

Coal Mining and the Victorians

Using Evidence: Example of Statistical Information

This table (see over for a larger print), with a further three families, appears on pages 218 and 219 of the Report of Children's Employment: Mines 1842 Volume 7. The information was collected by sub-commissioner J.C Symons.

Names.	Employ- ment.	Wages per Week.	Rent of House.	Number of Rooms,	Size of House.	Beds.	Ventilation of Rooms.	Furnite	re.		Books.	Garden.	Remarks,
George Wood and Jane Wood	Collier In Land in Harvest	£, s. d. 0 14 8 0 6 1	i	Kitchen Back ditto 2 Chambers	ft. ft. 4 by 5 3 by 3½ 4 by 5	3 very good; hung in winter	Excellent; thorough draught	Clock Arm-chair	df-case, with abundance of Cooking utensils.	4 Bibles 2 Testament 2 Hymn-Boo Common Pr Herbal Bool Barbauld's I	oks Questions on the ayer New Testament Common Prayer	Beautiful order, 18 yds. by 7 yds.	This person is a steady man; delicate from asth- ma; has worked with one master 30 years.
Children of above— Sarah . 17 years William . 15 Joseph . 12 Total earnings	Hurrier Hurrier At School	0 7 0 0 5 6	Coffee Tea	. 0 3	Per Wee Coals Meat Wheatmeal	8, d. 0 4 Oats	t 2	0 worship. T 1 fast at 6; di	heir food consi	sts of milk and 5; a little bro	er and his children can rest water, with bread to break and between. Killed a pig i This family dress very wel	ust; meat and n the winter we	untatage to dimmer Hamb
Names.	Employ- ment.		ages Week.	Rent of House.	Number of Rooms.	Size of House	Beds.	Ventilation of Rooms.	Furn	iture.	Books.		Remarks,
	Collier In Land in Harvest	Landin 0 6 0		* 1	Kitchen Back ditto and Pantry 1 Bed-room		1 divided not a thorough Clock Delf-case 2 Testaments Car by a cur- draught, and is Large Book- Common Prayer Quest		hanning's echism ions of the tament	A good worker; with one master 47 years. He can read.			
Children of the above— Joseph 25 years James 24 , , , Richards 21 , , Marianne 17 , , Elizabeth 14 , , Simeon 10 , , George 8 , ,	Collier Collier Hurrier In Land In Land Hurrier At School	0 13 0 0 12 0 0 7 0 0 4 6 as 0 2 1 0 5 0	verage for	Per Week. s. d. f. yr. Meat . 13 1½ Sugar . 1 Meat . 8 6 Butter . 1 Oatmeal . 0 6 Tea . 0 1 Malt . 4 2 Coffee . 0 Potatoes 1 8 Coals . 0				1 0 10 The elder sons drink much, and spend their Sabbath in lounging about. The diet much the same as that of other colliers. This family killed a pig weighing 12 stone at Christmas. This family decently diseased. They have not					
Total earnings	**	3 3 101		POISSONS # 1 8 (Coars .	. 0 4						
Name.	Employ- ment.	Wages per Week.	Rent of House.	Number of Rooms.	Size of House.	Beds.	Ventilatio of Rooms		miture.		Books.		Remarks.
William Child and Margaret Child.	Collier	£. s. d. 1 1 11½	s. d. 1 2	Kitchen Bedroom Pantry	ft. ft. 5 by 3½ 5 by 3½	2 very good; neatly hung	Thoroug draught		Cradle Tables Drawers	1 Bible 1 Testa		respect	man is steady, and very able in his conduct; re- in his religious duties, alth rather delicate.
Children of above— Pestus . 9 years. Eliza . 7 ., Krasmus . 4 ., Jamar . 2 ., Alfred . 9½ .,	Coals Meat Wheatmeal	. 3 6 1	Malt Potatoes .	0 8	breakfast for the v	romen; oatme	al porridge an	ossible with so many young d milk for children and n p a pig. The man has wor	an. Meat an	potatoes, with Yorkshire			

Questions

- 1. Compare the three families by looking closely at:
 - a. The number of children and their ages
 - b.Wages
 - c. The house, rooms, furniture, rent paid
 - d. How much food was bought and prices
- 2. Why do you think the sub-commissioner would be interested in what books the families own?
- 3. How do you think these families were chosen?
- 4. Why was the information recorded?
- 5. Is the information accurate (look at the room sizes)?

Extensions questions

- 6. Can you decide what factors the sub-commissioner thought were important to the families' well-being?
- 7. What information is missing? What other questions could have been asked?
- 8. Look at the remarks and longer comments. Who wrote these? Would those who wrote the remarks have been living in similar circumstances to these families?
- 9. Compare these families with families today.

APPENDIX H.

220 .- AVERAGE of WAGES and Consumerion of Food for Eight Weeks in the Families of Six Colliers in Flockton, a parish in Yorkshire chiefly composed of Colliers.

