

FATAL ACCIDENTS

Falls of Coal, Slate and Roof.

Fifteen persons were killed in the mines by falls of coal, slate and roof.

Two serious accidents occurred at the Fuller mine of the Taylor Coke Company, by which 9 men lost their lives.

July 6 an explosion of fire damp at the Company's new shaft caused the death of 6 employes: George Thomas, foreman; John Carter, driller; Walter Williams, Samuel Davis, Charles Carter, and Mike Creedan, laborers. The shaft had been sunk to a depth of 94 feet when the surface at the top of the shaft, being of a soft nature, began to break the shaft timbers, making it necessary to concrete the top of the shaft. Sinking was discontinued and a platform built in the shaft about 19 feet from the surface, to remove the dirt preparatory to concreting the top. This closed off about 72 feet of the bottom of the shaft, where marsh gas was generating, and as there was no circulation of the air a mechanical mixture was set up, filling the shaft with fire damp. The pump at the bottom of the shaft was oiled at 6 P. M. July 5. At 5 o'clock the following morning the shift boss and the pumps, each carrying an open torch, were lowered through a trap door in the platform. When the flames from the torches came in contact with the fire damp an explosion occurred, throwing the men 75 to 100 feet in the air and killing them both. The top of the shaft was wrecked by the explosion and the other four men mentioned above were also killed.

November 13 another explosion of fire damp occurred in the slope of the same mine, by which B. C. Smyers, carpenter; Joseph Larue and Henry Williams, laborers, were killed and 6 others injured. The slope is driven on an angle of 19 degrees through the strata for the purpose of lowering material and affording ingress and egress to the workmen. The slope had been driven about 400 feet. The workmen had come out to eat their luncheon and a torch was left burning about 50 feet from the face on the bottom. When they returned to their work at the face an explosion occurred. These men had been warned during the investigation of the previous accident against returning to the working faces, after firing blasts and changing shifts, without first making an examination with a safety lamp to ascertain the conditions.

Mine Cars

April 3, John Dumchock, miner at Lafayette mine, was caught between car and rib while attempting to sprag car. He got on the narrow side.

May 22, Steve Pastor, driver, at Continental No. 3 mine, was caught between car and rib and fatally crushed in an attempt to pass car on tight side.

November 1, Carmine Golini, miner, at Revere mine, was crushed between mine car and trap-door while lowering car down slope. He allowed the car to get beyond his control and remained on front of car until it ran through trap-door.

August 16, John Hebor, miner, at Oliphant mine, was standing