DIARY OF JOSIAH COCKING.

Thur. May 13th 1893. (Continued).
The Secretary stated that we had a meeting on the 20th of April in Joseph Howell's pub, "The Queen's Head", when we formed a Branch of the Australian Socialist League, & had elected Mr. John Estell, Chairman; Hugh de Largie, Secretary; John B. Robinson, Treasurer; David Watkins, Delegate; & John Hill, Robert Brown, Malcolm Davidson, & myself; Committee men. He also said that he had written to the Central League in Sydney, but had put a wrong address on the letter, so had not received a reply. He also wrote to Fergie Reid, the District Secretary at New Lambton, for a copy of the informing him of the formation of a Socialist League at Wallsend & asking for a copy of the Constitution of the League. He then read the reply, which was to the effect that Mr. Reid was glad that we had formed a Branch at Wallsend, & he hoped we would not be strict with new members regarding the fees, as the object of the League should be more to get members than money. He enclosed a copy of the Constitution.

As Jack Estell had not arrived, Dave Watkins, chairman, pro tem, asked for a motion on the Minute, & I moved that the Minutes be adopted. Carried. Dave said that he saw some fresh faces amongst those present he would read the Constitution of the Socialist League, & the principles & platform, which he did; & afterwards "The Principles & Platform of the Socialist League" were distributed amongst us. There was some discussion on the third clause of the Constitution, & the members being satisfied with it, five new members joined.

A sub-committee was then elected to draw up some local rules & consists of Henry Tyldesly & Dave Watkins & another. We decided to send to the Central Executive for 500 propagandist leaflets, & to ask that Mrs. Rose Somerville be invited to lecture in the Wallsend Park on some Sunday afternoon on Socialism. It was also arranged that we have a debate on the question, "Is Party Government Desirable?", next Wednesday week—31st inst— in the Flattensburg Mechanics' Institute at half past 7, p.m. Dave Watkins is to take the affirmative, & Hugh de Largie the negative side. Dave lent me a book entitled "Political Essays", by Charles Bradlaugh. Frosty weather; red flag, denoting work, for Wallsend colliery.

Fri. May 19th 1893. Brother Bob & I worked (in Wallsend colliery) & filled nine-ships of big coal—No weights are posted on the board for yesterday, ten ships of big coal. Our weights published on the board for coal filled the previous day are:—10 cwt, 1 qr & 14 lbs; 10: 3: 14; = 10: 2: 14 average. Brother Jack, Charley, & Jack Mahoney have
gone to the Hunter River to fish. Cold & dry weather.

No weight this morning. The brothers, Ned & Harry Davidson, came in on the front shift to day. The ground was covered with frost this morning. "The Australian Workman" arrived this afternoon. Jack & party came home this evening with 3 small fishes, & a redbill bird that brother Jack shot near the mouth of Ironbark Creek. Charley went down & bought a half of a sheep for $2 1/2, & salted it in a small cask. I read a part of the "Workman" to mother.

Sun. May 21st, 1893. Bill Austin & Bill Jenkins were here this morning. Bill Jenkins wanted some information concerning an electric battery that is defective, in the Little Tunnel engine room of the Wallsend colliery. I told him that the battery was too weak, or the joints of the wires are imperfect, or the wires are rubbing a wet roof. I arranged some bills & receipts & copied some into my big exercise book. Fine, clear weather.

Mon. May 22nd, 1893. Bob & I made another start this morning & filled 12 skips of large coal. No weights up. Our tonnage for the next pay is 107 skips of coal at 10:3, which equals 56 tons, 3 cwt. Jack walked to Lambton this morning & got six pounds of blasting powder & a pick-handle.

There was a fatal fight this afternoon on the football ground, near Dave Lonergan’s house, between Harry River & Jimmy Harriman. They fought through a dispute concerning a dance club; & after fighting for fifteen minutes, in the presence of a large crowd, Harriman fell in a fit & died almost immediately. The crowd then ran away. Doctor John Nash was riding by at the time, & on being informed of the occurrence he went over, saw Harriman, & pronounced him dead. He ordered the body to be taken to the nearest pub, Sergeant Grennan soon heard of the affair & arrested River, who, when giving himself up, cried piteously.

Tu. 33rd May, 1893. We filled 13 of large coal again to day. No weights. An inquest on the body of James Harriman was held to day in the Plattsburg Racecourse pub. The jurymen were Robert Weakly, Joseph Lewis, Elijah Abel, Henry Wicken, Joseph Howell, Frederick Anderson, Thomas Reay, James Greirson, George Hudson, Thomas-Macmillan, Mac Millian, George Froome, & Elias Ruttley. The witnesses were sergeant Grennan, Ben Harriman, James Cuthbertson, junr, George Sellwood, William Moss, James Laing, Duncan Cherry, junr, James Lawson, doctor John Brady Nash, & Henry River.

The jury returned the following verdict:- That the deceased met his death from effusion of blood on the brain, in accor-
dance with the medical testimony, but there was no evidence to show what caused this effusion of blood. Oliver is still in custody, & will be brought up in Wallsend police court to day on a charge of causing the death of the deceased. The Co-operative pit worked to day. Cloudy, dry weather.

Wed. May 24th, 1893. Vicky's birthday; she is 75 years old. Bob & Jack, Harry Wicken, Jack Mahoney, & another went down to Tomago last night to spend to-day there among the picnic parties. Liz-Jane & Jim Pettigrew have gone there too. Charlie, Mother, & I are at home. I wrote 13 pages of a letter to Alf Edwards. This evening I read a part of "Political Essays", by C. Bradlaugh. White flags, denoting no work, for Wallsend & Co-operative pits to-morrow. Fine weather.

Thur. May 25th, 1893. We are all idle to day. I dug up the ground where the peas were in the top garden, but I did not plant anything. Jack is down at the court hearing the trial of Harry River. I finished Alf's letter which consists of 24 pages & deals with our health, the interpretation of the 19th chapter of Luke, banquets, toasts, the accident to Angus McInnes, "Caesar's Column". The utilisation of natural forces, our Socialist League, work at the pits, the boat race between Jim Boag & Alf Worboys, the fatal fight between River & Harrison, my age, & the mine at Cobark. River was acquitted by the jury this afternoon & released from custody. Clear, cold weather. Red flags for work at Co-op. & Wallsend.

Fri. May 26th, 1893. Bob & I filled ten of big coal to day. No weight. Jack took up our pay, which was £1/16/9 6 10/15 3 for 36 tons, 3cwt at 3/10 per ton. Charlie's pay was £1/16/9 6 5 1/2 shifts at 7/- per day. Our Jack & Jim Pettigrew got 6 1/2 for 26 tons, 3 cwt at 3/10 per ton, minus 2/- for doctor. Jack's share was £2/8/7. I bought five 2d stamps at Tom MacCrae's shop, & paid Froome 2d I owed for pitch. Clear, cold weather.

Sat. May 27th 1893. This morning Jack & I went with our cart to Newcastle. We took Mrs Collinson & her 2 children to Honeysuckle Point. We left the horse & cart in the yard of a pub opposite to the "Royal" beer shop. I tried to buy a battery cell, but failed. I bought a small "Essay On Drink", for 2 d., & a book entitled "The Labour Movement In America", by Eleanor & Marx Ayling, for 6 1/-.

I tried at several places to buy "Politics For The People", by Morrison Davidson, but couldn't get it. I bought "Caesar's Column", & "Pioneers Of Electricity", for 6d each. We had a look around & went back to Leonard.
4. Baker's office, where Jack paid ten shillings on Robert House's account. We drove back to Lambton, got our groceries, & came home. I bought a sixpenny note-book at Bill Lochrin's shop, & 6d worth of foolscap paper at Tom MacGreevy's. I gave Johnny Waters some Socialist leaflets con­cerning the objects of the Australian Socialist League. We had a long conversation on the principles of Socialism; & I think he will join our Branch of the League. Cold weather: for this morning.

Sun. May 28th, 1893. I have read "The Labor Movement In America" through to-day. It is an interesting & instructive book which every worker should read. Jack posted "Volney's "Ruins Of Empires" to Alf Edwards.

Mon. May 29th, 1893. We filled 9 skips of round coal to-day. Weights 10.1: 10.2. Average 10.1.4. Co-op. worked all day. Mr. Francis Sanderson, of Boscawen street, Plattsburg, was very badly hurt to-day in the Jubilee district of the Wallsend colliery, by a middle jud of coal which fell & nearly buried him. He was carried home on a stretcher, & doctors Nash & Mellish are attending him. The red flags, for work, are up at Wallsend & Co-operative pits. Dry, cloudy weather.

Tu. May 30th, 1893. We filled 10 skips of round coal to-day. No weight. Adam Cook & his mate summoned Barr, the manager of the Co-operative pit, for money for yardage in pillars, & the case is being tried to-day in the Wallsend court. Yesterday Barty Davidson, our crossmate, brought 3 books into the pit for me from Tom Davidson, of New Lambton. They are:—"The Workingman's Paradise". Is Socialism Sound?", a debate. Dry, cloudy weather.

Wed. May 31st 1893. Bob & I filled 11 of big coal to-day. No weight. This evening I went to the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute to attend a Socialist meeting. Hugh de Largie, sec., came a little after 7 o'clock, & Henry Tildesley a bit later. Dave Watkins, John & Mrs. Robinson came afterwards. We went upstairs to the "Summer Ice" room. Other members arrived by 7.30 p.m. & we elected Mr. Tildesley chairman. The secretary read the minutes, which were adopted. He also read the rules that were framed by the sub-committee. There was some discussion on the second rule, which provides that the entrance fee shall be one shilling, & the monthly contribution sixpence. Jack Hill moved an amendment to make the entrance fee sixpence & the monthly contribution three pence; but as no one seconded it the motion lapsed, & the rules were all adopted. Dave Watkins, (delegate) reported that he had attended a meeting of delegates from New Lambton, Newcastle, & Morewether. The chief business transacted was the consideration of a letter.
from our (Wallsend) secretary re obtaining the services of Mrs. Rose Sommerville to lecture on Socialism. It was decided that, as the delegates did not know whether she would lecture in the open air or not, Arthur Rae, M.P. for Murrumbridgee, be asked to deliver a series of lectures in the district on Socialism. They also decided that, as Fergie Reid had (District Secretary) had incurred some expense in organising the leagues, & in stationery, each Branch give him 2/6.

The delegate's report was received. The chairman said it would be advisable, before proceeding further, to initiate any new members who wished to join the Socialist League. Charles Viol was then proposed & accepted as a member, & paid his entrance fee.

The debate on the question, "Is party government desirable in the best interests of the country?" was then begun by Dav Watkins, who took the affirmative side. He said that in order to have party government there must always be 2 opposite parties, & those parties must be in a state of continual rivalry. Each party must be constantly trying to pass some measure beneficial to the people. All great reforms have been originated by some party. The Revolutionist Party of France removed the oppression of the king & the clergy. The Cobden League abolished the oppressive Corn Laws of England; & the various parties of Israelis, Palmerston, Pitt, & others had brought about reforms in England. He also referred to the Irish Party in the House of Commons, & their success with the Home Rule Bill.

Hugh de Largie then read a written speech on the negative side, & said that if we look at English history we will see that the country was most prosperous, & people most contented & happy when there was no party government in that country. He would not go back to the ancient history of Europe, but would deal with well-known, recent events. We could see a good example of the evils of party government in the colonial parliaments. When a good measure was brought down, the Opposition Party said "We must not allow this bill to pass, because if we do the government will get all the credit for passing it, & the Opposition accordingly blocks it. Then there is the absurdity of having an Abigail for Minister for Mines, instead of a Curley, or an Edden. Men were put into offices which they had no aptitude for. They were put into those positions in return for supporting a party. The Opposition Party often opposes measures which they had promised to pass, simply because the Government Party introduced them. It was simply a farce of the Inns & the Outs, & was a waste of time & money. The system of making the whole ministry resign in the event of one member being defeated was another evil result of party government. We should have the Swiss system which provided that the ministries shall be elected by the parliament. He explained the Swiss mode of electing their parliaments; & said
that it is a country in which parties do not exist, & is consequently the best governed country in Europe.

Mr. George Hardy then spoke a few words in favour of party government.

Charlie Vicol said he considered our system of sending a Minister to his constituents is more democratic than the Swiss system of election by parliament.

Amram Lewis, in opposition to party government, said that Mr. Watkins had presented a very weak case, because he assumed his position. He said that the French revolution, & the 30 years war of Napoleon Bonaparte were due to party government. Party government is supported by all sorts of mean, contemptible devices, which commend it, because that which requires bribery, lying, cheating & other mean vices to support it must be wrong in principle.

Dave Watkins replied to his opponents, & the debate was adjourned for a fortnight.

I paid 1/- entrance fee for brother Bob & had his name put down as a member of the League. I also paid 6d as my monthly contribution. Young Frank Sanderson is in a very low state & is not expected to live.

Cloudy, dry weather. Sims, the wooden-legged Army captain, left for New England to-night.

Thur. June 1st, 1893. Bob & I filled ten of big coal to-day. No weight. Our crossmates, Ned & Barty Davidson, had one skip of coal taken from them by the company because it was filled too high to enter the tipper at the screens. Adam Cook won the court case to-day, & Barr has to pay the full amount claimed, & all costs.

I read the first chapter of "Caesar's Column" to Mother.

Co-op. worked half a day. Red flag for Wallsend colliery; white, denoting no work to-morrow, for Co-operative colliery.

Fri. June 2nd, 1893. To-day we filled 13 skips of large coal. No weight. Bob helped Barty this morning. Received a letter from James Henna ("Jenna") Grose this evening. He is at Broken Hill. The Wallsend miners' monthly meeting is being held to-night. Rain, with South wind. Red flag for Wallsend; white for Co-op.

Sat. June 3rd, 1893. Filled 12 skips of round coal to-day. No weight. Frank Sanderson, who lives in Boscawen street, Plattsburg, is reported to be getting better. I received "The Australian Workman" this evening. Dry weather.

Sun. June 4th, 1893. I wrote a part of a speech on the question: "Is Party Government Desirable in the Best Interests of this Country?". Read a portion of "Political Essays".
by Charles Bradlaugh. Rain this evening.

Our weights for Saturday are 11:1:14 & 10 cwt. = 10:3
average. Our tonnage for next pay is 94 skips at 10:3, =
50 tons 10 cwt & 2 quarters. Co-operative pit was idle all
day. Brother Jack, Charlie, & Jack Mahoney went out with
our horse & cart & got some ti-tree forks to make a frame
for our grape vine to cover: also some straight sticks.
They also got a load of wood for Mahoney. Slight rain this
evening. Work to-morrow for both pits.

Tues

June 6th, 1893. We filled 11 of big coal to-day. Our
weight for yesterday is 11 cwt. Brother Jack & Jack Mahoney
went out to the Hexham swamp to day & took our dinghey to
to our boatshed at Ironbark Creek. Co-op. worked half a day.
Its white flag is up for to-morrow. Dry to day; rain at
night.

Wed

June 7th, 1893. Frank Sanderson died this morning. An
inquest was held concerning his this afternoon concerning
his death; & a verdict of accidental death was returned.
He was killed by a fall of coal.
I paid George Wilson one shilling for a raffle ticket for
"Trimmy" Brown's pinfire, double-barrelled gun by which he
was accidentally blinded on the swamp through striking
the pin of a cartridge while trying to extract it from the br-
each where it was jammed. Co-operative was idle all day.

Cloudy.

Thur. June 8th, 1893. Bob & I worked only half a day on
account of Frank Sanderson's death. We filled 6 skips of
large coal. No weight. I had to go to the weighman's cabin
on the screens this morning, & was shown some dirty coal
that we had filled. I promised to keep the coal clean, so
Jack Reid, the screen boss, said he would not take the skip
from us. Frank Sanderson is to be buried this afternoon.
Our Jack planted some grape-vine slips in the top garden to
day. Co-op. is idle. A man named Millar was killed by a fall
of coal at Mimmi. Cool, cloudy weather; rain at night.

Fri. June 9th, 1893. Ten skips of big coal was our output
to day. Bob took up our pay, which was nine pounds 11 shill-
ings, for 90 tons, $00cwt, at 3/10 per ton. The union charges
were 3/- per man. Co-op worked a full day. Our Jack's pay was
one pound 8 shillings & 6d. Charlie's was $ 1/8/0. for 4 days
at 7/- per day. Jack went with the horse & cart to Lambton &
got the groceries. Cool, cloudy weather; wind Easterly.
Sat. June 10th, 1893. Pay Saturday. Bob & I rode in the tram to Lambton, where there was to be an aggregate meeting of miners. We waited until after 11 a.m., when they decided to meet in a hall because the weather was so cold. We did not go to the meeting, but rode to Newcastle & had a look around & found brother Jack in a saleroom, where I bought a "History of England" for 6d. The 3 of us then went out to the Nobbys breakwater to see the sea rolling, as the wind was blowing strongly off the sea. We went back to the street, & I bought a thermometer for ½, Jack went home, but Bob & I stayed & had a hot pie & cup of tea in an eating-house. I tried to buy a dozen photographic dry plates but could not. Bob bought a neck-tie, collar, & a pair of studs. We heard Edison's phonograph for the first time. It was owned by a tall old man named Joe West, who charged us 3d each to listen to the tunes & speeches. One speech was by W.E. Gladstone. There were several headphones attached to the phonograph, so five or 6 people could listen at the same time. Benjamin Millar was buried this afternoon. Rain at 3 p.m. Temp. 63 deg. Fah.

Sun. June 11th 1893. I read the "Australian Workman" this morning, & this evening I read a part of Bradlaugh's "Political Essays". Rain nearly all day; wind east; temp. 62 deg. Fah.

Mon. June 12th 1893. There is no work for Wallsend pit today, but Co-operative is working. Rain nearly all last night & this morning. 64 Fah. Finished "Political Essays" this morning. This evening I went up with brother Jack to see Fred Baker, who lives one street above us, to see his electrical machines etc. We had a long conversation, & I had a look at a dynamo that he is making. He lent me 2 books—"Elementary Lessons in Electricity & Magnetism", by Sylvanus Thompson; & "Electrical Instrument Making", by S.R. Bottone.

Tu. June 13th 1893. I have started to make an electric bell; & this afternoon I sent 6/- worth of stamps to Frost & Shipham, Sydney, for a number 2 Leclanche cell & 22 yards of number 22 double-cottoned paraffined copper wire. Rainy.

Wed. June 14th, 1893. Working at the bell today. This afternoon I went up to Fred Baker, & he riveted a bit of iron to a spring for me, & gave me a regulating screw with a platinum tip for my bell; also a bell. I lent him "Caesar's Column", by Donnelly, & From the Earth to the Moon" by Jules Verne. Jack got some weatherboards from Tyler.
& boarded up the end of the kitchen. Jim O'Brien pulled the dingey from our boatshed at Ironbark Creek to the "Burnt cleared patch in Hexham swamp, & chained it to a tree. I bought a sixpenny stick of solder from Fred Anderson, & got some hydrochloric acid from Tom Stepney for soldering. I also got a magnet from Tom Attwood. Jack & I soldered an armature to the spring of the bell.

This is our Socialist meeting tonight, but as rain is falling continuously the meeting will probably be postponed. Work for both pits to-morrow. (later). The Socialists met, but the debate was postponed postoned.

Thur. June 15th 1893. Filled 11 of round. Weight 10:14. Took 3 pounds of powder down the pit this morning. Paid George Clothier, the pickman, 2/10 for 2 pickhandles & a shovel handle. Paid Bill Phillips, the blacksmith, 1/3 for steeling a pick. Co-op. worked half day, & there is no work for it for Friday. Red flag for Wallsend. Cloudy. Temp. at 7:30 p.m. 58 Fah.

Fri. June 16th, 1893. Bob & I filled 11 skips of large coal. Weight 10:3:14. The Leclanches cell & the wire arrived by tram from Frost & Shipham, Sydney. The top of the carbon rod was broken off, but Jack stuck it on with pitch & it seems to work all right. We pulled the signal-cord down & put the wire in its place. Old Mrs. Cummings, the greengrocer, died suddenly last night at her house in Pittown.

There is likely to be another reduction in the price of coal here, & consequently a reduction in the hewing rate. Cold. Temp. 54 deg. Fah.

Sat. June 17th, 1893. We are all idle to day. There is a notice posted up at the Co-op. colliery office informing the miners & other workers that their services will not be required after the expiration of 14 days from now.

I sent a letter & 3/- in stamps to Frost & Shipham for an electric bell (2/10) & a binding screw (2d). I told them that the carbon rod was broken & that I had sent 2/4 too much for the cell & wire & that they ought to send another cell with the bell. "The Workman" came this afternoon. Jack went out with the horse & cart & got a load of poles for the grape-vine frame. I made a spring connection for the end of the wires in Mother's bedroom. Also a reel for the electro-magnet. Temp. 54 deg.


Mon. June 19th 1893. We are all idle again to day. This
morning brother Bob, Bill Austin, Bill Wicken & Harry Wicken walked out to the "Brush" near Mimm, to shoot wallabies. They shot one wallaby & a few red cheek parrots, & returned late this evening. The Great Northern miners have received 14 days notice from the company, & have been informed that anyone wishing to remain at the colliery must become a share-holder in the new Co-operative Company. No work for Co-op. to-morrow.

Tu. June 20th, 1893. To-day Bob & I filled ten of large coal. Our tonnage for the pay is 71 skips coal at 10/2/14 = 37 tons 14 cwt. I received an invoice from Frost & Shipham for one electric bell, complete, 1 binding screw, & 1 porous pot. There was frost last night. This morning the temperature was 54 degrees Fahrenheit. Jack worked at the boatsheds to-day. Finished reading "The Workingman's Paradise".

Wed. June 21st, 1893. All right. I have made the electric bell ready for the wire. Liz Jane went to the tram office at 2 p.m. & at 6 p.m., but could not get the new bellets. The chap in the office told her that the parcel is in the railway goods shed. I made a bichromate cell of a carbon rod that was used for the electric light at Stockton, & a bit of zinc. Cloudy. Rain at night. Work to-morrow for Co-op., none for Wallsend.

Thur. June 22nd, 1893. This morning I went to the goods shed & got the parcel containing the electric bell, porous pot with carbon & binding screw, so which the freight was already paid. I put up the bell in the kitchen, but could not make it ring properly. In the evening Fred Baker came down, & in about half an hour he fixed the wire to make the bell a trembler instead of a single-stroke bell, & it now rings nicely. Co-op. works all day. & will work to-morrow. No work for Wallsend to-morrow. Clear weather. Temp. 62.

Fri. June 23rd, 1893. Bob & I caught Tiger, our horse, this morning & carted 3 loads of splint from the Co-operative screens (where it is thrown out as being unsaleable) for ourselves & one for widow Jackson. Co-op. worked only half a day. Jack took up our pay, which was £ 7/1/6.

Sat. June 24th, 1893. Last evening Bob, Bill & Harry Wicken, Bill Austin & I arranged to go out to the "Brush", near Mimm, to shoot wallabies; so Bill Austin & I walked out to Bair's house near the Mimm road. While the 3 others rode in our cart to Linnigan's farm, via Mimm. Bill & I waited 25 minutes for Joe Smiles to come, but as he did not arrive we walked along the big water pipe to
the Maitland road, & Bob & party arrived with the horses &
cart. We met young Kemp where the road crosses the pipe, & he
told us that someone had stolen his bread & a pair of trousers
worth 5/- 30/- from his bark-hut at the Brush that morning; &
that we could take full possession of the hut for the night,
as he was going home & would rather have someone there that he
knew than leave the hut to the mercy of strangers. Bill Austin
& I then got into the cart & rode to the huts while the others w
walked. We arrive just at dark & took Tiger out & tied him to
a tree, & gave him a good feed. We lit a fire in front of Kemp's
hut & unloaded the cart. We brought 4 guns, our new tent,
some bags, 3 blankets, & 3 dogs, Wigger being one. Just after
supper Joe & Watty Smiles arrived with 3 guns & 2 dogs. After
they had supper all of us except Bill Austin took the dogs to
get some possums, but after walking about for an hour without
finding any, we returned to the hut. Bill Austin & I then
went toward Hexham swamps to look for possums, & after search-
ing for more than an hour we found one in a gum tree.
Bill fired but missed, as he had no more ammunition we
shouted to the others to bring a gun. Joe & Watty, & Harry
Wicken came, Watty fired but failed to kill. Then Bill fired
again, but still the possum escaped; so we lit some leaves
which made the branches distinctly visible. Watty shot the
animal in the fore legs, & when it fell we killed it. As we
could not find any more we returned to the hut, where I skin-
net the possum & roasted it on the fire for the dogs. Bill
Austin, Watty, Joe, & I then went to another hut about 150
yards away & made up 4 bunks. There were 7 bunks there & plen-
ty of bed-clothes; so we slept comfortably, although there
was a very cold west wind blowing. Bob, & Bill & Harry slept in
Kemp's hut. This morning I awoke at 5 & called Bill, & we went
over & called the others. We made a good fire & put the billy on.
We all washed at the creek, & had breakfast.
We then took our dogs & guns & walked down the Maitland road
about a mile & went into the scrub on the Western side. The scrub
there is composed of small ti-tree bushes, ironbark, gums, wattle
& prickly bushes, & is very dense & difficult to get through.
We sat about 30 minutes & waited for a wallaby to appear, but
as none were visible, & the air was intensely cold, we walked abou-
t for a while & saw Bob & party. We shot a green parrot for
Bill Austin, & made a small fire as our fingers were numbed
with the cold. When the sun had warmed the air we separated &
Bill & I went together. We walked & waited, walked & waited, & j
just as we were about to go & big wallaby stopped in front
of me, a few yards off, so I shot it in the legs, & the
bitch (Nelly) caught it, & we killed it. I afterwards
shot & wounded a dog that I mistook for a wallaby, & the p
poor animal went away yelping through the bushes. About
5:15 p.m we reached the huts & found that the others had
packed everything & were all ready to return home. None but me had shot a wallaby, but Watty had about twelve parrots, & Joe had shot a mopoke & a gold & green parrot to stuff them for his collection. Bob, Bill Austin, & Watty rode around by Mimimile while Bill & Harry Wicken, Joe Smiles & I walked along the pipeline to Barr's house. I carried the skin of the wallaby on my shoulder, & a tick (possibly from the skin) buried its head in my right shoulder, but it was pulled out on the road. We waited for the cart, which arrived about 3 minutes later, Joe & I then got into the cart & Bob drove on foot while the others walked behind. We washed the cart at the bridge near Harrisman's house, & reached home about dark. The air is very chilly. Jack went to Lambton & Newcastle, & came home about 9:15 p.m. Red flags for both pits. Temp. 50 deg. Fah.

