

THE MAMMOTH HORROR.

FUNERAL OF VICTIMS AT SCOTTS-DALE AND ELSEWHERE.

Another Body Found by the Searchers This Morning—Arrangements for the Inquest.

YOUNGWOOD, Jan. 29.—(Special)—Digging graves for the Mammoth mine victims was the principal feature of this morning's work. The sodden wet earth was thrown out to be thumped down upon the coffins. And the dreary horror of the scene was heightened by any ray of hope or cheer.

Of the 100 victims of the mine, 80 were removed yesterday for burial elsewhere. A long, solemn funeral train containing 65 of the cruelly mangled and roasted remains of humanity were taken away in charge of Rev. Father Lanning for burial in the Catholic cemetery at Scottsdale. An immense concourse of people from all sections of the coke regions had gathered at the cemetery. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon the train passed the borough limits of Scottsdale and the work of taking out the coffins was begun. About 45 wagons stood in readiness to carry the caskets to the cemetery. Three coffins were placed on each wagon. It required all the strength of two horses to get a team through the roads, which, already covered for several inches with mud, were made muddier still by a fine, drizzling rain which started to fall about 4 o'clock. The passage from the train to the cemetery was a battle between mud and mud. The teams were required to haul the coffins up a steep, precipitous first. From there they had a mile of hard country road to travel, besides the 225 mourners, over 2,500 spectators had gathered, awaiting the arrival of the train. The crowd resembled all dance and conditions. Fully 2,000 persons followed the first wagon in a straggling manner. The road was impassable, however.

Two trenches, each 150 feet long, 6 feet deep and 7 feet wide, had been dug parallel to each other. When the first coffin reached the bottom ground the men were still at work with pick and shovel. The two trenches were luted as the graves for the dead miners. The two mighty excavations were soon surrounded by the multitude, a few feet from the grave site were placed on the soggy ground and the coffins were passed upon them in two rows. At the head of the graves the Rev. Father A. M. Lanning took his position. The walls of earth thrown up by the grave diggers were in a few minutes taken possession of by the spectators. This commenced a heartrending scene. The coffins were placed close to each other. Their head-boards, containing the name of the boy, were stuck into the ground. The entry winter night closed in with 100 men at work burying their fellow-employees. During the work Rev. Jarary, a Hungarian minister from Cleveland, circulated among the grief-stricken mourners, and extended words of comfort.

At 7 o'clock the last coffin of the 65 was lowered. One of the coffins may be removed, as the remains are said to be those of a Protestant. This was discovered at a late hour. Father Lanning read a short prayer at the graves. The latter were partially filled up, and a gang of men at work regraded the trenches. Fourteen more bodies were interred today, and Father Lanning pronounced the benediction.

One pine coffin box that was sent out on the accommodation train bore the name "Miss Eudell, No. 29," and was addressed to Latrobe.

Twenty bodies remained at Mammoth after those had been taken to Scottsdale, and will be buried to-day in the various cemeteries around about Mammoth. Some of them would have been taken away sooner but for the scarcity of coffins. Three car loads of coffins had been used. The fourth one only arrived at the Mammoth shaft about 5 o'clock last evening. The boxes were then hastily unloaded and the dead placed in them. But it was so near midnight that it was not safe to start out over the roads last night to remove the bodies to their former homes for the funeral service.

I rode up from Youngwood on the freight train that carried the coffins. The scene about the fatal spot was a horribly dreary one. All the great crowd of sightseers and mourners that congregated about the shaft and through the yards all crowded about the dead house had faded away. A few undertakers were still about the morgue, waiting to perform the duties of their calling with the expiring coffins. Down in the mine the superintendent and a gang of workmen were again at the search, braving up the mine in various places where it was needed, and looking again to make sure that no poor dead and unknown miners had been left in unconsecrated burial. The crowd had left Mammoth No. 1 mine alone with its horror.

And what a horror it is! One hundred and six stout and brave-hearted lives snuffed out in an instant. Some 60 or more widows left in the little group of miners' cottages over the hill. Most of them are left with little children, and it would be idle to suppose that many are left even moderately provided for. The dull, leaden sky and the sodden earth heave hills about in between them one of the most ghastly pictures of utter desolation and despair that one can imagine in this world. Even the coke ovens, that are again trying to blast out their fiery fumes, cannot revive the scene of this shilly, shilling effect.

Coroner Vandevert, of this county (Westmoreland), came yesterday afternoon from Greensburg and after viewing the bodies entered in a jury and fixed the time for an inquest for. Three-day of next week, ordering them to meet in the autopsy room in Greensburg court house. But what an investigation it will be! The witnesses are all dead. No one can tell how the explosion occurred. No one can tell who, if any one, was immediately at fault. It was the fire from Wm. Smith, he has died at the scene of his neglect. His body was one of the first found, terribly mangled. I talked with a number of miners who had formerly worked in the mine and one who was in it at the time of the accident. The explosion occurred in fat No. 3 and as they say, the appearance of the place makes it seem as if the fire had been made in the morning. It is difficult to see how the gas could have been created between that time and 9 A. M., when the explosion occurred. It may, however, have suddenly collected in one spot from other parts of the mine. There is very little credit given to the story that an abandoned chamber full of the death-dealing gas was opened. While the mine is not one that had a reputation as a dangerous one on account of gas, it is known as one that is not well ventilated. The fact is we are in one of the ordinary lanes and would be sufficient

for most mines, but owing to the great size of the Mammoth some of the miners at least claim that the ventilation was imperfect and the damp was not driven out as it might have been. The assertion was indeed made by one of the miners that he had considered the mine dangerous for a year past, but if so the risk never seemed to have frightened the general mining public.

