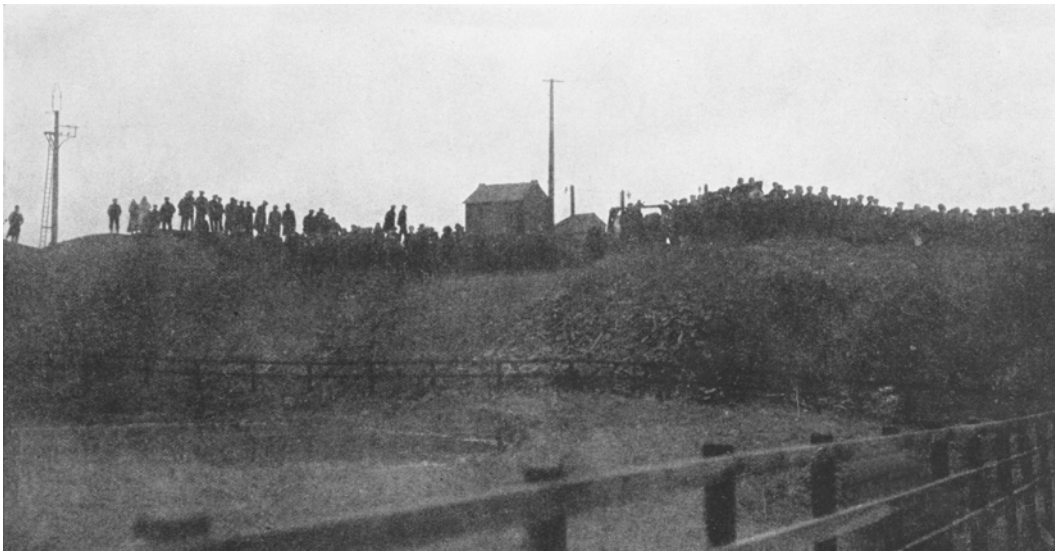
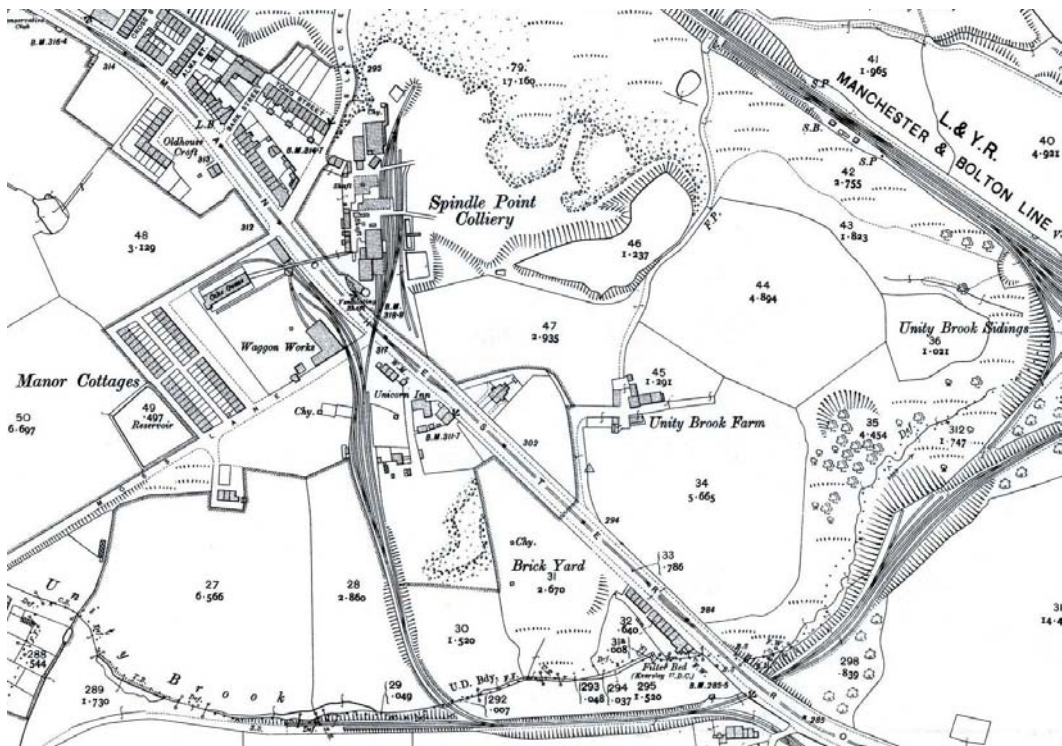


