

300 LIVES LOST By Fearful Explosion in a Pennsylvania Mine.

Bosses Made Heroic Attempts to Rescue the Ill-Fated Workmen.

Fighting Deadly Gases at Every Step—Mill Creek Transformed Into a Veritable Charnel House—Thrilling Experiences of Some Who Were Saved—Crawled Over the Dead Bodies of Their Comrades.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 10.—Johnstown has again been visited by an appalling disaster. It is only less frightful than the awful calamity of May 31, 1889, in cost of life, but in its terrible consequences it has brought the shadow of sorrow in hundreds of homes made desolate by a mine explosion which took place in the Cambria Steel Co. rolling mill mine under Westmont Hill at 12:30 o'clock this afternoon.

How many are dead it may take several days to fully determine, but that it is a long and shocking list is certain. It may reach 300 or more men. It was nearly an hour after the explosion before any general knowledge of what had happened got abroad. Men who came from the mines, escaping with their lives, told the terrible news, and soon it spread like wildfire all over the city. In scores of homes there were the most pathetic scenes.

At the opening across the river from the point the Cambria Iron Co. police, with several assistants, stood guarding, permitting no one to enter the mine, from which noxious gases were coming. It was nearly four o'clock when all hope of sending rescue parties from the Westmont opening was abandoned. Two men who had escaped from the mine, Richard Bennett and John Meyers, went back some miles to see what assistance could be rendered, but the frightful fumes drove them back, and they fell prostrate when they finally, after a desperate struggle, reached the outside. Their story made it clear that the rescue work could not proceed from the Westmont opening, and preparations were made to begin that sad mission at the Mill Creek entrance. Mining Engineer Marshall G. Moore and one of his assistants made an attempt to enter the mine, but the deadly gases stopped their progress, and they were compelled to return to the surface.

Mine Foreman Harry Rodgers, his assistant, Wm. Blanch, and Fire Bosses John Whitney, John Retallick and John Thomas were overcome by the gases, and it is feared they perished in an heroic effort to rescue the miners. A son of Harry Rodgers tried to reach his father, but he was quickly overcome by the deadly gas and was carried out unconscious.

William Stibich spent several hours at the Mill Creek opening. He said that he believed as many as 450 men were still in the mine. In his opinion, from all he could glean, not to exceed 150 men had come out.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 10.—The mining officials of the Cambria Co. stated the explosion was one of fire-damp. The survivors who have escaped from the mine are such as to heighten the condition to be frightful. Outside of the "Kiondike" the mines are safe and uninjured. Within the fatal limits of the mine the havoc wrought by the explosion are such as to heighten description. Solid walls of masonry three feet through were torn down as though barriers of paper. The roofs of the mine were demolished and not

been brought to the armory tomorrow. The removal of the bodies will begin at an early hour in the morning. The ambulances of all the undertakers in the city are at Mill Creek in readiness to begin the transfer of bodies.

At midnight President Powell Stuckey gave out the following statement: "The disaster is an awful one and came on us entirely unexpected. The mine had been inspected only three days ago and was pronounced in a satisfactory condition. In the thirty years the mine has been operated, no serious accident has occurred. The cause is yet indefinite, but I believe it was caused by gas escaping from the fifth heading, which was closed into the sixth heading.

"The number of casualties is now placed at 125. No list of the names of the dead miners can be given, for the majority of them were foreigners and were known only by check, not by name."

The mine is one of the largest coal mines in the United States, according to the statement of officials tonight. From the entrance of the mill creek the river from the point to the one at Mill Creek is a distance of three and three-quarters miles.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 10.—At 10 o'clock tonight after-damp prevented rescue parties from making rapid headway. Probabilities are that this will not be reached before morning.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., April 11.—At 3 o'clock this morning Mayor Hendry stated that the first of the bodies of the dead miners would be brought from the mine at 3 o'clock. Mayor Hendry stated that General Manager Pierce told him the number of bodies in sight at 1 o'clock was 69.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT. JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 10.—An explosion occurred at the Cambria Steel Co. at noon today, by which scores of miners lost their lives. The number of bodies is not yet known, but it is believed to be in the vicinity of 300.

