

SEVEN KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSION

PREMATURE SETTING OFF OF
DYNAMITE CAUSE.

Accident Occurs as Day Force Leaves
Shaft or Death List Would
Have Been Greater.

WINBER, Pa., April 10.—Seven miners were killed, several slightly injured and many narrowly escaped death as a result of a premature explosion of dynamite in mine No. 37 of the Berwind—White Coal company, one-half mile from here, last evening.

Early to-day all the dead have been recovered and, according to Mine Inspector Blower of the sixth district, there are no more victims in the wreck:

The dead:

MICHAEL GIBSON.

WILLIAM GIBSON, his son.

STEVE NEMIS.

ARTHUR CUSTER.

THREE FOREIGNERS.

A small number of miners were slightly injured by the explosion, among them being two sons of Michael Gibson, who with his son, William, met death.

The explosion occurred just as the day shift was going off duty and the fact that the death list is not larger is accounted for by the fact that the men were near the mine mouth and had to make but a short dash for safety. The dead and injured were part of a party of 12 miners who had been working drilling holes preparatory to setting off shots. Laying about them were about 20 sticks of dynamite.

Six holes had been drilled, the charges sent home and the electric wires, stretching out the mine 500 feet, which are used to explode the sticks, had been attached. As is customary the men had been warned and it was thought had gone toward the mine entrance and were beyond the danger point.

With the day shift nearly out, the current was switched on. There was an explosion and then within the space of a few seconds there followed a second blast. It was this last that caused the fatalities.

As soon as it was safe to enter, rescue parties under Supt. W. R. Calvert, Mine Inspector Blower, Mine Foreman Edward Jones and Assistant Mine Foreman Harvey Burkheimer and Robert Hunter made their way to the aid of the entombed comrades. The last three men were overcome and had to be carried from the mine.

Early to-day the rescuers reached the fourth heading and recovered the seven dead.