

Gentlemen, Gentlemen

The Lessees have arrived, together with the Pit Manager or Viewer, John Buddle (later known as 'The King of the Coal Trade'). Ridley enters to find the Lessees ogling his maids.

J = 150 Ridley

Gent-le- men, Gent-le- men, here's where you're at,___ it's me you must see for a

J = 150

Piano

7

re-gu lar___ chat. Though I have to ad - mit the la-dies are_ nea-ter, and like su- gar_ and

Pno.

14

cream, what could be thought swee - ter? But to busi- ness, the new

Pno.

21

lease? Ah yes, I'll a- gree,— though pro- fits you make are a won-der to me. The

Pno.

28

land may be mine,— but that mine'ssure-ly yours.. Eh that's rath-er good, no, no please, no ap-

Pno.

35

plause! The nine - ty six_ parts, you'll di - vide them as

Pno.

42

All shake hands
nor - mal? A hand shake's e- nough,— on-ly law-yers are for-mal.

Pno.

Pno.

48

Mm yes, Mis - ter Bud- dle, you

Pno.

56

do want a word, well you do have your shares, so you're now a bove board. So

Pno.

62

la-dies a way, tea and chat time are done, the men are in ses-sion, there's

Pno.

68

coal to be won. Al-right Mis-ter Bud- dle_ you

Pno.

75

have our at-ten-tion, so what is the prob-lem you say you must men-tion? I've no-ted with

Pno.

82

plea-sure since you've ta-ken charge, that prob-lems get dealt with, the small and the

rall. .

Pno.

Buddle's Song

88 $\text{♩} = 135$

large. Lessees

$\text{♩} = 135$

What's the trou ble Mis-ter Bud-dle, has it got you on the run? Has your

Pno.

92 **molto rall.. A tempo**

faith failed in tech-no-lo-gy, are you ma-king an a-po-lo-gy, or will the work get done?

molto rall.. A tempo

Pno.

Buddle

Oh I'm sure that we can cope sir, I always have that hope sir, though the

Pno.

molto rall. Lessees $\text{♩} = 72$ Buddle

work-men may get vo-lu-ble, I'm sure the pro-bllem's so-lu-ble sir. Well? Well the

molto rall. $\text{♩} = 72$

Pno.

John Buddle tries to explain the situation in the pit, but is challenged by both the Lessees and Ridley.

103

mine's worked out but you've heard it said we can reach more coal if the wastes are bled. Prob-bllem

Pno.

105

rall.

is though we know that the wastes are there, we aren't quite sure just pre-cise - ly where!

rall.

Pno.

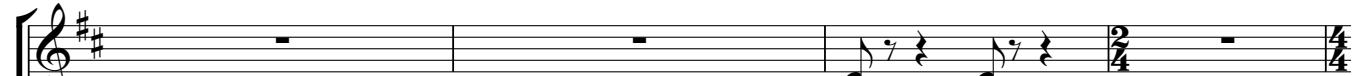
$\text{♩} = 135$

rall..

55

Deaf Lessee's Nephew (DLN)

107



Deaf Lessee (DL)

Waste. Waste.

DL

Eh? Eh? what did he say? What did he say? Take heed sir.

Taste?

Haste?

More haste less

$\text{♩} = 135$

rall..

Pno.

111 A tempo

Buddle

But I'm sure that we can cope sir, I always have that hope sir, true our

speed sir.

A tempo

Pno.

rall..

$\text{♩} = 72$

peo-ple may get vo-lu-ble, but a-ny prob-lems so-lu-ble sir.

Let me ex - plain.

mf In

rall..

$\text{♩} = 72$

Pno.

Old Man

Buddle

days gone by when you wan-tened coal, you looked a-round , on the ground, and then dug a hole. But

Pno.

121

since bot-tle pits did-n't bring much yield, they bur- rowed dee-per in the field. So the

Pno.

shaft went down and the coal came out, and that was fine while the walls stayed stout, but

Pno.

if the wa-ter grew too deep, or the roof went soft, or you got the creep.

Pno.

rall..

DLN

Creep! Creep!

