ENTOMBED FOR 13 DAYS.

THE PLUCKY FIGHT FOR LIFE OF MINER STEVENS.

His Rescuers Dug Through 127 Feet of Rock and No Food.

A remarkable instance of physical endurance has been brought to notice in Arizona, where a miner was entombed for thirteen days in the Mammoth mine through 127 feet of hard porphyritic and the thud of rock to save his life. James Stevens, the miner is a man of medium size. An Englishman, by birth, he has lived in stopes. I jumped back and ran toward the mines of Colorado for eighteen years, during which time his habits were of the most regular nature. It was due to his past life and his sturdy constitution that he survived the ordeal of existing in a narrow drift underground without food or water in dense darkness for thirteen days. Men have survived a longer fast than that he was forced to undergo, but not under discouraging conditions.

"I am feeling pretty well now," he said in an interview, "though kind of weak here"-rubbing his hand across this stomach—"and. my legs are still shaky. I've quit gaining in flesh, now, tight, and there was nothing to do but mote future. though I still lack ten or twelve to wait, and, maybe, die. As soon as pounds of weighing what I did before I had made up my mind to the situathe cave-in. But you should have seen I found I had a piece of cake and two mel grow the first days after I was pieces of pie in my dinner bucket and what was known as the local governout. I could feel the flesh coming on about two quarts of water. I had two just the same as I felt it leaving me candles and fifteen matches. My tobacin the mine. I weighed 156 pounds be- it might cause me more harm than some time the new system seemed to fore, and when they pulled me out I good. I decided not to eat excepting give satisfaction. The critics of muniweighed only 112 pounds. I lost that when the pangs of hunger grew too weight in just thirteen days and ten hours."

in the second level of the mine at 8 o'clock in the evening. At 10.30 o'clock the miners in camp were surprised by was in darkness. I managed to keep A TERRIFIC CRASH.

accompanied by great clouds of dust I knew that it took two turns to make arising from the two shafts of the Mammoth mine. As the dust cleared when I last looked at it, so that by away it was found that the entire ter- winding it up and keeping track of the ritory embraced between the original location shaft and the subsequent working shaft had caved in, breaking down heavy timbering and permanently closing drifts, worked-out stopes, and connecting passages. As the miners gathered about the scene some one called out, "Stevens was in No. 2," and the men rushed to the prospect shaft to examine its condition. They found that the sides had caved in and filled with must hold out, I knew the nature of debris so that all hope of rescue in that way was at an end. Without loss of go, and had some doubt about their time at was decided to drive a shaft as near as possible to the mouth of the drift in which Stevens was buried. few hours proved that the proposed rescue shaft was in too dangerous a place, the third level near the main working and the work was abandoned.

The miners agreed that the only way to reach Stevens was by sinking a new an to make the work safe. This meant that a depth of 127 feet through solid rock of a hard quality must be reached before the miner could be rescued. In ordinary times such a task would require a month's time at least, but the miners thought they could do it in less time, and the work began. Relays the whole time. I was in intense pain were arranged, and by working steadily night and day the shaft rapidly deepened through the solid rock. As soon as depth was gained a steam hoist was rigged over the shaft to facilitate the removal of the debris. Every blow struck was done without loss of time, and every move was calculated to advance the work. Water was let down to the perspiring workmen, and as soon as one set grew weary they were lifted to the surface and a fresh shift dropped down.

pense of the men working above was fhard to bear. After the tenth day had passed and 100 feet had been gained, the fears of the weary workers that Stevens might be dead or

HOPELESSLY INSANE.

made them wonder if they could make the remaining distance through the rock in time to save him. Only at long intervals did work cease for a moment to give opportunity to listen to faint knocking below, which was the only way they could know if Stevens was yet alive.

