

Derbyshire Times.

Albert Colliery.

8th August 1877.

John Harley was charged with violating the 55th special rule of the Coal Mines Regulations Act at the Albert Colliery Newbold on the 5th July. The offence was that of ramming a shot after it had misfired, the defendant pleaded guilty. He was fined 10/- plus costs.

27th October 1888.

On Tuesday the miners employed by the Derbyshire Silkstone Colliery Co. at the Albert Colliery brought their tools out of the pit.

10th November 1888.

On Wednesday the Manager at the Albert Colliery belonging to the Derbyshire Silkstone Colliery Co. met a deputation of men at the colliery offices. He stated that the Directors had decided to give them the full advance of 2½ % on the standard rate. The deputation thanked him and afterwards a full meeting of the men was held in the Star Inn.

25th November 1893.

There was a further stoppage at the Albert colliery Newbold belonging to the Derbyshire Silkstone Colliery Co. Immediately after the settlement of the wages question in London on Friday last. Mr. Edmund Taylor made arrangements with a deputation of their workmen to recommence working on Tuesday morning fully expecting there would be no further obstacle to the resumption of work. Directly after the arrangements had been made Mr. Taylor received notice from H. M. Inspector of Mines and the consulting engineers that in consequence of the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company having ceased to pump at their Dunston and Nesfield collieries for a period of twenty four days a large volume of water had accumulated behind the Albert colliery barrier on the rise of their workings and consequently it would be unsafe to work the colliery. Mr. Taylor was, therefore, reluctantly obliged to send word to the underground men that no one would be allowed to descend the colliery except officials until the water in question had been pumped out at Dunston colliery. It appears that the Sheepbridge Company decided on Thursday last on hearing that such a danger as might arise to recommence pumping and had been pumping ever since and getting out the water as fast as possible. The Newbold colliery which is on the rise will go on working as will almost all the surface men at Albert colliery. Immediately the danger is removed the underground men will again commence work after their long holiday.

Derbyshire Times.

12th May 1888.

Albert Colliery.

On Friday afternoon a fatal accident occurred to a young man named Frederick Buxton aged 34 a deputy at the Albert colliery. Some wagons got off the road in one of the Jinneys' and Buxton and a lad named Johnson went down to lift them on. Whilst they were engaged a large quantity of rock weighing about six tons fell completely burying Buxton. Johnson escaped without much injury and was able to walk to his home. But his companion on being got out was found to be quite dead. He was removed to his home in Sanforth Street.

Alma Colliery.

Derbyshire Times.

16th April 1884.

A dispute has arisen at the Alma Colliery where 300 hands are at present idle. Over a week ago a rumour was current that The Clay Cross Company had given their men and boys fourteen days notice that a reduction would be made in their wages. The men employed getting coal at Alma were informed that they would be paid a reduction of 2d per ton on all coal got

24th September 1884.

Early on Friday morning a fire of a very serious character broke out in the lamp office. The colliery is the property of Mr. Thomas Houldsworth Clay Cross and employs some 500 hands.

27th October 1888.

Mr Houldsworth Managing Partner of the Pilsley and Alma collieries. Was interviewed on Tuesday and consented to meet the demands of the men by granting the 10% advance – some 1,300 hands are concerned.

25th August 1900.

An inquest was held by Mr. C. G. Busby J. P. at the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Hospital on Thursday morning upon the body of Thomas Burton of New Tupton who met with an accident at the Alma colliery North Wingfield on Tuesday. Stephen King miner New Tupton stated he was employed at the Alma colliery and was in charge of No. 7 stall. He went to work at 6.00 a. m. and the accident happened at 7.30 a. m. (More details followed).

18th February 1922.

One hundred and seventy men and boys have been thrown out of employment by the closing down of the Alma colliery North Wingfield which the management have been reluctantly compelled to do owing to the heavy expenditure of the working of the mine.

Alton Colliery.

3rd January 1863.

Fletcher and Cheetham beg to inform the public that they are now manufacturing Encaustic and flowered floor tiles, coke furnace bricks and flue bricks. Higginbottom earthenware dealers Market Place Chesterfield.

21st September 1872.

For sale a coal known as the "Alton" seam underneath seventy-nine acres of land at Handley. The land is situated about 1½ mile from Stretton Station and 3 miles from Clay Cross Station.

Apperknowle Colliery.

18th November 1893.

A committee formed to test the seams of coal underlying the nearly worked out Silkstone or Blackshale bed has now completed their arrangements for commencing operations. The Unstone Coal and Coke Company have allowed a pit at Apperknowle to be used for the purpose and to facilitate operations as much as possible, apparatus has been brought to the place and the work will commence at once.

Derbyshire Times.

Ashgate Colliery.

18th September 1869.

Best screened and picked coals 7/- per ton.

Best unscreened 6/3d per ton.

5th February 1876.

G Margerison is honoured with instructions from Messrs S. Hoskin and Company to sell by auction at the Ashgate colliery on 8th February the whole of the working plant, engine house, offices etc. Also 7hp portable engine by Davy Bros. engine bed drum and gear, useful head gearing, eighty yards of wire rope, weighing machine by Parsons to weigh four ton, sixteen coal wagons.

6th May 1911.

Ashgate Colliery – Support Home Industries.

For cheap clean economical house fire coal you cannot do better than get your supplies from The Ashgate Colliery Company (formerly The Ashgate Colliery Company Ltd.)

1. Best Hand Picked - best quality obtainable non-better 14/6d per ton.
2. House Coal a very reliable quality 13/- per ton.
3. Cobbles a handy size and clean burning 12/6d per ton.
 4. Large Nuts 2" x 4" 12/- per ton.
 5. Pea Nuts 10/- per ton.
 6. Slack for backing 7/9d per ton.

Orders direct to the secretary of the Ashgate Colliery Company Ashgate Road or Mr. H. Yeomans 37 New Hall Road Brampton
A town office will be opened shortly.

Avenue Colliery.

Derbyshire Times.

25th October 1890.

On Saturday at Chesterfield County Police Court a case of very importance to miners came for hearing in which William Woodhouse a putter employed at the Clay Cross Company's Avenue pit North Wingfield was summoned for an offence against the Coal Mines Act for refusing to obey the lawful command of a deputy at the colliery on 7th October. The defendant was a putter employed at the no. 9 Avenue colliery and on the date named was practically wasting his time on account of there not being sufficient work in that part of the mine where he was engaged owing to the absence of men. The deputy drew the attention of the defendant to the fact that he wanted him to go putting in another part of the mine. The defendant positively declined to go and used bad language to the deputy and stated he would not go either for the deputy or anyone else. There was not the slightest doubt about the man refusing to go and he said he would see the deputy somewhere else before he would go into another stall. He was fined 10/- plus costs.

25th October 1890.

On Saturday twenty-three colliers employed at the Clay Cross Company's Avenue pit were summoned for absenting themselves from work without lawful excuses for which the Company claimed compensation at 5/- per day. The bench made an order to pay compensation and costs.

Bagshaw Colliery Brampton.

15th February 1868.

Coal delivered into Chesterfield at the following prices. Superior Blackshale 8/- per ton, Cobbles 6/6d per ton, Engine slack ex pit 2/6d per ton.

Orders left with Mr. Hopkinson, Glumangate will be attended to.

Stephen Sayer Proprietor.

Derbyshire Times.

Barlborough Colliery.

27th October 1888.

A meeting of the miners employed at Barlborough Colliery belonging to the Staveley Coal & Iron Company was held at the Anchor Inn Clowne on Monday night. A resolution was passed that the miners must stand by their notices.

21st October 1893.

A crowded meeting of the Barlborough and Southgate miners was held in the large room of the Anchor Inn Clowne on Saturday. Mr. C. Johnson moved that the miners of both collieries be not prepared to accept any reduction in their wages. But hereby pledge them selves to abide loyally by the decision of the Federation. Mr. S. Woodhead (amidst cheers) said they were prepared to hear the New Year chimed in before they would return to work at the master's terms.

24th March 1923.

The Staveley Coal & Iron Company's Barlborough Colliery is getting worked out but with alterations and developments which the Company propose to make at the pit will prevent those at present employed there being thrown out of work. It is proposed to sink in to the Blackshale seam necessitating the building of a new engine house for winding purposes and to develop still further the Deep Soft seam.

Mr. D. N. Turner Agent stated that immediate operations would commence with a view to deepening the shaft which is now in use and also another shaft close by but which has not been used for many years. It would not be necessary to employ additional miners he said because as it is – is getting worked out. As it became worked out the labour would be absorbed into the new development consequently no unemployment would be caused.

3rd September 1921.
Barlborough Colliery.

The Staveley Company's Barlborough pit where about 850 are employed is to be closed down. Mr D.N.Turner Agent of Staveley Coal & Iron Company told the Derbyshire Couriers reporter that the reason for closing the pit was that it was working at a loss the men would no doubt be given their notices next week. The Barlborough Colliery is a hard coal pit and has two shafts. The closing of this pit following so closely on the shutting down of Markham No.1 and Bonds Main pits will cause a vast amount of suffering and hardship to Barlborough and the surrounding villages.

17th December 1921.
Hartington and Barlborough Collieries.

A startling statement was made this week by Mr D. N. Turner Agent to the Staveley Coal & Iron Co to the effect that unless the men at the Hartington and Barlborough pits were prepared to accept a substantial reduction in wages the Company could not see their way to run these pits any longer. Some 1,500 men will be affected if this drastic threat is carried out. With the winter approaching the untold suffering will be caused in the Staveley district unless the men are given employment in the other pits under the Company.

24th December 1921.
Is Mr Markham Joking

Not many miners unions can boast of such a generous Christmas box as the Derbyshire Association which has been offered by Mr. Charles Markham the gift of two large coal mines Hartington and Barlborough. He says he is losing money on them and he intends to lose no more. He told Mr Frank Hall secretary to the Derbyshire Miners Association that the Association could take the pits and work them provided that they indemnify the Staveley Coal & Iron Company against any loss. Seen by our representative on Wednesday Mr Hall said "we do not take Mr Markham to seriously, he did tell us to take the two pits and work them ourselves as he did not mean to stand the loss any longer, but the Staveley Company was not built up by giving pits away. If we did have them I have no doubt but what we could make a good thing out of them".

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Barns Colliery Dronfield.

10th January 1852.

Good workmen steady in their attendance to work may meet with constant employment. Apply to Spurr and Hunter at the colliery Stubble Dronfield.

Men accustomed to the Blackshale bed preferred.

27th March 1852.

Engine tender wanted accustomed to work a colliery-winding engine may meet with employment on application to Spurr and Hunter Barns Colliery Stubble.

Derbyshire Times.

Bathurst Colliery.

20th July 1889.

On Friday an inquest was opened at Mr. Bakers brickworks near Bolsover in respect of Minnie Tinsley aged two who was killed by three trolleys passing over her on the tramway at the Bathurst colliery Bolsover.

5th April 1890.

Re Charles Baker deceased.

To sell by auction at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield on Saturday 5th April 1890.

The Bathurst Firestone and Firebrick Company works situated at Bolsover all of the kilns and buildings together with fixed and loose machinery and plant as a going concern. The property is held under a lease from Earl Bathurst and his trustees dated 31/12/1885 for forty years at a rental of £100 per year since reduced to £50. Also a seam of coal called "The Clowne Coal" and the seam of coal lying about eleven yards above the Clowne seam under 257 acres.

21st October 1893.

Bathurst Brickworks.

Messrs Byron and Rangeley will sell by auction at the Angel Hotel on Saturday 28th October 1893 at 3.00 p.m. The works consists of a Newcastle kiln capable of turning out 100,000 bricks per week with new chimney, engine house with drying shed and 50 chains of fixed tramway from the brickyard to the footrill where there is a small winding engine. Two Galloway boilers and a good well close to the engine house about 30 feet deep. The above plant is capable of turning out 120,000 bricks per week and is connected by a siding with the Doe Lea branch of the Midland Railway and close to the Palterton and Sutton station, there is also a good road adjoining the works.

1st February 1896.

Bathurst Brickworks.

The above valuable works and premises are to be sold at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield as a going concern and subject to the benefit of an agreement made with Pearson & Son contractors which expires at the end of June next. The works consist of kilns, drying sheds, tramway to the coal adit where there is a 14hp horizontal haulage engine, 2 Galloway boilers and 2 cottages. The supply of clay is practically unlimited and the bed is thick of excellent quality and the demand for bricks for colliery cottages and works in connection with the extensive coalfields now being opened at Bolsover, Creswell, Shirebrook and Warsop.

Bentley Colliery.

4th May 1889.

John Turner and Son colliery and contractors auctioneers have received instructions from the above company to sell by auction on the premises of the above on Monday 13th May 1889 the whole of the colliery plant in consequence of the expiration of the lease. All will be sold without reserve. Bentley Colliery is two miles from Dronfield, two miles from Unstone, four miles from Eckington and six miles from both Sheffield and Chesterfield. The sale will commence at 1.00 p.m.

Bonds Main Colliery.

28th September 1895.

We are informed on the best authority that a new pit will be sunk on the Sutton Estate near Temple Normanton and that the operation will begin immediately. The coalfield is wholly the property of W. Arkwright Esq. and has been leased to the Staveley Coal and Iron Company Limited. Their present supply of house coal is approaching depletion. The new pit will be fitted with the latest machinery and will turn out 1,800 to 2,000 tons per day.

27th November 1942.

A new pithead canteen for serving hot meals was opened by Brigadier General J. M. Jackson D.L. J.P. of the Clay Cross Company at Bonds Main Colliery on Wednesday. Dinner was served to fifty-six persons after whom Mr. Marsh (chairman of the canteen committee) introduced Brigadier General Jackson who said that he hoped the employees at Bonds Main would use the canteen to the greatest advantage. He also stated that the pithead baths would be added to the canteen when the opportune time came. Brigadier General Jackson is President of the Derbyshire Miners Welfare Committee. Other officials present were Captain G. R. Jackson (Clay Cross), Mr. G. F. Gardiner (Mining Agent) and Mr. C. W. Scott (Senior Mines Inspector), Mr. E. S. Spiller (Architect), Mr. R. J. G. Kearsley (Derbyshire Mines Canteen Organiser), Mr. H. S. Cockerill (Under manager), Mr. G. Froggatt (Canteen secretary), Messrs F. Nottingham, M. Hayes and L. Higginbottom represented the Derbyshire Miners Association Bonds Main Branch.

4th December 1942.

Coal cutting operations were being carried out on the afternoon shift in the Threequarter seam at Bonds Main Colliery on Friday when an outbreak of fire occurred at the coalface. A call to the North Midlands Mines Rescue Personnel at Chesterfield and Mansfield was promptly answered and an appeal for volunteers for miners of the village most of whom had only left the pit two hours previously from the day shift was responded to magnificently. The men along with the rescue parties and colliery officials carried fire fighting equipment to the scene of the outbreak which was brought under control in a very short time, there were no casualties.

3rd June 1949.

With the utmost co-operation on the part of all concerned Bonds Main Colliery was permanently close at the weekend and the majority of the workmen transferred by mutual arrangement to Arkwright Colliery. Arkwright had previously been worked on a single shift basis and is now working both days and afternoons on coal production.

The change over has worked smoothly and the men are settling down at Arkwright with encouraging results so far. Even higher productivity is anticipated and the benefits to No. 1 Area and, therefore, to the mining industry as a whole, will be considerable. The output should eventually be doubled at Arkwright. Where productivity is outstandingly high compared with the low efficiency following difficult natural conditions at Bonds Main. Approximately 40 men were left behind at Bonds Main to carry out salvage work in the pit, an operation that will last at least a year.

To carry out a major operation of this nature the full co-operation of management and workmen at both collieries was essential and in this case Area officials speak highly of the co-operation and goodwill of all concerned. The Area General Manager Mr. W. V. Sheppard was warm in his appreciation of the understanding shown and the help given by the National Union of Mineworkers Officials at Area and colliery levels. Mr. Sheppard regarded the successful closure as a "combined operation" in every sense of the phrase.

5th January 1968.

After an illness of two years the death occurred on Saturday of Mr. William Marsh (77) 8 Nottingham Drive Wingerworth. Before his retirement Mr. Marsh was Manager for 25 years of Bonds Main Colliery and during that period was also Manager for two years of Clay Cross and Danesmoor Collieries.

Mr. Marsh went to Canada to gain experience in mining and while there the First World War broke out. He caught the first boat to England to join up and served on the Western Front. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have lived in Wingerworth for 16 years and prior to that at Temple Normanton.

Derbyshire Times.

Boythorpe Colliery.

9th February 1856.

Messrs Hoskin, Knowles & Co. respectfully informs the public that they are supplying their coal at 5/- per ton ex pit.

16th October 1858.

Having undergone thorough repairs parties may now rely on being supplied with coals and slack in any quantity and superior quality to any previously offered at the above colliery at the lowest prices. Applications for prices should be made to Mr. Spray at the machine opposite the gashouse. A. & L. Ludlam.

19th February 1876.

Boythorpe Colliery Co. v Renishaw Colliery.

An application was made in the case of Walter Shaw Black v Chesterfield Colliery Co. An action brought to recover the sum of £5,000 the balance of a sum of £100,000 from which the defendants had agreed to purchase the Renishaw Colliery Eckington. The present defendants against Mr. Walter Black the present plaintiff and his brother Dr. Cornelius Black is now pending.

27th May 1876.

The Chesterfield and Boythorpe Colliery Co. are now in a position to accept orders at the following reduced rates. New Silkstone 11/-, Threequarters 9/6d, Hand Picked Tupton 9/-, Engine slack 2/6d all per ton, carting extra.

24th February 1877.

Reduction in prices by the Chesterfield and Boythorpe Co. Ltd. They are now in a position to accept orders at the following reduced rates:

New Silkstone 11/-, H. P. Tupton 9/-, Cobbles 6/6d, Screened 5/6d, Engine slack 3/6d. All per ton ex pit, carting extra.

Orders received by Mr. H. Gilbersthorpe Packers Row.

8th December 1877.

High Court of Justice Chancery Division, Friday 30th November 1877.

The Chesterfield and Boythorpe Colliery Co. Ltd. v -----?

(Very long report taking up several columns).

Derbyshire Courier.

27th December 1890.

Boythorpe Colliery.

Few companies give so much encouragement to their employees as Messrs Brewis Bros. the proprietors of Boythorpe Colliery. Sometime ago they gave several treats to numerous London and Chesterfield workmen. Not long ago Mrs. Samuel Brewis paid a visit to the colliery at Boythorpe and was struck with the condition of the ponies that were employed down the pit. She at once devised a plan by which the matter could be resolved. The Boythorpe Collieries belonging to Messrs Samuel, Thomas and Herrington Brewis and the wives of the gentlemen agreed to give several prizes to the boys who treated their with kindness and kept them in the best conditions. The first prize was to consist of a silver lever watch and the remainder to be money prizes. Mr. Pearce the genial and kindly manager assisted by the under manger Mr. Smith and deputies employed at the colliery had the difficult task of judging the ponies which had been done by examining every pony each evening and their decisions have given every satisfaction. On Tuesday afternoon as the pony drivers were leaving work they were called into the joiners shop and Mr. George Brewis made a presentation. There were also present a number of the officials and workmen.

Derbyshire Times.

4th May 1878.

Boythorpe Colliery.

On Wednesday morning an outburst of gas occurred at the Chesterfield and Boythorpe Colliery Co. by which between 300/400 colliers narrowly escaped with their lives and have for sometime been throw out of employment. The men went to work at the usual hour of the morning at about 7.00a.m. The roof of the workings got on what is called the "dead weight" in the south workings

caused by the falling in of the strata and a large quantity of gas more than the ordinary ventilation was capable of dealing with became dislodged from its position. A man in the underground engine room was first to notice the presence of the explosive gas by seeing fire in his lamp. He immediately sent the alarm along the whole workings and all the naked lamps and lights were extinguished. There was a general rush of the men to the bottom of the shaft and the whole of the men were conveyed to the surface fortunately without any suffering any injury. If the gas which had been released, taken fire a terrible explosion must have followed, the quantity of gas in the pit is estimated to have been something about 400,000 feet and extended over an area of two miles of workings.

So precipitous was the rush by the men to get out of the pit that a large proportion of them came to the bank in a state of almost semi nudity and had to borrow sacks and cloths and anything that could be converted into covering to walk home in.

If the prompt action in extinguishing all lights when the alarm was given had not been carried out the consequences would in all probability been the sacrifice of 300 lives.

2nd March 1878.

