Thompson	4	12	9
Collection, Baptist Chapel, Chesterfield	4	2	10
Mr. J.A. Greenwood and Friends, Clay Cross	3	3	0
From the "Swan Hotel", Mansfield	2	11	0
Mr. Oldham, Mansfield	2	10	0
Mr. Potts, Mansfield	2	2	0
Mr. Geo. Hazlehurst, Waterloo, Liverpool	2	2	0
The Times Coal Co., per Mr. Oliver, London	2	2	0
Messrs. Savage and Son, Mansfield	1	5	6
Mr. Hole, Mansfield	1	5	0
Messrs. Primrose and Co., Sheffield, per Mr. Aiken	1	1	0
Messrs. H. Hobdey and Co., Manchester, per Mr. Aiken	1	1	0
The Singer Manufacturing Co., Clay Cross and Chesterfield, per Mr. Geo. Lee	1	1	0
Mr. Blake, Mansfield	1	1	0
Mr. Savage, Mansfield	1	0	0
Sums under £1	3	12	6
	6483	10	1

The above list does not include the Mansion House Fund.

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A. Linacre, Honorary Secretary.

High Street, Clay Cross January 11th., 1883.

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The Coal Traffic to London by Railway in 1882.

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Page 5 Col. 3.

No Headline.

By special permission of the Home Secretary, the sons of the Tichborne Claimant, otherwise Thomas Castro, were allowed to see him at Portsea Prison on Friday. This indulgence was extended to the prisoner on the representation of Mr. Steven S. Pearce, late Sheriff of Southampton, and it was the first time during his period of incarceration that the claimant has had an opportunity of seeing his children. The Mr. Pearce referred to above will be known in this district on account of his connection with the Renishaw Collieries.

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No Headline.

I am very surprised therefore to record the fact that Mr. Arthur H. Stokes, the Assistant Inspector of Mines for the Midland district has just been decorated with the Albert Medal of the first class for his gallant conduct at the Baddesley Colliery accident in Warwickshire in May last. Mr. Stokes, as your readers will be aware, has already distinguished himself on previous occasions at Eyam, and elsewhere, and assuredly his many friends in this district will rejoice that the Queen, under Sir William Harcourt's recommendation, has conferred this distinction. Besides Mr. Stokes, the Albert Medal of the first class has been conferred on Mr. Reuben Smallman, mining engineer, Nuneaton; Charles Day and Charles Chetwynd, colliers, Atherstone; and the Albert Medal of the second class upon Mr. Samuel Spruce, mining engineer, Tamworth; Mr. Frederick Samuel Marsh, colliery manager, Hallend, Tamworth; Mr. Thomas Harry Mottram, colliery manager, Tamworth; William Morris, William Pickering, and Joseph Chetwynd, colliers, Baddesley Colliery, Atherstone. The mine was discovered to be on fire on May the 1st. at about 10 p.m., and a party of volunteers made strenuous efforts to aid nine colliers imprisoned in the workings. At 8.30 a.m. on May the 2nd. an explosion occurred necessitating great efforts for the rescue of Mr. Dugdale, John Collins, and Rowland Till. The explosion resulted fatally for 23 of the volunteers, including Mr. Dugdale.

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No Headline.

The discovery of Zinc Ore at the Magpie Mine will encourage miners in North Derbyshire everywhere. They need some encouragement very badly for between the small yield and the low price of lead, Peak miners have been in a bad way for some time. The Eyam Company had a doleful tale to tell their last meeting, and I do not hear of any other miners doing very well, except in the case of the fortunate Mr. Wass, who seems to be able to smell lead ore somehow.

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Page 5 Col. 6.

The Magpie Mines, Sheldon, Derbyshire.

An Important Discovery.

A very important and valuable discovery has been made in the working of these mines at Sheldon, near Bakewell, in this county. A short time ago, whilst the men were driving a level, they cut a vein of blende (zinc ore) five feet in width. Before going to any expense to work it, the manager recommended to the directors to allow him to test the vein by driving into it for a short distance. This course was adopted, and the result of the test is that the vein has been found to increase in width the further it is examined. This discovery is said to be unique in Derbyshire, such a large deposit of zinc ore having never been known before. Preparations are being rapidly made to work it, and we understand that within a fortnight the getting of the ore will be in full operation.

