

The Adams Sentinel and General Advertiser
Monday, April 16, 1859

DREADFUL EXPLOSION — *Nine Persons Killed* — A terrible explosion occurred at the Bright Hope Coal Pits, Chesterfield county, Va., on Wednesday morning. The Petersburg Express says :

There were nine men in the shaft at the time, four whites and five negroes, all of whom must have been instantly killed.— It was impossible to render them any relief whatever, owing to the impenetrable condition of the mine from the fetid and intolerable dissemination of fatal gas which prevailed. Among the nine persons in the mine at the time were known to be two white men, named Isaac Farmer and Geo. Smith. A man and a mule employed in drawing the coal up the inclined plane of the shaft, were found at the mouth of the shaft, prostrate, and nearly dead. The accident produced great excitement at the mines.