

## DEATH IN THE MINE.

### FATAL ACCIDENTS IN PENNSYLVANIA AND MARYLAND—THREE LIVES LOST.

WILKESBARRE, Sept. 25.—This morning the Dodson shaft, operated by the Plymouth Coal Company, in Plymouth, was the scene of a disastrous explosion of gas, by which two men, Thomas Capes, fire boss, and John Race, miner, were instantly killed and Henry Barnes, miner, so badly burned that doubts are expressed of his recovery. It seems that on Sunday night several breasts of the upper vein caved in, and yesterday morning about 4 o'clock three more gave way. As a result of this the ventilation in that part of the mine was greatly impeded, and the gas collected in considerable quantities. About 6 o'clock yesterday morning the boss entered the mine with a naked light, and a fearful explosion occurred. The fire boss and Race were instantly killed and Barnes severely burned. The explosion caused a further "cave in," and about 10 o'clock this morning a large strip of ground in the immediate vicinity of the breaker and along the line of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Road sank about three feet, while for the space of nearly an acre on each side of the track the ground was covered with cracks and crevices reaching on the one side almost to the main street in the town.

Trains were delayed for some time, and it was not until 2 o'clock P. M. the trains were suffered to pass without unloading the passengers. Immediately after the explosion the mules were taken out of the mines. Some difficulty was experienced in getting out the last four on account of the accumulation of gas caused by stoppage of the ventilation. The bodies of the two men were removed at 7:30 this morning, and it is said that it was only with great difficulty and danger that they could be reached. During the afternoon it was stated by one of the operators that as the sinking of the surface had not been gradual, but the whole space had gone down at once, there would be no further "cave in." The miners, however, told a very different tale. It was the opinion of many that the worst was yet to come. They said that the mine was still "working," and that near the foot of the shaft a "cave in" might be expected at any moment. Much excitement was manifested in the town concerning the accident, and hundreds of people visited the scene of the disaster, while around the breaker the men and boys employed therein collected in groups and speculated on the probable consequences.

The accident was attributed to the carelessness of the fire boss, who had entered the workings with a naked light knowing that several breasts had caved in, and that the ventilation was consequently impeded. It was the opinion of many of the miners that work could not be commenced for several days—perhaps weeks. It is impossible at present to say what the extent of the disaster may be.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Sept. 25.—A heavy fall of roof-coal occurred this morning at 8 o'clock in the Kingsland Mine of the Maryland Coal Company at Lonaconing. Four miners, including the mine boss, William Byers, were buried under the coal. The fall was caused by a mine car jumping the track and knocking the props out. All the men have been taken out. The only man killed was James Brebaney, aged 25. The injured are William Byers, Theodore Cook, and William Jones, who are more or less cut and bruised, but it is thought all will recover.