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Admission into the Chesterfield Hospital.

Charles Spencer, miner, North Wingfield, was admitted into the above institution suffering from fracture and severe contusion of right leg, severe contusion of left hip and extensive scalp wounds, occasioned by a fall of coal at Mr. Ward's colliery, North Wingfield. The patient is now going on well.

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Sound Investments.

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Page 8 Col. 6.

Whatstandwell.

On Wednesday evening last, January 10th., an interesting lecture was delivered in the coffee and reading room, Whatstandwell, by Mr. W. Walker, of the Clay Cross Company. Mr. Walker took for his subject "Our Coal: How it is got, and the lives of those who get it". Dr. Dunn of Crich, officiated as chairman. At the close of the lecture a collection was made for the Clay Cross Explosion Fund, the amount realised being £3-16-0d.

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Chesterfield County Court.

Wednesday.

(Before W.F. Woodforde, Esq., Judge).

Reeves v. The Whittington Silkstone Company.

Mr. G.E. Gee appeared in support of an action brought under the Employers Liability Act by Ephraim Reeves - through Reuben Barber, coal-miner of Whittington, as his next friend - against the Whittington Silkstone Colliery Company to recover the sum of £50 damages sustained through the negligence by a servant of the defendant's company. Mr. J. Middleton represented the defendants. The case had been adjourned from the previous court and the facts of it stated briefly, were as follows. On May the 5th. the plaintiff was at work as a pony driver in the Company's pit and when going through a brattice cloth the pony and tubs grazed a "gob" tub which had been left on the line by the deputy, a man named Parramore. Coming down the line a second time the pony shied at the tub and upset the tubs behind it. The plaintiff who was seated according to practice on the first tub was thrown off and crushed between the "gob" tub and the tubs which he was driving. His ankle was fractured, and for more than nine weeks he was confined to the hospital. Since resuming work he had not been able, owing to the weakness of his ankle, to follow the same class of employment, and though earning 3-0d. per day prior to the accident he could not now earn that amount. Evidence was called to show that the "gob" tub was in the wrong place and that it had been placed in such a position by Parramore. For the defence it was contended that the tub was not in the wrong place and the plaintiff was riding on the shafts and not on the first tub which was contrary to rule and under the third sub-section of the Act plaintiff on seeing the tub in the wrong place - if it was in the wrong place - ought to have immediately informed the manager of the pit thereof. Witnesses were called in support of this line of defence, but his Honour eventually gave a verdict for the full amount with costs. Mr. Gee remarked that unfortunately the plaintiff would have to take a dividend on the amount as the Company was in liquidation.

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The Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

Derbyshire Times.

Wednesday 17th. January 1883.

Page 3 Col. 5.

Fatal Accident to a Collier at Killamarsh.

An inquiry, relative to the death of a collier named Edward Rivington, aged 57 years was held at the Midland Hotel, Killamarsh, before Mr. Coroner Busby, on Friday last. Evidence was given by a miner named Truman to the effect that deceased was at work holeing on the 12th. inst., at the West Winton Colliery, Killamarsh. His head and part of his body was under the coal. Witness heard a fall of coal and deceased groan. He went up to deceased and found him lying with his head and one foot under a large piece of coal. Assistance was procured and deceased liberated, but it was found that he was dead. Witness examined the place where the occurrence happened and it appeared quite safe. There was plenty of spare timber about the place. In his opinion no blame could be attached to anyone. A verdict to the effect that deceased was accidentally killed was accordingly returned.

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Page 3 Col. 5.

Slight explosion at Cottam Colliery, Barlborough.

At Messrs. Appleby and Co's Cottam Colliery, Barlborough, a slight explosion of gas occurred on Thursday morning. About 20 minutes past 7 o'clock two workmen named William Kerry, collier, residing at Emmet Carr, Renishaw, and Francis Wormack, loader, residing at Spink Hill, proceeded to their stall in No. 3 heading with naked lights as usual, when a slight explosion of gas occurred. The men were badly burnt about their faces and hands. Doctor Court, of Staveley, is attending to Kerry's injuries, and Dr. Jones to the injuries of Wormack. Two other workmen were in the rear of the two injured men at the time of the accident, but escaped unhurt.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Clay Cross - Explosion Relief Fund.

