

THE GREAT CALAMITY.

The Bodies of One Hundred and Eight Miners Recovered.

This Number Supposed to Embrace all the Lost.

Funerals Succeeding Each Other Throughout the Day.

DESTITUTION OF THE BEREAVED FAMILIES.

THE DISASTER.

The Mine Fully Explored—108 Bodies Found—No More in the Mine—The Funeral at Scranton—A Day of Sorrow.

Special Dispatches to the New-York Times.

SCRANTON, Sept. 9.—The assertion that 202 men were entombed in the mine was quickly demonstrated to be an exaggeration, but no one was prepared for the culmination of the great tragedy to-day, when it was finally discovered that no more than 108 lives had been lost by the disaster. The working complement of men was 156, and it was known that eighteen men were out at the time of the fire attending the funeral of a comrade, which should have left 138 in the mine, nor can any one explain why so many bodies were not found. Despite the thorough explorations which have been made, some believe that more dead will be found, and the general disbelief engenders many rumors that new heaps of bodies have been discovered. There is no reason, however, to suppose that the exact extent of the calamity is not now known, and that 108 was the exact number of lives lost by want of an air hole in Avondale mine.

The fever of excitement through all the mining region has not diminished. This having been funeral day, the suspension of business was general, and trains to and from the scene of the calamity have been densely crowded, especially in the latter part of the day, one of thirty-seven platform cars carrying over 3,000 people. The attendance at the mine has been greater than on any day since Monday, and at one time not less than 10,000 were gathered about the fatal shaft. They came only to have a glimpse of the ruins, and, curiosity gratified, were in as great a hurry to leave as to come. Hence the crowd was constantly changing and departing. Trains were so hastily loaded that hundreds of people barely escaped being crushed under the wheels, but miraculously only one was killed during the day. The scenes at the various funerals were heart-rending to the extreme, when thirty-seven men were borne in one *portage* by ten hearses, and manly wagons year in the afternoon to the Welch cemetery at Scranton, 1,500 people comprised the escort, bells of all the churches were tolled. One woman, on the arrival at the grave, with shrieks of lamentation threw herself on her husband's coffin, breaking the lid, and could scarcely be removed, while others with difficulty were prevented from throwing themselves into the grave. A father was buried with a son on either side, and a stricken wife and mother stood dumb and tearless by her lost. At 7 P. M. the scenes were repeated on a lesser scale, when a second funeral of eleven bodies and afterward five took place, the interment being made in the same cemetery; other burials also took place at Pittston and Wyoming. Fifty-seven have been interred to-day, leaving fifty-one for sepulture to-morrow.

The mining village of Avondale has been nearly depopulated, the head of nearly every family has been taken to the tomb, and in some cases two or more members have been taken away. Monday last it was a flourishing, happy village; to-night there are only five men left in the hamlet. With rare exceptions, the victims were Welsh, and married men, and were the most excellent and experienced miners in the valley. The bitter feeling in reference to the disaster has not diminished to any extent, and the affair is eagerly discussed in hotels, trains and wherever persons congregate. There is a disposition to give the miners a perfectly fair showing, but also a determination to sift the entire matter thoroughly.

New theories as to the origin of the fire have been advanced, and it is claimed that the furnace was so far removed from the bottom of the shaft that it could not have communicated fire to the wood of the shaft, and that it must have been caused by carelessness in the use of or swinging the grates bottom of shaft to expedite ventilation. This is, however, mere theorizing, nor can it positively be ascertained. The utmost now possible is, to establish possibilities by the testimony of experts, whom it is intended to have examined at the inquest. The question, however, of the necessity of separate air-cells is not considered debatable, but is universally admitted. To-night the fatal shaft is almost deserted. A few watchers only remain where, for the past four days, have been scores of noble toilers and thousands of stricken gazers. The exhibition of sublime courage and devotion is over, and the glare of horror is only memory now. Observers posted beside the mouth of the blackened crater, looking over the lovely Wyoming Valley, stretched out below, can almost see in the dim distance to the left, the monument marking the place of the olden Wyoming massacre. That butchery of barbarous and this of civilized times seem to join hands to go down in history together.

