Miners' Journal.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1870.

THE DAILY MINERS' JOURNAL.

WE SHALL send the DAILY MINERS' JOURNAL hereafter regularly to all those subscribers of the WEEKLY MINERS' JOURNAL, to whom we sent several of this week's issues, as specimens.

We desire that all will subscribe for it, but those who do not care to take it, can signify their wish, by declining to take the paper from Post Office.

DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS.

FROM time to time we have been sending out bills for subscriptions to this paper, due for a longer or shorter period and unpaid, hoping they would elicit some response, either by being paid, or some reason given for the further delay. While a number have responded—there are yet a large number who have either neglected or intentionally failed to take any notice of our bills. To all such we have to say that we have again made out their bills, which we enclose them through the mails, hoping they will receive immediate attention at their hands. It is our intention, where we do not hear from parties indebted to us, after ample time has been allowed to do so, to strike their names from our lists, and put them on the Black Roll.—It is an easy matter for each subscriber to see the amount of his indebtedness, as his account is correctly printed on the paper he gets every week. If our present request to settle subscription bills should not be effective, perhaps a publication of the names and amounts due us, would impress the matter upon the minds of our delinquents more forcibly.

HORACE GREELEY ON FARMING.—Mr. Greeley purposes to write a series of essays on Farming, to be published each week during 1870, in THE TRIBUNE. The essays will all appear in the Daily, Semi-Weekly, and Weekly editions of THE TRIBUNE. He means to demonstrate that Agriculture in the future is certain to be very different from what it has been in the past, and hopes to embody words of cheer as well as hints for guidance to the future farmers of our country. THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE of Jan. 5 contained the first essay.

THE Telegraph Strike is virtually a failure. It was started by several hotheads without sufficient cause, predicated more on the success of other movements in other sections, than on the justice of their cause. The consequence is that they have found public opinion so strongly against them, that the large mass of the strikers have repudiated their oaths and gone to work again. Strikes, based on justice, so as to command public opinion in their favor, will succeed—but when there is not sufficient grounds to base such action upon, in defiance of public opinion, must and will fail in this country. The American temperament is not the kind of stuff to tolerate anything that is wrong beyond a certain point.

BILLS FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINERS.

AN ACT

FOR THE BETTER REGULATION AND VENTILATION OF MINES, AND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE LIVES OF THE MINERS IN THE COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That, from and after, that it is hereby made the duty of all superintendents, lessees, operators, owners, mining agents, and other persons controlling and directing the mining of anthracite coal in the County of Schuylkill, to provide for, manage and establish in each of the mines superintended, leased, operated, controlled, or directed by them, and each of them an adequate amount of ventilation, and of circulation of pure air to dilute and render harmless all noxious gases therein, to such an extent that the working places in every such mine or colliery shall be in a healthy state for working therein, and free from danger to human life by reason of such noxious gases.

SECTION 2. That, in providing for, and establishing ventilation in the mines aforesaid, furnaces and auxiliary fans, and other mechanical appliances may be used therein, and if under ground furnaces be used for such purposes, they shall be so erected as to prevent ignition of the coal in the mines, the fire of the furnace shall be fed with fresh air, and the vitiated air, and of the mine shall not be allowed to come in contact with the furnace, but shall be made to pass into an up-cast air course at a point far enough above the fire to insure against the ignition of the fire-damp, which said vitiated air may contain, and such ventilation fans are well they shall be substantially built, and be of such size and use as shall be of such dimensions as to insure an abundant supply of fresh air.

SECTION 3. It shall also be the duty of said superintendents, lessees, operators, owners, mining agents and other person or persons controlling and directing the mining of anthracite coal in the county aforesaid, to select and employ competent and qualified persons for each of said mines or collieries, who shall be known as the mine inspectors, who shall be by them paid, and who in addition to such other duties as he may contract to perform, shall keep a careful watch over the airways, the travelling ways, the timbering and all things connected with the safety of the workmen, and also in connection with his assistants shall examine carefully the whole of the workings every morning before the miners enter the colliery, and shall ascertain that they be free from danger, and the workmen shall be prevented from entering any portion of the mines until such examination has been made, and the cause or causes of danger be removed, and all other places in the mine containing dangerous gas of any kind shall be by him properly fenced off so as to prevent access thereto.

