

EXPLOSIONS AND FIRES IN NOVA SCOTIA COAL MINES.

Chronological List of the more important Coal-Mine Explosions, and Underground Mine Fires that have occurred in Nova Scotia.

(Summarized from a Paper written in 1894, by Dr. Edwin Gilpin, and read before the Institution of Mining Engineers, with the addition of particulars of explosions and fires of subsequent date. This list is not given as being absolutely complete, but as a summary of the more important occurrences).

Date.	Locality	Lives Lost	Remarks
1832	Albion Mines, Pictou Co.....		Mine fire. Workings flooded.
1834	" " "		Mine fire. Feeder of gas ignited by shot.
1836	" " "	Several	Explosion.
1838	" " "	3	Explosion. In No. 2 Pit Sinking Shaft.
1839	" " "		Gas feeder ignited by shot set f to coal, a violent explosion following. Mine abandoned.
1858	" " "	2	Gas explosion.
1862	" " "	3	Night watchman ignited gas.
1864	" " "		Gas explosion.
1867	" " "		Ignited gas feeder. Shafts abandoned.
1869	" " (Ford Pit).....		Fire. Mine flooded.
1873	Drummond Mine, Pictou Co....	55	Shot ignited feeder, most violent explosion following.
1878	Sydney Mines, Cape Breton....	5	Gas explosion. Naked lights.
1880	Albion Mines, Ford Pit.....	44	Explosion. Said to have been originated by shot, and to have been aggravated by dust. Mine abandoned.
1885	Vale Colliery, Pictou Co.....	13	Blown-out shot. Gas explosion extended by dust.
1888	Albion Mines, Third Seam		Explosion. Supposed ignition of gas in walled-off fire-area, originally caused by hot "stythe," let down from Cage Pit Seam by pillar-drawing in Third Seam.
1891	Springhill Mines, Cumb. Co....	125	Explosion, supposed to have been caused by overcharged and "flaming" shot, igniting gas in roof-stone, and extended by dust.
1892	Drummond Colliery, Pictou Co.....		Explosion following electrically detonated shot of "Roburite." Cross-measure stone-drift was holing into top of Deep Seam, gas-feeders being present. Coal ignited. Fire area dammed off and flooded.
1893	Disused Shaft mine on Deep Seam, near Drummond Mine.....		Workings temporarily closed and filled with gas. Explosion caused by lightning flash.
1894	Caledonia Colliery, C.B.....		Mine fire. Caused by naked light torch used for lighting pit bottom. Extinguished by hose and water.
1895	Dominion No. 1 Mine, C.B.....	2	Ignition of accumulation of gas caused by displaced brattice. Naked lights.
1899	Caledonia Colliery, C.B.....	11	Mine fire, followed by explosion. Men died from carbon monoxide poisoning.
1903	Dominion No. 1 Colliery, C.B.....		Mine fire. Caused by careless use of naked light. Mine flooded from ocean. Pumping-out occupied 12 months.