

and Eastern Counties. Becoming exhausted near the outcrop, it was mainly worked at depths ranging from 300 to 550 yards. In the later pits the sinkings are deeper, reaching from 500 to 940 yards from the surface. A considerable portion of the house coal consumed in London and the South of England comes from the High Hazel, Deep Soft, Tupton, Blackshale and Kilburne seams in the same district. It is now necessary to work these seams to maintain the output of the pits. The deeper seams have been developed by the New Hucknall Co. at Bentinck Colliery and at Annesley, and by the Butterley Co. at Summit Colliery. The Shipley Colliery was working in 1840. The Babbington Collieries belong to the family of the late Sir Charles Seely, Bart.

There are seventy collieries in the whole area, having outputs of not less than 1,000,000 tons, most of which are owned by the following firms : the Bolsover Colliery Co., the Butterley Co., the Clay Cross Co., the Digby Colliery Co., the New Hucknall Colliery Co., and the Sheepbridge, the Sherwood, the Shipley, the Shireoaks, the Stanton, and the Staveley Companies. The output of the first-named is 3,500,000 tons. Excluding the five collieries in the Leen Valley established since 1862 (when coal at the depth to which they were sunk was regarded as a highly speculative investment), and excluding also the collieries in South Derbyshire and those of the eleven great firms above referred to, there are fourteen or fifteen undertakings in North Derbyshire, some owning several pits, whose output is dependent on the open market. Coke-oven and bye-product plants are ten in number, with a total of 850 ovens. They are supplied with coal washeries of various types, such as Lührig, Baum, Humbolt, Coppée and Rheolaveur, as well as Greaves, Blackett, Burnet and Shepherd varieties.

Besides these, new shafts have been recently sunk by the Bolsover Co. to the "Top Hard" seam at Clipstone and