

REPORTS FROM WHIPPLE MINE

CONFLICTING REPORTS REGARDING THE NUMBER OF THE DEAD—EFFORT TO RESCUE IMPRISONED MEN.

(By the Publishers' Press.)

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 2.—Conflicting reports reached here today of the number of deaths in the disaster at the Whipple Mine yesterday.

The most reliable information is that three men were killed, four others badly burned and five entombed, who are probably dead.

The bodies recovered are those of Hudson Burgess, motorman; Erastus Wiley and Ira Kelly.

Ninety-four men had been at work, but a number came out. Of those left inside, fifty-three, it is reported, made their way out through a second shaft. The others are accounted for as killed, injured or missing.

The mine was not badly damaged. There were no marks upon the bodies recovered and it is thought death was caused by suffocation.

Rescuing parties are making every effort to save the entombed men. Isaac Pelter, boss of the mine, hoping to save the imperilled men, remained in the pit after the explosion, closing up the air shafts in an effort to force fresh air into the gas filled chambers. He has not been found.