

ENTOMBED IN A MINE.

Twenty-five Colliers Buried Alive by an Extensive Cave-in.

A Wilkesbarre despatch of yesterday says: A cave-in occurred to-day near Ashley, in No. 8 mine, by which 25 men were entombed in the mine. A great crowd gathered upon the spot almost immediately, and the company took prompt action toward liberating the imprisoned men, but matters are in such a chaotic condition that the results are by no means certain. The cave is in the workings on No. 8 slope of the Lehigh & Wilkesbarre Coal Company, immediately adjoining the mine in which the extensive cave occurred twelve years ago, imprisoning ten men for over a week, but who were finally rescued alive. The present cave extends over a half-mile square, and includes a portion of the thickly settled village called Moffett's patch. A large number of houses have gone down with the surface, but only a few of them have been badly damaged.

It was half-past 6 p. m. before the first rescue party reached the first of the victims. He was lying at the bottom of a 50-foot plane, and in order to rescue him it became necessary to lower a miner down with a rope. This was done, and the charred and blackened form of Anthony Froyne was hoisted to the surface. He was still alive, but his injuries are considered fatal. When the news spread that Froyne was burned a feeling of gloom came over those present.

DEAD BODIES SEEN.

The latest report is to the effect that the rescuing party has penetrated to within sight of two dead bodies, but the gas is so thick that they were driven back to the surface. The place is full of black damp, and further approach in the direction of the victims is impossible even with safety lamps. As it looks now, very little hope is entertained that any of the men will be rescued alive. Wives and mothers crowd close up to the dark opening and peer in as if their love would dispel the darkness of the fatal depths, while the cries of the little ones calling for their fathers make the hearers sick with pity.

Wreck and ruin was wrought as well on the surface as in the fatal pit. Nearly a score of houses are shattered and destroyed, and the families were compelled to flee for their lives. The surface, almost as far as the eye could reach, was seamed and cracked with long circular fissures, some of which were over two feet wide. Twenty-eight men in all were entombed.

RESCUERS DRIVEN OUT.

Midnight—Only three men have been brought out thus far. It is now stated a lamp set fire to the gas and that caused an explosion. The rescuing parties have been driven out of the gangways by the gas. They were obliged to leave their safety lamps outside and grope their way back in darkness, where nothing could be done but listen for the groans of the wounded. An effort is now being made to change the air current, so as to drive the gas back from where the victims are supposed to be.

THOSE ENTOMBED.

The official list of those imprisoned is as follows:

- E. D. Williams, aged 60, married, seven children.
- Harry Parry, aged 50, married, five children.
- Owen Parry, son of above, aged 17.
- M. Henry, aged 42, married, two sons.
- T. C. Davis, aged 60, married, eight children.
- John Souley, aged 20, sole support of a widowed mother.
- M. Souley, brother of John, aged 27.
- D. Sullivan, aged 45, married, seven children, one an invalid.
- John Hanson, aged 25, single.
- John Allen, aged 35, married, three children, was taken out seriously burned at 8.30 p. m.
- R. W. Roberts, aged 37, married, brought to surface at 9 p. m. fatally injured.
- H. J. Jones, aged 35, married, three children.
- R. X. Fritchard, aged 30, married, one child.
- Chas. James, aged 52, married, five children.
- Anthony Froyne, married, one child, rescued at 7 p. m.
- John James, aged 32, married, two children.
- John Williams, aged 35, married, six children.
- Jonathan Williams, aged 30, married, two children.
- R. Jones, aged 30, married, two children.
- Wm. Edwards, aged 28, married, two children.
- T. J. Williams, aged 30, married, one child.
- Thomas Calus, aged 35, married.
- Owen Williams, aged 19, married.
- John Hempsey, aged 42, single.
- Frank Gallagher, aged 29, single.
- Two Hungarians named Bulb.

