THE
"CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN."
ESTABLISHED IN 1807.

The largest circulation of any Newspaper in North Central Pennsylvania.

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Over 25 of each of above at proportionate rates.
GEO. B. GOODLANDER,
Editor and Proprietor.

CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Proprietor. PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN. TERMS—$2 per annum, in Advance.

VOL. 42—WHOLE NO. 2135. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1869. NEW SERIES—VOL. 10, NO. 10.

Cards.

E. I. KIRK, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Luthersburg, Pa.
Will attend promptly to all professional calls. aug18:1ypd

THOS. S. WASHBURN,
SCALER OF LOGS,
Glen Hope, Clearfield County, Penn'a.
THE subscriber has devoted much time and attention to the SCALING OF LOGS, and takes this method of offering his services to those who may need them. Any further information can be had by addressing as above. je20-tf

SURVEYOR.
THE undersigned offers his services as a Surveyor, and may be found at his residence, in Lawrence township. Letters will reach him directed to Clearfield, Pa.
may 7-tf. JAMES MITCHELL.

THOS. W. MOORE,
Land Surveyor and Conveyancer,
HAVING recently located in the borough of Lumber City, and resumed the practice of Land Surveying, respectfully tenders his professional services to the owners of and speculators in lands in Clearfield and adjoining counties.
Deeds of conveyance neatly executed.
Office and residence one door east of Kirk & Spenter's store. apr14:pd4m.

DANIEL M. DOUGHERTY.
BARBER & HAIR DRESSER,
SECOND STREET,
jy28] CLEARFIELD, PA. [tf

N. M. HOOVER,
Wholesale & Retail Dealer in
Tobacco, Cigars and Snuff,
Two doors east of the Post Office,
MARKET STREET, CLEARFIELD, PA.
A large assortment of Pipes, Cigar Cases, &c., always on hand. my19-1y

J. K. BOTTORF'S
PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
NEGATIVES made in cloudy, as well as in clear weather. Constantly on hand a good assortment of FRAMES, STEREOSCOPES and STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS. Frames, from any style of moulding, made to order. apr28-tf

REUBEN HACKMAN,
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. apr4,67

J. BLAKE WALTERS,
SCRIVENER AND CONVEYANCER.
Agent for the Purchase and Sale of Lands.
Clearfield, Pa.
Prompt attention given to all business connected with the county offices. Office with Hon. Wm. A. Wallace. [jan1, 66-tf

THOMAS H. FORCEE,
GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturer and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. [jy16-1y

GEO. ALBERT.....HENRY ALBERT.....W. ALBERT
W. ALBERT & BROS.,
Manufacturers & extensive Dealers in
Sawed Lumber, Square Timber, &c.,
WOODLAND, PENN'A.
Orders solicited. Bills filled on short notice and reasonable terms.
Address Woodland P. O., Clearfield Co., Pa.
je23-1y W. ALBERT & BROS.

FRANCIS COUTRIET,
MERCHANT,
Frenchville, Clearfield County, Pa.
Keeps constantly on hand a full assortment of Dry Goods, Hardware, Groceries, and everything usually kept in a retail store, which will be sold, for cash, as cheap as elsewhere in the county. Frenchville, June 27, 1867-1y.

C. KRATZER & SONS,
MERCHANTS,
DEALERS IN
Dry Goods, Clothing, Hardware,
Cutlery, Queensware, Groceries, revisions and Shingles,
Clearfied, Penn'a.
At their new store room, on Second street, near Merrell & Bigler's Hardware store. [jan14

MOSHANNON LAND & LUMBER CO.,
OSCEOLA STEAM MILLS,
MANUFACTURES
LUMBER, LATH, AND PICKETS
H. H. SHILLINGFORD, President.
Office—Forest Place, No. 125 S. 4th st., Phil'a.
JOHN LAWSHE, Superintendent.
je6'67] Osceola Mills, Clearfield county, Pa.

Merchant Tailors.