In reference to the extraordinary robbery of Mr. G. J. Wood cashier of the Chesterfield and Boythorpe Colliery Co. of £1,000. On Friday a daring robbery was committed at The Midland Railway Station Derby in remarkable circumstances. For many months past an accountant in the service of the colliery company has gone to Derby to meet a gentleman from the Bank of Burton from which he received a sum of £1,000 for the purpose of paying wages at the colliery. On Friday shortly before noon the usual transfer of cash took place. The accountant then proceeded to the refreshment bar on the platform for a few moments then returned to the Chesterfield train as was his custom and deposited the two bags containing £1,000 in gold and silver on the seat of the carriage, on the same seat was another bag belonging to Mr. Williams of Birmingham a director of the colliery company. The accountant walked up and down the platform conversing with Mr. Williams. Upon casting a glance into the carriage their suspicion that anything was wrong was no way aroused as the two bags and that of Mr. Williams looked all right. There can, however, be the slightest doubt that during this conversation the two thieves had been closely familiar of the cashiers movements and entered the carriage from the offside and replaced the bags of gold and silver by two other bags similar in size and shape exactly corresponding with those of the colliery company. Two men were seen to enter the offside of the railway carriage at the supposed time of the robbery when no notice was taken of them they withdrew. Just before the starting of the train to Chesterfield the cashier had occasion to lift the bags and was shocked on discovering the substitution. Information was passed to the railway authorities that lost no time telegraphing Nottingham and elsewhere. During the day Mr. Williams returned to Burton and made arrangements for the withdrawal of more money in order to discharge the payments of wages to the colliery people.

30th November 1878.

A free pardon has been granted to one of the prisoners George Wright who was sentenced to five years penal servitude at the Derby assizes for being concerned in the robbery of £920 from Mr. Wood secretary of the Chesterfield and Boythorpe Colliery Co. at Derby Midland Station in February last.

10th January 1880.

Best Silkstone House 9/10d, Best Tupton House 8/7d, Screened Cobbles 6/10d, Screened Nuts 5/10d, Slack 4/10d all at the ton rate delivered to any part of the town.

Town Agent, Mr. W. Littlewood fruit and potato merchant, Gluman Gate Chesterfield.

29th March 1884.

Reduction in prices on and from Monday 24th March, the following prices will be charged, at Boythorpe Lane or Lordsmill Street depots. Delivered to any part of Chesterfield.

Best Blackshale 9/3d ex pit and 10/6d delivered.

Best Tupton 8/6d ex pit and 9/9d delivered.

Screened Cobbles / Screened Nuts 5/9d and 7/- delivered.

Engine Slack 3/3d and 4/6d.

All prices quoted are at the ton rate.

Orders left at either depot or with Mr. Littlewood Glumangate.

2nd January 1886.

On Christmas Eve a sad and fatal accident to Mr. John Harrison secretary of the Boythorpe Colliery Co. Ltd. occurred. He was only appointed to the post about three months ago in succession to Mr. G. J. Wood who had left to take up residence in London. It appears that the colliery has two shafts one for the Blackshale and one for the Tupton seams. They are 200 / 300 yards apart and are connected on the surface by two lines of railway, which cross the main road from Chesterfield to Matlock. For hauling the wagons about a small locomotive was at the Tupton pit at about 6.15p.m, just as Mr. Harrison was proceeding to his residence at Whitecotes House only a short distance from the crossing. He walked on and just as he was passing over the crossing the engine which he apparently on account of the fog prevailing had not observed had been put in motion and came up suddenly and struck him. He was 42 years of age and leaves a widow and seven children.

The engine went across to the Tupton pit at 6.15p.m. and as it crossed the road it gathered up some speed to push the trucks up the incline to the coke ovens. Mr. William Blanche Hodgson Boythorpe House colliery manager said his attention had never been called to the crossing in question nor had any complaint been made.

9th January 1886.

John Harrison (Boythorpe Colliery).

Creditors of the above formerly of Eckington, Brimington and later Whitecotes are requested to send in their claims to Jones and Middleton Solicitors.

27th February 1886.

John Turner and Son have received instructions to sell by auction on the premises of the late Mr. Harrison the whole of the valuable household furniture etc.

Derbyshire Times.

19th March 1887.

Boythorpe Colliery Company Ltd. and the Companies Act.

In the Chancery Division on Saturday Mr. G. Hastings appeared in a petition for winding up this company. Mr. Hastings said there was a petition for winding up the company presented by two creditors the first being Mr. H. F. James who was a creditor for £1.155-10-3d of which £635-10-3d was a judgement debt and the remainder consists of debenture lots overdue. The other petitioner Mr. Pearson was a creditor under the debenture for £750. All debentures were long since overdue. The total debenture debt amounted to £19,960. The company was formed as far back as 1873 and had a somewhat chequered existence. In the year 1886 the capital of the company was reduced when there was a written off sum of £147,000.

Mr. Justice Stirling said the usual winding up order be made.

2nd March 1889.

On Saturday at Chesterfield County Police Court James Taylor a youth residing at Brampton and employed at the Boythorpe Colliery was summoned by Inspector Yates of the R.S.P.C.A. for cruelly ill-treating pony. The defendant pleaded guilty. Inspector Yates said there was no doubt that a considerable amount of cruelty existed at some pits but he was sorry to say that they were unable to get at them on account of the difficulties they had to contend with in getting down the various pits. The Bench said the costs would be heavy for such an offence. He was fined 2/6d plus costs of 17/6d or in default 7 days in prison.

13th July 1889.

The Boythorpe Colliery Company are now delivering to all parts of the town their:

Best Silkstone Hand picked at 10/- per ton, Best Tupton Hand picked at 9/6d per ton, Screened Silkstone Cobbles at 8/6d per ton, Screened Tupton Cobbles 7/6d per ton, Screened Silkstone Nuts 7/6d per ton, Tupton Nut slack 6/- per ton.

These coals make the hottest and best fires. Country carts loaded at the colliery or depots at the corresponding low prices. Truck loads forwarded to any station.

Address orders to Boythorpe Colliery Company Chesterfield.

Derbyshire Times.

3rd September 1864.

Brampton Colliery.

To colliery owners and others – to be sold by auction opposite the National School Brampton a weighing machine calculated to weigh 4 tons, 10 coal wagons and pit corves. The sale is to commence at 1.00 p. m. at the Three Tuns Inn Chesterfield.

28th March 1868.

Tenders are requested for sinking a new shaft down to the Ashgate

Seam of coal near to the Chain Bar Brampton. Sealed tenders endorsed “Tender for Sinking” addressed to Mr. John Johnson Brampton colliery offices Chesterfield to be delivered not later than 8th April next.

14th June 1873.

An inquest was held into the circumstances attending the death of Joseph Talbot pit sinker who was killed in a pit being sunk at Brampton the property of R. W. Jackson Esq. M. P. for West Hartlepool by an explosion of gas. Henry Walters stated that he was the manager of the Brampton coalmine. One shaft went down to the Blackshale coal about 65 yards. Another shaft is being sunk to the same coal and is about 36 yards down. The sinkers were engaged in putting some iron tubbing about 22 yards from the surface and they were working on a wooden scaffold suspended by four chains and strong hemp rope attached to the treble gear crab winch. Suddenly there was an explosion.

6th December 1873.

Henry Walters manager to Ralph Jackson M. P. owner of Brampton colliery was summoned for contravention of the “Mines Regulations Act 1872” for not having published special rules in conspicuous places for inspection. The Inspector went into the Old Brampton colliery on the 10th November and into the engine house and found a connecting rod and crank unfenced. The third charge was for permitting gunpowder to go down the pit and to be used otherwise than as cartridges. On the 10th November he found in stall no. 21 some gunpowder in a tin canister. He also found gunpowder otherwise than in cartridges in a tin can.

The Bench considered that they had to convict and they found the defendant £5 plus costs on each charge a total of £17- 13- 6d and told him that they had been lenient as the penalty could have been £20.

9th August 1876.

Coal screened 11/- per ton, unscreened 9/6d per ton, Nuts 5/- per ton,

Unscreened nuts 4/- per ton Pit slack 2/- per ton. Cash on Delivery.

Derbyshire Times.

Brampton Colliery.

20th January 1877.

Coal screened	11/-	per ton at the pit
Coal unscreened	9/6d	“ “ “ “ “
Coal nuts	5/-	“ “ “ “ “
Screened slack	4/3d	“ “ “ “ “
Pit slack	2/-	“ “ “ “ “

Cash on Delivery.

7th July 1877.

Samuel Hoskins Manager of Brampton colliery was summoned for two offences against the Coal Mines Act.

1. By employing persons in the Cutthorpe colliery without there being two shafts communicating with each other.
2. For not causing an adequate amount of ventilation to be produced so as to dilute and render harmless the noxious gases in the pit. Since the Inspectors visit the pit had been closed and in consideration of that they had agreed to accept a penalty of £5 in the first case and £1 in the second case both with costs.

3rd January 1880.

Hand picked coal 9/6d, Screened coal 8/6d, Screened slack 4/-, pit slack 3/6d all prices per ton at the pit.

26th May 1883.

For sale horizontal engine with 16 inch link motion by Oliver & Co. One pair of 16 inch horizontal winding engines and winding drums by Oliver & Co.

19th March 1884.

To be sold by auction on Thursday 27th March at 3.00.p.m. at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield the valuable colliery plant comprising of winding and pumping engines, pit tubs and rails the colliery buildings including engine house, office and workshops and between four and five acres of land.

Derbyshire Times.

12th December 1868.

For cleanness, heat and durability not surpassed by any offered to the public. Present price of Best House Fire Coal 6/- per ton at the pit, delivered in Chesterfield 8/- per ton.

George Mycroft and Company Brimington.

Agent. F. Deighton Hairdresser Chesterfield.

16th January 1875.

To let , the getting and banking of the coal at Brimington Colliery. Non but experienced miners need apply. Applications to Whitebank House, Derby Road, Chesterfield.

6th February 1875.

To be sold by auction all the valuable colliery known by the name "Brimington Colliery" with a valuable bed of Silkstone and other seams of coal and ironstone situate at Brimington.

With the freehold close of land called the "Punches" and also a close of land called "Renshaw", the shafts of the colliery are sunk in the lastly named close of land.

Together with a valuable steam engine, machinery, gearing, shafting, wagons and other effects belonging to and used by the vendor in working of the said colliery.

The coal can be profitably and speedily won.

List of Mines 1908.

Butt and Carrington, Brimington Common owned Wheeldon Mill Colliery, 2 underground workers and one surface worker.

H & T Shardlow Brimington owned Calow Colliery with 3 underground workers and one surface worker.

Brimington Colliery – Owners.

No. 1.	1854 – 1858	J. Knowles.
No. 2.	1854 – 1855	W. Ripley.
No. 3.	1867 – 1869	Stephen Sayer.
	1870 – 1871	Locoford Coal Co. Ltd.
	1872 – 1879	Tapton Coal Co. Ltd.
	1880 – 1881	Philemon Hicks. <u>Brimington Lane Colliery.</u>

Brimington Lane Colliery.

No. 1. 1874 – 1876 C. Black.

No. 2. 1874 Robert Carr.

Derbyshire Times.

Brockwell and Newbold Back Lane Collieries.

19th December 1874.

At Chesterfield County Police Court Henry Naylor proprietor of the above collieries was summoned by H. M. Inspector of Mines and charged with three various offences at Brockwell colliery and two offences at Newbold Back Lane colliery. Mr. Busby appeared to prosecute and after enumerating the charges and the section of the Act bearing them, intimated to the Bench that he was instructed by the Inspector to say that the cases were not brought against the defendant in a vindictive spirit and that the prosecution would be content with a penalty of £5 in respect of each colliery with costs. The defendant pleaded guilty and promised the offences would not be repeated.

2nd August 1890.

A serious accident occurred on Monday that happily terminated without loss of life. It appears that an explosion of gas occurred at the Brockwell colliery belonging to Mr. Saunders of Newbold by which two men were seriously burnt about their heads, hands and arms. Both men were admitted to Chesterfield Hospital and are now going on well.

2nd July 1892.

To be sold by auction the whole of the Brockwell colliery plant comprising of a pair of winding engines with drums, horizontal and vertical boilers, five pulley wheels, forty corves, brick machine and clay pans.

30th April 1921.

Fire has broken out at the clay pit in Newbold Back Lane where scores of "miners" have been doing brisk business in the working of an outcrop seam of coal since the colliery stopped work. A week ago the scene of considerable activity the pit now resembles a burning slag heap. In various parts of the pit where the more productive "miners" were working the combustible material has become ignited and the underground is on fire.

Derbyshire Times.

Broom House Colliery.

13th June 1874.

The public are respectfully informed that the Whittington and Sheepbridge Colliery Company Ltd. are now open for the sale of house and steam coal. For particulars apply to Broom House.

9th January 1875.

Wanted a colliery blacksmith who can sharpen picks and make himself generally useful. Apply to J. Farrall Broom House Whittington.

20th July 1878.

Instructions have been received from the joint liquidators to prepare for sale by auction on Wednesday 31st July at the colliery known as Broom House Colliery Whittington. The whole of the loose plant, tubs, horses, ponies, bricks and 1,000 tons of slack.

5th January 1884.

The Silkstone Colliery Old Whittington formerly known as Broom House has recommenced working and is now prepared to supply this excellent coal to the householders of Chesterfield and Whittington neighbourhoods at current prices. Cartage charges according to distance.

Derbyshire Times.

7th October 1871.

Bull Close Colliery.

On Friday morning an accident happened at Bull Close Colliery to a man named George Booker a miner in the pit who had brought a wagon of coal to the bottom of the shaft. Whilst there the cage was being raised and the wagon thereon "tipped" striking Booker on the head and chest inflicting serious injury and laying bare the skull in a frightful manner.

2nd September 1874.

On Monday a steam boiler connected with the engine used for raising coal at Bull Close colliery belonging to Mr. J. L. Hewitt at Dronfield exploded doing a considerable amount of damage and placed the lives of several men in great jeopardy. The damage is estimated at between £250 / £300 besides the stopping of the pit for several weeks, which will throw a considerable number of men, idle.

17th August 1889.

Bull Close Colliery and farm Dronfield. Under an execution, from the Sheriff of Derbyshire, re William Hewitt. John Turner will sell by auction on the premises of William Hewitt colliery proprietor and farmer the whole of the fixed and loose colliery plant, horizontal winding engine 18 inch stroke with fly wheel and 4ft metal drum, donkey engine to feed boilers, headstocks with two pulley wheels 4ft in diameter, two winding ropes, two pit cages, pit bank weighing machine by Hodgson and Stead Manchester, cart weighing machine by Pooley, two coal tiplers, two coal screens. The sale commences at 10.00a.m. Bull Close is about one mile from Unstone and Dronfield stations.

5th October 1889.

Chesterfield Bankruptcy Court.

Bull Close Colliery.

Mr. William Hewitt late a farmer and colliery proprietor came up for his public examination. Mr. Hall the Official Receiver conducted the inquiry and the bankrupt in answer to his questions stated that he had realised certain property under his wifes settlement and had received two sums of £330 and £1,302.

Calow Colliery.

Best Silkstone 10/6d per ton, Slack 4/6d per ton delivered to any part of the town. Agent: Mr. Joseph Rooth 9 Packers Yard Chesterfield.

18th October 1873.

The Silkstone Colliery Co. Calow are selling good coking slack at 7/6d per ton and good engine slack at 6/6d per ton at the pit mouth.

13th November 1880.

Valuable freehold land and minerals at Calow. To be sold by auction by J. Turner and Son (by order of the mortgages) at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield. Frogg Park, The Long Lea, Jenkin Wood Meadow, Middle Baggaley Close, Upper Baggaley Close. The Long Lea is arable and the rest grassland. The Blackshale coal and ironstone and other minerals underlie all the lots except part of the Baggaley Close. The timber will be included in the sale. The late Mr. Jethro Adlington recently occupied the whole of the property.

26th April 1879.

Mr. W. D. Botham has received instructions from the liquidator to sell by auction the whole of the valuable loose plant etc. A 10hp engine, mortar and clay mills and pans, two pit water tubs, pit cage, two pit wagons, and 6,000 pressed bricks and 30,000 common bricks.

10th March 1900.

A small colliery at Calow for sale. Fifteen to sixteen acres of good coal 5ft 6inch thick to work. Good sale for coal and good reason for giving up. John Blair, Brampton.

The same advertisement appears on the 3rd April and refers to the pit as Allpits Colliery.

11th January 1908.

An action of much interest to miners in the county was heard yesterday when William Crompton of Bole Hill Cottage Calow a checkweighman sued J. G. Smith Birdholme, Herbert Hopkinson Boythorpe Lane and Ernest Harvey Bonds Main, President, treasurer and secretary of Bonds Main Checkweigh Fund, for £11 – 12- 6d as wages due to him as checkweighman at the Calow / Bonds Main collieries and 5/- per day for five weeks plus 55%. He claimed this sum from the defendants as damages

sustained by him in being prevented from performing his duties. In September 1907 the Staveley Company gave notice to the men at Calow pit to terminate their position with the Company in 14 days. This was in consequence of the Company having "headed" through their Bonds Main pit to the workings at Calow pit thus making the two pits into one. At the termination of this notice the men at Calow continued to work at the colliery. Crompton had been checkweighman at the pit for 5 years. At the time 667 men were working there. At the ballot Crompton 349 and Swift 277. In accordance with the act notice was sent to Mr. Cuthbertson, General Manager.

Chesterfield and Silkstone Colliery.

21st September 1861.

The capital of the above company is £40,000 of 8,000 shares of £5 each. Among the Directors is George Senior a coal owner of Barnsley. The coalfield comprises of about 600 acres and is estimated to contain 4,000,000 tons. The lease is for thirty-six years at a moderate rent of £210 per acre of which seventeen acres per year must be moved. It is in the Dunston / Barlow coalfield and the land is by the Dukes of Devonshire and Rutland.

Coal Aston Colliery.

3rd April 1875.

Messrs James Rhodes and Sons who have worked out the colliery are to sell by auction a 16 hp engine and a 22 hp horizontal engine both by Walker Eaton and Company, a 12 hp vertical engine and two large boilers by Wood Brothers and 88 coke ovens. The colliery is about 1 ½ miles from Dronfield.

Derbyshire Times.

25th September 1880.

Cobnar Wood Colliery.

On Wednesday morning an inquest was held on the body of Frederick Stevenson a labourer residing at Barlow and employed by Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co. Mr. Hampson manager was present and showed some plans of the scene of the accident. Deceased was 18 years of age and was drawing a tub up with the winch when both handles broke and one struck him on the head.

18th September 1942.

Five men lost their lives when the lorry on which they were being conveyed to work left the road near Barlow on Monday morning. Including the driver there were fifteen men on the lorry and none escaped injury. The men were all miners employed at the Cobnar Wood colliery. The accident happened at about 7.40.a.m. and apparently the lorry was coming out of a second curve of an "S" bend in Bradley Lane just before reaching Barlow. It seems that the near side wheels mounted the grass verge and then cut across the road onto the offside where a short grass verge slopes down sharply, it plunged down this verge and struck a tree. The lorry was of the open type and the men were thrown in all directions. The lorry plunged into a stonewall demolishing this for some yards before coming to rest. The lorry was badly damaged but did not turn over

26th February 1943.

Manslaughter proceedings against Joseph Taylor (40) 206 Prospect Road Old Whittington Chesterfield arising from the lorry crash at Barlow last September when five men were killed was to be heard today Friday.

Case adjourned until next Assizes for various reasons.

Cottam Colliery.

2nd October 1880.

On Wednesday morning an accident, that resulted fatally, occurred at the Cottam Colliery Barlborough when a youth named Jennings was crushed when a large amount of bind fell on him crushing him severely. Such was the quantity of bind that fell a pony was also killed.

17th January 1883.

At Messrs Appleby and Company's Cottam Colliery a slight explosion of gas occurred on Thursday morning when two men were burnt.

16th July 1890.

A shocking accident, which terminated fatally, occurred at noon on Wednesday to Mr. Hazleby enginewright at the colliery, which is at Barlborough and belonging to the Renishaw Iron Company. The coal from the colliery is conveyed part of the way to Renishaw Iron Works in trucks drawn up an incline. Mr. Hazleby was proceeding from his office to the colliery up the incline when he met a loaded train. He stepped out of the way apparently forgetting some empty trucks were coming up on the other line. These dashed against him resulting in his skull being fractured.

12th November 1892.

On Monday all the men in connection with the above colliery employed by Messrs Appleby and Company Renishaw Iron Works left their employment owing to the coal having being got belonging to the Company.

Cutthorpe Colliery.

10th March 1877.

Messrs Hoskin and Co. are now supplying Best Blackshale Coal screened and picked at 8/9d per ton at the pit or down in Chesterfield at 11/9d per ton. Orders received at the pit by post or by Mr. Herbert Hoskins Victoria Street Brampton.

1st October 1921.

