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A MANUAL FOR MANAGERS, UNDER-MANAGERS,
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BY

GEORGE L. KERR, M.E., M. INST. MIN. E.,
COLLIERY MANAGER,

WITH NUMEROUS PROBLEMS ARISING FROM COLLIERY WORK
AND OVER

520 Figures and Diagrams.



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PREFACE.

NOT many years ago the works on Coal-Mining were few, and in most instances so expensive as to be beyond the reach of the ordinary student or practical miner. This state of affairs has been to a large extent remedied of recent years by the issue of several works of more moderate dimensions and price. Between the small elementary text-book and the still large and comparatively costly work of reference, however, there yet remains a considerable gap, which it has been the Author's endeavour in this volume to fill. The best authorities have been freely consulted and, with due acknowledgment, laid under contribution; while the latest methods of working and the most modern machinery have been described, with the object of presenting an up-to-date account of the important industry under consideration.

Since the publication of the excellent treatise by Jonathan Hyslop, thirty years ago, no text-book dealing to any extent with Scottish practice has, so far as the Author is aware, been published. As his experience has been gained largely in Scotland, he has attempted to remedy this omission, and it is to this that the occasional occurrence of a few Scotch words or phrases must be attributed, although these have been avoided, as far as possible, when reference is made to methods prevailing elsewhere. Less attention has been paid to literary style and elegance than to the production of a thoroughly practical and plainly worded text-book, designed not only to aid those endeavouring to qualify themselves for positions as colliery managers and other responsible officials, but also as a daily guide and reference-book for all engaged in and about the Colliery.

The Author gratefully expresses his indebtedness to other sources, which, except in cases where a difficulty in tracing the authorship

was experienced, he has acknowledged in the text. The works of Hughes on Coal Mining, and of Foster on Ore and Stone Mining, have been quoted, and a few of the illustrations have been borrowed from those works.

The Author has further to acknowledge the kind assistance of Mr John Dodds, who helped to prepare many of the drawings for the work. He also desires to express his thanks to the publishers for the pains they have taken both as regards the text and the illustrations.

G. L. KERR.

BO'NESS, N.B., *September*, 1900.