

1895 Sleepy Hollow Gold Mine flood NEWS

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EFFORTS AT RESCUE. Deputy Sheriff W. W. Williams finally ar rived on the ground, and the building was cleared and practical miners offered their eservices in lowering the bucket. The farthest depth strained was 330 feet, the ac-cumulating gas forced up by the rising water being such that a candle would not ourn at a greater depth. A second effort was made, a larger sized safety lamp having been placed in the bucket. The rescuer who first descended in the bucket, Mr. H. P. Risk, was found at the 330-foot level. On reaching the surface he was almost in an insensible state. Other volunteers went down afterwards, but were not successful in reaching a lower point in the shaft owing to the rising of the water. Extra water buckgts were sent for and brought to the mine with a view of lowering the water. The managers of the property were on the ground and were very assiduous in their efforts to relieve the men. The two in the Americus are without doubt dead. Those in the Sleepy Hollow, unless they can be found in some of the slopes, have met death in a similar manner MINE OWNERS RESPONSIBLE. The calamity is one which has not been unexpected. For three years past a dispute be tween the owners of the several mines in the group has been agitating the question of The Gregory, Bob Tail, Fiske Americus and Sleepy Hollow have been parties to the dispute and the three properties first named have been closed down in their lower levels and allowed to stand partially alled with water because of this misunderclanding over pro-rating the expense of drainage between the several owners. The workings of the mines are so situated that Sie Gregory, Bob Tail and the Fiske have been forced to combat a strong flow of water, the pumping of which by them left the Sleepy Hollow and Americus practically dry When the Fiske owners failed to arrange atisfactorily with their neighbors to meet a share of the pumping expenses, they allowed the waters rise in the lower works, and sthis large reservoir stood above the workings of the adjoining mines, a constant menace to those working beneath. The Sleepy Hollow, Americus and Fiske are on the same vetn of ore. The first two are connected by drifts at the 400 foot level; the Americus and Fiske are separated by a wall of ore standing in the vein at the joint end lines. So much greater is the system of underground workings in the Fiske than those of its end line neighbors that the rush of water from the three levels above the point of the break was quite sufficient to fill the entire workings of the two. The Americus filled first below the 400 foot level and it was no appreciable time before water was pouring from it into the Sleepy Hollow through the air tunnel connecon on the level where the break occurred. The Sleepy Hellow has a system of insurance by which the men are assessed 3 per cent of their wages and on death their relatives receive half pay for six months, together with funeral expenses paid by the company.

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