

PROBING INTO THE K CLEAR SPRING TRAGEDY

t Coroner Dodson Has Commenced an Investigation Into the Latest Mine Horror.

Coroner Dodson held a session last evening to probe the West Pittston mine horror. He was assisted by deputy coroner Casterline and mine inspector Boyle. Attorney Fuller represented the company and attorneys Thayer, of Scranton and W. L. Pace of Pittston represented the families of the deceased. The jury empaneled was composed of J. R. Erhet, James McMillan, Andrew Law, Alfred Gingell, Thomas Thomas and Andrew Savage.

J. L. Cake, general manager of the company, was sworn and testified that the broken rope was purchased from the Hazard Wire Rope Co., at Wilkes-Barre, August 10, 1901. He had been twenty-four years in the employ of the company. At the time of accident he was in New York. The rope is one inch steel, six strands, nineteen wires to the strand. The test of the rope was thirty-six to thirty-nine tons. The air shaft was used principally for hoisting or lowering men. The weight of the cage was about 1,500 pounds. He said he always instructed his men to run slowly and carefully and to make inspections daily of the rope and machinery. The inside foreman made inspection of the safety catches on the cage every day. He examined the rope the Friday previous to the accident. The examination of the rope was made by coil on the drum.

The mine foreman and officials testified together with several of the employees. The testimony was a varied character both sides putting up a strong case. There will be another session this evening.