A verdict of accidental death was returned at an inquest held at the Cutthorpe Institute on Wednesday on Wilfred Turner (28) married of 25 The Square Cutthorpe who was killed as a result of a fall of roof at the Igmatorpe Colliery on Monday. The Coroner Dr. A. Green said that there was no

evidence of negligence on the part of the workmen or those concerned in the management of the pit. The deceased's father was injured at the same time and was taken to the Chesterfield Hospital.

14th February 1925.

W. D. Botham and Sons have received instructions to sell by auction under an execution re The Attorney General v Cutthorpe Colliery Co. Ltd, the whole of the colliery plant, machinery, fittings, tools and effects.

22nd July 1876.

Cuttholme Colliery.

(page 3 col: 7)

On Sunday week an accident happened at the Cuttholme Colliery belonging to Mr. John Oldfield Brampton to a man named Samuel Higginbottom better known in Brampton as "Rougher". This pit, which is 25 yards deep, is 10 yards in water up the shaft and is continuously worked night and day to keep the water down. Higginbottom had previously been employed at the colliery but had been discharged through negligence of work. The manager left the works and saw Higginbottom who was intoxicated and discharged him from going on the premises. After the manager had left Higginbottom went to the pit and insisted on tipping the tubs. He tipped four tubs in succession then missed his balance and fell down the shaft. The young man in charge laid himself down at the mouth of the pit to listen and heard him plunging about in the water below he directed the engineman who was some distance from the shaft to lower quickly as a man had fallen down the shaft. To their surprise they heard Higginbottom call out "alright draw up" he appeared none the worse for his journey. A summons has been taken out against him for his recklessness.

Dark Lane Colliery.

15th May 1880.

About 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday morning a fatal accident happened to a man named Thomas Ash of Newbold, whilst engaged in coal cutting at Mr. Pearson's colliery in Dark Lane Newbold.

Devonshire Silkstone Colliery.

7th May 1864. (Summary Page 2, Col:3).

The Devonshire Silkstone Coal Company Ltd. Capital £30,000 in 3,000 shares of £10 each. This Company is formed for the purpose of winning an extensive field of Blackshale seam of coal upwards of 800 acres. Situated about three miles north of Chesterfield and leased from The Dunston and Barlow Ironstone Company for a term of thirty-four years at £200 per acre. The Midland Railway's Company new branch line from Sheffield passes through the estate and it is proposed to sink two shafts as near to the railway sidings as possible.

16th January 1869.

On Thursday night last a serious explosion of gas took place at the Devonshire Silkstone Colliery when three men were severely burned.

Diminsdale Colliery.

17th April 1897.

The above colliery near to Alfreton is now being dismantled. For sale are one horizontal winding engine, horizontal hauling and pumping engine and various other engines and compressors, Lancashire boilers and a 13-ton rail-weighing machine.

Derbyshire Times.

Dowell Colliery.

19th August 1876.

On Saturday morning a boy named Stephenson aged 14 jumped on the last wagon going up the incline in the Dowell pit. When the other wagons passed by he was thrown off probably by a jerk when the wagons entered the junction. Immediately afterwards the down train struck the youth and sent him into a bolthole. In consequence of the serious fractures to one of his thighs and other wounds he was sent to the Chesterfield Hospital, on the way, however, he expired. The pit belongs to the Staveley Coal & Iron Company.

1st October 1921.

Sinking operations began this week at the new Dowell colliery at Staveley, for which the Staveley Coal & Iron Company has made preparations for some months. Engine houses have already been erected and these are all on modern lines and electrically equipped. All the machinery has been installed and the pit will be worked on up to date methods. It will find employment for a considerable number of men although it will be some months before they can start work. The seam to be worked is the Blackshale. The pit is quite near to the Devonshire Works and the coke ovens and chemical by products plant.

Dronfield Colliery.

1st October 1864.

Mr. W. A. Badger colliery proprietor Dronfield charged Thomas Jackson a collier of using violent and threatening language towards him at the pit. Mr. Badger said Jackson was a violent man and threatened to smash his head in. Defendant applied for his wages of 25/- but Mr. Badger took his ticket and tore it up. Mr. Badger was told to pay the wages and Jackson the costs.

17th August 1872.

New colliery for Dronfield.

Messrs Andrew Badger and Sons on a piece of land called "The Riddins" about ¼ of a mile south west of the town have just commenced one of two new shafts of a new colliery. The coal is that of the Silkstone bed.

Dronfield Silkstone Coal Company.

26th July 1879.

Winding up Order.

(Summary page 4, Col: 3).

Davis and Shoemith have received instructions from the Official Liquidator to sell by auction the loose plant and machinery etc. Hallowes sinking pit portable steam engine and boiler combined. The new and old collieries at Gosforth horizontal steam engine 14-inch cylinder. Two spare winding drums 10 feet and 8 feet. Two winding drums for flat ropes and spur wheels. Pit wagons or corves, round and square slack wagons, 1,300 pit props set of haulage gear by Oliver's Chesterfield, 20,000 common bricks and wagon tippler.

20th November 1880.

In The Chancery Division the Master of the Rolls had before him a claim in the winding up of the Company for £1,138 by the owners of the Somerbille Colliery, which adjoins that worked by the Company. The claim was to recover damages to the amount in respect of wrongful working beyond the boundary alleged to have taken place in 1878.

Dunston Colliery.

4th September 1858.

Colliery material to be sold on 8th September at the colliery now worked by Thomas Cartledge at Dunston – under distress for rent.

7th April 1860.

Mr. Thomas Lister the engineer at the above works having resigned the position held by him for some years to commence colliery operations on his own account.

16th August 1873.

The best and cheapest house coal can be had at the above colliery on Brimington Road. Best House ex pit 11/6d per ton, Seconds about half and half 8/- per ton, Slack good for engine and smiths 5/- per ton. Toll Bar fares. Apply William Eyre, Stonegravel or at the pit.

27th October 1888.

The whole of the miners employed at the Derbyshire Silkstone's Dunston and Nesfield collieries brought their tools out of the pit on Tuesday.

8th April 1890.

An accident at Dunston Colliery on Tuesday morning when a pony driver named Edward Wright aged 14 employed at the colliery was knocked down by a loaded wagon and crushed about the head and legs. He was removed to Chesterfield hospital.

Eckington Colliery.

21st January 1871.

Colliery explosion at the above colliery claimed 14 lives. Mr. J. Wells said I am part proprietor of the colliery and they are called No.1 and No.2 Silkstone pits Renishaw Park.

1st July 1893.

Mass meeting of miners – 3,000 affected. On Wednesday Mr. W. E. Harvey and a deputation waited upon Messrs J. & G. Wells at the Eckington Colliery with regards to the dispute. Subsequently at a mass meeting in the Wesleyan Methodist schoolroom Mr. Harvey informed about 1,400 miners as to the result of the interview.

30th October 1897.

For some time past there has been considerable friction between the miners, union officials and the colliery management as to the right of non union men who are in a considerable minority of the men employed being allowed to work. Mr. W. E. wells Managing Director has received letters from Mr. Harvey of Chesterfield, and also from the local secretary of the miners union threatening to stop the pits unless the non union men were forced into the union or dismissed from their employment.

The company are working six days per week and are finding employment for 2,500 men and boys at the various pits and paying wages of upwards of £3,500 per week.

Mr. Wells met a deputation from the union and told them distinctly that under no circumstances whatever would the company submit to anyone interfering with them or their workpeople whether they were union men or non union men.

Fallswood Colliery.

31st October 1863.

Wanted a number of colliers at this colliery. Steady men will meet with constant employment.

3rd February 1868.

Wanted a blacksmith especially one whom has been accustomed to pit work. Apply to Badger and Sons Fallswood Colliery.

Fallswood Colliery.

31st October 1863.

Wanted a number of colliers at this colliery. Steady men will meet with constant employment.

3rd February 1868.

Wanted a blacksmith especially one who has been accustomed to pit work. Apply to Badger & Sons, Fallswood Colliery Dronfield.

Field House Colliery.

6th February 1875.

To be sold by private treaty a small colliery in the neighbourhood of Chesterfield. Apply to Mr. Charles George, Field House Brampton.

7th August 1886.

Field House Colliery to be sold by auction on 16th August.

Derbyshire Times.

Foxley Oaks Colliery.

14th March 1863.

Wanted 40 / 50 colliers to work the Silkstone seam of coal. Constant work guaranteed.

21st March 1863.

An inquest was held at the Cock and Magpie Inn Whittington on the body of Richard Shemwell 19 a coal miner. George Shemwell a banksman at Foxley Oaks Colliery said the deceased was his son who was killed on the 2nd of March by falling down the shaft of a coal pit belonging to the Rev. W. M. Pierce.

26th July 1873.

Wanted an engineman to wind at the Foxley Oaks Colliery. He must have a thorough knowledge of a condensing engine. Apply to the Enginewright at the colliery.

12th November 1873.

To be sold pursuant to a decree of the High Court of Chantry. The above colliery in full working order and in direct communication with the Midland Railway with 170 acres of unworked coal of which 155 acres are leasehold, 9 acres of which have already been paid for. The Blackshale or Silkstone seam, which is now being worked, is 254 yards deep and an average thickness of four feet and yields 4,000 tons per acre. The present output is between 50,000 / 60,000 tons per annum and the plant is equal to 300 tons per day. In addition to the Blackshale seam of coal the estate contains the Potters coal and the conglomerate of other seams of ironstone and also acres of field land with messuages, homestead, workmen's cottages and colliery offices erected thereon.

19th February 1876.

A meeting of the workmen employed at the above colliery took place at the New Bridge Inn for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Mr. Hawkins enginewright on the occasion of his leaving the service of the Whittington Silkstone Colliery Company. Mr. Sheldon (checkweighman) was called on to make the presentation, which consisted of a costly gold Albert guard and locket.

14th / 21st April 1883.

On instructions from Mr. W. D. Holford the liquidator of the Whittington Silkstone Colliery John Turner and Son are to sell by auction at the above colliery the plant comprising of nine steam engines, air compressor, steam pumps and vertical donkey engine by Oliver and Co. Horizontal engine with flywheel by Easterbrook, (cont)

(cont).

steam engine and compressor by Warsop and Hill, water heaters double flue by Hawksley Wild and Company.

20th September 1884.

John Turner and Son will sell by auction at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield on 2nd October 1884 at 3.00 p.m. that entire valuable colliery known as Foxley Oaks Colliery situated at Whittington. It is in direct communication with the main line of the Midland Railway Co. The colliery comprises of about 13 acres of freehold land whereon are erected the colliery offices, eighteen cottages and out buildings. Also all the mines minerals lying under the land below the Deep Soft and Dunston coal under the lands under the Midland Branch Railway. The minerals include 70 acres of the Blackshale seam and other seams of coal and ironstone upwards of 1,000 acres.

One pair of shafts is sunk to the Blackshale and another pair of shafts is sunk to the Dunston seam.

Gas House Colliery.

24th May 1856.

Mr. Denham has received instructions from Messrs Goodwin, Parker and Company to sell by auction at the above colliery Brampton in consequence of the colliery being finished, the whole of the colliery plant. A 6 hp vertical high pressure engine with drum and winding gear complete, 12 hp high pressure direct acting pumping engine with boiler 21 feet x 8 feet and 20 yards of 10 inch pump trees, two sets of headgear with conductors and pulley wheels, two wrought iron chairs, 29 pit wagons, 2 screens and a 6 ton weighing machine.

Glapwell Colliery.

8th October 1887.

On Tuesday morning a sad accident occurred on the Midland Railway branch line at the Glapwell Colliery belonging to the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co. A Midland Railway Company's engine was engaged in shunting operations when an office boy at the colliery named Edward Turner 18 years of age attempted to cross the line just in front of the locomotive he was knocked down and ran over by the engine being fearfully mangled. He was at once removed to the Chesterfield Hospital but he died from his injuries shortly before 11.00 a.m. about three hours after the accident. Enoch Turner a miner of Doe Lea in the Parish of Ault Hucknall identified the body of that of his son.

5th May 1888.

On Thursday last week whilst two of the banks men employed at the Glapwell Colliery were engaged in greasing the winding rope by some means or other one of them named William Hollingworth residing at Rowthorne overbalanced and fell to the bottom of the pit shaft a distance of 286 yards. Deceased was 40 years of age and a widower and leaves a family of four children. Mr. Busby Coroner held an inquest at the Young Vanish Inn Glapwell on Monday when James Hollingworth brother of the deceased identified the body. Charles Snow Manager of Glapwell Colliery deposed that the pit shaft was 295 yards deep and said that there were beams at the pit top, which covered the shaft in order that the two cages could be used. When the ropewere oiled the planks were thrown across the beams for the men to stand on.

(The winding engineman, enginewright, and another banks man then gave more details.) The cause of him falling was owing to the cage catching the timbers on which he stood and so precipitating him backwards and down the pit. The jury found a verdict of accidental death.

28th December 1889.

A meeting of the miners employed at Glapwell Colliery was held last Friday evening in the Hare and Hounds Inn Palterton of the banks men at the colliery which belongs to the Sheepbridge Company. They had asked the company for an advance on their wages last week of 15%. The company in October last granted them an advance of 5% and had now offered another 10%. The banks men have decide to accept this offer and will not press for the other 5%. Mr. Robinson presided and Mr. James Haslam secretary of the Derbyshire Miners Association also addressed the meeting.

Glapwell Colliery 2.

1st March 1890.

On Thursday last week a deputation of the men employed at Glapwell colliery accompanied by Mr. Harvey awaited on the agent and manager Mr. Piggford and Mr. Snow with reference to a price list and we also understand that the question of the 10% rise was also looked into but no satisfaction was arrived at. Mr. Harvey addressed a meeting of the men when he said that he had gained concessions from the price list. He read out the concessions and strongly advised the men to accept them. They accordingly did so.

22nd March 1890.

With reference to the recent railway accident at Glapwell we are informed by the Midland Railway Company that they have come to terms with the miners who were in the accident. The Company have agreed to pay all the men a days wage and substantial compensation to those that were injured.

12th July 1890.

Legal proceedings in the case of Frederick Hart v Midland Railway Company.

The plaintiff who is a miner claimed damages for injuries sustained by him in the accident of a workmen's train at Glapwell on 14th January last. Hart was in the centre carriage, which took the worst of the collision. A large number of miners were injured more or less severely and most of the claims had been dealt with. That in which Hart figured was one of the few outstanding. The Company would pay the plaintiff £75 plus costs.

23rd March 1895.

On Saturday last Mr. C. Snow the genial manager of Glapwell Colliery was presented with a gold watch and a purse of gold valued at £14 as a token of the high esteem in which he is held by the officials and workmen employed at the colliery.

Glasshouse Colliery.

1st July 1893.

Messrs Byron and Rangely are to sell on Monday 3rd July 1893 the whole of the colliery plant, horse cart, harness etc. on instructions from Redhead and Sellars.

Horse 15 hands also cart with sideboards and various other colliery equipment. A cart weighing machine to 5 tons, wire coal screen 8 feet x 4 feet, pit props and railway sleepers etc. The sale to commence at the bottom shaft at 3.00p.m.

2nd April 1921.

The Glasshouse Colliery Company New Whittington was summoned at Chesterfield on Thursday last week for non-payment of £38 – 4 – 00d poor rate and £32 – 13 – 00d district rate. Mr. W. Thacker of the Borough Accountants Office said the Company's representative had informed him that day that they were expecting £600 from the Government and as soon as they got it the rates would be paid. He had promised a months grace. The Bench made the usual order for non-payment.

Gosforth Colliery.

27th December 1890.

On Monday at Eckington Petty Sessions before J. F. Swallow Esq. And Major L. Butler-Bowden the adjourned case in which John Sheard proprietor of Gosforth Colliery Dronfield and George Parkes manager of the same were charged by H. M. Inspector of Mines. The prosecution was fully gone into at the last hearing, the case was adjourned for the prosecuting solicitor to produce the plans of the

mine that he had forgotten to take the proper course to ensure their production at the last meeting. The charge was for neglecting to put a certain number of boreholes at a distance of not less than five yards in advance of certain working places. Fred Webster collier said he was boring during the month of November in the no.5 heading and he had only bored 4 yards when he came to water. John Moseley under-manager at the colliery said on the 6th November he examined No. 5 and No. 12 headings. In the No.5 the centre borehole was only four yards and the No. 12 3 yards 9 inches. He did not think that there was a dangerous accumulation of water in either place.

(Long report then followed on procedures and questioning etc.).

Mr. Sheard was fined £10 plus 13/6d costs. Mr. Parkes was fined £1 plus 13/6d costs

Mr Busby mentioned the question of Crown Court subpoena, which they had been obliged to procure and he considered the costs, ought to be borne by the defendants, the Bench ordered Mr. Sheard to pay £1.

It was one of the most serious cases that had been before the Bench for years. The whole of the men employed in the pit might have been drowned. The hearing of the case lasted 2 ½ hours.

Grass Croft Colliery.

12th March 1898.

Messrs W. Jackson & Sons have opened a new colliery called the Grass Croft Colliery. It is situated about 1 ¼ miles from Dronfield on the road leading from Dronfield Hill Top to Barlow.

Grassmoor Colliery.

1st June 1861.

Joseph Wilson engine tender late in the employ of Messrs Barnes coal masters Grassmoor summoned them for £4 being a month's wages. The manager Mr. Bromley asked Wilson to work in the pit whilst the engine was being repaired. Wilson refused on the grounds that he was an engine tender and was not justified in accepting any other employment than that in which he was engaged. Messrs Barnes had no right to require him to do any other work and were ordered to pay the £4 wages.

3rd March 1866.

A fatal accident to Joseph Lowe working at Messrs Barnes pit at Corbriggs met with his death under peculiar circumstances. The boys at the bank are employed in pushing up loaded corves up an incline in order to empty them and usually ride them down again to the pit mouth. A lad named George Rodgers was so employed when the corve on which he was riding attained to great a speed and ran down swiftly towards the pit mouth. The deceased was engaged in receiving a cage of men which was coming up the shaft and did not hear the shouts of alarm and the corve struck him on his buttocks and drove him violently against the prop handle which fatally injured him in the abdomen. He was put in a cart but told the manager he was done for. His anticipation proved correct he died the next day.

17th May 1876.

Great wages dispute. At Grassmoor things have not changed with regards to coal getting and the men refused the masters 15%. The proprietor A. Barnes Esq. Is in the progress of sinking another large and well fitted up colliery.

4th October 1876.

The new collieries belonging to Messrs Barnes and Company Grassmoor reached the Blackshale at a depth of 440 yards. The pits have been pushed forward with every possible speed since about Christmas 1874. The most improved and powerful machinery has been erected for the haulage of the mineral through the shaft 16 feet in diameter which will accommodate both the up and down cages. Another shaft is 15 feet in diameter and 320 yards deep. When these pits are in full operation the output in all probability reach 1,000 tons daily and give employment to at least 600 hands. The Blackshale is a little over 4 feet thick of good coal and there is coal to last very many years.

8th July 1893.

Mr. Barnes of the local coal owners association said that on the increased coal supply changes in the weight from 21 cwts. to 20 cwts would amount to an increase to the Grassmoor Colliery Company of £4,000 per year. They raised about half a million tons a year, the increase to the Midland Railway Company would be £80,000 / 90,000 per year.

Green Lane Colliery Dronfield.

7th May 1870.

Mr. Siddall begs to announce that he has received instructions from Messrs William Booker to sell by auction on Monday 9th May the whole of the working plant and materials. One horizontal engine 30 hp, diameter of flywheel 11 feet 6 inches, winding drum 6 feet, 56 coal wagons, headgear and 250 yards of pitch pine conductors.

Hady Colliery.

5th May 1860.

To be disposed of by private contract an 8 hp steam engine, apply to Mr. Wright chemist Chesterfield.

31st August 1861.

To be sold by auction upon the grounds of Hady Hill all the plant and buildings belonging to Henson and Short comprising of one 6 hp high pressure steam engine with drum, one pulley 4 feet 9 inches in diameter, 22 guiders frames and posts, five ton weighing machine, pit wagons etc.

Derbyshire Times.

Hasland Colliery. 1.

9th February 1856.

Wanted an engine tender for the pumping engine at Hasland Colliery.

5th March 1859.

Best House Coal 5/10d per ton ex pit, Best Cobbles 5/- ex pit, unscreened 3/4d ex pit, engine slack 2/3d ex pit. Delivery into Chesterfield 1/3d per ton extra. Knowles, Clayton and Co.

4th January 1862.

Hasland Colliery Company Limited.

Capital £5,000 in 1,000 shares of £1 each.

Directors: C. Black M.D. Chesterfield, Mr. W. F. Hawkins Belper, Mr. Wordsworth Chesterfield, Mr. John Clayton Tapton, Mr. Benjamin Wade Belper, Mr. John Gothard Chesterfield, Mr. John Watson, Mr. Joseph Clayton and Mr. Charles Wharton all of Chesterfield.

