

Fort Wayne Daily Sentinel
February 24, 1874

DUALINE

**Explodes at the Phoenix
Mine, Clifton, Michigan.**

**Six Men Killed and Bodies Hurl'd
Three Hundred Yards.**

A Terrible Warning.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

From our correspondent at Clifton we have received the following:
A terrible accident occurred at the Phoenix mine, February 13, at 7 P. M., by which five men, including one of the mining captains, were instantly killed and another of the mining captains was fatally wounded. As the miners were going into the mine at 7 o'clock in the evening, some of the men went to the captain's office to get some

DUALINE

to blast with in the mine, and while the mining captain was in the act of delivering the same a frightful explosion took place by the igniting of one hundred pounds of dualine and seventy five pounds of powder. Instantly the office and all the men in it (six)

WERE BLOWN

in the air. Some parts of the building were thrown at least five hundred yards, and one of the bodies was thrown about three hundred yards. The bodies were frightfully mutilated. Not a body was left with the legs on. The names of the victims of this accident are: Capt. Richard Johns, mining captain; Joseph Marks, miner; James Marks, miner; Fred. Striker, timberman; Wm. Dunn, miner.

The head-mining captain, John Hudson, was in an adjoining room, and was fatally wounded. One woman loses a husband, a nephew, and a brother-in-law.

Our correspondent writes from Eagle River under date of the 16th: Capt. M. Houston, who was hurt at the explosion at the Phoenix mine on the 13th instant, died on the morning of the 15th. The names of the others who were killed are Capt. Richard Johns (single man), Wm. Dunn (single), Frederick Striker (married, wife and eight children), and two brothers of the name of Marks (one married, leaves a wife and four children), all Cornishmen with the exception of Striker, who was a German.

It appears that Capt. Houston was in an inner room writing. Capt. Jones was preparing a charge for a sand blast, assisted by the other four; the dualine

WAS FROZEN,

and the last person who saw them states they were picking out the dualine with a file, and that when the explosion took place it blew those who were preparing the charge in all directions. The captain's office, in which they were, was completely destroyed, even down to the sills. A building that was quite a little distance off had one side and the roof blown off.

THE REMAINS

of the five who were killed at the blow were thrown a considerable distance. All of them lost some of their limbs, their legs and arms being picked up in different places, the bodies being, of course, so disfigured that their friends could not distinguish one from the other. The five who were killed, or rather the parts that could be found of them, were interred on the 16th, and were followed to the grave by a large concourse of persons.

A correspondent writes from the Phoenix, under date of Feb. 16: "The five men that were killed on the evening of the 13th inst. were buried yesterday, and the funeral procession was the

LARGEST

ever known on Lake Superior. It was variously estimated to number from 2,000 to 2,500. There were four orders in the procession, the Independent Order of Good Templars, the Temple of Honor, the Independent Order of Philanthropic Society and the German Benefit Association. It was one of the saddest occasions remembered in the copper districts."

Captain John Houston, who was fatally wounded by the explosion, is to be buried at the Columet on the 16th.