

A COAL MINE ON FIRE.

AN EXPLOSION FOLLOWED BY FLAMES IN A WILKESBARRE MINE.

WILKESBARRE, Penn., June 14.—Soon after 7 o'clock last night a terrific explosion occurred at the Dorrance shaft, operated by the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, in the northern part of the city. The explosion was heard for a distance of a mile, and large crowds flocked to the scene of the excitement. Around the mouth of the mine were gathered the wives, mothers, sisters, and brothers of the eight men entombed in the mine. For a time there was great excitement. According to law, however, there must be a second opening to every mine, and through this opening the imprisoned men escaped in safety.

The explosion set fire to the coal and wood-work in adjacent chambers to the one where the explosion took place. At midnight the fire had gained such headway that the Wilkesbarre Fire Department had to be called out, and they have been kept busy all day flooding that portion of the mine where the fire rages. The loss will be heavy, and about 150 men will be thrown out of work. The cause of the explosion was the ignition of the gas by a blast.

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