Solicitor: Mr. Robert Whall Chesterfield.

Secretary: Mr. Henry Buxton Brewery Street.

The Company was formed for the purpose of working and raising the Dunston coal upon the estates of the Rev. J. Boyer, E. C. Bower and the Duke of Devonshire. Situate in the Township of Hasland about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from Chesterfield.

A shaft already sunk to a depth of 63 yards from the surface has proved the coal and about 10 / 12 acres of the coal has been got. The quality is good for household, gas and other purposes and from its contiguity to the important town of Chesterfield commands a steady and increasing sale. The colliery has been examined by Messrs Woodhouse and Jeffcock civil and mining engineers Derby and in their opinion is that under proper and efficient management the works can be carried on and made to realise a handsome profit.

The capital is being raised to complete the purchase of the plant and leases which have been valued at £2,500 and to provide for the further extension of the works.

The plant consists of pumping and winding engines in excellent working order, machines, offices, dwelling house, stabling, carpenters and smiths shops.

A considerable amount of capital has already been raised and any person desirous of holding shares will do well to make an early application.

11th May 1861.

The Company wish to inform their customers and the people of Chesterfield that they have decided on the following reduced scale of prices. Best coal ex pit 5/- per ton cash, 6/3d delivered, Rough slack ex pit 3/- cash, 4/3d delivered, Engine slack 2/- ex pit. Ledger accounts plus 10d Best and 4d on slack. Orders received by Mr. Langton Holywell Street also Mr. Simon Molloy clerk of the works who is appointed to receive all monies for the Company.

Hasland Colliery. 2.

22nd September 1855.

A very superior coal from the above colliery is well adapted for household or manufacturing purposes. Prices at the pit 6/8d per ton delivered 7/-d, Cobbles 6/-per ton, Slack 3/6d per ton ex pit. Coals delivered in Chesterfield from the pits at Newbold 6/6d per ton. Orders to the Manager, Mr. Weston, Eyre Street.

9th January 1864.

Hasland Lane Colliery are now selling their coal for cash at the pit, Main Coal at 5/7d per ton, Cobbles 44/9d per ton, Slack 2/6d per ton. Toll Bar free. Knowles and Co.

10th June 1865.

A constant supply may now be had of best hand picked coal at 6/6d per ton, seconds at 5/6d per ton, carriage charged according to distance.

3rd May 1873.

The Industrial Coal and Iron Co. Ltd. are prepared to supply house coal at their Hasland pit at 12/6d per ton for cash.

9th January 1875.

The Industrial Coal and Coke Company was established in early 1873 and they now have 4 pits in working order, namely Hasland, Whitebank, Storforth Lane all at Chesterfield and Woodhouse Junction. Seams have just been reached at Storforth Lane and there is plenty of iron below the coal but it is planned not to get the iron until the coal is worked out.

28th August 1875.

The half yearly meeting of the Company was held at the Angel Hotel on 24th August 1875. Since the General meeting held in February last, the new colliery at Storforth Lane has been connected underground with the Whitebank and Hasland workings. The whole of the coal can now be drawn at the new place, by this arrangement one engine can do more work than two did formerly and a considerable saving is effected in fuel and labour. The engines and other machinery at Whitebank and Hasland being no longer required will be sold. The Directors have decide to sell also the wagons purchased with Hasland and Whitebank Collieries as they are of a different and inferior pattern to those purchased for Storforth Lane. The drawing powers of the Storforth Lane Colliery are such as

would exhaust in a limited number of years, the coal leased, but the Directors have secured a larger area with deeper seams of coal and a fresh lease of 25 years with powers to renew.

Heage Colliery.

5th April 1884.

John Turner and Son will sell by auction the above colliery (which is under distraint for rent) on an early date, comprising of the engines, boilers, headstocks, gears, steel rails, wire ropes and weighing machine and coal tubs.

High Moor Colliery.

3rd February 1872.

To sell by auction a portion of the colliery plant consisting of thirty coal tram wagons, six tram bottoms, willow and turn stake and 800 yards of steel rope.

1st December 1877.

Sale of colliery plant and materials consisting of boilers, weighing machine and 40,000 second hand bricks and clay grinding mill. The plant is near to Killamarsh Station.

Derbyshire Times.

21st April 1888.

Reservoir and Highfields Collieries.

On Saturday at Chesterfield County Police Court, James Fell Manager at the Reservoir Colliery was summoned by Lt. Col. Short Inspector of Weights and Measures who found in use at the colliery a maladjusted weighing machine. The defendant pleaded not guilty. Col: Short said on the 19th March he visited Reservoir Colliery and informed the defendant he wished to test the weighing machine and he offered to assist him. The machine at first would not balance but in a short time he got it to balance. Witness put five hundred weights on the machine but it only showed 4 ½ cwts. The defendant said he had not the slightest idea the machine was out of order. The Magistrates said they did not think that the defendant had committed the offence wilfully and under the circumstances ordered him to pay only the costs.

At the same court Johnson Pearson proprietor of the Highfields Colliery Newbold was summoned for a similar offence on the 20th March. He pleaded not guilty. Col: Short said the weighing machine at the colliery would not balance until he had put 4 cwts on. He afterwards put 3 cwts on but it only showed 2 cwts. He noticed at the time of his visit a new machine was in course of erection. The machine had been at the pit for 25 years and the workmen were perfectly satisfied with it. On account of their being a large quantity of dirt in the pit an arrangement had been made between the master and the men that 24 cwts. should be got to the ton and the machine had been tared in order to carry out the agreement. Samuel Kay a miner said he had worked at the colliery for 27 years and said it was an agreement that they should get 24 cwts. to the ton. The Bench decided that there was no imputative of fraud and that they should do the same

in this case as they did in the last, pay only the costs. The machine should as Col: Short said correspond with standards and if any similar cases were brought before them in the future they would have to convict, the law must be obeyed.

15th December 1900.

Mr. C. G. Busby Coroner held an inquest at the Cricketers Inn Newbold Moor on Monday touching the death of Joseph Platts (26) of stand Road Newbold Moor who was killed during Friday night to a fall of roof. Lyndon Hardy of Mountcastle Street Newbold said on the date of the accident he was stall man at no.5 stall at Highfields no.2 colliery where the deceased also worked as a loader. Witness examined the stall before they began loading on Friday night and it appeared to be quite safe. The accident happened near to the gate where a tub was standing about 5 feet from the coalface. Witness was getting his snap and the deceased was talking to him for a minute or two. Deceased said he would go and get on with his tub and witness said alright and almost immediately a crash came and a lot of stuff came down from the roof and the deceased was buried under it. Witness was about 7 feet from the deceased at the time of the fall. The roof gave no warning before it fell. About 7/8 tons of roofing fell altogether. Witness considered there was plenty of timber set. Alderman Pearson said bars were set across them and oak batons over these. He thought the accident was caused by "jingles" which was heavy stuff falling on the top and breaking the covering down.

Hill House Colliery.

16th October 1880.

The colliery is ten minutes walk from Sheepbridge Station and fifteen minutes from Whittington station. In consequence of the coal being worked out Mr. W. D. Botham is honoured with instructions from Mr. Holford to sell by auction on the above premises on Thursday 4th November the whole of the valuable plant and machinery, horses, carts and other effects. First class horizontal and vertical engines with drums 4 feet and 5 feet in diameter. Hay wood and Tyler's steam pumps, air compressor by Warsop and Hill Nottingham, headgear and pulleys, pit bank weighing machine, cage etc.

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Hill Top Colliery.

22nd December 1869.

Mr. G. Siddall has been favoured with instructions from Mr. William W. Barker who has finished with his colliery to sell by auction on Monday 27th December the valuable colliery plant, horses and other effects. Comprising of winching and headgear, ten 4 cwts. corves, 6 tons of wrought iron, bridge rails, weighing machine, 4 carts, bellows, coke barrels and also a Peach mare 13 ½ hands, Brown horse 15 ½ hands, Brown mare seven years old and 16 hands, Brown mare eight years old and 16 hands. The sale will commence at 1.00 p.m. at Dronfield.

4th January 1890.

The inquest touching the death of John William Hirst miner who met his death on Friday 20th December was resumed last Monday. Messrs W. Lenthall and Company owns the colliery.

8th February 1890.

On Monday at Dronfield Petty Sessions George Hoggart colliery manager Dronfield was summoned by H. M. Inspector of Mines for an offence against The Coal Mines Act 1887, by failing to produce an adequate amount of ventilation for the safety of the persons working in the mine at Hill Top Dronfield on 18th December. The defendant was the manager and part owner of the colliery. The mine used two shafts to get to the workings and they are some distant from the shaft bottoms. The ventilation on 18th December was passing down one shaft and instead of going into the workings it went right out of the other shaft. On that day the manager's brother went into the workings and found that a certain amount of choke gas or carbonic acid gas existed. He informed his brother but the manager to remedy the matter that day did nothing and on the following day the pit was allowed to remain precisely in the same condition. On the 20th a man named Hurst went in to the pit and the defendant warned him not to go in the workings of the mine, as he knew the choke gas still existed. When the defendant became aware of the choke gas all he had got to do was put up a brattice cloth and instead of the air passing down one shaft and up the other it would have diverted it and sent it into the workings and cleared away the gas. Although the defendant did not go into the workings for some unknown cause the man did and the result being that he was overcome by the damp and fell down and died. After the brattice had been put up the ventilation was rendered complete in three quarters of an hour. They were then able to secure the body of the deceased. The defendant was manager and part owner with three other men. There were only six men employed altogether. The colliery was now closed and the defendant along with his partners had lost all their money to the extent of £60 and they would now have to go and work in the pits, as they were practically penniless. The colliery was opened in 1889 and was being filled up. The owners had paid all the expenses of the deceased man. The object of the Coal Mines Act was to protect life and the defendant had neglected his duties very likely like other small owners did in the neighbourhood and he hoped that this would act as a warning to others who undertook to work small mines. He was fined £10 plus costs.

Holbrook Colliery.

27th October 1888.

On Monday night a meeting of the underground workers employed at the Holbrook Colliery was held at the Halfway House Hotel. Mr. Lowe delegate to the Chesterfield Conference gave his report and it was unanimously resolved that all the tools be brought out of the pit at the expiration of the notice on Friday unless the 10% was unconditionally conceded.

18th August 1894.

J. & G. Wells owners of Holbrook Colliery have had a similar strike regarding the reduction of wages. It only involved those lads who earned than 2/- per day. The reduction would amount to 2d per day.

Hollingwood Colliery.

21st November 1857.

On Sunday morning last a serious accident occurred at the Staveley Works the property of Richard Barrow resulting in the death of twelve men and serious damage to the property. The colliery known as the Hollingwood pit the largest of these extensive works employing three hundred men and the coal raised is about three hundred tons daily.

27th July 1878.

On Friday one of the worst colliery accidents that has been known in the county for some years occurred at Staveley when four men were killed. The accident took place at Hollingwood colliery belonging to the Staveley Coal and Iron Co. Ltd. The colliery is only situated a short distance down the road north of the church on the left hand side. It appears that the new shaft has recently been sunk to a depth of 230 yards for the purpose of keeping the workings clear of water.

9th June 1894.

For sale on the 14th June the whole of the colliery plant, horizontal winding engine, two pit ropes 130 yards long, brick press. At the Westfield colliery about ½ a mile away a boiler and fittings. Hollingwood pit is about 1-½ miles from Eckington and Renishaw. Mr. F. Gosling has worked out the colliery.

Holme Close Colliery.

To colliery brokers and others on Wednesday 25th at 12 noon W. D. Botham are favoured with instructions from Messrs Ashmore and Soar who are closing the colliery to sell by auction the colliery plant, carts, harnesses and other effects. Two horizontal winding engines by Davy Bros. Pitch pine headgear with winding wheels, two pit ropes, two winding drums, pit bank weighing machine by Avery's, twenty six wagons, props etc.

Holmewood Colliery. 1.

25th January 1868.

On Thursday evening last a dinner was given in the schoolroom belonging to The Wingerworth Coal Company at North Wingfield for the sinkers, foremen and others in celebration of the opening of the Holmewood Colliery which was commenced about seven months ago on the Duke of Devonshire's estate at Holmewood. The shaft is 63 yards deep and the coal, which was reached last week, proves to be a good hard coal of excellent quality and the seam averaging about 4 feet 9 inches in thickness. A most substantive plant has been erected and the whole operations have been most successfully carried out without loss of life or limb. It is intended to lay down a short line of railway from the pit mouth to the "Dukes line" North Wingfield a distance of about half a mile.

17th May 1876.

Following the great wages dispute 400 men have recommenced work at Holmewood Colliery.

27th October 1888.

All the men employed at the Holmewood Colliery came out on strike on Wednesday.

17th March 1900.

On February 21st Thomas Wetton a pony driver at Hardwick Colliery was caught galloping on a pony in the mine and thrashing it to the danger of other persons in the pit. He had been cautioned previously, he pleaded guilty and was fined £1 plus costs.

27th May 1911.

Interesting scenes on Sunday were watched by a large number of people in the unloading of three large boilers to be used to generate steam for the working of the plant in connection with 50 new coke ovens.

Hornthorpe Colliery.

28th December 1889.

It was announced last Thursday to the screen men, labourers and others employed on the surface at the Hopbrook, Hornthorpe and Renishaw Park collieries that an advance in wages of 3d per day would be given all round to the men and 2d per day to the boys under 16 years of age. The advance is to commence on New Years Day. There has been no agitation or meetings held by the top men in connection with these collieries and the above were received by general satisfaction. A similar advance was given on the 1st July last year.

5th March 1921.

“Our lease expires on 25th March and on that day we intend to give up possession of Hornthorpe Colliery. The men will be found employment at our other pits as far as possible.” This was the statement made by Mr. Greensmith General Manager of Messrs J. & G. Wells Ltd. when asked about the future of Hornthorpe Colliery Eckington.

Hornthorpe is an old colliery it was sunk by the present owners in 1871 / 1872 and the present output is something over 1,400 tons per week of six working days. The water question at Hornthorpe is a serious one and it is necessary to keep the pumps going continually to keep the workings clear and to safeguard neighbouring pits.

Sir George Sitwell told the Derbyshire Courier that there was apparently no prospect of work being continued at Hornthorpe after the expiration of the lease.

2nd April 1921.

The last load of coal was taken from the Hornthorpe colliery on Thursday night last week. A few men are now employed in dismantling and bringing up the plant and other valuable stock which is expected to take over three months. The pumps are still working and the pumping machinery will not be taken down and removed until the very last day.

Most of the men have been transferred to the Norwood and Holbeck pits although some men are going to the small Howox near Hornthorpe where an extra shift will probably be put on.

Derbyshire Times.

8th August 1877.

Hundall Colliery.

William Widdowson collier New Whittington was summoned for violating colliery rules at the Hundall colliery on 39th July by striking a Lucifer match in a part of the pit where safety lamps were required to be used. Widdowson pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- plus costs.

8th October 1887.

Important Sale on 1st November.

John Turner and Son have been honoured with the instructions from the Hundall Colliery Co. to prepare for sale the whole of the valuable colliery plant comprising viz: seven winding pumping engines, one six wheel locomotive engine, headstocks, two Lancashire and two G. G. end boilers, 4,000 yards of railway rails, 300 pit tubs, wire ropes and contents of blacksmiths shop.

Hundow Colliery.

28th December 1872.

A shocking and somewhat mysterious death occurred at the above colliery owned by Messrs Bainbridge & Co. Dronfield. A man named John Marples of about 50 years of age a native of Apperknowle was found lying dead at the bottom of the pumping shaft a distance of about 85 yards.

Hunger Hill Colliery.

15th August 1863.

A fatal accident took place at 4.30. a.m. on Saturday morning at Hunger Hill Colliery belonging to the Wingerworth Company. Two men named John Stokes and John Heston were fatally injured. The two men got in the cage to descend the pit and proceeded all right until about twenty yards from the bottom when the rope gave way and the cage containing the men crashed to the bottom.

Ingmanwell Colliery.

9th May 1857.

Mr. J. Clayton respectfully informs the public that he is now prepared to supply very superior Blackshale coal from the same seam as that so formerly well known as "Gillotts coal" at the above colliery near to the railway station at the following moderate prices, Graded Coal 6/6d per ton, 7/8d per ton delivered, Cobbles 5/10d, delivered 7/-, Slack 2/6d, delivered 3/8d.

5th March 1859.

Cobbles ex pit 5/- per ton delivered 6/4d, Orders received at the Tapton coal yard Cavendish Street. John Clayton owner.

1st February 1862.

John Clayton begs to inform the public he is reopening his old pit at Tapton. Large coal 8/- per ton, Brights 7/- per ton, Orders to be left at Ingmanwell Meadow.

21st March 1863.

Best House Coal 7/- per ton delivered, Nuts 3/8d, Slack 1/3d ex pit.

19th January 1861.

Eli Fletcher charged William Brown with absenting himself from work on the 5th inst. Complainant said he was underground steward for Mr. John Clayton at the Ingmanwell Colliery at Tapton. He was fined 10/6d.

Inkerman Colliery.

3rd January 1857.

Goodwin and Swallow have decided to inform the public that they are supplying Blackshale coal at 6/8d per ton ex pit and 8/- per ton delivered in Brampton and Chesterfield. Coal from the Threequarter seam 5/- per ton ex pit and 6/4d delivered.

23rd February 1861.

Best Blackshale coal 5/10d per ton ex pit and Slack 2/11d per ton ex pit. Orders to Mr. William Hunter Agent Highfield Road.

31st March 1869.

On Saturday last a fire took place about 5.30 p.m. on the premises of Messrs Nichol and Co. Inkerman Colliery, Loundsley Green, Brampton. The fire it is surmised took place in the storeroom and general offices connected with the smith's shop proceeding there from and igniting some cotton waste and the premises were speedily in flames. In the storeroom was a large quantity of tar, which was happily got out, or the conflagration would have been otherwise more serious had it not been for the timely aid and attention of the workmen and a good supply of water, which was near at hand. The Nottinghamshire Fire Engine was called out but on its arrival the fire was extinguished but not before the roof had fallen in and a considerable amount of damage done. Great excitement was caused in the neighbourhood as the steam "hummer" was sounding the alarm for about half an hour. In raising the alarm this instrument proved a great service and was heard a mile away and its continuity sufficiently indicated that something was wrong.

16th May 1883.

To be sold by auction at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield on Saturday 26th May 1883.

One 16-inch horizontal pumping engine with link motion by (Oliver and Co.) One pair 16-inch horizontal winding engines with link motion and winding drums (Oliver's). A pumping shaft with 16-inch beam. Headstocks, pulley wheels, chairs, three boilers, one 12 inch vertical winding engine with link motion and two winding drums, weighing machine 6 feet x 5 feet with beam and sliding weights.

Inmanswell Colliery.

18th September 1869.

Messrs S. C. Denham have received instructions to sell by auction the whole of the valuable and extensive colliery plant the property of Messrs Pope and Company consisting of a high pressure steam engine, small and large weighing machines, head gearing and fly wheels, coal and ironstone wagons and corves, coal screen and gin complete with hemp and wire rope. Inmanswell Colliery is close to the Midland Railway Station Chesterfield.

Ireland Colliery.

2nd November 1889.

On Saturday at Chesterfield County Police Court, George Wallis under viewer, Henry Jones lamp cleaner and George Cutts a fitter all employed at the Ireland Colliery belonging to the Staveley Company were summoned for having contravened the special rules of the colliery. Wallis was charged by allowing a naked light to be used in the mine on the 4th October. Jones it appeared had broken the special 59th rule by not properly putting together a lamp after having cleaned it. Cutts was summoned for using a naked light in the pit. Wallis and Jones pleaded guilty and Cutts not guilty. It was a serious offence and each of the defendants would be fined £1 and costs of

£1 – 8 – 6d each for Wallis and Jones and £1 – 9 – 6d for Cutts or in default fourteen days imprisonment.

Killamarsh Colliery.

9th January 1858.

A lamentable accident occurred at the colliery belonging to Messrs Turner, Ward and Company in which four men lost their lives. About thirty men were employed in the mine. At about 6.00 a.m. twenty four men had descended the mine in safety. The four men who lost their lives declined going down earlier on having a suspicion that the pit rope was not secure. When their companions reached the bottom of the shaft they overcame their fears and proceeded to descend the shaft but had not been lowered more than ten yards when the rope snapped in twain precipitating them to the bottom a distance of about sixty yards.

19th February 1870.

Mr. Nicholson begs to announce that he has instructions from the owners to catalogue and prepare for sale all the machinery and working plant, stores and effects connected with the above colliery. A 12 hp horizontal winding engine, 12 hp beam engine for winding, 4 hp donkey engine, one iron coal boat and two wooden coal boats.

