

DOWN A MINE SHAFT

Ten Men Killed at Red Jacket
Yesterday Noon

IN THE CALUMET AND HECLA

The Cage Dashed Against the Wheel
Beam, Breaking the Cable, and
the Car Fell 3,000 Feet.

HOCAROS, Mich., May 14.—Ten timbermen were dashed to pieces in the Red Jacket perpendicular shaft of the Calumet and Hecla at noon today. The miners were coming up in the cage to dinner, and the engineer hoisted the cage against the timbers of the shaft when the coupling pin broke and the men and cage dashed downward over 3,000 feet to the bottom.

Names of the killed:
ALEX. CAMERON, son of Captain Cameron, in charge.

JAMES COCKING, single, supporting widowed mother.

JOSEPH POPE, leaves widow and one child.

JOHN OGLERS, leaves widow and several children.

JOHN HICKS, single, aged 24.

ANDREW ELLIS, aged 40, married.

ROBERT WOODS, leaves widow and three children.

MICHAEL LEAVITTO, widower.

JAMES TERRY, leaves widow and three children.

COS S. SULLIVAN, single, aged 40.

The cause of the accident was a faulty indicator which did not show the brake man in charge of the hoisting apparatus when the cage had reached the top of the shaft. Consequently he could not stop the machinery in time, and when the iron car struck the beams at the top of the shaft the steel wire by which it was suspended snapped, letting the cage with its ten occupants down in a fearful death at the bottom of the shaft, 3,000 feet down.

The wife of one of the men was at the mouth of the shaft with her husband's dinner and saw the car containing him reach the top and then drop when the rope broke.

But Two Men Escaped.

Today's accident is the worst which has ever happened in the Calumet and Hecla mine and the excitement in the city is intense. Thousands of people have visited the shaft where the horror occurred. Many pitiful scenes have been witnessed there too. Most of the ill-fated men had families, and when the first rumor of the awful accident spread, wives and children hastened to the scene, hoping that the report had been false, but finding instead that it was only too true, and that many of them were widows or orphans. None of the bodies have been recovered as yet, as to get to the pit where they are requires a trip down another shaft, and then a walk of considerable distance through one of the levels. It is expected, however, that all of the bodies will be recovered early in the morning. The coroner is making an investigation and will hold an inquest tomorrow.

There are two men employed in the mine who are congratulating themselves on escaping the terrible death which their comrades met. Twelve men went down into the mine this morning, but one of them was taken sick and was sent to the surface, accompanied by another one of the men.

Another Account.

CALUMET, Mich., May 14.—Ten men were instantly killed in the Red Jacket shaft of the Calumet and Hecla mine at noon today. They were a party of timbermen coming up in the cage for dinner and consisted of John Oglers, foreman, married; John Hicks, single; Allen Cameron, single; Andrew Ellis, single; James Cocking, single; Joseph Pope, married; Cos S. Sullivan, single; Robert Woods, married; Mike McKola, single; James Tronier, single.

The shaft is vertical and 3,000 feet deep. The men were aboard a skip used in hoisting rock, and when the load of human freight reached the surface the engineer did not stop in time, but went to the top of the derrick, when it broke loose and went back with a crash to the bottom of the shaft. Being thus isolated with no way of reaching the bottom nor getting the dead men out except by going through another shaft half a mile away, it was nearly three hours before the true state of affairs could be ascertained, and it will be towards morning before the bodies can be brought to the surface. It is necessary to hoist them 500 feet by ropes to reach the level of the next shaft; then carry them nearly half a mile through the drifts, and then hoisted by the man car. The wife of Pope was standing in the shaft house with her husband's dinner when the horrible accident occurred. Twelve went down this morning, but one of them was attacked by sickness and was sent up, accompanied by one of his comrades. A coroner's jury is making a thorough investigation.