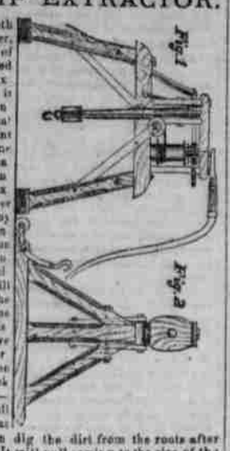
F. C. CROMM,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
MARKET ST., CLEARFIELD, PA.
A FULL supply of Cloths, Cassimeres and Vestings constantly on hand, which will be made up according to the latest fashions, in a substantial manner, and at low rates. my26

1869. Going it Alone. 1869.
E. R. L. STOUGHTON,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.,
HAVING opened business on my own hook, at the old stand in Shaw's Row, I therefore announce to the public that I have now on hand a well selected and large assortment of
Cloths, Cassimeres, Vestings,
Beavers, and all kinds of Goods for men and boys' wear, and am now prepared to make up to order CLOTHING, from a single article to a full suit, in the latest styles and most workmanlike manner. Special attention given to custom work and cutting-out for men and boys. I offer great bargains to customers, and warrant entire satisfaction. A liberal share of public patronage is solicited. Call and see me.
Jan7-tf E. R. L. STOUGHTON.

H. BRIDGE.
MERCHANT TAILOR,
(Store one door east of Clearfield House,)
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
KEEPS on hand a full assortments of Gents' Furnishing Goods, such as Shirts, Linen and Woolen Undershirts, Drawers and Socks, Neck-ties, Pocket Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Hats, Umbrellas, &c., in great variety. Of Piece Goods he keeps the
Best Cloths of all "Shades and Colors,"
Such as Black Doeskin of the very best make; Fancy Cassimere, in great variety; also, French Coating, Beaver, Pilot, Chinchilla, and Frieze overcoating. All of which will be sold cheap for Cash, and made up according to the latest styles by experienced workmen.
Also, Agent for Clearfield county for I. M. Singer & Co's. celebrated Sewing Machines.
Nov. 1, 1866-tf. H. BRIDGE.

Agricultural Implements.

BOOTH'S IMPROVED
STUMP EXTRACTOR.



Messrs. Booth & Rumbarger, Proprietors of the Improved STUMP Extractor, wish it understood that they warrant this machine to do just what it is recommended—excelling other machines by its being constructed on true philosophical principles. It will extract the largest pine stump, suspend it above ground—permitting the soil to fall back in the hole—and will pull them as fast as ten men can dig the dirt from the roots after extracted. It will pull (owing to the size of the stumps) from forty to one hundred per day. It will either turn them over, or suspend them to be propped up, as desired.
Any person wanting one of these Machines can take it to his farm, and, if not too far away, we will go and help set it up and test it; if he is not satisfied we will take it away and charge nothing for our trouble. Machines $160 with Township Rights. Single Machines, $170.
State and County Rights for sale.
BOOTH & RUMBARGER,
Jefferson Line P. O., Clearfield Co., Pa

CERTIFICATE.
We, the the undersigned, having witnessed the trial of T. J. Booth's Improved Stump Extractor on the farm of R. H. Moore, near Luthersburg, on Saturday and Monday, the 7th and 9th of November, take pleasure in saying to the public, that we believe it to be the best machine now in use for extracting stumps. It is of simple construction, easily managed, not liable to get out of order, and very durable. Four men took the machine from the wagon, when entirely apart, put it together, and pulled a large pine stump in less than one hour. We saw two men pull a large stump with ease. They use a horse, but he does his work in taking out the largest stumps, without a hard pull. Mr. Booth, the Patentee, fully understands putting up and handling the machine. We would advise those in want of stump extractors to see this one tested before purchasing elsewhere, which they can do free of charge by calling on the Proprietors.
J. C. Barrett, J. W. Rickard, R. V. Spackman, John Nolder, John Kirk, J. W. Gahagan, R. H. Moore, J. W. Wallace, W. B. Alexander, Geo. Ellinger, Wm D. Beck, Andrew Wilson, S. J. Hoover, Wm. K. Irvin, E. J. Kirk, James Moore, L. B. Carlile, Geo. Wilson, M. D. Lever Flegal, Fred'k Smiley, [nov19-1y

NEW SADDLER SHOP.
SHOCH & WEAVER,
Luthersburg, Clearfield County, Pa.
MANUFACTURERS of and Dealers in all kinds of plain and fancy HARNESS, saddles, Bridles, Whips, Collars, Halters, and all articles usually found in a first-class Saddler reasonable rates. None but experienced workmen employed. Room, one door west of the American Hotel. H. W. SCHOCH,
jy14-3m P. J. WEAVER.

