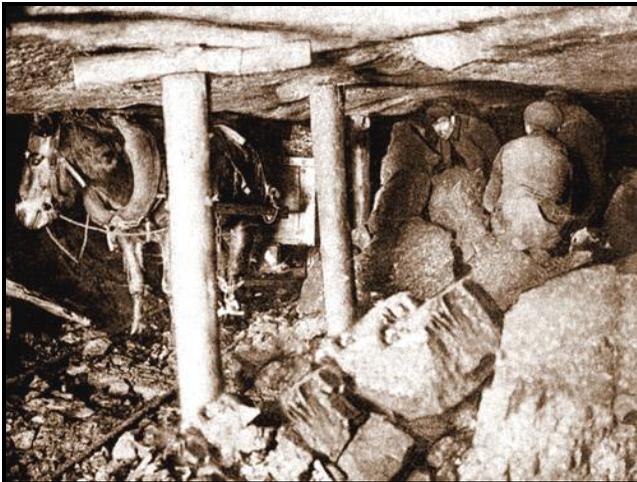
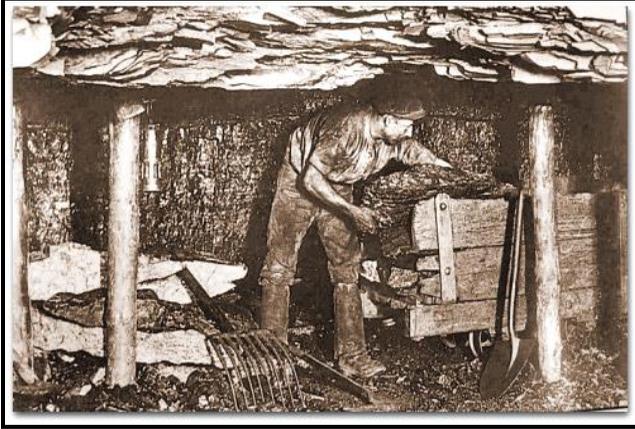


A RECORD OF FATALITIES IN LOCAL COAL MINES 1782 - 1957



BY SAMUEL T STEWART -2017

This publication has been compiled by the author to serve as a memorial to those brave men who worked in dangerous conditions to provide coal for the countries industries and for their fellow countrymen's domestic use. A total of 103 deaths are recorded, but this will only be a percentage of the total deaths plus serious injuries that occurred. In other parts of the country, many major disasters have been recorded, but apart from the disaster at Whitwick Colliery in 1898, when 35 miners were killed, there have been no other recordings of more than four miners being killed at any one time in the local mines covered in this book.

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NOTES

The book has been divided into two parts:-

1. The first part includes numerous newspaper reports on “Coroner’s Inquests” into various deaths and accidents that occurred in local coal mines.
2. The second part lists names and details of all the known fatalities.

The author is somewhat surprised that in practically all the inquests, the jury awarded a verdict of “Accidental Death”, and the colliery owners seemed to be absolved of responsibility.

Prior to 1850, there was no systematic methods of recording mining deaths. After c.1950, details of fatalities have generally not been released, for data protection reasons.

Due to the lack of detailed information attached to some fatality records, a fatality has only been attached to a particular colliery where the author is relatively sure of the information, although on some occasions the information may still be challenged, and the author would be please to receive any information from readers where the information can be proven to be incorrect. The numerous colliery fatalities which cannot be positively associated with a particular colliery, are shown under a miscellaneous heading at the end of Part 2.

The national data base of mining deaths and injuries compiled by Ian Winstanley which is now incorporated in the “Coal Mining History Resource Centre” website has been useful in compiling and confirming some of the information in the book.

GREAT BRITAIN LOOSES A REGIMENT EVERY YEAR IN AND ABOUT ITS COAL MINES

Deaths from accidents for years 1857-1861 were:-

1857 –	1,122
1858 –	930
1859 –	914
1860 –	1,109
1861 -	943
1862 -	1,133 (163 explosions due to fire damp & 407 by roof falls)
1863 -	907

A SYNOPSIS OF THE 1883 AND 1888 REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT AND DEATHS IN COAL MINES

According to the reports of the Inspectors of Mines under the Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1872, the number of people employed in and about the coal mines of the United Kingdom in 1883 was 512,933. Of these 416,696 were employed underground, and 98,237 (of whom 4,479 were females) were employed in surface operations. The total number of fatal accidents in the year amounted to 921. There was one fatal accident for every 557 employed. Although 11,000 more people were employed over the previous year, there was a diminution of 107 mines at work.

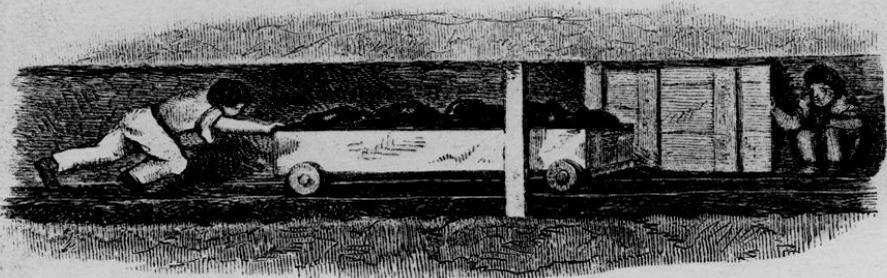
In Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Nottinghamshire in 1883, there were 52,118 persons employed in the mines which numbered 369. There were 74 fatal accidents, giving one for every 734 employed.

In 1888, the total number of persons employed in and about the United Kingdom coal mines was 592,656 and fatal accidents amounted to 885. In the Derby, Leics, Warks and Notts coal mines the number of lives lost by accidents were 61.

No. 255. *William Pickard*, General Steward to Sir John Lister Lister Kaye's Collieries. Examined at Denby Grange, May 21, 1841 :—

No. 255.

I have been a bottom-steward 44 years. We used trappers till lately, and they used to go and begin as early as 6 years old. Now the doors are allowed to fall to themselves. The men will let the children go as soon as ever they are big enough to addle any wages. They come at 8 or 9 to hurry; but we have had trappers that begun earlier to hurry. The thinnest bed we are working is only 10 inches. We cut the gates 26 inches; but they don't stand quite that at the banks. The youngest children go there. The corf and coal together will weigh 28 stone. They will have 250 yards to hurry, on an average; they hurry 16 a-day. They always fill or riddle. It is a rare thing for the children to go two together; they go singly. The biggest part of the gates are dry. There is some places where the water is over their shoes; but very few. It is mostly very dry considering. I don't like to see the poor little children dabble in water, if it can be avoided. They go down generally at 6, or a quarter after. We reckon to give over pulling at 5 out; they generally give over at 3. The hurriers will stop to eat their bread at 12; but the bigger ones of 12 or 14 years old will be kept to work in the hole shovelling muck, or picking it away. When I was a hurrier, they had good reason to be tired with a belt and chain, and without rails. I do not think now that children's work is hard work. They have generally play enough after their work is done. If a child does not begin to be a hurrier at 9, he never will do in thin coals; they must be brought up to it. We could do with them at 9; but it would be better to have them at 8. It would be possible to cut the gates higher; but it would be a great expense. It is not only the expense of cutting away, but there is that also of taking the stuff away. We are now paying 6d. a yard extra for straight work in the thin bed, where we cut 16 inches of muck, &c. It would be a capital thing to make the men more regular in their hours of work; but if we were to take a man and hang him every now and then, it would not make them regular. Nine hours for drawing coals would be plenty of time. I have known pits in the neighbourhood drawing coals at 9 at night. The education of the children is very much neglected. The parents don't value it, and think nothing about. The proprietors of coal-pits don't notice schooling much, except the Stansfelds'. They are the best I ever knew; they are always doing something for education to the children; and Mrs. Milnes has always done a great deal too; and Mr. Briggs also is a very good one for that. I don't know how we are to do without girls; we cannot do without. It would be a good thing to stop girls from going after they are 12 or 13 years old. I have known a married woman hurrying for a man who worked stark naked, and not any kin to her. I fear colliers could not do without the wages of girls; and they are far better hurriers, and more attentive to their job.



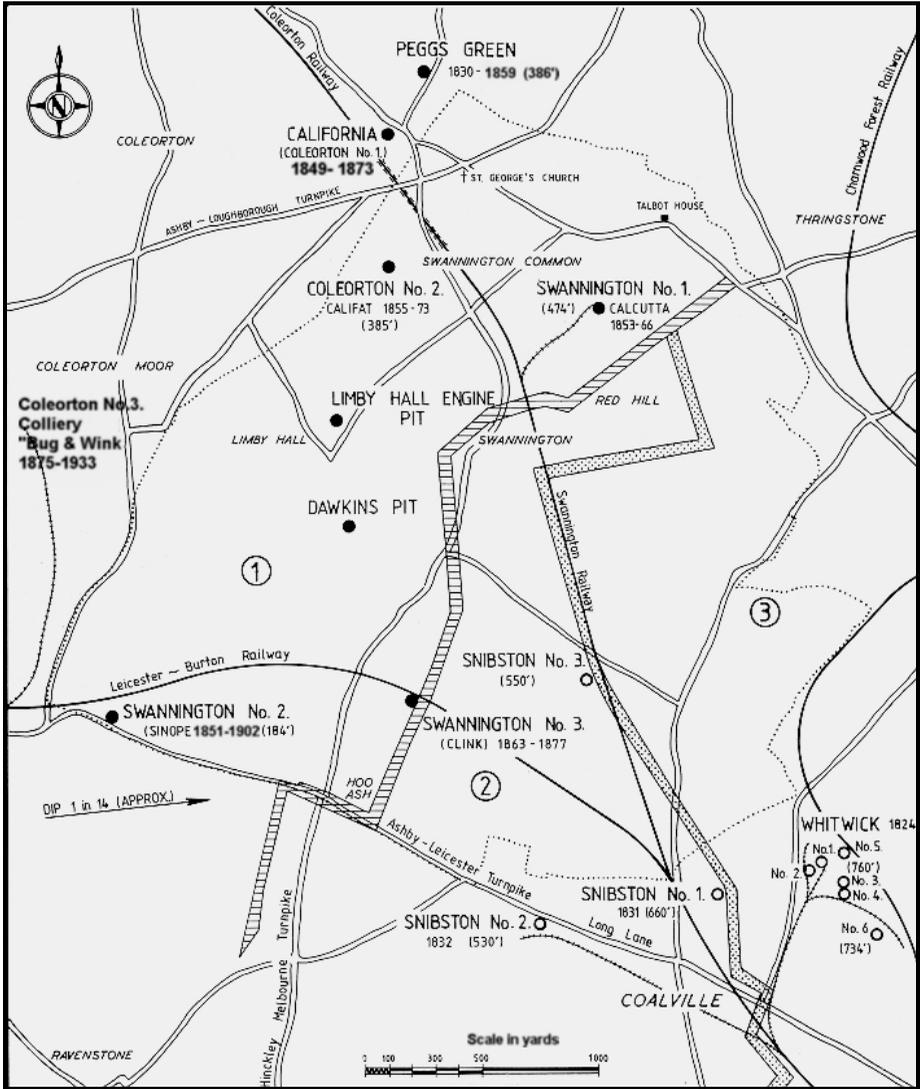
CHILD-LABOUR IN COAL-MINES OF THE 'FORTIES: A LITTLE "TRAPPER" (ON RIGHT) OPENING AN AIR-DOOR FOR A TRUCK TO PASS THROUGH.

"The trappers sit with a string attached to the door, and pull it open the moment they hear the corves (coal-trucks) at hand, and the moment one has passed they let the door fall to. . . . They are in the pit the whole time it is worked, frequently above twelve hours a day. They sit, moreover, in the dark."

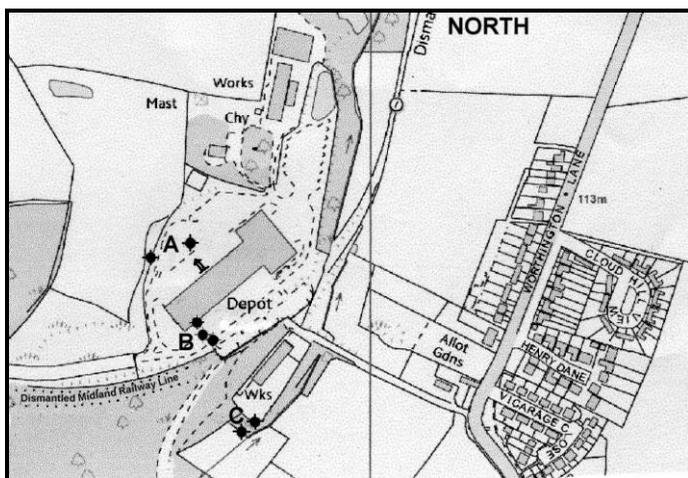
All the Illustrations on this page and the extracts accompanying them are reproduced from woodcuts and an article in "The Cyclopædia of Useful Arts" (1840-5).