The Kersley Mines



A colliery immediately following a disaster, with family, relatives and friends anxiously looking on from the embankment. Hulton No.3 Pretoria Pit, Westhoughton, near Farnworth



Spindle Point Colliery is at the top centre of the map. Unity Brook Colliery would have been at the bottom left. At the time of this map (1907) the workings had been removed. Also shown on the upper-left is Old House Croft with Alma Street slightly to the north on the other side of Manchester Road. The Unicorn Inn on the opposite side of the road to Spindle Point (directly below on the map) was where the first sitting of the inquest took place. The Antelope pub is beside the road, just off the map at the top left.

Throughout most of the nineteenth century, the Wolstenholmes and their next-of-kin, the Howarths and the Harrisons, depended on coalmining for the male wage. They lived within a few minutes walk of their workplaces. Old House Croft, the centre of their lives for at least sixty years, was 200 yards from Spindle Point Colliery. Unity Brook Colliery was just half a mile away. Generally speaking the Wolstenholmes worked 'Below', either as hewers at the coalface or as maintenance men, though some spent short spells above ground. In 1841 the sons of William Wolstenholme, James (14) and Joseph (8) were working as miners. Ten years later Joseph (now 18), Thomas (14) and William (11) were waggoners. The map shows the Waggon Works just below Spindle Point Colliery.

We cannot know how the Wolstenholmes felt about the mining life though we can tentatively imagine the outlines of their lives. The censuses carried out every ten years from 1841 to 1901 tell us that almost all their neighbours were miners; everyday talk must have involved discussing the mines in one way or another. Work in the mine was undoubtedly arduous and so leisure must have been very important to the men. Interestingly the newspaper report of the Unity Brook Colliery disaster mentions two pubs, the Antelope and the Unicorn. The latter is shown on the map very close to Spindle Point; the former is indicated as a point of reference by another Robert Wolstenholme (probably the son of



William Wolstenholme and brother to the Thomas killed in the mine) describing where he lived. It is easy to imagine the men flowing into the pubs after work; hard to imagine what the men were really like and the things they talked about.

The Wolstenholme families appear to have been very close knit with a strong sense of social responsibility. They frequently took in relatives, particularly younger kin or those in need. This happened in the case of the Howarths, siblings to Mary Ann who had married Thomas Wolstenholme. In 1871 two of Mary Ann's brothers, Robert (18) and James (14) were staying with the Wolstenholme family. Both had secured work in the mines. A decade later James was still living with his in-laws (his brother had moved out), but had married and brought a young woman, Prisella, into the home. A further Howarth sister, Ellen (19), had joined them and was working as a cotton weaver. James, Prisella and Ellen are named in *The Pilgrim's Progress*; they were clearly seen as family.

In later years the bereaved Ann Wolstenholme (wife to William who died in 1874) shared her small home in the little row of houses that formed Old House Croft with her bereaved daughter Ann Harrison (who lost her husband John in the Unity Brook Colliery disaster), along with Ann's children, and one of her own daughters, Mary, who remained single. In all these cases, the Wolstenholmes (men, or women in their absence) are named as household heads in the census.



Mining work was dangerous. The Harrison family, which married into the Wolstenholme family, lost several men to mining accidents. The records show that a Peter Harrison, who we believe was married to Sarah Harrison, was killed in 1847 at Spindle Point Colliery due to an explosion of gas. Their son John, who had married Alice Ann Wolstenholme's sister, was killed in the Unity Brook explosion in 1878. One of John's brothers, Joseph, had a son also called John. He was 16 years old in 1897 and working at Spindle Point. A lad in control of lowering the tubs lost control of them and as a consequence John was crushed to death. His brother Samuel was killed in 1909 at Spindle Point due to the roof collapsing.