A Wilkesbarre despatch gives the following further particulars of the awful mine horror there: Fire Boss Allen, who was rescued from the mine alive last night, died this morning. A large party of rescuers to-day entered the slope and commenced working upon the cave beyond, where three men were found last night. They soon broke through and rushed into the chamber beyond, where a close search revealed six blackened corpses near the opening, none of them recognizable. Further along at various places were found thirteen other bodies, all more or less burned, but most of them could not be recognized. The sight was so horrible that two or three rescuers fainted. When news of the finding of the bodies became noised about a scene ensued around the mouth of the slope that will never be forgotten. A strong guard held back the women, who pressed forward madly to enter the mine. Half an hour later four men appeared bearing a body on the stretcher. The women tore away the blanket, but saw only the blackened and charred remains. Other bodies were brought out as fast as possible, and at noon all but five of those who were in the mine when the cave-in occurred had been found. The bodies were conveyed in ambulances to undertaking rooms and prepared for burial. At one o'clock two more bodies had been brought out. Anthony Froyne and Robt. W. Roberts, who were rescued last night, are in a critical condition. It is believed they will die.

DUE TO CARELESSNESS.

General-Superintendent Phillips to-day said: The men lost their lives through the negligence of Assistant Mine Boss Allen, who insisted on relighting his lamp in the presence of large volumes of gas. Had he not done so the men now dead could all have been rescued alive, as there was a good current of air going through the chamber where the men had taken refuge after the cave-in had occurred.

At 8 o'clock this evening all operations at the mines were abandoned. There are yet six men in the fatal chamber. Tomorrow morning operations will be resumed, and the work of rescue pushed until the remaining bodies are recovered.

The cave is believed to be due to the excessive amount of coal removed, not sufficient being left to carry the superincumbent rock. The roof was specially dangerous. Frequent comment is made on the fact that the explosion which followed the cave-in, like many others of recent occurrence, was due to the carelessness of a fire boss. Only a week ago two fire bosses were convicted of criminal carelessness and fined \$50 each, and another is now awaiting trial, while several others have lost their lives along with several fellow-workmen.

A GALLANT EFFORT AT RESCUE.

It is now learned that it was through the daring efforts of Mine Inspector Williams that the fate of the imprisoned miners was learned this morning. After numerous attempts to enter the mine through the newly made opening, the officials concluded the air current must be changed, and left with their workmen for this purpose. Inspector Williams became impatient of delay, and with Abednego Rees made another attempt to penetrate the workings. Gas abounded despite the strong air current drawing through the gangway, and their safety lamps glared and flickered in a manner telling of fearful danger. They persisted, however, and followed the gangway 300 feet. Waiting but a moment for the air to clear, they advanced down a steep incline of nearly 60 degrees, 300 feet further, when gas became so plentiful that they again paused. Finally advancing 500 feet through the main gangway, they came to a large chamber, which proved a chamber of horrors. By the faint glow of their lamps the two men discovered on every side

CORPSES BLACKENED, BURNED AND MANGLED. The mine inspector counted the bodies, nineteen in all. Here lay a man with his head missing, there a boy stripped of every shred of clothing and covered with wounds. Another lay near by with one arm and one foot blown off. Dead bodies of mules lay crushed to a jelly by mine cars, which were scattered about in splinters. The two men soon hurried back to open air and summoned help. Stretches and sheets were brought, ropes provided and a rude sled, built to draw the corpses up a steep incline. Soon the work of removing the dead bodies was under way, and terrible scenes were witnessed as they were brought to the surface. The first body was that of a Hungarian. It was taken to his boarding-house. His fellow-countrymen refused to receive it, but it was taken in spite of their protests. At 5 p. m. it lay there, yet uncared for, an unsightly object. The company directed that the bodies be taken to an undertaking establishment, and made as presentable as possible. They were removed later to their homes, and the company will see to their proper burial.

HOW THE EXPLOSION OCCURRED.