SEE PARAGRAPH 30 ABOVE

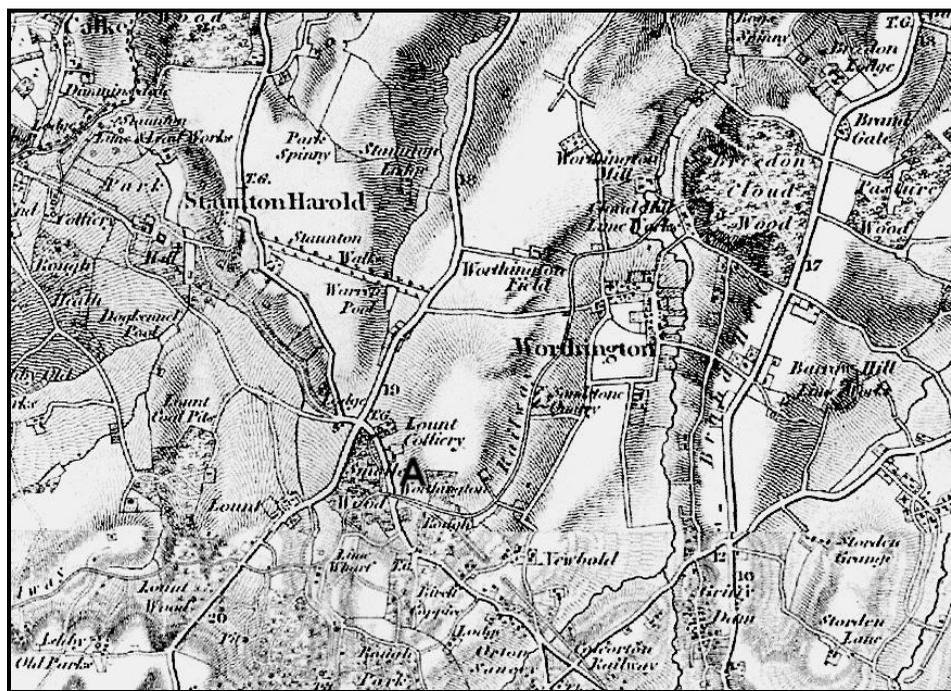
MAPS SHOWING VARIOUS COAL MINES REFERRED TO LATER IN THE BOOK



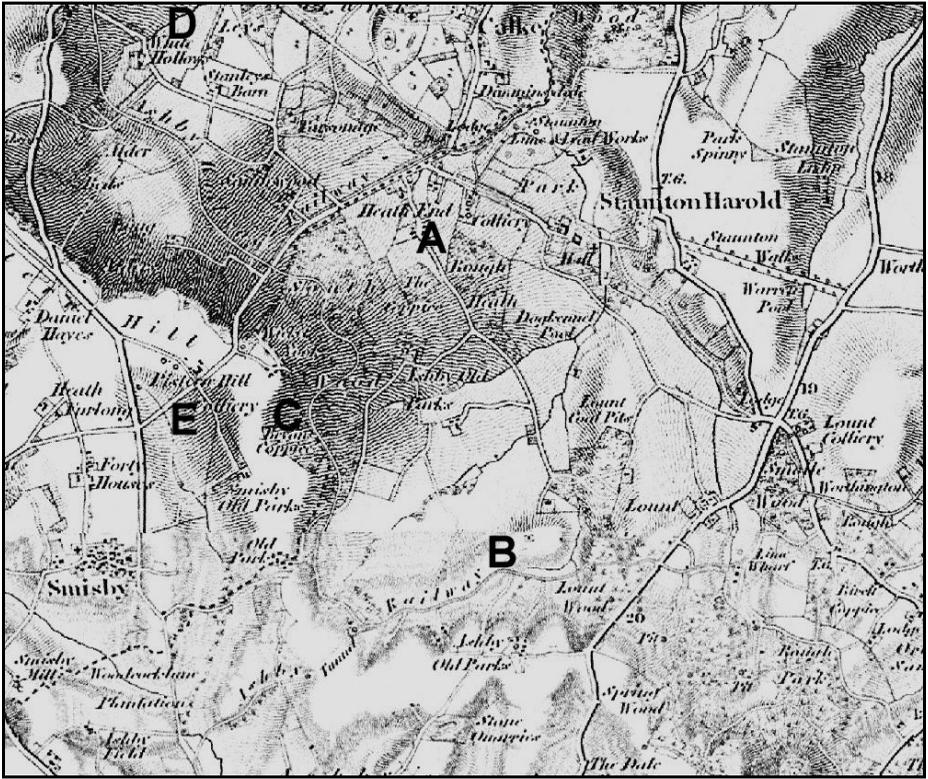
..... designates Swannington Parish Boundary



This map of the old “Newbold Pipeworks” site, shows the location of Staunton Harold Colliery marked “A” which was also known as Worthington Clash and Newbold Glory



The old Lount Colliery marked “A” adjacent to the Smoile at Lount.



Heath End Colliery Marked "A"

Part 1

Northampton Mercury - August 12th 1782

On Thursday last, Edward Wedge, of Coleorton, being at work in a coal pit there, was unfortunately killed by the sudden fall of a large piece of coal. The Coroners inquest sat on the body, and brought in their verdict - "Accidental"

Morning Chronicle - January 10th 1822

A melancholy occurrence took place at one of the coal pits belonging to Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th baronet of Coleorton, in this County, on Thursday last. A collier named S. Price, having had his arm injured by an accidental blow from another workman, was ascending to get it dressed, when, on arriving near the top of the pit, some of the tackle gave way, and the poor fellow was dashed to the bottom and died soon after, leaving a wife and five children to lament their irreparable loss.

Leicester Chronicle - November 30th 1822

Melancholy occurrence

A workman employed in the coal pits of Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th baronet of Coleorton, in this County, having gone down a pit early on Sunday morning, was surprised to find a man lying dead at the bottom. On examining him, he proved to be a person named Thomas Carter, who is supposed to have been strolling about to pick up some coals, and to have accidentally fallen therein. He has left several orphan children to lament his untimely end.

Leicester Chronicle – February 10th 1838

Inquest on Fatal Accident at Pegg's Green –

On Wednesday evening, the 31st ult., Samuel Burrows aged about 24 or 25, went to work in a pit at Pegg's Green Colliery, for the first time; and at midnight, while engaged in breaking out the coal, a large stone, weighing upwards of a ton, fell from the roof, and crushed him to instant death. **Verdict accordingly.**

Leicester Journal – September 14th 1838

Accident – On Saturday week, an accident occurred at Pegg's Green Colliery which might have been attended with more serious consequences. A man named Birch had put a portion of powder into a cavity made in the coal for the purpose of blasting it, and laid the bag from which he had taken it a short distance from him, on the ground. As soon as the explosion had taken place, a portion of the touch paper, not burnt out, fell upon the bag unperceived by Birch, who went to take it up, when it suddenly ignited, burnt off his hair, whiskers &c., and severely injured his head and neck.

THE INQUEST

Leicester Chronicle – September 22nd 1838

Death from gunpowder; fatal rashness – An inquest was held on Tuesday at Thringstone, on the body of John Birch, a young man aged 19, who was severely burnt from the explosion of a bag containing two or three pounds of gunpowder, in the Pegg's Green Colliery, on Saturday fortnight. Four blasts had been made by drilling holes in the coal, at about two yards asunder; three of them had been fired, and the last, which was

deceased's, had been loaded first, and was fired last. A bag of gunpowder belonging to the deceased had been laid by one Richard Wardle about six yards from the blast. After the blast had gone off, some paper which had been used in preparing the blast, fell in a lighted state upon the bag containing the deceased's powder. As soon as the other young men who were round, saw it, they ran away; but the deceased very thoughtlessly and incautiously went to knock the fire off the bag, for the purpose of saving the powder, when just as he was touching the bag with his hand the powder exploded, and blew the deceased backwards to the ground. He was picked up, and found much burnt on the stomach and front of his body; he lingered until Saturday last. – **Verdict, “Accidental Death”**.

Leicester Journal – January 10th 1840

Death at Heath End Colliery Staunton Harold

Fatal Accident — On Friday last, an inquest was held at Staunton Harold on the bodies of William and James Bird, father and son (*actually thought to be uncle and nephew – see next report*), who were killed in a coal pit belonging to Mr. Mathews, on Wednesday, by the scaffolding giving way and a large quantity of earth falling upon them. The former was thirty nine years of age, and the latter 13. The unfortunate sufferers remained alive for some time buried in the soil: the father was heard to utter “I cannot live”, and when they were extricated life was extinct. – Verdict, “Accidental Death”.

Further newspaper report

Death at Heath End Colliery Staunton Harold

On the 3rd inst., an inquest was held at Staunton Harold, on view of the bodies of William and James Bird, who came by their deaths in the following manner:- The deceased, one of whom was in his thirty ninth year, and the other in his thirteenth, uncle and nephew, had been at work at the colliery of Staunton Harold, but latterly were obliged to desist, in consequence of a fire in one of the pits. About ten days previous to the deaths of the deceased, it was believed that the fire was sufficiently got under to enable them to resume work. On their attempting to do so, it was found that the roof had partially fallen in, when it became necessary to form a temporary scaffold to support it. This was done, but, owing to the want of sufficient props, had again fallen in. Another, and apparently a more secure scaffold, was put up, on which a great quantity of the rubbish had been laid for the purpose of clearing the pit. A ground bailiff of the name of Dent, with the deceased, went under the scaffold for the purpose of securing it by props, when it suddenly gave way and buried the uncle and the nephew in the ruins. Dent, who was rather out of it at the time escaped. The deceased were dug out as speedily as possible, and were found quite dead. - Verdict "Accidental Death.

James Bird (b.1826) is thought to be the son of Joseph Bird 1791-1873, who was the Great Great Grandfather of the author of this book.

Leicester Mercury – March 9th 1844

Shocking death in coal pit – An inquest was held at Thringstone, in this county, on Tuesday last, by John Gregory, Esq., on the body of Wm. Smith, about 35 years of age. From the depositions of witnesses it appears the deceased was employed at Pegg's Green Colliery, and on the Friday previous was employed in boring the coal for the purpose of putting in a charge of gunpowder. While thus employed, an immense mass of coal

suddenly gave way, and, falling on him, literally buried him, with exception of his head. The poor fellow gave an alarm, and by prompt assistance, he was extricated in about five minutes, scarcely able to speak, and was carried home where he lingered till nine o'clock on Sunday morning. The deceased had been employed at boring "all his life", was an experienced workman, and had just before sounded the coal and thought it was to firm to give way without a "shot". Mr. Lomas, surgeon, who was sent for when the accident took place, stated that he had no hope from the first. The immense pressure of the coals had seriously injured the spine, the pelvis, and most of the internal viscera, from the effects of which he had no doubt death ensued. **Verdict, "Accidental Death"**.

Leicester Chronicle – April 5th 1845

Fatal Colliery Accident – An inquest was held at Thringstone, in this county, on the 1st inst., before John Gregory, Gent., on the body of John Hutchinson of Sheepshead, aged twenty. Deceased had come from his home in search of employment, and, with a namesake, but not a relative, was engaged early on the Monday morning in pumping out water from one of the pits at Pegg's Green Colliery, when a large stone, weighing between 10 and 12 cwt., fell from the roof and crushed him to death; he only said "Oh dear". The stone covered nearly the whole of his body, and fell without any warning; the roof was supported by timbers in the usual way, and no indication of it being unsafe had been perceived; the stone in question fell from between the supports. – Verdict; "Accidental death".

Derby Mercury - January 29th 1851

Fatal coal pit accident

On Saturday evening the ? inst, two youths named Edwin Jessop and James Thompson, aged about 15 years each, met with their deaths at the coal pit belonging to Messr's Walker & Co, which has been lately opened near Coleorton. They had been working in the pit and were drawn to the top, when, owing to the slipping of the bridge, they were precipitated to the bottom, by which their deaths was instantaneous. A brother of Jessop would have suffered the same fate, but was saved just as he was in the act of falling. A previous accident occurred at the pit on the morning of the same day by an explosion of gunpowder, by which two men were seriously hurt.

Leicester Mercury – September 3rd 1853

Fatal colliery accident – On the 24th ult., an inquest was held at Griffydam, upon Jarvis Marshall, deceased. He was about twenty years old, and employed as a loader in Pegg's Green Colliery. On Saturday, the 20th ult., he was employed in loading the stone from a horse way, which was being made in the pit. The stone was blasted from the roof, and a great many shots had been fired in the course of the morning. About one o'clock a blast having been fired, deceased, who had no occasion to have done so, went to the place, and proceeded to try a stone which had been shaken in the roof with a pick several times. Another man took the pick from his hand, and, in less than a minute, the stone fell on the hip of deceased, and crushed him against a heap of stones on the floor. He was extricated as soon as possible, and taken home in a cart, but was so much injured internally that he died on the following Tuesday. **Verdict, "Accidental Death", and the jury recommended that Mr. Price, the manager, should give strict orders to the**

loaders not to go to the spots where shots had been fired, till the safety of the roof had been ascertained.

Leicester Chronicle - April 22nd 1854

A coroner's inquest was held on Weds the 12th inst., before John Gregory Esq., at the George Inn, Coleorton touching the death of Robert Lakin, a boy about 14 years of age, who was killed in the Coleorton pit the previous Monday. The time and manner of his death having been proved, and also that a notice of the accident had been forwarded to the home secretary in London, as the law requires, the inquest was adjourned till the evening of the following day. The same jury having been assembled, Mr. William Walker, one of the proprietors of the colliery (*Coleorton No. 1. California ?*) produced a letter, acknowledging the receipt of the statement at the home office, and also a ground plan of where the melancholy accident took place. William Horne, who is a loader in the pit, worked in the same stall on Monday morning where the stone fell, which occasioned the death of the deceased, and another man who is a loader named Matchett; there was another boy named Frederick Richards. The business of the lads was to convey the tubs with horses to the bottom of the shaft, a large quantity of coal got the night before, had been left on the ground; witness and Matchett were loading the tub, one was filled, the other partly so, when deceased came up with his horse, which he left near the emptiest tub; deceased passed the witness, and went to the coal about 6 yards further, part of which he began to throw towards the last tub; deceased had no right to go up to the coal, and had been repeatedly cautioned not to do so, there being a strict order in the pit that the boys should not interfere with the duties of the loader. Matchett was pushing part of the heaped coal towards the tub with an iron bar, when a stone fell from the roof upon the deceased (it might be three quarters of a ton weight), which instantly crushed him to death, and smashed one part of Matchett's feet to pieces, who was otherwise seriously injured; witness tried to lift up the stone, but could not, and sent immediately for help; two men named Bird and Brewin came; they all assisted to remove the stone, but deceased was quite dead, his bowels being forced right out. The stone in the descent struck the witness on his left side, and knocked him out of the way. There was plenty of wood in the pit for propping; Matchett had tried the stone by sounding it with his pick two or three times, and the roof appeared to be perfectly safe; witness had also rapped it and believed it was sound and secure. Thomas Bird, an overlooker of the boys in the pit, called a corporal, had visited the place where the accident had occurred half-an-hour before, and was then of the opinion that all was safe. There was wood at hand for props when they wanted; he has frequently ordered the deceased not to go beyond his tub as he had done that morning. The coroner, having recapitulated the evidence, the jury returned the verdict to the following effect :- "that deceased, Robert Lakin, being a driver in the Coleorton colliery on Tuesday 10th April instant, having contrary to the orders of the colliery, and repeated cautions given to both him and others, gone to a place in the stall, where he ought not, a stone accidentally fell upon him from the roof, by which he sustained several mortal injuries, his bowels being forced out; of which said mortal injuries the deceased did then die, his death being caused by accident and not otherwise. Matchett, the other sufferer by the accident, has since died from the injuries he received. He was 32 years of age, and has left a widow and two children".

