

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF

INSPECTOR OF MINES

AND

Deputy Inspector of Mines,

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR 1891.

BY

JOSEPH HOGAN,
JACOB OLIVER,

Inspector.
Deputy.

JOURNAL PUBLISHING CO.
HELENA, MONT.

1891.

LIST OF FATAL ACCIDENTS.

DATE.	NAME.	COUNTY.	NAME OF MINE	OCCUPATIO	REMARKS.
1891					
February 10....	Anton Wengenbach ..	Lewis and Clarke.	Drum Lummon.....	Station Tender	Killed in shaft
" 16....	Robert Lind	C. scade.....	Sand Coulee.....	Coal Miner...	Killed by fall of coal.
" 26....	Alfred McQuoid.....	Silver Bow	Gambetta	Miner	Fall of ground.
March 6.....	John Killen	Beaverhead.....	Cleopatra	Timberman ..	Fall of rock.
March 9.....	John Doogan	Deer Lodge.	East Granite	Miner	Killed by explosion caused by missed hole.
March 23.....	Walter Lloyd.....	Park	Rocky Fork Coal Mine No. 0.....	Coal Miner...	Run over by mine car.
May 5.....	John O. D nevan.....	Lewis and Clarke.	Drum Lu mon	Day Laborer..	Smothered between the 400 and 500-ft. level.
May 7.....	Wm. John Reed.....	"	Empire.....	Miner	Fall g down manway.
May 17.....	Edward James	Silver Bow	Vulcan.....	"	Fall of ground.
May 30.....	James Healy.....	"	Silver Bow Mine	"	Leg broken by fall of ground. Died later from his injuries.
June 5	Jerry Downey	Deer Lodge.....	Bl-Metallic	"	Killed in shaft by blast.
June 28	Barnet Thomas.....	Silver Bow	East Colusa	"	Thigh broken by stick of timbers falling on him. Died later from injuries.
July 11.....	Mat Klemilla.....	Park.....	Rocky Fork Coal Mine.....	Coal Miner...	Killed by lying coal from a blast.
July 12.....	John Costa.....	"	Livingston Coal and coke Co. Mine.	"	Killed by striking against the timbers when riding on cars.
September 8 ...	Claude Tardoville....	Missonla	Curlew	Carpenter ...	Killed by cage striking him on the head.
September 9 ...	Hugh P. Hanratty ...	Deer Lodge.....	Granite Mountain.....	Miner	Killed by premature explosion.
October 2	Michael Gopp.....	Silver Bow	Ground Squirrel.....	"	Killed by bucket falling on him.
October 3	Wm. J. Goyens.....	Beaverhead.....	Cleopatra	"	Killed by fall of rock.
October 12.....	Dominic McElhenny..	Deer Lodge.....	Marle.....	"	Killed by falling from bucket in shaft.
October 15.....	Patrick Adams	Park.....	Rocky Fork Coal Co.....	Coal Miner...	Killed by cave of ground.
October 15.....	Thomas Stewart.....	"	"	"	"
November 2	Charles Stoker	"	"	"	Killed by fall of rock
November 3 ..	James O. Donnell....	Silver Bow	Anaconda	Miner.....	Killed in the shaft by falling from cage when coming up.
November 3 ..	William Martin.....	"	"	"	"
November 3 ..	Patrick Mulligan....	"	"	"	"
November 3 ..	James G. Sullivan....	"	"	"	"
November or 3 ..	James Roach	"	"	"	"
November 3 ..	Charles M. Evans	"	"	"	"
November 3 ..	Michael McEvoy	"	"	"	"
November 3 ..	Donnis Shaughnessy..	"	"	"	"
November 3 ..	John Ritchie	"	"	"	"
November 20 ..	John Eskolo	Jefferson	Alta	Driver.....	Sustained injuries from which he afterward died. Killed by car running over him

**Anaconda Mine
Butte, Montana
November 2, 1891**

A few minutes past 12 o'clock, on the night of November 2, 1891, James O'Donnell, William Martin, Patrick Mulligan, James G. Sullivan, James Roach, Michael McEvoy, Charles M. Evans and Dennis Shaughnessy were instantly killed and John Ritchie received injuries from which he died in a few hours. Jerry Harrington was injured on the legs.

These men were employed by the Anaconda Company and were working on the 900 and 1,000-foot levels of the Anaconda mine at Butte.

They got on the east cage, which is a double deck, in company with some other men, as both decks were loaded with men coming up to lunch. The engineer was signaled to hoist to sur-

REPORTS OF MINES.

face. When between the 300 and 400-foot levels he noticed the cable turn over, and thinking something was wrong he stopped and then started to hoist slowly to the surface.

Ritchie and Harrington were on the lower deck. The men on the cage could not tell just what happened, but that a number of men were thrown from the cage, and that it swayed and jarred before being stopped.

I was at the hoist about one hour after the accident and talked with some of the men who were on the cage at the time. They differed in regards to the number of persons that were on each deck of the cage, and some of them told me they had all they could do to hold on, and knew but little about it.

It was impossible to ascertain how many men were knocked off the cage until the eighth man was brought up from the sump, below the 1,000-foot level.

Ritchie died shortly afterwards from the injuries he sustained.

I examined the shaft from the surface to the 1,000-foot level and the timbers were all in place and had not taken any weight to move them so as to move the guides or interfere with the cage coming up or going down the shaft. When the accident occurred the cage, in coming up, struck the chairs on the north side of the shaft at the 400-foot level and tore them out. About four sets above this the guide on the east side of this compartment was broken between the two center pieces about five feet in length. The chairs in use, excepting the top one, which is a spring chair, are dead chairs, which are moved out and in the shaft with a lever. When in the shaft, and the cage coming up, they are supposed to go out without interfering with the cage. If they were in the shaft at the time some person must have put them in after the cage went down, which I don't think they did. If anything became wrong with the bolts that fastened the chairs to the wall plate the chairs would move out of place and the cage would catch on them coming up and cause the accident, by shaking the cage and knocking the men from it. However, there was nothing that I could find out that would warrant me to take this view of it. There were two men whose duties were to go through the shaft and examine the chairs and guides every morning from five o'clock to seven, and the fact that rock was being hoisted steadily through both compartments of the shaft

STATE OF MONTANA.

until a few minutes before the accident, it seems reasonable that if anything were wrong with the chairs the cage would strike them.

From what I could learn the more probable case was that some one on the upper deck of the cage either fell out or got his shoulder caught against the wall plate, crushing him down between the timbers and the upper deck, and striking those on the lower deck, would be likely to knock them off. Some of these men being caught between the cage and the wall plate would push the cage to the other side of the shaft, and forcing the shoe against the guide, breaking it.

If the same thing occurred at the station below it would, probably, push the bottom deck of the cage far enough north in the shaft to strike the chairs.

I did not find out the exact number of men on the cage as the statements on this was somewhat conflicting.

The foreman and others stated that the rule was that only nine persons should ride on each deck, making eighteen on a cage, yet there were nineteen or twenty on the cage when the accident happened, and among them were some who had never worked much in a mine before and probably knew but little about holding on a cage.

I made a very careful examination, and from the information I received I do not think blame could be attached to anyone for this accident.