A later despatch explains that the three men who were rescued last night had separated from the others after the cave-in, and advised them to follow them out, but they refused. They then waited along the gangway on their way out, by the abandoned opening through which the rescuing party entered. When about 250 feet from the surface Allen's naked lamp set fire to the gas and the explosion occurred. The others were waiting 500 feet still further in the mine for the rescuing party to enter by the slope and dig away the debris of the wall. It is presumed they were overcome by the afterdamp of the explosion and rendered unconscious. They did not know of the opening for which the three men were making, and waited in vain for the rescuers from the other side. The number of men still in the mine is uncertain, as Thursday was a Church holiday and most of the miners were idle, no record being kept of those who were at work. The families of the dead miners are in extreme poverty. The company will look after their wants.

Railway Conductors in Session.

A Rochester despatch of Sunday says: At the session of the railway conductors held yesterday, the election of officers was taken up. There were numerous candidates for each office. The officers elected were as follows: Grand Chief Conductor, E. E. Clark, Ogden, Utah; Grand Junior Conductor, J. D. Shultz, Rochester, N. Y.; Grand Inside Sentinel, F. J. Dorsey, Winnipeg, Man.; Grand Outside Sentinel, F. S. Bulter, Sioux City; Member of Executive Committee, R. E. Fitzgerald, St. Louis, Mo.; Member of Insurance Committee, Sam Phipps, Philadelphia, N. J. The next convention will be held at St. Louis. Grand Chief Conductor Wheaton declined to be a candidate for re-nomination on account of being opposed to the elimination of the strike clause.

A Great Feat in Heliographing.

A Prescott, Ariz., despatch says: The greatest achievement made yet in heliographing was accomplished during practice in the department of Arizona yesterday by Lieut. Wittenmeyer, who signalled a message, by a single flash, 125 miles from Mount Reno, near Fort McDowell, to Mount Graham, near Fort Grant, where it was received by Capt. Murray. The latter by turning his instrument flashed the message to Fort Huachuca, a distance of 90 miles, making a total distance of 215 miles with a single intervening station. The longest distance heretofore with a single flash is said to be about 70 miles.

—An old-fashioned woman says rain in May means bread all the year.

Thomas E. Murphy, one of the accomplished sons of Francis Murphy, the temperance lecturer, has been offered \$10,000 for his one-eighth interest in an oil well in Erie county, for which he would have taken \$100 a month ago.

—The top-knot of feminine hair is coming off.

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH.

An Anti-Revisionist Report by the Saratoga Committee.

A Saratoga despatch says: In the Presbyterian Assembly to-day the Committee on Methods of Effecting Changes in the Confession of Faith and the Constitution of the Church reported:

1. That since the differences of opinion as to the methods of amendment to the Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms are so marked and widespread, it is unwise to raise the issues involved in the General Assembly.

2. That this Church has always considered the doctrine of such vital importance that changes in the doctrinal standards should be made under greater restrictions than changes or alterations in the form of government, the book of discipline, and the directory of worship.

3. That the methods of doctrinal alteration should be included in the constitution itself and in definite terms.

4. That the Church, speaking officially through the presbyteries, can alone determine with authority the questions at issue. Therefore the committee recommends that the question be transmitted to the presbyteries, where there shall be added to the form of government Chapter XXIII. of amendments providing (first) for the proposal by the General Assembly to the Presbyteries of amendments or alterations of the form of government, book of discipline and directory for worship, but that these shall not be obligatory unless a majority of all the Presbyteries approve in writing. (Second) That alterations in the doctrinal standards shall not be proposed to the Presbyteries unless they have been under consideration for one year by a committee of not less than 15 ministers and ruling elders, not more than two of whom shall be from any one Synod. (Third) No alteration shall be made in the provisions of this chapter for changes in the doctrinal standards unless an overture from the General Assembly submitting the proposed alterations shall be transmitted to all the Presbyteries and be approved in writing by two-thirds of them.

(4) The General Assembly must transmit to the Presbyteries any overture submitted to it by one-third of all the Presbyteries.

(5) Any amendment so submitted and approved shall go into effect immediately after the General Assembly shall have certified the fact.

The committee also recommended that the Presbyteries be directed to answer the overture as a whole by a simple yea or nay, to be reported to the stated clerk in time to be presented to the next General Assembly.

A SIBERIAN HOLOCAUST.

Brutal Troops Refuse to Aid in Saving Exiles' Lives.