Leicester Chronicle - May 27th 1857

Accidental death in coal pit

The adjourned inquest to enquire into the death of James Sisson, a lad who was accidentally killed in the coal pit at Coleorton, belonging to Messrs Worswick and Walker on May 14th was held on the 20th inst, at the Railway tavern (Gelsmoor) in the Parish of Worthington. William Mayne, a collier, employed in the pit in question, on the 14th inst, deposed that he went down to his work and saw the deceased at the bottom, near the bell-wire for signalling the engineer at the top. He was attempting to pull the bell and was ordered not to do so as it was not his business. Witness saw him get on the cage alone, which then moved upwards. Witness and some other men then walked in the direction of their work. They had not gone more than six or seven yards when they heard a noise, as of something falling down the shaft. Instantly they returned and found the deceased flat on his back. Witness pulled him away but he was quite dead, the back of his head being literally torn right off. Boys were forbidden to go up in the cage alone. Witness examined it carefully and had no doubt that the deceased had been leaning over the side of the cage, when his head was caught by the descending tub. The tubs or cage meet in the middle of the shaft. There was not sufficient room between them for a boys head or body to pass. - John Lakin, the overlooker of the night workmen, went down the pit at six o'clock on the evening in question; was stripping to go to work when he heard the accident. Deceased had got into the cage by stealth, unperceived by witness; boys being forbidden to go alone. Witness had frequently reprimanded the deceased for going consistently into the cage. - The coroner addressed the jury, commenting upon the evidence. He also read a note from John Headley, Esq., Inspector of Mines for the district, speaking in the highest terms of the management of the pit in question. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of "Accidental Death". Many of the collieries in this locality have two separate shafts, one for the ascending cage, and the other for that moving downwards, by which the recurrence of a similar calamity to the above mentioned is effectually prevented.

Leicester Mercury - May 12th 1860

Coleorton

It is our painful duty to record an accident, which occurred on the branch line of the Coleorton Colliery, between their works and the Swannington machine, and which was terminated fatally. On the morning of the 18th ult., about half past 6 o'clock, as a train of wagons were being sent down the incline in question, the deceased, William Halfpenny, who was deaf and dumb, and for some time being continually wandering about his neighbourhood, by some means got on the line and the wagons passed over him, injuring him in a frightful manner. He was at once removed home and Mr. Orton paid every attention to him, but death terminated his suffering on the 4th inst. An inquest touching his death was held at the Railway Inn, Newbold (Gelsmoor) before John Gregory Esq., Coroner, when several witnesses were examined, after which a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned, with an order for the future that a man shall remain at the gate (which is a road crossing the line, and where it is supposed the deceased got onto the line), till the wagons were passed.

Leicester Mercury – October 6th 1860

Colliery Accident

On Tuesday, an inquest was held at Thringstone, upon Joseph Mugglestone, a young man employed as a loader in Swannington colliery, who was killed on Saturday morning by a stone falling from the roof of a pit upon him while at work. It appeared from the evidence that every precaution was taken to see that the roof was secure, and that plenty of timber was employed to prop it, but that the stone fell quite unexpectedly, and buried deceased and a fellow workmen named Webster under it. One of the drivers who had only left the stall about ten minutes, found them in this condition, and procured the assistance of other men to remove the stone, when deceased was found to be dead, and Webster very much injured. Deceased was twenty-six years old. **Verdict, “Accidental Death”.**

Leicester Chronicle – November 5th 1864

Fatal Colliery Accident at No.1. Swannington Pit ?

On the 26th ult., a man named John Newbold, a miner, of Belton, met with his death under the following shocking circumstances:- It appeared that deceased, in company with another miner, named Cooper, also from Belton, had loaded a tub, and was turning it round for the purpose of conveying it to the mouth of the pit, when a large stone, weighing several tons, fell from the roof, striking deceased on the head, and killing him on the spot; but, strange to say, Cooper escaped unhurt. Deceased was 24 years of age, and leaves a widow to lament his untimely end. An inquest was held on the body of Newbold on Saturday last, when a verdict of accidental death was returned. – On Monday, an Irishman (whose name we have been unable to ascertain) took poor Newbold's place, and nearly met with the same fate, in the same stall. It appears he was loading a tub, when a stone fell from the roof upon his back, cutting it in a fearful manner. He was conveyed home, where he is progressing favourably.

Serious Accident at No.2. Coleorton Pit

On the 26th ult., a man named Thomas Coulson, a miner, of Griffydham, met with a serious accident whilst at work in the above pit, under similar circumstances to the cases already described, a large stone falling from the roof upon his back, and crushing him in a shocking manner. The poor fellow was extricated as soon as possible, and conveyed home, where he still lies without the slightest hope of recovery.

November 30th 1861

Colliery Accident

On Saturday last, an accident, attended with fatal consequences, happened at the new colliery belonging to Mr. W. Worswick at Hoo-Ash (*Sinope Colliery?*), near Swannington. On the afternoon of the day in question, three workmen named John Bacon, George Stanley and Henry Smith, were on a scaffold at the top of the pit shaft, when by some means the scaffold gave way, and the unfortunate men were thrown to the bottom, a distance of eighty yards. They were all brought up as quickly as possible, but the vital spark had fled. We are sorry to add that two of the unfortunate men leave widows and families to deplore their loss.

The Leicestershire Mercury – Saturday, Oct 10th 1863

Second Edition

The following gives a good account of this dreadful accident, however, the numerous inquest reports were far too lengthy to include in this book. The coal mine referred to was actually at Swannington and known as the Coleorton No.2 or Califat Pit.

Dreadful Colliery Accident, at Coleorton (Swannington)

Three men and twenty nine horses killed – Coleorton, Thursday, October 8th.

This morning about half past eleven o'clock, an alarm was given that water had broken into the Califat, one of the Coleorton pits, the property of Messrs Worswick and Walker. An alarm was instantly given, and the men rushed to the pit's mouth, and as many as could be were drawn up. Unfortunately the rapid rush of the water prevented all from reaching the spot, and three men have perished. It appears that about three o'clock in the morning water was perceived coming through a side of one of the stalls in the workings, and between six and seven it was increasing, so that several of the men refused to go to work. One poor fellow, J. Rose, a carpenter of Belton, who has lost his life, was sent down to plug the holes through which the water was flowing, but about half-past 11 the sliding gave way, and the water rushed in with the greatest impetuosity; an alarm was given, and all made a rush for the bottom of the shaft. Fortunately there was a reservoir which received a large quantity of the water before reaching the bottom of the shaft, which gave the men time to ascend before it was upon them.

Six men were unable to reach the coveted spot, and three were overwhelmed in the torrent. These names are Jeremiah Rose, Belton, a carpenter, who leaves a wife and six children; Thomas Bird, foreman (or as he is called, corporal) over the boys, &c., leaves a wife and nine children; H. Clements aged 12.

All the horses, 26 in number were drowned. An alarm was immediately given to the California pit, between which and this there is a communication, and the men and boys were immediately drawn up without further accident, there being large reservoirs between the pits, which checked for a time the progress of the water. An attempt was then made to get the horses out of the pit, and was partially successful, but the water made such rapid progress, that three horses were obliged to be left, making in all 29 horses. When the last was drawn up, the water could be seen down the shaft seething and foaming like a whirlpool.

There were many narrow escapes amongst those that escaped. One poor bruised fellow told our correspondent that upon the alarm being given, himself and his son ran for their lives; his lamp went out directly, and they were left in total darkness. They ran on striking their heads now and again against projecting coal, and hearing the rushing of the water behind them, which did not seem more than two yards off. They ran on, and were all but exhausted before they got to the shaft. He was pushed on by his son, who he repeatedly told it was no use, but could go no further. There were upwards of 200 men and boys in the pit at the time of the accident.

Coleorton (Swannington), Friday morning

Since writing the above, great exertions were made by the men to ascertain the fate of those below, although it was considered impossible that any of them could be alive. The water, by continually rushing down into the other pit, had much abated, but the men who

descended were unable to proceed far owing to the depth of water, then about six feet. After shouting and waving their lights, they were answered by F. Doman, who had managed to get up into a hole; he was immediately got out safe, as were also Thomas Bird, the younger, and Marsden, who had managed to get into a stable, thus making three saved. The dead body of Clements was also recovered. Owing to the foul state of the air no further attempt could be made. Some more horses were also recovered.

In 1858, the mines inspector, John Hedley, advised W. Walker (operator/owner) to drain the water from old workings, so as to work Califat towards Limby Hall. In 1863, William Walker had retired, and passed the plans for Califat onto Bailey. Both he and his assistant Lewis, were aware that a heading was approaching old workings in the region of Limby Hall. Water suddenly appeared in a stall, but they were not particularly concerned, but arranged for the coal face to be attended to, but unfortunately, an old heading 37 yards from an old engine pit was breached, and there was an inrush drowning out the workings. Bailey was subsequently prosecuted by the mines inspector for negligence, in failing to consult plans for old workings.

Leicester Chronicle – July 22nd 1865

(Thought to be Lount Colliery adjacent to the Smoile at Lount)

On Saturday afternoon, Thomas Green, employed at the Lount Colliery, whilst endeavouring to pass the front of a loaded coal truck just set in motion from the incline, was struck by the buffer, knocked down, when the wheels passed over his legs, one of which was nearly severed from his body, and the calf of the other cut off. He was immediately attended by Mr. Hatchett, and was soon after conveyed to the Leicester Infirmary, without the least hope of recovery.

Leicester Journal - July 28th 1865

Fatal Colliery Accident at Coleorton

An adjourned inquest was held on Monday last on the body of Thomas Green, a banksman, in the employ of W. Worswick at the Smoile Colliery (*Lount Colliery ?*), Coleorton, who died on the 19th inst., at the Leicester Infirmary from the effects of an accident. The deceased was engaged running some wagons down an incline at the colliery on the 15th inst., and having forgotten to put the points right, he attempted to stop the wagons by putting a sleeper across the line, and while doing so he was knocked down by one of the wagons and run over. He was conveyed to the infirmary at Leicester, where his leg was amputated, but mortification having ended, the deceased died about four days after his admittance as a patient. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Leicester Chronicle - September 2nd 1865

Fatal Colliery accident at Swannington

On Saturday night last, an accident of a very serious nature took place in the shaft of No.3. New Colliery (*this was presumably the colliery known locally as "Clink" 1863-1877*), by the explosion of a charge of gun cotton used for blasting, by which one man, named Jas. Smith was killed, and another, named W. Birch seriously injured. the nature of the accident

will perhaps be better understood from the evidence given at the inquest, which was held at Coalville on Monday last, on the body of Smith, - William Birch, the first witness called, said: I am a collier employed in sinking a new shaft at Swannington No.3. belonging to Mr. Worswick. I have for some time been working with the deceased, who is about 30 years of age. He was the head-man, and had the management; our usual mode is to drill a hole in the stony bane, then put the powder cotton down it. We have an iron instrument called a needle, which is put into the charge, and then hammered down with an iron hammer. We then draw the needle out, and put a straw down the needle hole, filled with fine powder. We then put a candle beside the straw, at such a length that we think will not blow up before we get out of the road, by being drawn up. This is the plan we have always pursued up to this time, and never have anything happened wrong before. On Saturday night about six o'clock, myself and the deceased went to work. There was another man named W. Revel, down face and the stones bruised it ?? I was never insensible; it put out all the lights. I never saw deceased afterwards, who never moaned or made any noise. They shouted from the top as soon as it went off, "are you all safe"? I shouted again, "no we are shot". They came down with a light, and took deceased up, and me afterwards. I could not see; the shaft is about 90 yards deep; the explosion must either have occurred either from a spark flying from the top of the needle, or from the point of it striking the iron stone in the hole. I never saw him do such a thing before during all the time I worked with him; he was not drunk, nor had he had any drink, being a very sober man, and no man in England was more capable of using gunpowder than deceased. - W. Revel, labourer, stated that he was at the bottom of the shaft when the accident occurred, ladling water, about two yards from deceased. Saw him first hammering the rammer, and afterwards the needle. heard birch say, "I would not do that Jim; it will go off". I do not understand their work, and did not know he was doing wrong. I shouted for lights, and J. Jarvis came down; he did not speak afterwards, and died on the road. - James Jarvis said: I am a banksman, employed at the new colliery No.3. I was on the bank at the time of the accident; I knew the men were preparing a shot, but heard no signal given for them to come up, but heard the explosion and felt alarmed. Joseph Harris called "I'm alright?" I heard a man call from the bottom of the shaft to bring a light. I jumped in the barrel, and went down with a light, and found deceased lying on his face at the contrary side of the shaft to where the shot was fired. He was insensible, and appeared to be dying; he was brought up and put into a cart, and died on the road home, - Mr. G. Lewis, managing engineer of the works, stated that he had given notice of the accident to the Inspector of the District, had examined the shaft, and considered the accident had been caused as described, through the man's own carelessness, but not as the witness thought. He believed it was caused by friction of the needle through the closely compressed cotton. Deceased was considered to be the best man they had about the works whom he would sooner have trusted with this kind of work than anyone else, as he had been employed in the same sort of work nearly all his life time. - The coroner (J. Gregory Esq.), having shortly summoned up the jury immediately returned a verdict of "Accidental Death". - The death must have been almost instantaneous, as he appears to have had hold of the needle with his left hand, which was blown off. The handle of the needle then struck him under the chin, and drove a portion of his jaw bone into the brain. Deceased was a very fine young man and had left a wife and one child to lament his untimely death. He was buried on Tuesday; his fellow labourers (shaft sinkers) carrying him to his last home on earth.

