

FREELAND TRIBUNE.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR.

ENTERED THE COLLIERY.

FIRST MEN TO PIERCE THE GLOOM OF EBERSVALE MINE.

Superintendents Marley and Dunkerly Go to the Bottom of the Third Lift. Sketch of How the Workings Became Flooded—Their Present Condition.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, in that paper last Monday, gave an interesting account of the success of draining the Ebersvale colliery, and the condition in which the first explorers found things where the water had reigned supreme for many years. The correspondent wrote as follows:

For the first time since being flooded with water eight years ago the Ebersvale mines were entered by man. The explorers were Messrs. Marley and Dunkerly, of Jeddo. This marks the success of the greatest piece of mine engineering ever attempted in this country. With the entrance of the men to the bottom of the third lift the work of the contractors ceased.

It is now about eight years since the creek broke into Harleigh mines. The stream shortly after broke into Ebersvale colliery. It came with such force and so suddenly that the operators had to exert themselves to get the mules out of the place, leaving mine cars, pumps and machinery to be swallowed up by the flood. The valley being practically a swamp the inflow became so heavy that it was soon found impossible to keep the mines clear and they were abandoned. A. S. VanWicklo at that time operated the Ebersvale mines on a lease.

The Harleigh mines are not as deep as the Ebersvale workings. The pillars between the two places are quite narrow, and ten years ago, upon the advice of the mine inspector, the two places were connected by bore holes. These are now supposed to be draining the water from Harleigh to Ebersvale. It is known that the first lift of the Harleigh mine is clear of water, but the black damp lurks in the recesses in dangerous quantities and cannot be penetrated until ventilation is restored.

The vein there measures from 60 to 100 feet in thickness. It was this which prompted the Union Improvement Company to accept the suggestion of piercing the Minesville mountain with a water way and to expend three and one-half million dollars to carry it out. About four months ago the bore holes connecting the mines with the tunnel were put down and up to the present time a steady stream has been flowing.

During the time that the work has been in progress very little was heard from the projectors. Kemmerer & Co., who operated the Harleigh mines at the time of the flood, have since been in litigation with Marley & Co. The latter have exercised an authority at Ebersvale, while the Union Improvement Company seemed to prosecute the work. The question of ownership has therefore been disputed.

After the main tunnel had been connected with Ebersvale, another branch was driven to Jeddo, connecting the mines there. Since then both operators and contractors have watched the water recede with anxious expectancy. As it went down inch by inch the progress was noted. Volumes of black damp were left in the recesses and means to overcome the difficulty were devised. A new fan was put in operation, and the dangerous black damp was in this way removed, and the opening gradually filled with pure air, permitting the explorers to enter and examine the interior.

For the first time this was possible. Messrs. Marley and Dunkerly undertook the task. The slope pitched at an angle of forty-five degrees. The road bed was covered with mud slime, which made the work extremely hazardous. As the men continued on their way down, the timber, rails and sills were found to be in a fair state of preservation. Several small relics were found, which workmen, in their haste, had abandoned, such as oil cans, a drill, engineers' wrench, etc.

The bottom lift was covered deeply with mud. The four pumps had on a coating of mud, which probably made them impervious to the acids and chemicals, which mine water usually contains. The pumps, despite their eight-year bath, are still in excellent condition. They were overhauled and all parts examined and found to be almost ready for service. The pumps are said to be the property of A. S. VanWicklo.

The east gangway, which extends 3,000 feet toward Jeddo, is in a fair condition. The timbers here are also well preserved and seem sound enough to do service for many years to come. Several mine cars encountered were in much better condition than those which have been exposed to the elements on the surface. Everything, however, was covered with mud and muck. It will take a great deal of work to clean the openings and get them into shape.

Preparations for working the mines are already in progress. Who will operate them is still a question. G. B. Markle & Co. are actively engaged arranging to take out the coal. A. S. Van

Killed at Upper Lehigh.

Charles Brill, a Polish miner of town, was instantly killed yesterday morning in No. 2 shaft, Upper Lehigh. He was working in his breast when a large fall of clod took place. Brill was directly under the clod and it struck him with terrific force, crushing his face beyond recognition. The company's ambulance brought him to his boarding house on Walnut street, but the proprietor, Mrs. George Hudock, refused to admit the dead man. The corpse was then taken to Undertaker Brislin's establishment, where it was washed and prepared for burial. In the afternoon the remains were taken charge of by August Kellert, who had them removed to his home. This morning Mine Inspector Roderick ordered Squire Buckley to hold an inquest and ascertain the cause of the man's death. The evidence in the case will be heard next Monday evening. Brill was aged 32 years. He will be buried tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Independent Polish cemetery.

Brill's laborer, a man named Yephko, was also caught under the fall of clod. He is in the country only three months. He was taken to his boarding house in Upper Lehigh, and will likely recover.

