

Overcome By Sulphurous Fumes in a Tunnel at Williamstown.

WERE MEMBERS OF A RELIEF PARTY

Went Into the Mine to Rescue Fellow
Miners Who Had Been Overcome By
the Gas—Some of the Men Fell Into
a Stream of Water and Were Drown-
ed.

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Harrisburg, Pa., May 26. — All but one of the men killed and all of the forty overcome by the sulphurous fumes in a tunnel of the Summit Branch colliery of the Susquehanna Coal Company at Williamstown yesterday, were members of a relief party. A revised list of the dead follows:

M. M. Golden, local superintendent, aged 55, with a wife and seven children.

John Kenny, a miner, married and three children.

Enoch Morgan, miner, aged 38, with five children.

Joseph Punch, laborer, aged 24 years; single.

George Radle, 50 years, chief machinist.

Aaron Koppenhaver, repairman.

Peter Koppenhaver, repairman.

Albert Nau, engineer, aged eighteen; single.

Bert James, miner; single.

Henry Frederick, miner.

Enoch Morgan was the first man killed. The rest of the victims were members of the rescuing party, which at one time was made up of more than 100 men.

All but the Koppenhavers, who lived at Pine Valley, live in Williamstown.

Intimation of the presence of extraordinary amounts of sulphurous gas in the mine was first gotten by miners who were walking through the tunnel, which extends from the Bear Valley to the Williams Valley side of the mountain. Shortly afterward a train came through and picked up some of these men who were overcome and hurried them to the Williams Valley side. A relief train, loaded with reserves and members of the night shift, was hurriedly made up and sent into the mine to rescue the others.

Before the train had gotten any great distance the rescuers started to explore the mine, and in a short while these men were tottering and fell to the ground either fatally stricken or seriously overcome. The lights which the miners carried were of little good, because of the large amounts of gas, and in the death reeking atmosphere and with little light a number of men partly overcome fell into a stream of water which flows along the track, and what the gas left undone drowning completed.

Despite the immense odds against which the rescuing party worked, the bodies of the forty overcome victims and those of the dead were placed on the relief train and hurried to the mouth of the tunnel. It is believed that the gas accumulated because of the excessive heat on the surface and the large number of trains which went through the mine. Coroner Krause is investigating the cause of the disaster.