Leicester Journal - February 8th 1867

Colliery accident at Coleorton.

An inquest was held at Thringstone on Saturday last before J. Gregory Esq., Coroner, on the body of Thomas Saddington, deceased. - Francis Elliot said he was employed at No.1. Pit Coleorton Colliery (California), and he knew deceased well; he was a horse keeper and had been employed in the same pit eight years, and was about thirty one years old. On Wednesday night about nine o'clock, he (witness) and two other men - Hassall and Marshall - were returning from their work at the pit to go home, and when they got to the shaft bottom, and were about to ring for the cage to come down, he caught sight of what first appeared to be a man in the water within the space that the cage came down. Marshall screamed and ran away in great alarm. He (witness) looked in the water, and saw a man lying in the water on his right shoulder and side, with his hand nearly doubled under him. The water was not quite half a yard in depth, but covered him all but his shoulders and hip. He got Hassall to help him, and they pulled the man out, and they found him to be deceased. He was quite dead. The cage came down and deceased was put upon it and taken to his home. Deceased's work did not lie there, but he would have had to pass that place in going from one stable to another. He was quite certain that the cage had been upon him, as the water was not deep enough to drown him without having received some injury. He had heard that a pick was found in the water after, which had dropped from the cage a short time before, and he believed deceased was looking in the water for the pick when the cage came down upon him unawares and caused his death. The cage came very still when near the bottom. - After several other witnesses had been examined, the Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Leicester Chronicle - April 18th 1868

Fatal Accident

A sad accident occurred at the "Hoo Ash" colliery (*either Clink or Sinope*), Swannington on Tuesday last about five o'clock when a man named John Halfpenny of Coleorton, lost his life. It appeared deceased was employed as a banksman, and was levelling the coal on top of a railway wagon, when the horses attached to it started forward and deceased was thrown off, falling in front of the wagon on the rails. The wagon passed over his head and smashed it, causing instantaneous death. The deceased was about 60 years of age, and leaves a wife and ten children to mourn his loss.

Leicester Journal - January 1st 1869

Fatal accident at Swannington Colliery

An inquest was held at Coleorton, before J. Gregory Esq., Coroner, on the 26th ult, on view of the body of Frederick Whitaker, who was a loader employed at the colliery, and was killed there on the previous Wednesday. Evidence having been taken on the identity of the body of the deceased, who was about 32 years of age, the inquest was adjourned till the 30th ult, when Mr. Evans, the Government Inspector was present. The circumstances under which the accident happened were described by a witness, Sam Martin :- I am a loader at No.3. Pit Swannington Colliery (*known locally as Clink*) and the deceased was also. We went to work in the pit as normal on Thursday 24th December; we were employed in No.25. stall. We noticed that little bits shivered off outside the stall at times, but below the place where the accident happened. We went on with our work till between eleven and twelve. We had then just finished loading a bit and were in the act of pushing it off the plate

in the stall into the gate road, and the deceased, who was at one of the front corners of the tub, had just got to the gate road when a large piece of stone suddenly, without warning, fell from the roof upon him. I was within the stall going to shove the tub on. A lad was coming up with two empty trucks, and I sent him for Robert Lovitt, the corporal, who came with another man, and then other assistance came, and the deceased was got from under the stone, but he was dead. The stable road had been inspected that morning by all the storemen, as I was told, and I saw the lackyman, Blockley, trying a stone lower down in the gate road than the one which fell, but I did not see him try the one that fell. The width of the road is about 8 or 9 feet, and it is supported on each side by props from the headway to the stall. The stone broke away from between the props. Evidence was called to prove that the pit had been properly inspected, and a verdict was returned as "Accidental Death".

Leicester Chronicle - April 10th 1869 **Fatal Accident in coal pit**

At Worthington before J. Gregory Esq., Coroner, on the body of William Cooper, a loader at No.1. pit of the Coleorton Colliery, who was killed in the pit on Monday last. Deceased was giving up work in the stall, got into one of the tubs, and seizing the whip from the driver, beat the horse, which started off at a terrible pace and upset the tub and threw the deceased and three others out. Deceased was picked up in an insensible condition, and before he could be got to the top of the shaft, he died. The other colliers in the tub escaped uninjured. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Leicester Chronicle - September 18th 1869 **Thringstone - death from an accident**

On Monday last, an enquiry was held before J, Gregory Esq., Coroner, on the body of Herbert King, deceased. It appeared that the deceased was 18 years of age, and was employed as a loader of No.1. pit of the Coleorton Colliery. He was at work on July 21st, when he sat in one of the roads having his breakfast; a large piece of stone weighing an hundredweight fell from the roof and struck him on the back of his head, forced it between his knees, and then rolled over him. He exclaimed that his back was broken and he was removed home where he was attended by Mr. Hatchett, Surgeon of Ravenstone. He found that deceased had sustained a fracture of the spine, and although he has attended him ever since, he gave no hopes of a recovery. The poor young man lingered till Saturday last when he died from exhaustion and bed sores. The stone, it appears, fell from the roof without giving any warning, and every precaution has been taken to prevent such accidents in future. Verdict - "Accidental Death".

Leicester Journal - November 4th 1870 **Thringstone**

On Wednesday, an enquiry was opened before Mr. Gregory, County Coroner, into the cause of the death of George Lawrence, a miner employed at No.2. pit, Coleorton Colliery. On 26th October, the deceased was at work for another man making a road up to the stall, where he and others were getting coal. As the deceased was walking from his stall to get a pick to work with a stone that was being loosened, weighing from ten to twelve hundredweights, it fell upon him. The unfortunate man sustained a compound fracture of the right thigh, a fracture of the left thigh, dislocation of the left hip, and fracture of the ribs

on the right side. There were also internal contusions. He lingered till Monday night. The deceased was 41 years of age. Verdict - "Accidental Death".

Leicester Chronicle - January 13th 1872

Coleorton Colliery - Serious Accident

On Saturday evening last while a Mr. Main of Coleorton was resting himself, after having finished his work, previous to going home, a piece of roof fell on him and broke three of his ribs and seriously cut and bruised his back; he now lies in a very precarious position.

Date not recorded

William Fairbrother aged 11 years, who was employed with his father at a coal pit in Coleorton, was killed by a piece of coal falling off a loaded tub down the shaft, and striking him on the head. An inquest was held on the 19th ult., and by adjournment on the 24th, when a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.



Lads down pit

Leicester Chronicle - February 21st 1880

Accident at the Heath End Colliery

At the inquest held at the Railway Inn, Worthington, by Coroner Deane, on the body of Joseph Hewitt, a collier, aged 24, who was seriously injured by the fall of coal whilst working in the pit at Heath End Colliery, and who died on the 10th inst., the jury, after returning a verdict of "Accidental Death", said while they were satisfied that the deceased himself was the immediate cause of the fall, by picking the corner of the stall, they were of opinion that the evidence showed that the roof of the stall was insufficiently propped, and had not been inspected with sufficient care

Nottinghamshire Guardian - February 11th 1881

Fatal Accident at Coleorton

On Tuesday, an inquest was held by Mr. H. Y. Deane, the district Coroner, at the George Inn, Coleorton, touching the death of William Horne, aged 20, who had died from the effects of injuries received by a quantity of stone falling upon him. Deceased, for a number of years, had been employed at the Coleorton Colliery, and was at work there on Saturday morning. When the stall in which he had been working was being examined, deceased was engaged in loading in the pit, when a portion of the roof fell and struck him on the shoulder. He was immediately removed to the bank, where he died a short time afterwards. Evidence as to the roof having been given, the jury returned verdict of "Accidental Death".

SEVERAL REPORTS ON THE TRAGIC MINING ACCIDENT AT STAUNTON COLLIERY (ALSO KNOWN AS NEWBOLD GLORY & WORTHINGTON CLASH) IN 1886

London Standard - Oct 9th 1886

The Leicester Colliery Disaster

The inquest on the bodies of John Lakin, colliery proprietor, aged 59, William Lakin, 35 years of age, George Lakin, 30 years of age, and John Stewart, miner, aged 14, who met their deaths under very distressing circumstances at the Staunton Colliery (*also known as Newbold Glory and Worthington Clash*), was opened at the Railway Inn, Worthington, Leics, yesterday before the coroner Mr. Deane. Mr. Stokes, assistant Government Inspector also attended. It will be remembered that two of the deceased had gone to inspect a portion of the mine in which there was choke damp. Not returning, the other two went in search of them, and the whole four miners suffocated. - Aaron Lakin gave evidence of the attempt made by himself and his brother George to rescue the deceased. - John Stewart senior, miner identified his son's body. He said they both went to the pit together to work on the morning of the accident. If he had known, his lad would never have gone into that part of the mine as witness had been there before and knew the danger. He told his son on the previous Sunday not to go there for anyone. Witness and his son were at work in the dips near where a hole had been driven into an old working, and while at work, their lamps had been extinguished by the choke damp. They called for assistance. William Lakin, one of the deceased came down and witness went forward with a bundle of hay to stop the hole up, but he failed on account of the choke damp. The witness at this time began to ramble in his statement, and was ordered to retire for the time as he was drunk. - Joseph Stenson, collier, said he was employed at Staunton Colliery. On Saturday last, he bored a hole about four feet long by about two feet in diameter into an old working. he had driven the hole to allow some water to run off. John Lakin senior and William Lakin were there at the time. They tried the whole with a lamp first to see if there was gas present. - The Coroner (to the Government Inspector): What would have happened supposing there had been a fire? - The Inspector: It would have blown them all out of the pit. - Witness (continuing) said that on testing the hole with a naked candle, the found the current of air running strongly from the new working to the old pit. Witness went about 30 yds in one direction in the old workings, William Lakin a short distance in another. Mr John Lakin senior, and his son agreed that the hole should be kept open; but witness recommended that it should be closed. It was left open. When witness went into the old workings, he took a naked candle. William Richards, formerly manager to the Coleorton Colliery, said he received information that a number of men were down the pit, and they could not be got out. Witness went down the shaft and found several men in the dips, trying to get at the dead bodies, as no light would burn, he ordered the men out of the workings and then afterwards went and altered the current of the ventilation. This had the effect of gradually clearing out the foul air, and then they got down to where the bodies were and had them removed. - By the Government Inspector: he changed the ventilation in about ten minutes. Had any person still been present in the mine it would have been changed before. It was a simple operation. - The Coroner: It appears that but for the efforts of Mr. Richards, many more lives would have been lost. - Thomas Jones, collier, said he made efforts at rescue which proved useless, and he also took the fire from the ventilation shaft and run it down in

a tub to the dips, where it went out as if a bucket of water had been thrown over it. - The Coroner: We do not blame you in your ignorance for doing this, but it is a miracle that everyone in the pit wasn't killed. - The witness admitted that the rules were not obeyed, and he added that he knew that the choke damp was being driven to the stall where he was at work. - John Varnham, the next witness called was drunk. - Mark Cooper, miner, said when he heard the alarm, he was at work in the pit, and he made every effort to rescue. While in the dark, witness fell down from the effects of choke damp, and became very ill. He found the body of Stewart lying on his back, with his hands on his breast, and some pony harness beside him. William Lakin's body lay at his feet, while George's head was at his father's feet. His opinion was that George Lakin and the boy had gone into the dips for the harness when they were struck down, and that the other two had fallen on them when proceeding to the rescue. - John Lakin, son of John Lakin deceased, described the working of the colliery. He went down the dips to the rescue alone, and when his candle was extinguished, he went on in the darkness till he fell, overpowered by the choke damp. As he fell he fell down he could hear groans, as if the others were dying, but he could render no help, and was compelled to crawl back to the bottom of the shaft. He made another attempt at rescue with others, but became so ill that he was obliged to leave the mine. - The inspector said that he tried on Thursday to penetrate the workings, but it was literally impossible due to choke damp. He went down pit but could not penetrate to the dips, and they would have to wait until the mine was cleared. - The Coroner said that, as far as the enquiry had gone, it appeared to him that every rule for the protection of life in mines had been entirely and systematically neglected. He ventured to think that, with all his long experience, the Government Inspector had never known where the rules provided by Act of Parliament for the safety of life had been so systematically neglected. Possibly more would come to light when the mine was examined, and with that object would at that stage be adjourned.

Leicester Chronicle - October 9th 1886

Terrible accident at Staunton Colliery - Four persons killed (by our Ashby reporter) - Newbold Wednesday

A terrible accident occurred at the Staunton Colliery this morning by which four lives were lost. It seems that there had been signs of choke damp in the pit for several days, and this morning about 7 o'clock, Mr William Lakin, son of the proprietor, and one of the deputies of this colliery, descended the pit to see that all was right. It is supposed that a lad named John Stewart, who also perished went down with Mr. Lakin. As neither of them returned, Mr George Lakin, another son,, and also a deputy, went down, and he did not return either. Mr John Lakin, the proprietor, followed and he was not heard of again.. An alarm was raised and assistance procured. Mr John Lakin, another son, next entered the pit with a view to rescue the unfortunate men who had preceded him, but for his own safety was compelled to leave the pit. Another attempt to rescue them by another son Aaron Lakin, but he also failed on account of the damp. A further alarm was given and other assistance obtained, and as it was assumed that all four had become overpowered by damp, Dr. Houghton of Whitwick was sent for and he arrived on the scene about 9. 45. The news of the disaster spread rapidly, and very soon a large number of persons arrived on the bank of the pit. After the arrival of the doctor, the recovery of the bodies was set about, Mr. Mark Cooper and others lending all assistance possible. P.S. Hardy and P.C. Chapman subsequently arrived and also rendered valuable help. About 11 o'clock, the body of the youth, John Stewart was brought up, and those of Mr. Lakin and his two sons immediately after. A profound sensation was caused amongst the bystanders as the dead bodies were

laid side by side in the cabin of the pit. Dr. Houghton, at once made an examination and pronounced life extinct. Under the direction of P.S. Hardy, three conveyances were sent for, and the bodies placed carefully in them, and all were removed to the residence of Mr. Lakin. As the conveyances moved off, it was evident that the villagers were deeply moved by the sad event. It appears that about thirty hands are employed at the Staunton Colliery which is situated in the village of Newbold in the Parish of Worthington, at about four miles distant from Ashby de la Zouch. At the time of the accident, other men were working in different parts of the pit. Mr. John Lakin, the proprietor of the pit, leaves a widow and several grown up children; Mr William Lakin, a widow and seven children and Mr George Lakin, a widow and three children. The boy John Stewart, is 16 years of age and residing with his father and grandmother in Newbold. Immediately on the accident becoming known, Mr. Evans, Government Inspector of Derby was telegraphed for. Groups of villagers are to be seen discussing the catastrophe and the deepest sympathy is felt and expressed for the sorrowing friends.