A Pretty Wedding.

John Shigo and Miss Mary Hamara were married by Father Stas at St. John's Slavish church on Tuesday morning. The wedding was one of the prettiest that has occurred in Freeland for a long time. The church was crowded with friends of the young couple, both of whom are well and favorable known. The bridesmaids were Misses Katie Toomey and Mary Hudok, of Freeland; Margaret Rushey, of Wilkesbarre, and Annie Fedora, of Upper Lehigh. Misses Susie Faltz and Mamie Hudok were the flower girls. The Slavonian band tendered the couple a serenade on Tuesday evening.

Governor Hastings' Visit.

Governor Hastings' visit to Drifton yesterday was shorter than had been expected. The governor and his wife arrived there on the D. S. & S. special train in the morning, and were met at the station by representatives of the Cox family. They were taken to the home of Alex. B. Cox and wife, where they remained until 4:30 o'clock, when they returned to Harrisburg. During the day a large number of Drifton school children called upon them, and each of the little ones was pleasantly received by the governor.

Ran Away from Laurytown.

Annie Scurka, aged 19 years, an inmate of the Laurytown asylum for the past three years, became dissatisfied with her surroundings and ran away on Monday, walking all the way to Eckley. On learning that Joseph Stibler had removed to Freeland she came here to his house. The demented girl is an orphan, and about three years ago was removed to the asylum by Mr. Stibler, at whose house she was living after her parents' death. Mr. Stibler had her recommitted to the asylum yesterday.

The Woodward's Big Output.

From the Wilkesbarre Record. The Woodward colliery of the Delaware Lackawanna and Western Company is one of the largest in the valley and the output will compare with that of the best in the anthracite coal fields. Last week the mammoth mine worked full time, ten hours each day, and during the week hoisted 8,030 cars of coal for the week ending October 5. That will mean 16,060 tons of clean coal. This output could be kept up continually if the shaft worked full time.

Board of Trade Meeting.

The Board of Trade met at the council room last evening. The resignation of B. F. Davis as secretary was accepted, and W. J. Butz was temporarily elected to fill the position. John C. Berner was chosen president to fill the vacancy caused by the late Daniel Cox's death. The communication received from the New York silk mill firm some time ago was not satisfactory to the members of the board, and it was returned. No other important business was transacted.

Ready for the Celebration.

The Young Men's Corps has everything in readiness for the parade of the C. T. A. societies of the fourth district this afternoon. The weather is perfect for a demonstration. In the evening the eighth annual ball of the organization will be held at the opera house, and it will without fail be one of the largest held in town for some time. The committee has overlooked nothing that will add to the pleasure of the occasion.

Diphtheria Under Control.

The diphtheria cases which are located in the southern portion of town are reported to be in a favorable condition, and the stringent precautions taken by the board of health will prevent the disease from becoming epidemic. Mary Muscavitch, the ten-year-old girl who died on Saturday, was buried Monday afternoon.

The very latest in New York and Philadelphia dress goods can be seen at A. Oswald's. Can and inspect them. The best is the cheapest in the end. Go to the Wear Well Shoe House. Their shoes all wear well.

FIVE LIVES GONE.

Another Gas Explosion With Fatal Results in the Wyoming Region.

An explosion of gas took place at the Dorrance shaft in the Wyoming region on Monday, by which five men were killed and four others more or less seriously burned. The dead are: William Jones, surveyor; William Cahill, surveyor; Llewellyn Owens, surveyor; David J. Davis, fire boss, and Michael Morris. The injured are: George Laphey, Edward Murphy, Robert Blanchard and Robert Miller. Just what caused the explosion cannot be learned. Early in the day an engineering corps, under charge of William Jones, went down the shaft to run some lines. Nothing was heard from the party until about 4:15 o'clock, when the men on the surface were startled by a shock that made the earth tremble, and which came with such force that the roof of the fan house was hurled to the ground and large clouds of dust floated up out of the air shaft. Nothing more was needed to tell the mine experts that something had happened, and soon men and boys came swarming to the surface as fast as the swift running carriages could hoist them.

It was fully an hour after the explosion before any of the injured reached the surface. Some of the men were badly burned. Their clothing was in shreds, while their hands and faces presented a revolting spectacle. Even the grime of the coal could not conceal the work of the deadly flame or the rush of the merciless whirlwind that followed in its wake.

The explosion occurred nearly half a mile from the foot of the shaft. In the absence of any definite information from the officials, who refused to speak, it was learned from other sources that the gas was set off by the party of mining engineers, who were surveying in that vicinity. The havoc wrought by the explosion was tremendous.