Thomas, the grandfather of our Thomas, lost his father William to a mining accident at Spindle Point in 1874, and he was himself to die four years later in a massive explosion at the Unity Brook Colliery. The records show that Thomas had tried his hand as a greengrocer probably due to the increasing toll on his physical health of mining. He had worked just two weeks at Unity Brook when he was killed. The Bolton Chronicle describes the events of 12th March, 1878. Extracts from the paper are reproduced here¹.



¹ At several points we have had to guess the words; these points are not marked to ensure ease of reading. In cases where it was impossible to decipher a word a hyphen has been used.

According to the Bolton Chronicle the womenfolk of men killed in the Unity Brook Colliery disaster reported repeatedly that the deceased had *'liked their work very well'*. The men had evidently discussed safety issues with their wives; several of the men killed had told their wives that the mine was *'as safe as being in a house'*. It is possible that the women spoke positively in order not to jeopardize any relief monies; that is, they knew their place. However, it would seem that the consensus was that this was a safe mine, though some of the miners at the inquest said they had been concerned about the roofing.

THE BOLTON CHRONICLE, SATURDAY, MARCH 16 1878.

**APPALLING
COLLIERY EXPLOSION
AT KERSLEY**

FORTY-THREE LIVES LOST

It is with regret that we have today to record the particulars of the most appalling colliery explosion which has ever occurred in this district. The scene of the disaster, which took place soon after one o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, was at Messrs. J. F. Scott and Co's, Unity Brook Colliery, Kersley, and not less than forty-three lives have been sacrificed. The accidents in January and February of last year at the Stonehill Colliery, Farnworth, and at Fogg's Pit, Darcy Lever, resulted altogether in the loss of 28 lives. Although by the explosion on Tuesday more lives were sacrificed, yet it was unaccompanied by one distressing feature of last year's disasters – the pit did not catch fire, and therefore there was from the first a probability of earlier recovery of the bodies.

The colliery which is a comparatively new one, having only been worked for between nine and ten years, is situated almost adjoining the extensive collieries of the Clifton and Kersley Colliery Company, and about 300 hundred yards from the high road between Bolton and Manchester. During the principal portion of the time that the pit has been working the Trencherbone Mine, which lies at a depth of 340 yards below the surface, has been worked, and it was only about - months since that the shaft was between 60 and - yards deeper to the Cannel Mine, in which the explosion has occurred. This pit was looked upon as being safe. Gas had never been seen in the workings, the ventilation was perfect, and as there had never been any indications from the use of naked lights, they had constantly been used.

Only nine days before the explosion Mr. Dickenson, her Majesty's Inspector of Mines for this district, visited the pit, and found its condition in every way satisfactory. It had been customary for James Holt, the fireman and underlooker, to make two examinations of the workings each day, the first being in the morning before any miners went down, and the second one at noon. He examined the workings on Tuesday morning and again while the men were at dinner, and on each occasion found them apparently right.

There had been two windings up the shaft after the men had recommenced work, and then an extremely loud report was heard over a radius of fully one-quarter of a mile, followed by the emission from the pit shaft of a dense volume of smoke, which completely hid from view the head gearing above. It was only too apparent that a fearful explosion had occurred below. When the smoke and dust had cleared away, it was found that the cage ropes had been broken, and that one of the cages had fallen down the shaft, whilst several of the iron plates which covered the pit bank had been blown up and fragments hurled in various directions, some of them falling upon the roof of a cabin and breaking through the slates. In a minute or two afterwards Thomas Worrall, the bankman, was found lying unconscious a short distance from the shaft having been blown from his post through the upheaval of the iron plate upon which he had been standing. He was removed home, where it was found that he had sustained very severe injuries.

A boy named William Has(-) employed to wheel the trucks to and from the pit shaft was also discovered upon the ground. He had been thrown some distance, and several of his teeth

had been knocked out. It is almost needless to say that a dense crowd soon collected at the bottom of the pit bank, many of them being wives, near relatives, and friends of the men below. It was known that about 70 men and boys were in the pit, and vigorous efforts were constantly made to attach a hoppet or iron tub to a rope across one of the pulleys for the purpose of making a descent. The empty hoppet was first lowered as far as the Trencherbone mouthing, and on being drawn up again it was found to contain two men and a boy, named respectively William Morris of Little Lever, Adam Davenport of Kersley, and William Barrett, of Ringley. They were suffering from after-damp, and were attended by Mr. Alfred Kershaw, surgeon, Farnworth, and Mr. Eames, jun., surgeon, whose services been called into requisition by a mounted messenger. Holt the fireman, and one or two others, then descended for the purpose of exploring the workings.