Later particulars

By the courtesy of Mr. Holmes, deputy chief constable of the County, who, accompanied by Inspector Wainwright, visited the scene of the disaster during the afternoon. We are enabled to add a few further particulars. It appeared that the colliery is the smallest in the neighbourhood, employing between twenty and thirty men, including his sons and others, most of whom were connected by marriage to the owner. Mr. Lakin senior, a native of Coleorton, had lately been living in Yorkshire, some members of his family being left in the neighbourhood. Returning about two years ago he acquired the property and sank a shaft about 40 feet deep. Some good seams of coal were found, and on Friday last, the deceased owner and his sons were at work in a new seam where the mineral was of excellent quality. One of them placed a hole into a disused working, and choke damp was admitted to such an extent that operations were suspended there, in the hope that the pit would clear itself. Yesterday one of the sons of Mr. Lakin were down alone for the purpose of ascertaining the state of things. It was noticed that he did not return, and shortly after his brother arrived, and he also went down. The lad Stewart next up appeared on the scene, and went down the pit to see what had happened to the other two. He also did not return, and then Mr. Lakin the owner himself descended, with the same result. An alarm was then raised and another man, who had been engaged in the mine, went down with some burning coals. Before he had gone far into the pit however, the fire went out, confirming the suspicions that had been raised as to the continued presence of choke damp. By this time the villagers had congregated at the pit, and much excitement prevailed. A fan was obtained, and the pit in time was cleared, the bodies of the unfortunate victims being found lying together near the bottom of the shaft. Some men who were at work at that time in another part of the pit were uninjured, and some night shift men had not long come to the surface. The deceased owner has also left three sons who also worked at the colliery. Mr. H. Deane, the district Coroner was communicated with, and the inquest is fixed to be held on Friday.

Another account

Another report says that from what has at present transpired, it appears that the men had not been at work in the colliery since Saturday, when steps had been taken to get some water out of an old working, which in the course of mining operations had been come upon. On Wednesday morning between 6 and 7 o'clock, about thirteen men went down the pit to commence work, and before proceeding beyond the bottom of the shaft, William Lakin, who acted as deputy in the colliery, went down into the working which was left on Saturday

to ascertain that all was right. The others waited some time for his return, but at length, curious to his protracted absence, his brother, George Lakin (the owner), who by this time had reached the pit, becoming alarmed, went himself in search of his two sons. Another interval elapsed without intelligence of the three men, and the boy named John Stewart, aged 16, was sent into the working to look for them. This made the fourth who had gone into the fatal place, and none of them returned. The terrible fact now began to dawn upon the remainder of the men that their comrades had been overcome by foul air, and a cautious search was commenced. A man named Thomas Jones tried to enter the workings with lighted candles, but these were speedily extinguished and he was compelled to return in haste. He subsequently tried to regain ingress by carrying fire, but again the attempt was fruitless, for although he got hold of one of the men who lay on the floor, he could not pull him out. A third and desperate attempt to reach the bodies (for by this time it had been ascertained that all were dead), was made by a brother of the Lakins, but he again was compelled to crawl out on his hands and knees. Having satisfied themselves that a dense and fatal volume of foul air, known amongst colliers as "Black Damp" was contained in the heading, the men proceeded to the bank, and sought further assistance. The services of Mr. Gascoyne, collier manager of Coleorton and Mr. William Richards, ex-manager of Worthington, were speedily procured, and a relief party having been procured under their direction, steps were taken to pump air into the heading, while a fire was lighted near the shaft to draw off the foul air. After persistent and unremitting exertion, the bodies were reached and conveyed to the bank about ten o'clock. Dr. Houghton was in attendance to render any medical assistance which might be of avail to the unfortunate victims, but it is almost needless to say that after the lapse of such a time, life in each case was quite extinct, and the bodies bore testament to the terrible fatal attempts of the poisonous gas. The four bodies were, with the assistance of P.C Chapman, removed to the house of the elder Lakin, amidst the most distressing scenes from the bereaved relatives.

Leicester Chronicle – June 6th 1891

It is thought that this William Stinson was possibly the father of Joseph Stinson (aged 36) who was killed by a roof fall in the same pit in February 1890.

Staunton Harold – At the colliery

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. Henry Deane, Coroner for north Leicestershire, held an enquiry at the Railway Tavern, Worthington, into the death of William Stinson, who met with his death at the Staunton Harold Colliery on the 28th ult. – Mr. H. Hipplewhite, assistant inspector of mines attended. – Mary Stinson, wife of the deceased, said her husband was a collier and sixty years old. He left home to go to work at the colliery at 5.30. on the morning of Thursday last in his usual good health. He was brought home dead about

4 p.m. – William Smith, Stallman at the colliery said on Thursday morning that he was in the pit working at No.1. stall. William Birch would examine the stall before they went to work. He was putting a hole in when the accident happened at about 10 o'clock. Deceased had been sawing a prop to make some sprags, and had just sawn it through when the roof started all at once. It was the roof of the stall and the roadway which began to press down and fall. There were other men working with deceased, but they got out before the roof bore down like a clap of thunder, all at once, and he did not have time to get away himself. Witness packed up coals between himself and the deceased to try and keep the roof up. Deceased cried out when the first fall came and "crawled" under the coal to get out of the way, but this was all borne down on him. Witness was got out first, being drawn out by his

legs. He left the mine before rescuers got to the deceased. - By the inspector: There was not sufficient quantity of sprags, so deceased cut a prop, and left the prop in so that the top should not be disturbed. There was a sudden thickening of coal just there, and extra precautions had been taken. Stanley had done what little holing had been done that morning, and had set the sprags that were up. He had done that the day before – all but one – and the old man was going to set one for himself. Witness thought Stanley was a competent man to set sprags. The foreman found no problem with the setting when he came through. – William Birch, deputy at the colliery, and residing at Gelsmoor, said he examined stall No.1. at 5.30. on the morning of the accident. – By the inspector: The one pack was partly built when he was there and the other was up. He was night deputy, and made his inspection before leaving at 6.30 a.m. – John Saunders, under-manager at the colliery, said he saw stall No.1. at 8.30 a.m. on the 28th. The day shift were then at work. The stall appeared safe. There was some holing done on the left side of the gate, but he saw nothing to find fault with. – By the inspector: The packing should have been done at night, but the stallman on the night shift was ill. The floor coal was rather soft, and it had gradually worked down, and the sprags had been pushed into the floor. The coal was solid and had to be blown. – Thomas Stanley, collier, Coleorton, confirmed the previous witnesses and said he assisted to get deceased out. – The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Leicester Daily Mercury - January 20th 1890

Death from Lock - Jaw Griffydham

On Saturday, lad named Ben Johnson (14) died from Lock-Jaw, occasion through an accident at the Coleorton Colliery on the 7th inst, when deceased had his thumb crushed between two wagons

Leicester Chronicle - Feb 15th 1890

Joseph Stinson, 36, collier, died on Saturday from injuries received on Wednesday last while at work at Staunton Colliery, when a heavy stone fell on his back. - The inquest was held on Tuesday morning at the Engine Inn, Coleorton, before Mr. Henry Deane, Coroner. - Mr A. H. Stokes, his Majesties Inspector of Mines, was present, and Mr. Wilkins, Solicitor, watched the case on behalf of the colliery proprietors, also James Richards of Coleorton, under manager of the Staunton Colliery, in the Parish of Worthington where deceased was deputy. - On the 5th inst., witness was at the bottom of the shaft at a quarter passed two. Deceased was there. He had drilled a hole into a stone, and made preparations for turning some water off which was dropping down the shaft. Witness had just arrived at the bottom and told them he wanted to go up. He was just about to get on the cage when the stone into which the plug had been driven fell without the least warning. It fell on the deceased knocking him down. The stone would be at least three or four tons in weight. deceased was got out, taken to the bank and conveyed home. - By the Jury: no complaints had been made as to the security of the stone. Witness had sounded it that very morning himself and it appeared to be perfectly safe. - By the Inspector: There had been no fall of stone about there lately of any kind, he had never heard any complaint that the bottom was unsafe or dangerous, it was deceased's duty to examine the shaft. Since the accident on Friday night, three days after, he saw deceased in his wife's presence, speaking of what occurred said "no man could have detected that had been bad". Martha Stinson, widow of

deceased, said her husband never blamed anyone for the accident. - Benjamin Johnson, a collier, deposed that he helped to get deceased out. he was doubled up with his head between his legs, the stone lying on him. Witness also assisted to take him home. He had taken stone off the stone that fell a month ago and it then rapped as solid as it could be. He considered it perfectly safe, and would have stood under it without fear. He had not known any stone to fall near the pit bottom. He had thought deceased had loosened the stone by drilling the hole in it, and by driving the plug in. He had seen the pit bottom daily before the accident. In witness's opinion, every precaution had been taken for the safety of the place. - Mark cooper having given further evidence of the accident, Dr. Houghton, of Whitwick was called, who said he had attended the deceased since the accident. He found him suffering from internal injuries, but did not at first regards them to be fatal. On Friday night, witness saw him, and he seemed to be getting on well. The following morning he heard that he had died in the early morning. He was of the opinion that deceased died either by rupture of the bowels or of a blood vessel. - The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Nottingham Evening Post - April 1st 1890

Fatal Accident at Coleorton Colliery

A fatal accident occurred at Coleorton Colliery, Nr Ashby de la Zouch, yesterday. A young man named Philips was engaged down the pit loading tubs, when a heavy stone fell from the roof, caught him on the side of the head, and broke his neck. The unfortunate fellow expired before he could be got to the shaft. All the men at once ceased work on hearing of the sad occurrence.

(Further report:- Fall of roof. He stood too near some coals whilst watching the stall man get them down. The coals knocked out a prop which was supporting the roof, and the roof fell upon the deceased).

The Nottingham Evening Post - Monday May 27th 1895

The Coleorton Colliery Fatality

Mr. Dean, District coroner, held an enquiry at The Beaumont arms, Coleorton on Saturday evening, through the death of James Robinson, who was crushed in the coal pit the previous day. - Ann Robinson, widow and mother of the deceased said the lad was 13 years of age. He went to work at the Coleorton Colliery at 6 o'clock on Friday morning, and was brought home in a dying condition shortly before 10. Death took place at one o'clock. The lad had been employed at the pit for about a month. - Dr Jamie of Coalville states that he was called to attend the injured lad and upon examination found that he had fractured ribs on both sides, with displacement of the heart, broken legs and thigh, fractured forearm on the right side, severe abrasions on the head and face and wounds all over his body. The case was perfectly hopeless from the first. - David Gardener, an employee of the colliery, said it was the duty of the deceased to keep the pulleys oiled. On Friday morning witness let him go to a siding about 300 yards distant, and was away about five minutes. Being summoned by another lad, witness returned and found the deceased had been terribly injured, having been crushed between the up and down roads, 60 yards from where the witness had left him at work. Deceased said to witness "If I had done what you told me, this would not have happened". Witness had previously cautioned deceased about riding on the "Tongues". These were screw clips fastened to the running rope, by means of which the tubs were secured. The boys at the pit were forbidden to ride on them. - After hearing

other witnesses, the jury returned a verdict that deceased was accidentally crushed and killed whilst attempting improperly to ride on the rope at the colliery.

Leicester Chronicle & Mercury – Saturday, August 29th 1896 **Fatal accident at Swannington Colliery.**

It is thought that this must have been Swannington No.2. colliery at Sinope.

