

ANOTHER MINING DISASTER.

Twenty-nine Men Entombed in the Dayton, Tenn., Mines.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 20.—Twenty-nine miners lost their lives to-day in the Nelson mine entry No. 10 near Dayton, Tenn., by an explosion of fire-damp. The explosion was succeeded by a terrific crash which indicated that the roof of the passage through which they had entered had fallen in.

No avenue of escape was left, and there is no possibility that any of the men will be found alive. The mine is the property of the Dayton Coal and Iron Company, three miles from the town of Dayton, and reached by a spur track.

The men, both white and colored, including several boys, entered the mine to go to work at 7 o'clock this morning.

Nothing was known of the accident until the driver found his way blocked by a solid wall of coal and thinking the miners were only entombed reported his discovery. A long slope extends down into the mine.

The cars are pulled up from the foot of the slope where tramcars, drawn by mules connect with the outside by a cable which hauls the coal up with remarkable rapidity.

Rescuing parties have been working all day like grim death trying to reach them, but it is probable they will be several days forcing an opening through the wall of fallen roofing, which must be made safe as they proceed. The foul air quickly exhausts the workers, who are relieved by fresh hands. The work will continue day and night till the bodies are discovered.

At the drift mouth hundreds of women and children are gathered and their grief and despair is heartrending. Mothers wringing their hands, weeping daughters and little children, sweet-hearts and gray headed grand-parents all in the greatest distress, for they have been told that there is no hope, make a spectacle at which one turns sick at heart. As the mine is ventilated by air shafts or passages the caving in of the wall in the entry cut off the draught and death was certain to those who breathed the poisoned air.