Sun June 25th, 1893. I read "The Workman" this morning, & in the afternoon I heard Mrs. Rose Summerfield lecture in the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute on Socialism. She is a young woman with a fair complexion, black eyes, black hair, & a large nose. She is about 5 feet 8 inches high. Jack Estell was chairman. There were about 50 persons present. Cold weather. Work for both pits.


Tues June 27th, 1893. We filled ten skips to-day. Weight 10:14. Jack & Harry Wicken saved a log off near the Co-op. line. We are going to split slabs from the log to cover the underground tanks & the bridge over the creek in our yard. Work for Co-op. to-morrow; none for Wallsend. Clear weather. Temp. 53 degrees Fah.

Wed 28th June, 1893. Bob & I are idle to-day. Co-op. worked half a day. The Wallsend miners cavilled this afternoon, & Bob went down to the tunnel to see the result. We got cavilled to an 8 yard bord, number 157 in the Jubilee district; & our crossmates—Ned & Barty Davidson, got an 8 yard bord in a headinglevel. Our Socialist League was to meet as usual in the Mechanics' Institute, so I went there at 7:30 & saw Mr. Robinson, (the treasurer), Bob Brown, Charlie Viol, Mr. Tyldesley, & Dave Watkins. I went to doctor J.B. Nash's
surgery & asked Tom Stepney, his dispenser, for an empty tooth-powder box, but he had none. I also asked Joe Senior, the other dispenser, for one, but he could not find one. I went one to make a telephone mouth-piece of it. I went into the Salvation Army Hall & saw brother Bob there, & stayed till the service was nearly over. Very cold, clear weather still.


Fri. June 30th, 1893. Wallsend is idle again. Co-op. worked 3/4 of a day. Rob & I went down the pit & shifted our tools in a skip, & returned by 11/40 a.m. I gave George Clothier, the pick "boy" a pick to put a handle in it. Cold weather.

Sat. July 1st, 1893. Rob & I are idle again to-day. Charlie & Jack are working, but Charlie was told (by Wally Andrews) that he would have to be discharged & would be idle for a while. I gave Bill Pettigrew some oxalate of potash solution & some sulphates of iron for developing with. I received "The Australian Worker". Very cold weather.

Sun. July 2nd, 1893. I read "The Workman" & a part of "New Australia", which is a 4-paged yellow paper printed by the New Australians who are going in the ship "Royal Tar" to the interior of Paraguay, in South America. Fred Baker was here this morning & returned "Caesar's Column", & "From The Earth To The Moon", by Jules Verne. This evening I read a part of "Electrical Instrument Making For Amateurs", by R.S. Bottone, which I received from Fred Baker in exchange for "Twelve Lectures, or Christendom Astray", by Robert Roberts. Frosty weather.

Mon. July 3rd, 1893. This morning Charlie & Bill Wicken rode in our cart to the Woodford Colliery, which is situated between Mimi & Maithland, to look for work, but they could get none. They saw a man on the Mimi road who promised Charlie the first chance of a job at breaking stones for the road. Rob & I went out with 3 wedges, the brace & bit, the axe, & a wooden maul, to split a tree near the Co-op. line. We man-
aged to split a 9 feet length after considerable difficulty, & returned at 4 p.m. Charlie went to the goods station for the wire, wax, & screws, but they had not arrived. The white flag (no work) is up for Wallsend pit, & the red for Co-op., which worked all day to day.

 Tues. July 4th, 1893. Bob & I borrowed 3 iron wedges from Hugh Buchanan, & a wooden maul from Bill Gardiner, & went out to the tree near the Co-operative skip-line, where we were yesterday. The temperature at 7 a.m. was 37°. & the ground was covered with frost & some shallow pools were covered with ice. We split the Sft. piece that we began at yesterday, & then we sawed off a 5ft. length & split it up. We split 44 slabs altogether. We left work at 4:30 p.m. & carried the tools to Spargo's, where we left them. Harry & Bill Wicken were with us in the afternoon. Jack worked in the pit all day. Charlie went to the goods shed to get my parcel but it had not come. The white flags are up for both pits. There is a westerly wind blowing to-night & the temperature is 49 deg. Clear sky.

 Wed. July 5th, 1893. Wallsend is idle again to-day. Bob & I went out & split 27 slabs, which make a total of 71. We left the tools in the engine house, & rode a good distance homeward on a set of full coal skips. Jack worked all day. Very cold weather.

 Thur. July 6th, 1893. Sister Elizabeth Jane is 20 years old to-day. We went over to Fern Valley again this morning. We split 25 slabs; the total is now 96. Brother Jack worked all day. The Broken Hill strike leaders are to be released from prison on the recommendation of R.E. O'Connor, Minister for (In)Justice, on account of the royal marriage in England. The strike leaders to be liberated are: - Richard Sleath; William John Ferguson; Ernest Josiah Polkinghorne; & Robert Hewitt. I have received the wire, wax, & screws, & have wound the wheels for the electric magnet.

 Fri. July 7th, 1893. Bob & I went out to Fern Valley (through which the Co-operative Colliery's skip line runs) late this morning, & we split 6 slabs, which make a total of 102. A few showers fell early this morning; wind South. Cloudy all day. Charlie took up our pay, which was for 15 tons, 17 cwt. at 3/10 per ton = £3:2:9; & 7/6 for water. = £3:8:3. He paid the union dues for last pay & this one, which amounted in all to 10/- . Charlie's pay was £1:16:0. He went to Lambton & interviewed Tom. Grouds, the manager of Lambton colliery, who wants a gardener, etc.
Sat. July 8th, 1893. We are all idle to-day. Brother Jack went to Lambton & paid for the groceries, & brought some home. I have been fixing up an electric bell & have nearly finished making it. There was a football match here to-day, & one of the players had his collar bone broken. Very cold weather.

Sun. Jy. 9th 1893. Mr. Dash is lecturing in the Walsenden park this afternoon, & in the Primitive Methodist church this evening on temperance. I have been reading "Electrical Instrument Making For Amateurs". Cold weather.

Mon. July 10th, 1893. Bob & I started to work in our new bord in the Jubilee district of Walsenden colliery. We both went in on the front shift, & holed a right-hand back end & shot it down with a plug of powder. Then we partly holed a sump in the middle. I filled 6 skips of small coal & put string tokens on them. The bord is very hard & brassy & contains a little water. I asked Bill Phillips, the blacksmith, for 3 bits of steel three inches long & a quarter of an inch square, & he promised to give them to me. I went to the screens weigh cabin & got Jimmy Holland to put the slack skips on our tonnage list. I also got some slack tokens (No. 149) & some new token strings. This evening I made the electric bell ready for fixing, & put up a wire for it. Jack worked all day, & Charlie worked all day bagging & loading coke at the Co-op. coke ovens. Jack paid Bill Lochrin for "The Workman", which is now paid up. Cloudy, temp. 59 deg. F. Red for Walsenden; white for Co-op.

Tu. Jy. 11th 1893. We worked again to day. Bob went front shift as usual. We filled 9 of round coal & 3 of small. We holed the sump, & fired it with a plug & a bit of powder; & partly holed a small right back end. Our bord is down 31 yards, & the cut-through is driven in front 6 yards. Jack Gay is our wheeler, & he drives the horse called "Taffy". I bored 2 holes at home through the partition between Mother's bedroom & ours, & put the electric bell wires through. Jack worked all day. He brought home "The Workman" & a pane of glass. White flag is up for Walsenden colliery; red for Co-op. Cold weather.

Wed. July 12th, 1893. Brother Bob is making a pigeons' house. I have soldered a square piece of brass to the positive wire, & a bit of clock-spring to the negative wire of the new electric bell, which I have fixed over the head of Bob's bed.

This evening I went to the Mechanics' Institute to attend our Socialist League meeting. I saw John Robinson & his wife there, & afterwards, Jack Estell. We stood outside.
outside talking for a good while about theosophy, socialism, etc., then we decided to postpone our meeting till next Sunday, as there was a Wallsend miners' meeting on, & Dave Watkins was there. I walked to the railway crossing with John & Mrs. Robinson, & during the conversation he told me that he came here in 1880 from New Zealand, where he was boycotted by some mine-owners. I went to the School of Arts & gave Dave Watkins the book entitled "Is Socialism Sound?" but I could not see him. On the way home I asked Fred Solly, the barber, for an empty cigar box, but he did not have one. I got a small one at the Great Northern pub. I promised to lend John Robinson the book, "Twelve Lectures", by R. Roberts, next Sunday. Charlie carted 2 loads of split. White flag for Wallsend pit. Temp. 56 F.

Thur. July 13th, 1893. Bob & I went down to Fern Valley (or "Hell Hole" as some call it) & sawed off a 5 ft. length of log & split it into 13 slabs. We brought the tools home. Jack worked all day & so did the Co-op. pit. This evening Jack & Bob are making a pigeon bucket. I wrote 4 pages of a letter in reply to Jene. Grose's letter of May 23rd, 1893. White flag (no work) for Co-op. to-morrow; work for Wallsend, Temp. 56, Fog. F.

Fri. July 14th, 1893. This morning Bob, Jack, Harry Wicken, Jack Mahoney, Bill Austin & Bill Wicken walked to Fern Valley. The 2 last named went on to Mimmi while the others & I loaded 3 pit-trolleys & 2 pit skips with the slabs that Bob & I split. We ran them to the Eastern end of Spargo's house, near the bridge, & left them there while we went home & had dinner. After dinner we three & Harry Wicken walked down to the bridge & waited until Bill Spargo harnessed "Silver," a bay horse, & brought him over Silver pulled 2 trolleys up the line to the crossing near Tracy's pub; & while he was away Jack, Bob, & I shovelled the trolley & 2 skips over the bridge near old Jack Irving's house. Bill Spargo & Harry Wicken came down with the horse, & he pulled up a trolley & a skip while Bob & Fred Steel shoveled another skip behind, & Jack & I shoveled the last skip... We unloaded them near the crossing, & Charlie brought our horse & cart to take the slabs home. Bob helped him to load. Harry Wicken, Bill Spargo & I rode back with the empty trolleys & skips to the bridge near the brick-kiln, Bill Spargo then took them with Silver, back to the flat near the mouth of the new tunnel, where we got them from. We rode back in a skip to the flat near Cuth Richardson's house, & put the empty set back on the road. Jack Wicken & I then went up to the slabs, & I stayed there to help to load, while Jack went home to help Charlie to unload. Bill Wicken went home. We finished carting the slabs home by dark.
"The Workman" arrived. Writing to Jenna Grose. Jack got a book entitled "The Foundation Of Death" by Axel Gustoeton, from Rev. Thomas Davies, who wrote to Sydney for it. the price is 4/- I read a part of "The pioneers Of Electricity" Pain; wind South. Temp. 56 deg. F. No work for Co-op. to-morrow.

Sun. July 16th, 1893. I finished writing the letter to Jenna. It consists of 20 pages & deals with the following subjects: the reason why my reply was delayed; fixing bell in kitchen; making another for bedroom; intention to make telephones; splitting slabs; worked 20 & half days since 8th of last May; cavilling out of Co-op. miners; brother Jack & Jim Pettigrew in special pillars; discharge of toymen; bad state of the place; unions striking to resist reductions in wages; national wealth in possession of capitalists; 600 men discharged at Broken Hill; reason alleged to be fall in price of silver; real reason probably to provide non-unionists for steamship owners to reduce seamen's wages; probability of mines being worked by State; probable disch-arge of Jenna; the Socialist movement; answers to his objections to Socialism; my rejection of Secularism; the 6th plank of Socialist platform; difference between Socialism & Secular-isrn; Communism; arrival of books & Christmas cards; miscarriage of my letter of Feb.; supposed prevention of writing to him; Atheism; electricity & electric light; the origin of things; increase of family; unfairness to children; my condition; ignorance of people; indifference of friends; his rejection of Socialism before examination; Harold Grose's health; 15 pounds for a house; their photos; advice to see Jim Tamblyn; advice on indigestion; state of my eyes; our health; flower seeds; request for "Harrier Miner"; "Australian Workman"; Secularist leaflets; Socialist pamphlets promised; offer to lend him any book; "Caesar's Column"; inquiries re Secularists in Broken Hill; I also sent a copy of the "Principles & Platform" of the Australian Socialist League. Cold weather. White flags for both pits. Socialist meeting further postponed.

Mon. July 17th, 1893. This morning Jack & I covered the bridge over the creek in our yard with new slabs. In the afternoon we made a drain with slabs from the creek to near the back kitchen door. Bob worked at his pigeon house, & Harry Ticken helped him. Jack posted my letter to Jenna, Charlie worked in the top garden. Charlie Hurn & his wife have been selected to fill the position of care-takers of the new Cottage Hospital at Wallsend. Light showers. Temp 60 deg. F. White for Co-op. Red for V.

Tu. July 18th 1893. We filled 9 of large & 1 of small coal.
to-day. Our tonnage for the next pay is 19 skips at 10:3 =10 tons, dept, And 11 skips of small coal. We made a right-hand back-end & shot it down; then we made a left back-end, & I tried to shoot it down with a plug of borrowed powder, but failed. Jack & Charlie have baled all of the water out of the lower tank, taken the cover off, & cleaned the mud out. Rain morning & evening. Work for W., none for Co-op. Temp. 60 deg. F. at 7 p.m.,

Wed. July 18th, 1893. We filled 9 skips of round & 2 of small coal to-day. We put another plug of powder in the back-end, & it blew most of the coal down. Bob returned the borrowed powder to Ned & Armstrong. This evening Bob rode "Tiger" to Dark Creek (Heaton) & visited Harry Davidson whose head was accidentally cut last week by a bit of stone that fell from the roof of his bord. Cloudy. White for both pits.

Thur. July 20th, 1893. This morning Bob & I went down to the Fern Valley engine-house to get Bill Steen's saw, but we could not get it. So we borrowed Spargo's saw & took it up to Steen, who had then borrowed another cross-cut saw, & did not require Spargo's saw; so Bob returned with it to Spargo's, & stayed there till 2 p.m., helping to bring horse-dung in skips from the Co-operative colliery stables. Jack & I then walked down to Spargo's brick-kiln. 9 saw Bob, Harry Wicken, & Bill Spargo unloading the manure. When they had finished we shoved a black horse up on to his legs, as he could not get up by himself. Harry Wicken & Bill Spargo then had dinner, while Jack, Bob, Hill Wicken & I walked down to the place where we had split the slabs. Bill Wicken & I sawed off a log 15 feet long & about 7 inches thick at the small end. The 4 of us then rolled the log up on to the skip road. I cut another log about 14 feet long while Jack got a trolley from near the tunnel. Bill Spargo & Harry Wicken then arrived with Silver, & the 6 of us carried the log that I cut, & put it on 2 skips. We then put the ti-tree log on 2 skips & put them opposite to the skips on which the other log rested. We then got 2 slabs & rolled the second log over them to the skips where the ti-tree log was. Silver pulled them to the flat near Cuth Richardson's house. We shifted an empty set of skips & took the logs up to the crossing near Tracy's pub, & rolled them off. Jack rode with Bill Spargo down to the kiln, & from there they shoved the skips to the flat.

I have started to make an electrophorus. Cloudy.

Fri. July 21st, 1893. Bob took our horse, "Tiger" down to Spargo's this morning to help to cart bricks up to the bridge near Price's house in Devon Street, where a brick culvert is being built. Jack & I went down to the brick kiln, & Jack helped Bill Spargo to load 250 bricks. We put
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Tiger in the traces, & Silver was in the shafts, & they got half way up the hill but would not go any farther. Pavior then came along with 3 big horses & a load of Spargo's brick & took the dray to the top of the hill & came back with 3 horses & pulled our load up the hill. We got along pretty well, & finally unloaded them near the culvert. We then went back with the horses & dray to the crossing where the logs were, put them on the dray, & carted them home.

Jack & I got the logs into their places on the tank, while Bob returned with Spargo & took Tiger with him. They carted 3 loads of manure to a Chinaman's garden, & then carted 3 loads of 250 bricks to the new culvert. Jack & I covered the tank with slabs. I went with Jim O'Brien to the pay-office & got our pay, which was $ 2.5. I did not pay the union dues, which were 4/-.

This evening I bought an ounce of nitric acid, & an ounce of sulphuric acid (3d each) to make papyroxiline with, At Dr. Nash's surgery Tom Stepney gave me 3 empty bottles & a bit of tin foil & a formula for making a bichromate of potash solution for an electric battery. I bought another ounce of nitric acid at Joe Senior's, & a 1 lb. of glue at Froome's. I tried to get a bit of millboard At Tom M'Crae's shop, but failed.

Bill Austin & Harry Wicken went out to the Brush to-night to shoot allabies. Cloudy, cold weather.

Sat. July 22nd, 1893. This morning Bob & I went out to Wilkinson's paddock, near Barr's house, to shoot parrots. Brother Jack & Bill Wicken rode in our cart to Newcastle, & came home about 6 p.m. with the groceries from Lambton. I have been making the electrophorus mentioned in "Electrical Instrument-Making," but cannot finish it for want of millboard. Bob returned this evening with about a dozen parrots which he shot; & about 7 p.m. he gave them to Tom Stepney. Charlie & Bill Wicken have put in a tender for a mile of wire fencing that is to be done by contract, about 100 miles up the Northern line from Newcastle.


Tu. July 25th, 1893. I finished making the Leyden jars to day. This evening Jack bought half a pound of brass & silver at Froome's (2d). Sue me. Jack worked again to-day. Bob went out this evening with Bill Austin, to the Miami line, to shoot swans. Cloudy weather.
Wed. July 26th, 1893. I received a "Barrier Miner" & a "Silver Age" this morning from Jim Tamblyn, Broken Hill. Bob & Bill Austin returned last night at 10 o'clock. They shot a swan, but could not find it in the reeds. Cloudy.

Thur. July 27th, 1893. To-day I made an apparatus, with a lamp—glass & some pitch in which to decompose water by electricity. I filled the glass with water & nitric acid, & put into it a small bottle of water, upside down, to catch the oxygen gas, & a larger one to hold the hydrogen. I coupled 2 Leclanche cells, & a bichromate cell that I made some time ago, together, & attached the terminals to the decomposing cell. The hydrogen was evolved rapidly from the negative wire in the water, & collected in the bottle; but only a few bubbles of oxygen appeared at the positive copper wire & soon dissolved in the water. I decomposed nearly all of the water in the glass, but still no oxygen appeared. The electricity was kept going through the acidulated water about 4 hours, & a large amount of hydrogen had collected in the bottle, but no oxygen was in the small bottle, although the positive wire was oxidised & black, & there was some flocculent, white substance in the bottom of the decomposing cell. I think the pitch was oxidised & had prevented the oxygen from rising into the small bottle. Jack worked all day. Charlie has a job to make 300 square wooden railway keys for the Co-operative colliery railway line, for which he will be paid three pounds. Rain nearly all day. Wind South. Temp. 64 deg. F.

Fri. July 28th, 1893. I went out to the scrub near Piero's pumping-engine this forenoon & sawed down a spotted gum tree to split & make keys of. Bob, Charlie, & I cut off the butt, & Charley split it up. He went to the engine-house near the new tunnel & got Bill Steen's saw & brought it to us. We cut off 2 billets, which produced 68 keys. We hid the keys, maul, wedges, & axe, & left work about 4:30 p.m. Rain fell nearly all last night & this forenoon, but none fell this afternoon until 7 o'clock, when a light shower fell. Brother Jack worked all day, although his pillar was flooded. Temp. 58 F. at 9:30 p.m.

Sat. July 29th, 1893. This morning Bob, Charlie, & I went out to the tree that we cut down yesterday. Before we went out Fred Baker sharpened Steen's saw for us, & we took it out. We sawed off 8 & a half lengths from the tree; & they produced 193 keys, which made a total of 361. This evening I took a piece of ti-tree wood to Fred Baker with which to turn 2 telephone cases for me on his lathe. We turned a lid from one for one case; but as the wood was wet &
not suitable for the purpose, we only made the lid. I promised to get a piece of forest-oak to make the cases of.

stayed talking with Fred, & he showed me that the South pole of a magnet points Northward. Jack worked all day. Read "The Australian Workman", Showery.


Mon. July 31st, 1893. Charlie, Bob, & I cut down a big tree. At Baker's this evening, turning a telephone case, Jack worked all day.

Tu. 1st Aug. 1893. We, the miners, started again to day after a robbery of fourpence a ton, as the hewing rate for getting coal has been reduced from three shillings & sixpence to 5/6 per ton of large (round) coal. Bob and I filled 9 of large & 3 of small coal. Cut tonnage for next pay at 19 skips at 10/14 = 9 tons, 13 cwt. And 3 tons of small coal. There is to be a Socialist meeting next Sunday in the Mechanics' Institute at 3 p.m. Jack worked all day. Dry, cloudy weather.

Wed. Aug. 3rd, 1893. We filled 9 skips of round & 1 of small coal to-day. I gave Fred Baker a Co-op. coal ticket this evening. Fred lent me "The Conventional Lies Of Our Civilization", by Max Nordau. Sarah Pritchard & her husband, of Lambton, were here this evening. I lent Fred Baker "Twelve Lectures, or Christendom Astray", by Robert Roberts. I also lent him the pamphlet entitled "A Social Tangle". Co-op., it worked to-day. I put the bichromate battery in working order. Cloudy.

Thur. Aug. 3rd, 1893. We filled 8 of round & 3 of small coal, our weight is 10-4. This evening I partly magnetised 2 square pieces of steel that Bill Phillips gave me, to make 3 telephones. Charlie got the big crosscut saw set by Mr. Parker. Jack worked all day, & his pillar fell in at the end of the shift. Very cloudy weather.

Fri. Aug. 4th, 1893. Early this morning Bob, Charlie & I went out to the tree that we had cut down first, behind the Co-op. pumping engine, & worked hard all day. We made 13 cuts with the saw, & split 261 keys. Bill Austin took up our pay for us, which was £1:17:6. Jack's pay was £3:4:0. Charley's pay was 3/4 for half a day's work. Cloudy.
Sat. Aug. 5th, 1893. This morning Charlie went out to the tree where we were yesterday, & about 3:30 a.m. Bob & I went out to him. We sawed off 8 fourteen-inch lengths, & had about 160 keys made by 3:30 p.m., when Jack & Bill Austin came out & helped us. We all worked until about 5:30 p.m. & then had 337 keys made. The total number of keys made is 860.

Sun. Aug. 6th, 1893. I read a part of "The Conventional Lies of Our Civilization" this morning. This afternoon I went to the Socialist meeting at the Institute. Those present were: Hugh de Largie; Mr. Robinson; Mrs. Robinson; Jack Estell; Bob Brown; Mr. Francis, & some who are strangers to me. The see read the minutes of last meeting, Dave Watkins gave a report of the business of the delegate meeting, which was a motion to invite Mr. Suchey, M.P., to deliver a few lectures on Socialism, to begin in about a fortnight's time. The report was adopted. We approved of the delegate minutes re Suchey. De Largie moved "That we take up five shares in the new daily paper that is to be started shortly by the proprietors of "The Australian Worker"; but it was resolved that we wait until the prospectus of the new paper is published, which will be next week.

Jack Estell read a leaflet, written by George Black, M.P., on the abolition of the Upper House. Hugh de Largie, Dave Watkins, Jack Estell, & George Hardy commented on the leaflet. Dave suggested that we have a debate on the question, Should the Government Compensate?" By request he promised to write a paper on the subject. It is to be discussed at our next meeting, in a fortnight's time. Contributions were taken & the meeting closed. I paid 1/-. Fine weather.

Mon. Aug. 7th, 1893. This morning Bill Austin, Charlie, Bob, & I went out to the scrub & split 640 keys, which made a total of 1499. Jack worked all day; & this evening he bought an ounce of sulphuric acid (3d.) of Joe Senior, & tried unsuccessfully to get an ounce of bichromate of potash. Fine, clear weather.

Tu. Aug. 8th 1893. This morning Bill Austin, Bob, Charlie, & I went out & cut 534 keys, which make 2035. Charlie has to make another 1000 now for 30/-. I received a letter & 2 un-mounted photos from Jim Tamblyn, Broken Hill.

