

# MINERS DROP DOWN SHAFT.

**Five Instantly Killed In Long  
Fall at Dover.**

## CAR UPSETS TEN WORKMEN

**Four Escape Death by Clutching Tim-  
bers—One Still Alive, but Mortally  
Hurt, After Shooting Downward 700  
Feet—Haste to Get Above Ground  
Cause of Disaster.**

Dover, N. J., June 9.—Haste to leave the Richard mine at the end of their day's work resulted in the death of five men, the fatal injuring of a fourth and the almost miraculous escape of four others as the ten were suddenly dumped down the 700 foot shaft from an upturned ore car.

The accident was due to the eagerness of the ten men involved to leave the mine. They jammed themselves in and on top of an ore lifting car only large enough to hold four inside. In piling on the car they disobeyed the rules of the mine.

The ore lifter ascended the shaft slowly and with many hitches. Finally, 700 feet from the bottom of the mine, the car suddenly turned turtle and spilled its human burden down into the black well.

Those who were clinging to the ropes and practically standing on the heads of those inside the car jumped as the lift tilted over and grasped at the timbers that walled the sides of the shaft. Some of the four men who were saved fell sixty feet before they could secure a firm hold on the timbers. The five men who were killed had been pitched headlong down the shaft and had no opportunity to grasp at anything but air.

Five of the six that reached the bottom of the shaft were mangled past recognition. The sixth man fell upon the others, and though his legs were broken he was alive when found. He had snatched at the timber of the shaft, ripping out the flesh of his hands and arms, but somewhat breaking the impetus of his fall.

Coroner Edward F. Totten, after investigating the accident, exonerated the company from blame. The coroner declared the men were entirely at fault, as they had wilfully violated the company's rules.

One of the dead men, George Dorman, leaves a widowed mother.