Lime for Sale!
THE undersigned, residing near the depot has made complete arrangements with Lime Burners east of the mountain, whereby he is enabled to keep constantly on hand a large quantity of
PURE LIME!
which he offers to farmers and builders at a trifle above cost. Those in need of the article would do well to give me a call, or address me by letter, before negotiating their lime.
GEO. C. PASSMORE.
Clearfield, Pa., June 9, 1869.

R. B. TAYLOR'S
LIME AND COAL YARD,
(Near the Railroad Depot,)
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
I EMBRACE this method of informing the public, that I have opened up a yard for the sale of wood or coal-burnt LIME and Anthracite COAL, in the borough of Clearfield, and have completed arrangements with eastern dealers by which I can keep a full supply constantly on hand, which will be disposed of at reasonable rates, by the ton, bushel or car load, to suit purchasers. Those at a distance can address me by letter, and obtain all necessary information by return mail.
R. B. TAYLOR.
Clearfield, Pa., Feb. 24, 1869-tf

READING FOR ALL!!
BOOKS & STATIONERY.
Market St., Clearfield, (at the Post Office,)
THE undersigned begs leave to announce to the citizens of Clearfield and vicinity, that he has fitted up a room and has just returned from the city with a large amount of reading matter, consisting in part of
Bibles and Miscellaneous Books,
Blank, Account and Pass Books of every description; Paper and Envelopes, French pressed ed plain; Pens and Pencils; Blank, Legal apers, Deeds, Mortgages; Judgment, Exemption and Promissory notes; White and Parchment Brief, Legal Cap, Record Cap, and Bill Cap, Sheet. Music for either Piano, Flute or Violin constantly on hand. Any books or stationery desired that I may not have on hand, will be ordered by first express, and sold at wholesale or retail to suit customers. I will also keep periodical literature, such as Magazines, Newspapers, &c. P. A. GAULIN.
Clearfield May 7, 1868-tf

WANTED!
Wool! Wool! Wool!
MOSSOP
Desires to buy all the WOOL in the county, for which he will pay the highest cash price, exchange goods, or both, to suit customers. je23m

GUNSMITHING.
REMOVAL.
THE undersigned begs leave to inform his old and new customers, and the public generally, that he has fitted up a new GUN SHOP, on the lot on the corner of FOURTH and MARKET streets, Clearfield, Pa., where he will keep constantly on hand and make to order all kinds of guns. Also, guns re-bored, re-varnished, and neatly repaired on short notice. All orders by mail will receive prompt attention.
je9:6mpd JOHN MOORE.

D. D. FULLERTON.....W. H. MCPHERSON
NEW FIRM.
FULLERTON & McPHERSON,
KEEP constantly on hand and for sale, Fresh meats, such as
BEEF, VEAL, MUTTON, &c.,
Fresh Fish, and all Vegetables in season; Canned Fruits, Butter, Lard, &c., which they will sell at the lowest market prices.
Cash paid for CATTLE, BUTTER, &c.
Room on Market Street, opposite the Court House, Clearfield, Pa. [May 12, '69-tf.

WANTED—100,000 LONG SHINGLES.
The undersigned hereby give notice, that they will pay the highest market price for a good quality of LONG SHINGLES; and those having such for sale, will find it to their interest to give them a call before selling elsewhere.
JOS. ELY & SON.
Clearfield, March 3, 1869-tf

Hardware, Tinware, Etc.

MERRELL & BIGLER,
DEALERS IN
HARDWARE,
Also, Manufacturers of
Tin and Sheet Iron Ware.
CLEARFIELD, PA.
A LOT OF SADDLES, BRIDLES, Harness, Collars, etc., for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
PALMER'S PATENT UNLOADing Hay Forks, for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
OIL, PAINT, PUTTY, GLASS, Nails, etc., for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
HARNESS TRIMMINGS & SHOE Findings, for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
GUNS, PISTOLS, SWORD CANES For sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
STOVES, OF ALL SORTS AND Sizes, for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
IRON! IRON! IRON! IRON! For sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
HORSE SHOES & HORSE SHOE NAILS, for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
PULLEY BLOCKS, ALL SIZES And best Manufacture, for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
THIMBLE SKEINS AND PIPE BOXES, for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER
FODDER CUTTERS—for sale by MERRELL & BIGLER.
SAWS! SAWS! SAWS!
ATTENTION, LUMBERMEN!
A REVOLUTION IN SAWS!
EMERSON'S
PATENT PERFORARATED
GLUE CUT CIRCULAR SAWS
(ALL GUMMING AVOIDED.)
ALSO,
Emerson's Patent Adjustable Swage,
For Spreading, Sharpening, and Shaping the Teeth of all Splitting Saws.
Send for a Descriptive Circular and Price List. MERRELL & BIGLER,
jan2-tf] General Agents Clearfield, Pa