SECTION 4. All safety lamps used in mines shall be the property of the operator or lessee of such mines, and shall be under the exclusive charge of the mining boss, and it shall be the duty of such mining boss to keep the safety lamps in good order and to provide that all doors used for ventating, or in any way affecting the ventilation shall be so hung that they will close of their own accord, and that trap doors in collieries in which the inspector hereinafter named shall deem it necessary, and so order, shall be provided with a boy to open and close them, and shall be guard them and prevent their being left open.

SECTION 5. It shall also be the duty of said superintendents, lessees, operators, owners, mining agents and other persons controlling and directing the mining of anthracite coal in the county aforesaid, to provide every working slope or shaft with some suitable means for signaling from the bottom of said slope or shaft to the surface, and from the surface to the bottom of the same; they shall also provide a sufficient cover or cage to be used when lowering or raising persons in every working shaft, and they shall be attached to the drum of any machine that is used for lowering or raising persons into or out of any of said mines.

SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of the owner or operator in all mines hereafter opened, to sink, continue and maintain good substantial and reliable up-cast airways of a size sufficient to draw the necessary quantity of air through the workings of said mines at all times, and also the necessary distributing air-ways, which and all air-ways shall be independent each other, until they terminate in the up-cast air shaft, and upon their neglect or refusal so to do they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SECTION 7. Every engine man shall constantly attend to the engine of which he has charge, and shall not allow any person except the person appointed by the operator or his agent to touch or meddle with it or any part of its machinery; he shall work his engine slowly and with great care when raising or lowering persons in the shaft or slope, and when any person is about to descend or ascend from a slope or shaft the men at the bottom of the slope must inform the engine man by signal or otherwise, and it shall not be lawful for any one to ride upon a loaded wagon or cage in any slope or shaft in said mines, and upon neglect or refusal of the said engine man to obey the control his employer, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court; and any one riding upon said loaded cage, wagon or cars, aforesaid, or any operator or mining boss permitting the same to be done shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined in a sum not exceeding fifty dollars upon conviction thereof.

SECTION 8. The neglect or refusal of any of the said superintendents, lessees, operators or owners, or mining agents to do and perform any of the duties enjoined upon them by sections one, two and three of this act, shall be a misdemeanor, and upon conviction therefor, he or they shall be punished by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SECTION 9. The neglect or refusal of any mining boss to perform the duties enjoined upon him by the provisions of section four of this act shall be a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars and imprisonment at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SECTION 10. In every case in which an explosion resulting in death or serious personal injury, and all accidents whatever in or about any of the said collieries or mines resulting in death or serious personal injury, it shall be the duty of the party in charge of the said colliery to give notice of such explosions or accidents to the inspector hereinafter named within twenty-four hours after its occurrence, and it shall also be the duty of the coroner of Schuylkill county, to give notice of every inquest held by him upon the body or bodies of persons killed in or about the mines or collieries aforesaid.

SECTION 11. It shall be the duty of every operator of a colliery or mine as aforesaid to keep in good order all boilers in and about the collieries and coal breakers using steam, and it shall also be the duty of every operator or his agent to have all such boilers examined once a year by a boiler maker or other competent person, and a record of such every such examination shall be made known in writing to the inspector hereinafter named, which said inspector shall deem any such examination unnecessary when the same may be produced for two years.

