

TO PROBE CAUSE OF EXPLOSION

STATE MINE INSPECTOR WILL
THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE THE
BRICEVILLE DISASTER.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 3.—State Mine Inspector George Sylvester, who is here for the first time since the recent disastrous explosion at the Briceville mines, stated Tuesday that just as soon as the fires in the cross entries were extinguished he would make a thorough investigation with a view to determining the cause of the accident.

He said: "The presumption is that the explosion was due to dust. There was no gas in the mine, and it is not believed that the explosion could have originated from this source. However, a dust explosion may be produced by a number of causes."

The number of dead taken from the mine, Mr. Sylvester stated, was eighty-four, with five miners rescued alive.

Mr. Sylvester has issued an order closing the mine for the present, and the company will not be allowed to resume operations until after a thorough examination has been made.

1911 Cross Mountain Mine Explosion
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