A St. Petersburg cable says: Horrible scenes are reported as having occurred during the burning of Tomsk, the capital of Western Siberia. The place was visited simultaneously by a conflagration and a cyclone, the result of the combined disasters being the destruction of three-quarters of the buildings, which were of wood, and the loss of hundreds of lives. The cathedral, situated in the High Town, is in ashes. The walls of the edifice, in falling, crushed an adjacent hospital, burying the inmates, who were subsequently roasted alive.

The garrison brutally refused to render the least assistance in saving lives and property, on the plea that they had enough to do to protect the barracks and other Government buildings. They also added that they had no time to assist "worthless exiles."

In strong contrast to this action of the troops was that of the worthy bishop and his assistant priests. Marching through the burning city at the head of a procession, with banners and other sacred emblems, he stopped at frequent intervals to give absolution to the dying and to bless the dead. And never was the consolation carried by these sacred rites more greatly needed than by the panic-stricken mob of sufferers, who, huddled together in the streets, and firmly believing that the end of the world had come, abandoned themselves to stolid despair.

Much of the suffering, however, might have been averted had there been the slightest attempt at organized relief. As fire and water were not capable of inflicting misery enough on the unfortunate outcasts, the storm was followed by a sudden fall in the temperature, and soon the devastated city was buried beneath a mantle of snow that added stinging cold to the sufferings of the thousands of shelterless men, women and children.

The Contract Labor Law Fails.

A Pittsburg despatch says: The civil action of the United States against the Chambers McKee Glass Company, James Campbell and Mr. Slicker, to recover \$1,000 penalty for the importation under contract of Charles Ford, an English glass-worker, was tried yesterday. The jury rendered a verdict in favor of the defendants without leaving their seats. This was a test case, and had the verdict been for the Government similar action would have been brought in the cases of 45 other glass-blowers, who came to America at the same time under similar circumstances. The Government put all the defendants on the stand and a number of imported men.

Joseph's Reservoir.

A depression has been discovered in the Egyptian Desert which is all that remains of a reservoir constructed by the patriarch Joseph for irrigation purposes when he was Pharaoh's Prime Minister. It is proposed to reopen it; and it has been estimated that this would add 3,200,000 acres to the 6,000,000 acres now under cultivation in Egypt. The reservoir originally covered 250 square miles and was 250 feet deep.

In 1888 the United States paid in pensions \$80,288,508.77. In 1889 they paid \$87,624,779.11. The cost of the German army, it may be interesting to note, is for this year estimated at \$91,726,293. Besides pensions the U. S. army costs \$30,000,000.

Sir William Jenner, the physician of Queen Victoria, is about to retire from London and live on his Hampshire estate, where he will engage in literary work.

Enthusiasm has been known to turn what might have been a useful citizen into a nuisance.

THE BUSY HUSBANDMAN.

Points to be Remembered in the Working of a Farm.

FARMING AS A PROFESSION.

Useful Hints and Interesting Notes for all Tillers of the Soil.

Labor as a Factor in Farming.

The item of labor is the largest in the list of the farmer, and its value is not dependent on the amount performed, but rather on the time, place and mode of application. It is a very difficult matter to so regulate the work as to make every hour profitable, and the skill and ingenuity of the farmer can be called into service to its fullest extent in this department. Labor may be reduced not by curtailing the number of persons employed in all cases, but by securing a greater proportion of service in the proper application of labor, with a corresponding increase of profit, the cost being reduced by the saving of time and lessening of the waste of force.

The usual farm crops grown are but repetitions of one year after another. A crop of wheat must be seeded down, harvested, threshed, cleaned, bagged and hauled, the time required for so doing being equal to that which may be applied to some other crop that may cost the same but yielding a larger profit. The failure of the farmer to grow the more profitable crop is simply a misapplication of the labor of his men and teams. When a crop fails to pay the work should be turned in some other direction. What the change of crops may be the farmer only can decide for himself, as climate, capital invested, condition of the soil and facilities for reaching the market must serve as guides, but it is safe to state that on every farm some crop may be grown to advantage if the labor is properly applied and the farmer is progressive enough to venture outside of grain growing, for until he determines to devote his labor only to the crops that give greater opportunities for profit he will incur risks of loss every season.

