

The rescuing operations consisted in driving through the barrier of coal thirty-eight yards in length, which intervened between the imprisoned men and the rescuers, and kept back a large quantity of water and compressed air. This task was commenced on Monday, April the 16th, and was carried on until Thursday, April the 19th, without any great amount of danger being incurred by the rescuers; but about one o'clock P.M. on that day, when only a few yards of barrier remained, the danger from an irruption of water, gas, and compressed air was so great as to cause the colliers to falter. It was at this juncture that the above-mentioned four men volunteered to resume the rescuing operations, the danger of which had been greatly increased by an outburst of inflammable gas under great pressure, and in such quantities as to extinguish the Davy lamps which were being used. The danger from gas continued at intervals until half-past three on the following morning, and from that time the above four men at great peril to their own lives continued the rescuing operations until three o'clock P.M., when the five imprisoned men were safely released.

Whitehall, August 6, 1877.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the "Albert Medal of the Second Class" on—

GEORGE ABLETT, Collier, Tynewydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 CHARLES BAYNHAM, Collier, Brithwynydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 RICHARD HOPKINS, Collier, Ynishir Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 RICHARD HOWELLS, Overman, Tynewydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 CHARLES OATRIDGE, Collier, Tynewydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 JOHN WILLIAMS, Collier, Pontypridd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 ROBERT WILLIAMS, Collier, Dinas Isaf Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 EDWARD DAVID, Collier, Havod Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 WILLIAM MORGAN, Collier, Havod Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 DAVID REES, Fireman, Tynewydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 REES THOMAS, Collier, Tynewydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.

The following is an account of the services in respect of which the decoration has been conferred:—

On the 11th of April the Tynewydd Colliery, situate near Porth, in the Rhondda Valley, South Wales, was inundated with water from the old workings of the adjoining Cymmer Colliery. At the time of the inundation there were fourteen men in the pit, of whom four were unfortunately drowned, and one killed by compressed air, leaving nine men imprisoned by the water; of this number four were released after eighteen hours' imprisonment, and five after nine days' imprisonment. It was in effecting the release of these latter five that those distinguished services were rendered which the conferring of the "Albert Medal of the Second Class" is intended to recognize.

During the five days from April the 16th to April the 20th the above-named eleven men were at various times engaged in cutting through the barrier of coal separating them from the five imprisoned men, and while exposing their own lives to the great danger which would have resulted from an outburst of compressed air and water, and to the danger which actually existed from the

presence of large quantities of inflammable gas, continued to perform their work until the five men were safely rescued.

Whitehall, August 6, 1877.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the "Albert Medal of the Second Class" on—

DAVID DAVIES, Colliery Owner, Penrhiwfer, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 THOMAS JONES, Colliery Owner, Ynishir, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 EDMUND THOMAS, Colliery Owner, Llwyncelyn, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 JAMES THOMAS, Colliery Owner and Manager, Tynewydd, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 THOMAS THOMAS, Colliery Manager, Ynishir, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 THOMAS GETRYCH DAVIES, Colliery Manager, Tylacoch, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 DAVID EVANS, Colliery Manager, Ferndale, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 DAVID JONES, Colliery Manager, Cymmer Level, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 HENRY LEWIS, Colliery Manager, Energlyn Colliery, Monmouthshire.
 ISAIAH THOMAS, Colliery Manager, Brithwynydd Colliery, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.
 WILLIAM THOMAS, Colliery Manager, Resolven, near Neath, Glamorganshire.

The following is an account of the services in respect of which the decoration has been conferred:—

On the 11th of April the Tynewydd Colliery, situate near Porth, in the Rhondda Valley, South Wales, was inundated with water from the old workings of the adjoining Cymmer Colliery. At the time of the inundation there were fourteen men in the pit, of whom four were unfortunately drowned, and one killed by compressed air, leaving nine men imprisoned by the water; of this number four were released after eighteen hours imprisonment, and five after nine days imprisonment. It was in effecting the release of these latter five that those distinguished services were rendered which the conferring of the "Albert Medal of the Second Class" is intended to recognize.

From Thursday, April the 12th, when the operations for the rescue were commenced, until Friday, April the 20th, when the intervening barrier of coal had been cut through and the imprisoned men released, the above-named eleven men were present at different times, and, while being of valuable service in the rescue, exposed their own lives to the great danger which would have attended an outburst of water and compressed air, or an explosion of the inflammable gas which at different times during the rescue escaped under great pressure and in dangerous quantities.

Westminster, August 6, 1877.

THIS day the Lords being met a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them, that *The Lords authorized by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by Her Majesty, for declaring Her Royal Assent to several Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read;* and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and several other Lords therein named, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to