

## **TERRIBLE DISASTER.**

### **The Diamond Mine Caves In and Imprisons Eighty Miners.**

CHICAGO, February 16.—The mine which caved in at Joliet was the Diamond mine, operated by a stock company. The floods and recent thaw had loosened the earth about the mouth of the pit, and a land slide began about 3 o'clock this afternoon, which in a few minutes imprisoned some 80 miners. Reports are very indefinite, but they place the loss of life at from 30 to 50.

At a brief interview just held with A. L. Sweet, President of the thirty-four mines comprising the Diamond mine, to confirm the reports of the terrible disaster at Braidwood, Sweet's information is that 300 men were in the various shafts this afternoon, when the ground sagged in under the weight of the water that had at once loosened it. Sixty-two were in one shaft which caught the bulk of the falling debris, and which was instantly flooded. Every one of them was either drowned or smothered inside of five minutes. Their bodies will now be buried beneath many tons of earth. A hundred acres have been excavated, and the miners not in the one unfortunate shaft all escaped. Pumping is going on vigorously but it will be many hours before the first bodies can be reached. The mine was of the ordinary kind, supplied with regular shafts and supposed to be well protected from accidents. The wires to Joliet are in bad shape. No full report has been received from the scene.

BRAIDWOOD, Illinois, February 20.—The work of rescuing the bodies of the buried miners is being prosecuted as rapidly as possible. Pumps have lowered the water five feet in the main shaft.

CHICAGO, February 20.—A Braidwood special says six names have been added to the list of those killed in the Diamond mine disaster making eighty in all. It is feared the number may yet reach one hundred.