

MEMOIRS 1965



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MINERAL REPORT OF THE LEADMINES IN COALCLEUGH DISTRICT, NORTHUMBERLAND FOR THE MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31ST 1860.

Thomas Sopwith Esq.

Dear Sir, I beg to hand you the following monthly report of the mines in this district, which I trust will be satisfactory.

Low Coalcleugh Vein:- The workings in this vein and flats continues about the vein as usual vis barely wageable at the head price per Bing but at which rate a good deal of ore is being raised, and as there is very little cost to Mr Beaumont for timber etc, a fair profit will be realised.

Engine Strings:- The workings in these strings both at high and middle flats continues very good, and likely to last for a few years as they are working to a greater width than any previously opened at this place, being already 12 fathoms in places and likely to work to much greater extent. The heights of the different flats are also much greater than usual, being upward of 8 feet, indeed from Middle flat sole to Black Bed a height of 3½ fathoms will all pay working. Hence necessity of keeping it in order, by arching the waygates and other openings.

Whitewood Vein:- The workings in this vein and flats in the Great Limestone continues about as usual. The workings in Topsills are a little poorer than usual, but trust they will improve shortly, as there is a good deal of whole ground that is likely to be productive.

Barney Craig Vein:- Three lengths of this vein in Pattinson are very rich in ore at present and are likely to produce 1000 Bings during the half year ending December next. The other lengths in same stratum are not so good as presents as they have been throw in Little Limestone, are producing an average quantity of ore and likely to continue the same as present during the year.

Sun Vein:- Have little change to report of the workings in this vein in Gt. Limestone which are all old yards and poor of ore, therefore only a limited quantity will be raised during the quarter. The length being opened up, in this vein in Pattinson continues poor of ore.

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New Vein:- The forehead being driven West in this vein in Gt. Limestone at High flat continues very hard and poor of ore. Vein still increasing in strength as they proceed Westward, but better appearance of ore indeed, almost despair of ever finding ore to pay the cost.

Sraith Hole:- The forehead driving west in this vein at High flat, continues very hard and slow to drive with little ore in it at present. The Low Level in vein in Quarry Hazle is making progress viz about 4fm per week.

Mohopehead:- The drifts being continued Westward in Mohope & Sun Veins at High flat is better to drive than when last reported with some small produce of ore, and as the forehead has a more likely appearance at present than we ever had in the East 200 fathoms, it should shortly produce ore to pay the cost of working. The works in the cross vein have less ore in them than when last reported but vein quite as strong and well mineralised, beds running up very fast to the South, therefore thinks they are not far from a East to West vein. The exploration Level at Keirslyrow in Gt. Limestone has not yet reached the veins. The forehead being much harder than usual and therefore does not make such rapid progress as before.

Ninebanks:- Have taken rails etc out of the different levels, crosscuts etc that will be of no further use and are keeping the main level up to where the crosscut leaves, (that previously recommended to be continued) in good ore so as to be ready if any thing more had to be done at this place.

I remain with great respect

Yours faithfully.

signed John Nevin.

REF: 1" OS Map Sheet 84 NGR 802.452

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