Brother Jack worked all day. Jack Irving, who lives near the Cooperative shop-line, Plattsburg, has been arrested on a charge of forging bank notes & keeping incendiary photographs. Dry weather.

Wed. Aug 9th 1893. This morning Bob & I went out to the scrub where we split the keys yesterday. We found a good
spotted gum tree, with straight grain, & we sawed it down. We sawed off one 7 inch length, & 2 twenty inch lengths, which took us until 5 p.m. to do. Several showers fell during the day. Charlie carted the rest of the 2000 keys with Tiger & our cart. Parker condemned 15 keys; but as there are 2010 keys made we are only 6 short of 2000. Jack worked all day. Charlie bought a small triangular file to sharpen our handsaw; also an axe handle. Work for Co-op. & Wallsend tomorrow. Cloudy.

Thur. Aug. 10th, 1893. We started to work again to-day, & filled mine skips of large & l of small coal. Tom Langlands started working again to-day, wheeling after being kept idle a month for allowing his horse to get killed by the set of skips between Joe Longworth's flat & old Tommy Bousfield's cabin. We expected to hole through to-day but could not. Charlie went out by himself to-day & split 340 keys. The weather has been showery all day. Jack Irvine was tried at the Wallsend police court yesterday. Our Jack worked all day.

Fri. Aug. 11th, 1893. Bob & I filled 8 of round & 2 of small. We have not holed through yet. Old Mungo Permain, 'the spragman, has to go slack-filling after to-day. Jack worked half a day only on account of his pillar falling in.

Sat. Aug. 12th, 1893. This morning Bob, Bill Austin & I went over to Wilkinson's paddock & caught Tiger after a lot of running. We put him in our cart & went out to the scrub near the Minmi road, where we got 2 loads of firewood for Bill Austin & carted them to his house in Lemon Grove. This evening I went to Fred Baker's house to help him to finish turning the 2 telephone cases; but as he had a headache I showed him 2 photos that I recently received from Broken Hill. I gave him some guns & went home. I received a copy of "The Barrier Miner" containing a full report of the speeches made by Will Ferguson, Dick Sleath, Polkinghorne, Hewitt, & other strike-victims, at Broken Hill last week. The paper came from Jenna Grose. Cloudy.

Sun. Aug. 13th 1893. I walked up to the hill near parson Tolla's house, above Martindale street, Wallsend, to attend a Socialist meeting. There were about 15 or 30 Socialists present, among them being Dave Watkins, Bob Brown, Jack Estell, Jack Hill, Henry Tyldesley, Charlie Vicl, John Robinson, George Hardy (of Lambton), Malcolm Davidson, Fannie Reid, R. Reid & another man from New Lambton. Dave opened the meeting & moved that Jack Estell take the chair, which was carried. Estell then gave a short address in which he said that we had formed a branch of the Socialist League,
at Wollongong, & had held a few meetings in the Mechanics' Institute. We had resolved, in order to increase our membership, & to spread the principles of Socialism, to inaugurate Sunday morning meetings on the hill where we then were. He called on Fergie Reid to address the meeting. Mr. Reid made a moderately long speech during which he said that a gentleman had told him that in order to compete successfully in the boot trade a person requires £2000.

Charlie Hol followed, & said that he differed from the statement made by Mr. Reid re the boot trade, because he could buy his boots as cheaply from MacMullen as he could from any large factory, yet MacMullen's machinery was only worth £50. Reid replied to Hol, & then Watkins made a long speech on the general conditions of things. The New Lambton man then said a few words.

Fergie Reid gave the audience the history of - & character of "The Australian Workman" newspaper, & an account of the proposed new daily Labour paper - "The Evening Post". He distributed a dozen copies of the "Workman" among those who were not in the habit of taking it.

Estell announced that to give an impetus to the Socialist League, we would admit members free of charge. The meeting then closed. Cold South wind blowing.

Mon. Aug. 14th, 1895. Charlie went out to day & split 140 keys. Jack worked all day. Bob is tanning some big "jacob" lines to fish with in the Hunter river. I have a severe cold.

Writing a letter to Alf Edwards, Copleand. Rainy weather.


Thur. Aug. 17th, 1895. Finished the letter to Alf. It consists of 25 pages & deals with the following subjects:- his letter, "The Social Tangle"; Mr. Sommerfield's lecture; "Advice To Singers"; Fred Baker's opinion of "A Social Tangle"; Socialist meeting; Mr. Schey, M.P.; "The Evening Post"; George Black's leaflet on the Upper House; my inability to speak; Watkins' paper on Competition; a promise to send Alf some Socialist leaflets; offer to lend "The Socialist
Movement In America"; his offer of phonographic books declined; work at the collieries; Frank Saunders' death; cavilling, & description of our bord; reduction of hewing rate to 5/6 per ton; cavilling out of 104 Co-op. miners; Jack kept on; names of some men out of work; Charlie's job getting 2000 railway keys; David Lang's reduction & going on the coal; Coke ovens to be re-lighted; David Roberts reduced at Co-operative pit; Mungo Perman to fill slack; reconstruction & rees in general; men going to goldfields.

Edith FRoom; Opinion of Alf on Luke 3:23; my opinion of Confucius; elocution class; offer to lend "The National Temperance Reader"; the drink traffic; drink the main cause of lunacy; doctor Edward Shepherd's opinion on lunacy; state of claim at Copeland; Fred Baker's request for work; my opinion of Home Rule; the Irish Rebellion of 1798; the Republic of 1859; my electrical apparatus, & fixing of 2 bells; construction of telephones; advice to study electricity; cost of bells & batteries; our health; will get no photos yet; his family's likenesses; & question re taking the "Workman". I put 2 twopenny stamps on the letter & posted it this evening.

Fri., Aug. 18th, 1893. This morning I sharpened Bill Steen's crosscut saw. Bob took up our pay, which was £ 3 19's. He paid 10/- for union fees for the last 2 pays & this one. Jack's pay was £ 4 0:0. Charlie's pay was £ 4 11:6. Jack bought an ounce of chronic acid for 6d at Joe Senior's. We began taking "The Sydney Morning Herald" to-day. Dry, cloudy weather.

Sat., Aug. 19th 1893. This morning Jack & I went with our horse & cart to Newcastle. We put them in Brent's pub yard, & went over in the ferry boat of John Marks to the Dyke, where we picked up 2 pocketfuls of electric light carbon rods that were thrown away after being used. We saw the "Maid" being got ready to load with coal. There were about 13 black men on board, & several who appeared to be Frenchmen. We went back to Hunter street, where I bought 2 ounces of sulphuric acid & 1 of bichromate of potash. I also bought 7 inches of 1 inch brass wire at Capper's shop. I bought a twopenny packet of verbena seeds & 1 of mignonette. Also a piece of 1 inch cardboard (5d). We had a look around, got the horse & cart, & started for home. We stopped at Lambton & got our groceries at the Co-operative store, & returned home. Light rain.

Sun., Aug. 20th, 1893. There was a Socialist meeting this morning on the hill near Tollis' manse. I arrived after the meeting started, & Dave Watkins was speaking on Usury, & he had apparently been speaking a good while. He showed the evils of usury, & proposed, as a remedy, the nationalisation of
Hugh de Lariè spoke next, and stated that at one time usury was forbidden in England, but in the time of Henry, number 8 there was a law made to permit usury or interest to the extent of 5 per cent. This limit was gradually raised until the time of Queen Vic, & is now as high as it is possible to make it.

Mr. William Fountain, engine-driver, then made a lengthy speech in which he said that he was in favour of the object & principles of the Socialists. He pointed out the difference between Socialists & social reformers, which is that whereas Socialists are trying to nationalise the land, capital, factories, etc., the social reformers are satisfied for the time being if they can nationalise the land only. If we can abolish the landlord we can break the back of the landlord.

Watkins replied to Mr. Fountain, & said that if land were nationalised next week he could not go upon it & be able to obtain a living unless he had the necessary capital. He would therefore be compelled to borrow money, & his lease would be held by the bank (or whoever lent the money) as security. Thus the landlord could not be abolished. In his opinion the nationalisation of land & capital should be simultaneous.

Mr. Fountain replied & said he would not be drawn into a discussion on the question then. He would, however, come next Sunday & say a few words on the subject of rent, if the meeting was agreeable.

Jack Estell thanked Mr. Fountain for his offer, which he accepted on behalf of the League. He then announced that Mr. W. A. Holman would lecture at 7 o'clock this evening in the Mechanics' Institute on "Socialism: what it is & what it is not". The meeting (of 50 persons) then ended.

I went to hear the lecture in the evening, & found the hall about half full. Jack Estell was chairman.

Mr. Holman said that the people of the present day are better off than those of 50 years ago; but in spite of all the advantages of science & invention there is more misery now than there ever was, because the labourers had lost control of the land & the means of production. The remedy is the nationalisation of land & capital.

A vote of thanks, moved by Dave Watkins & seconded by Amram Lewis, was carried by acclamation. The collection amounted to a pound.

Mon. Aug. 21st, 1895. We started again this morning & filled 9 skips of round coal. Our weight this morning is 9:1. Rain last night & this morning. Had my hair cut this evening by To Fisher.

Fri. Aug. 25th, 1895. We filled 9 skips of large coal today, & 4 skips of small. No weight. This evening I re-
STATE SOCIALISM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The mania that has taken possession of the minds of thousands of men to-day, is State Socialism. At the street corners, at trades' union gatherings, in our public parks, yes, in sixpenny restaurants, the cry is, that socialism is the only panacea for labour's ills. That man is susceptible to gullibility is an established fact, and those who are so earnestly wooing socialism to-day, to-morrow may be self-admitted dupes. Socialists have painted an ideal, and overlooked the fact that the material they have to deal with is human. Men must be educated, and men must cradle angels before the re- construction of society takes place, and the chances are that society will then adopt a very different system to what the nowaday socialists propound. Socialists have gone so far as to imply force in the shape of a bloody revolution. They would resuscitate the murderous instincts of man and resort to the spilling of blood. They would make a hell first and then produce a heaven afterwards. They would turn almighty creators in five minutes, and the savage of yesterday, who was walking knee-deep in his brother's blood, to-day would be a spotless angel sitting on the throne of grace crying, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." They have yet to learn that force is not a natural law and cannot successfully be applied to human nature. Education is the only power that can assist or be of any service to human nature, and only by an evolving of time can splendid minds be formed and a beautiful state of society reached. When shall state socialists commence to study human nature and allow common sense to prevail?

In these sorrowful days of depression the dupes of socialism are many. Starving men, like drowning ones, will gladly clutch at anything—even a straw—nor past it be wondered at. To the houseless, and hungry State Socialism is as a mirage on the desert of depression, filling the friendless with false hopes, with expectations that can never be realised, as long as ignorance, low cunning, and greed exist in the breasts of the human family. If socialism would prove the saviour of democracy, instead of dreaming their lives away over impossibilities they would not be neglecting their duty as citizens. Step by step we have climbed, and still must climb untill the limit is reached of the highest form of civilisation, a lightless, man, becoming an honest and all good we are conscious of civilisation, man and in comfort, probably in butchery and horrible bloodshed. There is too much trickery in the suffocating of purpose practised by the human race. It seems that men are schooling themselves for no other purpose than to become adepts in falsifying, and between, playing the hypocrite and putting on the varnish, honesty in human nature has become almost obsolete. Yet, socialists are going to apply their remedy, and in the "twinkling of an eye," or after a good night's sleep, society will awake and find that it has been regenerated. Well, if one could honestly wish the socialists success in their undertaking it would be a pleasure to do so; but, alas! there is not a power above or beneath the sun that can regenerate mankind, save science and evolution. I am, &c.,

ROBERT DEMPSEY.

Newcastle, 1st September. 1893.
CORRESPONDENCE

STATE SOCIALISM.

SIR,—In yesterday's issue of your paper I see a letter by Mr. Robert Dempsey to which I would like to reply. He says "that man is susceptible to gullibility is an established fact." If that is true it necessarily follows that as R. D. is a man, he is also gullible; and it is evident to those who know and understand the objects and principles of socialism that he is more gullible than the socialists whom he despises so much. He next says that "socialists have overlooked the fact that the material they have to deal with is human." I deny it. Socialists know that some men are ignorant, cunning, and greedy; and they also know the causes which have produced these effects. Ignorance is due to lack of education; therefore socialists desire to make all education free, secular, and compulsory. The cause of cunningness is the present competitive system of production and distribution of wealth, which teaches and forces people to cheat and rob one another in order to live. If every man had an opportunity of earning his living honestly, he would have no need to exercise his cunningness to take a mean advantage of another person. Therefore socialists wish to abolish the competitive system, and establish State co-operation instead. Greediness is due to the present fear of poverty, which causes people to strive to the utmost to accumulate sufficient wealth to place them beyond its reach. Socialists propose to remove the fear of poverty by making it possible for any man to work for his living and to obtain the whole product of his labour. R. D. further makes the sensational statement that socialists have gone so far as to impiously force in the shape of a bloody revolution; and "would resurrect the murderous instincts of man and resort to the spilling of blood." This statement is unmistakable proof that R. D. either really does not know what socialism is, and has been gullible in consequence, or he is trying to gull those to whom socialism is a novelty. I have a copy of the "Objects of the Australian Socialist League," but cannot find in it one word in favour of resurrecting murderous instincts, spilling blood, making halls, and walking in a brother's blood. I have also read a good deal of socialist literature, and heard speeches on socialism from prominent socialists, but I have never heard or read anything that would incline any person to act in a bloodthirsty manner. If socialists are such murderous socialists as R. D. alleges, how was it that Heath and Ferguson, who are socialists, prevented the Broken Hill strikers from attacking the blacklegs during the last strike? If socialists are destitute of spilling blood, why did John Burns, who is another socialist, prevent the dock-labourers of London from creating disorder? If Heath and Ferguson were anxious to see a revolution they could have easily done so, but instead of inciting to revolution, they kept the strikers in order. R. D. next says, "Socialists have yet to learn that force . . . . cannot successfully be applied to human nature." Socialists are already aware of the fact, and therefore they do not propose to apply force to human nature. They do not believe in arming people, but in educating them. Hence the first plank of the socialists' platform is "free, secular, industrial, and compulsory education." This, of course, can only apply to children; so, in order to educate adults, the first object of socialists is, "to foster public interest in the great social questions of the day by promoting inquiry in every possible manner; to promote free public discussion of all social questions; and to circulate and publish literature throwing light upon the existing evils of society, and the methods necessary for their removal." R. D.'s remark that "ignorance, cunning, and greed exist in the human breast," proves
Fri. Sep. 15th, 1893. We filled 7 skips of big coal & 3 of small. No weight. Bob got our pay, which was £ 4 - 4 - 11. he paid Tom Langlands 2/6 for the small coal filled by him & credited to us.

Sat. Sep. 16th 1893. I have been trying to make the electric bell ring. Jack went in our cart to Newcastle, & bought a book entitled "Rome And The Abbey", for 3l. He also bought half a pound of sal ammoniac at Knags for 1/-.

Fine weather.

Sun. Sep. 17th 1893. I went up to the Socialist meeting on the hill this morning. Hugh de Largie had some "Principles & Platforms" of the Socialist League, which I distributed among the audience. John Robinson was chairman. Amram Lewis spoke on "Political Economy". I have finished reading "The Conventional Lies Of Our Civilization", by Max Nordau.

Mon. Sep. 18th 1893. To day Bob & I filled 9 skips of large coal & 2 of small. Bob Lundy took our names & those of our crossmates for the next cavil. Ned & Party Davidson are to be our crossmates again. Only the wall seen big tunnel worked.

Robert Dempsey has a reply in The Newcastle Herald to day to my letter. My Mother has received a letter from her Mother in Redruth, Cornwall.
Broken Hill has had no less than twenty weddings during the past week, one of the most prominent being the marriage of Mr. J. E. Tamblyn, so well and favorably known as captain of the Central Cricket Club and also member of the S.A. Football Club, besides being a great coursing enthusiast, to the eldest daughter of Mr. J. Julian, of Argent Street. The wedding took place on the evening of August 24, at the Wesleyan Church, the Rev. A. W. Bray officiating. Mr. A. T. Watts acted as best man. The bride, handsomely attired, was attended by her two sisters (Misses Annie and Millie Julian) a. Miss Lily Tamblyn. A large party of friends met at the house of the bride's parents, and did ample justice to a bounteous spread, after which dancing and other pastimes were indulged in to the evident enjoyment of all.

AUGUST 25, 1893.

A wedding ceremony was performed last evening in the Sulphide-street Wesleyan Church in the presence of a large concourse of people. The couple was the marriage of Mr. J. E. Tamblyn to the eldest daughter of Mr. Julian, of Argent-street North. The Rev. A. W. Bray officiated. Mr. Tamblyn is very popular in cricket and football circles; he captained the Central Cricket Club very successfully last season.
I turned Tom Stepney's catalog, & lent him "Pioneers Of Electricity". Bought 3d. worth of methylated spirits from Joe Senior. Jack worked to-day. Fog this morning: clear this evening.

Fri. We filled 9 of round & 1 of slack. Weight 9:1. Dry.
Sat. Aug. 26th 1893.
We are all at home to-day. I am making telephones. Dry.

Sun. Aug. 26th, 1893. Attended a Socialist meeting on Tollis' hill this morning. Mr. W. Fountain, Amram Lewis, Hugh de Large, Jack Estell, & Mr. Tiplady spoke. Fifteen new members joined the Socialist League. A debate was arranged between Tiplady & one of our party, to eventuate next Sunday week, on the Socialist Platform versus the Democratic Platform. 30 people attended. There is a creep in the Lambton headings district of the Wallsend colliery. Dry.

Mon. Aug. 27th 1893. We are all idle to-day. Jack, Bob, & Charlie went out & split some posts & rails on the Co-operative estate. I wound a bobbin with wire for the telephones. White flag for Wallsend.


Wed Aug. 29th. I cleaned out the den (dark room) & replaced the bottles. Fine weather.

Thur. Aug. 30th, 1893. I received a paper & a letter from Ali Edwards. We worked & filled 9 skips of large & 3 of small coal. Co-op. also worked. Our tonnage for next pay is 45 skips at 9:2:14, = 21 tons, 3 cwt; & 13 skips of small coal. Charlie worked with George Harris.


Thur. Sep. 21st, 1893. Wallsend pit is idle again. I finished my reply to Dempsey, & posted it. Mrs. Banfield's case is on at the Court. Jim O'Brien made a little
foot-stool here for his wife this morning. This afternoon he bought 3d worth of writing paper for me. Jack & Charlie worked. Fine weather. Temp. 82 deg. F. at noon.

Fri. Sep. 22nd, 1893. No work again for Wallsend. Frank Cotton, M.P. for Newtown, was to speak here this evening but did not come. I went down to hear him but was disappointed. I met Mr. Haworth, the Latter Day Saint, in Nelson street, & conversed with him on faith. Jack & Charlie worked. The Co-operative miners cavilled to-day, & our Jack & his mate, Jim Pettigrew, got to a good bord. Bob attended the Wallsend miners' meeting. Old Mrs. Price is dead. I returned "The Conventional Lies Of Our Civilization".

Sat. Sep. 23rd, 1893. Wallsend colliery is still idle. Bob & I went down the Co-operative pit with Jack & helped him in his new bord. Charlie worked & got a "scat" in one eye from the stone he was breaking.

I rigged up a microphone, & we could hear a fly walking in an ointment box by means of the telephone. Liz-Jane bought an exercise book for me. Granny Price was buried to-day. Hot weather.

Sun. Sep. 24th, 1893. This afternoon I started to write a letter to Jim Tamblyn. At 3 p.m. I went to the Wallsend park to hear Mr. Beeby speak on Socialism. There were a great many people there. After we had waited about 30 minutes Mr. John Robinson said that Mr. Beeby had been detained in Sydney on business, & had sent a telegram yesterday saying that he could not attend. Mr. Henry Rushton had, however, come there to give his views on Socialism, & he hoped Mr. Rushton would get a fair hearing.

Mr. Rushton then arose & said that he was glad to see that some of the young men were beginning to take an interest in political & social questions, as the Socialists were doing. He had not come with a feeling of enmity towards his Socialist friends, because he was sure that they were trying to do their best to ameliorate the condition of suffering humanity. He came to point out a few difficulties which prevented him from accepting Socialism. There were several bodies of men in N.S.W. who proposed different things as panaceas for the evils of society. First there are the Freetraders, who say that we need Free Trade in order to make the colony prosperous. Then the Protectionist Party says the country needs protection. Following them are the Single Taxers, who claim that the only remedy is the single tax. Last & not least we have the Socialists who say that the only remedy for the present state of affairs is to let the State nationalise everything & control everything.
Mr. Watkins had said on the hill recently that the State should control Capital. Now, if the State should control capital, on one hand, it must also control it on the other; that is, if the State controlled the capital or money of the country it would also control a man's labour, which is his capital. Therefore it would deprive him of his liberty. If we look back 500 years we find that the State dictated to men what they should eat & wear. The State has always been the greatest enemy of freedom. Charles Bradlaugh, Robert Owen, & others who were Individualists had fought hard against the State. He wanted the Socialist System to be brought down from the regions of theory & reduced to practice. If he could be shown that Socialism was practicable he would join the League. Annie Besant had said that the State post office is a good example of socialist distribution. Now, in an essay which he would quote & from it was shown that State distribution, as far as the London post office is concerned, is a failure compared with private enterprise. He then read a part of the essay—"A Plea for Liberty", in which it was stated that the actual cost of sending a letter from London to Glasgow is one 12th of a penny; yet the people had to pay a penny for it. He said that the State made a larger profit on the carriage & distribution of letters, but lost on the sending & delivery of telegrams. The State was a tyrant, as was shown by the strike of the post-office employees. The State opposed the introduction of the telephone into England, & even now it taxes the telephone companies £2 for each telephone put out. We are now bound by laws which we call obsolete, but which can be sprung upon us at any moment, & which were made by the State. He spoke in this strain for over an hour & finished with a peroration in favour of liberty.

Mr. John Robinson said he had listened attentively to Mr. Rushton's remarks, but he was not thereby converted to Individualism. Mr. Rushton objected to State control, but would we not be better off now if the mines were worked by the Government instead of private capitalists? Mr. Watkins would reply to Mr. Rushton's speech next Sunday at 3 p.m.

Dave Watkins moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Rushton, which was carried by acclamation.

I went to the Baptist tabernacle this evening, but as I could not understand the German preacher I went to the Salvation Army hall. Later I had a controversial conversation with old George Lonsdale on Socialism. Sunny day. Work for Co-op.; none for Wallsend.

Mon. Sep. 25th 1893. Wallsend pit is idle today. Bob went down the Co-operative pit this morning with Jim Pettigrew this morning & helped to get some coal ready. Charlie worked at the stone-breaking. I have been writing
a letter to Jim Tamblyn. This evening Bob & several others went to the river to fish. There is a letter in this morning's paper, by Robert Smith, Teralba, on Socialism. Fine weather.

Tu. 26th Sep. 1893. I wrote part of a letter to Jim Tamblyn in reply to his letter of the 1st of Aug. Jack worked to-day. Bob & party returned from the river this evening, but they had only a few fishes. Charlie worked as usual. Fine weather.

Wed. 27th Sep. 1893. No work for Wallsend again to-day. Bob went down with Jack & Jim Pettigrew to help them in their bord. Finished the letter to Jim Tamblyn. It consists of 38 pages & deals with:- 2 unmounted photos; mma -arrival of Jane Julian's photo; my chemical experiments & electrical apparatus; my reply of Ap. 10th to his letter of 30th March; Wallsend pit working only 62 & a half days during last six months; Jack's & Charlie's lost time during same period; no banking account; formation of Socialist League at Wallsend; reports of meetings; opening of Wallsend Cottage Hospital; boatrace of Jim Boag & Alf Worboys; Fatal Diver- Harriman fight; Death of Frank Saunders; death of Ben Millar; cavilling out of 104 Co-op. men; brother Jack cavilled back; non-cavilling of topmen; Charlie discharged; fixing my electric bell; construction of big electric bell & telephones; shooting at the Brush; Wallsend miners' cavil on 28th June; promise to send him a swan's skin; getting railway keys; reduction of selling price of coal from 9- ten to 9/- per ton; Charlie stone breaking; Will Tamblyn's health; prospects in West Australia; the old folks at home; his bad luck with dogs; poverty of the Whites family; affairs in Broken Hill; probable effect of ten per cent reduction; in wages at B. Hill; thanks for "Barrier Miner"; arrival of R.H. conspiratores; Jim's boarding house; the parody—"There Is a Boarding-House Not Far Away"; his purchase of 3 roomed house & furniture; his marriage; hope for future welfare; my letter to Mrs. Tamblyn; my Mother's knowledge of his parents; Jim's loss, & no mention of books sent in April; returned unmounted photo to him; 2 Socialist Platforms sent.