G. S. FLEGAL,
DEALER IN
STOVES AND HOLLOW-WARE,
AND MANUFACTURER OF
Tin, Copper & Sheet Iron Ware,
Phillipsburg, Centre co., Pa.,
THE undersigned respectfully announces to the public that he has on hand a carefully selected and well assorted stock of Stoves. His variety consists of
THE CELEBRATED IRONSIDES,
Which have never failed to give perfect satisfaction to the most fastidious of its purchasers.
Continental, Lehigh, Farmer, Daylight, Sparks' Anti-Dust, Niagara, Charm, Herald, &c., with every variety of the best Pittsburg Manufacture.
The Tin and Sheet Iron ware gives with the Stoves is made of the heaviest and best material, and warranted to give perfect satisfaction. His stock of
PARLOR AND HEATING STOVES
Is larger, better and cheaper than ever before exhibited to the public. He defies competition either in variety, quality or price.
He is also prepared to furnish a complete assortment of
Tin, Copper, Sheet-Iron, Wooden and Willow Ware,
Wholesale or retail, manufactured neatly and with the sole view to service, from the best material in the market.
PLOWS, PLOW POINTS, & COPPER, BRASS AND IRON KETTLES,
Of every description constantly on hand.
LIGHTNING RODS,
Superior point, put up on short notice. The Point he offers to the public is the same as is now used by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., on their buildings.
ORDERS FOR SPOUTING, ROOFING
And other work belonging to his business will be promptly filled by experienced and skillful workmen.
BRASS, COPPER AND OLD METTLE
Taken in exchange for goods.
He especially invites the attention of Merchants wishing to purchase at wholesale, as they will find it to their advantage to examine his stock before purchasing elsewhere.
G. S. FLEGAL.
Phillipsburg, Aug. 5, 1868. jy21:67

Livery Stable.
THE undersigned begs leave to inform the public that he is now fully prepared to accommodate all in the way of furnishing Horses, buggies, Saddles and Harness, on the shortest notice and on reasonable terms. Residence on Locust street, between Third and Fourth.
GEO. W. GEARHART.
Clearfield, April 11, 1867.

THE REPUBLICAN.
CLEARFIELD, PA.
WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 22, 1869.

THE COAL MINE HORROR.

Interesting Details of the Disaster and Its Cause—Who is to Blame for all the Misery!

The correspondent of the New York *Herald*, writing from the scene of the disaster, on the 8th, says:

A feeling of relief is experienced here this evening that the hideous work of drawing the dead bodies of men in endless succession from out the Avondale Coal Mine is at an end. One hundred and eight bodies made the sum total recorded at noon to-day as having been exhumed, and the belief with miners generally is that this constituted the entire force at work in the mine on the day of the fatal catastrophe.

Mr. Benjamin Hughes, who headed the committee that went down the shaft this morning at half-past eight o'clock and remained at the work of exploration for over three hours, is one of the most experienced miners in this district, and is intimately acquainted with the topography of the Avondale mine. His brother, Evan Hughes, was the inside boss, whose remarkable attitude, sitting on a pile of coal, with his head resting on his hands, and quite dead, so struck the first gang of explorers that descended the shaft.