3rd December 1887.

The sinkers employed at the new shaft of Messrs Greensmith and Smallwood of Killamarsh have, just struck a seam of coal. It is only sixty feet deep from the surface and is nearly four feet in thickness. The coal although shallow is very strong and is considered very valuable for household use. The colliery is in the most elevated and the most thickly populated part of the village and is within easy access of the railway station and most distant parts. The proprietors have been working the same seam for several years but were placed under a geographical disadvantage. They ultimately determined to sink in the centre of the village and are deserving of their success that will in all probability attend the venture. A good land sale is anticipated.

Kirk Croft Colliery. (Killamarsh).

24th August 1861.

To be sold by auction the working plant including a spur wheel shaft and crank pump etc.

The above items will be sold without reserve the colliery being worked out. Cash on the fall of the hammer.

Lings Colliery.

26th December 1863.

An inquest was held at Hasland touching the death of William Gilbert an engineman at Lings Colliery who died as a result of injuries received as a result of a boiler explosion. He was in charge of the 40 hp Ling's engine and he also had charge of the pumping engine at Williamthorpe colliery where the explosion took place.

11th July 1868.

An accident was held on Wednesday last on the body of John Winter coal miner aged 17 years before the Coroner to inquire into the circumstances of the death of the deceased. It appeared that on Saturday 27th June deceased was going down an incline in the pit with a train of wagons and was riding on the last one when the one following was let go by carelessness and rammed into the one the deceased was on. He was thrown off and received such injuries that he died on Friday last.

17th May 1876.

The great wages dispute the Lings; Pyewipe and Avenue collieries belonging to the Wingerworth Coal Co. are still out on strike.

14th October 1876.

Mr. J. Ward charged eleven colliers with leaving their work on the 4th inst. without giving due and proper notice. The complaint was that the defendants who worked at the Lings pit owned by the Wingerworth Coal Company ought to have gone down to their work on Thursday morning between 5.00 a.m. and 6.00 a.m. but they did not do so. The employers claimed 30/- per man. The only cause for their refusal to go down was that there was something alleged to be wrong with the weighing machine but the men had their own checkweighman at this machine and in the event of anything being wrong or suspect the proper course was to have called the attention of the proper authorities and have it treated.

Markham Colliery.

28th October 1893.

The following statement has been forwarded for publication by the Staveley Coal and Iron Company that they will reopen their Markham No.1 pit next Monday 30th October at what is understood to be a living wage as follows: stall men 7/- per day, loaders 5/- per day. No stoppages from the above rates except house rent and club. A load of coal will be allowed to each householder once a month. The Company will provide tools. Signed Joseph Humble, Cert: Manager.

7th April 1939.

Five hundred men began work on the development section on the south side of Markham No.1 pit of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company on Tuesday. The development will also require a further one hundred men for whom work can be found immediately. The Blackshale seam on the east where 79 men lost their lives in the disaster last May has been drawn off and closed.

Mickley Colliery.

8th October 1887.

John Turner and Son are honoured with instructions to sell Mickley Colliery near Dore and Totley Station near Sheffield. The whole of the colliery plant consisting of three winding and hand haulage engines, two direct steam-pumping engines, two pitch pine headgears with spider pulley wheels and other equipment on 22nd October 1887. The above colliery has now been disposed of by private treaty.

12th May 1894.

The Clay Cross Company is about to sink another colliery at Mickley Higham. The seams to be won are the Blackshale and Tupton at a depth of 250 yards. When completed the colliery will find employment for 400 men.

Monkwood Colliery.

27th October 1864.

Good stall men can have constant employment at Monkwood Colliery Barlow. They can also have houses at the colliery if they so wish.

26th March 1870.

The Monkwood Colliery Company have just sunk a new shaft in furtherance of the extension of their workings and have laid down a tramway of unusual character from the mouth of the pit to the railway which runs through the Dunston Valley, joining the Midland line at Locoford. The colliery has been worked by two shafts, and it was deemed advisable by Mr. Bell the experienced manager to the company to sink a third shaft about half a mile north of the old pits. The shaft was commenced on 17th August 1869 and the company commenced to draw coal out of it on 20th January 1870. The total depth of the shaft is 63 yards and it is bricked throughout and is fitted with wire guide ropes instead of the old wooden conductors. The cage (it is a double shaft) weighs 10 cwts each. They are suspended by steel wire ropes and worked by an engine of 40 hp built by Oliver and Co. having a

flywheel of 12 feet in diameter. Mr. Arnold of Chesterfield built the 40 hp boilers. Between the old workings and the new pit which is situated at Barlow Lees there is a tramway which is worked by an endless chain passing round a windlass drum and round a flywheel at each end. As soon as the workmen at the new shaft have filled a corve they work a signal wire to the engine man at the main pit who is 900 yards away and when the chain is in motion the empty corves come up as fast as the full ones go down.

9th January 1875.

To let the sinking of a pit at Monkwood colliery. Depth to be 60 yards and there is no water to contend with. Apply to Mr. Dixon Engineer.

5th January 1876.

James Mee and William Riddle were charged with having whilst working 160 yards from the pit bottom pipes and tobacco in their possession. They were fined 10/- plus costs.

Nesfield Colliery.

13th February 1864.

Chesterfield and Midland Silkstone Colliery Co. Ltd. require packmen and they will have constant employment and high rate of wages.

22nd August 1877.

Henry Jackson a collier from Brampton was fined £3 including costs for assaulting James Stevenson at Barlow on the 7th inst. The men whilst working at Nesfield colliery had a dispute about some tops, in the course of which the defendant kicked Stevenson in the ribs and he hit him so seriously that he was obliged to obtain medical aid.

27th October 1888.

The whole of the miners employed at the Derbyshire Silkstone's Dunston and Nesfield collieries brought their tools out of the pit on Tuesday.

New Brampton Colliery L. Green.

23rd November 1861.

Messrs Nichol and Fletcher beg to inform the public that they are now prepared to supply coal and slack at the following prices. Blackshale coal dressed and screened 5/10d per ton ex pit, slack 2/11d per ton ex pit.

3rd January 1863.

A quantity of slack suitable for engines, lime and brick burning, at 1/- per ton.

Wanted some first class pick men accustomed to Blackshale working.

23rd June 1866.

The pit is now prepared to receive fifty additional colliers weekly paid, dry work. Good steady workmen can have constant employment summer and winter.

3rd February 1868.

Higglers wanting employment are requested to apply at the New Brampton Colliery Ashgate Road, Chesterfield.

New Bull Close Colliery Dronfield.

3rd September 1892.

For sale all the colliery plant comprising of 5 hp vertical engine boiler combined with injector, drum and clutch gear complete. The pit is about one mile from Dronfield Station.

New Locoford Colliery.

19th March 1859.

Best Dunston coal 5/6d per ton delivered in Chesterfield. Joseph Lambert and Co. proprietor.

Derbyshire Courier.

8th March 1902.

Chesterfield Colliery Case.(Summary)

Action by the Mayor.

At the Derbyshire Assizes William Spooner trading as the New Riber Coal Company sued the Eveson Coal and Coke Co. Ltd. Birmingham for £892 –10-00d for breach of contract upon the purchase of coal. The plaintiff's case was that by written contract containing certain letters in 1900 the defendant agreed to purchase from the plaintiff 12,800 tons of the best New Riber gas coal and the prices fixed therein to be delivered to the defendants orders during the twelve months ended 1st July 1901. In pursuance of the contract the plaintiff received orders from the defendants for 7,300 tons of coal to be delivered. The plaintiff was willing to deliver the remainder of the 12,000 tons in accordance with the contract but it was alleged that the defendants refused to send orders for anymore than 7,300 tons. The plaintiff, therefore, claimed that he had suffered damage and had to sell 4,700 tons at a reduced price and had some 2,600 tons upon his hands at a greatly depreciated value. The case was taken before a special jury. A verdict was returned for the plaintiff. It was decided to settle the amount of damages by arbitration.

12th November 1892.

Closing of Cottam Colliery.

On Monday all the men in connection with the above colliery employed by Messrs. Appleby and Co. Renishaw Iron Works left their employment owing to all the coal having being got belonging to the Company.

Turnoak Colliery Boythorpe.

9th January 1904.

Best Low Main Hard Coal	10/6d per ton delivered.
Unscreened Cobbles	8/6d " " "
Rough Slack	5/6d " " "

N.B. The above prices include carting to any part of the Borough of Chesterfield.
The coal is sold only upon one condition: viz: Cash with order.

Newbold Back Lane Colliery.

20th July 1872.

To be sold by private contract a small colliery and working plant situated in Newbold back Lane.
Apply to A. B. Compton.

9th January 1875.

Mr. H. Naylor coal owner and merchant Brockwell Road Newbold.

Coals delivered by our own carts from the works into any part of Chesterfield at reasonable prices which cannot be competed with.

Newbold Colliery.

10th August 1861.

To be sold by auction the whole of the plant and buildings belonging to the Newbold Colliery and brickworks.

17th January 1863.

On Monday night last the workmen at Newbold Colliery partook in a plentiful supply of roast beef, puddings etc at the Nags Head Newbold being the annual Christmas treat given by Messrs Samuel Beale and Company.

27th February 1869.

The Newbold Coal and Iron Company are prepared to deliver by their carts good slack for engine and other purposes. Orders received by post are punctually executed the same day. Broken cinders and ash for road making always in stock

4th July 1874.

John Turner is favoured with instructions from the Newbold Coal and Iron Company to sell by auction on Monday 6th July 1874 (in consequence of forming a line of railway to the works) twelve powerful draught horses and four ponies and carts etc.

12th March 1898.

Messrs Edward Rushton and Son and Kenyon auctioneers Manchester offered for sale at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield on Wednesday evening as a going concern Newbold Colliery situated near to Chesterfield. There was no offer forthcoming and so it was withdrawn.

North, East and West Staveley Collieries.

10th May 1856.

To let by contract the getting of ironstone from the Whittington Estate. Apply to the west Staveley Colliery at Whittington.

17th January 1863.

We believe that there are no police cases to record this week from the West Staveley colliery owing to the pit being drowned out. There was an explosion at this colliery last July.

17th October 1863.

All the stock at West Staveley colliery has now been cleared and the men have commenced full time working.

11th June 1864.

To let, the sinking of a new coal pit at West Staveley. Specifications may be seen at the colliery office New Whittington.

10th August 1867.

Tenders are invited for the sinking of a pit to the Blackshale coal at Hundall near Unstone – also for making of a tramway from the same place.

7th December 1867.

Staveley Coal & Iron Company are prepared to receive tenders for sinking a pit at their North Staveley Colliery.

17th January 1874.

Mr. W. J. Kirk will sell by auction the East Staveley Colliery near Chesterfield on Friday 23rd January 1874. All the valuable colliery plant comprising of a winding engine, 10 hp boiler, winding gear and weighing machines.

6th February 1875.

To be sold by auction at the West Staveley Colliery sidings near Whittington – thirty six railway coal wagons.

Northfield Colliery.

6th June 1874.

Tenders are requested for the sinking of two shafts eight feet and seven feet in diameter respectively from the Deep Soft coal to the Deep Hard coal at Northfield Colliery near Shirland.

Norwood Colliery.

1st October 1887.

William Granby labourer Killamarsh in the employ of the Sheepbridge Company working at Norwood colliery received injuries to his left forearm caused by a wheel of a wagon passing over it. It was found necessary to amputate the arm below the elbow.

Oakerthorpe Colliery.

10th March 1877.

The owners of this colliery can supply the public with their old Furnace or Tupton House Coal at the following prices: Best 10/- per ton, Seconds 8/4d per ton, carting charged according to distance. Orders by post receive prompt attention.

Old Hollingwood Colliery.

13th August 1864.

On Thursday an inquest was held on the body of Jonathon Wagstaffe who was killed the previous day at Old Hollingwood colliery belonging to the Staveley Coal & Iron Company.

16th June 1869.

A collier was severely injured in the Old Hollingwood colliery on Sunday night by the premature explosion of a shot that he was preparing to fire. He was struck by a quantity of stone, which fractured his right arm and knocked his left hip out and severely cut his right shoulder and head.

13th August 1870.

A boy named Thomas Purdy aged thirteen of Brimington and engaged as a pony driver at the Old Hollingwood colliery was coming down part of the road in the colliery on when he had his light extinguished and he ran before his pony with its laden train of wagons. He was overtaken by it and knocked down and the first wagon passed over his right leg breaking both bones. He was promptly attended to by Dr. Hale of Barrow Hill and conveyed home.

Owlcotes Colliery.

12th December 1863.

Hard Coal 6/8d per ton, Soft Coal 5/- per ton, leading 2/6d.

9th January 1864.

Hard Coal 6/8d per ton, Soft Coal 5/- per ton, leading 2/6d, J. Brockmer agent.

15th February 1868.

All orders for Owlcotes coal will receive prompt attention at R. Hunter, St. Helens Street Chesterfield.

7th October 1871.

Further reduction in Owlcotes Colliery coal prices, Best Hard Coal 6/8d per ton, and Best Soft coal 5/- per ton at the pit. Best Hard Coal 9/6d and Best Soft Coal 8/- per ton delivered in Chesterfield. Orders received by John Hadfield, hairdresser and toy merchant Cavendish Street Chesterfield.

1st March 1879.

The company after many months of labour have reached their new bed of coal, samples of which show it to be even superior to the fine bed that is now finished. The

prices from this day are considerably reduced thereby enabling the poorest amongst to enjoy the comforts of a clean fireside – prices range upwards from 2/6d per ton.

5th January 1884.

Owlcotes Best Hard Coal and Best Soft Coal are the best and cheapest on the market. For further details as to carting apply to J. Hadfield Cavendish Street or F. Deighton Shambles Market Place Chesterfield.

Oxcroft Colliery.

12th April 1919.

A terrible gas explosion occurred at the Oxcroft colliery of Messrs Geo. Anderson and Anderson. The disaster unfortunately claimed six lives. The explosion occurred between 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. At the time there were 74 miners at work in the pit and the number of men employed in the district in which the accident happened was 18 this was a larger number than usual owing no doubt to the near approach of Easter.

Park Colliery.

1st October 1864.

Edward Sissons engine tender at the Park pit was charged by Mr. Wells of neglecting Rules 51 and 52 of the pit. When any of the men required to be let down the shaft the engine tender should put the hold on which has the effect of steadying the corves before arriving at the bottom. On this occasion he failed to do so and the parties in the shaft were severely injured. The defendant said the gearing was not in proper order and any blame should rest on the engine-right. He was found guilty and fined 12/- plus costs.

1st October 1864.

Peter Spalling charged William Marples with committing a murderous assault upon him on the 10th September at the Park colliery. Marples struck Spalling with a steel locker peg four or five times on the head. He was committed to the Assizes.

Parkhouse Colliery.

16th May 1868.

On Tuesday evening about one hundred persons sat down to an excellent supper at the home of Mr. W. Dore at the Queens Head Inn to celebrate the successful sinking of a colliery at Parkhouse by the Clay Cross Company. The sinking of the shaft has been entrusted to Mr. H. Green who has given great satisfaction. The pit is about 177 yards deep and an excellent bed of Blackshale coal has been found. The pit is situated closed to the Erewash Valley railway line, which will afford a great facility for getting the coal away. After supper Charles Binns Esq. presided for the rest of the evening.

Peewit Colliery.

16th September 1890.

A meeting of the men employed at Peewit Colliery was held at North Wingfield with respect to a dispute as to the wages paid to the men at the colliery, which is under the Wingerworth Coal Company. The men contended that the work their had been gradually getting worse and the coal took more getting and a considerable amount of powder had to be used. The men were getting least 1/- per day behind any colliery in the county that Mr. Harvey knew of and after deducting the money for powder the men were getting on average less than 4/10d per day.

27th September 1890.

At the close of the Liberal meeting held in the school at North Wingfield, Mr. Haslam said there was one matter he wished to mention as he thought it should be known. He had a rather serious if only a small dispute at one of the Wingerworth collieries. The wages there were very low a little over 4/- per day and a dispute had arisen in consequence. He had been informed that the tenants under the company had received notice to quit their homes. If the men could pay their rents the company should do and act so barbarous and disgraceful as resorting to the old cruel method of starving men into submission they would have to very seriously consider the necessity of withdrawing the men from the remaining pits of the company.

Pilsley Colliery. 2.

6th July 1889.

On Friday the men employed at the three pits at Pilsley near Clay Cross owned by the Pilsley Colliery Company were summoned to a pithead meeting to hear a communication from the company. The letter sent to Mr. Guest the men's representative and read by him was very agreeably received. It stated that the company had decided to give the 10% advance on the conditions as accepted in the district. The following resolution was then carried with much enthusiasm that the meeting decided to express its thanks to the Pilsley Colliery Company for having settled with their workmen on the lines laid down by the Manchester Conference viz: to give an advance of 5% on the 1st July and the second 5% on the 1st October and it pledged to pay a levy of 6d per week per man to support those who have to contend for the same terms.

At the Alma Collieries owned by Mr. Thomas Houldsworth, similar proceedings took place on Thursday and as these two firms employ some 1,500 hands it may be considered that the whole of the Clay Cross district as far as this question is concerned is settled and the other important companies have granted the terms asked for.

Pilsley Colliery. 1.

6th September 1873.

On Tuesday afternoon a large number of the workpeople employed by the Pilsley Colliery Company limited near Clay Cross assembled at the Star In Pilsley for the purpose of commemorating the establishment of a new club at a dinner. Dr. R. T. Goodall of Clay Cross and surgeon to the new club was voted into the chair whilst his secretary Mr. Henry Banks acted as vice chairman. The chairman gave the toast "Health and prosperity to the Pilsley Company" coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Thomas Houldsworth, about whom he said he knew no better friend to the working man. Although Mr. Houldsworth was unavoidably absent he had sent by Mr. William Thorpe a cheque for £50 as a donation to the new club. It was always the desire of Mr. Houldsworth that the men should attend to their work and get plenty of money. The chairman said that in their club they would have far more advantages than they had previously enjoyed. There would be surgical and medical aid both for parents and children as well as pecuniary benefit for members of the club. The remainder of the evening was spent in toasts, song, glee and music.

The Sutton in Ashfield Brass Band and Glee Singers provided the entertainment.

15th April 1874.

Another strike of miners to swell the already large number now out of employment has taken place of all the colliers in the employ of the Pilsley Colliery Company Limited. They Struck work on Saturday not against a reduction in wages or to claim an advance but because the owners had introduced a new code of contract rules for their guidance.

27th October 1888.

The Pilsley Colliery Company have given the advance asked for by the men employed in their Tupton seam after a nine day strike.

Mr. Houldsworth Managing Partner of the Alma and Pilsley collieries was interviewed on Tuesday and consented to meet the demands of the men by granting the 10% advance, some 1,300 men are concerned.

Pleasley Colliery.

18th August 1894.

On Tuesday Pleasley pit was not at work owing to the lads refusing to go down consequent on a statement being made by the proprietors to reduce their wages. The lads stated that when the advance of 40% was made to the men their wages were not increased and now they object to any reduction.

8th October 1898.

One hundred and thirty one lads in the employment of the Stanton Ironworks Co. Ltd. at their Pleasley Colliery were charged with wrongfully absenting themselves from work on September 21st and 22nd. The company claimed 12/- damages and 2/- costs in each case. Mr. Piggford the manager was present in the crowded court. On the morning of the 21st when the workmens'train arrived at the colliery sidings the manager was present. The lads loitered around at the pit top and they showed no intention of going down. Mr. Piggford asked them why they were loitering but could get no satisfactory answer; some of them said that they had not been paid their proper wages. He assured the lads, however, if they would go down their case would be looked into he tried to conciliate all he could but they declined to go down the pit and as a consequence the pit could not be worked and 805 men were thrown out of employment. An order was made for the 12/- damages and 2/- costs in each of 121 cases and 10 cases were withdrawn.

Plumbley Colliery.

31st December 1881.

Miners and contractors desirous of tendering for driving 221 yards of bind heading at Plumbley colliery near Eckington may obtain particulars at the offices of the Manager Mr. J. W. Fearn Mining Engineer Chesterfield or from the under viewer at the colliery Mr. John Hurst.

8th October 1887.

In the matter of the Company's Act 1862 / 1867 and in the matter of the Plumbley Colliery Company Limited.

The creditors of the above named company are required on or before the 28th October 1887 to send their names and address and the particulars of their debt or claims and the name and address of their solicitors if any to Edward Newsum 19/20 Baxtergate Doncaster the Official Receiver.

12th November 1887.