Fri. Sep. 30th, 1893. Bob & I filled 7 of round & 3 of small coal. No weight. Out tonnage is 46 skips at 8 cwt., 705, = 20 tons 20 cwt. 2 yrs. Also 14 skips of small coal = 7 tons. We also have 2 yards of wall work = 10/-. Bob brought home our pay, which was £ 4 11-9. Jack, Bob, & party went to the river this evening. Charlie worked. Jack & Jim's pay was £ 8-12-6. For 41 tons at 3/4 per ton, = 9 tons of small coal at 1/- per ton, &
The following is a copy of a letter received from Jelma Grose:

"Broken Hill, Sep. 23rd, 1893. Dear Joe, It is with much pleasure that I take the opportunity of writing you a few lines in answer to your kind & ever-welcome letter, which I received a fortnight ago, but I delayed writing till I got some news; & I have not got much to tell you now. Jamey Tamblyn has been & got married, poor fellow. I suppose he could not help it. He married a daughter of old John Julian who used to live at Newtown, Kadina. I have not seen him since he got tied up, but I feel sorry all the same. You better hurry up, or you will be left behind. I was glad to hear that you were all well & working. I hope these few lines will find you the same. I am still in work. I am working the rock-drills now—9/- a shift of 8 hours; so I get 4/- a week more than I got before the reduction of wages. You wanted to know if I could not get my photo taken cheap by Jim Tamblyn's friend. Well, Jim tells me that his friend makes him pay for all his photos. But never mind, we will get them taken some time soon, & you shall have one or 2, only trust to providence & keep your bowels well open. A thunderstorm passed over here this afternoon, but it did not stop; I suppose it hadn't time. The weather is very changeable here—one day hot & the next scorching; or else 1 day cold, & the next freezing; or vice versa. There are a lot of men out of work here now, & a lot of privation. I have lost only more than 6 weeks work since they came out on strike. They cut our wages 10 per cent, but there are hundreds who would work for 25/- or 30/- a week if they could get it to do. The unemployed had a meeting on the central reserve yesterday & decided to press the Government to put on some sort of work to relieve the distress. It is about time that the present Government were ousted & a new one formed. By the bye, I think that you would make a good member. Why don't you run for the Murrumbidgee & throw old Dibbs out? I think that with a few such men as you, Cann, Ferguson, Sleath, Josiah Thomas, & Pound, would make things hum. I hope you don't think I am barracking—& I am not. I am in real earnest, because if you can talk like you can write you are not too slow. I have read parts of several letters from you, to friends of mine, & they are greatly taken up with your ideas politically. I only wish I could put my mind to it, I would not be afraid to try. Well, Joe, I have lost your last letter, so I will have to leave the questions till next time. You might send me "Caesar's Column", & I will read it. I have heard of it but never saw it. Give my love to all at home, & accept our kindest love for yourself while we remain to the last, old friends. J.H. & E. Grose. I will send you a book called "Plain Reasons for Not Joining the Church of Rome", if you like, with the next letter."
yards at 6/2 per yard, Charlie was not paid.

Sat. Sep. 30th, 1893. I fixed 2 wires from the organ in our front room to my dark room down behind the kitchen, put a microphone on the organ, coupled the electric battery on the other end with a telephone in circuit. Bob played the organ this evening, & I could hear every sound in the telephone. Jack & Bob returned this evening with a few fishes. Charlie finished his job to-day. "The Australian Workman" arrived.

Sun. Oct. 1st, 1893. I went to the Wallsend park this afternoon to hear Seve Watkines reply to Harry Rushton, but I was disappointed, for the 4th regiment band arrived to play a few tunes for the benefit of the widow & 3 children of the late W. Parkes. There was a large crowd present. Oswald Steele was chairman, & he said that the meeting had been called to gather some money for Mrs. Parkes; & the band had kindly given their services. John L. Fegan next spoke, & said the State would allow a man to die of hunger so long as he remained honest, but if he got a revolver & stuck up anyone the police would take him, & his bread & water would be made sure. He made a good speech on behalf of Mrs. Parkes. Steele then announced that collectors would take what was given. The band played more than an hour, & the collectors gathered £15. The Socialist debate was thus prevented, & was postponed till next Sunday. I tried to find Hugh de Largie in Nelson St. but failed. Hot weather this morning, cloudy in the afternoon, & thunder & rain in the evening.


Wed. Oct. 4th, 1893. Wallsend is idle again. Co-op. worked half a day, & Bob helped Jack & Jim Pettigrew again. Jack went to Ironbark Creek with the Salvation Army captain this morning. This evening Jack got a tender-form from Tom Abel to tender for the erection of a 2 or 3 railed fence around Fletcher park. I wrote 16 pages of a letter to Alf. Edwards. Rain again.

Thur. Oct 5th, 1893. Wallsend is still idle. Co-op. is working, & Bob is helping Jack. Wallsend miners cavilled this afternoon, & I went down to the tunnel to see the result.
Fri. Oct. 6th, 1893. Bob, Jack, Liz-Jane, & several of the Pettigrews have gone to the river this morning. Finished the letter to Alf, which consists of 36 pages & deals with the following subjects:—His letter of 31st May; his study of political economy; his ideas on land nationalisation; what Socialists advocate; reasons for nationalising means of production & distribution of wealth; his interest in mining on private property; probable effect of Bill on sacredness of private property; common ownership; improbability of Upper House passing Mining on Private Property Bill; necessity for mining under the Upper House; auriferous crown land & church & school land; his attempt to form a Mining on Private Property League at Copeland; alcohol the cause of indifference; alcohol Man's greatest enemy; effect on brain; the origin of ideas; their precedence of action; perception & perfection of ideas dependent on state of brain; popular ignorance of brain & its value; heart supposed to be seat of intelligence; Jeremiah, 17th ch. & 8th & 9th verses in support; development of intelligence the solution of all problems; state of natives; causes of poverty; departure of Fred Baker; departure of Jim Hoax for Cooma; Alf's advice on elocution; his correct pronunciation; report of Socialist meetings; Holman's lecture; George Black's lecture at Lambton; my reply to Kempsey; death of Mrs. Price; collection for widow Parkes; our cavils; sending Socialist Platform & Objects; sending him "The National Temperance Reader"; my promise to send "The Labour Movement In America."

Sat. Oct. 7th, 1893. This morning Jack, Bob, Jim Pettigrew & I went down to the Jubilee section of Wallsend pit for our tools. We saw Bob Webster (or "Coomer") holeing with his mate. We carried a load of tools each & took them to the entrance of the travelling-road where we saw Wally Frew, who took a load of our tools & went down with us to our place in the little tunnel. We found that we have a pillar at which we shall work double with Ned & Party, our crossmates. It is a good pillar, & has to be worked up from the heading instead of down from it. We shifted all our tools at once, so we did not need to return. I asked Bill Jinkins, who looks after the electric batteries, for a bit of copper wire, but he had none. Francis Craig died to day. Bob bought 2½ ozs. of sulphate of copper for me at Joe Senior's, for 6d. Hot weather.
This afternoon I went to the Wallsend park to hear Dave Watkins reply to Harry Rushton, but it had to be further postponed on account of Frank Craig’s funeral. Amram Lewis, Hugh de Largie, Jack Hill, John Robinson, Jack Estell & a few others were there talking. I lent Amram "The Conventional Lies of Our Civilization", by Max Nordau. We went up to near Craig’s house, & when the funeral started we joined in the procession, which was an extraordinarily long one. I walked beside Amram & Charlie Viol; & Amram & I talked on taxation of land. Frank was buried in the new Wallsend cemetery. I had some conversation with a Latter-Day Saint on punishment, which, I argued, is simply retaliation. This evening I went to the Plattsburg Baptist tabernacle & heard Mr. Hallmarick preach on the Prodigal Son. Fine weather.


Tu. Oct. 10th, 1893. Rob & I started to work in our new pillar to-day. Bob & Party went in front shift, & Ned & I went in at 10 a.m. Bob & Party went home at 10-30 a.m. We filled 23 skips for the 4 of us. I had a blow in my left (bad) eye from a bit of coal. Rainy.

Wed. Oct. 11th, 1893. We worked again to-day & filled 28 of round coal. Our weight is 9-3. Jack got a tender form from Tom Abel to tender for the erection of a 2 or 3 railed fence to enclose Fletcher park. Fine weather.

Thur. Oct. 12th, 1893. This morning Jack went to Tom Anderson in the Co-operative colliery office, & Tom made up the cost of erecting 132 rods of 2-railed & 3-railed fence. I filled in the tender form, & Jack gave it to Tom Abel. In the evening Charlie went to the Council Chambers to see whether the tender was accepted. The successful tenderer is Mr. MacDonald. I made another microphote. Bob & Jack are out with the Pettigrews for palings.

Fri. Oct. 13th, 1893. Co-operative pit is working to-day. Wallsend is idle. This morning Bella Gardiner & Bill Pettigrew (who keeps company with her) came with Bella’s married sister (Mrs. Buxton) & asked Mother what she had said concerning Bella. Mother denied having said anything, & asked them to bring the person who said she did. In the evening Bella & Mrs. Buxton came with Mary Saunderson who said it was Liz-Jane who told her about Bella’s trip to Lithgow. Liz-Jane denied that she said anything about the
34.

trip. I made a single-fluid 6 cell battery of copper &
zinc. Bob went for our pay, which was £ 1-17-6 for 17
tons 15 cwt of best coal at 3/6 per ton, & 1 yard of cut-
through at 2/-; also 2 tons & a half of small coal at 1/-
per ton. 2/- were deducted for the doctor, leaving only
£ 1-15-6. Bob bought an ounce of sulphuric acid of Joe
Senior. Jack's pay was £ 4-0-0. Charlie had no pay. I
have started to write to Jenna Gross. Dry weather.

Sat. Oct. 14th, 1893. Jack went with Jim Pettigrew, in our
cart, to Newcastle. Jack bought a number 2 Leclanche
cell at Capper's for 2/9; & at a sale he afterwards bo-
ught a number 1 & a number 2 Leclanches that 17/20.
I fixed them up with the others & found that they work well.
I went down to Tom Garity, the blacksmith, & got some copper.
I got the address of the deputy Postmaster General & wrote to
him for some Dante cells in the Wallsend post office. Brother Jack bought our groceries from Witherasp on this time,
& paid for them. Fine weather.

Sun. Oct. 15th, 1893. This afternoon I went to the Wallsend
park to hear Dave Watkins reply to Harry Rushton, There were
only about 60 people present, including Tom Davidson, of
New Lambton; Fergie Reid; Hugh de Largie, & Charlie Viola
several other Socialists. Jack Estell was chairman.
Dave said that Mr. Rushton had stated that the State took
away the liberty of the people; but Mr. R. made no distinction
between the present capitalistic State & the Socialistic State
that is to be. If the people's liberty has been taken away
it has been by a few individuals who constituted the State.
Mr. R. did not define what he meant by liberty. Was it the
primitive condition of Man, in which the strong could kill
the weak, & in which might was right? Was liberty unrestrained freedom to do anything & everything? If not, who is to
say to the individual -You shall not do this, or that?
If Mr. R. admits the right of the majority to restrain the
few he must be in favour of some form of government. If he
does not he must be an Anarchist.

Charles Bradlaugh had been mentioned as one who always defen-
ded the rights of individuals, but he was in favour of State
control, because he was a member of parliament & helped to
make laws. C. Bradlaugh had not fought against State control.
Mr. R. wanted to know how Socialism was going to work. Well,
Socialism is being worked now in England. He then quoted from
the book, The 19th Century, to show that several large towns
in England & Scotland had been in debt to the extent of mil-
lions of pounds; but when bought, or got control of, reproduc-
tive works they paid off their debts. Mr. Rushton had said
that Britain's postal system was bad, because letters which were carried for a penny by the post could be carried for ½ of a penny by private enterprise; & that while the State overcharged for the letters it lost on telegrams.

Dave said that the figures of Mr. R. answered his (R's) own arguments, because he, because he shows that while the State makes a profit on the letters it loses on telegrams.

Well, if there was no profit on letters there would be nothing to make up for the loss on telegrams. This was an argument in favour of State Socialism, because private enterprise would not perform unproductive work.

This was the illustration of the way in which Socialism would work in every department of production & distribution:-

Under Socialism the State would carry on unproductive work by means of the profits on productive work. As for Mr. Rushton's remark that the London tradesmen had saved 1000 pounds per year by sending their letters to Belgium to be posted, he would ask would his opponent like to see the people of England reduced to the condition of the people of Belgium? The reason why the letters & telegrams were carried cheaper in Belgium is because the offices are occupied by women & children who work 14 & 16 hours per day. Mr. Rushton also said that the State showed itself to be a tyrant in the London letter-carriers' strike. Dave would ask, is there no tyranny under the present system?

Men cannot speak their mind to their employers. The Press, which is supposed to be free, is run by men who have to write as their employers dictate. In America men are not allowed to belong to a union. He quoted from page 48 of "The Labor Movement in America", the oath taken by the employees of the Western Union Telegraph Company, of Jay Gould.

Mr. Rushton had quoted John Burns as an opponent of Socialism. John Burns was opposed to the eight hours working day law because the men he represented only worked 8 hours per day. It was Burns' fidelity to his constituents which prevented him from remembering the conditions of those who worked more than six hours per day.

Mr. Rushton had said that Socialism is an attempt to break the natural law of the survival of the fittest. It does nothing of the kind, because it recognises that the law is unalterable; but Socialists would make conditions so that the law could operate in a good & natural way, which it does not do now. The fittest do NOT survive in the present state of society. The financially strong is permitted to crush his poorer rival, & the cunning & unscrupulous live while the honest men go to the wall. Under Socialism competition would not be destroyed but would be directed into proper channels where it would be beneficial. There was a great difference between training a racehorse to win a prize, & the competition of people for a bare existence. The racehorse would receive the
very best of training, food, & attention, whereas the
human competitor in a struggle for bare life received ne-
ither, & therefore this competition could not be benefi-
cial to him. Was it the desire for gain that animated Char-
les Bradlaugh in his efforts to benefit the masses ? No,
it was simply the desire to do good & to receive the appro-
atction of his fellows. Dave said he was not satisfied with Mr.
Rushton's reasons for clinging to the present system, which he
had admitted was bad; & if Mr. Rushton could convince him that
Socialism is not desirable or practicable he would give it up.
But if, on the other hand, he could answer his objections to
Socialism he would expect Mr. Rushton to join us & speak for
Socialism. Dave then sat down.

Mr. Rushton said he was glad to find that his few remarks had
been the means of producing such an interesting speech from
Mr. Watkins. There were a few things in which he had been
misrepresented by Dave, perhaps unintentionally. He had
no desire that this discussion should cease; & if the audi-
cence were agreeable he would reply next Sunday morning.
He said, in reference to his clinging to the present sys-
tem, that he thought it was better to bear the ills we
have than fly to those we know not of.

Charlie Vial spoke a few words on the necessity of educat-
ing the people on the principles of Socialism.

Fergus Reid also spoke a few words. He did not agree with Mr
Rushton that it is better to bear the ills we have than fly
to others that we know not of. He would like to fly from
the ills of our present system, namely, poverty, disease,
crime, & starvation; & he thought the people could not be
much worse off than they are now.

A vote of thanks to Dave was carried by acclamation.
I sold Mr. Henry Tyldesley a ticket for the raffle of our
pinfire breech-loader, double barrelled gun that was owned
by "Prinny" Brown, who was blinded by it, & which we won
from him when he raffled it. We intend to raffle the gun
again & give Brown the money obtained by the sale of tic-
ets. Harry Tyldesley paid me for the ticket. Tom Davidson
of New Lambton could not buy a ticket, but he gave me six-
pence for George Brown. & Fergus Reid gave me threepence.
Dave Watkins returned my book, "The Labour Movement In Amer-
ica", by Eleanor & Marx Aveling. I sold a ticket on tick to
J. Arthur, & one to Jim Richmond. There is to be a Socialist
League meeting next Tuesday at Tyldesley's pub.
I sent a short letter to the Deputy Postmaster General, Sy-
dney, asking him to sell me some old-fangled electric cells
that are discussed at the Wallsend post office. Hot weather.
Mon, Oct. 16th 1893. The Wallsend Colliery is idle to-day. Brother Bob has gone out to the hut near the Bush to get the bark on it. Co-op. pit is idle too, & brother Jack & a party have gone in our boat to the Hunter River. I finished writing the letter to Jenna Grose, who is at Broken Hill. It deals with his letter of the 8th of Sep., his bill; the health & care of our conditions; my earnings; Jim Tamblyn's marriage to Julian's daughter; Julian's family; no letter from him; their photo's; request for photo for me to copy; the unemployed in this district; England's queen; Sir George Gibbs; Will Grose; my inability to help; lesson taught by distress in Broken Hill; working mines by Government; improbability of present government nationalising mines; rottenness of "civilisation": absence of freedom in England; Gibbs' dodge with Electoral Act; need for bread & butter politicians; uselessness to starving people of sinking funds; uselessness of Federation; submarine cables; military reviews; my vote; his & his friends' opinion of my views on politics; an account of my letter in the Newcastle Herald to Mr. Dempsey; sending verbena & mignonette seeds to him (Jenna); sent him "Caesar's Column"; request for his book entitled "Plain Reasons For Not Joining the Church of Rome."

Bob could not get the bark off the hut because there were 6 men living in it. Sister Liz-Jane put 2 twopenny stamps on my letter to Jenna & posted it. I have planted some verbena & mignonette seeds.

Tues, Oct 17th 1893. Wallsend pit is idle to-day. I attached a single Leclanche cell to an electrotating cell. Brother Jack has been splitting pallets to day. This evening I attended a Socialist meeting in Harry Tyldesley's pub in Thomas Street, Wallsend. There were present:- Dave Watkins; Jack Nestell; John R. Robinson; Hugh de Largie; Bob Brown; Dave Morgan (not the postman); Malcolm Davidson; Fergie Reid, & myself. Nestell opened the meeting & called on Reid, District Secretary, to give his report of the conference which was held in Sydney. He said that when he arrived in Sydney he was received by several Socialists, among whom was Mrs. Summerfield who invited him to stay at her place while he remained in Sydney. He said an idea had got abroad that the Sydney socialists were disreputable persons, & that the less we here had to do with them the better. He wished to dispel that idea, because it was a false one. He had been treated with great courtesy & kindness by the Sydney Socialists, whom he found to be good, intelligent people. He then read the report of the conference as published in "The Workman" the week before last. He explained the motions & why he voted for them. Dave Watkins moved that the report be adopted, & I seconded the motion, which was carried. Hugh de Largie
then read a motion to the effect that there should be an aggregate meeting of the miners in this electorate to nominate candidates for parliament at the next general election. We decided to let the matter lie over till next week when we shall try to get a full meeting to deal with it. There was some discussion on this motion, in which I took part. The treasurer said he had 3½ in hand, & we decided to make a request to each member for a donation next Sunday. I asked where we could get printed forms to distribute amongst sympathisers, & was told that the forms would have to be obtained from Sydney. The meeting then closed.

Dave Watkins bought a ticket, on trust, for the raffle of our gun. Work for Wallsend to-morrow. Splendid weather.

Wed. Oct. 13th 1893. We worked to-day & filled 24 skips for the four of us. Old John Gillespie was filling slack in our pillar to-day, & I promised to give him a Socialist Platform. John is reputed to be a great Greek scholar. He is a very old Scotchman & boards at Mrs. Moodie’s place in Pit Town. The P.M.S. Warrimoo left Sydney for Vancouver Island, via Honolulu, with Sandy Jackson & party on board. Not weather: west wind.

Thur. Oct. 14th, 1893. This is Full Hours Day. Bob, Jack & Liz-Jane went to Tomago to spend the day. Charlie, Mother, & I stayed at home all day. I put up a fourth wire to make a separate line for the telephones. I put 4 cells, 2 telephones, & the microphone in the circuit, & put a watch on the microphone, & I could hear the watch ticking in the telephone. Jack, Bob, & Liz-Jane returned this evening. Jack lent the boat once to-day & got 2/- for it. Bob & Jim Pettigrew went out for a sail on the river, & owing to the strong wind & the big waves they lost a scull; but Jack & Wally Frew afterwards found it about a mile below Tomago. Our neighbour, Sandy Jackson, left here yesterday for Vancouver Island, & 5 or 6 Minmi men went with him. They are going to a coal mine there. Miss Sinclair died to-day, after being a bediller 11 years through being frightened by a dog. There is work for Wallsend pit to-morrow. Not weather.

Fri. Oct. 15th, 1893. We worked again to-day & filled 24 skips of large coal. Our weights were:—for No. 51, 3-3 & 9-2; for No. 52, 10-2. The pillar widened to-day, & brother Bob & Party Davidson, our crossmate, put over a cut-through. Ned Davidson, our other crossmate, & I are back shift. I paid Bill Phillips, the blacksmith, 3/- for stealing a pick. Miss Sinclair was buried to-day in the Wallsend cem-
The Co-op. is idle to-day; & Jack has been helping Matt. Pettigrew to split some palings.

Dave Watkins won the prize at the 8 hour demonstration yesterday for the best essay on Trades Unionism. Hot weather. White flag (no work) for Wallsend colliery.

Sat. Oct. 21st, 1893. Jack, Bob, Jim Pettigrew, & another, went in our boat to the mouth of Ironbark Creek to-day, & caught 40 jewfishes & 2 flatheads. I have been studying electricity to-day. A public meeting in aid of the local unemployed was held this evening. Fine weather.

Sun. Oct. 22nd, 1893. This morning I went to the Wallsend Park & heard Harry Rushton's reply to Dave Watkins' address of last Sunday. He simply repeated what he said in his first speech against Socialism. Dave replied with the same arguments as before Mr. Winspear, of New Lambton, was present, & in response to an invitation, promised to address a meeting next Sunday on Individualism. I lent Dave the book entitled "The Labor Party In N.S.W." & the one entitled "The Labour Movement In America." Had a conversation with Jack Hill this evening. Hot weather.

Mon. Oct 23rd, 1893. Co-op. worked to day, but Wallsend is idle. I partly made a small microphone. Bob mended the boat-sail.

Tues. Oct. 24th, 1893. Charlie, Mother, & Lizzie went in our cart to Sanigate to spend the day near the Hunter river. When they got there a violent thunderstorm overtook them & very large hailstones fell & broke their parasol. The horse, Tiger, was terribly frightened by the hail & thunder & he bolted towards home, but Charlie caught him & brought him back to the cart. They soon got wet & had to return home. Bob & Jack are at the river to-day. I finished the microphone that I partly made yesterday. Mr. Evans, who lived in Devon street, died yesterday & was buried to-day. Bob & Jack returned this evening, & Bob returned to the river again. Wed. Oct. 25th, 1893.

Wed. Oct. 25th, 1893. This is brother Bob's birthday. He was born at Kadina, South Australia, on Oct. 25th, 1865; so he is 28 years old to-day. I worked in the bottom garden to day. Jack bought some French beans, lettuce seeds, & cabbage seeds. Charlie put in some beans. There are to be 20 miners cavilled out in Stockton next month. Red for Wallsend.

Thur. Oct. 26th, 1893. Bob & I filled 24 skips of big coal with the assistance of Ned & Barty; also 4 of slack. Our
Fri. Oct. 27th, 1893. We worked again to day & filled 21 skips of big coal. Weight 10-3. Bob took up the pay, which was £ 7-10-1 for 98 tons 19 cwt. That was for the four of us.

Sat. Oct. 28th, 1893. Jack & Bob went in our cart to Newcastle & got some groceries at Witherspoon's shop. Jack bought a book entitled "The Fabian Essays On Socialism" for me for 1/-; Heavy rain has fallen to-day. I went down to Tom Fisher & got my hair cut. I sold a ticket each to George Gay, George Bell J., Grant, on trust; also 1 each to Ben Francois & Robert Gibson for cash. Rainning again. Jack went back by tram to Newcastle this evening to see Leonard Baker, lawyer, but could not find him.

Sun. Oct. 29th, 1893. I went over to the Wallsend park this morning to hear Mr. Winspear speak on Individualism, but there was no one else there, on account of the rain & wind. I went into the Salvation Army hall & listened to the captain speaking on the parable of the nobleman who inherited a kingdom.

Mon. Oct. 30th, 1893. We filled 36 of round coal to day. Our weights this morning were only 8-1 & 8-3. Cut out was measured by Billy Willis: it is 14 feet in. Rain nearly all day. Tom Mix, our ex-General Secretary, was killed by fall of coal in the Wickham & Bullock Island pit to day. Co-operative pit is idle.

Tues. Oct. 31st, 1893. No work to day on account of the rough weather, which prevents the ships from being loaded. Co-op. is idle. I have put the microphone on a nail above the organ, & it now transmits sounds a great deal better. I made a new shelf for the book-case. Bob, Jack Mahoney, Wally Frew, & brother Jack went down Ironbark Creek as far as the "Rocks" this afternoon, & got me large wild raspberries. Rain nearly all day.

Wed. Nov. 1st, 1893. We filled 25 skips of best coal to day. Our weights this morning were: - 9, 9-2, 10-1, 9-2, 10, & 10-3. I received a letter, & a book entitled "Plain Reasons Against Joining the Church of Rome", from Jenna Grose, Broken Hill. Co-op. is idle. Bob sold some tickets for the gun-raffle, & got 9/- this evening. Reading Fabian Essays.

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Following is Jenna's letter:

Broken Hill, Oct. 26, 1893.