They learned that the report of the explosion had been heard in the Trencherbone Mine, and that the men working there had immediately hastened towards the "mouthing." As they approached it, many of them were overcome by the after-damp which rose from the Cannel mine below, and fell to the ground insensible. These were at once carried to the pit shaft, placed in the hoppet, and wound up. Again and again the hoppet was lowered, until at five o'clock all the men and boys, except one young man, had been recovered from the Trencherbone workings. They numbered altogether 21, and nearly all of them, suffering more or less from after-damp, had to be removed to their homes in carts. Henry Johnson, a son of the manager, had a very narrow escape of his life. According to his statement he was standing at the time of the explosion at the mouth of the Trencherbone mine talking to Thomas Hilton, a hooker-on, and he remembers nothing after the catastrophe until he found himself at home.

As soon as possible after the release of the men in the Trencherbone Pit, attention was directed to the removal of the obstruction which prevented access to the Cannel Mine, and which was caused by the fall of the cage and other lumbers down the shaft. This was a work of considerable difficulty and danger, owing to the destruction of the signalling apparatus, and was not accomplished until close to six o'clock. Nearly half an hour afterwards, Holt and his gallant band of explorers succeeded in recovering the first body – that of the young man Thomas Hilton, aged 19 years, who was employed, as already stated, as a hooker-on at the entrance to the Trencherbone Mine. He had apparently been "sucked" out of the mouthing into the shaft and had fallen to the bottom. One of his shoulders was dislocated, and he had sustained other dreadful injuries, his head being much swollen. His body was sent to the surface and placed in an outhouse near the pit bank. Holt on coming to the surface again, reported that he and his party had penetrated the tunnel which was fifteen yards in length, and had found the air pretty good. An exploring party was formed for the purpose of examining the Cannel Mine. It consisted of Mr Dickinson, Government Inspector, who had been telegraphed for; Mr J Grimshaw of the Stand Lane Colliery, Radcliffe; Mr Woodman of the Clifton and Kersley Colliery; and Holt the underlooker, they found that they could not penetrate into the workings for more than 16 yards owing to the bad state of the air. In order to remedy this a furnace was lighted at the foot of the up-cast shaft, and this had the effect of making the air comparatively clear, so much so that the party were enabled to go into the workings. When they had been down about an hour and a half, without having made any signal to be wound up, great anxiety about their safety was manifested by Mr Stott, one of the principals in the firm and other gentlemen, and an engineer was ordered to wind up. He did so but when the hoppet reached the surface it was found to contain nothing but an extinguished safety lamp. At first it was thought that the lamp had been put out by the gas or

foul air, but on examination it was found to have been put out by the action of the air in the winding up.

If possible, still worse fears were entertained as to the safety of Mr Dickinson and his gallant companions, and Mr Martin, deputy Government Inspector, Mr Johnson, the manager and two other men at once got into the hoppet and were lowered into the Trencherbone mouthing. It should be here stated that Mr Johnson was at Wigan at the time of the explosion, and only heard of the catastrophe whilst in a tradesman's shop in Farnworth on his return home, and could scarcely credit the fact until he was shown the report in that afternoon's Daily Chronicle.

This exploring party did not send up any - but soon after eight o'clock a signal was heard to wind up, and when the hoppet reached the surface it was found to contain Mr Dickinson and the other members of this exploring party, apparently all right but very cold, dirty and wet. Mr Dickinson and his companions were heartily congratulated upon their safe return to the surface and then anxious questions were put to them. Mr Dickinson communicated to Mr Stott the sad intelligence that they had been through all the workings which they could possibly enter, that they had seen 16 dead bodies and that no hopes could be entertained for the safety of the others. They added that the air in some parts were tolerably good, but that in other parts it was highly charged with after-damp. They said that they had shouted into some of the workings, which they did not seem prudent to enter, and that the only reply they heard was the echo from their own voices.