The colliery is operated by the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Company. The workings have been sunk fourteen years, and from the opening of the colliery it has been one of the most gaseous in the anthracite coal field. Several serious explosions have occurred in the colliery, some during the sinking operations, but luckily it was a time when there were not many men in the mine. The last explosion occurred two years ago, when Superintendent William Samuels, who was making a tour of the workings, set off the gas, and was not found for several days.

BRIEF ITEMS.

John Brennan is building an addition to his property on Carbon street.

Rev. Stephen Kaminski has taken charge of the Independent Polish church on Birkbeck street.

The president has appointed Louis J. Townsend as postmaster at Berwick, vice Charles H. Dorr, removed.

Patrick O'Donnell, of Drifton, will erect a large double block on his property on Ridge street, near Main.

The Republican district committee will meet in the lodge room of the opera house building at 8 o'clock on Saturday evening.

Charles, a young son of Charles Vandusky, of Front street, was thrown from a buckboard on Monday evening and broke his arm.

Night school was opened in the Cox Memorial School on Monday evening, with John J. McElrierty as teacher. There is an average attendance of twenty-five pupils.

On October 17 and 18 two performances will be given by Lyman H. Howe and his Magic and Music Company at the opera house. The proceeds are for the benefit of the Mayberry band.

The board of mine examiners of the second district (Plymouth and vicinity) filed their report with the court Saturday. It shows that out of 823 employes in the district, 659 are not naturalized.

The bricklayers have commenced work upon Peter Timony's new building at Centre and Carbon streets. The structure will be a handsome one and will be used as a residence by Mr. Timony and family.

Cleveland ball club won the famous Temple cup on Tuesday by beating Baltimore and getting the first four of seven games to decide the ownership of the prize cup. Baltimore won only one of the five games played.

Sheriff Walter has levied upon the property of Anthony Stahl, on Centre street, upon an execution issued by H. F. Bright, of Ashland, who was in the lumber business here. The sale will take place on Monday.

There will be dancing at the opera house after the parade, to continue until 6:30 o'clock. The Young Men's Corps will also have a large amount of eatables and refreshments on the second floor for the accommodation of the visitors.

PLEASURE CALENDAR.

October 10.—Eighth annual ball of the Young Men's C. T. A. B. Corps at Freeland opera house. Admission, 50 cents.

October 21.—First annual ball of the Stars Athletic Association, at Freeland opera house. Admission, 50 cents.

Important Court Decisions.

The state supreme court is in session this week at Pittsburgh, and among the decisions rendered were a number from Luzerne county. One was the case of Hindson vs. Markle. This was an action for damages sustained by Hindson from deposits of culm and water thrown on the lands of the Highland Coal Company and washed over fifty-three acres of his farm by the Sandy Run creek. This was from 1876 to 1894, until Hindson's land was covered from one to five feet. The jury gave a verdict of \$1,906 damages, and the supreme court has affirmed it.

Another important decision was rendered in the appeal of young Bowman, who murdered the Arabian peddler near Wilkesbarre. His attorneys filed reasons for a new trial, which was refused. The supreme court sustains the county court, and Bowman will likely hang.

The next was the injunction case begun by citizens and taxpayers against the commissioners to prevent them buying land upon which to erect a new courthouse. The case was argued before Judges Rice and Lynch, who decided that the land could not be purchased without the recommendation of two grand juries. This, also, is the opinion of the higher court.

The case of M. G. Boyle against Hazleton was an action brought against the borough of Hazleton and Benjamin Rausch, a contractor. While returning from Freeland in 1887 the plaintiff was thrown from a carriage into an unguarded excavation, sustaining severe injuries. The court here granted a nonsuit as to Hazleton borough. The jury gave Mrs. Boyle \$1,600 damages against Rausch. The supreme court sends the case back for retrial against Hazleton city.

In the suit brought by the city of Wilkesbarre against Banker Rockafellow's bondsmen, to recover \$50,000 due from Rockafellow as city treasurer, the Luzerne court decided that the bondsmen were liable. This is reversed by the higher court, which orders a retrial in this case also.

The Superior Court Tangle.

The disputed question as to the constitutional right of a voter to vote for seven candidates for the new superior court is at last in a fair way of being judicially determined in time for the coming election. Senator Quay, having received numerous letters with opinion concurring with that expressed by Attorney Olmstead, which was published recently in the TRIBUNE, addressed a letter to General Reeder, secretary of the commonwealth, asking him to prescribe the form of the ballot and give instructions. General Reeder replied that he did not deem it within his province to pass upon the constitutional question involved, and would have to prepare the ballot in accordance with the terms of the act, which limits each elector to the privilege of voting but for six, although seven are to be elected.

Chairman Quay then instructed Mr. Olmstead to make application to Attorney General McCormick to take such action in the name of the commonwealth, as will result in the speedy judicial determination of the question. The application was allowed by the attorney general, and proceedings by mandamus upon Secretary Reeder will be commenced forthwith.