Dear Joe, It is with much pleasure that I take the pen in hand to write you a few lines in answer to your ever-kind & welcome letter, which I received yesterday. I am glad to hear from you & to hear that you were all well. I am glad to tell you that these few lines leave us all pretty well at present, although the 2 children have had the measles & I have had the influenza since I wrote last. But I am glad to tell you that we are all right again; but, worse luck, I am out of work now, & have been for a month. It is a month to-day since I knocked off work, & I am afraid it will be a long time before I get a start again. There are hundreds of men out of work here now, & people are starving. I don't know what things are coming to. A man can't get any credit here; they all do the cash business & if you haven't got the dust you can't get the grub. I wish I could alter things, but I can't. I expect we shall have to grin & bear it. We see by the papers that you don't get much work over there either, but it is better than none. (Excuse me I don't believe in the half-loaf doctrine, you know.) There is a lot of this half time business done here in the open cuts. I got the book, "Caesar's Column", & I'm very much obliged to you for the seeds. The Mrs. is very pleased with them.

We have not got our photos taken yet, but we got a coupon for them. We pay a shilling for the coupon, & when you sit you have to pay 9 shillings more, & then you get 6 photos. You can wait 6 months, if you like, before you sit. So when I start to work again, if I ever have the luck, I will get us all taken together & send you one. Keep believing, as the Harny says. If I can't get them taken by the time I get a reply to this I will borrow one of my own-- one that I had taken 5 years ago, I can't get one of the Mrs. as she has not had hers taken; neither have the children. The mine that I have been working in has knocked off all the hands except 12-- just the number required to hold the lease. So if I get work again I suppose it will be somewhere in the lead. I won't be able to stand it, I know. I have had too much of it already. The Consols mine has not been paying her way for a very long time past; so the shareholders can't stand it because there are only about a hundred of them that hold the 100,000 shares, & they are millionaires. Baron Rothschild is one of them; so you couldn't expect the poor men to work the mine at a loss after getting 2000 out of her within the last 4 years.

I would very much like to have the letter that you wrote in favour of Socialism, for you know I am a bit of a Socialist now. I will send you the book, "Plain Reasons Against Joining the Church of Rome", with this letter; & I promise to read the one you sent to me. I have started it, & I don't think it will be a bad one at all.

We are having some dreadful bad weather here lately. Last Tuesday week we had a dreadful dust storm. It blew down scores...
of houses. It gave me a turn & blew off the roof of our kit- 
chen; but it did me a favour, for I intended to take it off; so: 
it saved me the trouble. So it is an ill wind that blows no 
good for somebody; is it not? 

There is a terrible lot of sickness here in Broken Hill. There are as many as 8 or 9 funerals here a day. Influenza & measles are to blame for the mortality; they are raging very bad here just now. I have been very busy building a stone chimney to our kitchen. I have very near finished it now: I have 2 hours work now, & then I am finished. I can only do it after the Mrs. has done her washing, as water is too dear. We have to pay 3/- for a 100 gallons for it, & the carters don't have to cart it more than half a mile; & we are too far out of town to have it laid on. The town folks have it laid on, & they pay 9d per 100. So I wait & get all the washing & slopping water for building.

Richard James Broad ( Broady ) is married & gone to South Af- 
rica. He married a Moonta girl called Annie Brown. Young Jack Ellis is married & gone to Hillgrove, New England. He married a Kadina girl called Sarah Guy. Stee Giles' girl Nelly, & Bill Hancock's girl Selina, have been after me for your address, & I gave it to them. They have asked me several times what your address was; so I told them; & I suppose you have heard from them. Well, I think I have told you all the news there is to tell. You must excuse the short letter, as I have to write another to my cousin in England.

Give our loves to all, & accept our kindest love for yourself while we remain your ever-loving friends, James H. & E. Grose. The Mrs. sends you these kisses for the seedsxxxxxx.

The foregoing letter is evidently an answer to one that I wrote on monday, Oct. 15th, 1893, which is mentioned in my diary from Sep. 20th to Nov. 25th, 1893. The contents of my letter to Jenna are given on page 25 of that diary. The book that I sent was "Caesar's Column".
Thur. Nov. 3rd, 1893. We filled 24 skips of large coal. The weights this morning were: - 9 1/2; 9-2; 10-1; 9-9; 10-8; & 10-3; average 9-9. Party Davidson's son is ill of measles & inflammation of the lungs. Our Jack, & Jim Pettigrew went to the river & caught 17 fishes to day. Dry.

Fri. Nov. 3rd 1893. We filled 26 skips of round coal to day. Our weights this morning were: - 9-5; 8-2; 10-5; = 9-3-14 average; also 9-3-14 for number 52. The Co-operative pit worked to day. Jack went to the river this evening. Charlie received one pound from the Topman's Union this evening. Fine weather.

Sat. Nov. 4th, 1893. Bob, Ned Davidson, & I filled 22 skips of large coal. Party was not at work because his 3 years old son died last night. We have nearly finished the bottom pillar. Co-op. is idle. Jack & party returned this evening with a few fishes. Lize-Jane bought me a brown tweed trousers & vest for 18/6. A new captain is down at the Army hall this evening. Temperature to-day is 78 deg. Fah. at 3 p.m.

Sun. Nov. 5th, 1893. I went to the Wallsend park this morning & heard Mr. Winspear speak in favour of Individualism. He said that Socialists do not properly understand what Individualism is; that they fancy an Individual is one who is satisfied with the present state of society. That was not a proper definition of the term, because Individualism is absolute freedom for every individual, so far as is compatible with the equal liberty of others. Socialists did not accept that definition; they talked about taking control of the means of production & distribution as a remedy for the evils of society. That remedy was tried by the Spartan lawgiver, Lycurgus, & was proved to be a failure. Lycurgus nationalised the means of production & distribution of wealth, & certainly did succeed in abolishing private monopoly of land, & the extremes of wealth & poverty, & his system lasted 500 years; but it was eventually destroyed by the presence of surrounding warlike nations. The Spartans were forced to keep an army for defence purposes, & when they made war they enslaved their captives. This introduced militancy & slavery into the Spartan nation, & it consequently degenerated & decayed.

This was the main topic of the address, although he also briefly referred to the mines, the post & telegraph service & various minor subjects. Dave Watkins took notes of the address; & at the conclusion we asked Amram Lewis to reply to Mr. Winspear, & he promised to do so next Sunday. Amram then announced that he would endeavour to reply to Winspear next Sunday at the same time & place.

Dave Watkins then said that Mr. Winspear had not told us
how he proposed to remedy the existing state of affairs

He would like Mr. Winspear to define his position & tell us whether he would nationalise the land or not.

Mr. Winspear then said he believed that the way out of the present deplorable condition of society is the way back, that is by the abolition of all monopolies.

He was not in favour of nationalising the land.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Winspear was moved by Dave Watkins, seconded by Amram Lewis, & carried by acclamation.

Hugh de Largie told me that there had been a meeting of Socialists last Thursday night, at which it was decided to make a levy of sixpence per member; so I paid him sixpence. I got a copy of George Black's pamphlet on "The N.S.W. Labor Party: What it Did & What it Prevented". from Hugh. The price is 6d, which I owe him. I went up with Jack Arthur & Dave Watkins to Dave's house, & he lent me some copies of "The Liberator", & a very large book entitled "Elements of Chemistry", by Turner. I went to the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute this evening & heard William Morris Hughes lecture on "The Organisation of Labor". He made a splendid speech, & was well received. Jack Estell was chairman; I lent Amram Lewis the book that brother Bob borrowed from a library at Kadina & never returned, entitled "Ancient Empires: their Origin, Succession & Results".

This afternoon Bob borrowed Lois Howell's buggy, put our horse in it, & drove to Lambton & attended the funeral of Barty Davidson's boy, who was buried at Sandgate cemetery.

I bought a share in "The Daily Post" newspaper for 10½ of Dave Watkins' to-day. This paper is to be owned & run principally by Labourites in the interest of Labour.

Hot weather.

Mon. Nov. 6th, 1893. Wallsend colliery worked to day, & we filled 26 skips of large coal. Our weights this morning were:-- 8-3 & 8-1. Co-op. is idle. Hot weather.

Tues. Nov. 7th, 1893. We only worked half a day to-day. The three of us filled 14 skips of big coal. Ned Davidson was not at work. Our weights to-day were:-- 10 & 11; average 10-1. There was to be a meeting to form a Labour Electoral League in Wallsend this evening, but as only a few of our Socialists came there was nothing done. Jack sold a ticket to Tom Stepney, Mr. John B. Nash's dispenser, for the raffle of the gun.

Wed. Nov. 8th, 1893. No work for Wallsend to day. I have been experimenting with peroxide of manganese. I found that the white, insoluble, double chloride of zinc & ammonia, that is deposited in the glass jar of a Leclanche cell, is soluble
Thursday, Nov. 9th 1893. We filled 28 skips of big coal. Our weights are:-10-1 10-1-14. Our tonnage for the pay is, for number 51, 87 skips at 9-5, = 47 tons, 6 cwt.; for 53, 74 skips at 9-5, = 36 tons, 1 cwt. Bob got the pay, which was altogether £ 15-18-0. The share for Bob & me together was £ 7-19-0. I went down to Wallsend street & saw Jim Richmond, George Bell, & George C. Day, who all paid for their raffle tickets.

Saturday, Nov. 11th 1893. Pay Saturday. Jack went with Wally Frew in our cart to Newcastle & got our fortnight's groceries. I made some sulphate of manganese. There was a meeting in the Wallsend rotunda this evening which was addressed by Mr. Bradley, who is a member of the "Free Trade & Land Reform League". He read a part of a letter from Mr. Oswald Gleghorn Steel was the chairman. Mr. Bradley, who appeared to be a German Jew, said he was speaking under the auspices of the Free Trade & Land Reform League. He read part of a letter from Mr. Bernard Mid-rose Wise in which Wise asked him to apologise to Mr. Steel or Mr. Conn for the writer's absence.

Mr. Bradley then spoke in favour of Free trade, & condemned the imposition of taxes on industry by means of the customs house. He next spoke on land values & the unearned increment of land. He proposed to put the burden of taxation on to the land, which is well able to bear it.

His speech did not contain any original ideas, but was what most people knew before. At the conclusion of the address ex-parso Higgs moved a motion to impose a tax on unimproved land values & to abolish customs duties. Andrew Drummond desired to amend the motion by omitting the part re the customs duties, but the chairman would not put the amendment. There was a good deal of fun, noise, & excitement, during which old George Lonsdale moved an amendment to the effect that we are in favour of a tax on land values, coupled with a protective tariff. After considerable discussion the motion as amended was carried.

Sunday, Nov. 12th, 1893. I went to Wallsend Park this morning to hear Amram Lewia reply to Mr. Winspear. I saw Jack Hill, Tom Hill, John Robinson, & Dave Watkins there. I returned 2 copies of "The Liberator" to Dave, & paid him a shilling for my share in "The Workman" paper. Jack Hill took a share too. Rain then began to fall again, & we went to butcher Pratten's veranda & talked on various subjects. Amram did not reply. This afternoon there was to be a meeting in aid of the widow & family of the late Tommy Sutton, who died suddenly; but rain continued & the meeting was postponed till next Sunday. John Waters has become insane, & was set away.
Mon. Nov. 13th, 1893. I transplanted a peach tree & a loquat tree from the side of the house to the top garden. This evening our double-barrelled gun was raffled at George Brown's house; & Mat Hardes, Dan Walker, & Dave Begbie, who were absent, had 30 each trown for them, which was the highest number thrown. In the final throw-off Begbie's & Hardies' throws were 25 each, & Dan Walker's was 24, thus winning by one. There were about 20 present at the raffle. There were 85 shilling tickets sold & paid for, so we gave George Brown, who was blinded by the gun before we won it in his raffle, 5/- to help him.

I paid Hugh de Largie-3d for George Black's defence of the Labour party in N.S.W. Bill Henwood got hurt to-day in Johnson's pit. No work to-morrow for Wallsend & Co-p. pits. Rain again.

 Tues. Nov. 14th, 1893. We are all at home to-day. I sent 9 verses to "The Workman". Fine weather.

Thur. Nov. 16th, 1893. I planted some pumpkin seeds in the corner of the bottom garden at the foot of the hill. Bob, Jack, & party have gone to Tomato for knees for a boat. Hot weather.

Fri. Nov. 17th, 1893. We filled 21 skips. Barry was not at work as he has a bad thumb. Our weights this morning were 10-1; 10-2, & 10-3. Jack went to the river with Jim Pettigrew this morning. Hot weather this morning, & a violent thunderstorm with strong West wind this evening. White flags for both pits.

Sat. Nov. 18th 1893. We are all idle to-day. This evening I went to the Wallsend School of Arts & heard Ninian Melville speak on politics. His speech was very abusive, disconnected, & illogical. He abused Mr. William Morris Hughes mostly. Some of our Socialist members interjected frequently at the end Fergie Reid Reid made some remarks & asked Melville whether he would debate with Hughes, but Ninny declined to do so. No vote was taken to ascertain the amount of confidence the people retain in Ninny. Thunderstorm. Hot weather.

Sun. Nov. 19th, 1893. This morning I went to the Wallsend park & heard Aman Lewis reply to Mr. Winspear, of Broadmeadow. When I arrived I found only John H. Robinson there reading an essay on Socialism. When he had finished he saved it to me & I read it. Meanwhile several of our chaps came & Fergie Reid of New Lambton. Mr. Winspear did not come, but at the request of those present consented to
reply. As the weather was very hot he stood under a shady tree. He said that he was sorry Mr. Winspear was absent, but as he intended to deal with the arguments of his opponent and not Mr. Winspear himself he would proceed.

Anyone who had heard those gentlemen who had spoken previously would see that Mr. Winspear had entirely shifted the ground of debate—Individualism versus Socialism, as much as Mr. Winspear defined Individualism as discontent with the present state of society, & a desire to alter it in very important particulars. The former Individualism described by our former opponents was that a competitive state of society is best.

He next dealt with education, & argued that education alone will not make a nation prosperous & happy. Education is only a means to an end, it is useful to enable us to legislate properly. He said that the Chinese nation is one in which nearly every man & woman can read & write, & yet the Chinese are poor people. He dealt with the arguments of Mr. Winspear & answered them in a very clear manner.

At the conclusion a vote of thanks was given to Amram for his able speech.

Mon. Nov. 20th 1893. We worked to-day, but party was not at work. We filled 27 skips of round coal. Our tonnage for next pay is:—for number 51, 42 skips at 10 cwt = 21 tons; & 52 skips for 52 at 10-1.

A ballot was taken at the pick-rack this morning for the election of a check-weighman. I voted for John Carter.

I went to the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute this evening & heard Fraser Hill lecture on "The Land & Wealth of N.S.W." Cloudy weather.

Tues. Nov. 21st, 1893. We are all at home to-day. I put in some peas in the bottom garden. This evening I went to the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute & heard Fraser Hill speak on "The Land & People of Counties-Cook, Hunter, Durham, & Northumberland." The hall was nearly full of people, & Mr. Oswald Gleghorn Steel, the mayor of Plattsburg, was chairman. Mr. Hill referred to the fertility of the land in the Hunter River valley which, he said, is equal to the land in the Amazon valley, or the Mississippi. Land is the source of all wealth; & the man who owns the land owns the source of wealth.

Mr. Hill exhibited a large diagram, painted red, blue, & green, showing the total area of land in the 4 counties & the total area under cultivation. The total area of the 4 counties is 551,000 acres, of which only 51,000
acres are cultivated. 1586 persons own 19 565 acres, while 28,000 & 28326 men are landless. Twelve persons own 45300 acres. He said he was talking with an editor, & asked him whether he knew how much land was alienated in these counties. The editor said "Yes" but he couldn't or wouldn't tell, but asked Mr. Hill in a pompous manner, "Why don't the people go on the land?". The reason is that there is no good land available for settlement. He said there are only 3760 acres unalienated in the 4 counties, & these are offered to 28326 men. There would, perhaps, be room to lie down on that area, as most of the land is described as low, swampy, & the rest is stony ridges & low sandhills. The price per acre is from 30/- to 30/-. There are 40 acres open for selection 30 miles from Clarence Town, which are described as "suitable for light agriculture". It would be very light indeed. He referred in a humorous manner to the necessity of having specific knowledge of the locality of the available land, & compared it to the purse which an old woman lost in the Pacific ocean. (Laughter). They should not laugh at these things---they ought rather to weep tears of shame & humiliation. The landlords should be abolished. The land should be held in common & ought to be free. Conditions which hinder the acquisition of land should be removed. Gibbs can make bank notes a legal tender for the banks; & why can't he do the same for us?. The people can make the Government, & instead of being divided & pulling against themselves like a tug of war they should be united. The poor people are 95 per cent of the nation. We are not ruled by moral law, but by statute law.

Mr. Hill then gave an account of an interview that he had with the mayor of Sydney, during which he showed the mayor, by means of diagrams, how terribly unequal is the distribution of wealth. The mayor said it was not his duty to find work for the unemployed. Mr. Hill said it is the duty of every wealthy man to employ as many as possible. Some people had said that he was overturning the basis of civilisation. The land is the basis of society. When he goes back to Sydney he intends to speak in the Centennial Hall & try to get the people to take an interest in the land question. We don't want Free trade or Protection, but land reform. He spoke in favour of establishing a national bank, & said that although the banknotes are legalised by Gibbs, & claim to be payable on demand, they are not payable. He then quoted some remarks made by Mr. Coughlan in an official publication in which he says that N.S.W. is rapidly progressing; & that if we continue to progress as we have in the past no one can say what the end will be.

Mr. Hill quoted this in such a grandiloquent style that the audience roared with laughter. "If we go on the sa..."
way as we have gone in the past, we shall end up in the "land from whence no traveller returns". He asked could we point with pride to our unemployed who are forced to sleep on the paving-stones in the street? The average amount of wealth in N.S.W. is 1000 pounds; that is if the wealth were shared equally we would get a thousand pounds. When the people in England heard that they thought we must be very wealthy people, & that the workers here were better off than those in England. As a matter of fact, however, they are in much better circumstances, on the average, than we are.

He had received credentials from J. Chris. Watson, President of the Trades & Labor Council, & from the Labor Electoral Leagues, & the Socialist League of Sydney. He then read a portion of a paper on the land question, which he had read before the Conference of Labor held on the 10th & 11th instant. He was proud to say that the first plank of the platform of Conference is Land Reform. If he can convince the people that they have the power in their own hands, & if they pull together, they can get what they want. It would probably take a year to pass a good Land Act, but when it is passed the nation will be on the road to prosperity. The purpose of political action should be the welfare of the people. The Government should give justice to all, help the needy, & should control privilege. Unconditional ownership of land is the curse of the country, & should be abolished. No man should be allowed to hold land unless he used it in a proper way; but no man's wealth should be taken away from him if it was rightfully acquired. Value the land at a fair price, & resume at that price, but give the owner the option of re-valuing the land. The land & the people should satisfy each other.

Dave Morgan & I then took up a collection & got £17/10.

The chairman then called on Andrew Drummond to move a vote of thanks to Mr. Hill for his amusing & instructive lecture. Andrew then briefly moved the motion, & it was seconded by Bill Bower, & lengthily supported by Ferguson Reid, & carried by clapping.

Mr. Hill thanked the audience for the vote, & announced that he was writing a series of articles for the Sydney "Bulletin", & that if anyone wished to secure a copy next week he could do so by giving his name to Mr. Reid, & then it would be posted to him. I had my name put down for one, but I did not pay the sixpence. Hugh de Largie borrowed it & made it right for me. I got Bob's share-card of "The Australian Workman" from Dave Watkins. I took notes of the lecture; & it is from them that I have written this report. Cloudy. White flag for Wallsend: red for Co-op.

Wed, Nov. 22nd 1899. I wrote a report of Fraser Hill's lecture. I planted cabbage seed near the passion vines.
Thur. Nov. 23rd, 1895. Bob & I worked in the bottom garden to-day. I planted some beans & radish seeds. I shovelled a lot of gravel out of the creek this evening. Jack worked again to-day. Not weather.

Fri. Nov. 24th, 1895. Pay Friday. Bob got the pay, which was three pounds 3 shillings. I shovelled more gravel out of the creek, which runs through our yard. The Sydney "Bulletin" arrived to-day. Not weather.

Sat. Nov. 25th, 1895. This morning I went in our boat to Tomago to see the Ironbark Creek Boatsheads' Regatta. Bob, Jack Mahoney, & Wally Frew went with me. We arrived just in time for the fishing contest, which Bob, Jimmy Hutchison, Sam Dean, & I entered for. We & about 10 other boats crews of four went out between the 2 jetties & waited till a gun was fired, when we threw out our lines. The time allowed to fish in (with 2 lines per man) was 30 minutes. Sam Dean caught one jewfish, but the rest of us caught nothing. Tom Sharp & crew caught 3 fishes; Bill Andrews & crew caught 3, & so did Pettigrews crew. These 3 crews divided the first prize among them. There was a second prize for the heaviest fish. There were 3 jewfishes—one caught by Andrews' crew & one by Sharp's—both weighing 4½ pounds. As Sharp would not toss up for the prize the Club kept it. The racing was then proceeded with. The events were:

- Double sculls; 1st prize 1 pound; second 10/-.
- W. Hardes & James Pettigrew, 20 lbs.

Harris

Won by Harris & Pettigrew.

Second heat:
D. Reece & W. McCorry, 20 lbs.
Wm. Hardes jun. & Alex. Hardes, 25 lbs.

Won by W. & A. Hardes.

Third heat:
G. Riley & M. Collins, 40 lbs.
Alex. & Arthur Worboys, 45 lbs.
Mat. & Alex. Hardes, feather.

Wm. Hardes & Jas. Pettigrew.
W. & A. Hardes.

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Won by the Hardes.

Single Sculls.

First Heat:— A. Gilpin, 15 lbs.
    M. Laing, feather.
    Alex. Hardes, 20 lbs.
    Wm. Hardes, junr., feather. Won by W. Hardes.

Second Heat:— W. Collins, 10 lbs.
    Harry Worboys, 30 lbs.
    Jas. Hutchison, feather.
    Andrew Hardes, feather.
    Won by A. Hardes.

Third Heat:— D. Reece, 15 lbs.
    Wm. Mitchell, 30 lbs.
    Wm. Hardes, junr., 25 lbs.
    G. Ripley, 45 lbs.
    Won by Hardes.

Fourth Heat:— A. Worboys, 45 lbs.
    Andrew Hardes.
    Robert Cocking, feather.
    Won by A. Hardes.

Final:— Andrew Hardes. W. McCrory, W. Hardes junr.
    Won by McCrory.

Veterans' Race.

First Heat:— D. Laing, feather.
    T. Mitchell, feather.
    W. Mitchell, 10 lbs.
    J. Andrews, 20 lbs.
    Won by W. Mitchell.

Second Heat:— W. Worboys, 20 lbs.
    W. Hardes senior, 20 lbs.
    G. Mitchell, 30 lbs.
    T. Sharp, 20 lbs.
    Won by Wm. Hardes.

Third Heat:— Hadley Curry, 10 lbs.
    John Mather, 40 lbs.
    Wm. Andrews, feather.
    Won by Mather.

Final:— W. Mitchell, Wm. Hardes, senior, J. Mather.
    Won by W. Hardes, snr.
Sun. Nov. 26th 1893. I heard William A. Holman speak this morning at the Wallsend rotunda, on "The Essentials of Success." He spoke well, & had an attentive hearing. This afternoon Jack, Wally Frew, & I went in our cart to Islington park & heard Mr. Holman speak on "The Great Labor Conference." I paid the $d I owed him, & I paid Dave Watkins 1/- for my share in the "Daily Post" newspaper that is to be issued shortly. Hot weather.

Mon. Nov. 27th, 1893. Bob & I worked in the bottom garden to-day. I planted some peas. The pumpkins & radishes are growing. Jack worked, & Charlie worked all day filling coke at Co-operative coke ovens. Mr. & Mrs. Pritchard, of Lambton, were here this afternoon. They are Cornish people who lived near or at the town where Mother came from.

A collection was taken up on the park yesterday afternoon for Tommy Sutton's widow; & the sum of $11.00 was obtained. Work for Co-op. to-morrow; none for Wallsend.

Dry weather.

Tues. Nov. 28th. 1893. No work for Wallsend. Jack worked all day. We had a meeting of the Labor Electoral League this evening in the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute. Twenty-one were present. We elected officers, namely, Sec. Hugh de Largie; Chairman, John Baly Robinson; Treasurer, John Estell; Delegate, Dave Watkins; Committee, Adam Cook, Henry Tyldesley, & 3 others. Dry weather.

Wed. Nov. 29th, 1893. I worked a little in the garden. Bob, Dave Johns, & "George", his mate, went to the river to fish. They returned this evening with 47 fishes. Jack worked.

Following is a list of names of those who bought tickets for the raffle of our gun for G. Brown:—

L. Abel; Alex. Aikman, teacher; John Arthur; G. Brown; W. Rolt; G. Bell; A. Begbie; T. Bride; J. Brown; W. Collins; W. Coxon; W. Cunningham; T. Cummings; J. Cottrell; G. Delloway; G. Diguid; W. Duncan; J. Duncan; P. Davidson; Mr. Dick; Tom Davidson gave 3d; J. Estell; B. Francis; R. Gibson; G. Gay; J. Grant; T. Gibson; T. Goldie; J. Herd; W. Hardes; A. Hardes; Mat. Hardes; R. Harden; H. Holderson; Jack Hins; W. Harrison; S. Hughes; W. Haydon; D. Johns; T. Jeffries; J. Jackson; S. James; W. Jenkins; J. Kemp; A. Kemp; W. Longworth; J. Lockett; W. Laing; J. Mitchell; J. Mitchell; Andrew McLaughlin; Jim O'Brien; A. Parsons; B. Perman; T. Peacock; J. Rees; C. Richardson; G. Rickl; F. Reid gave 3d; Jim Richmond; Mrs. Rae; T. Roddenbury; T. Scott; V. Stone; R. P. Simpson; W. Solly; Tom Stepney; J. Smith; Mrs. Smith; J. Tyler; G. Thornton; J. Tyldesley; J Wall ace; W. Worboys; D. Watkins; A. Worboys; G. Youll; J...
J. Senior; D. Walker (winner of the game); W. Wicken; R. Price; G. Pond; W. Watkins; A. Ingram; C. Pomeroy; E. Willis; W. Brennan; T. Anderson;

Thur. Nov. 30th, 1893. No work for Wallsend. Revising 'The Strike of Ninety Two'.

