

TABLE No. 4—List of fatal accidents occurring in and about the mines of the Second Anthracite Mine District for the year ending December 31, 1886.

Date of accident.	NAME OF PERSON.	Occupation.	Age.	Widow.	Number of orphans.	Name of Colliery.	Location—County.	Nature and Cause of Accident.
Jan. 20	Cornelius O'Brine,	Headman, . .	19	. . .	. . .	Prospect shaft,	Plains township, Luzerne,	Was instantly killed on the night shift on the head of inside slope by being caught between the car and sheave-wheel, which carries the rope over the road. O'Brine must have stepped on the head car to disconnect the rope from the cars on head of slope, and the engineer not giving him the usual slack in the proper place, he was taken up to the sheave-wheel while in a stooping position. There were strict orders to the headman not to get on the car to disconnect the rope from them, as there was a good plank walk for the headman to walk on.
Feb. 7	Patrick O'Boyle, .	Engineer, . .	34	1	6	Mosier shaft,	Hughestown borough, do.	O'Boyle was injured so seriously that he died on February 17, ten days after. He was hoisting water out of a new shaft with a barrel, and, while in the act of lowering the barrel, the fly-wheel, which was fourteen feet in diameter, broke, throwing a large piece on him and demolishing the engine-house.
25	William E. Lewis, .	Track layer, .	28	1	2	Henry—L. V. C. Co.,	Plains township, do.	Was smothered to death at the bottom of air shaft. The cribbing of shaft had given out, and in repairing same a large quantity of mud and timber had gone down the shaft after repairing the cribbing. Lewis and four or five other men went to the bottom to remove and stow back the refuse which was in the shaft; while in the act of doing so a rush took place in the shaft of mud, which caught Lewis with the above result.
2	James Schline, . .	Laborer, . . .	29	. . .	. . .	Dunn shaft,	Lackawanna twp., Lackawanna,	Instantly killed by fall of roof.
Mar. 3	John Synott, . . .	Slate-picker, .	12	. . .	. . .	Twin—Butler Company,	Pittston borough, Luzerne,	Instantly killed by being caught between the large screen and foot plank.

	8	Thomas McHale, . .	Miner,	80	1	..	Shaft No. 10—P. C. Co.,	Hughestown borough, do.		McHale was coming out off the gangway to go home, and getting on the rear end of car to ride out, another car came out of the gangway and caught him between them, injuring him so seriously that he died March 22, 1886. Instantly killed by a fall of top coal.
April	2	John Lynn,	Laborer,	24	1	..	Pine Ridge shaft—D. & H. C. Co.,	Miners' Mills borough, do.		Instantly killed by being caught in cog-wheels.
	12	Charles Miller, . .	Breaker boss,	50	1	..	Barnum breaker—P. C. Co.,	Marcy township, do.		Miller was the person to oil the breaker in the morning before starting; after getting through oiling, as was supposed, he ordered the machinery started up. It appears he had neglected to oil these cogs, and went back to do so and was caught, as his oil can was close beside him and the box was off the cogs.
	15	Patrick Lang, . . .	Miner,	36	1	8	Bernice drift—S. L. & S. Co.,	Bernice, Sullivan,		Instantly killed by fall of top rock. Was ordered to take it down by the mine boss; said he would, but going in under it to mine out some loose coal, he did so with the above result.
	21	Charles Peles, . . .	Laborer,	28	1	1	Prospect shaft—L. V. C. Co.,	Plains township, Luzerne,		Instantly killed while in the act of loading a car by a large piece of top coal, which was cut off by slips, which was not seen until after the accident occurred. The chamber was properly timbered, and he had a very careful miner.
May	10	Edward Moran, . .	Laborer,	25	..	..	Bennett shaft,	Do. do.		Moran was laboring in an airway for a miner by the name of Hurley. A miner by the name of Gallagher was turning a chamber off the heading above them. Gallagher had a hole ready to blast; he called down to Hurley and Moran to get away as he was going to fire; they called back to him to fire away. There was an entrance close to the face of the airway. Hurley went close to the face of heading, telling Moran to come up to the face, but Moran told him he was all right. When the blast went off a piece of coal flew through the entrance, cutting the throat of Moran so that he died on the 13th, three days after.
	27	James Willson, . .	carpenter,	60	1	6	Mosier shaft,	Hughestown borough, do.		Willson had charge of some men putting in bunting in the new air shaft. On the morning of the 27th went down the shaft with his men to a platform in the middle of shaft, putting his men to work while he went to the bottom to start a small steam pump. After getting the pump to work, he came to bottom of shaft to ring for the bucket; a piece of stone fell, striking him on the head, fracturing his skull from which he died three days after.

TABLE No. 4—Continued.