At the New Inn, Whitwick, on Thursday, the inquest on the body of William Varnam, who was crushed to death in Swannington Colliery, was held before Mr. Coroner Deane, of Loughborough. Mr. H. R. Hewitt, Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines, of Derby, attended the enquiry, with Mr. Percival, the manager of the colliery, who produced a plan of the stall. – The deceased's widow gave evidence of identification, and said her husband's age was 34. – Henry Tindall, collier, of Coleorton, who appeared to be suffering severely from the effects of the injuries received at the time deceased met his death, said that on the 25th inst., he was at work about one o'clock with the deceased in the stall. Varnam, being charge man, knocked the roof, and proceeded to bar in the hole. Witness was putting the prop under the bar, when "down came the stone", and deceased was buried under the fall. That was all witness new beyond that he called for help, and assistance was soon at hand. – By the Government Inspector: After the deceased sounded the roof he stated that it was bad. It was usual to set props before the bar if they were wanted. Varnam evidently did not think that props were necessary, as none were set. Varnam was in charge, and witness had nothing to do with the matter. – Samuel Smith, the day deputy at the pit, stated that he was on duty on the day of the accident. He had inspected No.9. stall about nine o'clock that morning, when it was in a safe condition, and sufficiently timbered. There was no work being done when the fall took place at the hour mentioned. At one o'clock he heard of the accident, and went to the stall, where he found the deceased under a fall of stone. He assisted to get him out, but he was dead when extricated. The deceased was an experienced man. He came to work at the colliery on the 10th February, and had been charge man at Coleorton and at the South Leicestershire Colliery previously. – By the Inspector: In witness's opinion, there was not sufficient timber used by the deceased. The men should have had a prop in front of them, and should not have had the space they had without timber. – Mr. Percival, the manager of the colliery, stated that he was in the stall shortly after ten, when the coal was safe. After the accident he went down and made an inspection of the stall, when he found a piece of roof weighing about two tons had fallen. He found the bar buried, with the deceased under the stone. – This concluded the evidence, and the coroner commented on the deceased not using sufficient timber for his own protection, and said the deceased went a great deal too far without a prop. The deceased obviously thought the coal hard and safe, and left a dangerous area which caused the fall. – The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

Leicestershire Mercury – Saturday June 19th 1897 **The Mining Fatality at Coleorton – Inquest**

Mr. H. Deane held an inquest on Wednesday evening at the Grammar School, Osgathorpe, on the body of Joseph Springthorpe, aged 27 years, collier, residing at Osgathorpe, who was killed in the colliery at Coleorton on Monday. – John Springthorpe, father of the deceased, said he and his four sons were working at the colliery at Coleorton, and about one o'clock on Monday he was working about six yards from the deceased. The deceased was setting some timbers under the stone that fell, and witness, hearing a shout,

looked round, and found that the stone had fallen on him. They removed the stone, but his son was quite dead. – On being examined by Mr. Hewitt, Inspector of Mines, witness said the roof was propped, but not barred all the way. He did not think it necessary to be barred all the way; a prop would do just as well. The roof in their stall was not extra good, and at this time it had sunk. There had been no weight on the stall that morning, but there had been before. – James Springthorpe, brother of the deceased, said he was a collier, working in the same stall as his brother. He was near his brother when the accident happened. The deceased was pulling a lump of coal down, when a stone came with it, and fell on him. Witness got him from under, and helped to get him home. – On examination by the inspector, witness said that there was no interval between the coal and the stone, both falling together. There was a distance of about three yards, between where they were, the coal, and the last bar. They were supplied with plenty of bars, but they only made the roof safe as far as the tub went. There were two props under the stone that fell. They could not set a bar four feet away from the last bar that was already up on account of the roof being sunk. – When asked by a juror whether he considered it safe to work under the place, witness answered in the affirmative. – Answering the doctor, he said that the deceased was in a sitting posture when the stone was removed. His face had been pinned to the ground. – Richard Booth, residing at Coleorton, said he was under-manager at the Coleorton Colliery. At about 10.30. on the day of the accident he went to the colliery, and to the stall in which the deceased was working. The stall was well timbered. He left them soon after filling coal to a tub. He was called about one o'clock, and told there had been an accident. He went to the place and found some men getting the stone off the body, - In answer to the Inspector, Booth said he left no orders when he went away in the morning, as everything seemed satisfactory. As a rule they generally barred as far as the tub went. He did not think it impossible to get a bar near the place where the stone fell. There was a natural break in the face. – Dr. John Serres, living at Osgathorpe, said he examined the body when it was at home. There were abrasions on the knee, legs, and chest, and the face was discoloured. He had no doubt the man died from suffocation, due to the fact that the stone fell and did not leave aeration for the blood. – The jury reached a verdict of "Accidental Death" without attaching blame to anyone.

Chronicle & Leicester Mercury - June 25th 1898 - Coleorton No.3. Colliery (Bug & Wink)

An inquest was held at the house of Isacc Bakewell at Swannington on Thursday touching the death of John Edwards, a collier, at the Coleorton Pit. Mr. Hewitt, H.M. Inspector of Mines was present. - George Edwards, a green grocer, at Coalville, stated that the deceased, his father, was 42 years of age. On Monday evening, after he had been brought home, he told witness he was done for this time, and in reply to an enquiry out it happened, he said "I was putting a roller box in the empty road side when I heard a set coming. I thought they were empty ones, and with getting out of the way my lamp went out, and it was a full set instead of an empty one". That is all he told me. He died that night. - William Elliot, aged 15, said he was at work in the pit on Monday, and was "bunging" i.e. walking in the tubs and holding the tongs which hold the tubs to the rope. The rope was always running. About 8.45., he was taking some full tubs up the incline, and had travelled a little way, when his tongs struck against a sleeper; and the tubs did not give over running straight away, and then when they were running back, the force snatched the tongues out of his hand. The tubs ran back into the siding, and witness shouted to Edwards. The tubs ran back and ran over the drag and the stop block and knocked Edwards down. Witness

was riding on the tubs when they left the siding, but not when the tongs caught the sleeper. There were several places in the dip, where the rope ran over the sleepers, and witness got off before he got there, and was walking by the side of the tubs when the tongs caught. He had had his tongs in catch before, but not enough to stop. - In reply to Mr. Hewitt, witness said the tongs were alright, and not out of repair. If the drag did not act or the train jumped over it, there might be a runaway. - Joseph Hill, aged 13, said he coupled on the trucks when Elliot took away, and he put a drag on the last truck. - Jesse Armson, manager at the colliery, said in reply to the Inspector, that as both the drag and stop block had failed in this instance, he would suggest a block of wood to protect the pegs? Usually a drag either held the tubs up or threw them off, - The jury found that the deceased was killed by an accident, and that there was no negligence on the part of the deceased or the men and boys working with him. They recommended that the drags provided for the trucks on this incline should be longer, and furnished with a fork end. They also expressed the opinion that the boys who had given evidence were not old enough or strong enough for the work they had been called upon to perform.

Derby Mercury - August 3rd 1898

Midland District Miner's fatal Accident Relief Society Extract

The other case was that John Edwards of Coleorton Colliery, who was killed by being crushed between some trucks. - It seems that ten years ago, the deceased's wife eloped with the loader and left her husband with the children, who were now grown up. Edwards then got a woman named Glover to keep his house, and eventually they cohabited, with the result that three children were born. Since the man's death, the colliery proprietors had assisted her, as she was somewhat weak in health. The application for assistance for the woman was refused

The Nottingham Evening Post - February 6th 1899

Sad death of Collier at Coleorton

Today information reached Mr. Deane (Coroner for North Leicestershire) at Loughborough, of the death of John Marsden, aged 71, coal miner of Coleorton. Deceased was working in the Coleorton Pit on January 10th, when a fall occurred, and a large stone dropped upon his thigh. He was conveyed home and attended by Dr. Jamie of Coalville. The cause of death is uncertain, as no bones were broken by the accident in the coal pit, and deceased had been out and about since occurrence. Death took place on Friday night last. Later post mortem gave death from natural causes.

The Nottingham Evening Post - Thursday May 13th 1909

Accident at Coleorton Colliery

A serious accident happened yesterday at Coleorton Colliery to a workman named William Kinsey. He was at work shovelling dirt in the mine when about a half a ton of stone fell from the roof and pinned him to the ground. He sustained severe injuries to his spine and a broken nose, and was conveyed home in a cart and medically attended. Considering the nature of his accident, his escape from death is regarded as a miracle. Kinsey is a married man residing in Margaret Street, Coalville and is making good progress.

August 19th 1911

The fatality at Coleorton Colliery- Juryman's service dispensed with - Inquest and verdict

At the Beaumont Arms Inn, Coleorton, on Thursday afternoon, Mr. Coroner Deane held an inquest on the body of Thomas Lord, a coal miner, aged 32, of Coleorton, who was killed in Coleorton Colliery by a fall of stone.

Mr William Saint, Inspector of Mines for the South Midland District, attended the enquiry, and others present were, Mr. F Tatham, manager of the colliery, and Mr. Levi Lovett, agent of the Leicestershire Miners Association.

A juryman arrived after the jury had been sworn in, and the Coroner said he could dispense with the man's services. He ought to have been punctual.

John Lord, a Stallman working at Coleorton Colliery, identified the body as that of his brother, 32 years of age, a Stallman at the same colliery. On Tuesday, witness and his brother were working in No.28. Stall, deceased being engaged ripping with witness at the coal face, about eight or ten yards away from him. Witness, about a quarter past two, heard a fall, and he called out "Tommy", and could not see him, and he looked about in stall No.30. Witness then saw a light down the road, and called his brother's name again, but Tommy Read answered that he was not there, and witness then saw one leg of his brother under the fall - a large stone with a number of other stones round. Witness called for help, and deceased was brought out. He was quite dead, and no doubt was killed instantly. Deceased was the chargeman who examined the stall before they started. He was there first, and told witness that it was "All Right". Plenty of timber was available. There had been as far as witness knew, no shot firing in his stall or that of 30 stall. Some distance away there had been shot firing. The stone which killed his brother fell from the roof, straight down, and he would say it did not give the slightest warning. Witness noticed no slip or fault in the roof, but had noticed a slip since. None of the timber had been drawn that morning, but some had been set. The condition of the gateway had not been altered that morning in any way. The props were five feet apart where the fall occurred. The stone roof was not supported in anyway by bars.

By the Inspector: It looked a good roof. He did not hear his brother knock any timber out. The fall might have knocked some out. Deceased was a most careful man. Witness examined the roof by sounding it, when he went to work. About four yards fell, and the thickness would have to be above a yard. The sounding of a thick stone like that would give no indication of a fall. Deceased and witness had been working together about 10 years. Four brothers worked at the colliery.

By Mr. Levi Lovett: Witness did not think that there was any necessity for a bar to be placed across the roof when he went in the stall in the morning.

Benjamin Marsden, a deputy of Coleorton Colliery, said No.28. Stall was in his district in the mine. He went there at 10.30 on Monday morning and examined it with the gate road and found it in safe working order. He sounded the roof but not the sides. The roof sounded safe for work. and about 2.15 p.m. witness heard of the fall, and he had since examined the roof from which the stone fell. The length of the fall would be about sixteen feet, and the depth of stone about two feet in the middle. Witness had since seen a slip or fault, where the stone came from. Witness had not noticed any slip. He considered that witness had been wedging the lip Deceased's pick was in his hand when he was found.

By the Inspector: There were two lines of slips, but he did not know how far they were apart. In witness's opinion no bars across the roof were necessary when he examined it in the morning. It was rock roof, and a big stone would give very little indication

of falling. The props which were down were either caused by deceased ripping, or knocked out by the fall. It was quite possible deceased removed a prop.

By the Coroner: The stone fell straight down from the roof.

By Mr. Lovett: Mr. Gill had been in the stall before witness went. The packing formed the sides.

The Coroner said he had two other witnesses if the jury desired to hear them. The deceased was a charge man, who sounded the roof, as did the deputy and others, and it was considered safe.

Dr. Neil Neal, of Coalville, assistant to Dr. Jamie, deposed to examining the deceased after removal from the mine. There were extensive injuries, including a fracture of the frontal bone and a scalp wound at the back. the cause of death was fracture of the skull.

The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death".

The manager of the colliery, on behalf of Messrs Checkland and Co., expressed sympathy with the widow and family, and said that all to comfort them would be done.

Mr. Lovett, on behalf of the Leicestershire Miner's Association, and the Coroner joined in the expression of sympathy. It was stated that the deceased left three children.

Thomas Lord was the wife of Margaret Barkby who was the auntie of the author's wife.

Nottingham Evening Post - January 27th 1919

Leicestershire Colliery Fatalities

At Coleorton Colliery, Samuel Robert Fretsome, 21, of White house, Coleorton, was killed while shunting on the line leading from the colliery to the Midland Railway. He is supposed to have been crushed between the buffers of the two wagons.

Nottingham Evening Post - March 28th 1923

The sobriety of George King, 45, colliery fireman of Osgathorpe, who on Saturday fell down the shaft of Coleorton Colliery, was the subject of some conflict of evidence at the inquest yesterday afternoon. The medical evidence disclosed terrible injuries to all parts of the body. The Coroner (Mr. H.J.Deane), said that on the facts before him, he thought a proper inference to draw was that the deceased went into the place while he was not sober and fell down the shaft by accident. He recorded a verdict accordingly.

Taunton Courier & Western Advertiser - April 4th 1923

270 feet fall down pit shaft

George King, 45, colliery fireman of Osgathorpe, Leics, was killed by falling 270 feet down a pit shaft at Coleorton colliery.

Nottingham Evening Post - June 6th 1929

A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned at an inquest at Coleorton yesterday on Charles Henry Watson, an onsetter, 50 of Newhall, who was killed through falling down a shaft at a colliery. It was stated that Watson was putting empty tubs on a cage when an engineman saw him disappear down the shaft hanging onto a tub, the cage being at the bottom??

Gloucester Citizen - September 29th 1936

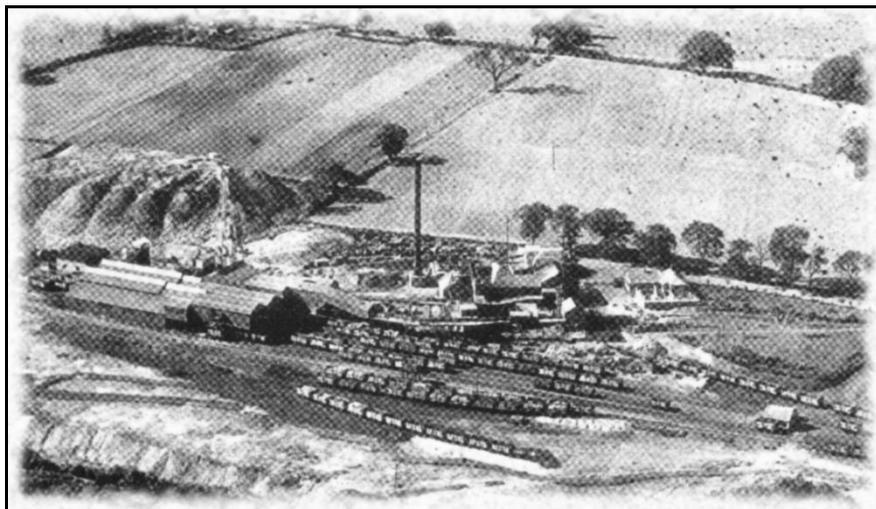
Mine accident charge

Anonymous letters to the mines dept, were stated at Ashby de la Zouch police court to have led to an enquiry into an alleged accident in a mine

The Leicestershire Colliery and Pipe Company Ltd of Coleorton was charged with failing to send to the inspector of mines notice of an accident in the mine, and James Johnson of East Lothian, a former manager of the mine was similarly charged. Mr John R Felton, inspector of mines was the complainant. Both company and Mr. Johnson pleaded not guilty. The prosecution alleged that gases escaped from the mine, and that when a man named Ottey was seriously burned, the accident was not reported. It was stated for the defence, that an acetylene lamp carried by Ottey was damaged, and as a result the man received injuries. The company was fined £5 and Johnson £5.

