

ton of coal delivered at shaft bottom so much a ton. The butty being of the labouring classes and, like most labouring people of those days, uneducated, was without any financial resources except his savings which were rarely sufficient to allow of his putting down the capital required under the charter. As a consequence the colliery proprietor permitted him to pay the capital outlay by a system of deductions on the charter tonnage rates.

Some butties, besides paying the miners, found the candles, powder, timber (except in the main haulage roads), horses. They drove levels and did other dead work such as laying rails. In a case in which all these out-of-pockets were paid by the butties, the terms of the charter were as follows:—

CHARTER PRICE, £109 15s. 0d.

Coal		Charter price per ton	
		s.	d.
Best coal	..	2	8
Lumps	..	1	9
Rough slack	..	1	2
Fine slack	.	0	10½

It followed almost of necessity that the butties overworked, underpaid, and oppressed the men working for them. The colliery proprietors fre-