

TEN MEN BURIED ALIVE.

A DISASTROUS CAVE-IN AT A PENNSYLVANIA COAL MINE.

SHENANDOAH, Penn., April 6.—The mining patch of Raven Run, four miles from here, was the scene of a terrible accident at 1 o'clock this afternoon. An extensive cave-in occurred 400 feet from the bottom of the slope of the Cuyler Colliery, operated by S. M. Heaton & Co. The fall created a wind the force of which can be best estimated by the fact that 14 mine cars were blown a distance of 300 feet up a pitch. The colliery was not working to-day, but 10 persons were engaged in timbering, all of whom have beyond a doubt perished. There are four levels in this mine, and the cave-in occurred all the way from the first to the last, sweeping everything in front of it. Timbers have been knocked out, airways closed, and gangways blocked. Thousands of tons of coal and rock have given way, and the place is still working. The names of the men who have lost their lives are as follows: Frank McLaughlin, William Anderson, John Anderson, Henry Mervine, Benjamin Maurer, Nicholas Purcell, Barney Smith, Michael Herrity, Daniel Kenney, and John Cavanaugh. With one or two exceptions they are all married men with families. The news of the disaster spread like wildfire and thousands of people congregated around the mouth of the slope, where they remained all the afternoon and evening. A number of rescuing parties went down through the day, but all were compelled to return unsuccessful in their mission. They could not approach close to the point where the fall occurred owing to the treacherous condition of the top. Superintendent Heaton and Mine Inspector Mauchline went down to the mine at 5 o'clock and returned an hour later. They reported the situation perilous. The inspector ventured down to see that the place was safe enough for a rescuing party to work. Another party of miners went down by an old airway, but were compelled to return, their course being impeded by debris. At 9 o'clock this evening the miners were standing around mute as statues, there being nothing for them to do. The inspector will not allow them to venture in.

The part of the mine where the cave-in occurred had been honeycombed to such an extent that it is thought there was no support for the roof which gave way. Three mules have also been killed by the concussion, one of them being blown a distance of 100 feet. The damage done to the colliery is very great. It will not be short of \$30,000, and it is doubtful whether it will not have to be entirely abandoned. The lease of the Heaton party expires in June and the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company are to take the colliery. The colliery has been in operation 18 years, and has always been considered a paying institution. The way the situation appears it is not likely the imprisoned miners can be reached before a week or ten days, if then. More of the top is expected to give way, as the place is continually giving way by degrees. It is the most disastrous accident of the kind that has ever occurred in the Schuylkill coal region.

The New York Times

Published: April 7, 1885

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