The Exploration of the Mine Continued—Steady Additions to the Discovered Bodies.

Dispatches to the Associated Press.

SCRANTON, Sept. 9.—At 9:47 P. M. last night seventy-five bodies—all that could be found—had been brought up. At 10:30 a party returned after exploring five breasts and finding nothing. Dr. RICARD, of Plymouth, has arrived, to be ready to resuscitate the men if more foul air be encountered.

11:20 P. M., 9th.—A party just up reports two more bodies found.

Midnight.—Thirteen more bodies have been found.

12:45 A. M., 9th.—Another lot of bodies, not yet counted, have been found. The air is still so bad as to prevent more than a few minutes' stay in the mine.

1:30 P. M., 9th.—Eighty-two bodies are now up. Eight more have been found.

The Last Body Brought to the Surface—Two Men Thought to be Missing—Whole Number Recovered One Hundred and Eight.

AVONDALE, 2:20 P. M.—Messrs. THOMAS CARSON, of Hampton Mile, and GEORGE MORGAN, of Nanticole, very experienced and competent miners, with twenty men, have just returned from the mine, and report that they have explored every part of the workings and are satisfied that all the bodies have been recovered. Outside parties say that JOHN DAVIS, of Pittston,

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THE GREAT CALAMITY.

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outh, and JAMES AIKEN, of Avondale, are still missing. They must be mistaken. One hundred and eight is the number of bodies taken out.

The Extent of the Disaster—Names of the Dead.

SCRANTON, Penn., Sept. 9.—The following is a full list of the dead by the mine disaster:

Palmer Steele, Dennis Slocum, John Bowen, William Powell, William Williams, Willie Phillips, William Evans, Murray E. Edwards, Jacob E. Mosser, Peter Conlin, John Clark, William J. Evans, George Staehle, Edwin Jones, Morgan Watkins, Andrew Frothingham, Wm. Allen, Thos. D. Jones, Peter Johnson, Evan Hughes, inside foreman; Wm. Bowen, James Powell, Thomas Hughes, Wm. Reese, Wm. Porfit, Wm. N. Williams, Wm. Lewis, John Hughes, Thomas Morris, Eljah Bryant, Thomas Roberts, Wm. Dick, Daniel Jones, David Thomas, Daniel Givens, Evans Reese, Edward W. Edwards, Henry Norris, Wm. T. Williams, David S. Reese, Richard Woolley, John R. Davis, David James, William Evans, William Williams, Richard Owens, Willie Hatton, Wm. Evans, James Powell, Thos. Hatton, Edward Owen, John Burtch, John Burtch, Jr., John Jenkins, Wm. R. Evans, Daniel Wood, Wm. Noss, David Reese, Jr., Griffith Roberts, John Ruth, Joseph Morris, Patrick McGuire, John Henry Smith, Shan Howell, Thos. Davis, Wm. Dowdle, John Roperly, Thomas Ryan, Hugh Ghloy, John Baker, Patrick Burke, Wm. T. Morgan, James Murray, Michael Daly, D. P. Pryor, James Phillips, James Williams, John D. Evans, Wm. Harding, Samuel B. Morgan, Wm. R. Evans, Wm. Wildrick, Reese Lumley, Thos. Llewellyn, Reese Llewellyn, Wm. Davis, John Thomas, John Davis, Wm. T. Williams, Wm. D. Johns, Darius Guyter, Wm. Reese, Wm. Spick, John Harris, Thos. Jones, Thos. Phillips, Lewis Davis, Chas. Fear, John Thomas, David Johnson, James Mallon, James Harkins, Wm. D. Jones, Edward Taylor, Rowland Jones, Madison Allback, Daniel Edwards, John Powell.

The above, 108 in number, were in the mine. Besides these, THOMAS WILLIAMS and DAVID JONES were suffocated Monday evening in attempting to enter the mine.

The figures 202, sent as the number in the mine, were on the authority of Mr. Lee, the outside foreman at Avondale, who should have been the best authority. Various calculations have made the number from 138 to 160. It is certain, however, that 108 is the total number. The explorations have been very thorough, and there is no doubt that all have been found. Nobody attempts to account for the great discrepancy between the estimates and the result. The widows are fifty-nine and the orphans in this country are 109. A number of the men had children living in the Old Country.