PART 2

NEW LOUNT COLLIERY 1924 - 1968



Photograph probably taken c.1930,
based on the size of the coal tip.



Coal tip shown in distance in 1947 from Stoney Lane, Coleorton
They were known as Sabrina Pass for obvious reasons



Pit Head Baths Check pre 1947



Pay Check



New Lount Colliery was known locally as “Clash”, apparently this came from the fact that it was a very busy and productive colliery with many different projects undertaken, resulting in clashing of these taking place sometimes.

Little in the way of records for fatalities at New Lount Colliery seem to be available, but what we have found to date are listed below. The following report taken from Hansard Feb 4th 1929 confirms **3 deaths in 1929**, but with no names appended :-

Mr. Kelly asked the Secretary for Mines whether his attention had been called to the accidents involving loss of life and serious injury which have recently occurred at the New Lount Colliery of the Leicestershire Colliery and Pipe Co., Ltd; has he made any investigation into this matter; and is he satisfied that reasonable precautions have been taken to prevent these accidents?

Commodore King - I assume that the hon. member refers to the New Lount Colliery, Newbold. During the last 10 months, five accidents involving three deaths and injuries to three persons have been reported from this

colliery. Each of these accidents has been investigated, and there is nothing to indicate that any of them was due to negligence on the part of the management. In so far as the accidents appear to have been avoidable, precautions have been taken to prevent recurrence.

Joseph Robinson

Age: 52
Date: Dec 2nd 1935
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Leicestershire Colliery & Pipe Company, Ashby
District: East Midlands
Reason for fatality: On Dec 2nd 1935, Joseph, of Bauble Yard, Thringstone reported to his deputy an injury on his right hand, which had been cut by a stone. He worked a few shifts afterwards, but when he visited his doctor, he was ordered to Loughborough Hospital as septic problems had developed. He eventually died of blood poisoning originating from a septic hand. An inquest was held at Loughborough and he was buried on May 29th 1936.

Edward Marshall

Age: 41
Date: Buried on Nov 13th 1941
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Leicestershire Colliery & Pipe Company, Ashby
District: East Midlands
Reason for fatality: Edward had just got a catch prop into position, when a large stone weighing about a ton came from the roof and struck him on the head. He left a wife.

James Henry Cowell Liquorish

Age: 36
Date: Nov 13th 1941
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Leicestershire Colliery & Pipe Company, Ashby
District: East Midlands
Reason for fatality: Responding to his countries call for more men to increase the coal output, he was killed by a fall of a large stone only 3 weeks after he had returned to work in the pits. He left a wife and family.

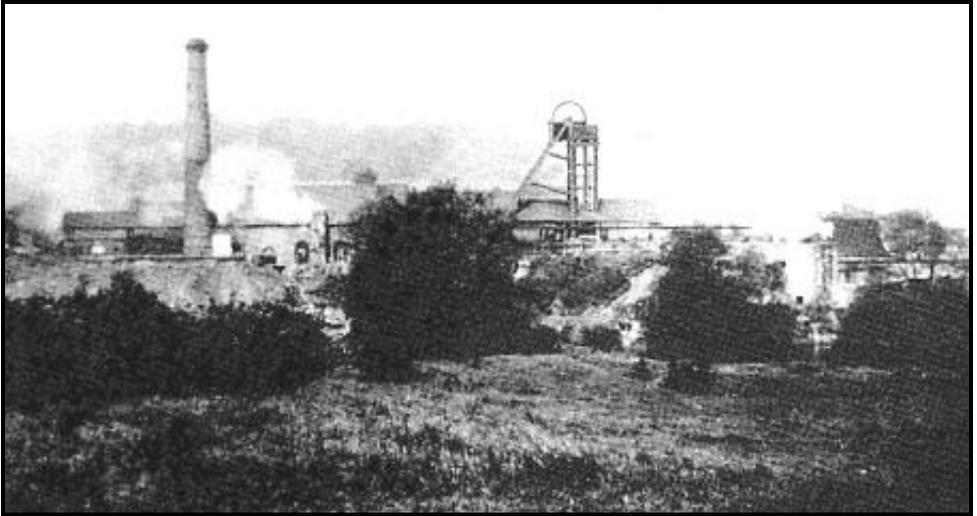
Andrew Law Ford

Age: 41
Date: October 1953
Occupation: Undermanager
Colliery operated by: Leicestershire Colliery & Pipe Company, Ashby
District: East Midlands
Reason for fatality: Accident caused by fall of stone. Mr and Mrs Ford had come down from Scotland and were settling down when this calamity happened. He was cremated at Leicester. The inquest also took place at Leicester.

William Eaton

Age: 46
Date: March 22nd 1955
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Leicestershire Colliery & Pipe Company, Ashby
District: East Midlands
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

COLEORTON NO.3. COLLIERY (BUG & WINK) 1875 - 1933



Bug and Wink 1875 - 1933



Two Coleorton coal miners

John Ward

Age: 19
Date: Jan 19th 1878
Occupation: Holer
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Williams
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of coals whilst wedging them down.

William Horne

Age: 20
Date: Feb 5th 1881
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof whilst loading coal (**see Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report**)

Frederick Curtis

Age: 20
Date: June 22nd 1889
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Had left his work, and with other boys went to bathe in the colliery reservoir and was drowned.

Benjamin William Johnson

Age: 14
Date: Jan 18th 1890
Occupation: Bank Lad
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: The boy had dropped his pick from the bank on the railway rails. He went to fetch the pick and crushed thumb between two railway wagons and subsequently died from Lock-Jaw

Frederick Allen Philips

Age: 22
Date: March 31st 1890
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof. He stood too near some coals whilst watching the stall man get them down. The coals knocked out a prop which was supporting the roof, and

the roof fell upon the deceased.

Harold Fern

Age: 21
Date: Jan 15th 1891
Occupation: Driver
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Whilst coupling two full tubs, the pony started, and the deceased was crushed between the full tub and the roof of the roadway. Harold Fern died on Jan 16th at 1.55 am.

Jim Robinson

Age: 13
Date: May 24th 1895
Occupation: Incline Boy
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: The deceased was attempting to ride on a set of fall trams upon an inclined roadway and fell in front of the train. He was breaking the rules of the mine. He died the same day. **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report).**

Joseph Springthorpe

Age: 27
Date: June 14th 1897
Occupation: Stallman
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof. Deceased was using a bar to pull coal from the face and when the coal fell, a portion of the roof came down and killed him instantly.
(see part 1 for Coroner's inquest report)

John Edwards

Age: 44
Date: June 13th 1898
Occupation: Roadsman
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: A set of 4 full tubs broke away from the endless rope going up an incline and running back struck the deceased who was working on the roadway. He died next day. **See Coroner's inquest report in Part 1.**

John Marsden

Age: 71
Date: Feb 3rd 1899
Occupation: Stallman
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: The deceased expired at home three weeks after receiving a slight injury in the mine. An inquest was held, when the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, as proved by a post mortem. **(see Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report).**

George Otter

Age: ?
Date: March 19th 1905
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Run over by tubs on March 11th 1905

William Rossell

Age: 19
Date: May 2nd 1910
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: On May 2nd 1910, William came home from his shift at the colliery, and said that he had caught his arm between a coal tub and the coal Face, causing a scratch about three quarters of an inch long. He reported the accident, and was advised to see a doctor. On May 20th, his leg began to swell, and he was unable to walk. He gradually got worse, and was removed to the Leicester Infirmary, where he died on June 5th after having an operation. An inquest was held at the Leicester Infirmary, and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death caused by blood poisoning, following infectious wounds to the right arm.

Charles Marshall

Age: 23
Date: Dec 11th 1910
Occupation: Shifter
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report).**

David Gardiner

Age: 51
Date: Dec 29th 1910
Occupation: Inclinemane
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: The deceased and a lad were taking a set of 11 empty tubs, clipped fore and aft, inbye along a haulage road dipping 1 in 14. The cause of the accident was not definitely ascertained, but from the position in which the deceased was found, relative to those of his lamp and cap, it appeared probable that he had been riding on, or between the empty tubs, and that his head came in contact with a low portion of the roof, causing him to loose his cap and lamp, and that in endeavoring to reach the signal wire to stop the set, he was caught and knocked down by the out coming loaded set which ran upon him, became derailed, and caught the empty set. Deceased was killed, and the lad who accompanied him, was severely injured. Riding on the tubs was forbidden.

Thomas Lord

Age: 32
Date: Aug 19th 1911
Occupation: Stallman
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: **See Part 1 for Coroner's inquest and full details
Thomas was the brother of Nathan Lord; details of
his death follow**



Thomas Lord

Fatality at Coleorton Colliery

THE funeral took place at Coleorton on Saturday afternoon of Mr Thomas Lord, the unfortunate young man who was killed in the Coleorton Colliery on the previous Tuesday.

The sad event had aroused much public sympathy, deceased being so well-known, and a large number of people attended the funeral as a last mark of respect.

The service was conducted by the Rector the Rev Harold Robinson, the first portion being in the parish church, and at the close, the hymn

"Thy will be done" was sung. The chief mourners were deceased wife, daughter and two sons. Mrs James Lord (mother), Mr and Mrs Barkby (father in law and mother in law), Mr James Lord (brother) and Mrs Lord, Mr John Lord (brother), Mr Nathan Lord (brother) and Mrs Lord, Mrs Harding, of Leicester, Mrs M a t c h e t t , Elizabeth, Florence and Maria (sisters), Mr T Matchett, Mrs S Shakespear, of Shirebrook, E Barkby (sister in law) and other relatives.

Nathan Lord

Age:

30

Date:

April 25th 1912

Occupation:

Stallman

Colliery operated by:

Checkland & Co

District:

Ashby de la Zouch, Leics

Reason for fatality:

The deceased was travelling along the endless rope haulage road to work, and, when nearing the end of it, a large stone displaced a stretcher and it fell upon him from a height of 7 feet, and killed him. The rail track had been lifted several feet so that the roadway was in solid stone. Some coal was being worked some distance away, and there was a slight movement in the strata. **Nathan was the brother of Thomas Lord.**

James Bailey

Age: 50
Date: Nov 15th 1917
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: A roof fall caused a compound fracture of the skull, 2 broken ribs, and a compound fracture of the left thigh. He left a wife Ellen and 7 children. The inquest was held at the home of Police Constable Jones in Thringstone.

Samuel Matchett

Age: ?
Date: Dec 18th 1918
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: ?

Samuel Robert Fretsome

Age: 21
Date: January 1919
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Checkland and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed on pit railway line **(see Part 1 for details)**

George King

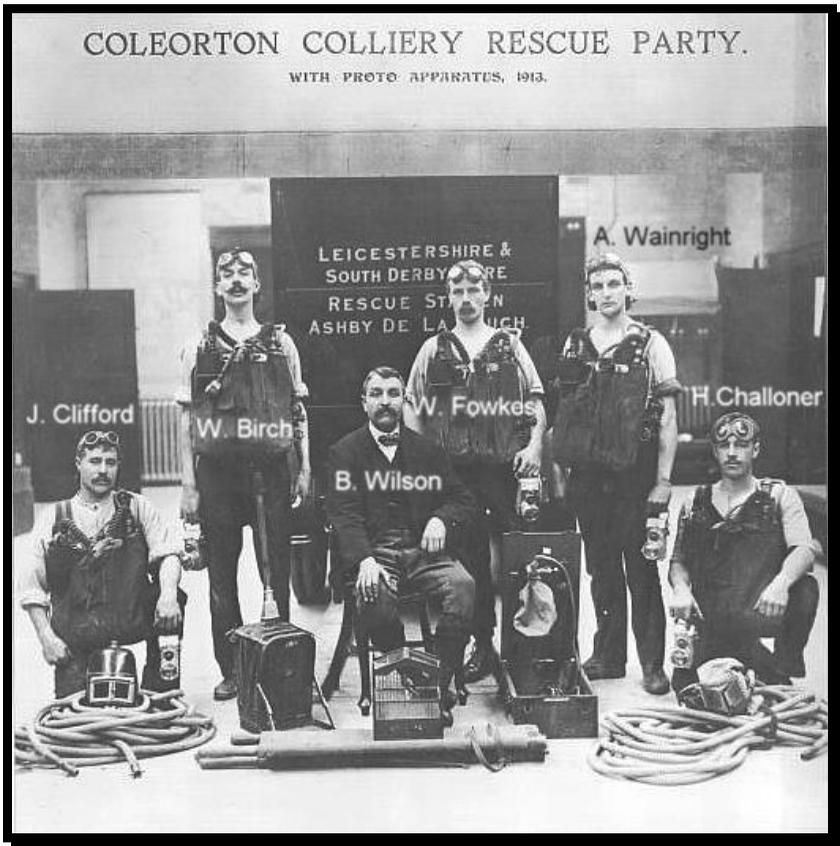
Age: 45
Date: March 1923
Occupation: Colliery fireman
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fell down shaft **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report)**.

Charles Henry Watson

Age: 50
Date: June 1929
Occupation: Onsetter
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fell down shaft **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report)**.