The stories of the men who escaped are miraculous in their nature. Tom Foster, an assistant foreman in the "Kiondike" mine, was among the first to emerge from the Mill Creek shaft. Shortly after Powell Griffith, a fire boss, came up. Foster was in his office when the explosion occurred. His first thought was for the safety of the men under his charge. With the help of Foreman Roberts an effort was made to replace a few of the shattered doors. All the while the fire damp was clearing around them. They did not falter for an instant, but went straight into the midst of danger. Through galleries into headlong warnings and help, the two men went. Roberts fell, but Foster staggered on, whether the hardy knew. In the midst of the danger he met Powell Griffith, a fire boss. He had faced what neither could stand in an effort to save his men.

They went forward, dragging a comrade into a possible place of safety here giving a word of warning there, until human endurance could stand no strain no longer. Exhausted they staggered into a heading where the fire damp had not entered. They rested there for a moment and then plunged forward until finally they wandered into a water level and through it reached a place of safety.

John Whitney, who was beyond the dip where the explosion took place, said: "I was at the heading one-half mile from the explosion. Several dozen were overcome by the damper or gas and had all I could do to escape. After the explosion we went back to rescue the less fortunate and nearly lost our own lives. We got one man and saved his life. I did not see my father, who was struggling to get out. I don't think many outside of the drivers escaped."

Wm. Malcolm was in the upper part of the mine when the explosion came. "The first I knew of the trouble was when men came running from what is known as the dip or lower section. They were without hats, coats, and some without clothes, and in a terrible state of excitement. As near as I can remember not more than ten came that way and they escaped, leaving more than 300 in the dip."

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 10.—The armory of company H, 6th regiment, N. G. P., will be turned into a charnel house. After a conference tonight it was announced that the dead miners would

OTTAWA. Death of a Canadian Officer in England From Hydrophobia.

OTTAWA, July 10.—John Fraser, of the finance department has been appointed assistant bookkeeper in succession to Dickinson, superannuated. Fraser will still be inspector of Dominion Savings Banks.

OTTAWA, July 10.—The annual sale of unmarked and mixed logs, raffled by the Fredericton Boom Company, took place this morning and was largely attended. There was sharp competition and the logs sold at high prices, some bringing the record price. The price paid for the spruce is believed to be the highest in the same range. The sale this year was one month earlier than last year and was held early for the purpose of giving the purchaser the logs to use and also get them off the shores and other places where the boom company has them tied up. The sales were: Hemlock, 24,000, purchased by John E. Moore at \$4.35.

SALE OF LOGS. Unmarked and Mixed Mark Logs Sold at High Prices at Fredericton.

FREDERICTON, July 10.—The annual sale of unmarked and mixed logs, raffled by the Fredericton Boom Company, took place this morning and was largely attended. There was sharp competition and the logs sold at high prices, some bringing the record price. The price paid for the spruce is believed to be the highest in the same range. The sale this year was one month earlier than last year and was held early for the purpose of giving the purchaser the logs to use and also get them off the shores and other places where the boom company has them tied up. The sales were: Hemlock, 24,000, purchased by John E. Moore at \$4.35.

OTTAWA, July 10.—The status of Queen Victoria on Parliament Hill is now complete. When Mr. Brunet of Montreal commenced to put the statue on the pedestal, he found that the sculpture which Sculptor Robert had placed in her right hand had been stolen; also the buckle of Miss Canada's belt. It is supposed these articles were spirited away after the statue had been shipped from Paris by some individual who wanted souvenirs. The missing parts were small, but they were regarded as important by their absence, and were immediately reported to the Ottawa police.

The Ottawa banks have decided to follow the lead of other cities and close their doors on Saturday in future all the year round. It is announced that the Canada Atlantic Railway Co. will commence the erection of its new central station this summer.

It is generally believed in official circles that Thanksgiving this year will be fixed for November 20th, although in deference to the wishes of the business community it may be put off until November 27th.