Fri. Dec. 1st, 1893. Both pits are idle to-day. Bob & Jack went fishing. Re-writing 'The Strike of 92'.


Mrs. Jane bought 3d worth of envelopes for me. Dry weather.

Sun. Dec. 3rd, 1893. Mr. Powell lectured this evening in the Mechanics' Institute here. He came instead of Mr. Schey. I.P. I have sent 'The Strike' to the 'Workman'.

Mon. Dec. 4th, 1893. I worked in the garden & transplanted 3 tomato plants into the bottom garden. Co-op. is idle. Dry weather.

Jack Jackson gave me this remedy for rheumatism:-
Three penn'orth of sweet nitre;
ditto of oil of juniper & of copiabo. Take from 15 to 20 drops on sugar three nights in succession, miss 3 nights, take another dose; then take it twice a week for a time, & finally take a dose once a month.

Wed. Dec. 5th, 1893. We worked again to-day & filled 22 skips of round coal. This evening Jack & I walked to Lambton & heard Dick Sleath & Bill Ferguson speak from the balcony of Baker's Hall. They are the Broken Hill strike leaders. After the speaking was done Jack & I went upstairs into the hall, where we saw Dave Watkins, who told Ferguson we wanted him. He came; but as he had not seen us for over 7 years he had forgotten us & failed to recognise us until he had a good look at us. He promised to come up to our house to-morrow if he could. He has not altered much in appearance since he worked at engine-driving at Wallaroo Mines seven years ago. As some friends were waiting for him we did not stay with him long. We walked home. Co-op. is idle. Hot weather.

Fri. Dec. 7th, 1893. Wallsend pit worked to-day, but Co-op. is idle. We filled 21 of large coal. Sleath & Ferguson spoke on the balcony of the pub next door to the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Wallsend, this evening. There was a large audience. John Robinson was chairman. Sleath spoke first.
& dealt principally with Mr. Melville's speeches on the Broken Hill strike. He defended himself & Ferguson against the statements of Melville, whom he denounced as "a contemptible man." Ferguson followed with a very humorous speech, & concluded by advising the people to join the Labor Electoral League. Ferguson did not visit our family because, he said, he could not get away. Dry weather.

Fri. Dec. 8th 1893. We are idle again. Jack & 2 Pettigrews went fishing this morning, & came home this evening with a few fishes. This evening, after Bob had got our pay, & 1-5-0, we took our horse & cart to Charlie Vial's house & got him to go down with us to Merewether to hear Sleath & Ferguson speak. We saw Fergie Reid & Tom Davidson walking from New Lambton to Merewether, so we gave them a ride to the Albert Victor pub there. There was a good audience, & James Thompson was chairman. Sleath repeated the speech that he made at Wallsend. Ferguson made a humorous speech on his prison experiences, & he again advised the workers to join the Labor Electoral League. I helped to take up a collection, which amounted to 9/5. We returned via Newcastle & brought Fergie Reid, Tom Davidson & Bill Coomer to New Lambton. We reached home about 1 a.m. I received a letter to-day from Alf Edwards.

Sat. Dec. 9th 1893. No work to-day. Jack went to Newcastle this afternoon. Lizzie gave me an exercise book this evening.

Sun. Dec. 10th, 1893. I went to the Wallsend pub this morning, & saw Hugh de Largie, John Robinson, Jack Hall, Dave Watkins, Charlie Vial, & another man. We sat talking for a good while, & Charlie Vial gave an account of the speeches of Sleath & Ferguson at Merewether. We agreed to meet next Sunday morning. We also arranged to hold a meeting of the Labor Electoral League in Mr. Tyldeley's house, Thomas St., to morrow at 7 p.m. I persuaded Joe Saunderson to join the L.E. League. Very hot weather.

Mon. Dec. 11th, 1893. The Co-operative colliery is working to-day. Wallsend is idle. Bob & I went in our boat to Shelly, (a bend in Ironbark Creek, where a little tributary runs into it from the West) & got a piece of ti-tree to make a bow for a boat. I brought home 2 bundles of ti-tree twigs for our peas. This evening I went over to Tyldeley's pub & met Hugh de Largie, Charlie Vial, Adam Cook, John Reynolds, & Mr. Tyldeley there. We went into a large room at the back of the hotel & Dave Watkins, Dave Morgan, & Dan Thomas came in. John Robinson, chairman, in opening the meeting, said that
as a general election was apparently not far off it was considered advisable to call a meeting of our League Committee for the purpose of trying to organise a branch of the Labor Electoral League at West Wallsend. The business of the present meeting was to consider the best way to do this.

Charlie Vill said that he thought we should try to start a league at West Wallsend as we shall require to have a representative from there to go with our representatives to the Central Committee in Newcastle.

Adam Cook said that the Central Committee advised us—this matter was mentioned at the last meeting, & it was said that the organising would be left in the hands of the Central Executive to deal with. That was also his opinion.

Dave Watkins said that the Central Committee advised us to form a local executive to deal with local matters of this kind, while the former Committee would invite speakers to the district & appoint times & places for them to speak.

After further discussion Adam Cook moved "That we instruct the secretary to write to Mr. R.F. Davies, att West Wallsend, asking what are the objects of the political committee recently formed there, & whether it is a branch of the Labor Electoral League. Carried.

Dave Watkins said that he & Mr. Robinson were out at Teralba when Mr. Powell was speaking there, & the people asked Dave to come out & deliver a lecture; which he promised to do. It was finally decided that Adam Cook, Dave Watkins, Jack Estell, & John Robinson go out to Teralba next Saturday if Mr. Schey, M.P. does not visit Wallsend then, but if he does come they go out some other time.

Charlie Vill said that he had been speaking to a member of the League here about getting a horse & buggy to take the speakers to Teralba; & as that gentleman was present he would like to hear what had been done in the matter. As this referred to me I said that I saw Mr. David Howell this evening & he told me that he could only lend the buggy on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, & that the charge for the buggy & harness would be five shillings; & for the horse & buggy it would be ten shillings. I had asked our family what they would charge for the loan of our horse & cart for the League's use, & they said 5/-; or 3/- for the horse alone. It was moved & seconded "That the horse & cart be borrowed". Carried. That being all of the business the meeting closed.

I paid Dave Watkins sixpence for my share in the "Daily Post". I also paid de Largie 6d contribution to the League. I bought a penny copy of the "Report Of the Late Labor Conference".

Bob & Jack are suffering with toothache. Charlie is working at the Sydney Butchering Company's slaughter house to-day. Dry.

Tues Dec. 13th, 1893. I weeded out thistles & docks from the
bottom garden. I went to Ironbark Creek this afternoon & got 2 bundles of ti-tree twigs for the peas. Jack worked again to-day. Mother rode in our cart to the Salvation Army Hall this evening. There was a school-concert in the Plattsburg Mechanics' Institute last night, & Liz-Jane went to it. for Co-op. tomorrow; none for Wallsend.

Thur. Dec 14th, 1893. I weeded some more of the bed of peas & put ti-tree twigs in to support them. Work for both pits tomorrow. Cloudy weather.

Fri. Dec. 15th 1893. We filled 19 of large coal to-day, & finished the cut-through in the pillar. Willis, the under manager, measured 4 yards of cut-through for us for next pay. Our weights this morning were:- 9; 9-3; 10-14; & 10-3-14; average 10 cwt. The Wallsend miners ballotted this morning for a District Treasurer & a District Auditor, for the Colliery Employes Federation. I voted for John McFadyn & Bill Bower. Red flag, denoting work, for both pits. Rainy thunderstorm this afternoon.

Sat. Dec. 16th 1893. We filled about 20 skips of large coal. Our weight this morning was 11-1. Co-op. worked all day.

There is a notice at the Co-operative colliery that the miners will not be required by the brigands 14 days from now. There is a notice posted at the Wallsend colliery blacksmiths' shop that next January the hewing rate for coal will be 2/10 per ton, & the minimum will be 2/6 per ton. I think there will be a strike over it, but we are almost sure to lose as usual.

Bob took our horse & cart this evening to convey Dave Watkins, Jack Estell, & John Robinson out to Teralba to speak to the electors there. Charlie was paid 7/6 this evening for doing some work at a slaughter-house. I have read a part of 'The Elements of Chemistry', by Edward Turner, 1840.

Sun. Dec. 17th 1893. This morning I went to the Wallsend park & met Charlie Vial, Henry Tyldesley, John Robinson, & about 12 others. We conversed on various subjects, & Mr. Tyldesley read aloud an article in "The Workman" on "Socialism in America". No speech was made. In the evening I saw Bill McIlroy, Bill Pettigrew, & Bill Jenkins. I talked with Jenkins an hour, & then went into the Salvation Army hall. Bob went to the Wallsend Baptist tabernacle & saw 6 persons baptised by immersion. Hot, cloudy weather.

Mon. Dec. 18th 1893. We filled 26 skips of large coal. Weight 1-1-14. Out tonnage for next pay is, for number 51, 36 skips at 9-3 = 17 tons 11 cwt; & for number 52, 46 skips...
at 11 cwt, = 25 tons, 6 cwt. I attended a miners' meeting to-night, which was called to consider the new notice of reduction. Bob Punton, chairman, said that the secretary had received a document last Saturday from the manager of the Wallsend colliery, Mr. Alex Ross, containing the prices that he proposes to pay next year. They had a Committee meeting, & they decided to call a special miners' meeting to deal with the matter. Dave Watkins read the document & explained where it would reduce the men's earnings. Mr. James Curley then made a long speech & advised the men to resist the reduction. A deputation was then appointed to interview Alex Ross, the manager, & try to get some information concerning his intentions. The deputation consisted of Jack Estell, Bill Power, & Anthony Stephenson. It was decided not to draw the cavils next Thursday. The meeting then closed. Outside George Lonsdale, senior, & John Nichol had a quarrel about drawing the cavils. Charlie Pretwell had his leg broken by a "soldier" prop in Wallsend little tunnel to-day. To-day we filled 31 skips of large coal.

This evening I went to a committee meeting of the Wallsend Labor Electoral League at Tyldesley's place, & Fred Baker accompanied me. The members present were: Dave Watkins, Hugh de Largie, Charlie Vial, John Robinson, John Smart, Harry Tyldesley, & myself. The secretary read a letter from Mr. William Fountain containing the minutes of the last delegate meeting. The correspondence was received. Dave Watkins, delegate, explained that he could not attend the delegate meeting because the miners' lodge business detained him. There was some conversational discussion on a minute re a Wickham committee drawing up a rule to supersede rule 12 & to provide a mode of procedure for nominating & electing candidates for parliament.

Charlie Vial asked the secretary whether he had received an answer to his letter of inquiry. The secretary said that he had not received a reply yet, as the West Wallsend Political Committee had invited speakers from Merewether to come out & address the electors & try to form a branch of the Labor Electoral League; & very likely the West Wallsend Committee was waiting for a reply. It was decided to wait a few days, & then, if no reply came, the secretary can write again if he thinks it is advisable to do so. After the business was done the secretary treasurer paid me six shillings for the use of our horse & cart. I gave Dave Watkins & John Robinson a bunch of mint & thyme each. Dry weather.

Wed. Dec. 20th, 1893. I worked in the bottom garden to-day pulling grass out of the bed of peas, & putting them upright on twigs. I went down to Nelson street this evening to
hear Fraser Hill lecture, but I was disappointed, as he was at Wickham. I met Charlie Vial & Bill McIlroy & had some conversation with them.

Dave John's baby boy was buried this afternoon, & Bob went to the funeral. There was a Wallsend miners' meeting this evening. Co-op is idle.

Thur. Dec. 21st, 1893. I finished weeding the bed of peas, & put in a bed of Lima beans that Jack bought this morning.

Fred Baker was here this morning, & I lent him "The Year Book of Photography". The Wallsend miners cavilled to day, & we got to numbers 25 & 26 in Willis' little tunnel. Mickey Hooper is cavilled back to the little tunnel again, & Jim O'Brien also got there.

Fraser Hill lectured on "The Land & Wealth of N.S.W." this evening in the Wallsend rotunda. John Robinson was chairman.

The lecture was chiefly a repetition of his first one in Wallsend, but it was very good. Fine weather. Red flags for both pits.

Fri. Dec. 22nd, 1893. We filled 26 of big coal to-day. Bob got our pay, which amounted to $3.4-0. Jack's pay was $3.17-0.

I went down to the rotunda & heard Fraser Hill speak on "General Politics" this evening. Oswald Gleghorn Steel was the chairman. There was a fairly large audience. At the conclusion of the speech a resolution was carried approving of Fraser Hill's scheme of land reform.

Fred Baker has a job to go to Sydney & remove an electric light installation from the Bondi Aquarium, for Alf Taylor who has bought it. Fred has to pack up everything & bring it to Wallsend. I bought a 6d packet of long scarlet radish seeds. Dry weather.

Sat. Dec 23rd, 1893. This morning Alf Edwards, of Copeland, came to see us, & Bob, Jack, & I rode with Alf to Lambton, where I left him. Alf rode on to Newcastle with Jack & Bob, on his way to Melbourne (via Sydney). He will stay a day or two in Sydney & then go on by steamer to Melbourne where he has been invited by his cousin who is about to be married there.

I attended the aggregate meeting in Lambton Park which was called for the purpose of considering the present crisis in the coal trade, & the terms offered by the colliery robbers to the miners for hewing coal next year. There were several speakers there—Amram Lewis, Jimmy Curley, Adam Cook, James Donnelly, James Duke, & the West Wallsend & Monkwearmouth delegates.

There was an amendment moved on a Motion which has been carried by a majority of the lodge, which amendment was:

"That we accept no reduction in the hewing rate for coal for 1894." The Motion was "That we accept the A.A. Comp-
any's terms, namely, 3/2 per ton, which is a reduction of fourpence per ton. I waited until about 7 p.m. for Jack & Bob to return with the horse & cart, but as I did not see them I walked home. I then found that they had got home at 4 p.m. Very hot weather.

Sun. Dec. 24th, 1893. Christmas Eve. This morning I went over to the Wallsend park & heard Bill McIlroy speak on "The Land Question". There were only about 20 present, so Bill made his speech very short.

I paid Dave Watkins a shilling on my "Daily Post" share. Very hot weather this morning; this evening a rainy thunderstorm.

Mon. Dec. 25th 1893. Christmas Day. I have been at home all day. I wrote a letter to Jenna Grose in reply to his letter of the 26th of last October. Mine consists of 12 pages & deals with the arrival of his letter & the book entitled "Plain Reasons Against Joining the Church of Rome"; the conspiracy to rob the miners of 3d per ton of coal; the traitorous conduct of one bandit towards the others; the aggregate meeting at Lambton; probability of a miners' strike in January; Jenna's non-employment; the uselessness of coming to this district; Charlie's idleness; the time we have worked; speeches of Ferguson & Sleath; acceptance by Jenna of Socialist principles; my letter on Socialism; marriage of Dick Bred & Jack Ellis; non-arrival of letters from Nelly Giles or Selina Hancock; my hope of his re-employment, but not in the lead; "For They Never Mind the Lead, etc." freedom to poison one's self with lead or alcohol; no reply from Jim Tamblyn; one carol sang here; no music, mirth, or mated; "everything has gone askew, everything is looking blue, honest men are very few, & I'm stone-broke!". Jenna's brothers-- Sam & Joe Grose; promise to send parsley seeds.


A man named Peter Cridland was drowned at Raymond Terrace today through his boat capsizing. There was a regatta at Toronto, & horse-races at Wallsend course. Hot, cloudy weather.

Wed. Dec. 27th 1893. Wallsend worked today & we filled 29 of large coal. Old John Gillespie was in filling small coal. Co-op. is idle. Horse-racing again to day. The Lima beans that I planted on the 21st inst. are up. On the way home I saw that our names are on the Electoral Roll. Liz-Jane posted my letter to Jenna Grose. Jim Leaing has shifted into Summers' house in Devon street. Dry, cloudy weather.
Thur. Dec. 28th 1893. Both collieries worked to-day.

We filled 51 skips of big coal. Our weights this morning were 10-2 & 10-1. We finished the cut-through, which was 3 3/4 yards. The Wallsend-miners-balloted to-day for or against accepting the Australian Agricultural Company's terms, namely, 3/3 per ton for hewing coal. Cloudy; light rain this morning.

Fri. Dec. 29th, 1893. Both pits worked again to-day. We filled 38 of large coal. Dry weather.

Sat. Dec 30th, 1893. Bob & I went into the colliery & shifted our tools to our new pillars, which we shall have to work by night. Barly & Ned Davidson & Ned's son shifted their tools too. The deputies were making our pillar ready for us to start work. There was a mass meeting of the Wallsend miners this evening, & they accepted the Wallsend Company's new offer of 3/3 per ton, & prices for yardage &c to be according to the last agreement. There will consequently be no strike at Wallsend pit. The Co-operative miners will not accept the 2/10 per ton hewing rate; so, as the holder of the mine (Laidley) will not give 3/3, the men have been ordered to take their tools out of the mine. I transplanted 40 lettuce plants into a bed near the French beans. Slight rain.

Sun. Dec. 31st, 1893. I went over to the Wallsend park to-day. There were only a few people present. John Robinson read an essay on Socialism which was written by a young woman. It was favourably commented on by Hugh de Largis, Dave Watkins, Charlie Vial, & another. I went to Goat Hill, Pittown, & spoke with Watt Smiles, our wheeler, about the time to start work.

Mon. Jan. 1st, 1894. I stayed at home to-day. Bob went to the Baptist place, which was held behind the Wallsend coke ovens. We are to go to work to-night at 11 o'clock. Dry, hot weather.

Tues. Jan 2nd, 1894. We went to work last night at 11 o'clock & filled 19 skips. Barly & Ned were in before Bob & me, & had some coal ready. The pillar is a dip one & is consequently so hard that we have to hole it. Peter Davidson (Donald's brother), Bill Patterson, & 2 others are working the next pillar to us on the left. Jack went to Newcastle to-day & got a job for Charlie, at stone-breaking, of Bill Hestrow. We have to go to work again at 4 p.m. to-day. Mrs. Hyde shot her husband at Young Wallsend to-day because he ill-treated her. Dry weather.

Wed. Jan. 3rd, 1894. We worked again last night & filled 25 skips of coal.
Liz-Jane bought a New Year card at McCrae's shop, which I will send to Jenna Grose. The card is an illustrated copy of John G. Whittier's poem, "Field Flowers," which is as follows:

"The green earth sends its incense up
From every mountain shrine,
From every flower & dewy cup
That greeteth the sunshine.

The mists are lifted from the rills
Like the white wings of prayer,
They lean above the ancient hills
As doing homage there.

The forest tops are lowly cast
O'er breezy hill & glen,
As if a prayerful spirit passed
On nature as on men.

The gentle morn—the kindling sun—
The many stars are given—
As shrines to burn earth's incense on—
The altar fires of Heaven!

HYMN.

O Thou whose presence went before
Our fathers on their weary way,
As with thy chosen moved of yore
The fire by night—the cloud by day!

We thank thee, Father! hill & plain
Around us wave their fruits once more,
And clustered vine & bloomed grain,
Are bending round the cottage door.

And peace is here, & hope, & love
Are round us as a mantle thrown,
And unto the Supreme above
The knee of prayer is bowed alone.

And grant, O Father, that the time
Of earth's deliverance may be near,
When every land, & tongue, & clime,
The message of they love shall hear."

Jan. 3rd continued. I wrote a letter of 4 pages to-day to send with the card. The letter mentions these matters:—sending of card; prospect of ballot one in 1885; state of this district; 4d reduction in hewing rate; closing of Co-operative colliery; idleness of Charlie & Jack;
rumour of Co-op. working on tribute; 1000 men out of work in this district; 5000 pounds in Colliery Employees' general union fund; probability of levy being struck; the next election; wishes for a happy new year.

Liz-Jane posted the letter & card this evening. Wallsend is idle.

Cloudy weather.

Thur. Jan 4th, 1894. We went to work at 4 p.m. & filled 22 skips by 9-30 p.m. Charlie took Dave Watkins, Charlie Vial, John Robinson, Hugh de Largie, & Henry Tyldesley to West Wallsend. Dry weather.

Fri. Jan. 5th, 1894. Wallsend is idle. Bob got our pay, which is 5.2.3-0. Alf Edwards was here again to-day, & is going home this evening. Dave Watkins spoke last night at West Wallsend. Dry weather.

Sat. Jan. 6th, 1894. Bob, Jack, & Liz-Jane went with our horse & cart to Newcastle this afternoon & came back this evening with our groceries. They bought a new garden spade for 2/6 in a saleroom. At 8 o'clock to night the 4 of us went down to the local Salvation Army hall & paid 3d each to see a series of lantern views of the Zulu war. Parson Tom Davies was the lecturer, & he explained the pictures very well. The hall was full of people, & they seemed to enjoy the show. When it was over, the captain announced that the takings at the door were £3.5-0. I spoke with Dave Watkins, & John Robinson outside afterwards. Dry weather.

We have received the following letter from Aunt Grace Perkyns to Mother:-

Jenkins Terrace, Redruth, Cornwall, Nov. 29th 1895,

My Dear Sister, I am writing you these few lines hoping to find you all well, but I cannot say the same for ourselves. I am sorry to say that, after a short illness of two weeks, our dear Mother passed quietly & peacefully away. She fell asleep on the evening of the 34th, about 9 o'clock. She had been failing for the last twelve months, but very comfortable & cheerful. Dear Mother was constantly telling about you & the rest. We wished you were here to see her before she passed away. Dear Sister, we watched by her bedside day & night & did everything human hands could do. Poor dear Mother was not any trouble to us. She was so kind & affectionate to everybody. She was liked by everybody around here, & all join with us in our bereavement. We shall miss Mother a great deal now, as she was the only one of all our family that was left.

Dear Mother is in Heaven—that is one consolation for us to know; & we all hope to meet her there. I am sorry to say Walter was taken sick with influenza almost at the same
time, & we had to hire assistance for her funeral. Dear Mother was very decently & respectfully interred. We had a hearse & carriages, which cost 8 pounds. I was sick with sick with influenza myself for 3 weeks. You may just fancy how we feel now that Mother is gone. She was all the company we had; & she would sit by her chair by the fire & read & talk to us pleasantly. We shall miss her very much now. We have not yet fully realised that she has gone; but it is a great comfort & consolation to know she is better off where we would all hope to meet her some time.

We shall be glad to receive a few lines from you, & hope you are all well. We ever remain yours sincerely, Walter & Grace Perkyns.

P.S. Dear Sister, I will send pictures in the next letter. Answer this by return of post.

The letter above was accompanied by 2 black-edged memorial cards containing these words:

"In affectionate remembrance of ELIZA ROWE, the beloved relict of the late ROBERT ROWE, of Saint Day, who fell asleep in Jesus, November 23rd, 1893, aged 86 years.

"There's a Light in the Valley.

O do not shed a mourning tear,
Ye that are dear to me,
I'm free from sorrow, sin, & fear,
And I'm where I longed to be.

Reposing on my Saviour's breast
My aching heart doth lie,
My weary soul hath found a rest
In everlasting joy."

The funeral will take place on Tuesday, November 28th, at 3 p.m."
Do not shed a mourning tear.
Ye that are dear to me,
I'm free from sorrow, sin and fear,
And I'm where I longed to be.

Reposing on my Saviour's breast,
My aching head doth lie,
My weary soul hath found a rest
In everlasting joy.

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The Funeral will take place on Tuesday, November 28th, at 3.30 p.m.

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Mon. Jan. 8th, 1894. No work for Wallsend to-day. Co-op. is not working yet. Bob & Jack rode to Sumigate to-day to try to get a job for Charlie, but they only got a chance to tender for cracking some slag for making concrete. Sarah Pritchard was here this afternoon. I worked a while in the bottom garden digging up grass. There is a report of Dave Watkins' speech in the "Adovocate" to-day. Dry weather.

Tues. Jan. 9th, 1894. I have been making up our bills & receipts to-day. Mr. Powllo came to speak in the Wallsend rotunda this evening, but the speech had to be postponed owing to heavy rain falling between 7 & 10 p.m.

My Mother's Mother, Eliza Rowe, was born in Cornwall in 1807, & was 86 years of age when she died. Her Father's name was James Gillard, a Cornishman. He went to France in 1815 or 1816 & quarried stone to repair houses that had been damaged during the war of Napoleon. James Gillard took his wife & daughter with him to France; & they lived there a year or more, & then returned to Saint Just, Cornwall.

Wed. Jan. 10th, 1894. Miss Jane & Mother wrote a letter in reply to that of Aunt Grace. I worked in the bottom garden & set some St. John's Day cabbage seeds & some drum-head lettuce seeds under the passion vine near the banana tree.

