

SHAMOKIN'S SUFFERING

The Fire at Luke Fidler Colliery
Still Raging.

TRYING TO SMOTHER IT !

All Efforts to Recover the Bodies of
the Missing Men Abandoned Pending
the Fight With the Flames.

SHAMOKIN, Oct. 12.—This town is in sore distress. The fire in the Luke Fidler colliery and the great explosion of boilers at the Henry Clay have cast a gloom over the entire place and it will be months before the people will recover from the effects.

In addition to the great loss and bereavement brought on ten different families by the deaths in the two disasters, there is a misfortune to the whole community by the idleness of nearly fifteen hundred men and boys. There are no new developments at the Luke Fidler mine. The fire still rages in the workings and gases are giving the working forces much trouble. Mine experts from all parts of this and other regions have arrived here to lend their advice and aid in extinguishing the fire, but thus far no advantage has been gained.

All efforts to recover the bodies of the unfortunate men who failed to get out of the mine has been abandoned for the present. The bodies may never be found. They may be reduced to ashes by this time. There has been some murmuring on the part of the relatives and friends of the victims because efforts to save the bodies have been discontinued. The mine officials say any further progress in that direction would be foolhardy; that it is utterly impossible for men to get anywhere near where the bodies are supposed to be. They argue that there is nothing to be done but to flood the mine, and promise that as soon as the fire is sufficiently subdued to permit an exploration for the bodies that step will be taken. A stream of water three feet deep and five feet wide is pouring into the mine and culm is being forced down into the bore holes as fast as the trucks can carry the stuff from the banks of the colliery. Owing to the rapidity with which the flames spread when the fire started and the time which they have had to attack other parts of the mine it will take some time to effectually cut them off.

There are no new developments in connection with the boiler explosion at the Henry Clay colliery. The death list as reported by the HERALD yesterday has not been increased, although Peter Heck and William Grimm may die at any moment. The others will recover.

The damages to the colliery by reason of the explosion was extensive. The boiler house was a complete wreck and even the boilers which failed to explode will go to the scrap iron bank. The breaker will require repairs to an extent of several thousand dollars. Some valuable machinery was destroyed by the boiler which passed through the breaker.