Messrs T. B. Richardson and Son will sell by auction at the Royal Hotel Waingate Sheffield on November 19th 1887, twenty-five useful horses with their harness removed from the Plumbley Colliery Eckington also 35 tons of old and new hay in lots now standing at the colliery.

Ramcroft Colliery.

12th January 1929.

The depressed state of the coal industry is further emphasised by the announcement that the Ramcroft Colliery is to close down next week. This pit owned by the Ramcroft Colliery Company Limited has been working for about twelve years. It employs 660 men and boys whose notice expires on the 15th inst. The news that the pit is to close will come as a great blow to numerous villages within a wide radius of Palterton for the colliery provided employment for men from localities as far removed as Clowne and the intervening townships of Stanfree, Shuttlewood, Bolsover, Hillstown and Glapwell.

10th March 1877.

Renishaw Park Colliery.

Work was suspended on Wednesday at the Renishaw Park Collieries belonging to Messrs J. & G. Wells on account of the pony drivers refusing to submit to a reduction of 2d per day. Some time ago a deputation waited on Mr. J. C. Colver Managing Director to arrange what the reduction should be. The understanding arrived at by Mr. Colver and the deputation was that the men should be reduced by 5%, day men 3d per day and the boys 2d per day this arrangement to take effect on the 7th inst. The lads congregated on the road on Wednesday morning en masse and instead of going to the pits they went home again throwing all pits idle which will affect 1,000 men.

20th August 1881.

Bankruptcy of S. S. Pearce.

A meeting of the creditors of Stephen Seward Pearce of 79 Park Lane, Seward Villa, Freemantle Cliff, Southampton and Renishaw Collieries near Chesterfield trading as the Renishaw Colliery Company was held at the Guildhall Tavern London. The affairs are of a most complicated Character, the bankrupt having been in partnership with his brother who has also filed a petition and several knotty points of law are involved. The liabilities were set down at £25,926 and the assets at £19,565, among the list of unsecured creditors were Dr. Holmes Ashgate £3,900, The Midland Railway Company £2,638, Chesterfield and Boythorpe

Colliery Company £200, Hetton Colliery Company £1,225 and Hucknall Colliery Company £68 – 16 – 10d.

23rd May 1885.

For sale the whole of the colliery plant including one pair of winding engines by Davy of Sheffield and eight other engines not named at Renishaw Colliery.

28th December 1889.

It was announced last Thursday to the screen men, labourers and others employed on the surface at the Hopbrook, Hornthorpe and Renishaw Park collieries that an advance in wages of 3d per day would be given all round to the men and 2d per day to the boys under 16 years of age. The advance to commence on New Years Day. There has been no agitation or meetings held by the top men in connection with these collieries and the above were received by general satisfaction. A similar advance was given on the 1st July last year,

12th May 1894.

40 banksman and screen men were discharged last week for ceasing work and stopping the pits at 4.00 p.m. instead of 4.15 p.m. Mr. Hardwick the manager met the men who asked to be reinstated admitting they had made a mistake by stopping the pit. The men were reinstated.

Derbyshire Times.

21st October 1916.

(Page 5, col. 4)

Fatal Accident at Walton Colliery.

So severely injured was Joseph "Dick" Bullock (60) of 7 South Place Barker Lane Brampton by a fall of about one ton of coal and dirt at Riber Colliery Chesterfield owned by Walton Colliery Company that he died on his way to the Chesterfield Hospital.

The inquest was held in the Board Room of the Hospital on Monday and was conducted by the District Coroner (Dr. A. Green) and there were also present Mr. H. A. Abbott H.M. Inspector of Mines and Mr. J. Walton who represented Alderman W. Spooner.

Formal evidence having been given by Mary Ann Bullock wife of the deceased Mr. William Barratt of 5 Post Office Row Brampton was called. He said that Mr. Bullock was engaged on Friday noon in holing out the lower end of a seam of coal three feet thick and the witness went down the gate to fetch an empty tub. On his returning to the stall three minutes later he found the place in darkness. Twice he shouted Dick but he got no reply and then he saw there had been a heavy fall of coal and dirt from the face. By the light of his lamp he could see that the deceased was completely buried with the exception of his head. He was able to lift the piece of coal, which was pinning him down, and by holding this back with his leg he was able to pull the deceased out. Though badly injured he was able to talk and remarked to the witness "I am done". Witness propped him up against the wall and ran for the stretcher. He afterwards is conveyed to the Hospital in a motor car belonging to Mr. Walton of Stones Brewery Sheffield.

Interrogated by Mr. Abbott witness said he had holed a foot of coal out for a distance of about one yard and had fixed two sprags. The place was very quiet at the time there being no weight on. After the fall he examined the stall but could not see anything that would cause the coal to come down and no shots had been fired.

George Rimmington the deputy deposed to tell the deceased to form a pack about one and a half yards from where the fall afterwards occurred. In his opinion the place was properly timbered.

In answer to Mr. Abbott witness said he had warned Bullock about the weight coming on. The accident was due to the weight break and a slip, which had not been noticeable prior to the fall.

Dr. F. G. Beatty said that the man was dead on admission to the Hospital at 1.20.p.m. there were no external marks on the body but the deceased must have sustained internal injuries, which with shock caused his death.

The jury returned a verdict of " Accidental death "and Mr. Walton said that Alderman Spooner who regretted he was unable to be present had asked him to express his sympathy with the widow and family.

Derbyshire Times.

4th September 1878.

Riber Colliery.

William Nicholls of Riber Colliery Brick and Tile Works Walton is selling Best coal at 5/10d per ton, Seconds 4/6d and Slack at 2/6d per ton ex pit. He also calls the attention of the public to the first class stock of pressed, common bricks and pantiles etc.

Derbyshire Courier.

22nd October 1904

Alarming Colliery Explosion At Chesterfield. (Riber Colliery).

Damage to the extent of £1,000 or more, was done by an explosion which occurred on Thursday night about six o'clock at the Riber Colliery, in Boythorpe Lane, Chesterfield. This colliery, which is a small one employing about 50 hands when worked to its fullest capacity, is owned by Councillor Wm Spooner, and was opened out by him about ten years ago. The workings are entered by means of an inclined tunnel, or footrill, about 100 yards in length. No machinery of any kind has been employed in the pit. The coal has been hauled along the easy gradient of the footrill, and the air-current in the roads has been generated by means of a furnace fire directly beneath the upcast air- shaft on the summit of Boythorpe Hill.

Some four months ago the work of coal getting was suspended for the summer in consequence of the depression in the soft coal trade. The fire producing the air-current was left to burn itself out in the furnace. Six weeks ago the alarming discovery was made that the coal measures in the vicinity of the air- shaft were on fire and it is considered that there ignition was due to the furnace fire in some

way. An attempt was made to smother out the flames by sealing up both the footrill tunnel and the airshaft, but at the end of a month it was found that the fire was still progressing. Mr. Spooner then decided to employ a gang of men to approach the flames and suppress them if possible from the direction of the entrance tunnel. Day by day the men approached nearer and nearer to the locality of the fire, but the constant increase of the heat rendered their task increasingly heavy each day, until, of late, it had become well nigh impossible to proceed further with it. The half dozen men employed in the workings on Wednesday suffered so severely from the intensity of the heat that they were in a state of physical exhaustion on leaving the pit. On Thursday morning, however, the task of combating the flames was resumed by three men, William Milner of Walton, the manager, J. Tomlin and James Mellor, both of Brampton. They stuck at their task until about half past three in the afternoon, by which time the heat had become altogether unbearable, and therefore they left the workings and made their way to the surface. On the road there one of the men made the remark that he would not be surprised if an explosion occurred before morning. On reaching the surface they proceeded as usual to close up the tunnel mouth, so as to shut off as far as possible current likely to feed the flames and left the premises.

Two hours later a terrific explosion occurred. The shock was so severe as to be felt all over the western parts of the town, and Councillor Spooner at his residence in Goldwell Hill heard the report and very shortly afterwards was apprised of its cause and its significance. The severity of the explosion was such as to break several windows of houses and buildings in the immediate locality of Boythorpe Lane. The noise and shock were of so alarming a character as to bring hundreds of people out into the streets in search of the cause. Darkness had set in by then, but on ascertaining the meaning of the explosion, large numbers of people began to assemble in the vicinity of the colliery sheds; Inspector Evans and two or three of the Borough Police Force arrived at the scene of the explosion within a few minutes of its occurrence and kept back the crowd of curious spectators. Notwithstanding the darkness the crowd of sightseers were able to perceive that the riddling sheds and timber staging at the pithead had been totally destroyed, but it was only when lanterns had been procured were the full surface evidences of the explosion completely revealed. Mr. Spooner was on the scene within half an hour and took charge of the exploration party. They discovered that the whole of the footrill extending from the entrance for fully 50 yards up the slope of the hill had been split open and the large segments of brickwork had been ploughed up and spread on either side like a gigantic furrow. The whole of the head works and approaches had thus been totally destroyed, the timberwork being smashed to match wood. It is supposed that the damage done to the timbering in the roadways must also be very considerable but the extent to which this had suffered could not of course be ascertained at the time of writing but will become apparent when His Majesty's Inspector of Mines Mr. A. H. Stokes makes his investigation. The matter was reported to him the same evening and he will in all probability visit the pit today.

As we have previously stated the only three men employed in the pit left the locality at four p.m. and none of the horses used for haulage purposes were stabled either in or near it fortunately, therefore, there was a total absence of loss of life or injury to man or beast which is so often associated with colliery disasters of a similar character. Mr. Spooner's losses, we understand are not covered by insurance in the slightest extent.

As to the cause of the explosion, although several theories have been advanced, the most tenable appears to be that which attributes it to the gradual accumulation of gas due to the combustion of

the coal measures. The coal, which is described as the "Tupton three quarter" house coal, contains a large percentage of gas and used to some extent for gas manufacturing purposes. The supposition is that the gas accumulated after the cessation of work, at a greater rate than had previously been the case, probably owing to atmospheric changes, and being driven on to the burning seam caused the explosion.

Seymour Colliery.

8th June 1872.

Wanted a pick sharpener, liberal wages given to a steady man.

6th July 1918.

After fifty years the Seymour Colliery Staveley belonging to the Staveley Coal and Iron Company Ltd. was closed on Tuesday. The pit was sunk some fifty years ago and has, therefore, had a remarkably good working life. The seam worked has been the Top Hard a particularly fine seam and a good house coal. The reason for the closure is that the pit is practically worked out but happily, few if any of the men would be adversely affected by it as the Company is finding work for them at their other collieries. The output at Seymour has varied during its career and at one time 1,100 tons a day were turned. That was a time when a large number of men were engaged there and before it was worked out so fast. The number of miners at Seymour recently has been about 52 and with the surface workers the employees totalled about 90.

Sheepbridge Colliery.

20th July 1861.

We stopped work at the above colliery on Monday last in consequence of the masters having given us fourteen days to find our own tools. We have not had to do this before considering that we are not in a position to find the tools. We earnestly solicit your support and co-operation. The colliers.

4th September 1878.

The Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company Ltd. have arranged to supply direct from their pits all kinds of good quality coals for domestic and manufacturing purposes at current summer prices. The coal recently reached at Langwith (Heath Seam) is of excellent quality. For prices apply to Mr. J. E. Brook Cobden Road.

27th October 1888.

At a meeting of the miners employed by the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company Limited at their Dunston Colliery was held on Monday evening. It was agreed that the meeting pledged itself to carry out the original decision of the Manchester Conference with respect to the 10% advance.

Shirebrook Colliery.

30th October 1897.

The work in connection with the new colliery at Shirebrook is rapidly extending. The engine house and fitting shops and other buildings are nearly completed. A small output of coal, which is of a satisfactory quality has already commence to be produced and extensive sidings are in the course of construction with the railway company. The plant is put down to deal with a daily output of 3,000 tons and several hundred men are now employed. About half a mile from the colliery a model village is springing up, some 150 houses have already been erected and about 420 are to be built. There is an enclosed garden in front and an enclosed yard at the back of each. The houses are fitted with bathrooms and sculleries. Trees will be planted in the main street and a hotel is to be built at a cost of £3,000.

Shirland Colliery.

9th July 1864.

Wanted tenders for sinking a pair of shafts twelve feet in diameter to the Blackshale seam at Shirland colliery. The estimated depth is 120 yards.

21st June 1876.

It was resolved by the miners who had stopped work that the following price list would be the only one for future workings:

Blackshale pit:	heading with bars.	4/8d	per yard.	Was	6/3d.
	cutting	2/2 ½ d			2/6d.
	ripping	4/-		7Tupton pit:	heading with bars
4/6d	5/-.				
	Cutting	1/6d			1/6d
	ripping	1/9d			2/6d

25th July 1877.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice before the Master of the Rolls the usual order for the winding up of the Shirland Colliery Company Ltd. was made. There was no opposition.

Silkstone / Whittington Colliery.

8th December 1883.

The above colliery formerly known as Broom House, has recommenced working and is now prepared to supply their excellent coal to the households of Chesterfield and Whittington.

14th February 1885.

For sale the whole of the colliery plant and buildings etc.

21st March 1885.

To be sold by auction a winding engine with 12 inch cylinder and 2 feet 8 inch stroke, link motion, 8 feet flywheel by Shaw of Barnsley, haulage engine 12 inch cylinder, 2 feet stroke link motion 8 feet 5 inch flywheel by Plowright Brothers, one egg end boiler 27 feet x 4 feet by Oliver and Co. Chesterfield.

Sloads Colliery Dronfield.

12th August 1854.

To be sold by auction upon the premises of Messrs Swindell and Salt Sloads colliery, complete gearing for the working of two pits, three new pit ropes and ten curves.

Snowdon Lane Colliery.

22nd October 1892.

Messrs Byron and Rangeley have received instructions from the executors of the late J. S. Stott Allen to sell by auction the whole of the colliery plant including a 10 hp horizontal winding engine, 10 inch cylinder 24 inch stroke, two donkey engines, four egg ended boilers, 7 feet fly wheel and drum. The colliery is situated 2 miles from Dronfield / Unstone and 3 miles from Eckington and is on Bramley Moor.

Somerbille Colliery.

20th November 1880.

In the Chancery Division the Master of the Rolls had before him a claim in the winding up of the Dronfield Silkstone Coal Company for £1,138 by the owners of the Somerbille Colliery, which adjoins that worked by the Dronfield Silkstone Coal Company. The claim was to recover damages to the amount in respect of wrongful working beyond the boundary alleged to have taken place in 1878.

Southgate Colliery.

29th April 1885.

Mr. C. Tylden – Wright wants to know if the Southgate men will now go back to work as the Shireoaks and Steetley men have gone in at the 10% reduction. Mr. Wright said he can get coal for all the orders from Shireoaks and if the men do not return to work the horses will be drawn out, but he hopes that will not be necessary.

27th October 1888.

A meeting of the miners employed at the Southgate Colliery belonging to the Shireoaks Colliery Company was held at the Nags Head Clowne on Monday night. Mr. Kenyon checkweighman addressed the miners and made a suggestion that they should work another week so that their notice should terminate at the same time as the other collieries belonging to the firm. The miners did not agree to this and passed a resolution in favour of bringing out their tools at the expiration of the notice given. The miners, therefore, will cease work on Wednesday.

17th March 1900.

A serious fire broke out at Southgate Colliery on Wednesday morning. The conflagration was first noticed in the town just before 5.00 a.m. and the workmen were soon on the spot to assist in quelling the outbreak. The Welbeck Fire Brigade were called and eventually got the fire under control. The screens, elevators and some wagons were destroyed. About £2,000 worth of damage was done.

25th November 1911.

The remarkable immunity from serious accidents from which Southgate Colliery Clowne has long enjoyed was unhappily on Wednesday when three poor fellows descending the shaft on the afternoon shift were hurled into eternity without a moments warning whilst three others were more or less seriously injured. The immediate cause of the accident was over winding but what led to the latter mishap remains as yet a matter for conjecture.

6th January 1912..

There was a startling incident at the above colliery at Clowne last Friday which might have had disastrous results. It appears that during the winding of the first batch of men into the pit something went wrong with a steam valve at the engine which made it impossible for the winder to shut off the steam, fortunately, however, by means of the brake and other appliances the driver was able to prevent over winding. When the ascending cage was settled on to the props twelve men boarded it for making the next journey. The winder deemed it prudent not to take any further risks until the engine had been overhauled. So the men were lowered down the No. 2 shaft. The necessary repairs were carried out in two hours and winding operations were resumed.

Speedwell Colliery.

31st January 1863.

Two colliers named William Hobson and Samuel Cupit were charged with the breach of colliery rules at Mr. Barrow's works Staveley. Mr. Joseph Hardy stated that on Friday last the defendants passed him and he warned them not to go that way as there was a fireboard up. They both had naked lights and were going in the direction of Seymour Colliery. The two pits have underground connections. Each sentenced to fourteen days imprisonment with hard labour.

Spinkhill Colliery.

5th January 1901.

The dispute relative to the establishment of a price list had been before The Derbyshire Miners Association for two months and Mr. Harvey had been unable to effect a settlement and, therefore, authorised the men to give notice.

Spital Colliery.

14th May 1864.

Wanted a practical engine tender, a middle aged man would be preferred also a quantity of colliers required.

13th December 1890.

On Tuesday the adjourned inquiry into the affairs of Thomas Fisher late proprietor of the Spital Lane Colliery Hasland was resumed before Mr. Wake Registrar to the Chesterfield County Court at the County Court Offices Chesterfield.

Mr. A. J. Hall the Assistant Official Receiver examined Herbert Fisher of Hayencroft Green Wakefield brother to the debtor. He said that at various times he had advanced money to his brother. Witness said that he had got a deed of assignment of his brother's furniture. He became tenant of his brother's house and had a rent book. The debtor was then further examined and stated that he withdrew from the bank on 2nd October £24 – 12 – 00d and on October 3rd £18 – 16 – 00d to pay wages with. After he had paid the wages and drawn all his money from the bank he had got £19 in hand. He paid £14 to file a petition and had £5 left which he spent on living.

He corrected a statement he had made at the previous examination and stated now he gave Fletcher (his late partner) 3150. He had not looked into his financial position when his partnership was dissolved. The examination was then closed.

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20th May 1854.

Springwell Colliery.

On Saturday evening, last a supper was given at The Crown Inn Staveley by Mr. R. Barrow to the men employed at the Springwell Colliery on the occasion of those pits being successfully completed for work. The company to the number of about thirty including the chief of the agents sat down to a supper which was ample and served up in Mrs. Swift's usual good style. The greatest harmony prevailed during the evening and some very excellent songs were sung and the usual loyal and other toasts were given. The Staveley Band was also in attendance and enlivened the intervals with several select and well executed musical pieces. The meeting broke up before 12 o'clock having spent a very agreeable evening.

28th November 1863.

Springwell Colliery.

Mr. Barrow the proprietor of this colliery has given notice that from Monday " he will during the winter months advance wages to the coal hewers on condition that the work is not neglected on Mondays/Tuesdays. Those who do so are to participate in the advance, it is understood the rise will be 1d, 2d, 3d per ton according to the part of the pit where the coal is got."

12th November 1870.

Springwell Colliery.

On Saturday last two immense boilers weighing upwards of 13 tons each were conveyed from the Staveley Works by the aid of 12 powerful horses to that Company's works at Springwell., where they will employed in making steam for a fan in connection with the colliery at that place. This fan is supposed to be the largest in the world.

Derbyshire Courier.

11th July 1903.

Twenty- three feet of Unspragged Coal.

A Staveley collier named James Lygo was summoned at Chesterfield County Police Court on Saturday by William Bumpstead Manager of the St. John's Colliery Staveley for a breach of special rule 72 by allowing overhanging coal in his stall to remain unspragged. Deputies Johnson and Watson stated that on visiting Lygo's stall they found eighteen feet of overhanging coal four feet deep unspragged. The rule states that spraggs should be set not more than six feet apart. Lygo admitted the truth of the deputies statements but his defence was that a great portion of the coal was resting on a "Bunkie" there was no necessity to spragg it. The Bench imposed a fine of 10/- and costs.

Derbyshire Courier.

16th February 1895.

Remarkable Stoppage of a Coal Pit.

On Monday morning the Birchwood pit of the Butterley Company was as much incommoded with ice that the men could not work. The shaft that is 230 yards deep has had for many days immense icicles hanging down the sides and these having been partly melted by fires have fallen to the bottom forming a mass of many tons which it was necessary to raise to the top before work could be resumed.

17th April 1897.

Diminsdale Colliery.

(page, 4, col. 3).

Dismantling of the above colliery near Alfreton. For sale horizontal winding engine. Hauling and pumping engine and various other engines and compressors Lancashire boilers and 13-ton rail weighing machine.

Staveley Company Ltd. 2.

12th November 1887.