The sad news rapidly spread among the dense and anxious crowd which stood in front of the pit bank shivering from the effects of a cold piercing north wind, but who nevertheless manifested a quiet demeanour and earnestly discussed each item of information which reached them. Many of the crowd remained until about midnight, and were only induced to return home when they found there was no likelihood of any of the dead being brought to the surface until the following day. Every assistance possible was rendered by scientific gentlemen from other pits, who hastened to the scene immediately after the report of the catastrophe reached them, one of the principals of the Clifton and Kersley Colliery Co: Mr Wallwork and Mr Bowker, from the Bridgewater Trustees Collieries: Mr Horrocks, of Messrs A Knowles and Co's pit, Pendlebury: Mr Drimham of the Outwood Colliery; and Mr Taylor, from Fogg's Colliery, Darcy lever. The Rev. C. Lowe, MA, a vicar of St Stephen's Church, Kersley was present until a late hour and exerted himself in a quiet, unostentatious manner in - as far as possible the fears and anxieties of those in the crowd who had relatives down the pit.

Throughout the night the work of repairing the doors, -, and other ventilating apparatus in the mines which needed cleaning away the debris which had been blown from the roofs and sides of the workings, was vigorously pushed forward. It was found that tubs laden with coals had been blown over, whilst at the - and in the wagon roads, sides of trucks were found lying, in all directions, having been shattered by the force of the explosion. The men to whom the dangerous task of clearing the roadways etc had been entrusted numbered nearly 30 of reliefs. Their difficulties were increased by the fact that the whole of the workings form an incline of 1 to 3 ft, and are in many places so confined that a man cannot walk upright in them. In consequence of these obstacles it was not until nearly eight o'clock on Wednesday morning that the workers were able to begin removing the dead bodies to the pit eye, preparatory to sending them up the shaft. So rapidly was this melancholy duty performed that by soon after 10 o'clock the number found was 20, which was increased by midday to 21.

Shortly before one o'clock the bottom of the shaft was so covered with bodies that it became necessary to commence the work of winding them to the surface, as the guiding rods and sides of the downcast shaft had been repaired. The remaining cage was brought into the - of the less convenient hoppet. Some difficulty was at first experienced in lowering the cage to the mouth of the mine, but after it had been raised and lowered four more times it descended to a proper depth. It was, however, soon afterwards found that the cage would not wind satisfactorily, and the hoppet was again brought into requisition. At a few minutes after one o'clock the first body was wound up to the surface. It was that of a boy named Enion, and the remains, which were wrapped up in a piece of brattice cloth were carried into the outhouse. After this, the process of winding up one body, and other times two, all wrapped in brattice cloth, proceeded as rapidly as could be expected under the circumstances. A relay of colliers acting as bearers was in attendance at the "tally - cabin" at the mouth of the pit, and on the hoppet, with it's - freight, reaching the top, the bodies were placed - and and conveyed, some to the carpenter's shop connected with the colliery, and some to a stable belonging to the Unicorn Pub.

.....

All the bodies were much burned and lacerated, deep gashes being upon some of the (bodies), whilst upon others the skin appeared to have been literally torn off for several inches in length. A considerable number of women were in the outhouses, and as each body was brought in they at once proceeded to wash and lay it out. Upon each body was a slip of paper with a number upon it, the corresponding number being inserted in a sheet or book which indicated the position in the mine in which the body was discovered. The fearful injuries which the dead had sustained rendered identification by their relatives a matter of great difficulty - in several cases recognition being only possible by means of the clothing or clogs worn by the deceased. Many painful scenes occurred. The widow of Christopher Moores, who resided in Lindley Row, soon identified the body of her husband which was recovered about four o'clock; and she became particularly affected whilst pointing out some repairs which he had effected in the soles of his clogs on Monday evening ...

.....

The corpse of George Lindley, between 45 and 50 years of age, and his son Ellis, aged 15 years, were taken into the stable room after each other; and it is worth noting that the poor boy met his death on his birthday. By seven o'clock at night all the bodies except two had been taken out of the pit. These latter were the remains of a boy named Peak and a married man named William Maych. They were unexpectedly found buried among the wreckage in the dib hole at the bottom of the shaft, and there is no doubt that they were blown out of the Cannel Mine. Owing to the difficulty which would have been experienced in extricating them while the damage done to the shaft and the girding rods was only partially repaired, the work of removing them was left until the last.