The destitution existing is great, and requires immediate relief. Three and a half months' strike had reduced all the families to the verge of starvation, the men not being at work long enough to receive any pay. There was never a case that appealed more strongly to the charitable. Funerals have been going on all day. Thirty-seven were buried at once in the Hyde Park Welsh Cemetery this afternoon. Sixty-one corpses, in all, have been received in this city. Others have been buried at points down the valley.

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. EVAN 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 350 or 400 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.

Aid for the Families of the Miners—Sixty Widows and One Hundred Fatherless Children Left Destitute.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 9.—The Stock Board voted \$10,000 for the relief of the Avondale sufferers, and the Commercial Exchange will give as much more.

The Bernard Opera Troupe are to give a concert Saturday evening in aid of the Avondale sufferers, when HENRY DRAVTON will sing the "Star-Spangled Banner."

SCRANTON, Penn., Sept. 9.—At a meeting of the Relief Committee at Avondale, at 12:30 o'clock, GEORGE COXAY, of Scranton, was appointed to proceed at once to New-York and solicit subscriptions.

PLYMOUTH, Penn., Sept. 9.—It is requested that each neighborhood that may have the wish to relieve those who have been made widows and orphans by the awful calamity at the Avondale mines, Plymouth, Luzerne County, Penn., will immediately take such measures as they may think best, to collect funds for the object, and forward the same as soon as practicable to WILLIAM S. WILSON, First National Bank, Plymouth; Colonel H. B. WRIGHT or THOMAS P. HUNT, Wilkesbarre; THEODORE STRING, National Bank, Pittston; W. W. WINTON, National Bank, Scranton; GEORGE COXAY, Scranton; GEORGE H. BRADY, Philadelphia. Upward of one hundred orphans and sixty widows need aid.

Bringing Up the Bodies—Their Appearance—And Solemn Incidents—The Feeling of the Miners—Cause of the Disaster—Startling Facts in Regard to Other Mines—The Funeral Obsequies—The Roll of Honor.

From Our Special Correspondent.

AVONDALE, Penn., Thursday, Sept. 9, 1869. The great mining calamity has ceased to be an acute sensation. There is something in this terrible prolongation of agony that seems to deaden sensibility, or at least to prevent outward manifestation of grief. Certain it is that as each dead body is borne out from the tunnel to the little terrace on the hillside upon which it opens, the crowds clinging to the steep acclivity above and thronging the railroad track below have made fewer exhibitions of feeling. When the first body came out in the dim dawn of yesterday morning there was a frenzied rush of the multitude to the ropes inclosing the area; that may have been curiosity alone, but when JAMES GEORGE, President of the Miners' Union of Plymouth, announced the name and residence of the dead, a wall of anguish rose simultaneously from every heart. But as body after body was brought out, the crowd became less eager, even less sympathizing and reverent, and by the time the twentieth had been removed, the matter had fallen into a mere business routine. Inside the ropes, the officials chatted carelessly; outside, the people merely awaited the announcement of each name with stolid indifference, and when the friends of the dead were present; they came forward and carried away the body, nobody seemed to know where or to be concerned about the matter.

I am generalizing exclusively, for I would not be understood as asserting that there has not been to-day, yesterday, and every hour since the calamity occurred, exhibitions of the most intense agony in individual cases. When the name of the dead was announced to the wife or mother, waiting in the throng, sometimes the storm of sorrow would crush her to the earth and she was borne away, lifeless for the time as him she mourned; sometimes it wrung from her passionate wails of grief, which coming in the Welsh patois had a pathos indescribable to those who have never heard it; sometimes even worse than either, it blanched the face, fixed the eyes and the poor woman stood petrified by her great woe. Such cases I saw and hope never to see again. It was singular to note how even the dulled crowd recognized this: "A-ahine, tearless grief, which had not, could not have relief," and fell back from the stricken woman, offering no consolation, because, instinctively, they know she was beyond its reach. And here, I must note again that it was a most strange gathering of humanity; taking in the calamity as a whole it was flippant, even jocose; grating against the edge of an individual grief, it was respectful, even reverent.