Standing on the track of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad today at noon and looking up the steep hill side at the ruins of the once flourishing coal mine of Avondale—the shattered engine house built of stone, the torn, twisted and scattered machinery, the sloping ridge of fiercely fired embers filling the motionless air with a strong and shimmering heat, the blackened wreck of coal shute and breaker, the charred oak and hickory trees upon the hill above and the utter wreck and ravage of the scene all over, impressed the spectator with awe and seriousness. But much more awful and serious must become the color of his thoughts when told that from beneath that fearful ruin the bodies of 200 human beings, a few days since full of strong and palpitating life, were being brought out, one by one, black and bloody corpses and bearing many marks of a brief but desperate struggle with the doom of suffocation in the horrible gloom of

Knowing the character of the occurrence and the purpose for which these crowds of saddened women and solemn men have gathered, lining the dismantled walls in compact and sorrowful numbers, it had a strangely dismal effect upon the mind to see issuing from the mouth of a low, dark tunnel at intervals of every fifteen minutes through the day and night four weary, worn men, bearing on a stretcher the blackened form of a human being, across the distorted face of which a coarse, white cloth was thrown; and as the melancholy cortege moved up between the ranks at either side of mourning miners the awful presence of death made itself asserted. Voices were hushed, and in the women's eyes grief and fear alternately found expression. It was also a strange effect to watch, as each miner's name was called in stentor tones that echoed along the hill, how all the men turned their eyes upon the women in painful suspense that some wild startling shriek might rend the air and some poor heart-broken creature reveal the dreadful grief of her bereavement.

The day is over now. Sixty dead bodies have been rescued from the fatal pit and three score widowed wives sit by desolate hearths this evening.

Could all this misery have been avoided is a question that might as easily be answered as asked. It certainly could. Coal mines are at all times, of course, subject to risks, and those who engage to work in them are satisfied to take the consequences of whatever natural casualties attend the operation of mining coal. Many of these casualties the miner's instinct and experience will teach him to avoid; but where human ingenuity, prompted by a spirit of good, provides only just such means for the miner as will enable him to work at the least possible expense on the part of his employer and at the greatest risk on his own, no forethought or intelligence can provide against the accidents that are likely to occur. An air hole at an expense of from $10,000 to $15,000 sunk in the Avondale coal mine would have saved perhaps every man in the mine. The short-sighted and inhuman policy that refuses to make this simple provision against emergencies at any time likely to arise must have a terrible recoil in the long run. But Avondale is no exception to other mines. All around this section of country are mines to each one of which but one shaft is attached, and when the means of escape are cut off in that quarter no hope remains for the men at work below. Mines in this country seem to be constructed on the principle of getting out the most coal at the least expense, and without a particle of consideration as to the health and safety of the miner. Had we any such deep shafts and extensive galleries among the mines of this State as they have in England accidents like this of Avondale would be of frequent occurrence and of equally appalling horror.

The Delaware and Lackawanna Corporation is immensely wealthy, and has another mine, called the Taylorsville shaft, run on precisely the same principle as the Avondale mine, and liable at any time to the same fearful accident. It remains to be seen whether this corporation will take any steps even in compliance with the statute law of the State to render their mines a little less like huge traps for human life. The feeling on this head is confined to no particular class. Men ask, is it not about time that this recklessness of life should cease? If the wretches sent to the State Legislature prefer using human life as a means of extorting blackmail to doing their honest duty, is that any reason why the companies should feel themselves at liberty to disregard every means of providing against such calamities as this at Avondale. The most sensible advice that could be given the miners in the matter is to reject all solicitation to go into any mine constructed after the fashion of the one at Avondale.

Avondale is a sweet, suggestive name that in no manner belies its application to this beautiful section of the Wyoming Valley. A high and bold range of hills overlooks as green and pastoral a plain as the keenest lover of rural scenery might desire. This high range of hills, clad to the summit with oak, ash, hickory and chestnut, is one great vein of coal, in some places of exceeding richness, and nowhere too poor to reward the toil and expense of seeking for it. On the steepest and most commanding side of the Shawnee hills the Avondale colliery was built and finished in 1867. It was constructed under the supervision of Mr. S. D. Kingsley, and cost $150,000. The Dickson Manufacturing Company put in the machinery, the remains of which, now visible in the engine house, attest the splendid character of the work. Through the Wyoming valley this mine had the reputation of being the best and largest; whence it is to be inferred that all the rest must be of a rather inferior class. When in full working order it yielded 700 tons of coal per day; but during a recent strike of the miners it was idle for a term of three months. It was leased by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, who also lease many other mines in the valley, and by this ingenious plan of leasing in place of opening mines themselves, they avoid the charge of being held responsible for the manner of their construction. The lessee of a mine, however, is practically the owner, for when he comes to yield up his lease perhaps there is no mine left.