At one o'clock on Thursday morning, the body of Peak was recovered from the dib hole, whilst Maych's remains were not sent to the surface until five o'clock. Whilst the men were engaged in recovering these bodies they found the upper portion of the skull of one of the boys named Enion. Soon after ten o'clock on Thursday morning the identification of the bodies was resumed, and the scene in front of the two stables, in which the bodies were laid out in two rows, was even more heart-rending and distressing than had been previously witnessed. One woman, in particular, identified her husband, George Lindley, and, whilst in a paroxysm of grief, she espied also the mangled corpse of her son, Ellis, lying in another

row. She, like several of the widows and mothers before her, had to be assisted out, and a succession of such scenes followed. Policemen, stationed at the stable doors, held up bundles of clothing to the crowd in front for identification, and the parties recognizing them were taken into the stables to see the bodies to which they belonged, and to have their names duly entered for the Coroner's inquiry tomorrow. By about one o'clock in the afternoon all the bodies had been identified, the following being the official

LIST OF THE KILLED

Thomas Hilton, aged 20, Fletcher's Houses, Kersley; single².

Absolom Barnes, aged 14, Stoneclough; single.

Alfred Isherwood, aged 31, Lower Kersley; married, seven children.

Samuel Wolstenholme, aged 47, Lindley's Houses; married, seven children.

Wm. Wolstenholme, aged 21. Kersley Moor; married no family³.

Amos Lomax, aged 17, Irwell Bank, Kersley; single.

Christopher Moore, aged 26, Lindley's Houses; married, three children.

Richard Featherstone, aged 18, Albert-street, Kersley; single.

Joseph Hobsen, aged 26, Kersley Moor; married, three children.

Charles Tonge, aged 16, Kersley; single.

William Leach, aged 24, Lower Kersley; married, two children.

Thomas Lomax, aged 28, Irwell Bank; married, two children.

Thomas Lever, aged 18, Mount Pleasant, Kersley; single.

John Harrison, aged 40, Old House Croft, Kersley; married, three children⁴.

James Beattie, aged 19, Manor Houses, Kersley; single.

Richard Wallwork, aged 25, Jane-lane, Swinton; married, two children.

James Partington, aged 44, Kersley Moor; married, two children.

James Byron, aged 32, Slater-field, Bolton; married, two children.

Thomas Byron, aged 28, Warm Hole, Kersley; married, four children.

George Lindley, aged 47, Kersley Moor; married, four children.

Ellis Lord (or Lindley), aged 14, Kersley Moor, son of the above.

Peter Fogg, aged 26, Clifton; married, no family.

Wm. Morris, aged 15, Tasker-lane, Kersley; single.

John Haynes, aged 21, Manor Cottages, Kersley; single.

John Tickle Lomax, aged 31, Eckersley Buildings, Kersley; wife and four children.

James Hobson, aged 30, Old House Croft, Kersley; wife and three children.

John Greenhalgh, aged 34 (26), Jane-lane, Swinton; wife and two children.

James Chadwick, aged 38, Primrose-street, Kersley; wife and seven children.

William Mayoh (Maych), aged 38, fireman, Kersley; married, and four children.

William Barnes, aged 38, Stoneclough; married, and four children.

Wright Lomax, aged 26, Irwell Bank, Kersley; no children.

Thomas Peak, aged 17, Kersley Mount; single.

² A stepson to another Robert Wolstenholme, who could be one of William and Ann's sons.

³ The husband and son of Susannah Wolstenholme.

⁴ The husband of Ann Harrison.

Thos. Ed. Mace, aged 19, Tasker's-lane, Kersley; Single.

Thomas Wolstenholme, aged 41, Old House Croft, Kersley; married, one child⁵.

Andrew Walker, aged 23 (22), Stoneclough; married, one child.

Robert Clarke, aged 18, Jacksons Buildings, Kersley.

Robert Enion, aged 39, Kersley Moor; wife and seven children.

Jonathan Enion, aged 12, and David Enion, aged 13, sons of the above.

George Booth, (21), Denton, single (started work on the morning of the accident).