Particulars were received today from the colonial secretary of the regrettable death of Capt. A. E. Rastrick of the 27th Highland Rifles.

Particulars were received today from the colonial secretary of the regrettable death of Capt. A. E. Rastrick of the 27th Highland Rifles. His mother resides at Hamilton, Ontario. The young officer went to West Africa in 1897 and was killed in the Victoria's dispatch was highly esteemed by his brother officers for gallant and effective work. In a little over a year he was in action no fewer than seven times. He was a man of high character and arrived in England on six months' leave, and shortly after landing took sick in London. It was thought at first he was suffering from West Coast fever, but three doctors diagnosed the case as hydrophobia, a pronounced type, and on June 11th the poor fellow passed away in great agony. He was interred in the Richmond cemetery on June 12th with military honors. A dispatch says that previous to his death the gallant young Canadian mentioned to a brother officer that he had been bitten by a mad dog in West Africa about three months ago. Chamberlain asks that the sincere condolence of His Majesty's government be conveyed to the relatives of the deceased.

The cabinet will meet early next week, at which the recent position of Dominion architect will be filled. Three names are mentioned for the office, namely, Geo. E. Casey, ex-M. P. Dr. Hannay of New Brunswick and H. G. Gardner, editor of the Hamilton Times.

MUTINY AND MURDER. A sensational tale told by an American Ship Captain.

PENSACOLA, July 8.—A sensational story of mutiny and murder on the high seas is told by Captain McDonald of the American schooner Mary Sanford, which has arrived here after an eventful voyage from Bluefield, N. B. During the voyage one man was killed and the crew was at almost constant mutiny, clamorous for the blood of the man who murdered their shipmate. The murderer, First Mate Nicholson, was placed in jail soon after the arrival of the schooner in this port. The Mary Sanford left Bluefield

QUEBEC. Damage in Various Parts of Canada and U. S. by Lightning, Hail and Rain.

QUEBEC, July 8.—A heavy hail and rain storm did great damage at Point Aux Trembles yesterday. The grain was broken down by heavy hail and gardens were destroyed. Windows were broken by hail and a number of barns blown over by the wind.

DOUCE'S LANDING, Que., July 8.—A wind storm, accompanied by the proportions of a tornado, accompanied by rain and hail, passed over here on Tuesday evening. Ten buildings, including barns, hay sheds and other out-buildings, were demolished. Fences and trees were blown down and many panes of window glass smashed. Loss over \$100. A horse belonging to Jos. Bellefleur, standing in his barn, was killed. As far as known no person was injured.

STONTON, Pa., July 9.—A cloud burst in the region of Stonton, Pa., on Tuesday afternoon last night did a vast amount of damage. Only meagre details are obtainable at this time, owing to darkness and destruction of telegraph and telephone lines. One Abel, a farmer, who, with his wife, was returning from the harvest, was struck by lightning and killed.

STONTON, Pa., July 9.—Chief Lewis Johnston, one of the most influential members of the Six Nation Indians, was instantly killed by lightning this afternoon while driving in a buggy near the council house.

Whenever a man leaves his pipe home in the morning, determined to stop smoking, he soon finds at least 20 other cigarettes are in the box at home at night—New York Sun.

NORTHWEST NEWS.

NORTHWEST, July 4.—This evening there was a very heavy thunder storm with hail. The crops are progressing. Strawberries have arrived, but are not very plentiful.

Mrs. Margaret Harris died last week and was interred in the Presbyterian cemetery at Red Bank. A large number of carriages followed the remains to their last resting place.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hubbard mourn the loss of their infant daughter, Mrs. John Goodfellow is very ill. Miss Mamie Adams, who has been attending high school in Moncton, is spending her vacation with her parents.

Mrs. Charles Betts and her little daughter, Minnie, of Doaktown, are visiting friends in Strathadam and Whitneyville. Miss Pickles, who had been spending a week with Miss Whitney, returned to her home in Newmarket on the 25th. Arnold Parks of Red Bank has gone to Sydney. Mrs. Brynston of Derby is visiting her son and daughter, Wm. Brynston and Mrs. John Parks. Mrs. Wm. Mullin is visiting her mother, Mrs. Sarah Atkinson.

