

TWO MEN BURIED ALIVE

**Plunged Into an Old Mine Near Tamaqua
and Covered by Hundreds of
Tons of Earth.**

Special Telegram to THE TIMES.

POTTSVILLE, July 29.

Frederick Losch, aged 21 years, of Coaldale, and John Aikin, Jr., aged 18 years, of Gerrytown, met an awful fate yesterday afternoon while picking huckleberries on the mountain side about a mile east of Tamaqua. They are now entombed, either dead or alive, in an abandoned mine working.

The people of Gerrytown and Tamaqua were startled about half-past 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon by a rumbling sound, similar to the forerunner of an earthquake. It came from the direction of the mountain side, where there are a number of mine breaches that had caved in eight years ago when the pillars were robbed in the first lift of No. 11 colliery, of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. Many people went to the place and found a little girl standing on the brink of a new chasm that had been formed by one of the old breaches reopening. The child was crying and at first was so frightened that she could not tell anything and mutely pointed to the ugly hole. After she was quieted and soothed by tender-hearted bystanders she was able to tell her story.

She said that Frederick Losch and John Aikin and herself had come there and that when they reached the cave-in the men told her to stay behind while they went into it to pick some berries. They had not been down more than a few minutes when the earth opened and they disappeared from sight. The ground shook terribly, the child said, when the cave-in occurred.

Directly under the cave-in miners were at work in the second lift. They heard the noise but paid no attention to it at the time. The news of the terrible accident spread quickly and caused a pall of gloom to fall over the little towns nearby.

No attempt was made to rescue the ill-fated men, as it was said by experienced miners that nothing could be done. They said the men must have gone down at least 100 feet into an old mine and if they were not killed in the fall, which was almost sure, they would be dead before they could be reached by tunneling.

Losch is survived by a widow, but Aikin was unmarried.