

Coroner's Inquest.

**Territory of Montana, Lewis and Clarke
County, ss.**

An inquisition holden at Belmont, in the county of Lewis and Clarke, on the 11th and 12th days of February, A. D. 1881, before me, George R. Woodward, a justice of the peace, and acting coroner of said county, upon the bodies of James Keegan, Patrick Loughlin, Jack Shorter, Hugh McDonald and Thomas Woods, there lying dead, by the jurors, whose names are hereunto subscribed, the said jurors, upon their oaths, do say, that according to the evidence, the aforesaid and above-named men came to their death in the west end of tunnel No. 3, of the Belmont mine, situated in Lewis and Clarke county, Territory of Montana, between the hours of 1 and 2 a. m. on the 11th day of February, A. D. 1881: that their death resulted from the heated foul air, generated by fire, which fire originated accidentally in a blacksmith shop, dangerously located at the mouth of said tunnel, and is furthermore to be attributed to the fact that there existed no way of escape open to them, save through the flames, in the mouth of said tunnel; the existence of said blacksmith shop being in accordance with a custom prevailing among miners, which custom we, the jury, do most emphatically condemn.

SAMUEL F. RALSTON,
Foreman.

HARPIN DAVIS,
M. GLEASON,
H. A. MCALLISTER,
P. KING,
WARREN D. E. CAMP.