Appearance of the Dead.

There was nothing repulsive in the appearance of these dead miners to create horror in the crowds looking down from the hillside upon the face when the cloth was removed for the pur-

pose of official identification. Nearly all were in the natural attitude of death, and even when the arms were drawn up and the hands clasped above the head or upon the face, there was nothing to suggest a death of agony, while the face nearly always had an expression of such perfect peace, such profound rest, such sweet content, that it was pleasant to look upon, and the observer unconsciously thought that here was a man worn out by the labor of the day, who has laid himself down to sleep, and was enjoying that profound slumber which only hard toil can secure. The dead, it is true, were grimed and sooty, were clothed in the dress of labor, and the faces and hands were soiled and blackened with coal-dust; but these were incidents common to all the living miners gathered in thousands about the scene, and served to strengthen the illusion that the poor fellows upon the stretchers were not dead, but only sleeping. I do not remember to have ever seen death less startling, less repulsive, than here, and my experience is that of all. Indeed, as body after body came out, the oldest veterans in calamitous scenes universally remarked that they had never looked upon death in such a pleasant mask before.

The Saddest Phase.

My dispatches have almost fully told how and why these men died. It takes nothing from the horror of their end that death at last was painless, and that they were robbed by the insidious deadly gas of a consciousness of their impending doom. The miner found bolt upright and dead in his chamber, with his hands upon the breast of his mine, showing that he had been called from toil to rest without premonition, is a horror in the circumstances if not in the aspect of his death. And such horrors were found in numbers after the great pile in the eastern gangway had been removed. It was plain that these men working in remote chambers, at the moment the fire communicated with the shaft, received no intelligence of its occurrence. The roar of the flames, the cry of alarm, the rush backward of the men nearer the shaft, through the eastern gangway, were all unheard, and these men died literally without warning. Thus they furnish the saddest phase of the calamity. The men in the gangway had made a fight for their lives; the men in the chambers had not been given even that forlorn chance.

The Cause of the Disaster.

It is a mockery of justice to term this disaster an accident, and a plain statement of facts is all that is needed to justify the assertion. The shaft was 237 feet in depth, and was divided into two compartments—called the carriage-way and air-way—by an immense cribbing of wood. Down at the bottom of the shaft was a furnace, used for rarefying the air, and thereby ventilating the mine. The designers of the mine thus secured the simplest and undoubtedly the cheapest method of ventilation, but they had also crowded the mine with manifold dangers. So long as every person down in the gangways was an expert, careful miner possibly no disaster would occur, but safety could result only from increasing vigilance and prudence. The means of destroying human life were given to these toilers in the earth with lavish prodigality, but means of saving it when endangered were withheld with startling parsimony. The mine was incumbered with wooden fixtures, it had but that one opening, and down in the bowels of the earth glowed that hazardous furnace. A spark, a moment of inattention, and fire would spring upon that timber, already heated, and rush along it and up the shaft despite all efforts to arrest its progress. And this is what actually occurred. No one knows exactly how the fire originated, and never will, but there is room for just inference in the fact that when the mine was begun to be worked on the 2d Inst., for the first time after the suspension, a new furnaceman was engaged. It had been noticed on the day prior to the disaster that he did not seem to understand the capacity of the furnace and that his fire was much too brisk. This man, I am told, was remonstrated with and answered that he understood his business. But at any rate the constructors of the mine had put in it the means of furnishing the disaster and the responsibility is theirs, not his.

Had there been an air-hole distinct from the shaft, the calamity could not have occurred. In that case there would have been no wooden cribbing, dividing the shaft into compartments, and even had the main shaft for any reason become inaccessible, the men in the mine would have had a second avenue of escape. And this air-hole could and undoubtedly would have been removed from under the immense wooden structure called the breaker, which was built up to the edge of the mouth of the shaft, and in burning, filled it with debris, thus making certain the death of the men below. The public will readily see how the disaster might have been averted, and will experience no difficulty in arriving at just conclusions as to the responsibility for its occurrence.

Other Startling Facts.

