



*The crest of the haulage at Hartley Vale.*

*E.M. Stephens.*

ilies moving to Lithgow whilst others went to the South Coast colliery district. At the time of our visit in 1950 there were several derelict brick cottages, including the post-office and store, at the eastern end of the township and these have since been destroyed. The "Comet Inn" was inhabited by the elderly Nick McMullin although the hostelry had long lost its license. West of the inn are several cottages and small farms which are still occupied, whilst the public school continues to function as such. The one-time manager's cottage remains on its semi-isolated knoll surrounded by shrubs, an out-post which, to the imaginative

person, now seems to be brooding over a quiet expanse of grasslands as if conscious of the bustling activities and screeching locomotive whistles of a period wrapped up in the realms of industrial history.

In conclusion the authors wish to extend their thanks to Messrs Edward Downs, Robert Guthrie, and post-humously to William Kennard, Cyril Singleton and Bart Wiles, for their assistance in many aspects of research and also for their exploration in the field, scrambling amongst the snake-haunted brambles.