

Worse Than Nanticoke.

THIRTY-SEVEN PEOPLE BURIED BY A MINE EXPLOSION IN WEST VIRGINIA.

WHEELING, Jan. 21.—At 2:45 o'clock this afternoon, an explosion of fire-damp occurred in the shaft of the Newbury Orrel Coal Company, Newbury, W. Va.

The explosion occurred while the day shift of miners were at work in the mine, which is located near the outskirts of town; the air was suddenly rent with the most tremendous explosion, the force of which knocked men down in the streets half a mile away, shattering windows and doors all over town, and even crushed the stout sides of frame houses for a long distance around the mouth of the Orrel mines, while from the deep shaft of the colliery a dense cloud of mingled smoke and vapor arose 200 feet in the air.

The shaft in which the explosion occurred was sunk about two years ago, and has reached a depth of 350 feet. From the base of the shaft the main heading runs out about half a mile from where the narrow rooms diverge from either side. The theory advanced as to the cause of the explosion is that fire-damp had accumulated in one of those rooms and was

ACCIDENTALLY IGNITED

by a miner's lamp, but nothing positive has yet been learned. The force of the explosion blocked the air passage so close that no one dared venture in the main heading to ascertain the fate of the imprisoned men until an air passage could be established. The work is being pushed vigorously.

The Orrel Coal Company was formed in 1856, when the Hiscock and Rushley Coal Company was bought out. The Superintendent is Lawrence Henry, who was appointed at the time the mines changed hands. The slope where the accident occurred is but two years old, and is about a mile from the other outlets to the mine. For twenty-five years the company has averaged 250 tons of coal per day, and was the principal industry of this place, affording employment to about 250 men. The company has a large force of men divided into suitable reliefs at work at the mine.

1886 Orrel Mine Explosion NEWS

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THE LOST.

The following is believed to be a correct and full list of the men in the mine:

Daniel Miller, cager; married.
J. B. Miller, age 15; driver.
Mike Clark, miner; unmarried.
Mike Kenney, miner; unmarried.
Wm. Laymire and Frank Laymire, twin brothers, miners; unmarried.
John Conaway, miner; unmarried.
Will Landsbury, miner; married.
Andrew Wein, miner; married.
John Simmons, miner, married; and his son, aged 12, door-keeper.
John Lambert, miner; married.
Clint. Seabright, miner; married.
Charles Finley, driver; married.
Richard Bartley and son and son-in-law, John Bryers and three stepsons, named Guy, Peter and Hanley; married.
Two Weaver brothers, miners, unmarried.
Newt Moore, miner; married.
Frank Moore, miner; unmarried.
J. Spencer, driver; unmarried.
Andrew Scott, miner; unmarried.
Jack Edwards, miner; married.
Abner Ogden, miner; married.
Albert Williams, laborer; married.
George Riggins, miner; unmarried.
A. D. Fortney, miner; married.
John Carroll.
James McGowan, miner; unmarried.
John Cornby, miner; unmarried.
Morgan Miller, miner.

THE SCENES AT THE SHAFT

are heartrending. Fathers, mothers, wives and children linger in groups, with pallid faces, anxiously waiting some tidings from their loved ones, which will either bring them hope or end their suspense.