Samuel Walker

Age: ?
Date: May 15th 1930
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Crushed by tubs



Coleorton Colliery Rescue Party 1913

COLEORTON NO.1. COLLIERY (CALIFORNIA) 1849 - 1873

Edwin Jessop

Age: c.15
Date: August 1851
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Falling down the shaft (**see report in Part 1**)

James Thompson

Age: c.15
Date: August 1851
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Falling down the shaft (**see report in Part 1**)

John Williams

Age: A Boy
Date: Oct 19th 1851
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of coal in shaft

John Mason

Age: ?
Date: March 30th 1852
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

Joseph Horne

Age: Boy
Date: Jan 28th (20th ?) 1853
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fell down shaft - Appeared in Charles Morton's, mines inspection report.

John Lakin

Age: ? A Boy
Date: Dec 3rd 1853
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Blow from the handle of the windlass - appeared in Charles Morton's, mines inspection report.

Robert Lakin

Age: 14
Date: April 12th 1854
Occupation: Driver of tubs to shaft bottom
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof (**See part 1 for Coroner's inquest Report**)

? Matchett

Age: 32
Date: April 12th 1854
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof (**See part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report**).

Thomas Jeffcote

Age: ?
Date: May 21st 1855
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Falling down the shaft

Thomas Saddington

Age: 60
Date: Jan 30th 1867
Occupation: Horsekeeper
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Crushed by cage in shaft (**See Coroner's inquest report in Part 1**).

Herbert King

Age: 28
Date: July 21st 1869
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worswick & Walker

District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: **Full Coroner's inquest report and details of accident in Part 1.**

William Cooper

Age: 25
Date: April 6th 1869
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: William Worsick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Run over, tub upset (**See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report**).

<p style="text-align: center;">COLEORTON NO.2. COLLIERY (CALIFAT) 1855 - 1873 (ALSO KNOWN AS ALABAMA OR WINDMILL PIT)</p>
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John Hutchinson

Age: 28
Date: May 30th 1863
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: William Worswick ?
District: Ashby-De-La-Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: John Hutchinson fell down the shaft of the pit, which was 130 yards in depth. The Saturday, June 6th edition of the "Ashby News" reported that "nearly every bone in his body was broken". The inquest into the accident was held at the Fox Inn, Thringstone indicating that Mr. Hutchinson was from the village of Thringstone. He had been married for 15 months and had buried his only child a few weeks previously.

Henry Clements

Age: 16
Date: Oct 8th 1863
Occupation: Pony Driver
Colliery operated by: William Worswick ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Harry Clements, Thomas Bird and J.Rose were killed, when water broke in from the former Limby Hall mine.

Thomas Bird

Age: 41
Date: Oct 8th 1863
Occupation: Deputy
Colliery operated by: William Worswick ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Thomas Bird was killed, when water broke in from the former Limby Hall mine. Thomas Bird left his wife and their 10 children destitute overnight.

Jeremiah Rose

Age: 40
Date: Oct 8th 1863
Occupation: Carpenter
Colliery operated by: William Worswick ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Jeremiah Rose was killed, when water broke in from the former Limby Hall mine.

In 1858, the mines inspector, John Hedley, advised W. Walker (operator/ owner) to drain the water from old workings, so as to work Califat towards Limby Hall. In 1863, William Walker had retired, and passed the plans for Califat onto Bailey. Both he and his assistant Lewis, were aware that a heading was approaching old workings in the region of Limby Hall. Water suddenly appeared in a stall, but they were not particularly concerned, but arranged for the coal face to be attended to, but unfortunately, an old heading 37 yards from an old engine pit was breached, and there was an inrush drowning out the workings. Henry Clements, Thomas Bird, and Jeremiah Rose who are listed above, were all killed. 29 horses were also killed. Bailey was subsequently prosecuted by the mines inspector for negligence, in failing to consult plans for old workings.

George Lawrence

Age: 40
Date: Oct 27th 1870
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof rock **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report)**

Thomas Coulson

Age: 40
Date: Oct 26th 1864
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof rock (**See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report**)

PEGGS GREEN COLLIERY 1830 - 1859

The London Gazette, Jan 10th 1860

Notice is hereby given, that the partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, Thomas Bostock, John Price, William Kidger, John Knight, Benjamin Walker, and William Worswick, under the style or firm of **Bostock, Price and Co.**, and sometimes called the **Peggs Green Colliery Company**, or under any other style or firm whatever, has been this day dissolved by mutual consent - dated the third day of December 1859.

John Waldram

Age: ?
Date: Aug 12th 1853
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Bostock and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof.

Jarvis Marshall

Age: ?
Date: Aug 23th 1853
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Bostock and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of stone from roof (**See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report**)

Frederick Barkby

Age: ?
Date: Nov 2nd 1854
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Price and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof.

Samuel Burrows

Age: 24/25
Date: Jan 31st 1838
Occupation: Coal miner
Colliery operated by: Bostock and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Large stone fell from roof **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report)**

John Birch

Age: 19
Date: Sep 22nd 1838
Occupation: Coal miner
Colliery operated by: Bostock and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Death from gunpowder explosion **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report)**

William Smith

Age: 35
Date: March 9th 1844 approx
Occupation: Coal miner
Colliery operated by: Bostock and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Died following fall of coal **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report)**

John Hutchinson

Age: 20
Date: April 1st 1845
Occupation: Coal miner
Colliery operated by: Bostock and Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Large stone fell from roof **(See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report)**

SWANNINGTON NO.3. COLLIERY (CLINK) 1863 - 1877

James Smith

Age: 46
Date: 28.08. 1865
Occupation: Sinker
Colliery operated by: W. Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Explosion during shot-firing (**see part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report**).

John Halfpenny

Age: 60
Date: April 1868
Occupation: Bankman
Colliery operated by: W.Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fell off coal wagon (**see report in Part 1**).

Thomas Bird

Age: 28
Date: 05.8.1869
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: W.Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof.

Frederick Whitaker

Age: 32
Date: January 1869
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: W.Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Crushed by fall of stone (**See Part for Coroner's Inquest report**)

Richard Cousins

Age: 34
Date: 05.04.1870.
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: W.Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Piece of coal fell down shaft.

**STAUNTON COLLIERY NEWBOLD 1885 - c.1910
(ALSO KNOWN AS WORTHINGTON CLASH AND
NEWBOLD GLORY)**

John Lakin

Age: 59
Date: Oct 6th 1886
Occupation: Owner
Colliery operated by: John Lakin
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Choke Damp **(See Part for Coroner's Inquest report)**

William Lakin

Age: 35
Date: Oct 6th 1886
Occupation: Deputy / underviewer
Colliery operated by: John Lakin
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Choke Damp **(See Part for Coroner's Inquest report)**

George Lakin

Age: 30
Date: Oct 6th 1886
Occupation: Deputy
Colliery operated by: John Lakin
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Choke Damp **(See Part for Coroner's Inquest report)**

John Stewart

Age: 14
Date: Oct 6th 1886
Occupation: Pony Driver
Colliery operated by: John Lakin
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Choke Damp **(See Part for Coroner's Inquest report)**

On Oct 6th 1886, an accident occurred at Staunton Harold Colliery because of a combination of “a complete lack of practical knowledge” and “disregard for all rules and regulations” by the management, when re-opening old workings, with the result that four persons – including John Lakin, owner (aged 60) and his two sons William (aged 30) and George (aged 35), plus a pony driver named John Stewart (aged 14), who were all overcome by “choke-damp”. The ventilation system was deficient in every respect, and all the necessary precautions required, such as making adequate bore holes, were neglected. The Lakins are all buried, along with their mother and wife in the Wesleyan Methodist Cemetery, Griffydham.

See Part 1 for the complete coroner’s inquest reports.

Joseph Stinson

Age: 36
Date: Feb 6th 1890
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: William Richards & Elizabeth Lakin ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof, shaft bottom.

William Stenson

Age: 63
Date: May 28th 1891
Occupation: Holer
Colliery operated by: William Richards & Elizabeth Lakin ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: A sudden and heavy weight coming on the stall, the deceased crept under the coal for safety. The holing sprags gave way and the coal crushed deceased to death. 10.30 a.m.

Joseph Bradley

Age: 48
Date: 25.02.1892
Occupation: Detailer
Colliery operated by: Staunton Colliery Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Premature firing of a shot. Deceased was using a “German”, and appears to have lighted the end of the German instead of the match ??

**SWANNINGTON NO.2. COLLIERY (SINOPE)
1861 - 1902**

John Bacon, George Stanley, Henry Smith.

Age: Bacon36, Stanley34, Smith 21.
Date: 30.11.1861
Occupation: Carpenters
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Falling down shaft from scaffold near surface **(See report in part 1)**

Soloman Siddons

Age: 29
Date: 23.04.1868
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

Henry Upton

Age: 15
Date: 10.2.1893
Occupation: Horse Driver
Colliery operated by: Cox and Turner
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Was taking pony with one full tub and must have been driving furiously, as when he got to a turning road the tub got off the metals and knocked some timber out which liberated the roof and fell upon him.

William Varnam

Age: 34
Date: August 1896
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: Swannington Colliery Company.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof **(See Part for Coroner's Inquest report)**

<p style="text-align: center;">HEATH END COLLIERY c.1835 - 1881</p>

William Bird & James Bird

Age: 39 and 13
Date: January 1840
Occupation: Miners
Colliery operated by:
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason: Buried by collapsed scaffolding and rubbish (**see Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report**). **Conflicting newspaper reports give William and James as father and son and uncle and nephew respectively. The author believes they were in fact Uncle and Nephew.**

Thomas Toon

Age: 30
Date: Sept 15th 1877
Occupation: Stallman
Colliery operated by: John Lancaster & Co
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Explosion of powder whilst charging a hole

William Mear

Age: 27
Date: Oct 3rd 1877
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: John Lancaster & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of coal whilst holing. Coal broke over sprags.

Joseph Hewitt

Age: 24
Date: Feb 10th 1880
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: John Lancaster & Co.
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof in stall

MISCELLANEOUS FATALITIES

Edward Wedge

Age: ?
Date: 1782
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in pit at Coleorton

S. Price

Age: ?
Date: 1822
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Beaumont
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in Beaumont pit at Coleorton

Thomas Carter

Age: ?
Date: 1822
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Beaumont
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in one of Beaumont pits

Henry Watson

Age: ?
Date: 20.01.1853
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Walker & Co. at Coleorton
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Falling down shaft

John Gilbert

Age: ?
Date: 05.09.1854.
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Thomas Houldsworth at Swannington
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

S. Stinson

Age: 32
Date: 02.03.1857
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: William Worswick at Swannington
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

James Sisson

Age: A Lad
Date: May 1857
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Head hit between descending cage and tub **(See part 1 for Coroner's Inquest Report)**

William Halfpenny

Age: ?
Date: 1860
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by:
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed on incline railway at Swannington. He was deaf and dumb **(see Part 1 for coroner's inquest report)**

J.Haywood

Age: 28
Date: 20.09.1860
Occupation: Driver
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed by fall of roof at Swannington

N.Whyman

Age: 30
Date: June 18th 1861
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

L. Fowkes

Age: 12
Date: 22.07.1862
Occupation: Trammer
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Struck on head when riding on a tram

T. Webster

Age: 33
Date: Nov 2nd 1862
Occupation: Miner
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

Thomas Mc Cauley

Age: 13
Date: 24.06.1864
Occupation: Driver
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in Swannington pit by explosion of gunpowder.

Thomas Poole

Age: 32
Date: 28.08.1864.
Occupation: Labourer
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed at Smoile Colliery, Lount

John Newbold

Age: ?
Date: 23.10.1864
Occupation: Loader
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in Swannington pit

Thomas Green

Age: 15
Date: July 1865
Occupation: Banksman
Colliery operated by: Walker and Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Seriously injured by coal wagon at Lount Colliery (opposite Smoile at Lount). He was conveyed to Leicester hospital where he was not expected to live (**see report in Part 1**)

William Foster

Age: 40
Date: 20.02.1868
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

John Halfpenny

Age: 31
Date: 15.04.1868
Occupation:
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fatal accident happened at Swannington No.4. pit (have no record of a Swannington No.4 pit)

Martin Mathew

Age: 29
Date: 19.06.1868
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in Swannington pit by fall of stone from roof

William Siddons

Age: 16
Date: 10.09.1869
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Kicked by horse at a Swannington pit

Frederick Johnson

Age: 14
Date: 25.11.1869
Occupation: Labourer
Colliery operated by: ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed at Swannington pit when he fell into flywheel when

Thomas Webster

Age: 38
Date: 21.01.1871.
Occupation: Driver
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in Swannington pit by explosion of gunpowder

William King

Age: 33
Date: Feb 7th 1872
Occupation: Collier
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof - insufficiently timbered

William Leyburn

Age: 47
Date: July 13th 1872
Occupation: Stonegetter
Colliery operated by: Messrs Worsick & Walker
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fall of roof

Mr. Main

Age: ?
Date: 1872
Occupation:
Colliery operated by:
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed by roof fall at Coleorton

Charles Hall

Age: 13
Date: Nov 20th 1872
Occupation: Driver
Colliery operated by: Checkland & Co.????
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Knocked down by a horse and run over

Isaac Bonser

Age: 15
Date: 20.11.1873.
Occupation: Driver
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in a Swannington pit by fall of roof

William Fairbrother

Age: 11
Date: No date given
Occupation:
Colliery operated by:
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Killed in Coleorton pit by being hit by coal falling down shaft off loaded tub (**see part for coroner's inquest report**)

Fred Heywood

Age: 40
Date: ?
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: William Worswick
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Fell down shaft at Swannington pit.

Joseph Mugglestone

Age: ?
Date: Oct 6th 1860
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: Swannington Colliery ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Stone falling from roof (**See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report**)

John Newbold

Age: ?
Date: Oct 26th 1864
Occupation: ?
Colliery operated by: No.1. Swannington Pit ?
District: Ashby de la Zouch, Leics
Reason for fatality: Large stone falling from roof (**See Part 1 for Coroner's Inquest report**)