Mrs. Beaman, evangelist, who has been preaching at Eppleton, returned last week with his wife, Mr. Hume, who has been with him, has gone home. Mrs. Donville is visiting her niece, Mrs. Wm. Scott. Mrs. Robert Tozer was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Parker last week.

A basket social and concert was held in the Temperance hall, Whitneyville, last Wednesday, under the auspices of the Sons of Temperance. Over \$30 was realized. Mrs. Wm. Bell spent a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Parks, at Red Bank. Wm. Curtis of Doaktown spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Curtis of Whitneyville. Miss Anne Brandt, who has been teaching in Dundee, is spending her vacation at her home in Strathadam. Miss Lina, daughter of Newmarket, was the guest of Mrs. Wm. Whitney on Sunday last. Richard Scott, who has been working in Newcastle, has returned home.

Mrs. J. D. and Mrs. Murray drove to Eppleton on Monday to visit relatives. They intend to spend two or three weeks there. Mrs. R. F. Whitney spent Tuesday with Mrs. M. L. Rogers. A picnic and dance was held in Red Bank today under the auspices of the R. C. church. The proceeds go towards building a new chapel. A great number went up in the steamer Bunker and many in carriages, but the storm, sooner than was expected.

Mrs. Edward Moomies spent Monday and Tuesday with her sister, Mrs. Albert Tozer of Red Bank. Mrs. Wilson and her sister, Miss Lucy McAuley of Newcastle, are visiting their aunt, Mrs. James Whitney.

CENTREVILLE, CARLETON CO. CENTREVILLE, July 9.—Rev. Mr. Spargo, Methodist, took formal leave of this circuit last Sunday by preaching his farewell sermon. He is to be succeeded on this circuit by Rev. Mr. Turner. Mrs. Hovey, widow of the late D. Hovey, while walking on sidewalk, fell and broke one of her hips. Her recovery is in the balance. Frederic, son of the late Mark Trevis, died on the 6th inst. and was buried in the Free Baptist cemetery. Rev. Mr. Gregg officiating at the home and grave. He leaves a widow, one son and two daughters. A thunder storm with heavy rain broke on this village on the 3rd inst. Lightning struck Ed. Hoyt's house and left it in bad shape. Fortunately it did not take fire. The house was insured in the Phoenix. On Tuesday last a team of horses left their driver and in their mad career ran into a wagon owned by Rev. Mr. Spargo and smashed it into many pieces. At the Bristol race on the 3rd inst. many people attended, and a grand money changed hands on the result. Judson Briggs and B. F. Smith's horses and one from Jacksonville were the favorites. The racing season is now over, and is succeeded by dry warm weather, since which the crops have taken a fresh start, and where grain was not injured by wet it is doing fine. The home may be said of potatoes, beans and corn. Much of the former has rotted in the hill, and corn is of the yellow kind, no matter what the color was when planted. Grass does not promise an average yield. Mr. A. Tremble has sowed 300 bushels of oats, 25 bushels of buckwheat, and will cut 100 acres of grass. In addition to this work he runs one of the best farms in this county, good farm and attention and up to date in all its requirements. T. E. Clarke, postmaster, whose building was destroyed by fire last year, is getting up for the ground preparatory to building another office on the spot where the former building stood.

O. J. McCULLY, M. D. 103 CHESTNUT STREET, ONTARIO HOUSE, ST. JOHN'S, N. B.

PARIS GREEN.

Pure Paris Green for Potato bugs. Anticipate your wants and do not run short. Orders filled promptly.

ELECTRIC SPRAYERS

Throw a fine spray. Distribute the poison evenly. Prevent waste. Don't get out of order. Also Cyclone and Handy.

W. H. Thorne & Co., Ltd. 42, 44, 46, Prince Wm. Street, Market Square, St. John's, N. B.

Advertisement for Castoria, a medicine for children and adults, listing various ailments it treats and its benefits.