Mr. Walker, of High Peak Junction, Cromford, gave a lecture on Friday evening, in the Congregational School, Buxton, on behalf of the above fund. The Rev. J.A. Blore presided, but owing to the extremely boisterous nature of the weather there was only a moderate attendance. The collection amounted to 15-0d.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Ripley - The Butterley Companies' Collieries.

Owing to the excessive rains the collieries at Denby, Marehay and Stoneyford, and other places have been flooded to a great extent. At one pit the water was 40 yards up the shaft, and the men were only able to work one day during the week.

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Advert - By Mr. H. Cupit.

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The Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widows' and Orphans Fund.

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Derby and the Clay Cross Colliery Accident Relief Fund.

The sum £303-2-2d. has been raised in Derby, in aid of the above Fund.

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Page 5 Col. 7.

Absenting from Work.

George Bellington was charged by Ambergate Colliery Company with absenting himself from their service for 14 days ending 2nd. of January without giving notice. The sum of 10-0d. was claimed as damages. Defendant pleaded guilty, prosecutor said that he did not wish to press the case. Defendant was ordered to pay the costs only.

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Page 5 Col. 7.

Fatal Accident.

About one o'clock on Thursday afternoon, as two men, named Herbert Henson, and George Tomlinson, were at work repairing the pumps at the Top Pumping Shaft belonging to the West Hallam Coal and Iron Company, near Ilkeston, Tomlinson fell off the ledge of the pipes on which he was standing into the water about 20 yards deep. Henson, who was standing in a stay in shaft below where the deceased was working, attempted to seize him as he fell, but with no success. Efforts were as early as possible made to recover the body, and some hours after it was brought up the shaft. Deceased was 33 years of age and was highly respected as a steady and industrious workman. His body was conveyed to his home at Lewcote Gate. He leaves a widow and large family

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Page 6 Col. 5-6.

Chesterfield and Derbyshire Institute of Engineers.

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An old Tragedy in Connection with the Magpie Mine, near Bakewell.

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The Discovery at Magpie Mine.

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Wednesday 24th. January 1883.

Page 2 Col. 3.

Public Notice.

In the Matter of the Company's Act, 1862 and 1867; and in the matter of the Mitchells Worsborough Dale Foundry Company, Limited.

Notice is hereby given that a petition for the winding up of the above named Company by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, was on the 19th. day of January, 1883, presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice by the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company, Limited, of Sheepbridge near Chesterfield, in the County of Derby, creditors of the said Company, and that the said petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Justice Fry, on the 2nd. day of February 1883, and any Creditor or Contributory of the said Company desirous to oppose the making of an Order for the winding up of the said Company under the said Acts should appear at the time of hearing by himself or his counsel for that purpose and a copy of the petition will be furnished to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring the same, by the undersigned; on the payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 19th. day of January, 1883.

Stevens and Co., 22, Bedford Row, London, W.C.

Agents for Messrs. Jones and Middleton, Chesterfield.
Solicitors for the petitioning Company.

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The Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

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Page 3 Col. 3.

Charge against a Collier.

James Bilbie, miner, was charged with having absented himself from the service of the South Normanton Colliery Company, by whom he was employed. The Company claimed 10-0d. as the amount of damages sustained by them in consequence of the defendant being absent from work. It was stated that the defendant had left his employment, and although he was asked to return he would not do so. The defendant said the pit was not fit to work in, in consequence of damp. Mr. Hall said that was no reason why he should not have given his employers notice that he intended to leave. He would have to pay the damages (10-0d.) and costs 16-0d.

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Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widows' and Orphans' Relief Fund.

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No Headline.

I am sorry to see that the idea that the coal trade can be made prosperous by restricting the output is extending. The men appear to think that by only working 5 days a week and 8 hours a day, they will be able to get more money, and their employers will also reap the benefit. In other words, they propose to tax the whole country in order to add to their wages. Suppose we all do alike. Suppose the grocer agreed to get more money by raising the price of tea and sugar, and the bakers put a penny on the loaf and so on. The colliers would be the first to object to that, and yet there is no real difference, except it will probably be easier for the colliers to unite to force up the price of their commodity than it would be for the other people.

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Page 5 Col. 7.

Barlow Colliery.