But their anxiety was nothing to the suspense of the imprisoned miner. In a hesitating way Stevens told his story: "When I went to work on Sunday night, the old timbers in the workedout portion of the mine were creaking day was the hardest to bear. I was cities and the cities of the continent. That was nothing unusual, for it had been going on for a long time. We all increased, and I was in constant agony. so great an aggregation of people as knew that the cave-in must come some My mind was beginning to weaken, but London has, but there ought to be time, but nobody was looking for it I tried to think rationally. I hammer- some mode of overcoming them in the quite so soon. Preparations had been ed and scraped every little while to asmade, to fill in the stopes with dirt sure them that I was alive. This made from the new extensions in order to them think I was crazy, I afterward make that old part safe. I was work- learned. ing alone in the second level extension | "On Saturday morning about 7 o'clock

"About 9 o'clock I left the breast of that you, Joe?" the drift where I was working and went back to where the drift leaves the prospect shaft. My coat and dinner pail and other things were there. As I wound my watch I listened to the creaking of the timbers, which seemed faster than ever. louder than ever. It sounded pretty "In a few moments they had made bad, I thought, and I wondered if I a hole and I was pulled through.

er. I paused a moment to listen again, three days more they made me do and that pause saved my life. I knew without water, giving me only medi-I would have to do some climbing over cine. I had to live on chicken broth to save Him - He Tapped with His broken timber, with mighty little time for two days and still without water. Hammer Now and Then to Let the Boys to do it in. I realized that it was Then I drank and ate a smashing din-

I didn't like to mix up in it. what it was best to do, there came a for me and the company paid me full fearful roar, the ground about me wages for the time I was underground trembled, and I knew it was all up and did not charge a cent for my with me. I could hear the old timbers | board.' crashing as they broke under the by a cave-in, and his rescuers dug weight of the mass of rock above them

THE ROCK AND DIRT

falling down into the lower drifts and the breast of the drift. The air blew in strong, puffed out my candle and filled my throat with dust.

"Soon it was all over, and as soon as I could relight my candle I set out with my tools to explore. I found that the doing all they can to forward the prodrift for twenty-five feet, and I set to ject of uniting the citizens of New work' to dig a passage to the shaft. knew I must have air, and if I could reach the shaft my chances were good. It happened that the air box was not in London a movement the purpose of injured, and as soon as I had cleared which is directly the opposite of that a space to that I knew I was safe for some days to come. I kept on digging time, but soon the dirt began to cave whose numbers will cause it to take in around me and I had to quit. "Then I lay down and tried to think

co I threw away, thinking that severe and then only to take a small nibble of the pie or the cake. I might Stevens went to work on his shift time, for the nibbles seemed only to

make the pains more severe. "About noon on Monday my candles gave out and the rest of the time I track of the passing of time, however. My watch is an old key-winder, and the watch run an hour. I had wound it up tight at 9 o'clock Sunday night number of turns the key made I told of new approaches to of the hours so well that when I was finally rescued I was not out of the way more than a half hour. "I soon made up my mind that I must

save my strength as much as possible,

QUIT ALL WORK

and tried to sleep as much as possible. It kept close to the place where I could hear the sound of the drilling above me, and tried to calculate how long I the rock, and the depth they had to ability to reach me before death ended my troubles.

"About three hours after the cavein I heard sounds of rescue work. First it was a rapping on the airbox, and I knew that the men must be down in shaft, for the airbox came up to the new extension from there. I took my hammer and rapped back, and then shaft. I listened to their working when I was not sleeping, until on Wedfive hours. It was then that I began cape. That was the toughest day of from hunger and thirst. My throat hurt me very much. It was hot and stinging pains chased each other right abandon all hope of an improved tranalong. Sometimes the stomach pains were so severe that I was helpless and which could only be secured by united after they would die away I lay back exhausted. The last bit of food had disappeared on Tuesday noon. It was just as well that no other man was left in the drift with me, for one of us would have certainly eaten the oth-

"There was not a drop of water in the drift after my canteen was exhausted, and my throat pains were frightful. After that awful silence of five hours on Wednesday I heard sounds in As day after day went by the sus- a new place. I located them up in new ground and then I knew that they were going to sink for me through rock. plans are systematically carried out, I was doubtful about it. I seized up my | that in time they must surrender their strength and decided that I might hold out nine or ten days altogether.

