

on the position of some seams with reference to their representation on a plan.

By conventional signs is meant a generally recognised mode of representing faults and other dislocations of the strata, horse roads, engine planes, water levels, the parts of the mines in which pillars have been removed and goafs formed, and other details which I need not enumerate. They will be more clearly understood on reference to the sketch of colliery workings attached to this than by any description of them. With respect to the scale on which the plans should be constructed, that adopted by the General Mining Association is a very suitable one, viz., two chains or 44 yards to an inch. Working plans may be made on a larger scale, but for general purposes this is to be preferred, as it is not only sufficiently distinct to admit of a niceness of delineation, but also for the representation of a large extent of workings on a moderate sized plan.

When two or more seams of coal are worked, a separate plan should be made of each, on which should be put every shaft and opening peculiar to each seam and to all; the points of connection of the seams, such as drifts from one to another, should also be shewn, and each seam in fact be represented as though it were the only one worked. In the case of seams in nearly a vertical position the workings must be shewn in a sectional form, and care should be taken to allow for the angle of declination, in order that they may be in their true position with respect to the crop. I must not omit to add, that in each Colliery it is very desirable that levels should be taken in the various districts and sections made thereof. These should be laid down on a separate sheet to be attached to the plan, or be kept in a book of a suitable size, in which also might be recorded all noteworthy remarks with reference to any of the peculiarities of the mine.

It has been my main object so far to direct attention to the importance of correct plans and mining records, and to suggest a uniformity in the mode of representing the workings, by which, together with a minuteness of detail and faithfulness of delineation their value may be secured. How their general utility may be made available, I will now endeavour to show. It is a fortunate circumstance for the realization of this object that, with a few exceptions, the minerals in the Province are held by the Crown. The same law regulates each holding; each mine owner is subject to the same conditions. These conditions sufficiently provide for