Quite a gloom was cast over Staveley and district on Wednesday when it became known That Mr. Joseph Humble of The Cottage Staveley and Manager of the Staveley Coal and Iron Company's collieries had died about 11.45 p.m. on Tuesday night. Mr. Humble attended to his duties on Monday but towards evening he complained of feeling unwell and shortly afterwards he was compelled to take to his bed. His illness gradually assumed more severe proportions until it developed into a more dangerous attack of pleurisy and inflammation of the lungs and not withstanding the efforts of Dr. Court of Staveley and Dr. Booth of Chesterfield who did all that was possible for the deceased gentleman their efforts proved of no avail.

Mr Humble who was about 45 years of age had been in charge of the whole of the Staveley collieries for nearly eleven years and was highly respected on all sides and much sympathy is felt for the

bereaved family. Before Mr. Humble came into the district he had been in charge of a number of collieries at Pemberton near Wigan.

In 1877 soon after entering upon his duties at Staveley Mr. Humble became connected with the Chesterfield Institute of Engineers in whose affairs he took a keen interest.

26th March 1900.

Staveley House Coals.

The Staveley Coal and Iron Company will open their new coal depots at both the Midland and L.D. & E.C. Railway Stations on the 1st June for the sale of coals of every description.

Prices at the depots for cash:

Markham Best Cobbles 16/6d per ton,

Markham Second Cobbles 15/6d per ton,

Ireland Best House 16/6d per ton,

Ireland Best Washed Nuts 14/6d per ton,

Markham Best Brights 17/6d per ton

Barlborough Best Brights 17/6d per ton,

Seymour Best Brights 17/- per ton.

Also Best Silkstone House Coals from Hartington and Bonds Main Collieries,

Steam Coals from Warsop Main, Barlborough, Seymour and Markham Collieries,

The above prices do not include cartage, customers may send their own carts or if preferred can have the coal delivered to their houses.

Staveley Company Ltd. 1.

19th December 1863.

The Staveley Works so long known as Mr. Barrows has been purchased by a Joint Stock Company and is to be known as the Staveley Collieries and Ironworks Company Ltd. Advancing age has made M. Barrow desire to be relieved from a considerable proportion of the care and anxiety inseparable from the sole proprietorship of a large concern and he has consequently affected the sale. The total capital required of £600,000 was subscribed in two or three days without any prospectus or circular being issued.

2nd April 1864.

Easter Monday will be a red letter in the history of Staveley, the occasion being the opening of the new dining hall that has been built entirely at the expense of Mr. Barrow for providing the means for getting a dinner on the most moderate scale. The building, which is neat and unfussed, has cost Mr.

Barrow a large sum of money and it reflects the highest credit on that gentleman's liberality. The occasion was also intended to celebrate the rescue of twelve men and boys from the Spitalwell Ironstone mine. There were 250 persons present.

5th May 1877.

Walter Homer of Chesterfield, George Wilson of Bolsover and James Hudson of Brimington, sinkers were charged with following and intimidating William Spencer secretary to the Staveley Silkstone Colliery Company on the 14th inst. The complainant stated that the Company were sinking a new pit in Speedwell Terrace Staveley. The contract for the sinking had been let to a man named Thorley and the defendants were employed as his workmen. Thorley had been paid weekly by the company for the amount of work done. On the day named on the summons Thorley had left the district and did not draw the money due to him from the company and has not been heard of since.

The secretary of the Company said he had in hand £20 due to Thorley but the wages owing to the men amounted to over £34. Acting on the instructions of his employers he declined to pay the men who were servants of Thorley the results being that on leaving the offices about twenty men including the defendants followed him using abusive language and threatening to do him violence unless he paid them. Superintendent Carlin happened to come up at the time and on his advice he paid the men half of what was owing as far as the money in hand would go. Wilson swore at him, Hudson went up to his door and would not let him close it. The Bench admitted the case was a hard one but there was no reason why they should have treated the complainant who was merely a servant in the manner they had. Wilson who appeared to be one of the ringleaders was fined £2 plus costs or six weeks imprisonment, the other two were fined £1 each plus costs or one month imprisonment.

Staveley Silkstone Colliery.

15th July 1896.

Samuel Taylor Manager at the Silkstone pit at the Staveley Colliery was charged at Chesterfield County Police Court by H. M. Inspector of Mines for neglecting to comply with the general rule of the Coal Mines Act by not causing an adequate amount of ventilation to be constantly produced to dilute and render harmless the noxious gases. The case was dismissed.

Storforth Lane / Whitebank Collieries.

23rd July 1870.

On Saturday an excellent dinner was given to the men employed at Mr. Senior's colliery Hasland to commemorate the event of the successful opening of an under ground communication with the Whitebank and Hasland collieries. The length of the subterranean passage is 530 yards and it will be of great facility in conveying coal from the pits to the main line of the Midland Railway.

6th August 1870.

There was a lengthy article about coal exports etc. it concluded with the following passage: Mr. Senior has at last succeeded in joining two collieries – the Hasland and Whitebank together after long and determined efforts to clear both of them. The pits a few years ago since were abandoned owing to an irruption of water which filled them. Mr. Senior took them over and with great spirit got them clear and will now it is hoped, reap the reward which his perseverance under most discouraging circumstances richly merits.

9th January 1875.

The first annual dinner of the Industrial Coal and Coke Company, which was established in early 1873, has taken place. The company now have four pits in working order namely: Hasland, Whitebank, Storforth Lane all at Chesterfield and Woodhouse at Woodhouse Junction. Seams have just been reached at Storforth Lane. There was plenty of iron below the coal but it was planned not to get the iron until the coal was worked out.

28th August 1875.

The half yearly meeting of the Industrial Coal and Coke Company was held at the Angel Hotel Chesterfield on 24th August 1875. Since the general meeting held in February last the new colliery at Storforth Lane has been connected underground with the Whitebank and Hasland workings, so that the whole of the coal can now be drawn at the new place. By this arrangement one engine can now do more work than two did formerly and a considerable saving is effected in fuel and labour. The engines and other machinery at Hasland and Whitebank, being no longer required will be sold. The directors have decided to sell also the wagons purchased with the Hasland and Whitebank collieries, as they are of a different and inferior pattern to those purchased for Storforth Lane. The drawing powers of the Storforth Lane colliery are such as would exhaust in a limited number of years, the coal originally leased, but the directors have secured a larger area with the deeper seams of coal, and a fresh lease of 25 years with powers to renew.

22nd January 1876.

On Wednesday morning the body of a man named Emanuel Knowles the engine tender residing at Furnace Hillock Walton was found drowned in a pond at the colliery.

Storforth Lane Collieries 2.

7th July 1877.

High Court of Justice – Chancery Division on Tuesday 24th July at 4.00 p.m.

The Storforth Lane Colliery situated at Storforth lane and immediately adjoining the main line of the Midland Railway Company where it has a siding. The Company have laid out in extension of this property at a cost of £22,000 beyond the original amount paid for the purchase of over £40,000. The whole of the valuable buildings, plant and machinery will be included in the sale. The purchaser will have to take the wagons, stock of coal, slack, ironstone, fireclay, loose material, stock in trade and office furniture and other effects on the premises at a valuation in the usual manner.

4th September 1878.

The above colliery is now supplying coal at the following prices Best Hand Picked House 7/6d per ton, Seconds 6/6d per ton – carting extra.

Place orders with, Mr. Hutchings, 23 Brewery Street Chesterfield.

11th January 1879.

Notice is hereby given that an extra ordinary meeting of the above company will be held at the Cannon Hotel London on 16th January 1879.

“That it has been proved that the Storforth Lane Colliery Company by reason of its liabilities cannot continue its business and it is advisable to wind up the same immediately and appoint a liquidator.”
William Thos. Barrett Director, Registered Office, 23 Brewery Street Chesterfield.

25th September 1886.

John Turner will sell by auction the colliery plant and a pair winding engines by Messrs Oliver and Company, a vertical pumping engine by Darwin and Company Sheffield, pitch pine headstocks etc.

25th July 1896.

Ernest Mitchell is favoured with instructions to sell by auction at an early date the Storforth Lane Colliery and Derby Road Brickworks upon the colliery premises.

14th August 1897.

Mr. George Senior Ashgate Road died on Saturday last, he had been suffering from heart disease. He was born at Barnsley on May 3rd 1818. He became an architect and surveyor. About twelve years ago he moved to Whittington and became proprietor of Albion Pottery, later he was connected with Dunston, Whitebank and Hasland Lane collieries. At the time of his death he was part proprietor of Barker Pottery.

Stretton Colliery.

20th January 1877.

Mr. E. Houfton the manager has opened a depot for the sale of coal at the Chesterfield station. Orders may be given either to Mr. Charles Fieldsend at the depot or Mr. John Spencer Newbold Road or Mr. Higginbottom Low Pavement. Prices on application.

14th November 1891.

To be sold the whole of the fixed and loose plant comprising of a pair of marine engines with link motion with 12 inch cylinder and 24 inch stroke, headstock and pulley wheels, egg ended boiler 27 feet x 4 ½ feet by Fletcher of Derby, haulage engine with boiler combined double cylinder 8 inch diameter and 12 inch stroke with 5 ½ feet flywheel, 4 feet drum by Hyde and Son Nottingham.

Sudbrooke Colliery.

2nd April 1859.

The proprietors of Sudbrooke Colliery on Barlow Road are prepared to supply coals ex pit at 4/6d per ton for cash and delivered at 7/- per ton. Orders to Mr. Walton Spencer Street.

Summerley Colliery.

2nd May 1877.

James Rhodes and Son supply their hand picked coal and Silkstone house coal, seconds house coal and screened Silkstone nuts direct to consumers at the lowest market prices of the day to any part of the town. Information as to prices and orders should be addressed to No. 3 coal office Chesterfield Station.

3rd January 1880.

Mr. J. D. Styring has received instructions from the owners of the Summerley Colliery to sell by auction 28 ponies and horses and surplus stock etc.

29th November 1884.

At The Chancery Court.

Summerley Colliery Dronfield.

Messrs Nicholson, Greaves and Palmer are instructed to sell by auction on Monday 1st December. One hundred and seventy pit corves, horsebox, tram rails, 10,000 sleepers and a boiler. Dronfield Station is within five minutes walk of the colliery.

17th April 1858.

One valuable steam engine to be sold by auction. One excellent 40hp high pressure engine with rope drum, one 18hp engine, 37 yards of lift pumps 10" bore with bucket and clack. The colliery is about one mile north of Chesterfield and adjoining the Midland Railway and Chesterfield and Stockwith canal.

27th April 1861.

Tenders for the sinking of two shafts, apply to the office of Tapton New Colliery Newbold Road.

1st February 1862.

Superior Blackshale screened and picked 8/- per ton, unscreened 7/- per ton, slack 4/3d per ton. Orders to coal yard Cavendish Street.

5th March 1874.

On Tuesday last over 300 employees of the Tapton Colliery Coke & Iron Co. struck work under the following circumstances; on the 11th of February at 14 days notice was given to them to the effect that a reduction of wages equal to 15% would be made. The men replied by stating that when the advances were made in 1872 it was agreed by the Sheepbridge, Tapton, Holmewood, Whittington, Wingerworth and Brampton companies that all advances and reductions should take place simultaneously and that they were singled out whilst others have as yet received no official intimation or reduction.

5th November 1864.

Wanted a number of steady coal miners at Tapton Coal and Ironstone Co. Works, near the Chesterfield Railway Station.

15th February 1868.

Coals from Tapton Collieries at the following prices delivered in the town.

Best screened coal 8/4d per ton, Best unscreened 7/10d per ton, Nuts 6/6d per ton. R. Mountney Agent Market Place.

8th May 1869.

William Naish was charged with leaving the employment of the Tapton Colliery Co. without giving one months notice. They claimed $\frac{1}{2}$ compensation from the time the defendant went away on 10th April. He was fined $\frac{1}{2}$ and the amount claimed and $\frac{4}{6}$ d costs or one months imprisonment with hard labour.

15th April 1876.

Sale of Tapton Colliery. The colliery belonged to a limited company whose affairs it is to be presumed are now being wound up. The first lot comprised of the works, engines, coke ovens etc. and the unworked coal. The bidding commenced at £7,000 and no advance upon this sum was obtained Mr. Stoker a member of a firm of London solicitors bid £5,000 making the amount £12,000. Mr. Nicholson the auctioneer failed to obtain a higher bid. He informed the bidders that miners wages would go down 20% and the position of coal would again become most profitable. He also stated that in 1865 the company to which the colliery belonged started with a capital of £50,000. After opening the document which contained the reserve price he withdrew both lots and said that it would be offered for sale by private treaty.

7th March 1877.

The Tapton Colliery Coke and Iron Co. Newbold. John Turner and Son have received instructions from the Official Liquidator to prepare for sale 5 powerful draught horses and 43 cobs and ponies.

2nd May 1877.

Tapton Colliery Coal and Coke Co.

Newbold, Locoford and Brimington Road.

John Turner & Sons have received instructions from the Liquidator to sell by auction on 7th, 8th and 9th May all of the valuable and loose colliery plant etc. 500 coal trams with cast iron wheels and wrought iron axles 2 feet gauge, 8 coal and coke railway trucks, 10 conical coke pans to fuel coke ovens, 200,000 bricks, 4 one horse carts, 25 ton weighbridge, 2 patent hydraulic lifting jacks by Tanager Bros, 3 large gig pulleys with brake rims and one new gig drum with shaft and pedestal, 500 Davey lamps, one single deck cage, one double deck cage, and a considerable amount of other engineering equipment. Also one dog cart and 50 sets of harnesses and 4 sets of sling gear. Sale to commence at 11.00a.m. at the Wallsend Colliery Newbold and the following days at the Tapton Colliery.

8th February 1879.

To be sold by tender the whole of the valuable plant and engines at the colliery. The plant is in excellent working order and will be sold subject to the purchaser taking a lease of the ground comprising the site of the works about 10 acres in extent for a term not exceeding 40 years at the nominal rent of £20 per annum. The purchaser will also have the option of taking a lease on 80 acres of Blackshale coal, 100 acres of Bottom Hard coal, 160 acres of Tupton and Tupton Threequarter coal.

There are good sidings running parallel to the main line of the Midland Railway running from Leeds to London and accommodation for an output of 1,000 tons of coal per day.

Temple Normanton Colliery.

Derbyshire Times.

15th December 1877.

There is now a regular supply of Best Hard and Soft Coal and cobbles at the above colliery, which is the Top Hard seam and is of excellent quality.

8th February 1879.

The valuable leasehold colliery plant, buildings, railway and cottages to be sold by auction at the Star Inn Chesterfield. The colliery consists of two shafts ten feet in diameter and 153 yards deep with a pair of Robey's Patent Miming Engines.

16th June 1880.

Best Brights 11/- per ton, Best Hards 10/- per ton, Screened Cobbles 8/10d per ton, Steam Coal 8/9d per ton, Screenings for baker's 7/- per ton, Slack 6/4d per ton.

The present prices are for delivery into any part of Chesterfield. Agent: Mr. H. Topliss 10 Abercrombie Street Chesterfield.

30th October 1880.

Present prices at the pit per ton: Best Brights 7/6d, Best Hards 6/6d, Hand Picked Cobbles 6/-, Second Cobbles 5/-, Rough Slack 3/6d.

Prices delivered to any part of Chesterfield.

Best Brights 11/-, Best Hards 10/-, Hand Picked Cobbles 9/8d, Screened Cobbles, Second Hards, Steam Coal all 8/9d, Screenings for bakers 7/-, Slack 6/4d.

Town agent: Mr. H.Topliss 10 Abercrombie Street.

17th December 1887.

Notice is hereby given as a petition for the winding up of the above named colliery by the Court of Justice was presented to the High Court of Justice by Mr. John Caudwell of Amber Mill in the Parish of Shirland a miller and farmer a creditor of the said Company. The case comes up on the 14th January 1888.

11th February 1888.

Notice is hereby given that Mr. Justice Kay as fixed Monday 20th February at 12 noon at his chambers in the Royal Courts of Justice in London for the time and place for the appointment of an Official Liquidator for the Temple Normanton Coal and Coke Company Ltd.

Derbyshire Times.

2nd February 1889.

On Saturday at Chesterfield County Police Court Moses Hawksley under manager at the Temple Normanton Colliery, was summoned by H. M. Inspector of Mines for an offence against the Coal Mines Act 1887 by failing to produce an adequate amount of ventilation to be constantly in operation in certain parts of the mine on the 20th December. He pleaded guilty. On the day named Mr. Hepplewhite the Assistant Inspector of Mines went to the colliery for the purpose of making an official examination of the works. He went down the mine at 9.30 a.m. in company with the manager Mr. Eardley and the defendant. On entering the No. 1 heading he found the brattice cloth deficient and after he had gone another 19 yards he suddenly found his lamp full of inflammable gas and very shortly the lamp went out. He borrowed another lamp from the under manager and found that the gas extended from the coalface for a distance of 19 yards. Proceeding to No. 3 heading he found the brattice cloth up in the same loose manner as No. 1 There was also a quantity of gas in the place and his lamp showed a blue cap around the flame. The Inspector also found men actually working with naked lights in the pit and the consequence of an explosion would have been most disastrous. He believed it was a regular practice for men to work with naked lights in several parts of that colliery.

The defendant was liable to a penalty of £30, but they fined him £10 plus 8/6d costs.

21st October 1893.

Messrs Byron and Rangeley will sell by auction opposite the Angel Hotel Chesterfield a pit pony twelve and a half hands belonging to the Temple Normanton Colliery Company.

28th October 1893.

Messrs Byron and Rangeley are favoured by instructions from the Liquidator of the Temple Normanton Colliery to sell by auction on the premises on Wednesday / Thursday the 1st and 2nd November the whole of the fixed and loose plant, stores etc. The plant consists in part of a pumping engine a pair of winding wheels by Robey and Co. A flywheel 8 feet 6 inches in diameter with brake wheel and strap fittings complete, three Lancashire boilers 30 feet x 7 feet complete with fittings, 1,400 yards of railway rails, sleepers and fish plates, crossings and points, ropes and pit cages. All the office furniture including a Tanna patent safe which has twice resisted burglars. The colliery is situated about half a mile from Grassmoor and Heath stations on the M. S. & L. Railway.

Tibshelf Colliery.

8th April 1876.

On Thursday 2,000 miners employed by Messrs C. Seeley and Company at Tibshelf went on strike. It had been proposed to reduce the men's wages by 17 ½ % (15% demanded by the masters and 2 ½% that was standing over of a reduction offered in February 1875 but not enforced.)

Tibshelf Colliery Club.

Gala and Flower Show.

The annual fete and gala will be held on the Colliery cricket ground on Wednesday 16th July. The Tibshelf Colliery Band and also the Tibshelf United Brass Band will be playing.

Timberfield Colliery.

16th January 1869.

Two men were killed and five scalded on Thursday last week at about 7.40 a.m. when a boiler explosion took place at the above colliery belonging to Mr. Thomas Houldsworth. The colliery where the unfortunate occurrence took place is situated near the Stretton Station on the Midland Railway.

Tinkersick Colliery.

7th September 1867.

The sinking of a new pit from the Threequarter coal down to the Blackshale at Tinkersick colliery by Stephen Sayers's proprietor.

Town Field Colliery.

5th August 1890.

Thomas Gascoyne one of the proprietors of Town Field Colliery died from injuries caused by falling down the pit. Frederick Gascoyne identified the body as that of his brother aged 47 at the inquest held at the Green Dragon Inn Dronfield.

25th February 1893.

Messrs Byron and Rangeley are favoured with instructions from the proprietors of Town Field Colliery to sell by auction on the premises above on Monday 6th March 1893, the whole of the fixed and loose colliery plant.

Turnoaks Colliery.

9th January 1904.

Best Low Main Hard Cobbles 10/6d per ton delivered, Unscreened Cobbles 8/6d per ton delivered, Rough Slack 5/6d per ton delivered.

N.B. The above prices include carting to any part of the Borough of Chesterfield. The coal is sold only upon one condition: viz: Cash with order.

12th June 1915.

The Turnoaks Colliery Company were granted a licence to store explosives in a building on the site of the old Broad Oaks Iron works on Derby Road.

15th October 1937.

Seven Chesterfield boys aged fourteen to sixteen were involved on Sunday afternoon in an explosion that was caused by one of them throwing a lighted "little demon" firework down a disused shaft. The accident occurred at the old Turnoaks Colliery off Derby Road Chesterfield that has been closed for eleven years.

Two Oaks Colliery Unstone.

6th August 1892.

To be sold by auction the colliery plant, 6 hp haulage engine with drum, vertical boilers, Cornish pumping engine, cart weighing machine up to 6 tons. The colliery is situated within ½ a mile of Unstone Station.

Unstone Collieries. 1.