SECTION 12. The Governor of the State of Pennsylvania shall have power, and it shall be his duty to appoint a properly qualified person for the office of inspector of the coal mines of Schuylkill county, whose commission shall be for the term of three years, unless in the meantime removed for incompetency, and the person so appointed shall have attained the age of thirty-five years, be a citizen of the State of Pennsylvania, and have practically connected with the anthracite mines of Pennsylvania for a period of ten years, and have had experience in the working and ventilation of coal mines where fire damp is evolved. Before entering the discharge of his duties, he shall undergo an examination before a board composed of five practical miners, and one mining engineer, to be appointed by the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County, and shall take an oath or affirmation before an officer properly qualified to administer the same that he will fully discharge the duties of said office.

SECTION 13. The said inspector shall give his whole time and attention to the duties of his said office, and it shall be his duty to examine all the collieries in the said County of Schuylkill; to see that every necessary precaution is taken to insure safety to the lives of the workmen, and to see that all the provisions of this act are observed and enforced; and the salary of the said inspector shall be three thousand dollars per annum. It shall also be his duty to attend to every inquest held by the coroner of Schuylkill County, upon the bodies of persons killed in or about the mines, and to ascertain, if possible, the cause of every accident resulting in death or serious injury.

SECTION 14. The said inspector shall have the right to enter and inspect the mines and mineries at all reasonable times by day and night, and may require into the state and condition of the mines, and into all matters connected with the safety of the persons employed, and the operator or agent shall furnish to him the means necessary for such entry, inspection, examination and inquiry. He shall have the right to examine the plan of the workings of the mine, which shall be kept at all collieries, and shown to the inspector whenever he may think necessary to examine it, and in case of neglect of any operator to have such plan of his colliery, or if such plan is deficient or inaccurate, said inspector may order one or more engineers to have such plan made, and the cost of the same shall be paid by the operator.

SECTION 15. When any coal mine or any level or lift thereof is finished before much level or mine is abandoned or filled with water or any of the gangway pillars are removed, an accurate survey and plan of the same shall be made by one or more experienced engineers at the cost of the landowner, and said plan shall be given to the inspector who shall file the same in his office for future reference, and on failure to furnish said plan, the cost of the same shall be collected from the said landowner by action as debts are by law recoverable.

SECTION 16. The inspector shall be provided with an assistant who shall act as clerk whose he may appoint whose salary shall be six thousand dollars.

SECTION 17. The office of the said inspector shall be kept in the borough of Pottsville, wherein the plans of mines and all papers relating thereto shall be kept.

SECTION 18. It shall be the duty of the inspectors to make a report to the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania within one month after the close of each and every year, wherein the results of his labors shall be set forth, all the accidents in and about the mines fully enumerated, and the state of the workings of said mines with regard to safety and ventilation.

SECTION 19. The salary of the said inspector and his assistants and the expenses of carrying into execution the provisions of this act shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of the treasury of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon the warrant of the president judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Schuylkill; *Provided*, That not more than four thousand dollars in any one year shall be paid therefor.

Approved April 12th, 1869.

MR. TURNER'S BILL.

The following is as proposed by Mr. Turner in the Senate of Pennsylvania, and read January 5, 1870.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN COAL MINES.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That, from and after the passage of this act, it shall be the duty of all superintendents, lessees, operators, owners, mining agents, and other persons controlling and directing the mining of anthracite coal in the County of Schuylkill, to provide for, manage and establish in each of the mines superintended, leased, operated, controlled, or directed by them, and each of them an adequate amount of ventilation, and of circulation of pure air to dilute and render harmless all noxious gases therein, to such an extent that the working places in every such mine or colliery shall be in a healthy state for working therein, and free from danger to human life by reason of such noxious gases.