But it is well enough, while these slaughtered miners are being borne to the rustic churchyards dotting the beautiful Wyoming Valley, to record other startling facts. All the mountains that surround that historic spot are cumbered with many of these huge "breakers." The traveler on any one of the railroads which run through this whole region sees them on every side, in fact is rarely out of sight of them. And every one of them is built upon a shaft-up, if not over the mouth itself. Every one of them is constructed of wood, dry as tinder and ready from the slightest cause to become a mass of flame, and fall in fiery ruins into the shaft, cutting off air and life from the toilers beneath. To-day and always hereafter the traveler cannot pass one of these immense breakers without a shudder. Nor can he resist a feeling of apprehension when he remembers that down in many of the mines the hazardous furnace is glowing, and that a spark, a stray coal, is liable at any moment to repeat the horror that now appals the nation. Chance may avert the repetition, as it has for all these years of American mining, the original disaster, but he knows now that the trust is in chance alone, and he shudders despite himself.

One other fact must be recorded. There are others of these mines that have no separate air-holes, there are thousands of miners who have but the one avenue of escape from threatening dangers; and death lurks everywhere in the haunts of industry in all this teeming region.

The Feeling of the Miners.

The miners know all this, and have known it all for years, but probably have now for the first time fully realized the full import of these terrible facts. Hence the feeling they have manifested since Monday is excusable, if not justifiable. They are as a body morose, irritable, almost savage and dangerous. For the time, capital has no rights that labor is bound to respect, and the miners everywhere are absolute masters. They take possession of the trains on all the railroads, and they are dictators at the scene of the disaster. Mr. RHODES, the Sheriff of Luzerne County; Mr. WADSWORTH, the Acting Coroner; Mr. STORRS, the representative of the owners, seem to be puppets in their hands. The miners are for the time the law. They are not utterly without demands, and as yet have made no extravagant demands, but it is plain to see that they do not intend to allow the least shrinking from the fullest investigation of the disaster.

An instance or two will show exactly how these men fell. When the heap of bodies was discovered in the gangway, the first reached, with one exception, was that of EVAN HUGHES, the "inside boss;" it was passed by many times and was not touched until many of the bodies more remote had been picked up and carried by it. A party of correspondents of the Press from distant cities essaying to enter the line for the purpose of gaining intelligence were met with a torrent of abuse, and only accomplished their purpose at great personal hazard. Coroner WADSWORTH, attempting to show a party of gentlemen the tunnel, was driven from its mouth by the miners, and himself and party assailed as "paper collar wretches." A decent suit of clothes, or more properly a dress showing the wearer to be something else than a miner, seemed enough to provoke the wrath of these poor fellows, who have been unmanned by the horror that had come upon their comrades, and the perils surrounding themselves. There will, of course, be some subsidence of the present bitterness, but the most sanguine anticipate that the inquest, which will commence on Satur-

day, will be marked with extreme earnestness, at least.

A Day of Woe.

To-day is one showing the full extent of the calamity more vividly than any of its predecessors. It is the first of the two days designated, and to be always hereafter remembered as Funeral Days. In Scranton, Wilkesbarre, Plymouth, Kingston, and Pittston business is suspended, the stores being closed, the flags displayed at half mast, the streets silent and deserted. The Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad is crowded with trains bearing great multitudes to and from the scene of disaster. The whole community for the time is lost in the calamity.

The most solemn scene in all this panorama of woe was witnessed in Scranton this afternoon. The funeral train, bearing forty of the dead bodies, and a vast concourse of people arrived there at 1 o'clock. A procession was formed at the depot, and the forty bodies were conveyed in one cortege to the Washburne-street Cemetery and buried together. It is useless to attempt to describe such a scene as this, for words are powerless to deplete it. The last sad rites were accorded the unfilial dead with all fitting decorum and solemnity, broken only by the anguished wails of the stricken women and children. Similar scenes, only on a lesser scale, were enacted at all the neighboring towns, and all the victims thus far discovered have now been committed to their last resting place.

The Fatal Mine.

is still possessed of a terrible attractive power. Thousands still flock to gaze upon the ruins, to be near the spot that is now memorable forever. Opened only two years ago, its career has been brief as its end terrible. Capable of producing over 600 tons of coal per day, it was a source of as great profit to the owners as it was fatal to the employes.