An acre devoted to grain may demand more labor than an acre devoted to strawberries, but the latter will pay a larger profit. Crops of celery and asparagus are grown in some sections that yield enormous profits compared with the cost of production. These crops depend on conditions, but the farmer can also be a fruit-grower, or make a specialty of certain breeds of stock. The simple change of one breed of cattle or sheep for another better adapted for the farm is often a turning point of success. Failures may also occur by attempting to economize in the amount of work done by reducing the help when additional assistance might have enabled the farmer to produce a profitable crop. Skilled laborers, at an advance of wages over those that are inexperienced, may decrease expenses by the work being done to greater advantage. The farmer should not fear to grow a crop because of the amount of work necessary, for, as a rule, it is the cost of the labor that largely fixes the price of the crop, and the profit depends on the kind of crop grown.

The Farmer's Life.

As a rule, the farmer's life is one of hard work and confined to narrow limits, but there is usually more drudgery and confinement about it than there need be. We have but to look around a little to be satisfied it is not the farmer who does the most physical labor and stays at home the most that succeeds best. The most successful farmers are those who so plan their work as to lessen the burdens of toil and who get out among their fellows to attend farmers' clubs, conventions and institutes. But, admitting that farming involves hard physical labor, does it not escape much of the anxiety and mental worry that harass the merchant and even the professional man? What other calling, although its profits may be small, gives a surer reward and involves so few failures? His field may be narrow in physical scope, but where is there a broader field for the acquisition of knowledge and the exercise and expansion of intellect? No kind of knowledge comes amiss to the farmer; and he has but to provide himself with a proper library and to pursue his calling in the light of intelligent observation to become the most learned man of all the vocations. His occupation involves all the branches of useful knowledge, and if the farmers do not stand educationally and intellectually above all other classes it is their fault and not that of their calling.

Harrowing Wheat in the Spring.

We have made repeated trials of harrowing wheat in the spring with a smoothing harrow. The work being done first as soon as the ground was sufficiently hard and dry, and again when about a foot high. Breaking the hardened crust and making a fine mellow surface among the plants had obviously an excellent effect; and the increase was estimated at five bushels more per acre than unharrowed wheat. The last harrowing was accompanied with the sowing of clover seed, which succeeded well and produced a good growth. At the last harrowing the harrow was passed over the wheat twice, the first before sowing the clover seed and the last after the operation. Any slant tooth harrow, with numerous fine teeth, will answer. The teeth need not be sharp, provided they are sufficiently so to mellow the crust; generally, however, the sharper the better.—Country Gentleman.

Points in Butter Making.

Tests made at the West Virginia experiment station seem to show: That sweet cream should be churned at a considerably lower temperature than acid cream. That when the temperature is properly adjusted the fat is more fully recovered in churning sweet cream than in churning sour cream. That the butter is much easier freed from milk and requires less working. That the flavor is genuine butter flavor, dependent more upon food and less upon uncontrollable changes in acidifying the cream.

Merits of Thoroughbred Fowls.

Southern Cultivator enumerates the merits of thoroughbred fowls as follows: Rapidity of growth, increased weight and flesh, also beauty, and, above all, superiority in egg production, for a thoroughbred hen of the best laying strains will lay twice as many eggs in a year as a mongrel hen. These facts are well worthy of investigation, and are sufficient to justify the great interest now being taken in high class poultry.

Cotton Seed Meal for Cows.

Southern Farmer asserts that cows fed a moderate daily ration of cottonseed meal the year round are never attacked with murrain; that equal parts of mutton suet and kerosene, applied warm, is a sure cure for caked udder; that buttermilk and wheat bran fed daily to hens will cause a supply of eggs the year round, and that farmers who sell butter, eggs and chickens never need credit.

Round and Round.

