

while at work in the Broadhead shaft, near the town of Aguilar, Las Animas county, Colorado. We, the jury, further find that said explosion was caused by negligence on the part of duly authorized officers of the Las Animas Coal Company in not properly inspecting the condition of said shaft.

In Testimony Whereof, The said jurors have hereunto set their hands, the day and year aforesaid.

S. B. HOOD, Foreman.

A. T. SHELBY,

WILLIAM J. LYNDS,

THOMAS SHERRAT,

FRANK BAUDINO,

J. S. MCGUIRE,

Attest:

Jurors.

B. B. SIPE,

Coroner of Las Animas County.

August 7—The men whose names are herein given were killed by an explosion at about 6:30 p. m., Bowen mine, Las Animas county, August 7, 1902:

James Hunter, age, 26; American; married; two children; white; occupation, machine runner.

Frank Groate, age 26; American; married; no children; white; occupation, machine runner.

Joe Sanchez, age, 26; Mexican; married; one child; white; occupation, machine runner.

Tilden Winfield, American; single; colored; occupation, machine helper.

Arthur Meyers, American; single; colored; occupation, machine helper.

Joe Gordon, American; single; colored; occupation, drill runner.

Oscar Berg, age 23; American; single; white; occupation, drill helper.

Mike Cassidy, age 27; American; single; white; occupation, track layer.

John Kenealey, American; single; white; occupation, shooter.

Felipe Sena, age 30; Mexican; single; white; occupation, machine helper.

W. H. Elliott, age 27; American; married; white; occupation, miner.

L. P. Jensen, age 29; Dane; single; white; occupation, miner.

H. Creech, age 38; American; single; white; occupation, driver.

The initial point of the explosion was about seventy-five feet from the mouth of No. 3 opening, and at the first south entry. There are no living witnesses to testify as to the direct cause of said explosion. The mutilation of certain bodies and the places where they were found, the work they were performing at the time the explosion occurred, with other evidence in connection thereto, are the reasons for drawing the following conclusions, viz.: A dust explosion, caused by the exploding of about fifty pounds of giant powder.

John Kenealey had commenced his first shift as a shooter on said date. The trunk of his body was found jammed in between the timber legs on the short side of the curve, at the entrance of the first south entry, off No. 3. He was minus head, arms and legs, and his trunk was also mutilated.

Mike Cassidy, tracklayer, but employed on this date to assist and instruct Kenealey in reference to making up the charges of powder and in the shooting. The trunk of Cassidy's body was found about eighty feet outside of No. 3 opening, and in about the same condition as that of Kenealey.

It was customary for the shooters to take sufficient powder to the corner of the first south and No. 3 entries to make up the charges. It is assumed that this powder exploded while Kenealey and Cassidy were preparing said charges at said point. Cassidy evidently was a little farther north and more in line with the mouth of No. 3 opening, making it possible for him to be blown outside. His watch, and part of his overalls were found on the track in close proximity to the mouth of No. 3. There was a foot, said to Cassidy's, about

twenty feet from No. 3 in the first south. There were much mangled flesh, pieces of bone, fragments of clothes, also parts of the head scattered in various directions from the initial point.

The magazine is situated at the mouth of another unused drift, which connected with the first said south, about eighty feet south of No. 3. It contained about 500 pounds of giant powder prior to the explosion. About 450 pounds of this was picked up afterwards, indicating that there had been about fifty pounds at said point.

The bodies of the other men were found at different places in and outside of the mine. Several of them died from afterdamp. Peter Jensen was working in No. 1, and over 1,000 feet from No. 3. He had traveled to within about 500 feet of the tunnel when overcome by firedamp and he expired.

The mine was ventilated by an exhaust van and the one-circuit system. Under normal conditions No. 1 was the intake. After the explosion the current changed and No. 1 became the exit. Had the mine been ventilated by separate splits, the men who were working in No. 1 would probably have been saved.

The Bowen mine is non-gaseous, but the workings in No. 3 district were very dusty, and, when raised to the proper temperature, caused the disaster to be more effective.

Attached see verdict of jury at coroner's inquest.

HENRY DENMAN.

VERDICT OF JURY.

State of Colorado, County of Las Animas, ss.

An inquisition, holden at Trinidad, in Las Animas county, state of Colorado, on the eighth day of August, A. D. 1902, before B. B. Sipe, coroner of said county, upon the bodies of John Kenealey, Felix Sena, Oscar Berg, Joseph Gordon, Henry Creech, Michael Cassidy, Frank Groat, James Hunter, Jose Sanchez, Arthur Myers, Tildon Wimfield, L. A. Jensen, W. H. Elliott, there lying dead, by the jurors, whose names are hereto subscribed. Said jurors upon their oaths do say they came to their death by an explosion at the Bowen mine, at Bowen, Las Animas county, state of Colorado, cause of said explosion is unknown to us.

In testimony whereof, the said jurors have hereunto set their hands, the day and year aforesaid.

S. CARMICHAEL,
Foreman,
J. W. DAVIS,
ISAAC F. WYANT,
GEO. R. STODDARD,
VICTOR GARULE,
THOMAS A. FRASER,

Attest:

Jurors.

B. B. SIPE,

Coroner of Las Animas County.

August 26—Elfigo Zamora, miner, was killed by a fall of rock at the face of the third north entry, slope No. 2, Midway mine, Huerfano county, August 26, 1902.

The entry was driven twelve feet wide and was in about 125 feet from the main slope. Zamora and J. A. Chaves were working together. Both were mining between the roadway and the east rib, when a rock, which was completely encircled by a slip, and weighing about 1,000 pounds, fell and killed Zamora instantly. Chaves was nearer the rib and beyond the limits of the rock and so escaped uninjured.

Chaves testified that they made a thorough examination of the roof prior to the fall and considered the same in a safe condition.

Following is a copy of the jury's verdict at the inquest:

JNO. D. JONES.

VERDICT OF JURY.

State of Colorado, Huerfano County, ss.

An inquisition, holden at Midway, Huerfano county, state of Colorado, on the 26th day of August, A. D. 1902, before C. W. Cox, coroner of said county, upon the body of Elfigo Zamora, there lying dead, by the jurors, whose names are hereto subscribed. Said jurors upon their oaths do say:

That Elfigo came to his death on August 26, 1902, in room No. 2, right bottom, right Midway mines, by a fall of