DL

Eh? Eh? what did he say? What did he say? don't sleep sir. Weep? Leap? Look be-for you

rall..

Pno.

133 $\text{♩} = 72$ Buddle *mf*
 So they left the pit which just caved in, — Now we don't know where the hell they've
 leap sir!

Pno. $\text{♩} = 72$

136 *rall.* Lessees $\text{♩} = 135$
 been. So that's your trouble Mis-ter Bud-dle and it's got you on the run. Lost your
rall. $\text{♩} = 135$

Pno.

139 *rall.* $\text{♩} = 135$ A tempo
 faith in your tech-no-lo- gy? This does seem like and a-po-lo- gy, so the work just can't be done? No I'm
rall. A tempo

Pno.

142 $\text{♩} = 72$
 sure that we can cope sir, I ne-ver give up hope sir, true the min-ners may get vo-lu-ble, but I

Pno.

58

145

molto rall..
Lessees **Buddle**

$\text{♩} = 130$

know the prob-lém's so-lu-ble sir. Then pray con tin - ue. The old wor-king's there an un -

molto rall..

$\text{♩} = 130$

Pno.

148

ti - dy sprawl of hard won shafts where the roofs still fall, there are rol - ley ways, though the

Pno.

152

8 rails are broke, and smashed props lie where the stythe clouds choke. It's a tang - led skein of for-

Pno.

156

8
got - ten ways, of col - lap - sing boards, a____ pit - man's haze. The_ rrock creeps up and the

Pno.

160

Ridley

rock creeps down, and the wa - ter slur - ries all a-round. In my fa-ther's day when we

Pno.

164

dealt with such trou-ble they did-n't call mee-tings to mum-ble in,Bud-dle. They cursed at the wa-ter and

Pno.

168

Buddle (interrupting)

damned at the stythe, they still won the coal, that's a mi-ner's life I said that we can cope sir, I

Pno.

172

have-n't gi-ven up hope sir, but the wor-kers are more vol-u-ble, they doubt the prob-lém's sol u ble sir.

Pno.

175 Lessees Buddle

Pno.

So?

You think the ground is de - pen - da- ble,_ formed of

rocks and earth quite un - ben - da ble,_ but we real - ly float on a stor - my sea_ where

slow cur-rents roll my - ste - riou sly._ And the dyke lines mark how great

for - ces swell, but from where to whence you can hard - ly tell, and with each pick blow there

Pno.

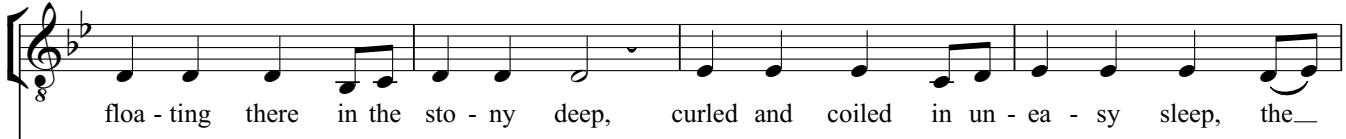
191



must be faced the dan - ger that you could hole the waste. _____ For_

Pno.

195



flo - ting there in the sto - ny deep, curled and coiled in un - ea - sy sleep, the_

Pno.

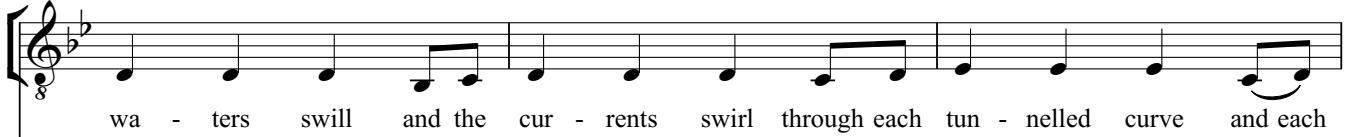
199



wastes spread out in the dark - ness hid, ten-ta-cled tun-nels like a gi - ant squid. The_

Pno.

203



wa - ters swill and the cur - rents swirl through each tun - nelled curve and each

Pno.

206

jag - ged curl, and if we break through in - to the waste, then it

Pno.

