

HIS HEAD WAS TORN OFF

The Burning of Giant Powder in a Colorado Mine.

Leadville, Colo., June 10.—Two hundred and fifty pounds of giant powder exploded at the shaft house of the Fortune mine this morning, destroying the shaft house and machinery. Five men were entombed in the mine until five o'clock, when all were rescued excepting the superintendent, Patrick Barker, who was found dead in the bottom of the shaft with his head cut off. The explosion was caused by a fire which ignited the powder and the explosion completely wrecked the surface buildings.

Superintendent John G. Murphy of the Resurrection mine, adjoining, at once organized a rescue force and started down the Sedalia shaft, as the workings of this property connect with those of the Fortune. The pumps of the Sedalia were started so as to lower the water and by five o'clock an entrance was effected into the mine and the miners brought to the surface uninjured.

Superintendent Barker had climbed up the Fortune shaft some distance after the accident had occurred and was probably struck by falling timber. His head was torn from his body.

1903 Four rescued from Fortune mine after giant powder explodes at shaft house

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