

UNDERGROUND DISASTER

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION IN AN ARKANSAS MINE.

**Thirty-five Men Horribly Burned,
One of Them Fatally and Others
May Die—Bad Ventilation Prob-
ably the Cause.**

HUNTINGTON (Ark.,) March 5.—An explosion occurred in mine 44 of the Kansas and Texas Coal Company last evening, burning thirty-five men seriously, some fatally.

Dead: BUD HANLEY.

Injured: JOE HUBBARD, colored, badly burned, will probably die.

WILLIAM HANLEY, colored, badly burned, will probably die.

F. FRICKER, burned, arms, head and face.

T. STUSNER, badly burned, may not recover.

ANDREW FOX, badly burned.

ENNIS CABLE, colored, probably fatally burned.

MARSHAL HAYES, burned severely on head and face.

W. N. HILE, track-layer, severely burned on hands and head.

JOHN HARRIS, colored, hands, face and head burned.

JOHN PATTERSON, colored, badly burned, thought to be injured internally.

DOC HUFFAKER, colored, burned on head, shoulders and arms.

J. ELLIS, colored, hands and head burned.

WILLIAM MORRIS, badly burned face, head, arms.

WILLIAM SCARLET, severely burned and head cut, in precarious condition.

JOHN MAXWELL, badly burned.

WILLIAM GARDENHIRE, burned face, neck, head.

Mine 44 is situated about a quarter of a mile north of the main part of town. The shaft was sunk six years ago, but was abandoned for about two years. This summer a slope was driven to the old workings and the mine again commenced to produce coal. More than a hundred men, half of them negroes, were employed.

About 4:30 o'clock, a muffled roar startled the people. A column of smoke and debris shot up high from the air shaft. Over the open ground and network of railroad tracks rushed men and women. Many of the latter had husbands and other members of their families in the mine. In a few minutes after the explosion, the men commenced to appear. Some were not burned at all, while others appeared with the skin standing up in blisters on their faces and hands, or hanging in ribbons.

Search for those unable to walk up the slope was at once begun. Superintendent Vail of the Kansas and Texas Coal Company, directed the work. One by one the more seriously injured were brought out and taken to their homes in hacks and wagons.

Superintendent Vail believes a keg of powder was exploded by carelessness, but the general opinion of the miners, is that the explosion was caused by a windy shot firing gas, powder and smoke. They say the mine was very dry and dusty, and the furnace was not sufficiently strong to create a sufficient draft to carry the dust out of the rooms and entries.