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SECTION 3. It shall also be the duty of said superintendents, lessees, operators, owners, mining agents and other person or persons controlling and directing the mining of anthracite coal in the county aforesaid, to select and employ competent and qualified persons for each of said mines or collieries, who shall be known as the mine inspectors, who shall be by them paid, and who in addition to such other duties as he may contract to perform, shall keep a careful watch over the airways, the travelling ways, the timbering and all things connected with the safety of the workmen, and also in connection with his assistants shall examine carefully the whole of the workings every morning before the miners enter the colliery, and shall ascertain that they be free from danger, and the workmen shall be prevented from entering any portion of the mines until such examination has been made, and the cause or causes of danger be removed, and all other places in the mine containing dangerous gas of any kind shall be by him properly fenced off so as to prevent access thereto.

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SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of the owner or operator in all mines hereafter opened, to sink, continue and maintain good substantial and reliable up-cast airways of a size sufficient to draw the necessary quantity of air through the workings of said mines at all times, and also the necessary distributing air-ways, which and all air-ways shall be independent each other, until they terminate in the up-cast air shaft, and upon their neglect or refusal so to do they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the court trying the same.

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SECTION 15. When any coal mine or any level or lift thereof is finished before much level or mine is abandoned or filled with water or any of the gangway pillars are removed, an accurate survey and plan of the same shall be made by one or more experienced engineers at the cost of the landowner, and said plan shall be given to the inspector who shall file the same in his office for future reference, and on failure to furnish said plan, the cost of the same shall be collected from the said landowner by action as debts are by law recoverable.

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SECTION 18. It shall be the duty of the inspectors to make a report to the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania within one month after the close of each and every year, wherein the results of his labors shall be set forth, all the accidents in and about the mines fully enumerated, and the state of the workings of said mines with regard to safety and ventilation.

SECTION 19. The salary of the said inspector and his assistants and the expenses of carrying into execution the provisions of this act shall be paid by the State Treasurer out of the treasury of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon the warrant of the president judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Schuylkill; *Provided*, That not more than four thousand dollars in any one year shall be paid therefor.

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SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That, the owner, lessee, operator, or agent of every anthracite coal mine or colliery shall make, or cause to be made, an accurate map or plan of the workings of said mine or colliery on a scale of one hundred feet to the inch, and when there is more than one seam of coal worked in said coal mine or colliery the map or plan shall exhibit the workings in each seam of coal, and shall state the general inclination of the strata with any material deflection therein in said workings, and the boundary lines of the lands of said coal mines or colliery, a true copy of which map or plan the said owner, lessee, operator, or agent shall deposit with the inspector of coal mines and collieries for the county in which the said coal mine or colliery is situated within four months from the passage of this act; and the said owner, lessee, operator, or agent shall furnish to the inspector aforesaid, on the first day of January in every year hereafter, a statement, or map, or plan of the progress of the workings of such coal mine or colliery during the year past up to date, to enable the inspector to mark the same upon the map or plan of the coal mine or colliery furnished and deposited with said inspector as hereinbefore provided for; and when any coal mine or colliery is worked out preparatory to being abandoned, when any level or lift thereof is being finished with a view and for the purpose of being abandoned, or when any of the gangway pillars therein are to be removed, the owner, operator, lessee, or agent of such coal mine or colliery shall have the map or plan thereof furnished as hereinbefore provided, or such portions thereof as the case may require correctly verified, and notice shall be given to the inspector of coal mines and collieries for the district in writing of the purpose to abandon or remove the pillars as the case may be.

SEC. 2. That whenever the owner, lessee, operator, or agent of any coal mine or colliery shall neglect or refuse, or from any cause fail for the period of two months, to furnish the inspector the map or plan or the addition thereto provided for in the first section of this act, or if the inspector finds, or has reason to believe, that any plan or map of any coal mine or colliery furnished him under the provisions of this act is materially inaccurate or imperfect, he is hereby authorized to cause an accurate map or plan of the actual workings of such coal mine or colliery to be made at the expense of the owner, lessee, or operator thereof, the cost of which shall be recoverable by law as other debts are from said owner, lessee, or operator.