James A. Stranahan, late chairman of the Democratic state committee, has been retained by the secretary of the commonwealth as his counsel.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from ten drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c.

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When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

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Geo. Wise has a large lot of horse blankets on hand at his Freeland and Jeddo stores, which he is selling very cheap.

Try the Wear Well Shoe House. Their goods cost no more and give better satisfaction than any other store in Freeland.

Miners should wear the "Wear Well" working shoe. It is the best.

Ladies, don't forget to see the dress goods at A. Oswald's.

A LENGTHY SESSION.

COUNCILMEN TRANSACTED CONSIDERABLE BUSINESS ON MONDAY.

Mr. Winter's Resignation Accepted and His Successor to Be Selected at the November Meeting—Reports of Borough Officers and Other Business.

At the council meeting on Monday evening the members present were Messrs. Moore, Neuburger, Brislin, Rutter and McLaughlin. The minutes of the previous meetings were approved, with the exception of that portion authorizing the borough surveyor to have all streets lately admitted to the borough placed on the borough maps. The same should read "all streets within the borough limits to be laid out and placed on the borough map."

The following bills were ordered paid: Patrick McLaughlin, feeding prisoners, 36.50; Janitor's salary, \$10.41; Timothy Boyle, view on streets, \$193.82; Upper Lehigh Company, duain caps, \$12; Lumber Company, \$2.08; Water Company, \$71.25; Fenfield, advertising, \$5; TRIBUNE, printing proposal notices, \$1.50; J. A. Hutchins, pipes, \$19.54; L. V. R. R., freight, \$5.50; H. R. King & Co., stones, \$11.90. A bill for \$225 from the Electric Light Company for street lighting in September was laid over for correction.

An ordinance providing for the connection of properties with the public sewer was read three times and passed finally. Another ordinance, presented from the board of health, prohibiting the keeping of swine within the borough limits, did not meet the approval of the council and was rejected.

M. E. Grover and William Eberts asked permission to connect the private sewer, laid by them some years ago, to the main sewer below the Public park. They stated there are eight dwellings draining into this sewer and that it will entail a heavy expense to them to connect with the sewers fronting their properties, while the cost incurred in connecting with the park sewer would be trifling and would abate the nuisance caused by the water emptying into the open gutter near the park.

It was decided to grant the request, providing that the work be done under the jurisdiction of the borough authorities and the board of health, and that proper traps be placed in their respective cellars.

Mr. McLaughlin spoke about refuse matter being emptied into the gutter which parallels the Public park, but no action was taken on it.

Mr. Brislin, one of the committee appointed to have the candle-power of the arc lights tested, reported that owing to the resignation of Mr. Winter nothing had been done and there was no report to make. Mr. Neuburger, chairman of the committee, made a report that he had called upon the men employed at the power house and had requested that better light be furnished the borough, and that since the lights were good.

This gave rise to the question as to why Mr. Neuburger went on his own account without consulting the rest of the committee, and after much discussion the council passed it over without acting upon it.

Borough Solicitor Carr rendered an opinion that the council, under the act of 1895, had the power to fill vacancies in the council, and acting on this information the members accepted the resignation of Mr. Winter, which had been offered at a previous meeting. The selection of his successor was laid over until the regular meeting in November.

Borough Surveyor Boyle reported that he had begun the survey of Walnut street, west from the old borough line, and had met some difficulties in running the line, owing to some porches and fences being on the line of the street. He was authorized to go to Wilkesbarre and consult all maps and plots on file in the recorder's office and run the lines accordingly, so as to make Walnut a thirty-foot street.

Burgess McLaughlin reported for September as follows: Receipts, \$34.50; fees and commissions, \$21.10; due borough, \$13.40. Police expenses, James M. Gallagher, \$10.25; Daniel Gallagher, \$9.25; John Mollick, \$7.50; James J. Kennedy, \$2; total, \$39. The report was approved.

Street Commissioner Furey reported for September: Work on sewers, \$157.05; on streets, \$73.58; total, \$232.63. It was accepted.

Treasurer Fritzing reported a balance in the treasury of \$159.63.

The Water Company was instructed to have three fire plugs placed as follows: One at Ridge and Luzerne, one at Washington and Luzerne and one at Adams and Luzerne, and to remove or repair the plug at Main and Washington.

It was decided that the members of the street committee should wait upon the borough solicitor and request him to take such action as he may deem proper, to have a sidewalk opened along the property of M. A. Dever, on Centre street below Chestnut, and along a portion of Ridge street below Main, on the west side.

The board of directors of the Citizens' Hose Company presented the name of Charles Seesholtz for confirmation as chief of the fire department. No action was taken on it by the council.

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