Date of accident.	NAME OF PERSON.	Occupation.	Age.	Widow.	Number of orphans.	Name of Colliery.	Location—County.	Nature and Cause of Accident.
June 7	Patrick Joice, . . .	Laborer, . . .	27	. . .	. . .	Mineral Spring,	Parsons borough, Luzerne,	Joice was so fatally burned by an explosion of fire-damp going along the gangway to his work that he died on the next morning, the 8th.
Aug. 2	Thomas Missett, .	Laborer, . . .	22	. . .	. . .	Schooley shaft,	Exeter borough, do.	Instantly killed by a large piece of rock, 12 feet long by 7 feet wide and 18 inches thick, falling on him while he was in the act of loading a car. The fire boss ordered the miner to take it down on the morning of the accident; he said he would, but neglected to do so until it was too late and a life lost.
7	William Sunley, . .	Miner,	56	1	3	Halstead shaft,	Marcy township, do.	Was so fatally injured while in the act of standing a prop he had just discharged by a blast, with a large piece of rock coming down on him, that he died on the 11th, four days after.
17	Edward Boase, . .	Miner,	26	. . .	. . .	Halstead shaft,	Do, do.	Instantly killed by a fall of top coal.
20	John Gustatus, . .	Laborer, . . .	29	. . .	. . .	Twin shaft,	Pittston borough, do.	Instantly killed by a fall of top rock while he and the miner were taking it down.
Sept. 2	Joseph Soostock, .	Laborer, . . .	22	. . .	. . .	Harry E. shaft,	Kingston township, do.	Instantly killed while in the act of loading a car by a fall of black rock.
4	Vincent Pinz, . . .	Water bailer,	58	1	1	Halstead shaft,	Marcy township, do.	Instantly killed by falling down shaft.
10	James Conlan, . . .	Miner,	46	. . .	. . .	Bennett shaft,	Plains township, do.	Instantly killed by fall of top rider while in the act of working out a shot of loose coal.
14	John Sheridan, . .	Laborer, . . .	40	. . .	. . .	Schooley shaft,	Exeter borough, do.	Fatally injured by a piece of coal flying from a blast; died the next day.
22	Patrick Corcoran, .	Miner,	40	1	7	Henry shaft,	Plains township, do.	Instantly killed by a large piece of rock while in the act of standing a prop under it.
27	Simon Heckman, .	Miner,	65	. . .	. . .	Black Diamond,	Kingston township, do.	Instantly killed by fall of top coal; had fired a shot; when coming back took up his drill to bar some loose coal out, and the top bench fell on him with the above result.
Oct. 7	Fred Weis-carger, .	Miner,	27	1	3	Shaft 14—P. C. Co.,	Jenkins township, do.	Fatally injured by fall of black rock so that he died before he was taken home.
28	Martin Norflake, .	Laborer, . . .	30	1	. . .	Pettibone shaft,	Kingston township, do.	Instantly killed in the sinking air shaft by a large piece of rock becoming detached from the side of shaft.

28	Patrick Farrele, . .	Laborer, . . .	24	.. . .	Mill Creek,	Plains township,	do.	Fatally injured by fall of top rock, and died November 5, 1886.
30	George Brace, . . .	Shaft-footman	39	.. . .	East Boston,	Kingston township,	do.	Instantly killed by falling down shaft by a misunderstanding with the engineer.
Nov. 1	Patrick McGrouarty,	Miner,	22	.. . .	Oakwood shaft,	Plains township,	do.	Instantly killed by a large piece of top coal while in the act of loading his car. McGrouarty's laborer did not come to work this morning, which caused the miner to load his own coal, and, while standing on the bottom bench of coal, which is about two and a half feet thick, the fatal piece came on him. In my investigation the next morning I find McGrouarty had fired a blast in the top coal, and in all probability was in a hurry to load his car, and did not take the usual precaution to examine the top coal and take down what was loose.
18	John Sheppard, . .	Slate-picker,	13	.. . .	No. 8 shaft breaker,	Hughestown borough,	do.	Was fatally injured, and died the next day. The day's work was over, and the boys were passing out of the breaker to go home, when the boy in advance of Sheppard stepped on the box that covers the cog-wheels of a counter screen, tipping it up out of place so that when Sheppard stepped on it his foot slipped down into the cogs and he was drawn in, the machinery not yet being stopped, mangling his left leg badly and pulling it out of the socket at the hip joint. The boys were not required to go over this box, and were told not to do so.
27	John O. Fenwick, .	Miner,	26	.. . .	Forty Fort shaft,	Kingston township,	do.	Fatally burned by the exploding of a keg of powder, so that Cosgrove died the next day and Fenwick died on December 3, 1886.
27	William Cosgrove,	Driver,	17	.. . .	Forty Fort shaft,	Do.	do.	Stephen Marsden and John O. Fenwick, miners, were robbing pillars in the top, or 6-foot vein; they had a blast to fire before they could load a car which was in their place, the other parties going back about fifty yards to an entrance where they kept their powder. Marsden remained to light the squib; after the squib went off it failed to explode the blast, when Marsden took another to try again, and went up to do so. Fenwick said he thought the squibs were damp; taking one he placed it on an empty powder keg and set fire to the squib. Edward Harder, laborer; Henry Parks, runner, and William Cosgrove, the driver, were standing close to him at the time the squib went off, setting fire to a full keg of powder which happened to be outside of his box at the time, burning Harder and Parks and taking the life of Fenwick and Cosgrove.

TABLE No. 4—Continued.

Date of accident.	NAME OF PERSON.	Occupation.	Age.	Widow.	Number of orphans.	Name of Colliery.	Location—County.	Nature and Cause of Accident.
Nov. 24	Michael Burke, . .	Miner,	40	1	1	No. 10 shaft,	Hughestown boro., Luzerne,	Instantly killed while in the act of standing a prop by a large piece of rock from the roof. So severely injured by a mine car let over the head of the slope without being connected to the rope that he died that night. There was a misunderstanding with the men on head of slope in regard to coupling the cars, that one of the cars was shoved over with the above result.
Dec. 6	Geo. Puterbaugh, .	Team driver,	19	. . .	. . .	Laurel Run slope,	Parsons borough, do.	

NOTE.—There was one fatal accident which occurred in the Hillside Coal Company's slope, at Pleasant Valley, which I do not think has any cause to be charged to the mining of coal, as the young man, Connor by name, went down the slope at night after the day's work was over without any cause whatever, and by some means or other got his head in between the water chamber and cylinder of a No. 8 Knowles' pump; therefore, I have not placed this fatal accident in the list.