There is something singular about this mine. All night long the bodies were borne out in the manner described in the dispatches of yesterday, and at 8 o'clock this morning 104 of the dead had been exhumed. Suddenly the air "fouled" again, and the ghastly work was suspended. It seems impossible to keep it clear of the deadly vapors, although the great fan is kept constantly going, forcing the fresh air into its depths. The total extent of the loss of life is still supposed to be as stated in my dispatches Tuesday night, as between 138 and 150, but the exact number of persons destroyed can only be known after the mine has been thoroughly explored and every corpse discovered.

Relief for the Living Sufferers.

The response to the call of relief for the bereaved has already been most encouraging, and the widows and orphans are already cheered by donations from the New-York Board of Brokers, Governor GEARY, Hon. ASA PACKER and others of aid from many others. It is true, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company, in whose employ these men were killed, have as yet only extended "heartfelt sympathy" and an offer to pay funeral expenses; but that is something, and even better things are expected of the great corporation which owns scores of coal mines and two railroads, and yet did not sink an air hole into Avondale Mine, which would have cost, I am informed, \$20,000.

An Expression of Opinion.

The feeling of the miners and people here was well expressed by the *Scranton Republican* of this morning, which says:

"Public opinion was yesterday very emphatically expressed—but none too much so—against the construction of mines with but one means of entrance and escape. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company is by no means the only one which thus courts death and destruction. We call to mind at once the Grassy Island Shaft of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company; the Pine Brook Shaft of the Lackawanna Coal and Coke Company, located in the Seventh Ward of this city; and the Pine Ridge Colliery, that 'fiery pit' which has already swallowed up many victims. There is also the Taylorville Shaft, run, like Avondale, by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company. At any one of the mines mentioned a disaster as terrible as that of Avondale is liable to occur any day—not, perhaps, from precisely the same cause, but from some of the innumerable causes that produce fire in any building, and from many causes to which ordinary buildings are not exposed. No operator should ask a miner to go into such a mine; no miner should go into such a mine on any solicitation whatever; no citizen should hesitate to denounce the construction and operation of such mines as an outrage. So radical action in the matter as this might not have been called for before the Avondale disaster. Since that, no action on the subject can be too radical. Let a public opinion be created which shall be powerful enough to usurp the proper functions of the laws which corrupt legislators refuse to enforce, and drive from the anthracite coal fields one of the chiefest among the abuses which are its reproach."

The Humble Heroes.

In my accounts of the disaster I have endeavored to do justice to the noble men who have dared death in the service of humanity by descending that perilous shaft. At first they were buoyed by the hope that they might succeed living comrades, but latterly they have known that they only went to bring out dead friends. But in both cases they were equally ready to risk their lives, and did it. Among the first were THOMAS W. WILLIAMS, of Plymouth, and DAVID JONES, of Grand Tunnel, both of whom lost their lives, and thus died unselfishly as men ever did. They had noble successors, and many of them. David H. Davis, Benjamin Jones, Thomas L. Williams, John W. Thomas, Isaac Thomas, Thomas Carson, John P. Davis, George T. Morgan, John Powell, Thomas Davis, Rees Evans, Charles Jones, John Tisdale, John Satterlee, Clark Harkness, Rees B. Jones, Wm. Bray, Evan Morris, Evan J. Evans, Wm. Gregory, John Price, William M. Thomas, Eljah Thomas, John Hopkins, John Williams, H. W. Evans, D. W. Evans, William S. Price, Lewis Davis, G. D. Davis, William McGregor, Henry Atherton, and others whose names I have been unable to obtain. I have endeavored to make the list complete, for these are heroes worthy of recognition and reward. Seeing comrades coming up exhausted and hanging to life by a thread, they were ready to go down and accept the same peril. There was no bravado about these men; they knew the risk, and accepted it calmly, solemnly, in the interest of humanity. The world has not often had the privilege of looking upon such noble courage or such self-sacrificing heroism as is here recorded. E. C.

Relief for the Avondale Sufferers.

