

DEATH IN A MINE.

Nineteen Miners Killed in a Mine at Savanna, Indian Nation—The Victims—Two Rescuing Parties Meet With Sudden Death From Suffocation—Full Details—Nineteen Killed.

McAllister, I. T., April 6.—About 10 o'clock last evening Savanna experienced the most disastrous explosion of gas known in the history of miners in this city. Six men were firing shots inside the No. 2 mine, which seems to have been heavily charged with gas. The shots occasioned an explosion of such intensity that large timbers and iron rails were blown from the bottom of the slope through the engine house one hundred yards beyond the entrance. The report was heard and the shock of the explosion was felt plainly several miles distant.

A large force of men were soon on the ground, and in their frantic desire to rescue the imprisoned miners some of them immediately went down in the No. 1 mine, which is connected with No. 2 by an apron. They refused to heed the advice of Superintendent Cameron not to raise the apron until the mines had been fully ventilated, and the first party returned, leaving six of their number dead, suffocated by the choke damp which rushed in on them upon raising the curtain. Upon their return twelve more men followed the fatal example of the previous twelve and likewise returned leaving six of their number dead by this fatal curtain, thus swelling the list to eighteen men.

The excitement is now at fever heat and the cooler heads are endeavoring to stop this awful sacrifice of human life. Great consternation is felt by the miners of Savanna because of the inferior ventilation of these mines, and many firmly attest they will never enter them again.

There have been but three of the rescuing party found at last accounts.

Those known to have been killed by the explosion are Wm. Barnes, Bert French, David E. James, Miles Jarrett, Chas. Parsons and Hugh Dooley.

The first of the rescuing party killed by choke damp was James Ward, Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias for the Indian Territory. With him were Bole Miller, Pat Togan, Geo. Will and Wm. Hudson.

Those of the second rescuing party killed by the choke damp were J. E. Williams, Thomas Daniels, Patsy Glancy, John McInnes, Thomas Naven, Mike Kelly and Fred Bartz.

Experienced miners are of the opinion that the dead will not be found for three or four days on account of foul air. The shaft and engine house and several cars were burned. The interior of the mine is supposed to be in such a condition that it will require several months repairing before it can be operated.