

name of a volunteer carpenter as a victim. His relatives probably made no application for aid and therefore the name does not appear in the Benefit Society's books.

As indicative of the violence of the explosion an occurrence may be here related which has heretofore escaped mention. An eye witness, stationed some little distance from the slope mouth, says what brought home to him the extreme violence of the explosion was its lifting the brick cupola, 60 to 75 feet in height, completely from its foundation, before it fell in pieces to the ground.

No. 3. Probably the correct number of lives lost is 52. The Minea Report gives the number as 53, but gives the names of 52 only. The number 53 agrees with the number arrived at by one of the two enumerations on the day of the explosion, but the list of names prepared by them is missing. The explosion did no damage on the surface. One body only was brought out by the way of the shaft, after the blast. He had been asphyxiated on the level on his way to work. The 51 or 52 bodies lost in the explosion have up to this day the pit as their tomb. The explosion occurred well up to the rise in the south side. A common belief, at the time, was that a party sent to remove an old drum may have, in some way, ignited gas. It was a remote spot in the mine where the drum was located, and some one of the party may have uncovered his lamp for some purpose. This as a cause of the explosion may be correct but possibly is wholly conjectural. An attempt to reenter and open the workings, and mine the lower part of the coal, leaving an umbrella roof between the lower and upper coal in the seam, did not meet with success. Parts of the old Foord pit workings have been penetrated, but no actual attempt to recover the pit has been made since the one referred to. This is the only case in the province where the bodies of those killed in an explosion have never been recovered and thirty-eight years have elapsed since the occurrence.

4. Explosion said to have been caused by a