SEC. 3. Provided, That after the passage of this act it shall not be lawful for the owner, lessee, operator, or agent of a new anthracite coal mine or colliery, to develop through a shaft or slope, and after the 1st day of July, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, it shall not be lawful for the owner, lessee, operator, or agent of any existing anthracite coal mine or colliery, worked by shaft or slope, to employ any person in working within such coal mine or colliery, or to permit any person to be in such coal mine or colliery, for the purpose of working therein, unless there are in communication with every seam or stratum of coal worked in such coal mine or colliery for the time being at work, at least two other outlets or slopes or outlets, separated by natural strata, or not less than one hundred and fifty feet in breadth, by which shafts, slopes, or outlets direct means of ingress and egress are always available to the persons employed in the coal mine or colliery, but it shall not be necessary for the two shafts, slope or outlets to belong to the same coal mine or colliery, if the persons therein employed have ready and available means of ingress and egress by not less than two shafts, slopes, or outlets, one or more of which may belong to another coal mine or colliery. The expression or terms new coal mine or colliery, used in this section, shall mean a coal mine or colliery opened after the passage of this act, or an abandoned old mine, the working of which is begun afresh after the passage of this act, and the expression existing coal mine or colliery, used in this section, shall mean a coal mine or colliery actually being worked at the time of the passage of this act; and this section shall not apply to opening a new coal mine or colliery, nor to any working for the purpose of making a communication between two or more shafts, slopes, or outlets, so long as not more than twenty persons are employed at any one time in the said new mine or working.

SEC. 4. The owner, lessee, operator, or agent of any coal mine or colliery to which there is only one shaft, slope, or outlet, may petition the Court of Common Pleas in and for the county in which said coal mine or colliery is situated, which said court is hereby empowered to act in the premises, setting forth that in consequence of intervening lands between the workings in his coal mine or colliery, and the nearest available point, or the only available point, as the case may be, at which to make or bring to the surface from the workings of his mine, an additional shaft, slope or outlet, in accordance with the requirements of this act, whereupon the court may make an order of reference, and appoint three disinterested persons, resident of said county, viewers, one or more of whom shall be practical mining engineers, all of whom, after being sworn to a faithful discharge of their duties, shall view and examine the premises and determine as to whether the owner, lessee, or operator ought or ought not, under the circumstances, to have the privilege of sinking an additional outlet through or upon any intervening lands, in accordance with this act, as the case may be, and report a sketch or a plan of the same to the court, which report shall be entered and filed of record, if the finding of the viewers or any two of them, is in favor of the owner, lessee, or operator of such coal mine or colliery, he may make an additional shaft, slope or outlet under, through or upon intervening lands, as may be determined upon and provided for by the award. If the finding of the viewers be against the owner, lessee, or operator, or if no award be made by reason of any default or neglect on the part of the owner, lessee, or operator, he shall be bound to comply with the provisions of this act in the same manner as if this section had not been enacted; in case the said owner, lessee, operator, or agent claims that he ought to make an additional opening under, through, or upon any adjoining or intervening lands to meet the requirements of this act for the ingress and egress of the men employed in his or their coal mine or colliery, he or they shall make a statement of the facts in the petition, with a survey setting out the point of commencement and the point of termination of the proposed outlet which he or they, their engineers, agents, and artists may enter upon said intervening lands, and survey, or mark as he or they shall find it to be most for the purpose of being abandoned, or damage to the property explored, and the viewers shall state in their report what damage will be sustained by the owner or owners of the intervening lands by the opening, constructing, and using of the outlet, and if the report is not appealed from it shall be binding, or confirmed or rejected by said court as to right and justice shall appertain; and any further and all proceedings in relation thereto shall be in conformity with like proceedings as in the case of lateral railroad across or under intervening lands under the act of Assembly, relating to lateral railroads approved the 6th day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, and the supplements thereto, so far as the provisions of the same are applicable thereto, and the notices to the owner of intervening lands of the intention to apply for the privilege of sinking an outlet, and of the nominal sum of viewers shall be given, and the costs of the case shall be paid as provided in the said act of the 5th of May, eighteen hundred and thirty-two, and the supplements thereto.