On Saturday evening last the officials and workmen of the above colliery met at the house of Mr. Woodruff, Travellers Rest, Barlow Commonside, for the purpose of taking a supper given them by their present manager, Mr. Holford. After doing justice to the good providings by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff, and the cloths being drawn, the health of C.H. Plevins, Esq., owner, and Mr. Holford, manager, were drunk, and a few remarks on the future of Barlow Colliery were made. A pleasant evening was spent.

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Page 5 Col. 7.

Colliery Accident at Ilkeston.

On Monday an accident occurred at the Cosn (Cossall - query) Colliery, at Ilkeston. As an empty train was being run onto the cage at the top of the shaft, the engine was suddenly started, and the train was precipitated down the shaft. Fortunately the men at the bottom of the shaft were warned in time, and got out of the way of the falling debris.

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Page 6 Col. 2.

Ilkeston - Inquest.

On Saturday Mr. Coroner Whiston held an inquest at the Newdigate Arms, Lewcote Gate, to inquire into the death of an old man named George Tomlinson, of Lewcote Gate, who met with his death by falling down the shaft of the West Hallam Colliery. The deceased and another man were appointed to make some repairs in the Top Water Shaft, and descended the shaft in a chain seat to do so. Deceased had to stand on a pipe against the side of the shaft and do the work, and when he had done he endeavoured to resume his seat on the chain. In trying to do so, however, he missed his grasp, and fell down the shaft into the water below, some 21 yards deep. His thigh was found to be broken, and he was dead when got out. It appeared from the evidence that Tomlinson had been over-exerting himself, having worked overtime, and consequently in his exhausted state the accident easily occurred. No blame was attached to any person. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally killed".

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Miners' Permanent Relief Society.

A large and influential meeting of the colliery proprietors, mining engineers, and colliery managers and agents of the Midland Counties, was held at the Midland Hotel, Derby, on Tuesday, the 16th. inst., for the transaction of general business, and amongst other matters brought forward for further discussion was the establishment of a Miners' Permanent Relief Society for the district. This scheme has been in hand for the last 12 months, and the committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Alfred Barnes, M.P., appointed to consider and arrange the matter, have had many meetings during the past year. After much discussion, the meeting resolved to establish the Society upon the basis of the calculations prepared for the committee, by Mr. George Lewis, of Derby, mining engineer, and Mr. William Saunders, the secretary of the Colliery Owners Association. The Society has for its object the dealing with every fatal accident, and making provision for the widows and children left by the workmen who should meet with their death by accident, in or about the mines comprising the district of Mr. Thomas Evans, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Mines, and in which district upwards of 50,000 persons are employed. As mentioned at the meeting, it is hoped that the lessors of the mines, who derive a large income therefrom, will not only give it their most valuable moral support but contribute to the funds of so valuable a Society and object. The workmen will contribute a small sum a week, which will be supplemented by a contribution from their employers, and it is also hoped, by the public generally.

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Clay Cross Colliery Explosion Widows' and Orphans' Relief Fund.

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Mass Meeting of the Eckington Colliers.

On Saturday a meeting of the Eckington colliers was held, presided over by Mr. Joshua Norburn, of Renishaw, a check-weighman, and secretary to the Eckington miners. Mr. J. Haslam, of Clay Cross, miner's agent, first addressed the meeting, dealing with the question of working hours. Mr. William Brown, miner's agent, of Hanley, Staffordshire, next addressed the meeting, arguing that the colliers were getting too little pay, and urging unity. The union had been a great thing for the mining population, and had a great deal more to do yet, and in ten years there would be a different class of miners. Miners worked now until they could not sleep. From 1872 to 1882 in North Staffordshire the colliers, with working eight hours a day, had averaged 48 hours instead of 59 hours a week as in the previous ten years. They had thus played one and three-eighths of a day in the week, and in the last ten years had played one year and nine months. A vote of thanks to the speakers concluded the meeting.

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Theft of coal at Staveley.

A young woman named Annie Mills, on remand from last week, was charged with stealing 51 lbs. of coal, value 3d., the property of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company, on the 15th. of January. P.C. Downs spoke to seeing a woman on the top of a truck handing defendant coal. When she had got her apron full she proceeded towards home. Witness went after her and charged her with the offense, when she said her mother had sent her. The company did not wish to press the case but only wanted to stop the practise which had almost become prevalent in the district. She was ordered to pay the costs. Mr. Markham did not adjudicate in this case.