

An article in 'The Blackcountryman', based on reminiscences of old miners in the 1920s, gives an insight into the life of miners:

“yow could allis tell anybody what was pitmon cos they’d be cut an’ scarred all over, fer they’d work wi’injuries as ‘ud put a factory worker in ‘is bed f’a month an’ their flesh ‘u’d be full a blue marks where they’d ‘ad a clout an the coal dust ‘ad got in it afore the cut sealed up. Theer was very few straight men, ar mean bodily, unless they was very little chaps, ‘cops the roads they ‘ad t’walk along t’ the coal face or other workin’s..... was so low...”

THE BLACKCOUNTRYMAN: OLD-TIME BLACK COUNTRY COLLIERS AND COLLIERIES

(Vol. 13, No. 2, Spring 1980, D.H. Richards)