

Augusta Journal
Monday, November 3, 1879

PENNSYLVANIA
Explosion

SCRANTON, November 1. A tremendous explosion of fire damp occurred in the Delaware and Hudson mines at Mill Creek, Pa. at 9:30 A.M. Five men were killed. The dead bodies of Geo. Forsie, Dan Rupp and J. Kinney have been taken out of the mine. Two men are yet in the mine and a large force are at work endeavoring to get them out.

Fort Wayne Sentinel
Monday, November 3,

A tremendous explosion of fire damp occurred in the Delaware and Hudson mine at Mill Creek, Pa. Sunday morning. George Fassil, Daniel Rupp, G. Kinney, Zach Thomas and D. Jenkins have been taken out dead. Their bodies were fearfully mangled. The remains were hoisted to the surface amidst weeping and lamentations of friends and relatives of the unfortunate men. It is thought flames from the mine came in contact with the gas.

Galveston Daily
Galveston, Texas
November 4, 1879

Five Men Killed and Fearfully Mangled.

SCRANTON, November 2 - A tremendous explosion of air damp occurred in the Delaware and Hudson mine, Mill Creek, at 9:30 o'clock this morning. At 12 o'clock George Fosse, Daniel Dupen and J. Kenney were taken out dead; two men yet remain in the mine. A large force is working to get them out. There were five men in the mine at the time the explosion occurred - Thomas, Jenkins, Forcey, Kinney, and Rupp - who had been sent down a short time before to prop up a crumbling pillar. All were dead when found; the bodies of the three last-named were fearfully mangled and partly covered by a mass of splintered timbers and broken coal. As the men were all killed, it cannot be ascertained how the catastrophe occurred. Three of the victims leave large families.

Evening Gazette
Port Jervis, N. Y.
Tuesday, November 4, 1879

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.

FIVE MEN INSTANTLY KILLED IN A COAL
MINE NEAR SCRANTON.

SCRANTON, November 2.—At six o'clock this morning the mine boss in charge of Mill Creek colliery of the Delaware and Hudson Canal company, 15 miles from this city, entered the mine and found one of the pillars of coal, which are always left to support the roof in mines, giving way.

He sent for a force of men to prop up the crumbling pillar, and at 10 o'clock George Forcey, Daniel Rupp, William Kinney, Zach Thomas and D. Jennings entered the mine.

About 11 o'clock an explosion was heard by people in the vicinity of the mine. News that an accident had occurred spread like wildfire. A large, excited crowd speedily gathered at the colliery.

When it was deemed safe the mine boss, with two companions descended into the mine. Proceeding to number eight lift they came across the charred bodies of Thomas and Jenkins. Further on in number nine lift they found the remains of Forcey, Kinney and Rupp.

The bodies of the latter three were fearfully mangled and partly covered by a mass of splinters, timbers and broken coal. Forcey's leg was blown off and Kinney's head smashed. The men were all dead when found. The clothing was burned almost entirely off the bodies of Jenkins and Thomas.

The bodies were hoisted to the surface amidst weeping and lamentations of friends and relatives of the unfortunate miners.

As the firemen who first entered the mine were all killed, it cannot be definitely ascertained how the catastrophe occurred. It is thought, however, that the flame from one of the miner's lamps came in contact with some gas and caused an explosion.

No charge of carelessness can attach to the employees of the colliery, as everything was in good condition when the mine boss visited the mine this morning. Three of the men leave large families.
