

SEVENTEEN MINERS BURIED.

A Horrible Entombment in a California Mine.

MILTON, CAL., December 24.—Messengers from Angel's Camp, Calaveras county, report that about 3 p. m. yesterday a cave-in occurred at the Utica mine, located at Angel's, by which twenty men were imprisoned. Three of them escaped without serious injuries. The remaining seventeen, with the possible exception of two, are supposed to have been killed outright. The two possible exceptions were at work in a drift some distance from the main body of workmen and may possibly be alive.

The cave was caused by the heavy rains soaking the earth, and the mine is said to have been improperly secured. Great excitement prevails, as many of the miners are married and with families.

The mine is owned by Howard & Hobart, and is located on the west edge of Angel's Camp.

The cave-in occurred on Sunday evening. Nineteen men were sent into the drift on the 400-foot level to repair the timbering, which had become loosened. They had not worked over an hour when the supports of the upper timbers suddenly swerved to the right, and the roofing, earth and rocks fell, burying 16 men under the debris. Thomas Corwin and two Italians were working near the mouth of the drift, and managed to escape, although Corwin was badly injured.

Corwin says the partitions were leaning badly when he went into the drift, but no one suspected there was danger of a cave. When it came they were all unprepared. He and the Italians escaped as soon as they heard the timbers crack. The others also started to run, but were too far in the drift to be able to reach the shaft.

A rescuing party at once entered the drift and commenced digging into the debris. They found the attempt almost useless, as the timbers seemed to have been woven together as though the sides of the drift had fallen toward each other and had been covered by the roofing. By last evening the rescuing party had succeeded in getting eight feet into the pile of earth and timber, and none of the victims had been reached. There is no prospect of getting the men out alive.