Dr. Garretson is accustomed to illustrate the materialistic tendencies of the age by an imaginary conversation with a western farmer: "Why do you raise corn?" "To feed hogs." "What for?" "To sell them and buy more land." "What for?" "To raise more corn." "What for?" "To feed more hogs." "What for?" "To sell and buy more land," and so on.

Points to be Remembered.

Sow lettuce in rows sixteen inches apart, and when it is well started, grow radishes in between them.

A yard for ducks need not have a fence over three feet high, if the Pekin or Rouen ducks are used.

It is said that the English shepherds find out cabbage preferable to either beets or turnips for sheep.

Sow grass seed on all the bare places on the lawn. A mixture of blue grass and white clover will make an excellent lawn. All lawn plots should be seeded as early as possible.

On all fields where the mowers are to be used the advantage of the land having been previously rolled will be noticeable. Fields that have been rolled can be mowed easier, and the work done more completely than where the land is rough.

Among the raspberries the Turner, Doolittle, Gregg and Cuthbert are recommended as the best. Put out the young plants early if you wish them to thrive well.

The peach orchard should be cultivated as soon as the frost is out of the ground. It is common among peach-growers to cultivate the orchard in the same manner as for corn. Grass is injurious to young peach trees.

One of the best locations for a garden is to turn under a clover sod; now apply 30 bushels of air-slacked lime per acre (or proportionately), and then cross-plow the land in the spring. The ground must be well harrowed and made fine before planting the seed, however.

Seasonable Poultry Hints.

Lack of pure water often accounts for the lack of eggs.

Dark nests are the best preventive of the egg heating habit.

It is estimated that 45,000,000 eggs are consumed every day in the United States. Somebody's hens must be laying.

This is the beginning of a grand egg harvest for the enterprising poultryman who advertises liberally. Printer's ink, you know.

A flock of 25 hens, well cared for, is more profitable than 100 hens that are made to look out for themselves.

Sulphate of iron in water is of incalculable benefit to fowls. Use the Douglas mixture only when a strong stimulant is needed. It is dangerous.

Besides supplying the wants of its own population, France exports to Germany, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Sweden large quantities of salted and smoked geese for winter provision.

We must try to grasp the spirit of things; to see correctly; to speak to the point; to give practical advice; to act on the spot; to arrive at the proper moment; to stop in time. Tact, measure, occasion, all these deserve our cultivation and respect.

Work! It won't hurt you. The capacity of a man for work is much behind that which is needed for his support or even for fortune making. Those who are industrious turn from their day's labor to engage with pleasure in home occupations of value, either in promoting their own welfare or the happiness of others.—Poultry Monthly.

THIRTY-FOUR KILLED.

Terrible Explosion of Gunpowder in a Cuban Hardware Store.

A Havana despatch says: At 11 o'clock last night a fire broke out in Yoasi's hardware store. In a short time the flames reached a barrel of powder in the building and a terrific explosion followed. The whole structure was blown to pieces and twenty-two persons were killed. Among the dead are four fire chiefs, Senores Musset, Zernovitch, Oscar Conill, Francisco Ordovero, and the Venezuelan Consul, Senor Francisco Silva, who was in front of the building at the time of the explosion. In addition to the killed over one hundred persons are injured. The explosion caused the wildest excitement throughout the city and thousands flocked to the scene of the disaster. The Governor-General, the Civil Governor and all the principal authorities of the city were promptly on the ground and did everything in their power to aid the injured and calm the grief-stricken relatives of the victims. Several houses adjacent to the wrecked building were damaged by the explosion.

Later—Gangs of men are at work on the debris. Many human limbs have been taken from the ruins. The relatives of missing persons supposed to be in the ruins are gathered on the spot and as the bodies are brought out the scenes are most distressing. The conduct of the authorities is the subject of universal praise. The highest officials have incurred personal risk in conducting the search for the dead, and have offered the use of their own carriages to convey the injured to the hospitals. Yoasi, the proprietor of the wrecked hardware store, has been arrested. It is feared that there are several more victims in the ruins. Over the theatres and Chamber of Commerce, and many other buildings, flags are hanging at half-mast. Everywhere are signs of mourning. Up to the present time the number of the dead is 34.