

# Yesterdays Journey

## Pit sinking Agreement 1871

An Agreement made this 7th day of January 1871 between John Jackson on behalf of the Clay Cross Company, of one part, and Isaac Ward and John Smith of Clay Cross, Contractors, of the other part.

The said John Smith and Isaac Ward agree to sink and brick two shafts near Flaxpiece including all Labour as enumerated in the Specification attached to this agreement did in consideration of their faithfully completing the same, the Clay Cross Company do agree to pay for each vertical yard of the Ten feet shaft, two pounds sterling and for every vertical yard of the eight feet shaft Thirty shillings.

As witness our hands

Witness to signature  
of John Jackson  
Robt. Stevenson

John Jackson

Witness to signature  
of Isaac Ward  
William Wilson

John Smith

Witness to signature  
of John Smith  
Isaac Ward

William Wilson

Specification for work required in Sinking two shafts to the Tupton Coal near Flaxpiece Farm Clay Cross, for the Clay Cross Company Clay Cross January 2nd 1871

The Winding Shaft must be Ten feet diameter inside the brickwork. The brickwork from the first curb to the top of the pit bank must be gins work, all below the first curb must be 4 " work, all the bricking 1/2 curbs must be 10ins wide. The upcast shaft must be 8 feet diameter inside the brickwall, and the brickwork must be the same as in the down cast shaft.

The Contractor must sink the shafts a proper size to receive the brickwork, and must supply all labour, tools, powder, candles, fuses, lines ec. he must also find Banksmen to draw the material up the pit, and deposit it where directed within 20 yards from the pit top. If an Engine is fixed before the pit is finished he must pay the Engineman's wages, but the Clay Cross Company's Engineer will appoint the Engineman. The Contractor must also pay for the sharpening and repairs of all tools he may use, he must also fix all timber that may be necessary to make the shaft safe. He must fix all bricking curbs and ring curbs where directed by the Clay Cross Company Engineer, and must put in the brickwork which must be well set in Skegby Lime, properly backfilled and a good straight job. he must find all labour in connection with the brickwork, and curbs including mixing Lime, preparing backfilling, getting bricks, mortar, curbs ec on the bank and sending down the pit. The Company will supply bricks, Lime, sand, water, jackroll, ropes, and sinking tubs, and also any timber that may be required and deliver the same as near the pit as convenient, but the contractor must find all labor, and all tools and other materials that he may required. The pit tops must be raised about 6 feet above the present surface and the work will be measured from the top of the Bank so raised to the bottom of the sumo under the Tupton coal. The Company will supply air and water pipes, but the Contractor must fix them and also pay for the working of the ventilating fan if one is required. The whole of the work must be done to the satisfaction of the Clay Cross Company's Engineer, and must be commenced when he shall direct and be carried on at least 12 hours every day. The shafts are expected to be about thirty yards depth.

All Ironstone which may be picked out of the sinking dirt by the Contractor's men, must be deposited in an appointed place, and will be carted away by the Company and paid for at four shillings per 25 cwt.

A tender must be given to include sinking, bricking, fixing curbs and all work required according to this specification at per vertical yard for each shaft.