Jack & Charlie rode in our cart to Newcastle this morning & paid L.G.Baker some money Robert House's account. I went down...
Following is a copy of a reference given by young Tom Bousfield, under manager of the Wallsend Colliery to William Reed.

"Jan. 10, 1894. To whom it may concern.
This is to certify that William Reed (coal miner) has regularly attended his work at the Wallsend Colliery since September 1886. Thomas Bousfield, overseer."

A REMARKABLE INK.

One of the most remarkable inks known to the chemist is made of a preparation of Prussian blue in combination with nitric hydrochloric acid. The writing done with this ink has the singular property of fading when exposed to the light, and recovering its colour when taken into the shade or placed in perfect darkness.

TO MAKE INK.

Take an ounce vial & put into it a teaspoonful of aqua ammonia (Liquor ammonia, or hartshorn) gum arabic the size of 2 peas, & 6 grains of number 40 carmine, & 5 grains of number 6 or 8 carmine also, fill up with soft water, & it is soon ready for use. BLUE INK.

Take sulphate of indigo & put it into water until you get the desired depth of colour; that sold in little bottles for blueing clothes is the article desired. This does well for school children, or any writing not of importance to keep, but for book-keeping it is not good, as the heat of a safe in a burning building fades away the colour.

Copy of Minute of Order of Court. Mildred Reed V William Reed.

"It is ordered & adjudged that the defendant do pay weekly, & every week, for the period of 12 months, now next ensuing, into the hands of Sergeant Edward Grennan or officer in charge of the Police Station, Wallsend, in the colony of N.S.W., for the maintenance & support of the said William Reed's deserted wife Mildred the sum of five shillings, & we do order that the first of such weekly payments be made on Thursday 11th day of January 1894. It is also ordered & adjudged that the defendant do pay the sum of 6/6 costs of Court, & £ 2-2-0 professional costs. Signed W.E. Henry. P.M. Police Office, Wallsend, 11th January, 1894."
to Nelson street this evening to hear Mr. Powell speak, but I found that he was speaking at Jesmond. Bob, Jack Haydon & his brother Bill went in our boat to George Town's place to inquire about some sculls for rowing. The Co-operative topmen have decided not to start working. Work for Wallsend to-morrow. Cloudy weather.

Thur. Jan. 11th 1894. Bob & I went to work on night shift at 3 p.m. & filled 36 skips of coal. Our crossmates will fill 2 more before they leave work. Hot weather this morning, a thunderstorm this evening, & clear at night.

Fri. Jan. 12th 1894. Tom Stepney, doctor John Nash's dispensier, lent me old doctor Nash's book entitled "The Art of Brewing." & I copied the following from it on the 9th:-

"The juice of Spanish liquorice is still in use among some porter brewers, especially in the country. It is a useful ingredient when properly applied, & it imparts flavour as well as colour & a considerable richness; a quality sometimes very difficult to obtain from malt alone, especially from brown malt, which contains but little sacchrine matter, & that by the mode of fermenting promotes briskness rather than richness. Fictitious strength is acquired by using the Cocculus Indicus, a hot stimulating drug, failing in great measure of its intended effect, & injurious to the health of the porter drinker, producing excruciating headaches & distressing sickness.

Nux vomica is the seed of the berry of a tree, & is brought from the island of Ceylon. It has a very bitter taste, but no smell. It is extremely delusive (10 or 12 grains being sufficient to kill a dog); & on that account it is now expunged from the Pharmacopoeias. Yet, although no one ever hears of its application, except for poisoning rats, it is imported in large quantities, & tons of it are ground every year in the drug-mills of the metropolis.

A sensation of warmth is produced by Capsicum. This is a hot pungent pepper; & in small quantities, properly distributed, might assist in the dispersion of flatulence. Sometimes the sensation is produced by "Salt of Steel" (iron perchloride) as it is vulgarly called; & sometimes by copperas (sulphate of iron). The introduction of these ingredients into the stomach need not of necessity be productive of bad effects, although, without doubt, some cases may occur when, it may be essential to drink a small quantity of porter, the admixture of chalybeate tonics, even in small proportions, ought to be strictly avoided.

(Footnote page 87):—"I have heard it asserted that the London ale brewers are in the habit of using considerable quantities of opium, tobacco, nux vomica, grains of paradise, &c, but I cannot imagine in what manner any utility would
result to them by using either of these articles. Tobacco is well known to be poisonous when taken in even small doses into the stomach; & we must also remember that its flavour is, to the greater number, most disgusting. The properties of opium, its effect on the human frame, & its flavour are pretty well known. Nux vomica is a still more deadly poison.

Page 89. "Capsicum pepper is used in the proportion of half an ounce to one hogshead. It can be purchased ground, & is to be put into the copper when the liquor is hot. Cocculus Indicus, one ounce to a hogshead: this must be bruised, & used as the one previous. "Liquorice juice," from four to eight ounces per hogshead, either dissolved or dropped by single pieces into the copper while in full boil.

'Salt of Steel"; a quarter of an ounce. Sulphate of iron, vulgo copperas, five drachms dissolved, & added just before the porter is sent out. Proportionate quantity for a hogshead.

(Footnote to page 91 - ) "Nor is the system of adulteration confined to beer. Spirits that are vended by retail are all adulterated, & some of them to dreadful extent. Some months since, a person having writing to do that would occupy him great part of the night, purchased at a liquor shop in Newgate street half a pint of gin, & during the night he drank a goblet full of grog he had made. He was seized with most excruciating agony, spasm of the stomach, temporary paralysis & loss of intellect. These he attributed to some natural cause, & he gave the remainder of the liquor to a person that called on him in the morning. In about an hour that person was similarly affected. This induced inquiry, & it was ascertained that the woman who served the liquor had mistaken the bottle & had sold half a pint of the adulterated fluid. This trash was composed of essential oil of juniper, turpentine, & sugar of lead, in large proportion to proof spirit. The last who partook of the liquor died by its effects. The author has more than once palpably detected by analysis the presence of sugar of lead, especially in retail rums."

10/1/1835.

The address of my Uncle John Rowe, Mother's brother, is:- New Almaden, Santa Clara County, California. Uncle Robert Rowe's address is: Crockett, Contra Costa County California. Valona is where he lives.

To find the day of the week of any date of the present century take the last 2 figures of the year as one number, & add thereto its fourth part (excluding fractions); the day of the month, & the "ratio" of the month as given below. Then divide by seven, & the remainder, if any, will give the day of the week. If there is no remainder the day will be Saturday. The ratios for the months are January 3; February 6; March 6; April 2; May 4; June; July; August 5; September 1; October 3; November 6; December 1. Take, as an example, July 6th. The number sixty added to its fourth part...
equals sixty-two. Add to this six, representing the day of the month, & two, the "ratio" for July, & the total is seventy.
Divide by seven, & there is no remainder, so that July six, 1850 fell upon a Saturday." (Extract from "The Adelaide Chronicle", 29/4/1893.)

"Mr. Teece, the General Manager, says, An examination into the mortality experience up to 31st December, 1878 showed that the excessive death rate among publicans, as compared with that of first class lives assured with the Society, required an extra premium of 10 shillings per cent on the sum assured.

Death rate:- Men of no occupation, 1-35 per cent.
Lawyers, 1-05 p.c.
Merchants, 1-30 p.c.
Clergymen, 1-27 per cent.
Farmers & graziers, 1-66 p.c.
Miners, 1-95 per cent.

Tues. Sep. 19th 1893. We filled 8 of large & 2 of small coal to-day. Jack & Charlie also worked. I wrote part of a letter in reply to R. Dempsey, on Socialism.

Jan. 13th 1894 continued.
Wallsend worked half a day. We went to work at 12 noon & worked till 6 p.m. & filled 24 of large coal. Our weights are 11 & 11-5. Barty & Ned were in before us. I got some oxide of manganese (\(\text{MnO}_2\)) this evening. Jack planted about 100 cabbage plants in the bottom garden.

Jan. 13th 1894. We are all idle to-day. Jack rode our horse, "Tiger" to Newcastle & asked Joe Restlow for work. He offered Jack a job on the coal-loading cranes, but as Restlow intends to discharge the cranesmen Jack would not take the job. I experimented this afternoon with the double chloride of Ammonium & zinc that is deposited in a Leclanche electric cell, & I found that it is insoluble in water, but is soluble in a boiling dilute solution of sulphuric acid. It is decomposed by a boiling solution of common washing soda, (sodium monochromate) with the evolution of ammonia. A white, insoluble substance remains, which is soluble in sulphuric acid, but is insoluble in water.

Sun. Jan. 14th, 1894. I went to Wallsend park this morning & saw Dave Watkins, Hugh de Largie, Harry Tyldesley, John Robinson, Charlie Vial, Harry Clements & 3 others whom I do not know. Dave lent me a copy of "The Liberator". He & Hugh are going to West Wallsend this evening to arrange with the secret...
representatives from the League to the meeting of the Central Executive. Hot, cloudy weather.

Mon. Jan. 15th 1894. Ned, Barty, Bob, & I filled 36 skips of large coal by 10 p.m. Our tonnage for next pay is, for number 25, 48 skips at 11 hundred weight, which equals 28 tons, 8 cwt.; & for number 26, 43 skips at 10-3. 14 = 22 tons 12 cwt.

Tues. Jan. 16th 1894. I have been very busy to day about our bedroom. We pulled down the paper & bag-lining from the walls & Jack white-washed them. This evening I have been experimenting with double chloride of Zinc & ammonia. Bob went out to Cockle Creek & got Jack Haydon's boat.

Wed. Jan. 17th 1894. I received a letter from Alf Edwards who is at Copeland. We are idle as usual. I found that when carbonate of soda is mixed with double chloride of zinc & ammonia the carbonic acid gas unites with the ammonia, forming carbonate of ammonia, & with the zinc, forming carbonate of zinc; & the chlorine combines with the soda, forming chloride of sodium (common salt). The carbonate of zinc is insoluble in water.

Thur. Jan. 18th 1894. Bob & I went to work at 4 this afternoon & with Ned & Barty we filled 24 skips of big coal by 11 p.m. Jack went to Alex. Ross, the manager of the Wallsend colliery, this evening, to try to borrow 10 pounds to pay off grocer Robert House's bill. but Ross said that although he could lend the money, if he did so it would make him seem too friendly with his employees. Thunderstorm.

Fri. Jan 19th 1894. Bob got our pay—£ 5-4-0. Jack received 30/- strike pay, & Charlie paid 15/- by the Surfacemen's Union. Mother sent a letter to Alf Edwards this evening. Hot.

Sat. Jan. 20th 1894. Jack & Bob went in our cart to Newcastle & paid grocer Witherspoon & got our fortnight's groceries. I worked in the bottom garden. Bob paid Bill Lechrin 1/- for The Workman paper. He is now paid up. Matthews' house on Goat Hill, Pittown, was burnt to ashes at 11 p.m. Dry & cloudy.

Sun. Jan. 21st, 1894. I went to the Wallsend park as usual this morning. Charlie Vial, John Robinson, Henry Tyldeley were there, & Bill Peters & Fergie Reid came afterwards. Henry was reading George Black's article in yesterday's Workman when I arrived. Fergie distributed some copies of 3 leaflets of the Central Executive of the Sydney Labour Electoral League among the audience. I paid my contribu-
Mon. Jan. 22nd, 1894. Wallsend worked to-day. We filled 24 skips of big coal to-night. I have started to learn Pitman's shorthand writing. Rain at night.

Tues, Jan. 23rd, 1894. Wallsend worked all day, & we worked again this evening from 5-50 to 9 p.m. & filled 27 skips. Our weight is 11 lb. Cloudy.

Wed. Jan 24th, 1894. The Wallsend pit did not work to-day. There was a full meeting of the Wallsend branch of the Labour Electoral League this evening in the Mechanics' Institute. Bob, Jack, & I attended the meeting, & there were about 40 other members present. The secretary read the minutes of the previous committee meeting & explained them. Adopted.

Dave gave an account of the business that had been transacted at the delegate meetings he had attended; & his report was adopted as satisfactory. The secretary read minutes of the conference, which was attended by 4 representatives of our League, & 5 each from Teralba & West Wallsend, last Saturday. There was much discussion on the Minute, That we advertise for persons wishing to contest the Wallsend electorate in the interest of the Labour Electoral League. It was carried without amendment.

Dave explained the proposed mode of taking a ballot for the selection of a candidate, which is:- That every member of the L.E.Leege be given a printed ballot paper. The members will then vote in the usual way, that is by striking off the names of all the candidates except the one he is in favour of, & put the folded paper into an envelope on which he will write his name. He will then put the envelope containing the ballot paper into another envelope & send it by post, or bring it to the secretary of the League. Only appointed scrutineers will then compare the names on the envelopes with those on the League roll, after which the papers will be opened & the votes counted in the usual way. Tat was adopted also.

It was decided that the time for receiving nominations close on the 3rd of February. Adam Cook moved, That the time for enrolling members of the League close on the same day as that for receiving nominations. Carried. The treasurer, R. Tyldesley, read the balance sheet, & it was received as satisfactory.

Cloudy.

Thur. Jan. 25th, 1894. Only the Wallsend big tunnel side is at work to-day, so we are idle. Jack got ten pounds from Mackenzie, a usurious pirate, for 50 per cent interest on a bill of sale over the organ & the horse & cart. He paid the money to Walker for Baker & gang, & got clear of their clutches.
The L.E. League has the loan of the horse & cart this evening to take Dave Watkins, Jack Estell, John Robinson, Hugh de Largie, & Harry Tyldesley to to Cardiff to try to form a branch of the Labour Electoral League there. Bob went also to drive.

This afternoon Jack & I went down to Ironbark Creek & got some long sticks for the Lima beans.

Fri Jan. 26th, 1894. This is Anniversary day for N.S.W.
This morning Bob rode Tiger to Ned Davidson's house in north Lambton & got his buggy to take Dave & Mrs. Watkins & their 2 boys & me out to Lake Macquarie to see the regatta. Meanwhile I went to Dave's house & waited until nearly 11 o'clock for Bob to come with the buggy, but as he did not come Dave & I walked up to Longworth's hill, near the old cemetery, & looked for Bob; but as we did not see him we went home. Mother told me that Bob had been up to Watkins' house & found no one at home; so he came back & took Liz-Jane to the lake. They returned this evening, & Bob said that he went to a house that he thought was Dave's, & knocked at the door. A neighbor told him that Dave & Mrs. had gone out. He went down to Nelson street to find Dave, but could not; so he drove to old John Watkins' pub & was told that Dave was at home, but Bob said he had been there. He then drove home & took Liz-Jane to the lake.

Jack went to a Salvation Army placca near the Wallsend Coke ovens, but did not stay there long. Charlie & Mother have been at home all day. The temperature in our dining room at 11-50 was 90 degrees Fahn. Cloudy this evening.

Sat. Jan. 27th, 1894. No work to-day. I have been learning phonography. Rain nearly all day.

Sun. Jan. 28th, 1894. Matthew Curry, a Wallsend engine-driver, was coming home in O'Brien's boat from the Round-top house with Jack O'Brien, Jack Brock, & another, when the boat capsized & threw them into the water. O'Brien can swim, but the others can not; so they clung to the boat. Curry tried to swim to the bank of the river, but when he had gone a good distance he turned back & sank & never rose again. Brock was washed off the boat several times & O'Brien put him on again. Some farmers who saw the accident came & helped to put the boat right. O'Brien & Brock pulled to the boatsheds at Ironbark Creek & informed the police & went back with them & dragged for Curry, but could not find him. Our Jack & 13 others went to the river with our boat this afternoon to assist in searching for Curry, but they had not found him at 10 p.m.

when they returned home. Jack & party went back to the river tonight to continue the search for Curry. I bought an ounce of hydrochloric acid. Light rain.
Mon. Jan. 29th, 1894. Wallsend colliery is working to-day.
Jack has not returned from the Hunter River yet, (2 p.m.)
So I suppose they have not found Curry. Rainy.

Tues. Jan. 30th 1894. We went to work at 4 p.m. yesterday &
the entrance to our pillar blocked by a fall of roof. We started
on the next pillar outward & filled 24 skips. Our tonnage is,
for number 25, 56 skips at 10-3-14 = 50 tons 9 cwt.
& for number 26, 42 skips at 10-2-14 = 23 tons 6 cwt. Jack
returned last night from the river. They had not then re-
covered the body of Mat Curry. Wallsend is working again to-day.

We went to work at 4 p.m. & filled 31 skips of large coal.
They found Mat Curry to-day near where he was drowned. Jack
came home this evening. Showery this morning.

Wed. Jan. 31st, 1894. This morning we went over to the Co-op-
erative skip-line & saw Bill Worboys, Bill Davies, & Bill
Groves remove the line from the places where it crossed the st
reets. There were about 150 people present, including Adam Cook,
who moved the motion in the municipal council to have the lines
taken up to stop the Co-operative pit from working. Jimmy Barr,
the manager of Co-operative pit, was also present with Tom Abell,
Oswald Steel, mayor of Plattsburg, sergeant Grennan & other
policemen, Jack Estell & Walter Blackie.

Samson Parker, old Barney McCrory, Jack McCrory, were there
filling skips with ashes to re-make the embankment of the line
that the Council's labourers had levelled down. Jack & I then
took our horse & cart to Fletcher Park & got a load of manure.
Mat Curry was buried to-day in the
Wallsend cemetery. Cloudy, but warm weather.

Thur. Feb. 1st, 1894. Wallsend is working. We went to work at 3 p
& filled 23 of large coal by 8 p.m. Our weight is 198 10-2
for number 26. It has been showery all day. The temperature at
3 p.m. was 30 degrees. South wind. Weight is 10-2 for number
26.

Fri. Feb. 2nd, 1894. Pay Friday, Wallsend pit is idle. Jack &
I wheeled some dirt & gravel from under the road bridge to our
garden. Bob got the pay, which was £3-10-0. Jack received one
pound strike pay, & Charlie received ten shillings strike pay.
The Co-operative colliery skip-line was relaid by Laidley's
slaves to-day. Our boat is let out this evening yo Sam Dunlop &
party. They paid 4/- before they went away. I experimented this
evening with the double chloride of zinc & ammonia, & found
that it is easily soluble in strong liquid ammonia.
I also found that 10 grains of the double chloride is soluble
in ten minims of sulphuric acid diluted with a dram of
boiling water. Hot weather.
Sat. Feb. 3rd, 1894. This morning Jack, Bill Steen, & I rode in our cart to Newcastle. We put the horse & cart in Brent’s pub yard & went to the Technical Museum & looked through it. At Capper’s I bought a 31 pounds wedge for 1/3. I also bought a copy of the "Key To The Phonographic Teacher", & "Caesar’s Column" for 6d each at Langer’s shop. We got our groceries at Witherspoon’s shop & came home. Hot weather.


Mon. Feb. 5th, 1894. Wallsend is working. Jack has gone to Lambton. Charlie is working off the council rates on the Ironbark Creek road.... 11 p.m. We went to work at 3 p.m., & Barty & Ned came in at 3-30. We filled 27 skips if big coal by 9-30 p.m. Our weights were 10-3-14 & 11-1; average 11. The temperature to-day was 88 deg. Fah. Now 75 deg. F.

Tues. Feb. 6th 1894. Wallaseend worked again to-day. We started at 3 p.m. & filled 26 skips at 8-40 p.m. Jack & Charlie went to Newcastle, & Charlie got a job on the sewerage works of Billy Heatlow, at Newcastle. Jack bought a small vise at a pawnshop for a shilling. Hot weather.

Wed Feb. 7th 1894. Wallaseend worked. Bob & I went in to work at 3 p.m., & by 9 p.m. with the help of Barty & Ned we had filled 26 skips of large coal. Our weight to-day for both numbers is 11-2-14. Jack went with the horse & cart to Newcastle & took down a bunk & bedclothes for Charlie. Hot weather. Now, 10 p.m. the temperature is 76 deg. Fah.

Thur. Feb. 8th 1894. To-night we filled 31 skips of best coal. Weights to-day are, for number 35, 10-2; & for 26, 11-1. Bob & Jack brought home the keel of Thatcher’s old boat from Ironbark Creek to use as a pattern to cut the out the keel of a new boat by. Rainy all day. 72 deg. F.

Fri. Feb. 9th, 1894. We went to work at 2 p.m. to-day & filled 30 skips of big coal. The Co-operative miners & wheelers chased Bill Andrews & Price, & the other blacklegs home from the Co-operative pit to-day. Rainy.

Sat. Feb. 10th 1894. Wallaseend pit is idle. I have been learning phonography again & have reached exercise 16 of
"The Phonographic Teacher" The Co-operative blacklegs were followed by the miners on strike who hooted & abused the scabs loudly. The police were present but made no arrests. Bill McIlroy spoke from Lewis' balcony this evening. Hot in the morning, changed this evening.

Sun. Feb. 11th, 1894. I went to the park this morning & conversed with Hugh de Largie, Charlie Vial, John Robinson, Bill McIlroy, & Jim Frew. 108 deg in the sun at 3 p.m. A sudden thunderstorm from the South brought the heat down to 83 deg.

Mon. Feb. 12th, 1894. No work at Wallsend. The Co-operative mine is being worked by about 15 blacklegs. The striking miners meet at the Co-operative tunnel at 5 a.m. & 3 p.m. & meet the blackleg as they go in & come out of the tunnel. I sowed a small bed with carrot seeds in the top garden. This evening the Co-op. miners & about a thousand others followed old Price, the blackleg, home from the Co-op. line. Old Barney McCrory, another scab, was hooted & hustled by the crowd near the Plattsburg public school. The rev. R.E. Davies spoke in the Plattsburg rotunda this evening. Cloudy weather.

Tues. Feb. 13th, 1894. Wallsend worked today. We filled 30 of big coal. Outillage for next pay is, for our number (25), 100 skips at 10-2-14, which equals 53 tons 32cwt. For number 26, 108 skips at 10-1 = 58 tons 1 cwt. Jack went to Newcastle & sold a boxful of parsley seeds for 2/- at a seedsman's shop. The Co-operative scabs have stopped working.

Wed. Feb. 14th, 1894. We all went to work at 2 p.m. & filled 30 & skips of large coal. Weights are, for 25, 11, 10, & 11-14; average 10-2-14; for number 26, 10-1, 10, & 11-1, average 10-2. Dry weather.

Thur. Feb. 15th, 1894. Wallsend pit is idle. This morning I went to the Plattsburg police court & heard the first part of the trials of Gomer Davis & Hugh Ranfield for riotous behaviour. I went again in the afternoon & heard the rest of the evidence for the crown. The cases were adjourned until next Thursday, when 30 witnesses for the defence will be called. The charges against Bill McIlroy & others were withdrawn by Price's lawyer, Spark. Hot weather.

Fri. Feb. 16th, 1894. Wallsend colliery is idle again today. Bob got our pay, which was £7-3-0. There was a ten per cent levy on to support the miners who are on strike in this district. Jack Estell spoke on Lewis' balcony this evening. Rain.
Sat. Feb. 17th, 1894. Brother Jack & I went in our cart to Newcastle this morning. We left the horse & cart at Brent's pub & went over to where Charlie is working for Hestlow. We then walked up Hunter street, & I bought an ounce of nitric acid & an ounce of caustic potash at Knaggs' for 6d an ounce. I also bought a copy of "The Golden Bottle" & "The Phonographic Teacher" at Langert's for 6d each. We went to Witherpoon's shop with the cart & got the fortnight's groceries. On the way home we bought 6 vegetable marrows for a penny each, & a watermelon for 2d. At Lambton we were overtaken by a rain storm. We got 100 cabbage plants & 50 cauliflower plants at the seedman's in exchange for some parsley seeds. When we got home we put the plants in the lower garden.

This evening Mr. James Donnelly, the Labour Electoral League nominee spoke from the balcony of Lewis' pub. He spoke on the 6 fighting planks of the Labour Platform. I bought an exercise book at Bill Lochrin's shop for 3d.

Sun. Feb. 18th 1894. I went to Wallsend park this morning & had a talk with C. Vial, J. Robinson, W. McLeroy, & D. Watkins' brother. I went down to Nelson street this evening & met Vial & Tylerdeley. I paid Harry 6d contribution. Rain this morning.

Mon. Feb. 19th, 1894. Wallsend worked. We went in at 2 p.m. & filled 28 skips of large coal. Weight 11-14, & 10-3. Hugh de Largie & several others are being tried in the Wallsend police court to-day for riotous behaviour. Cloudy.

Tues. Feb. 20th 1894. Wallsend is idle. This evening Tommy Dodd, the organiser of the Active Service Brigade, gave a speech of 3 hours duration on the aims & objects of the Brigade. John Robinson was elected chairman by the audience. The speech was attentively listened to & loudly applauded by the audience. Tommy moved the following resolution:- That this meeting pledges itself to oppose any Protectionist or Freetrade candidate who may seek election to parliament in this electorate, & to support only the nominee of the Labour Electoral League. I bought a copy of a small paper named "Hard Cash". John Robinson was appointed agent for the paper called "Justice", in Wallsend. I paid Dave Watkins 6d on my "Daily Post" share. Fine weather.

