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ANOTHER MINE DISASTER

Another Gas Explosion Friday Almost Caused Death of Two More.

The jack mines of the Nevada Mining Company, i w e miles southeast of Pleasanton, was the scene of another explosion last Friday afternoon, almost identical with the one of three weeks ago in which two men lost their lives. This time the men were below the explosion and were thrown down into the mine instead of out of it, thereby missing certain death, but were badly hurt and lost for prompt work on the part of the rescue party one man would undoubtedly have perished.

The editor accompanied Dr. J. A. Naylor to the scene of the disaster in answer to a hurry-up call and found one of the miners, Mr. McClintock lying at the top of the shaft from which he had crawled. He reported his buddy, Ernest Stockton, dead and the doctor proceeded to render first aid to his burns and injuries, also doing what he could to alleviate the pain of the mine superintendent, C. B. Cassenberg, who suffered a fracture of the arm when the explosion threw some timbers against him. No attention was paid to the man in the mine, as it was apparent some sort of a tipple would have to be reported before any one could go down after him. However in passing the mine some one saw the wire upon which the the safety lamps were operated shake violently, proving that the man, Ernest Stockton, whom McClintock thought dead, had recovered consciousness and was signalling for help. Those present in mediately got busy with foods of water to keep him from suffocating, while others let down a rope with a noose fixed and told him to tie it about him. No sound came from the mine for several minutes, but finally he was able to talk and apprised the people on top where he was and the rope was pulled from the main shaft and lowered into the air shaft with the result that the man, who was injured and, unto death, put his foot through the noose, taking hold of the rope with one hand, while with the other hand and his lame foot he went himself from hanging into the timbers while the rescue party pulled him from the mine hand over hand. If a relaxed his facilities until he was safely out of the mine and then collapsed, and has been in an alarming condition since, but at present a little improved. He contracted such a cold while lying in the water and inhaling the gas that the physician is having a hard time to keep him from a spell of pneumonia, but thinks now he has it almost under subjection. His wife and children arrived Monday to assist in taking care of him.

This certainly is a tough piece of luck for the Nevada Mining Co., and we have not learned for sure whether they will rebuild or not, although Mr. Cassenberg says he is sure they will. The only explanation offered for the accident Friday is a short circuit in the electric wire that was used on the safety lamps.

It would indeed be a calamity if work on the mine had to be abandoned, as the miners say that if ever there was a jack mine they have it, and could they get this gas controlled they are sure their fortunesare made.

1916 Ernest Stockton rescued after explosion in Pleasanton mine

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