

So far death has claimed five victims at Marion as the result of the mine explosion at the Williamson County Coal Company's mine. The fifth, a Russian, Peter Casper, died after suffering the most excruciating agony for three days and nights. He was burned almost beyond recognition, but notwithstanding the terrible manner in which he was injured by the gas flames he saved the life of a fellow miner by his heroic action just after the disaster. His comrade was so overcome by the foul air that he had given up all hope of making his way out to safety, but Casper revived his courage and together they made their way in the dark over piles and tons of coal and scattered all over the foot of the shaft and they were then hoisted to the top.

1897 Williamson County Mine explosion  
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