Hope Level.—This Mine is situated on the east side of Stanhope Burn, nearly opposite Stanhope Hall, where, by driving a cross-cut towards the east into the hill, the vein has been cut. The lode that has been operated on here is understood to be Crawley, or the Red Vein. The cross-cut extends to about 400 fathoms from its mouth to where it meets the vein in the four-fathoms line. From the east end of the cross-cut a driving has been cut to the south-east for about 70 fathoms, but without meeting with any special encouragement. It is understood that old operations on Red Vein, in the vicinity of where it is cut by Hope Level cross-cut, proved fairly productive from shallow mines carried on from surface with primitive appliances.

There is one fact that may be accepted in connection with this Hope Level Mine that may apply to other Mines on the Red Vein, and is a subject that will be more fully treated further on—that, under ordinary conditions, there is no great encouragement to hope that operations will generally lead to the discovery of rich or extensive deposits of ore in the Red Vein itself; but strong regular lodes have every chance to be found productive in the vicinity of where they are crossed by such a powerful intersecter, and will also probably exercise in their turn a favourable influence on the cross lode.

Little of late has been done at this Mine, except to clean up part of the door cross-cut, and any extensive sum being laid out on this part of the Field cannot be recommended until we see a return of much brighter times for Lead mining. Any rails or other plant in this Mine should not be overlooked.