Wed Feb. 21st, 1894. We filled 30 skips of big coal to-night. Our weights are 10-2 on each number. Jack went to Newcastle to-day. & gave Tommy Dodd 1/2 tram fare to come to Wallsend next Sunday morning to lecture on "Caesar's Column". There was a full meeting of the Labour Electoral League this evening. Dry weather.
The following is a copy of J.H. Grose's letter to me:-

"Broken Hill, Feb. 11th, 1894. Dear Joe, It is with much pleasure I take the opportunity of writing you a few lines in answer to your kind & welcome letter, which I received some time ago. I suppose you thought by this time that I had shuffled off this mortal coil, or gone to West Australia, or some other unlikely thing; but such is not the case, for I am still here, & here I am likely to remain for some time at any rate. The reason that I did not reply before is because I was out of work when I got your letter, & was anticipating a speedy departure from Broken Hill to seek the necessary graft in another colony. I have been 5 months & 2 weeks out of work, & was just about selling out & going to Bendigo when I dropped into a collar again at the same claim I was working in before, viz, Australian Broken Hill Consols Company, Ltd. & I thought I wouldn't write again until I was settled again in work. Well, I don't know how long I shall be kept on. When I started they told me it would be only for a week, but I have worked a fortnight & got the prospect of another week's work yet.

I was glad to hear that you were well, but sorry to hear that Jack & Charley were out of work. I hope that they are working again by this time. And I hope that you & Bob are still in work, & working more than you were when you wrote last. So, hoping that this brief explanation will clear me from all blame, I remain-- but hold on, I aint finished yet.

I am very much pleased with the Christmas card that you sent me; I think it is very pretty; & I was sorry that I was not in a position to send you one in return. But I will send you one of Broken Hill Christmas photograph cards with the next letter. It will be late, but I don't care, it will come all the same. I hope soon to be able to send you some of our photos in a week or 2 now. I think I will get the Mrs. & the children taken; & if I can't get mine I will borrow one & send it to you. There is a little matter that I wish to impress upon your mind about the way that you send books & parcels through the post, & I hope you will not think me rude or impudent in criticising the able manner in which you do things generally; & I also hope that you wont think that I object or get narked at your sending them to me. On the contrary I am always pleased to get them. But enough is as good as a feast, so I wont try to break your heart with fine language or fluent words, but get right down at once to the roots of the grievance, which is to say that you don't send books & cards right-- there, that's straight. I have been a long time saying it, but now I have said it I don't care. Forgive me my sins if I have said too much, but I can't help it. I have to pay 4d., 8d., & a 1/- for your books & cards because you carelessly, & I might say wilfully, neglected to cut & leave the ends open. So There, old son! Good job you are not here now to see the howling rage I am in about it, or there might be an inquest to-night & a funeral to-morrow-- there!
But never mind, Joe, old boy, I would gladly have paid a pound duty on that car if I had it; but at the time it arrived I could not scrape up 8d to pay the duty, so I had to go out & take in washing to get the money. Look out! I am feeling wild again.

Dear Joe, I hope you will not be hard with me for what I have said. Come & have a drink & make it all up.

Well, Joe, I suppose it is about time for me to begin to write if I intend to write at all; for here is the old woman trying to clear me out so as she can set the tea, so I better hurry up. I am pleased to tell you that these few lines leave us all pretty well at present, so that's one good thing, isn't it? Sam is going to leave here for Western Australia next week. I don't wish him any harm, but I hope he gets washed off the boat & drowned. He is no good & always was, as Cousin says. He has been hoarding up his money, & his Mother & Father, next door to him, almost starving. So he won't be missed much Joe & Will are out at the Pinnacles working. That is about 11 miles from here. They come in about once a fortnight. They are tributing, but are barely making a living. I am ore-dressing, & get 8/- a day. So as long as I can keep on there I will be all right. I see there are a lot of miners out of work where you are. I hope you are not one of them. There are a lot of men leaving here for Western Australia. The train goes away loaded every night. And there are a lot going overland with teams. There is a party here offering £2-10-0 a week for to take a mob of horses over there. So there is a chance if you want a job. It would take about 12 months to get over there.

I am sorry to tell you that Bill Hancock is dead. He died with 1 lead fits last Thursday. He was as fat as a horse, but the lead cooked him. He was not bad more than a day or two.

I have been out of work again. I finished last Thursday, but started again to-day, the 19th, on tribute, & Father is working with me. We are going to get 60 per cent (12/- in the £). The ore is rich if we can only get it. I think we will be able to knock out a living at it. I am sending with this letter the card that I promised you on the 4th page of this epistle. It is not much, but it is the best I could get of the sort. So please kindly accept it from me, your old friend, James Henna Grose.

The foregoing letter was written in reply to mine of Dec. 25, 1893, which is mentioned on page 57 of this book.
Thu. Feb. 22nd 1894. Wallsend worked again today, & tonight we filled 28 skips of big coal. Our weights are, 103 14 & 11. Brother Jack has taken Dave Watkins, John Robinson & Hugh de Largie out to West Wallsend, this evening, to give a political address. Rainy weather.

Fri. Feb. 23rd, 1894. Wallsend pit worked, & we filled 31 skips of big coal. This evening Mr. Spence, the secretary of the shearers' union, spoke in the Wallsend rotunda, on the New Australia movement. Hugh de Largie & several others were tried at the Wallsend court yesterday on charges of riotous & unlawful behaviour. Cloudy.

Sat. Feb. 24th, 1894. No work. Dave Watkins spoke on the six fighting planks of the Labour platform this evening from the balcony of Lewis' pub, & was attentively listened to by a large audience. I wrote part of a letter to Jenna Grose.

Sun. Feb. 25th, 1894. Tommy Dodd, the leader of the Active Service Brigade, spoke in the Wallsend park this morning on "Caesar's Column"—a book by James Donelly, I think. Tommy & his mate, a young man named Douglas, were well received. There was some amusement caused by an ignorant Geordie named Hodge, who, when elected as chairman, said, "Well, gentlemen, ah canna mak a speech, but ah call on mistah Wotamally to address you".

I finished writing to Jenna Grose. The letter consists of 12 pages & deals with the following topics:—His tributing; the disputes at Stockton, Co-operative, & Greta pits; our pillars; Charlie's job; my apology for insufficient postage on book sent; "Golden Bottle promised to him; the silence of Jim Tamblyn; Jenna's photo; Bill Hancock's death at Broken Hill; the Barrier Secular Association; promise to send him parsley seeds; Labour Electoral League.

Mon. Feb. 26th, 1894. We filled 32 skips to-night. Our tonnage for next pay is, for number 25, 96 skips at 10-3 = 51 tons 12 cwt; & for number 26, 82 skips at 10-2-14, = 43 tons 11 cwt. The total is 95 tons 3 cwt. Brother Jack & Charley Vial have been taking the Wallsend Labour Electoral League ballot papers around to-day. Cloudy.

Tues. Feb. 27th 1894. We filled 36 skips to-night. We finish our pillar & started on the next one outward. Jack & Charley Vial have been distributing ballot papers to-day. Bob Jack & I voted for Dave Watkins to be the Labour candidate for parliament, & so did our Charlie. Dave has gone with
our horse, Tiger, this evening to speak at Cardiff. Rain this morning; fine now, 11 p.m.

Wed. Feb. 28th 1894. Wallsend worked to-day, & we filled 36 skips of big coal. We started at 2-30 p.m. & finished at 10 p.m. Brother Jack & Charlie Vial have been collecting the ballot papers of the Labour Electoral League for the selection of a candidate to stand in the interests of Labour at the next State election. Fine weather.

Thur. Mar. 1st, 1894. Went to work at 2-30 p.m. to-day & filled 24 skips by 9 p.m. Brother Jack & Ned Davidson's son, Cuth, got our pay, which was £ 5-18-0. The L.E.League ballot papers are nearly all filled & returned, & the result will be known to-morrow. Fine weather

Sat. Mar. 3rd, 1894. Pay Saturday. This morning I helped Hugh de Largie to sort out the ballot papers. Charlie Vial was here too. Brother Jack, de Largie, & Vial went out in our cart to Young Wallsend this morning & collected & counted the ballot papers, & returned at 5 p.m. At 8 p.m. John Robinson declared the result of the ballot, which is: Dave Watkins, 365, the number of days in a year; James Donnelly, 135; John Estell, 45; William McIlroy, 44; rev Davies, 12. Watkins polled more than the others put together, & is thus the L.E.League nominee. He thanked those who voted for him, & promised to do all in his power to help on the Labour cause.

Aram Lewis started at 7 p.m. to speak from Lewis' balcony on "The Depression & Its Causes," & concluded at 8 p.m. Rainy all day; showery at night.


Sun. Mar. 4th 1894. I went to the Wallsend park this morning & saw Bill Peters, Hugh Young, George Banfield, Ted Lee, & John Robinson. William Morris Hughes spoke at the Plattsburg return, this evening, on "Solidarity of Labour" I was not there. Cloudy weather.

Mon. Mar 5th, 1894. This morning I went with Jack, Bill Frew, Bill Patterson, to Newcastle, & we stopped at Witherpoon's shop, & Bill took the horse & cart to the junction for some ducks. In the meantime Jack & I went to Mad Markham's & bought some clothing, including a coat for me. We also bought a hat & a pair of trousers & flannel for Charlie. The cost of the articles was 2 pounds 5 shillings, & we were given 4 tickets for Markham's picnic, to be held on the
Following is a copy of the ballot paper used by the Wallsend Branch of the Labour Electoral League when selecting a candidate to stand for election to the N.S.W. Legislative Assembly, and the result of the selection ballot of the League.


    LABOUR
    ELECTORAL LEAGUE,
    WALLSEND BRANCH. BALLOT PAPER.

Candidates:
    (Result of selection ballot).

    WATKINS. 365.
    McILROY. 44.
    DONNELLY. 125.
    DAVIES. 12.
    ESTELL. 45.
queen's birthday. We took the clothes over to Charlie, who is
breaking stones for Hestlow on the side of the wharves.
bought a printing-stamp to print any number up to 9999. for
§1-6d. Bill brought the horse & cart back to Wather-
poon's, & we got our groceries & came home by way of Adam-
town & New Lambton.

evening Tommy Dodd, the leader of the "Active Service
brigade," spoke from the balcony of the Reserve pub, & Tom-
son was his chairman. I bought a copy of the paper called
Justice", for myself, & another for Bill Austin.
The Wallsend big tunnel worked to-day, but the little tunnel was
showery day: cloudy evening.

Tues. Mar. 6th 1894. We went in to work at 12-15 p.m. & filled
30 skips with big coal, by 9-15 p.m. Weight 10-5-14, & 10-2-14.
Rain nearly all day, & still raining at 11 p.m. Jack went to
Newcastle to-day with the horse & cart. He went to Baker for a
loan but did not get it. The Labour Electoral League got our
horse this evening to go to West Wallsend with Mr. W.M. Hughes
who was going to speak there; but the road was so hard & he-
awy that they had to come back home.

Wed. Mar. 7th 1894. Rain fell continuously from 1 p.m. yester-
day till 4-30 this morning. The place is flooded, & our botto m
garden is damaged by the water. Wallsend is idle. I shifted
my electric battery & wires this morning because they were ex-
posed to the rain. I dissolved some silver in nitric acid this
evening, & made it into chloride of silver, which I am reduc-
ing to metallic silver by means of zinc. Cloudy now, 11 p.m.

Thur. Mar. 8th, 1894. We ent to work at12 p.m. & filled 31 of
"round" (large) coal. Brother Jack, Fergie Reid, Bill McIlroy
& C. Vial rode to West Wallsen this afternoon with W.M. Hughes
who addressed the miners there, & then went to
Mimi & formed a branch of the Labour Electoral League.
Fine weather.

Fri. Mar. 9th, 1894. Wallsend is idle. Oswald Gleghorn Steel was
to have spoken at Wallsend to-night, but rain prevented him.
Jack & I made a dyke in the bottom yard to keep the water from
Sat. Mar. 10th, 1894. the garden. Harry Rushen spoke from Joe
Lewis' pub balcony this evening on various matters.

Sat. Mar. 10th, 1894. Wallsend is not working. O.G. Steel, the
Wallsend baker, was to have spoken at Wallsend to-night, but
he could not because of the rain.

Sun. Mar. 11th, 1894. I went over to Pratten's butcher shop
this morning & saw Bill Peters & several others under the
verandah, Bill read a portion of "The Workman". The rain made it impossible to hold any meeting in the park, so
I went home. In the evening I went down to Nelson street
& met Jack Mahoney & several others whom I knew. Rain
again at night.

Mon. Mar. 12th, 1894. At half past 2 this afternoon brother
Bon & I went in to work & found that 4 men were in our pill-
lar, as they were flooded out of their own bord. We filled
30 skips by 10 p.m. Our tonnage for the pay is, for number
25, 110 skips at 10-6 = 59 tons 2 cwt. & 2 qrs.
For number 26, 107 skips at 10-2-14 = 56 tons 16 cwt & 3
qrs. The rain has cleared off.

Tues. Mar. 13th, 1894. To-day we went in to work at 3-30 p.
m. & by 9 p.m. we had filled 25 skips of coal.
Jack & Bill Lang went out in our cart to West Wallsend this
afternoon. Clear weather; temp. at 11 p.m. 74 deg. Fah.

Wed. Mar. 14th, 1894. Bob & I went to work at 3-15 p.m. &
filled 8 skips of big coal & filled 6 9-35 23 skips by 8-35
p.m. Our weights are lowt. for both numbers. Brother Jack
shot a red-bill this morning & gave it to Dave Watkins.
Red flag for Wallsend colliery.

Thur. Mar. 15th, 1894. Wallsend worked, & we went in at 3-
15 p.m. & filled 38 skips by 8-35 p.m. 3 skips of large coal
& waited untl 5-30 p.m.; & as the wheeler did not come
Ned Davidson went out to the flat & found 9 empty skips
which we intended to fill; but when we got to the flat the
skips were not there. Partly Davidson & I went up to the top
flat to get them, but were blocked by full skips; so we all
came home. Brother Jack shot a cat this morning at Shelly
& he took it over to Dave for the boy. Governor Duff is at
Newcastle to-day.

Fri. Mar. 16th 1894. We went to work at our usual time &
filled 33 skips of best coal. We had a new wheeler to-night,
as Watty Smiles got sacked yesterday for beating a horse.
Our new wheeler is Abe Sheldon.
Brother Jack got our pay, which amounted to $ 7-3-0 after
paying percentage & local expenses to the Union.

Sat. Mar. 17th, 1894. Pay Saturday. This morning Jack & I
rode in our cart to Newcastle for the groceries. We put the
horse & cart in Brent's pub. yard while we went to see Char-
Jack went to see Charlie, & I went to the technological
museum in Hunter Street. I gave the care-taker 2 bits of pet-
rified wood that I found in our pillar. He asked me my name,
& I told him & wrote it on an envelope. I had a good look at
the minerals & various other things until Jack arrived.
We then went to Krags' & I went in for the cell that I
ordered a fortnight ago. An old man was serving, & he did
not know the price of the cell; so he told me to come back
at 2 p.m., which I did. I bought an outside cell for the
Leclanche number one cell for 9s. I also bought a box of
Ilford's ordinary plates & a sheet of albuminised, sensi-
tised paper, & ordered a quarter of a pound of double
cotton-covered copper wire. A young man in charge gave me
a Frost & Shipham's price list.
Further down the street I bought 2 books for 3d each: the
title of one is "Our Present Parliament; That Is It Worth",
by an ex-M.L.A. The other is entitled "A Short History of
England", part 5. I next went to Kelly's book-shop & bought
3 comic papers. I saw there a copy of "Fatherless Fanny"
the price of which is a shilling. I got it put away until
next Pay Saturday. I had often heard Mother speak of this
old book, which someone had read to her many years ago.
We then went to Witherspoon's shop & got our groceries & came
home.
Bob went out to Toronto this morning with a picnic party of
300. Jack bought a double-barrelled gun of Jim Robinson for
7/6.

Sun. Mar, 18th 1894, I attended a meeting of the Socialist
League this morning at Henry Tyldesley's house. Those present
were John Robinson; Hugh de Largie; John Reynolds; Charlie
Vial; John Hodge; John Smart; Bill McIlroy; John Watkins &
Henry Tyldesley, & myself. The business was discussing the
Labour Electoral League conference, & the article in "The
Liberator" on Socialism. De Largie read the report of the
conference in this week's "workman" & explained it to us.
Then Harry Tyldesley read Symes' attack on Socialism & caused
much amusement. I said, in reply to Symes' remark that Social-
ism had not encouraged invention, that Humphrey Davy & Faraday
were supported by the British Government while they were mak-
ing their discoveries in electricity; & that we have electric
light as a result of State Socialism.
Nick Carr (alias Bill Austin) went away to Wyalong to day to
dig for gold. In Nelson street to-night I had a long talk
with Bill Jenkins of Park Creek ( Jesmond), & he promised to
join the Socialist League next Sunday.
I paid Tyldesley 3d for the L.F.H. Rain now (11 p.m. ) temp.
7 degrees Fahn.

Mon. Mar, 19th 1894, Wellsend worked to-day & we worked from
3-50 until 10 p.m. & filled 30 skips of bilo coal.
Dave Watkins rode out to Cardiff this evening to thank those who voted for him there. Jack went shotting with Jim O'Brien, but he did not get anything. Raining now (12 midnight).

Tues. Mar. 20th 1894. Wallsend pit worked again today, & we started to work at 3-30 p.m. & filled 34 of large coal. On the way to work I went to the Wallsend police court & got my Elector's Right. Bob & Jack also got theirs. Rain to-day, but dry to-night. There was an Electoral League meeting this evening, & Jack was paid ten shillings. Watty Smiles started wheeling again to-night.

Wed. Mar. 21st, 1894. We filled 26 skips by 9-50 to-night. Brother Jack & Bill Steen walked out to Mimmi this morning to look for work, & Jack got a promise of a job at roping, & he has to go out again next Saturday. Rain morning & night.


Fri. Mar. 23rd, 1894. This is Good Friday, so we are all idle. I stayed at home all day writing my pamphlet.

Sat. Mar. 24th, 1894. I have been writing all day.

Sun. Mar. 25th 1894. I went up to Tyldesley's house this morning to attend a Socialist meeting, but only 4 members came, namely, John Robinson, Hugh deLargie, Henry Tyldesley. This evening Mr. W.A. Holman spoke in the Plattsburg rotunda on "Progress of the Future". John Robinson was chairman.

Mon. Mar. 26th, 1894. Easter Monday. Jack has gone to the river; Bob has gone to the Lake; & Liz-Jane has gone to the picnic in Crudace's paddock. I have been writing "Hard Manual Labour". We received a letter from Jane Hancock to-day. She lives at Broken Hill.

Tues. Mar. 27th, 1894. Wallsend started again to-day. We went in to work at 3-30 p.m. & filled 26 of big coal. Jack started to-day at Mimmi. Our tonnage for next pay is, for 25,111 skips at 11, which is 58 tons 17 cwt; & for 26, 109 skips at 10-3 = 58 tons 11 cwts. Mr. Albert Card spoke at Wallsend this evening. I posted a letter to Jane Hancock, Broken Hill, this
Wed. Mar. 28th, 1894. Bob & I went in to work at 3-30 p.m. & with Ned & Barty filled 30 of big coal. We finished our pillar & started on a fresh one. Jack worked again at Minnie & rode home on Tiger.

Thur. Mar. 29th, 1894. Wallsend little tunnel is working, but the big tunnel is idle. There was a fall-in in the little tunnel before dinner time to-day, so the tunnel stopped at dinner time & did not start again. We went to the tunnel, saw Barty, & he said he had seen Willis, the under manager, who said we could not get any skips; so we came home. Jack worked again to-day, but he had to walk home, as Tiger got out of the yard & strayed away homeward. Jack caught him in a paddock this evening. Jack & I melted zinc & cast 4 rods for the Leclanche battery this evening. Rainy weather.

Fri. Mar. 30th, 1894. Wallsend worked. Bob got our pay & came in to work at 5 p.m. We filled 40 skips of coal by 11 p.m. Jack worked, & was paid 10½ strike pay. Rainy.

Sat. Mar. 31st, 1894. This afternoon I went to Tom Fisher & got a clip. Jack, Liz-Jane & I then rode in our cart to Newcastle, where we saw Charlie, & I got 10 tram tickets from him. I walked up to the technological museum, but it was shut. I bought a book at Kelly's entitled "Fatherless Fanny," for 1/-; I bought the outside cell of a Leclanche battery for 9d; a ½ pound of number 23 double cotton-covered wire for 9d; & an ounce of pyrogallic acid for 1/6. I then went to Fairless Bros. shop & bought a copy of the Royal Academy Bijou for 3d; a copy of Ideal Commonwealths for 9d. I bought a "World's Comic" paper for 1d; & got into a tram & got home in time to hear Albert Card speak on "Wages, Capital, & Wealth", from Lewis' pub. balcony.


Mon. Apr. 2nd, 1894. We worked to-night & filled 98 skips of big coal. Jack worked at Minnie again to-day. Fine weather.

Tues. Apr. 3rd, 1894. To-night we filled 28 of large coal by ten o'clock. Jack also worked. There was a temperance lecture this evening by Rev. Tom Davies, in the Baptist church. Fine weather.

Thur. Ap. 5th, 1894. Bob & I went down to our pillar this morning & put all our tools into a skip & shoved it up to the mouth of the big tunnel travelling road, where we met Jack O’Brien who told us that our bord is down about 150 yards on the left side of the travelling road, going down. We took our tools down & had a look at the bord, which is 6 yards wide. We saw Dave Watkins at the pick-rack, & he told us he was going out to Teralba this evening to make a speech; so we promised to take him out in our cart. Bob walked out to Mint & got our horse from brother Jack & rode it home. I took the horse & cart to the Wallsend park, where Dave & Hugh de Largie were waiting for me. We drove to Pittown & got John Robinson. Hugh drove to Cockle Creek, where we got the ferry, & Dave paid 1/6 to the Chinaman in charge, of the punt. It was dark when we left the punt; so we lit the lamp & rode at a walking pace over the bad road to Teralba. There was a small crowd at Hodges’ pub, where we stopped & put the horse & cart. About 50 men gathered in the hall, & Mr. Ford was elected chairman. Dave, in starting, thanked those who had voted for him to contest the election in the interest of Labour. He dealt with several matters, including Protection, Single-Tax, Federation, Nationalisation of the mines. He asked them to vote for him. He was attentively listened to; & on the motion of Robert Smith he was given a unanimous vote of confidence. After the meeting we went into a room & had a chat with Bob Smith, Mr. Ford, Mr. Horne, & Mr. Hodges. We also had a look at the School of Arts. Bob Smith gave us a candle, & we started for home. I went in front with a light, & Hugh drove. We got to the Creek after a hard struggle, crossed on the punt & got home at 12-30 p.m. Jack worked to day on the screens. Cold weather.

Fri. Ap. 6th, 1894. Only the big tunnel side of Wallsend pit is working to-day, so we are idle. I took a copy of Grandmother Rowe’s memorial card with the copying camera, & gave the plate 15 seconds exposure with stop 32. I developed with pyrogallic acid & got a good negative. This evening I wrote some more on "Hard Manual Labour". Jack worked. Rainy weather.

Sat. Ap. 7th, 1894. We are idle again to-day. I took sister Liz-Jane’s portrait this morning in the dining room, with the quarter plate camera, on an Ilfores ordinary plate, with 30 seconds exposure. I developed with pyro, & got a good negative.
THE BROKEN HILL STRIKE LEADERS
July 1878.
To Be Released at Once.

SYDNEY, Thursday.
Mr. R. E. O'Connor, Minister for Justice, today recommended in an official minute that the Royal marriage day should be marked by the exercise of the prerogative of mercy. The recommendation for the release of the prisoners was made to the Governor in the following terms:—"I would suggest to your Excellency that the Royal marriage day being celebrated in England should, in accordance with well-established usage throughout her Majesty's dominions, be marked in this colony by a signal exercise of the prerogative of mercy. The release of the prisoners now under sentence in connection with the Broken Hill riots of last year would be a special act of clemency well befitting the occasion. I therefore recommend the immediate discharge from custody of Richard Sleath, William John Ferguson, Ernest Josiah Polkinghorne, and Robert A. Howitt." The Governor has given his assent, and the immediate release from custody has been ordered of the prisoners in question.

SUDDEN DEATH AT WALLSEND.

A thoroughly sudden death took place early yesterday morning to a very old resident named Mrs. Cummings. The unfortunate lady and her son reside at Pit Town, the young man being engaged at Messrs. Campbell and Cant's bakery. Upon going home about 5 o'clock yesterday morning he endeavoured to awaken his mother to gain admission. Thinking that she might be sleeping, the young man proceeded to another friend's house to rest, and again returned home about 2 p.m., when, finding the house still closed, he at once got through the window and found his mother dead. The deceased had been a resident of Wallsend for fully a quarter of a century, and leaves a large family, all of whom are greatly respected.

The district coroner will hold a magisterial inquiry at Wallsend at 10 o'clock this morning.

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THE FATAL FIGHT AT WALLSEND.

The case of Henry Diver, charged with causing the death of James Harriman, at Wallsend, in the late fight, was heard before Mr. Henry, F.M., at Wallsend on Thursday. The accused, who was defended by Mr. T. Counihan, was acquitted, after a very long trial, lasting the whole of the day. All the witnesses examined at the inquest were called by the Crown. Jas. Marmian was the only additional witness, and his evidence was practically the same as the others who were present at the fight. The decision of the police magistrate gave general satisfaction.
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