

A TERRIBLE DISASTER.

Explosion of Dualin and Powder in a Lake Superior Mine—Six Persons Killed.

[From the Houghton Gazette, Extra.]

HOUGHTON, Mich., February 15. —On last Friday evening about 7:30 o'clock a terrible accident occurred at the Phoenix mine, in Keweenaw county, two miles from Eagle River, the origin of which will probably never be known. Four miners and a subordinate underground officer were preparing, in an apartment of a building on the location occupied by the mining captain as his office, a quantity of dualin, to use that night in making a "sand blast" in the mine. The men were taking the dualin—100 pounds—from its original package and transferring it to a bag, when the explosion took place. Besides the dualin, there were three kegs of powder in the room. Three of the men were handling the explosive, the fourth was holding a lighted candle, while the fifth man stood looking on. When the explosion occurred, the house was shattered to atoms and the men literally blown to pieces. Captain John Hoatson, underground superintendent of the mine, was in his office, an adjoining room, at the time, seated at his desk, and was struck by some of the flying missiles on the left side of the head and face, receiving such injuries that he died this (Sunday) morning. The following is the list of the killed:

Captain John Hoatson, a highly respected citizen of this district for a number of years, age 46, native of Scotland, leaves a wife and four children; Captain Richard Johns, English, unmarried; Fred. Striker, German, wife and eight children; William Dunn, English, unmarried; and two brothers named Marks, English, one of whom leaves a wife and four children.

The miners were buried to-day. Captain Hoatson is to be buried on Tuesday, the 17th instant, at Calumet.