There is no doubt, however, that the Avondale mine was one of the best and worst in the valley. The masonry work, running down the sides of the shaft some twenty feet, was as strong as stone and cement could make it. The engine house was firmly built, the machinery of the finest kind used in the colliery business, the breaker, that covered the engine house and through which the broken coal was dispatched through a long schute to the railroad track below, was built in the most substantial manner, and the casual observer seemed to leave no room for improvement. The shaft was sunk to a depth of 237 feet, with a space twenty-six feet by twelve, divided in the centre by a wooden partition, on one side of which the pure air descended to the mine, and on the other the impure vapors ascended to the top and were dissipated abroad. After going in a sheer descent to the bottom of this shaft the explorer of the mine found on either hand two long galleries, or avenues, one branching east 1,200 feet, and the other west 800 feet. Moving straight onward at right angles to the shaft, and at a distance from it of 220 feet, the furnace for creating a draught of air through the galleries and chambers of the mine might be found blazing away in dangerous proximity to the woodwork lining of the passage way reserved for the admission of the fresh air currents. It was a spark from the furnace falling on the dry scantling adjacent that caused the accident. It blazed up rapidly; the flames made a running leap to the bottom of the shaft, caught the wooden partition already mentioned, and clambering up the 237 feet, seized on the heavy wooden breaker overhead, which never should have been there, and piercing with a fierce and steady tongue of fire through the supports, brought down the ponderous beams, the debris of the breaker and the coal within it into the shaft, choking up its space to a depth of forty feet, shutting out the fresh air from above, and turning back the sulphurous gases from the blazing furnace into the galleries and chambers where the miners were at work. The men had descended to their work but three hours before.

It should be explained that the galleries which penetrate this mine are irregular in line, running east and west under the hill to a considerable distance, with chambers at intervals and doors at varying distances to keep out currents of foul air. There is no doubt but that the miners at once divined the accident that had occurred, and took prompt measures to save themselves. In the long gallaries, running deviously east and west, the miners were scattered at work, some in the gangways, others in the chambers, following the usual routine of daily toil. Laborers were filling the cars from the broken coal brought down by the miner's pick; boys were driving forward the mules to the mouth of the shaft with car loads of coal to be hoisted to the world above; all was proceeding in the customary way, when the rush back of the sulphurous gas from the furnace told the miners too well the nature of the disaster that had occurred.

In the light of what the brave men discovered on going down early in the morning to rescue their fallen comrades, we can easily trace what followed when the discovery became known through the mine that the shaft was stopped and the fresh air of heaven excluded. All those in the vicinity of the furnace retreated by winding ways so as to avoid all contact with the poisonous gases, to the utmost limits of the mine, to a gangway 1,200 feet from the bottom of the shaft. No doubt there was a fearful hurrying backwards, for the fatal carbon rushed with hot and rustling breath along the gallaries, and overtook many a poor fellow who vainly strove to reach some place of delusive safety.

At the entrance to the last gallery of the mine sixty-seven appalled but yet collected miners met and with the true instinct of self-preservation proceeded at once to barricade themselves in between a space extending in a semi-circular sweep some 200 feet. At either end of this limit were two doors which were instantly closed, and on some crevices being discovered the men pulled their shirts off and stopped the interstices, but not before the fearful demon in the air had penetrated their last retreat—not in force, however, but in sufficient strength to do the work of death with unerring certainty. In this terrible chamber their lamps extinguished, and the blackness of eternal night closed around them. It is carefully estimated that the strongest of the men succumbed in eight hours after their self-immurement. The supply of fresh air which they locked in was quickly exhausted by the breathing of sixty-seven pair of powerful lungs; while all the time the coal above, below and around them was emitting the deadly carbon. Mr. Thomas, one of the first of the heroic fellows who penetrated to this point in search of the missing men, reports that after breaking in the barrier and gaining entrance to the gangway where all those human lives surrendered to the King of Terrors, the sight that met his gaze completely unmanned him, and he wept like a little child. To him there was nothing terrible in the spectacle; the men were once his comrades; their cold begrimed faces were familiar to his eyes, and from the danger of which they were the victims he himself had many narrow escapes. It was the meeting of [illegible] other which these rude sons of toil showed in the last moments of their struggle for life that melted the soul of the brave, stern man who descended the perilous shaft to save them if he could. Men were found locked in each other's embraces; others with hands clasped laid themselves down to die; one was discovered calmly sitting by a prostrate companion, as though listening to his dying request. A father fell into his eternal sleep holding his son to his bosom. Nothing harsh or angry was observed in the features of the poor fellows. Within a space of forty feet they had all yielded up their lives, evidently with a heroic resignation and a calm resolve to die like men.

