

GAS EXPLOSION IN A MINE.

SCRANTON, Penn., June 21.—Five men were so severely burned at the Holden Colliery, a short distance from Scranton, by an explosion of gas this afternoon, that the lives of most of them are despaired of. The injured men are Watkin Morgan, David Reese, John Bevan, Philip Mulderig, and Isaac Aston. All but two are married and have large families. The fire boss discovered a large accumulation of gas in a portion of the mine this morning and instructed a man named Morgan to brush it out. Morgan went to attend to it, but the workmen were not warned of their peril until the gas came in contact with the naked lamps on their hats and exploded with a great shock that made the engine house, 1,500 feet distant, sway like a ship in a storm. Inside Superintendent Evans was the first to enter the deathpit and at great risk extinguished a blazing gas blower which threatened a second explosion. The men were tossed against the roof and the sharp sides of the jagged mine with such violence that some of them were severely cut by the sharp anthracite, and others are suffering from internal injuries. They were promptly removed from the scene of danger and taken to their homes. It is thought that three of them will die of their injuries.

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