

Dobson's Bluff, to prove the coal on the southern side of the Dobson fault. Another bore-hole should be put down (if the Wallsend Mine is re-opened) from a stone drift carried, say, from 100ft. to 180ft. on the level from the place where the Taylorville fault is met with across the fault-line, and the coal proved beyond it. If the result was satisfactory, the coal in the Taylorville freehold and Coal-pit Heath leasehold could be most advantageously worked from the present Wallsend shaft. With reference to the coal on the south side of the Dobson fault, it would be a question whether it could not be worked more economically from a shaft about Dobson Township, as the up-throw from the Wallsend Mine is so great, and the dip of the coal is in a seaward direction; but it becomes a question for further consideration when the field is proved by the bore-holes.

5. In opening up the new area of coal to the rise of the Brunner workings, we would strongly recommend leaving a solid rib of coal on one side of the main level, about 2 chains in width, in order to preserve a roadway to the back portion of the lease, in the event of the level not meeting with or piercing the line of thinning. Should it be found that the back portion of the lease can be worked from the new area, it is absolutely necessary that such a rib of coal should be left, in order to provide a future means of working the western area.

6. That the extra sixpence per ton royalty which comes into force on the Brunner leasehold on the 1st January, 1895, and in the Coal-pit Heath leasehold on the 1st January, 1910, be not charged provided the company fulfil all the other covenants and conditions of their leases, and expend a sum during the first two years equal to the amount of the increased royalty of sixpence per ton during that period in carrying on prospecting operations in different portions of their leaseholds, and in constructing works for the future development of their mines, simultaneously with carrying on their ordinary workings in winning coal.

We have, &c.,

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N. D. COCHRANE, Inspector of Mines.

To the Hon. the Minister of Mines, Wellington.

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