

HOUTZDALE HAPPENINGS.
The Bodies of the Drowned Miners Recovered—Coroner's Inquest in Session.
Special to The Times.
HOUTZDALE, PA., September 24, 1885.
The management of the mines and the miners did all they possibly could to recover the bodies of their fellow workmen, in which they were efficiently assisted by the miners from the various other collieries, and their superintendents.
Mr. Watt is a gentleman of fine talent and fully understands every detail of the mining business, and will do his whole duty in this sad affair faithfully and well. The people are very much excited, the wildest rumors and stories of the drowning being prevalent on the streets, and it is now said that one or two other mines in this region have been flooded in a similar manner, but fortunately without loss of life.
The action of Mr. James Campbell, the General Superintendent of Robert Hare Fossil & Co.'s Stirling collieries, deserves more than a passing notice. As soon as Mr. Campbell learned of the flood he closed down his works and requested his men to go to the assistance of the Franklin miners, taking the lead himself, and on Wednesday sent his entire corps of drivers, with their mules, to assist in hauling out the water. The families of the unfortunate men will never forget Mr. Campbell's kindness.
At present writing the Coroner's inquest is in session, in charge of Coroner James A. Moore, who came here to hold an investigation. The jurors are Messrs. William Barco, James Ward, William A. Chase, William McVeigh, William Pickard and C. K. McDonald. Messrs. Barco, Ward, McVeigh and Picard are practical miners. Mr. John M. Watt, the mine inspector for this district, is in attendance at the inquest, and is doing all in his power to secure a fair and impartial investigation of the terrible affair, being determined that if any one is guilty of negligence he shall pay the penalty of the law.
The dead bodies of the four miners, James Forsyth, Christian Foulk, John Meehan and Joseph Zampa, the victims of the recent flooding of Franklin colliery, were recovered this morning about 9 o'clock. Nearly one thousand persons were at the mines when the remains were brought out by the searching miners, and the awful spectacle of four dead bodies each borne by sad and sorrowful workmen and followed by lamenting friends, caused tears to flow down the cheeks of many a sturdy man. The remains were taken to the homes of the respective families to be prepared for burial. The funerals will take place to-morrow, those of John Meehan and Joseph Zampa to proceed to the Catholic church at 10 o'clock a. m., where services will be held previous to interment in the Catholic cemetery, while the remains of Christ. Foulk and James Forsyth will be interred in the Odd Fellows' cemetery at Erie at 4 p. m. All the mines are idle to-day and will not resume operations until after the funeral.



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