

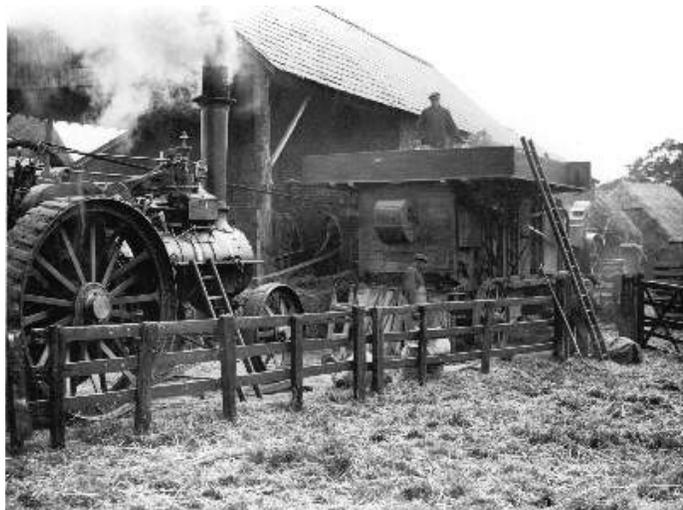


# *Employment*

## *Collingbourne Ducis*

### *Fatal Boiler Explosion*

A boiler explosion occurred at Collingbourne Ducis, near Marlborough, on Thursday afternoon, which resulted in two deaths. It appears that a steam thrashing machine, the property of Mr Rawlings, of that village, was in use at Hugomont Farm. During the afternoon, the engine was stopped, for the purpose of effecting some little repairs. While this was going on, two lads named John Sloper and Charles Smith, aged 18 and 16, stood near the engine to warm themselves, when suddenly, from some unexplained cause, the boiler burst, blowing off Smith's head, which was found 200 yards away. His body was found, legs upwards, in a cart standing near the engine, containing coal. Sloper was buried a considerable distance away in a haystack and when found was quite dead. Several men were near but escaped with a few bruises. The engine was blown entirely to atoms, some parts being picked up at a distance of several hundred yards.



**Bradford Observer, February 3 1873**