209

lash - es out at a fear - ful pace. Your tun - nels roof in the spate filled gloom, your

Pno.

213

pit be - comes a - no - ther mi - ner's tomb,- you lose your coal and you

Pno.

216

Lessees

lose you pro - fit. Now look here Bud - dle, just come of it!

Pno.

219

This gloom and doom and tomb and stuff,
We think we've had more
than e-nough, It seems to us that from where we stand the

Pno.

223

si - tu - a - tions is right out of hand.
I'm
sure that we can cope sir.

Pno.

226

Buddle
I'm
Eh? Eh? what did he say?

Pno.

232

DLN **rall.** **A tempo** Buddle

Cope. Cope But I'm DL

Pno.

What did he say? Take heed sir. Pope? Rope? You'll hang with too much rope sir

rall. **A tempo**

236

sure that we can cope sir, you mus-n't give up hope sir, I'm sor-ry I seem vo-lu-ble, but

Pno.

Buddle (more passionately)

239

yes the prob-lem's so-lu-ble sir. If the wa-ters do lie in the

Pno.

243

place we think then there is one shaft that mayhave a link. With the fire ma - chines we can

Pno.

247

drain the flood, and the pow'r of steam could bring all to good. But the on - ly way we can

Pno.

251

save the pit is to get the wa - ter a - way from it, there's for sure one shaft we can

Pno.

255

o - pen up if the shut-t'ring good and not bro - ken up. There is some dan - ger it

Pno.

259

must be said. Lives may be lost when the wa - ter's bled. You must

Pno.

262

take the risk or you'll pay the price, what you've spent so far you will sa - cri- fice.

Pno.

266

The choice is clear to me gen - tle men, you must pay to make the pit

Pno.

270

pay a gain, and if you're wor-ried a-boutwhat you spend, just think of the pro-fits on the

Pno.

274

Ridley
in - creased vend. So we must de - cide if we think it's too ris - ky,

Pno.

278

let's con - si - der, yes please pass the whis - key, to get at the coal we've no

Pno.

281

choice but to drain, it's cash, may-be lives that must take the strain.

DL

Eh? Eh? what did he say?

Pno.

285

DLN rall. . A tempo

Vend! Vend!

DL

Did you catch the end sir? Bend? Mend? You must make do and mend sir.

Pno.

rall. . A tempo

289 3 groups of lessees

If a mi - ner works mor-ning noon and night, his to - tal in - ves - ment's

One min-er's work is much like a - no-ther, you can use one mi - ner, you

A mi-ner can o - ly lose his life, which has worth for him, and per

Pno.

293

still quite slight, but I've put in se - v'ral thou-sand pounds, I don't want that left

could use his bro-ther, they don't cost much and there's lots a - round, but you can't say that of my

haps his wife. But as for us or the bank in town, we must con - si-der that

Pno.

297 Ridley rall. $\text{♩} = 150$
 Lessees (3 groups) Ridley
 there un-der- ground. Well, gen-tle men? Aye! Aye! Aye! Al - right Mi-ster Bud dle, you

thou - sand pounds.
thou - sand pounds.

Pno. rall. $\text{♩} = 150$

302 will get your mo ney,-though your high spee-chi - fy - ing ain't all that fun ny._ A shade less dra-

Pno.

309 ma-ti-cal I would sug - gest, and dra-i-ning the pit's what will please us the best._

Pno.

316

So we're a greed,— good, it's get- ting quite late. Our bu-siness is

Pno.

o - ver, the din-ner's at eight. Let's in, Mis-ter Bud-dle, I'll bid you good night. Now

Pno.

you've got your mo-ney, so make the pit right!

$\text{♩} = 135$

DL

Eh? Eh? what did he say?

$\text{♩} = 135$

rall.. A tempo

DLN

Right! Right!

DL

Did you hear him right, sir? Might? Light? It's dark be-fore it's light sir.

rall.. A tempo

Pno.

340

Ridley

Lessees

Pno.

mf Good night. *mf* Good night.

344

Buddle

Pno.

mp Good night sir.

348

Pno.

351

rall.

Pno.