

MINE EXPLOSION.

Three Dead and Thirteen
Wounded Men Already
Taken Out.

OTHERS IN THE SHAFT.

Mine Is on Fire and Any Further
Attempt at Rescue Is
Futile.

SEVERAL FATALLY INJURED

Disastrous Accident Occurred in a Col-
liery in Williamson County, Ills.,
This Morning.

Marion, Ill., Sept. 24.—An explosion
occurred in the Williamson County Coal
Mine at 7 a. m.

Three men are dead and thirteen
wounded have been taken out.

Five or six others are in the mine,
and undoubtedly are dead.

The mine is on fire and they cannot
be rescued.

Several of the wounded are severely
crushed and many may die.

The mine is located four miles north
of here. There is an unusually large
amount of natural gas in this mine. The
explosion was no doubt caused by the
gas taking fire from the miners' lamps
when they descended this morning, as the
disaster took place immediately after the
men were lowered and went to that part
of the mine where the explosion oc-
curred.

The loss of life is not nearly so heavy
as it might have been, owing to the fact
that most of the American miners, more
than half the force, were to take a holi-
day today to attend the county fair
here and most of the killed and wounded
are Russians and Italians. It is impos-
sible to get their names at this hour.

The force of the explosion was very
heavy, as it blew one of the mine mules
over 200 yards along the main entrance
and into the big dump at the bottom of
the shaft, which is 180 feet deep.

1897 Williamson County Mine explosion
NEWS

Clipped By:
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Mar 19, 2025