31st October 1868.

On Tuesday last Miss Harrison daughter of Captain Harrison of Rotherham turned the first sod of a new pit belonging to the Unstone Coal & Coke Company. The place for sinking the shaft is in a field adjoining Unstone Mill and is about one hundred yards from the turnpike road leading from

Chesterfield to Dronfield. It is on the slope of a hill and lies very convenient for the fall of water and for tipping dirt as it comes out of the pit. The shaft is twelve feet clear and will run 100 / 200 yards down to the Blackshale.

31st March 1869.

To railway contractors, the Unstone Coal & Coke Company Ltd. are desirous of receiving tenders for the construction of the branch railway and sidings. Plans and specifications may be inspected at the West Staveley Colliery offices.

28th October 1871.

Progress is being made on the new colliery at Unstone belonging to Messrs J. Rhodes and Sons. This colliery the first sod of which was turned in March last year has begun to assume proportions indicative of the great importance in the neighbourhood. Two shafts have now attained a depth of 85 yards and 45 yards having been through very strong rock conditions. The influx of water became so great after the first heavy downpour of rain in the summer that the sinking operations had to be suspended pending the erection of a Cornish engine of 200 hp which will be able to lift with ease 1,000 gallons of water per minute. The erection of the engine will of course occupy some considerable time and some months will no doubt elapse before they have reached the famed Silkstone bed of coal. Thirty yards have yet to be delved out. A branch line of railway will be made to join the Midland line about half a mile away. The coalfield is said to comprise of 300 acres and for its development a great number of hands will be employed at the colliery in no small degree to the prosperity of the neighbourhood. It is very creditable to the officials at the works that so far no serious accident has occurred.

2nd March 1872.

The workmen at Mr. Moulds colliery struck work on Tuesday morning over their grievance that the machine on the pit bank over which there coals are weighed were alleged to be several stones against them. The machine is a new one and has only been put down a week or so. On Wednesday Mr. Cruit Deputy Superintendent of police of the Eckington division visited Unstone and tested the machine in the presence of the workmen certifying it to be in favour of the men.

Unstone Collieries 2.

23rd March 1872.

The company are prepared to receive tenders for the erection of twenty-nine coke ovens.

31st August 1872.

The Silkstone Colliery Unstone is to be sold by tender comprising of about 45 acres of which only 5 acres have been worked. The coal is known as the Blackshale or Silkstone of very superior quality about five feet in thickness. The shaft is 64 yards deep and is worked by a 14 hp engine. There are two ovens for making hard coke and one for soft or smiths coke.

19th April 1884.

The Unstone Coal & Coke Company Ltd announce that in consequence of the closure of their pits they will sell by auction on 21st April fifty pit ponies in a field near to the colliery.

22nd December 1888.

At Eckington Petty Sessions John Gabbitas a collier at Unstone was summoned at the instance of the Unstone Coal & Coke Company Ltd. for unlawfully contravening the 72nd special colliery rule by not having set sufficient "sprags" before commencing holing on the 2nd November. The prosecution said that it was a very serious offence.

The man had not set a "spragg" in his stall within seven yards and he had actually holed 2 feet 6 inches under. The Bench were no doubt perfectly aware that the limit for setting "sprags" was 6 feet. It was a miracle that the man was not killed on the spot, it actually made the deputy tremble when he saw the stall. The Company did not want to press the case but simply wanted an example making for others. The defendant who pleaded guilty was fined £1 plus costs or in default fourteen days in prison.

James Higginbottom a collier of Unstone was now charged with a similar offence. This was also a serious case the defendant worked in No.1 stall and he had holed for a distance of six yards without having set a "spragg" and he had gone one foot under. It was not quite as bad as the previous case. The defendant pleaded guilty and afterwards said that he had set a "spragg" but he took it down as he had a right to do in order that the coal might fall so that he could fill a tub which was waiting. The Bench said that the defendant had made his own case worse than it would have been and he would have to pay a fine of £1 plus costs or fourteen days in default.

Unstone Collieries 3.

25th January 1890.

On Monday at the Dronfield Petty Sessions before Mr. W. F. Bagshaw and W. J. Blake Esq. William Gilbert, Alexander Ready, Herbert Clarke, William Baker, Thomas Higginbottom, George Daykin and James Goodall all of Dronfield and William Wright of Apperknowle were summoned by the Unstone Coal & Coke Company for breach of contract. The prosecutor said all the men employed by the Company had signed the usual contract rules of which fourteen days notice must be given on either side before they could terminate the agreement. The defendants had been absent from their work from two to seven days and it was a very serious matter for the company when they absented themselves from their work as they sustained a loss of 9/8d for every man who stayed away. The compensation was on 5/- per day and the company claimed from Gilbert 15/-, Daykin 5/-, Wright 10/-, Higginbottom 15/-, Clarke 10/-, Baker and Goodall 25/- each and Ready 10/-. The prosecutor went on to say that the Company gave the men five days holiday at Christmas. The defendants did not consider this sufficient holiday and they failed to go to work on the days mentioned on the summons. All the defendants admitted being away from work on the days specified, but several intimated to the Bench that the company had claimed more than they could earn in a day. The Bench ordered them to pay the compensation and costs and they hoped that it would act as a deterrent not only to the defendants but others as well.

1st July 1893.

On Monday morning a deputation from the men employed by the Unstone Coal & Coke Company Limited at the Apperknowle and Dronfield collieries waited upon Mr. Ward the Manager and the chief officers at Mr. Ward's invitation. Mr. Ward said he had invited the representatives of the men so that he may explain the position in which they as employers were now placed. The collieries were now working at a loss of £130 per week so the company had decided to rest down both collieries until trade improved which he did not think would be long. The notices would be served on Thursday. The deputation agreed to accept the notices and expressed the hope that the depression would soon pass away.

21st September 1889.

The valuable seam of coal known as the Blackshale or Silkstone and is underneath 180 acres of land situated at Dronfield adjoining the main line of the Midland Railway has just been purchased by the Unstone Coal and Coke Company. The company will take possession in the course of the week and it is intended to develop a coalfield on a scale commensurate with that of the Moor Top Colliery near Unstone belonging to the same company. Plans for a sidings have already been approved by the Midland Railway Company which will be on an extensive scale and but a short distance from the railway station and near to the spade and shovel works of Messrs Edward Lucas and Sons.

Wallsend Colliery.

23rd May 1857.

Tenders are wanted for building coke ovens at the above colliery. A description of the ovens may be seen at the company's works Newbold Road.

4th July 1857.

Wanted an experienced coke burner to take charge of 50 ovens and a number of hearths.

15th May 1858.

Good house coal in plentiful supply also small coke for stoves and green houses. Also for sale a cart weighing machine, hand pump and a pair of 6 feet pulleys.

23rd October 1858.

For sale at the above colliery Newbold Road, 500 tons of large cobbles in stock at 4/6d per ton for cash.

To be let by tender forty five to fifty five yards of sinking at Wallsend colliery. Apply for particulars to Mr. W. W. Baker Manager.

29th January 1859.

Pit mouth prices, Hot Best Main 5/6d per ton, Large Cobbles 4/6d per ton, Small hard coke 4/2d per ton, and Smiths Coke 13/6d per ton. Several hundreds of coal kept in stock and customers may rely on loading. A ticket may be obtained at the weigh office for a nominal sum that frees the Chesterfield and Newbold turnpike.

28th October 1871.

On Saturday a very serious explosion of firedamp took place at Wallsend pit of the Taptan Colliery and Coke Co. Ltd., which has resulted in the serious injury to three colliers one of whom is not expected to recover. The names of the injured men are Henry Lowe of Brampton, Joseph Oakley and James Gascoyne. The men had been engaged in cutting out some new workings. It was remarked that on Friday the ventilation of the pit was unusually good. On Saturday morning the men descended the shaft, Lowe with a clanny lamp having forgotten his candles and the others with lighted candles. Gascoyne the last of the three had proceeded about 100 yards on the level when the gas exploded with a thundering report knocking Lowe and Oakley down and blowing Gascoyne twenty yards backwards down the level. The blaze set the brattice cloth on fire and the men were most severely burnt. Assistance was promptly rendered and each of the accompanied to Chesterfield hospital. Lowe was burnt on the hands, arms face and neck, Oakley was burnt from head to foot and lies in a very precarious position. Gascoyne is also burnt on the face, neck and chest. On examination of the pit where the explosion occurred they found the bodies of two brothers named William Furness aged 30 and Samuel Furness aged 25 that were found to have been suffocated by the explosion, there dead bodies were removed to their homes. This afternoon an inquest will be held at the nags Head Newbold. The Chesterfield Royal Hospital informed the Coroner that since Saturday evening Henry Lowe and Joseph Oakley had succumbed to the injuries received in the explosion; Lowe was 28 and Oakley 19. William Halford of Kent Lane Newbold said he was an Engineer and Managing partner in the Taptan Colliery Coke Iron Co. Ltd. The two shafts at Locoford are the extreme depth of the colliery and there is a communication with the shafts at Newbold by an ancient plane driven through the coal 2,000 yards long in the Blackshale seam. Mr. R. G. Coke Mining Engineer residing near Chesterfield said in his report of the 24th October 1871 that he examined the heading where the explosion took place and the quantity of air passing through the workings was satisfactory. In his opinion there had been a gradual accumulation of gas and it was fired by the naked light carried by one of the unfortunate pitmen who lost their lives by the explosion.

20th September 1873.

Wanted twenty good hewers at the Taptan Company's Wallsend pit.

4th September 1878.

The New Wallsend Colliery is now laying down their best house coals to any part of the town. Best Hand picked 9/- per ton, Best Cobbles 6/9d per ton. Cash on delivery.

14th January 1928.

An explosion occurred at Wallsend colliery on Tuesday morning that resulted in three men being burnt. Walter Hickman, Ernest Davenport, Charles Allison. It happened shortly after 8.00 a.m. when the men were about to start work. The deputy was conducting his usual examination and was taking steps to clear the pit of an inflammable gas by means of compressed air when his safety lamp was seen to be extinguished indicating that gas was in the vicinity. Immediately afterwards there was a blinding flash and rumble and further flashes which lasted for two / three seconds and continued along the level to within thirty yards of the end. The deputy who was in the stall at the time and as the explosion started at this spot he received the full force and was more seriously injured than the two who were just outside with other men on the level. The colliery is only a footrill of some 350 yards in length and it has only been reopened since the strike. The Manager Mr. A. D. Marriott said "the three men were proceeding to work on the coal level when there was a slight ignition of gas which resulted in the men being slightly burnt"

21st January 1928.

A recent explosion at the Wallsend Colliery in which three men were seriously burned resulted in the death of Ernest Raymond Davenport (40) of 7 Riber Terrace Boythorpe.

Walton Hall Colliery.

25th May 1861.

Best coal 5/- ex pit, 6/6d per ton delivered in Chesterfield G. Hewitt proprietor. The colliery agent is Mr. R. Fenton, Albion Hotel, Eyre Street Chesterfield.

Walton Colliery.

5th June 1869.

The best hand picked coal that is free from dirt and is an excellent housecoat delivered in Chesterfield at 7/3d per ton, at the pit 5/10d. Engine slack first class quality 3/6d. Orders received by Mr. Fidler at the Market Hall, Mr. Isaac Bower accountant Low Pavement and Mr. Gillyatt at South Street Chesterfield will be attended to.

-Derbyshire Times.

September 3rd 1885.

Wash - House Colliery Brampton.

John Blair has now a full supply of really good Blackshale coal at 5/6d per ton at the pit. Cartage is extra – Brampton 1/- per ton –Chesterfield 1/6d per ton.

Wash –House Colliery Brampton.

Five minutes walk from the tram terminus.

5th December 1885.

To sell by auction upon the premises above on Monday 7th December the whole of the valuable colliery plant, machinery and other effects. Boilers, winding engine 9" cylinder, wrought iron winding drum 4 feet in diameter (Halford), pit rails, pit wagons, cart weighing machine (Hodgson and Stead), pit bank weighing machine (Hodgkinson). Boiler (Arnold) 20 feet x 5 feet with tubes. Sale is to commence at 12 o'clock prompt.

Brockwell Colliery Newbold Back Lane.

2nd July 1892.

To be sold by auction the whole of the colliery plant comprising of a pair of winding engines with drums, horizontal and vertical boilers, five pulley wheels, 40 corves, brick machine and clay pans.

Reservoir and Highfields Collieries.

21st April 1888.

On Saturday at Chesterfield County Police Court James Fell Manager at the Reservoir Colliery was summoned by Lt. Colonel Short Inspector of Weights and Measures who had found at the colliery a maladjusted weighing machine. The witness put 5 cwts on the machine but it only showed 4.5 cwts.

At the same court Johnson Pearson proprietor of the Highfields Colliery was summoned for a similar offence. He put 3 cwts on the machine but it only showed 2 cwts, the machine had been at the pit for 25 years and a new one was in the course of erection. On account of there being a large quantity of dirt in the coal an arrangement had been made between the master and the men that 24 cwts should be got to the ton. Samuel Kay a miner said that he had worked at Highfields for 27 years and they had always had this agreement.

The magistrates said they did not think the defendants had committed the offences wilfully and under the circumstances ordered them to pay the costs only.

Westfield Colliery.

1st May 1886.

John Turner and Sons have received instructions from Michael Straw who is giving up the colliery to sell by auction on the premises the whole of the fixed and loose plant. A first class haulage engine by Plowright Bros., vertical boiler, 80 pit tubs, cart and pit bank weighing machine.

22nd January 1887.

At Nottingham Official receiver's office the first meeting of the creditors of John Wheatley was held on Friday last the debtor formerly carried on business at Boythorpe Lane Hasland, in co-partnership with Michael Straw and Charles Milsom styled the Westfield Colliery Company. At the present time he is a miner living at Butler Street Hucknall. The statements of affairs showed that there were unsecured creditors to the amount of £543 –14-10d. The assets only amounted to £3-10-5d representing the value of debtor's household furniture. In his explanation as to the cause of the failure the debtor said he accounted for it by the fact that he and his partners had sunk a drift in Boythorpe Lane but they had found no coal that had any marketable value. The affairs of the company had been left in the hands of his late partner Michael Straw in order that he might realise some credit and pay all his creditors. Straw had, however, absconded to Australia with the proceeds of the realisation. There had been no quorum of creditors present and no resolution could be passed, the debtor had, however, been adjudicated bankrupt.

7th April 1939

Whitecotes Colliery.

Every Saturday morning there is a regular procession up and down Whitecotes Lane Walton Chesterfield of men, women and children wheeling barrows, trucks, prams and all manner of conveyances, Their destination is a footrill just off the main road and here they buy coal in quantities and weight according to the carrying capacity of their barrow or pram. They queue up at the footrill and wait their turn to be served by "Old Joe" well known to them all. They come from all over the town but the majority are from the St. Augustine's estate. Most of them are unemployed or the children of unemployed but there are several who take advantage of the facility to get coal for their greenhouses.

23rd February 1940.

Damage of about £60 was caused by a fire, which destroyed a deputy's wooden cabin at Whitecotes Colliery Chesterfield on Tuesday. The cabin contained oil and parts of machinery and nothing was saved. The blaze was caused by coke falling from a stove and the Chesterfield Fire Brigade under Sergeant Outram were dealing with the outbreak within five minutes of receiving the call. The property was insured.

14th February 1958.

Reference to "extensive and expensive" thefts from the Boythorpe Colliery Co's premises at Whitecotes Lane, Chesterfield was made by the firms Managing Director (Mr. J. W. Fidler) at a local inquiry on Tuesday. The inquiry was into an appeal by Mr. Watson, a night watchman at the premises, against the refusal of planning permission to convert the old colliery canteen at Whitecotes Lane, now disused, into a bungalow. Mr. Fidler told the inquiry that there had been a number of thefts from the premises. The latest, he said, on reply to a question by Mr. R. A. Kennedy (Deputy Town Clerk of Chesterfield), had involved 3 cwts of brass and 5 cwts. Of copper. "I called the police but told them I was going to stop reporting the thefts because they have never caught anyone." he said.

Mr. J. M. Warwick for the applicants said Mr. Watson lived in a caravan on the site. Mr. Fidler owned the land and the Company, until recently, worked a footrill there on a licence, which had now elapsed. But the Company still use the yard to buy, screen and sell coal. Mr. Watson's wife was a telephonist for the firm. Planning consent, he went on, was only wanted for a limited period of five years and would entail no alteration to the structure of the canteen. The building could be converted for £150 to £200. Mr. Kennedy for the planning authority said that the proposal would prejudice the proper re-development of the area, which was zoned for residential purposes. It was not essential he contended, that the night watchman and his wife should live on the actual site. It was the planning authority's case; he went on that now that the Company's licence from the N.C.B. to work coal had lapsed the Company should clear the site up as quickly as possible. The access to the site is over torturous roads of very poor construction and there was a complete lack of amenities said Mr. Kennedy.

The inquiry was closed.

Whittington Colliery.

1st July 1854.

Justly celebrated coals from this colliery are not to be surpassed for either household or manufacturing purposes. They produce an intense heat and being entirely free from white ash. Price at the pit 6/- per ton, delivered in Chesterfield 8/3d per ton. R. W. Hutchinson Agent.

20th November 1858.

Whittington Colliery was registered pursuant to the Joint Stock Company's Act 1856 /57. Capital: £60,000, Directors, John Brown, Henry Rangeley, H. Chilton, W. Tuxford and F. R. Pierce.

5th May 1860.

Several plots of building land are to be let on long leases. Apply to Mr. J. Kaye.

1st June 1861.

John Drury a collier summoned F. R. Pierce of Whittington Colliery for 10/-. The complainant was at work in the pit when a gate fell and buried a coal wagon with dirt. Mr. Bousefield the manager stopped 10/- out of his wages being the value of the wagon. He was not responsible for the repairs of the gate.

30th August 1862.

Tristian Taylor and Thomas Flynn colliers working at Pierces Colliery Old Whittington were convicted of leaving their employment without giving the customary 28 days notice. They were ordered to pay 12/6d expenses and return to work.

25th July 1863.

The Whittington Freehold Colliery Company Limited is to be registered under the Company's Act 1862. Capital £135,000 in 13,500 shares of £10 each.

1st August 1874.

The Whittington and Sheepbridge Colliery Company Ltd.

House and steam coal and also first class of clamp bricks for sale at the works. Apply to Mr. Thomas Shipley Manager, Broom House Old Whittington.

18th October 1862.

For sale a large quantity of rough slack loaded into merchants wagons or carts at 1/6d per ton. Also Dunston or Marrs nuts 2/6d per ton, 3/- per ton riddled Delivered into canal boats at 6d per ton extra. Apply at the colliery to Mr. F. Bousefield Agent.

Whitwell Colliery.

12th July 1890.

The preliminary proceedings in connection with the sinking of the shaft of the new pit at Whitwell are progressing apace. The sinking will be much the same as that at Steetley of which Whitwell in the course of time will be the sister colliery, for it is intended to connect them by driving headings in the usual way. The first coal from the Shireoaks bed will see the light of day in about two and a half years.

Williamthorpe Colliery.

11th December 1926.

One of the most serious winding accidents has taken place in the Chesterfield and district for some considerable time occurred at Williamthorpe pit owned by the Hardwick Colliery Company. At about 2.30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon twelve men were injured, eight so severely that they were removed to the Chesterfield Royal Hospital. The men had just entered the cage ready to be brought to the surface and the signal was given by the onsetter who was being raised with the men, and the winder instead of bringing the cage to the surface pulled it is stated the reverse lever and the cage crashed to the bottom of the shaft. The men involved went to work at 7.00 a.m. on Sunday morning and were waiting to be brought to the surface at 2.30 p.m. after completing their shift. They were in the Deep hard seam which is about 60 yards from the bottom they had just got onto the cage when it proceeded to drop with such an impetus and the men so one of the injured miners told the Derbyshire Times realised something was radically wrong and the cage suddenly crashed to the bottom and the men were thrown out in a heap by the side of the broken cage. Mr. Chambers Managing Director of the Hardwick Colliery Company said the accident was due to the human element. He explained the winding engine man forgetting for a moment the position of the cage accidentally pushed over the reverse lever, which had the effect of lowering instead of bringing the men to the surface. Mr. Chambers added that the over winding apparatus came into action and that it just clipped the empty cage at the last moment and stopped the engine. This sent the cage that

had been dislodged hurtling down the shaft, as it was empty the cage fell clear of the one in the sump and was wrecked.

Wooley Moor Colliery.

17th August 1956.

An inquest on a Clay Cross coal miner.

A piece of stone three feet across fell from the roof of a tunnel at Pilsley West Colliery (Wooley Moor) and struck Harold Kymes 43 a miner who died in Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

N.B. This colliery never produced any coal at all.