SEC. 5. Any of the courts of law or equity of this commonwealth having jurisdiction in the county where the coal mine or colliery proceeded against is situated, may, upon application of the inspector of coal mines and collieries of the proper district, acting in behalf of the Commonwealth, prohibit, by injunction, the working of any mine in which any person is employed in working or being permitted to be for the purpose of working, in contravention of the provisions of the third and fourth sections of this act, and may award such costs in the matter of the injunction as the court may think just; but this section shall be without prejudice to any other remedy provided by law for enforcing the provisions of the said third and fourth sections of this act.

SEC. 6. The owner, lessee, operator, or agent of every coal mine or colliery shall erect to provide, at or near the mouth or entrance to such mine, and maintain the same at all times when men are employed in such mine, a suitable building or buildings, properly lighted and warmed, for the use of the employed in such mine to change their clothes in when entering the mine and when returning therefrom.

SEC. 7. The owner, lessee, operator, or agent of every coal mine or colliery shall provide and establish for every such coal mine or colliery, an adequate amount of ventilation throughout the entire mine, to dilute and render harmless and expel therefrom the noxious gases to such an extent that the entire mine shall be in a fit state for men to work therein, and be free from danger to the health and lives of the men by reason of said noxious and poisonous gases. The ventilation may be produced by using blowing engines, air-pumps, forcing or exhausting fans of sufficient capacity and power, or other suitable appliances as to produce and insure constantly an abundant supply of fresh air throughout the entire mine; and in no case shall a furnace be used in the mine where the coal-breaker and mule buildings are built directly over and covering the top of the shaft for the purpose of producing a hot upcast of air.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the inspector of coal mine and colliery, and provide for the health and safety of the men employed therein, otherwise, and in every respect, the owner, lessee, operator, or agent, as the case may be, in charge of every coal mine or colliery, shall employ a competent inside overseer, to be called mining boss, who shall keep a careful watch over the ventilating apparatus, over the airways, the travelling ways, the pumps and sumps, the timbering, to see, as the miners advance in their workings, that all loose coal, slate, or rock overhead is carefully scaled against falling, over the arrangements for signaling from the bottom to the top, and from the top to the bottom of the shaft or slope, over the metal tube from the top to the bottom of the shaft or slope, for the purpose of talking through the same, and all things connected with, appertaining to the safety of the men at work in the mine. He or his assistants shall examine carefully the working place of all the men employed before the miners enter the coal mine or colliery, and shall ascertain that the mine is free from danger, and the workmen shall not enter the mine until such examination has been made and reported, and the cause of danger, if any exist, be removed. And he or his assistant shall also examine every evening, when the workmen leave the mine or colliery, go over the mine and see that the doors of the ventilating-doors are properly closed, and that all the air-ways are free and unobstructed to the passage of air through them.

SEC. 9. All and every of the safety lamps used in coal mines or collieries, shall be the property of the owner, lessee, or operator thereof, and shall be under the charge of a suitable person under direction of the mining boss, who shall keep them in good order; and the mining boss shall provide that all doors used in assisting or in any way affecting ventilation of the mine, shall be so hung and adjusted as that they will close of their own accord.

SEC. 10. The owner, lessee, operator, or agent of every coal mine or colliery opened and operated by shaft or slope, shall provide and maintain a metal tube from the top to the bottom of such slope or shaft, suitably calculated and adapted to the free passage of sound therein, through which conversation may be held by and between persons at the bottom and the top of the shaft or slope, and also the ordinary means of signaling from and to the top of the shaft from the bottom, and also provide an improved safety catch and a sufficient cover over the mouth of every carriage used for lowering or hoisting persons; and they shall provide and arrange that flanges or horns of sufficient dimensions be attached to the sides of the drum of every machine that is used for lowering or hoisting persons in or out of any mine; the neglect or refusal of any person or party to perform the duties provided for and required to be performed by sections six, seven, eight, nine, and ten of this act by the parties therein required to perform them, shall be taken and be deemed a misdemeanor by them, or either or any of them, and, upon conviction thereof, he or they or any or either of them shall be punished by imprisonment and fine, or either of the discretion of the court trying the same.