Outside the entrance to this gangway two men were found lying prostrate, as though in desparation they had burst out of the enclosure where the others lay, resolved on one final effort to get free, but meeting fall in the teeth of the fatal current that now coursed through all the gallaries they fell suddenly forward and expired.

Mr. Hughes, "boss" of the inside mining operations, was found sitting on a heap of coal, his face resting on his hands, as though meditating his awful situation, and while thus occupied was silently released from existence. A great many were caught in the retreat to the rear of the cave, and were found in all kinds of attitudes through the gallaries and chambers.

Not all the women who came to see the dead bodies taken out had relatives in the pit. Many were moved to travel long distances to see this sickening spectacle from motives of mere morbid curiosity. The bereaved and sorrowing widows were easy to tell. None of that wild, demonstrative grief that many of the reports speak of could be seen on any day since the catastrophe happened. There was no loud, long wail, and all the sorrow that gave itself vocal utterance was confined to a few. Wet eyes and looks of intense desolation too deep for expression might be seen on every side. There was one beautiful young Welsh girl who excited a great deal of sympathy. She had only been in this country three weeks; knew not a word of English, and knew no one but the fine young fellow to whom she was married in Wales, and who went down in the vigor of life through the fatal shaft on Monday morning last to be brought out today at noon a black and swollen corpse. He had evidently struggled hard for life and surrendered with a look of defiance on his face. Two kindly women bore away the poor young widow, who thought the flooding tears cried aloud in her native Welsh in a tone of voice so touching as to melt a heart of stone. This was the saddest sorrow in the whole scene.

To-morrow the funeral of forty of the miners take place, and will no doubt be very largely attended.

It has from the first been hoped that Mr. Evan Hughes, inside foreman, would have made some memoranda which, being found, would give information as to the time life was prolonged, &c. When Mr. Hughes' body was brought up his coat was off, and his tools, time books, &c., were missing. After it was deemed certain that more bodies remained in the mine Mr. Benjamin Hughes' general inside foreman of all the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company's mines and brother of Mr. Hughes, taking four men with him, went down to search for his brother's coat, hoping to find in it the memoranda so much desired. He found the coat 500 or 600 yards from where Mr. Hughes' body had been found and outside of both of the barricades. It contained his compass and other tools and two time books, but no memoranda whatever, so all hope of having a record of the last hours of the dead is lost.

Operations at Avondale have entirely ceased. The burning coal ceases to glow with purple light and brilliancy in the darkness of night; the crowds have disappeared, and none but a solitary watchman guards the entrance to the mine. The women have nearly all deserted the homes that knew them so long, but will now know them no more forever, and the great grief that seared so many hearts is, like the great fire in the mine, being gradually subdued by the flow of a nation's charity.

The Scranton *Republican* of the 13th says:

It is thought the inquest will hardy terminate before the end of the week, and that the verdict of the jury will be of a very strong character in condemnation of the present mode of constructing mines.