Joseph Welsby, aged 18, Kersley Moor.

John Hamblet, aged 31, Seddon-street, Kersley; wife and two children.

George Jackson, aged 28, Kersley.

Kersley Moor presents an unusual and mournful appearance, owing to the large number of drawn blinds. With very few exceptions the blinds of all the houses in Manchester Road and the streets abutting thereon are down out of respect to the memory of a member or members of a family, a near relative, or a friend.

At about half-past nine o'clock on Thursday night all the 43 coffins, which had been well made of oak by Messrs. Coope Bros. arrived at the colliery in two wagons, and in half an hour afterwards the duty of placing the corpses into them was commenced. By three o'clock yesterday morning all the bodies had been put into the coffins, and neatly covered with shrouds. Seven of them were placed in a small stable belonging to the Unicorn Inn, whilst the remainder were kept in the stable upon the colliery premises. They were arranged in rows, elevated about four or five feet from the ground, with the lids reared up at the head of each coffin, whilst under the coffins were placed the clothing of the deceased carefully wrapped up and labelled with the owner's name.

Yesterday morning several of the relatives and friends of the dead viewed their remains, and although they appeared to be more composed upon seeing the corpses neatly arranged in their coffins, it was evident from their sobs and tears that they felt acutely the sad affliction which had so hastily come upon them.

Arrangements have been made for the interment of 20 of the bodies in the burial ground attached to St. Stephen's Church, Kersley, today (Saturday). One was interred there yesterday. No interments will take place at St. Stephen's on Sunday. Some of the bodies will be interred at St. Saviour's, Ringley⁶; a few at St. John's Church, Farnworth-with-Kersley; and two at Swinton.

PROPOSED RELIEF FUND

The colliers employed at the mine are not members of any of the public associations for the relief of miners, but in connection with the colliery there is an "accident fund for widows and orphans." The subscriptions amount to the small sum of 3d per week, and the allowances made are - £2 (?) for bottom men, 5s per week for widows so long as they do not marry again, and 2s. 6d. per week for children. The pecuniary resources of the fund, however, are not expected to be sufficient to meet the emergency, and the Rev. C. Lowe, M.A., vicar of St. Stephen's, Kersley, wishes us to announce that he will be glad to receive subscriptions from anyone who chooses to assist in relieving the distressed relatives of the deceased.

⁵ The grandfather of our Thomas.

⁶ Thomas Wolstenholme and John Harrison were buried at St. Saviour's Church in Ringley.

Note: The Bishop of Manchester donated £20. Messrs. J. Stott and Co., the proprietors of the colliery promised a donation of £200, and the Rev. C. Lowe £15.

Inquest⁷

Mary Ann Wolstenholme deposed: The deceased, Thomas Wolstenholme, was my husband, and was a dataller. He was 41 years of age, and had worked only a fortnight at the pit. He told me he liked the place very well.

Ann Harrison, sworn, said: The deceased John Harrison was my husband, and he resided at Old House Croft. He was 40 years of age, and had only worked for three weeks at this pit. He has told me that he liked his place very well.

Susannah Wolstenholme said: The deceased Samuel Wolstenholme was my husband, and was 47 years of age. He commenced to work at the Cannel Mine last November. He has come home at times starved, and said that he thought no one would ever get burned at the mine because there was so much air. The deceased William Wolstenholme was my son. He resided with us, and was 21 years of age. He was a married man, and has never said anything to me about the pit.

Robert Wolstenholme said: I live near the Antelope, Kersley. I identify the body of Thomas Hilton, my stepson, who was 20 years old, and was a hooker-on in the colliery⁸.

Sarah Isherwood said: Deceased, Alfred Isherwood was my husband. He was a coal miner, and was 31 years old. It was the first morning he had been employed in this pit.

Nancy Enion deposed: The deceased Jonathan Enion is my son, and he lived with us in Mount-terrace, Kersley. He was a hooker-on at the pit shaft, and was 12 years old. He has worked at the pit about five weeks. He has never said anything to me about the place except that he liked it. We have only lived here about seven weeks, and came from Whiston, near Liverpool. The deceased, Robert Enion, was my husband, and was a metalman in the mine. He was 40 years old, and had worked here about seven weeks. He has told me that he liked his work very well, for it was safe as being in a house. David Enion, another deceased, was also my son. He assisted his father, and was 13 years of age, and went to work first at the pit at the same time as his father.