SEC. 11. No owner, lessee, operator, or agent shall at any coal mine or colliery operated by shaft or slope shall place in charge of any engine, whereby the men are lowered into or hoisted out of the mine, any but experienced, competent, sober engineers, and every engineer so placed in charge of an engine shall constantly attend to the engine of which he has charge, and shall not allow any person except such as may be deputed by the operator or agent to touch or meddle with it or any part of its machinery; he shall work the engine with great care when any person is ascending or descending the shaft or slope, and when any person is about to descend or ascend the shaft or slope, the men at the bottom or top as the case may be, must inform the engineer by the metal tube, the signal or otherwise thereof, and no one shall interfere with, or in any way molest the engineer in the discharge of his duties, nor ride upon a loaded wagon or cage in any shaft or slope in any other said mines; and upon any person being injured by a violation of this section he shall be held and deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, or, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SEC. 12. Whenever loss of life or serious personal injury to any person or persons shall occur by reason of any explosion or other accident whatever in or about any coal mine or colliery it shall be the duty of the party having charge of such coal mine or colliery to give notice thereof forthwith to the inspector of coal mines and collieries for the district, and for the county of the county. If any person is killed thereby, and due notice shall be given by the coroner of any inquest to be held as the result of any such explosion or accident, and it shall be the duty of the inspector or his deputy to immediately repair to the scene of the accident and make such suggestions as may appear necessary to secure the safety of the men, and if the results of the explosion do not require an investigation by the coroner, he shall investigate into and ascertain the cause of the explosion or accident and make a record thereof, which he shall preserve with the other records of his office, and to enable him to make investigate on he shall have power, upon such occasions, to compel the attendance of witnesses by subpoena and to administer oaths or affirmations thereto, the cost of which investigation shall be paid by the county, in the same manner as cost of inquests held by the coroner or justices of the peace are. The failure of the person in charge of the coal mine or colliery to give notice to the inspector shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SEC. 13. Whenever loss of life or serious personal injury to any person or persons shall occur by reason of any explosion or other accident whatever in or about any coal mine or colliery to give notice thereof forthwith to the inspector of coal mines and collieries for the district, and for the county of the county. If any person is killed thereby, and due notice shall be given by the coroner of any inquest to be held as the result of any such explosion or accident, and it shall be the duty of the inspector or his deputy to immediately repair to the scene of the accident and make such suggestions as may appear necessary to secure the safety of the men, and if the results of the explosion do not require an investigation by the coroner, he shall investigate into and ascertain the cause of the explosion or accident and make a record thereof, which he shall preserve with the other records of his office, and to enable him to make investigate on he shall have power, upon such occasions, to compel the attendance of witnesses by subpoena and to administer oaths or affirmations thereto, the cost of which investigation shall be paid by the county, in the same manner as cost of inquests held by the coroner or justices of the peace are. The failure of the person in charge of the coal mine or colliery to give notice to the inspector shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SEC. 14. All boilers used for generating steam in and about coal mines and collieries shall be kept in good order, and the owner, lessee, operator, or agent thereof shall have them examined once a year by a competent boiler maker or other well-qualified person, as often as once in six months, and the result of every such examination, such boiler shall be certified in writing to the inspector for the district; provided, the said inspector of coal mines may, if he deem it proper to do so, require a second examination of any boiler, and if the same shall be found to be in a dangerous state, he may order the same to be stopped, and the owner, lessee, or agent of the said boiler shall not use the same until the said boiler shall be repaired and the said inspector shall give a certificate that the said boiler is safe to be used.