The intense interest felt in the Avondale disaster will not be lessened by reading the reports of the evidence elicited before Coroner Wadham's jury at Plymouth, on Saturday. The theory of the fire, which has gradually been received, viz: that the work of the shaft was ignited by the heat of the ventilating furnace is scouted by every experienced miner who was examined. There was no difference of opinion on that point, while the working of a mine with but one opening and the building of the breaker over the mouth of the shaft were generally condemned. All the witnesses whose opinions on the point were of any value were unanimous in considering the furnace entirely safe. The opinion that the fire was not caused by the furnace in the mine is supported, not only by the experience and judgment of experts, but by positive evidence of a well-nigh conclusive character. This is found in the present condition of the brettice or wooden partition which divided the shaft into a hoistingway, and an airway ran upcast and downcast. This brettice is discovered at the top, not at the bottom, except a few which were ignited by the burning debris and ashes which fell to the bottom of the shaft when the breaker building was consumed. The brettice was the only material which could have carried the fire from the bottom to the top of the shaft, if the fire had been communicated to the brettice at the bottom, as it would have been had the furnace communicated it. It is impossible to believe that a portion of the brettice beginning at a point only twenty feet from the bottom and extended thence upward for 130 feet could have remained unburned as it now remains. What could have extinguished the flames twenty feet from the bottom and rekindle them 130 or 140 feet higher up? The thing is inconceivable. Not one of the witnesses could assign for the origin of the fire any cause connected with the working of the mine. Most of them thought it expedient not to attempt any explanation at all, and only one of the hundreds to give positive expression to the horrible suspicion that evidently lurked in the minds of all. One witness on his oath said he believed the mine was [illegible] not attempt further to excite the horror which the mere suspicion of such an enormity at once arouses, but examine for a moment the facilties for incendiarism afforded by the peculiar situation.

George Morgan swore that he believed the fire began at the mouth of the tunnel or a little below it. The tunnel referred to affords the best possible cover for incendiary operations. Beginning under the lower side of the breaker it ran under that building and opened into the shaft at a point about forty feet below the surface. The parts of the shaft into which it opened was not the hoisting way which was continually traversed by the carriage, frequently with men aboard, and in which any suspicious appearance would almost certainly have been noticed. The tunnel opened into the air shaft, or upcast, by a wooden door. This point in the air shaft, forty feet beneath the surface, was perfectly screened from observation. It was up the air shaft that the fire came, and it came with the speed and force of an explosion, bursting into the engine house, as the engineer swore, with the puff of an explosion of loose powder. This explosive character of the flame is partly accounted for by the strength of the draft in the air shaft; but the use of the quantity of highly inflammable materials at the mouth of the tunnel would have tended to produce precisely the same effect. What is more easy than to enter the tunnel, say at daybreak, charge its mouth and the brettice opposite with a quantity of kerosene or other inflammable material, by a slow fuse connecting with it, light the fuse, escape unnoticed, and be miles away before the catastrophe came? The fuse and a magazine would be most effectually concealed while the former was burning. It is a dreadful thing to feel compelled to advocate such a theory; but is any other possible? Can it be conceived that such a conflagration, if occurring from any accidental cause or at the bottom of the shaft, could have escaped the notice of men passing up and down the shaft only fifteen minutes before the flames burst from its mouth? Was not the mouth of the tunnel the only point opposite the burned part of the brettice, at which fire could have been communicated? Was it not impossible for any fire to accidentally come from the tunnel? In brief, is not the theory of incendiarism possible, and all others impossible? In reaching this conclusion we do not take into account the reports about traces of kerosene at the mouth of the tunnel. It will be time enough to consider those when they have been elicited on oath in open court. The evidences of the most heart-sickening crime on record are far stronger than we could desire them to be already.

THE MINERS' UNION DENY THAT INCENDIARISM FIRED THE SHAFT.

WILKESBARRE, Sept. 13, 1869.

The Miners' Union desire that the following statement on their part be given to the public:—

The despatches which are being constantly transmitted from Scranton in relation to the Avondale disaster are in many instances entirely unfounded in fact. That the fire which occurred at the mine was the work of an incendiary no one believes. It is one of the subterfuges resorted to by the Delaware, Lackawana and Western Railroad Company to turn the mind of the public from the real responsibility resting upon the company. The reporters who furnish principally the particulars taken before the jury of inquest on Saturday last, have, in many instances, suppressed the testimony material to the miners and published that favorable to the company. The object can only be conjectured. The company is powerful; the miners are weak. Simple justice is the demand of many citizens.

A woman died recently in Trenton, Michigan, in giving birth to her thirty-first child. Among the thirty-one were three pair of twins, and the eldest of them, if living, would be only twenty-nine years old.

It may be of interest to housekeepers to know that the shrinkage of flannels is prevented by putting borax into the water in which they are washed.

Be slow in choosing a friend and slower to change him; courteous to all, intimate with few; slight no man for his poverty and esteem none for his wealth.