Robert Enion, aged 39, Kersley Moor; wife and seven children.

Jonathan Enion, aged 12, and David Enion, aged 13, sons of the above.



⁷ These depositions are remarkable in that they convey to us the exact words of Mary Ann Wolstenholme and Ann Harrison, unique in our work. Susannah Wolstenholme is included because we feel that she must be related; we speculate that one of her children was later adopted. We have selected the depositions of a few other people that struck us.

⁸ This Robert may be the son of William and Ann Wolstenholme, great grandparents to our Thomas.

Nineteenth Century: Coal Mining



The funeral service for most of the men was held at St. Stephen's Church. The address would have been held from the pulpit, right, which is original, as are the rafters

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BURIALS in the Parish of *St. Stephen's, Newcastle* in the County of *County of Newcastle* in the year One thousand eight hundred and *seventy eight*

Name	Abode	When buried	Age	By whom the Ceremony was performed
123 Thomas Grace	Emson's Lane	March 16 th	20 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
124 James Beattie	Antelope St	March 16 th	19 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
125 Albert Sumner	Geor's House	March 16 th	20 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
126 Jonathan Sumner	Geor's House	March 16 th	12 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
127 David Sumner	Geor's House	March 16 th	13 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
128 George Jackson	Widelys House	March 16 th	28 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
129 Thomas Love	Mount Pleasant	March 16 th	18 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster

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BURIALS in the Parish of *St. Stephen's, Newcastle* in the County of *County of Newcastle* in the year One thousand eight hundred and *seventy eight*

Name	Abode	When buried	Age	By whom the Ceremony was performed
130 Samuel Widdichson Lindley	Lindley's House	March 16 th	50 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
131 William Widdichson	do	March 16 th	25 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
132 George Lindley	Wilmington's Hill	March 16 th	27 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
133 Ellis Lindley	do	March 16 th	15 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
134 Christopher Moore	Lindley's House	March 16 th	26 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
135 John Fichte Lomax	Edenbury, Shields	March 16 th	31 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
136 Thomas Byrom	Warras Hole	March 16 th	28 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster
137	Warras Hole	March 16 th	18 yrs	Charles Heath off. Minster

Burial Register at St. Stephen's Church, showing the burials of the miners on March 16th

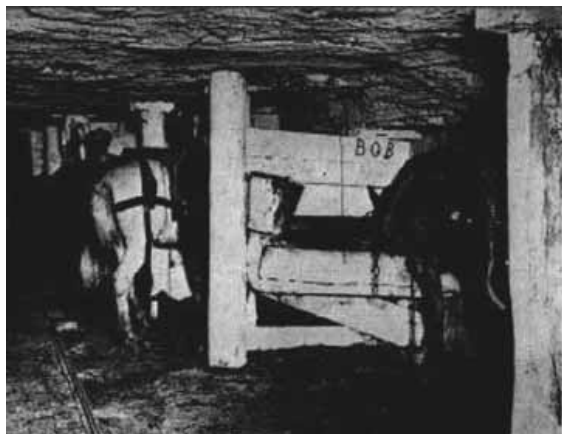


1910: Waiting for news, Hulton No.3 Pretoria Pit, Westhoughton (Nr. Farnworth)



1907 Burying the victims, Foggs Pit, Darcy Lever (Nr. Farnworth)

Nineteenth Century: Coal Mining



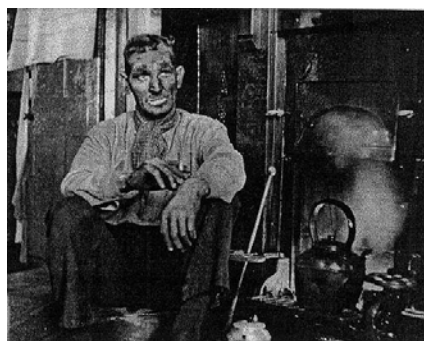
Underground stables



Carrying coal to the screening area



Pony boys



Home and a rest by the fire



Women screening coal in Atherton 1907



Getting the coal



Washing after work