The place in the mine where the chief interest now lies is in the hanging way, between the first or upper shaft and the second, immediately below. Here there are some very heavy beds of coal and slate, and the probability yet remains that there may still be some unfortunate miners buried under these piles of debris. If there are, it may be several days before they are found. It is considered very doubtful, however, as nearly all the dead were found far below this point, some of them not at all stirred by the explosion, showing their death came from being overtaken by the deadly black damp that followed hard after the shock.

On the last train that reached Mammoth last evening there were a considerable number of passengers going up to attend the funerals of their friends among the victims to-day. Noticeable among them were several young women with children. They sat almost mute and tearfully and small sobs at the end of their journey. But in passing the great fat sill and coal furnace of the dead mine, just below the Mammoth, the sorrow of one young woman was stirred to tears, and in a few minutes nearly every woman in the car was sobbing for the dead.

McFARLAND.

One More Body Found.

YOUNGWOOD, Jan. 29.—(Special)—The searching party in the Mammoth mine discovered another body this morning, making the aggregate of 107 victims.

RELIEF MEASURES.

Widespread sympathy for the sufferers by the accident.

As soon as the extent of the disaster at the Mammoth mine became known, offers of substantial relief for the widows and orphans and others depending on the victims came from all sections of the coke regions. The Frick company gave their agent instructions to do everything in his power to relieve suffering.

The various coke workers' assemblies are raising money rapidly. District Deputy Grand Chancellor George H. Howell, of the Westmoreland county Knights of Pythias, has issued a appeal for aid for the Knights of Pythias sufferers. John M. Stoddard, cashier of the Scottsdale bank, has been named treasurer for the relief fund. The call went out by District Master Workman Wise for aid for the victims' families was premature. Capt. Lynch said that there was no money in the fund as yet.

A number of subscriptions have been started at several of the newspaper offices in the city, and have already received considerable amounts.

Mr. J. L. Layton, who is peculiarly supposed to oversee and not overlook anything connected with the immigrant question, past, present or to come, received a check today from the Pittsburgh Press Publishing company for \$100 toward the relief of the widows and children who will suffer through the late destruction of life at Mammoth mine.

Mr. Layton's name is best known for these humanitarian and like him, is arranging for a concert by the District Grand Master in old city hall shortly for the same meritorious purpose. Benjamin Dougherty, the well-known attendant at the Oil and Stock exchange, and Thos. Glawford, are the leaders in this organization.

REPRESENTATIVE RYND'S BILL, Its Objects to the Criticism Made Against It.

Representative Rynd writes to the Press that the bill which he offered in the house at Harrisburg in regard to transition of title from one class to another, was offered in good faith, and not at the instance of any clique or corporation. The bill provides as follows:

That when any town or city of this commonwealth shall change its class by reason of any law now in existence, the following provisions shall apply for said change: First—The town laws of such town or city shall remain in full force and effect until the expiration of the term for which the town or city was organized, or until the expiration of the term for which the corporation was organized, or until the expiration of the term for which the corporation was organized, or until the expiration of the term for which the corporation was organized.

Mr. Rynd says it is his intention to hold the bill until an expression from Allegheny counties can be had. He thinks the expiration of the case may have been met by the supreme court proceedings.

A PITIFUL STORY.

A Widow Loses Her Money and Her Husband.

Press News Association.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 29.—(Revised) Interest is now being taken in the People's bank, at Fayetteville, which closed its doors a few weeks ago. Ex-President Moore has been arrested. It is said that he borrowed \$100,000 of the bank's capital stock of \$100,000.

Those who came here yesterday on the train tell of an incident in connection with the failure. Among the passengers was a widow of the name of Mrs. Roberts. Her husband died a few months ago and left her an insurance of \$30,000. She secured the money and was prepared to put it in the People's bank on the day it failed. The loss of the money caused her to become insane.

VALUABLE PICTURES LOST.

A Building in Which an Exhibition Was Given Collapsed.

Press News Association.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 29.—The steel building occupied by the Western Art association as a temporary exhibition hall was wrecked yesterday by the collapse of the walls. It was a three-story structure, and the many costly pictures of the association, including some of the most noted works of art in the world were buried in the debris.

The damage cannot be estimated, but will amount to many thousands of dollars on the pictures alone. The "Return of Spring," Bouguereau's celebrated piece, which was mutilated recently by a crack, was ruined.

The Boomers' Wild Rush.

Press News Association.

CALDWELL, N. J., Jan. 29.—There were 100 boomers located along the border of the Cherokee strip ready to move at a moment's notice yesterday. Today is the day set for the invasion of the strip. There are 1,000 boomers here to keep the boomers out.