Remarks.	This person is a steady man; delicate from asth- ma; has worked with one master 30 years.	arly attend public o dinner. Break- stones. Window	Remarks,	A good worker; with one master 47 years. Ho can read.	o many men all read and write, as that of other They have not	Remarks.	This man is steady, and very respectable in his conduct; re- gular in his religious duties, His health rather delicate.	consists of tea to with Yorkshire
		s, and regul		A goo one mast can read.	he family, sich the same ch the same thy dressed	Rem	his man is ectable in r in his health rath	The dietary and potatoes master 13 ye
Garden.	Beautiful order, 18 yds. by 7 yds.	d and write sat; meat an a the winter L.		Dr. Channing's Catechism Questions of the Testament	umber of the children, w		2 5.04	children. Y
Books.	Dr. Channing's Catechism Questions on the New Testament Common Prayer	This house uniformly clean. The owner and his children can read and write, and regularly attend public worship. Their food consists of milk and water, with bread to breakfast; meat and postoes to dinner. Breakfast 5; dinner from 2 to 5; a little bread between. Killed a pig in the winter weighing 10 stones. Window curtains both to upper and lower rooms. This family dress very well.	Books.	4 Bibles Dr. Ci 2 Testaments Cat Common Prayer Questi 2 Hymn-Books Test Barbauld's Hymns	This house not uniformly nest, but much excuse to be made in the number of the family, so many men all colliers. The man and his wife attend public service, and the younger children, who can also read and write. The elder sons drink much, and spend their Sabbath in lounging about. The diet much the same as that of other colliers. This family killed a pig weighing 12 stone at Christmas. This family decently dissed. They have not any garden, but a good putatoe-piece. The mother takes ten to dinner.	Books.	Common Prayer Rymn Book	This house is kept as nest and clean as is possible with so many young children. The dietary consists of tea to breakfast for the women; oatment porridge and milk for children and man. Mest and potatoes, with Yorkshire pudding, for dinney. This family does not keep a pig. The man has worked for one master 13 years.
	4 Bibles 2 Testaments 2 Hymn-Books Common Prayer Herbal Book	n. The owner is of milk and war is a little bread wer youns. Ty	ure.	Chairs and 4 Delf-case 2 C 2 2 2 B	but much excus stiend public s end their Sabba weighing 12 sto		1 Bible I Testament	lean as is possi porridge and r does not keep a
re.	Delf-case, with abundance of Cooking utensils.	This house uniformly clean. rehip. Their food consists of stat 5; dinner from 2 to 5; a retains both to upper and lower	Farniture.	4 Tables Clock Large Book- Gase and Drawers	This house not uniformly neat, but i collidars. The man and his wife attent The eider sons drink much, and spend colliers. This family killed a pig weig any garden, but a good potatoe-piece.	Furniture.	Cradle Tables Drawers	pt as neat and c omen; oatmeal r. This family
Furniture.	Clock Clock Arm-chair Chairs	This house worship. The fast at 6; din curtains both	Ventilation of Rooms.	This house has not a thorough draught, and is rather dark.	This house not u colliers. The man The eider sons drin colliers. This fam any garden, but a p	Fur	Clock Easy Chair Delf-case Chairs	This house is ker akfast for the w dding, for dinner
Ventilation of Rooms.	Excellent; 5 thorough Craught Adraught C		Beds.	3 Beds; 1 divided 1 by a curtain for the Girls	11 4 6 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	Ventilation of Rooms.	Thorough	A S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
Beds. Ver	S very Exgood; the	4. Oatmeal 6 Malt . 2 Potatoes	Size of House.	ft. ft. 5 by 7	887	Beds. V	2 very good; neatly hung	ek. 6. 101 ctates 0 0 ctates 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Size of House,	A 45y 5 3 5yy 33 4 5yy 5 w	Per Week. Coals 0 Meat 2 Wheatmeal 6	Number of Rooms.	Kitchen Back ditto and Pantry I Bed-room	Per W	Size of House.	ft. ft. 2 5 by 34 5 by 34	Per Week. . d. 0 4 Malt 3 6 Potatoes eal 8 4 Sugar 0 6 Toa and Coffee of hawk
Number of Rooms,	Kitchen Back ditto 2 Chambers	1. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0.	Rent of House.	4-	Meat . Meal . Oatmeal Malt . Potatoes	Number of Rooms.	Kitchen Bedroom Pantry	Coals . Ment . Wheatmeal . Oatmeal . Tea
Rent of House.	410	Butter Coffee Tea .	Wages per Week,		average for 1 yr.	Rent of House.	1. 2. 2. PBN	
Wages per Week.	6. s. d. 0 14 8 0 6 1	0 5 6 0 5 6 113 3	W ₄	£. *. & 0 14 3% 0 6 0	0 13 0 0 12 0 0 4 6 av 0 6 2 1 0 0 5 0 0 3 3 3 10 2	Wages per Week.	£. s. d. 1 1 114	0 3 6
Employ- ment.	Collier In Land in Harvest	Hurrier At School	Employ- ment.	Collier In Land in Harvest	Collier Collier Hurrier In Land In Land Hurrier At School	Employ- ment.	Collier	Hurrier At School
Names,	George Wood and Jane Wood	Children of above————————————————————————————————————	Names.	Simeon Metcalf	25 years 24 33 17 33 14 33 16 33 8 33	Name.	William Child.	Children of above— Festus Eliza Estas 7 33 Estas 4 33 Jamar 2 33 Affred 0 4 33 Total camings