SEC. 15. The said inspector of coal mines for the county of Schuylkill, appointed under "An act for the better regulation and ventilation of mines, and for the protection of the lives of the miners in the county of Schuylkill," approved the twelfth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and his successors, shall be appointed for the county of Schuylkill, in the same manner as provided for the county of Luzerne, under this act, shall act as the inspector of coal mines and collieries for the counties of Columbia, Northumberland and Dauphin also, and to receive a salary from and after the passage of this act shall be four thousand dollars per annum, and he may appoint an additional deputy at a salary of one thousand five hundred dollars, who shall qualify, by oath or affirmation, in like manner as the inspector.

SEC. 16. It shall be the duty of the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county, whenever a petition signed by not less than twenty-five reputable coal operators, or coal miners or both setting forth that the inspector of coal mines and collieries for the district grossly neglects the duties of his office, or is incompetent, or that he is guilty of malfeasance in office, or is a citizen in the name of the Commonwealth, to cause notice to be given to the said inspector, fifteen days' notice, on a day fixed, before said judges, when the said court shall proceed to inquire into and, if it shall be found by the testimony of witnesses before the court and that the said inspector is grossly negligent of his duties, or that he is by reason of causes stated in the petition incompetent, or that he has been guilty of malfeasance in office, the said court shall remove the said inspector, incompetent to perform the duties of said office, or that he is guilty of malfeasance in office, the court shall forward a copy of the proceedings, the testimony taken, and the petition to the Governor of the Commonwealth, who shall declare the office of inspector of the district vacant, and proceed to appoint a person to fill the vacancy in compliance with the provisions of this act to fill the office, and the costs of the said investigation before the court shall be borne by the unsuccessful petitioner; but if the allegations of the petitioners are not sustained by the final judgment of the court the costs shall be paid by the petitioners, or by the county at the discretion of the Court.

SEC. 17. The salary of the said inspector, appointed for Luzerne county, shall be four thousand dollars; he shall be provided with one or more deputies, receiving the same amount, and whom shall act as clerk; and whose salary shall be not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars per annum; the office of the inspector shall be kept in the county seat, in an office to be provided by the county commissioners of the county wherein the maps and plans of mines and the records thereof, together with the papers relating thereto, shall be kept properly arranged and preserved.

SEC. 18. Each of the said inspectors of coal mines and collieries shall give his whole time and attention to the duties of the office, and it shall be his duty to examine all the coal mines and collieries in his district as often as his duties will permit him to do so, to see that every necessary precaution is taken to insure the safety of the workmen, to see that the provisions of this act are observed and obeyed, and it shall also be his duty to attend at every inquest by himself or deputy, held by the coroner of miners in his district upon bodies of persons killed in or about the coal mines or collieries.

SEC. 19. That any miner, workman, or other person who shall knowingly injure any safety lamp, water gage, barometer, or any other article provided for safety, or carry lighted pipes or matches into places that are worked by locked safety lamps, or handle or disturb any part of the machinery of any steam engine, or open a door and not have the same closed, whereby danger is caused in the mine, or enter any place of fire against caution, or disobey any order given in carrying out the provisions of this act, or shall ride upon a loaded car or carriage, in any shaft or slope, or on any part of the machinery of said mines, or do any other act whereby the lives or health of persons, or the security of the mines, or the machinery is endangered, or who shall, during charge of a working place, in any coal mine or colliery, who shall neglect or refuse to keep the roof properly propped and timbered, to prevent danger of the falling of coal, slate, or rock, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment and fine, at the discretion of the court trying the same.

SEC. 20. It shall be lawful for any inspector or his deputy to enter, inspect, and examine any coal mine or colliery of his district, and the works and machinery belonging thereto, at all reasonable times, by day or night, but so as not to impede or obstruct the working of the coal mine or colliery, and to make inquiry into and report touching all matters relating to such coal