"The pains now eased up, and the day. I realized I was

GETTING WEAKER RAPIDLY.

tion I made was to knock with my ham- a sound one when they compare the reafraid that they might give up and conclude that I was dead. The pains

into new ground, away from the old I saw light and the glisten of a drill defects complained of instead of pro-

"'That you Jim?' came back to me. "'For God's sake give me water,'

hadn't better get out. But the noises did not get any worse, and I went back to work. Once in a while I would stop and listen. The noises were going right along, rumbling, crashing and listen and li

groaning. Finally I decided that it stand the heat and light. After sunwas a pretty bad case, and I picked down I was hauled out in a bucket and up my tools and started for the shaft. | the men cheered. They wanted to car-"Dust was now flying and the timb- ry mer to the reading room, but I would ers nearest me began to snap. The not have it and I walked a hundred noises seemed coming nearer and near- yards. Then I went to bed. For know He Was There - Dense Barkness bound to be a bad case of cave-in, and ner. The first three days I gained fifteen pounds and I mended rapidly after "As I stood in the drift, thinking that. The boys got up a benefit ball Stevens is 45 years of age and

thoroughly experienced miner.

LONDON IS OVERGROWN.

Proposition to Decentralize the Great Municipality.

It is rather noteworthy that while York and Brooklyn under one municipal government, there is on foot entertained by the ambitious Amerito find if I could get out in a short cans who are eager to create a city second place in the world's list with a good show of leading in the not reit all out. I was penned in good and

Not long ago, after considerable agitation, the citizens of London succeeded in persuading parliament to pass ment act, under which the London county council was organized. For cipal affairs, as a rule, pronounced it a decided improvement, on the old plan as well have eaten the food all at one of government by vestries, and there was good reason to believe that the effort to make a homogeneous city of the wide-spreading habitation constituting London would prove a permanent success.

It is still admitted that the county council has made many important improvements but such projects as the widening of the Strand, the opening

THE TOWER BRIDGE,

the construction of greatly needed cross thoroughfares leading out of Holborn and the clearing of narrow streets in the vicinity of the houses or parliament must remain in obeyance until some reformation can be effected in the method of taxation by which the rate payer, upon whom all the burdens of improvements now fall will obtain some relief.

But Mr. Chamberlain, who seems to he the foremost figure in the existing government, not excepting Salisbury, regards with disfavor the cause of London unity, and is lending his powerful support to a scheme of decentralization which if finally carried out, would reduce London to a mere they knew that I was alive. Then geographical expression. The plan is shaft far enough away from the cave- they began to sink near the prospect to erect the metropolitan areas into separate municipalities. If this nesday all sound ceased. I listened and done there might be some improvement waited, and wondered what had hap- in the minor details of government, pened. Not a blow was struck for but there is reason to believe that the to give up hope. If they could not policy which won for Chamberlain such reach me that way, how was I to es- distinguished triumphs in the early part of his career, can never be carried out, and London will have permanently

> sit system and many other things The stand taken by Chamberlain is surprising when his former attitude is recalled, and can only be explained on the hypothesis that he has surrendered to the powerful vested interests which have London in their grasp. The water, gas and dock companies of London are receiving enormous returns on a tremendous capitalization, and they ire determined to maintain their hold as long as possible. They

realize perfectly if the county council's

inflicted upon her the private water

and gas companies, and will have to

VALUABLE PRIVILEGES

Three days were already gone and they for it is the aim of those who advocate had to blast through 127 feet of solid the unity of London to emulate the example of such provincial cities as Glasgow, Liverpool, Birmingham, Dunspasms occurred only once or twice a dee, Leeds and Huddersfield, and provide Greater Lond on with all the facilities which have made the municipal governments of the places named so and I felt as though my flesh was drop- decided a success. That Chamberlain ping off. My knees grew so weak that should be in practical opposition to I could hardly stand. I wondered if, such plans at this late day will not after all, I should die easy, with no improve his reputation. It will be difhorrible pangs of thirst or hunger. I ficult to persuade the people of Lonslept all I could, and the only exer- don that his separatist programme is mer once or twice a day to let them lative backwardness of the metropolis know that I was still alive. The last with the progress of the provincial

There may be drawbacks in the adthe interest of that homogeneity which seem so essential to the futherance of broad plans of improvement. It would be more statesmanlike if Chamberlain moting a decentralization movement which will almost certainly result in the retention of all the evils, although they may be slightly disguised by spreading them over a couple of scores of municipalities.



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