

COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

DISASTER AT SHAMOKIN.

DEATH BY SUFFOCATION AND DROWNING.

Ten Men Lost Their Lives.

SHAMOKIN, June 10.—This afternoon an explosion occurred in the Henry Clay Colliery, operated by Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, near this town. The colliery had not been inspected for some time, but was always considered safe. Sixty-five men are employed there, and it has a capacity of mining 8000 tons per month.

THE EXPLOSION.

Conrad Drumheiser, the inside boss, went into the old working or water level, when the explosion immediately followed, it is thought, by the fire-damp being fired, which communicated with the airways from the water level into the slope below, where the men worked. The men in this section of the coal region, not being accustomed to black damp, thought it was blasting powder that had been set on fire, and remained in the slope until overcome with black-damp.

ENDEAVORING TO ESCAPE.

Starting to come up they met a body of after-damp and fell senseless, smothering. The strongest men managed to get out, giving an alarm. The others followed, and, on reaching the top of the slope, fell, being overcome. John Hayes, outside boss, hearing the alarm, immediately went to their rescue.

After proceeding about 500 yards he fell, face downward, in a pool of water and was drowned. Enoch Magenski was found drowned by his side. Eight men were brought out dead. There was no caving in of the mine, as at first reported, and no fault of ventilation, but the accident resulted from old gas exploding in an unused working.

THE KILLED.

Up to 10 P. M. ten dead miners have been taken out. Many of the men came from surrounding mines to render assistance.

THE EXCITEMENT

Was intense, wives and children rushing to the scene of the disaster, and finding husbands and brothers dead, or gasping for breath, while others were eagerly watching the arrival of friends on the slope wagon from below. There were fifty men in the slope at the time of the explosion, and thirty-five are known to have escaped, and will recover.

ACCIDENT TO A COAL OPERATOR.

William Brown, a prominent coal operator of Shamokin, fell down the Daniel Webster shaft, to-day, a distance of 165 feet breaking a leg otherwise injuring him. It is thought he will recover.

The Shamokin *Herald* of Thursday morning last, gives the following additional particulars :

The most dreadful mining casualty that ever occurred in our county took place on Tuesday at Henry Clay Colliery. The colliery is located about a mile south of Shamokin, on the Phila. and Reading railroad. Most of the coal is mined from a slope that has been operated about two years.

The disaster is supposed to have originated from the inside boss going among the old works, where the fire damp had accumulated, with a naked lamp, and discharged it. Mr. Conrad Drumheiser was regarded as a very cautious man and doubtless would not have ventured their without a safety lamp, had he anticipated any such danger.

Mr. Fulton returned with the night train, and he and Mr. Hemmingray, the Mining Inspector, spent the entire night in the mines, in search of the missing ones.

It is believed that all the bodies are now found except the inside boss.

Following is a.

LIST OF THE KILLED.

John S. Hayes, Scotchman, aged 37, wife and five children.

Isaac Monsch, American, aged 26, unmarried.

Daniel Powell, American, aged 19, unmarried.

Nicholas Paulis, German, aged 37.— Wife in Insane Asylum ; no children.

Anthony Harris, German, aged 29, unmarried.

Michael Deia, Pole, aged 30, wife and three children in Poland. Been in this country about 4 months.

Lawrence Rogulsky, Pole, aged 40 ; wife and one child.

Enoch Maginsky, Pole, aged 33 ; wife and three children.

Wm. Drumheiser, German aged 22 ; wife and two children.

Conrad Drumheiser, German, aged 48 ; wife and six children.

On Wednesday, Coroner Hesser summoned as Jurymen Job Lovel, Thos. P. Williams, Jos. Henninger, John Kohl, Andrew Genesky and Wm. Kemp, Sr., and in the afternoon held an inquest on all the bodies except Paul's, which was taken to Pauls Valley, Dauphin Co., by the morning train.

The jury assembled in Union Hall at 5 o'clock p. m., and continued in session until 7, but owing to the absence of important witness adjourned until 9 this morning.

The body of C. Drumheiser was found Thursday morning at about 1 o'clock covered by the fall of top.