The following communication was yesterday sent to the Board of Assistant Aldermen by the Mayor:

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }
NEW-YORK, Sept. 9, 1869. }

To the Common Council:
I respectfully recommend that you should hold a session for the purpose of attesting, by an official act of our municipality, the sympathy which all classes of its citizens feel for the bereaved and penniless families of the ten score Avondale miners; and also to appoint committees for the purpose of expediting private subscriptions in the nature of a family relief fund. I have also called a meeting of citizens for the same purpose.

A. OAKLEY HALL, Mayor.

The President of the Board, as soon as this was read, offered a resolution, which was adopted, declaring that practical sympathy for the sufferers is demanded, and in favor of appointing a Committee of five from each Board to collect, receive and forward subscriptions. The President appointed as such committee upon the part of the Board, Messrs. JACKSON, PINCKNEY, CUNNINGHAM, CREGIER and HOFFMAN.

Contributions in the Mayor's Office.

The following subscriptions for the relief of the families of the miners have been made up in the Mayor's Office:

Chas. O. Joline.....	\$15 00	John Hoey.....	\$2 00
Joseph H. Tooker.....	15 00	Wm. A. Crolius.....	3 00
Michael T. Daly.....	10 00	J. J. Carey.....	3 00
Geo. W. Morton.....	15 00	John H. Hart.....	3 00
Daniel S. Hart.....	10 00	Wm. Jones.....	2 00
Dr. J. D. Harris.....	5 00	Thos. Cowan.....	3 00
Geo. H. E. Lynch.....	5 00	R. O'Connor.....	3 00
Philip L. Hoffman.....	5 00	W. S. Whitmore.....	2 00
Edward J. Hall.....	5 00	Patrick McGath.....	3 00
Gustave D. Carozza.....	5 00	Henry Young.....	2 00
Herman Schroeder.....	5 00	J. C. Goldsmith.....	5 00
Frank Peitner.....	2 00	G. W. Roome.....	10 00
Timothy Golden.....	5 00		
Frank O'Donnell.....	1 00	Total.....	\$148 00

Action of the Gold Board.

At a meeting of the Gold Board yesterday morning, on motion of Mr. A. G. CHANE, \$2,500 was appropriated for the relief of the families of the victims of the Avondale disaster.

Other Contributions.

A fund for the relief of the Avondale sufferers is to be raised by the coal operators doing business in this City.

Contributions will be received at the office of DEWEY & COX, Rooms Nos. 38, 40 and 42 Trinity

Building, and will be forwarded to the Committee that has been formed at Scranton for the purpose of collecting and distributing aid to the sufferers.

We have received \$10 from T. C. and W. H. J. for the Avondale sufferers in addition to the \$1, whose receipt was acknowledged yesterday.

A matinee will be given on Wednesday next at Grand Opera House, corner of Eighth-avenue and Twenty-third-street, for the benefit of the Avondale sufferers.

The following communication from the Fire Commissioners has been received by JAMES H. MONROE, foreman of Hook and Ladder Company No. 8:

HEADQUARTERS METROPOLITAN FIRE DEPT., }
OFFICE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, }
NEW-YORK, Sept. 9, 1869. }

James H. Monroe, Esq., Foreman Hook and Ladder Company No. 8.

Sir: The Commissioners have learned with much satisfaction of the prompt and generous contribution by your company in aid of the sufferers by the Avondale disaster, and they trust that the laudable example will be followed generally throughout the Department. A subscription for the same object, headed by the Commissioners, has been started at these headquarters. Respectfully yours,
CHARLES E. GILDERSLEEVE,
Secretary.

An Appeal from Citizens of Brooklyn.

A number of public-spirited citizens of Brooklyn met yesterday to devise some measure for the immediate relief of the families of the miners who perished in the late calamity at the mines of Avondale. The result of their deliberations was a circular addressed to the clergy of the city, which, in the course of the afternoon, was duly indorsed by the signatures of the Mayor and a number of other prominent citizens. The following is the circular:

To the Clergy of Brooklyn:

Without a word of warning more than two hundred men and boys employed in a coal mine at Avondale, Penn., have been stricken down in death. There were no loving eyes to look upon them in their awful need; no affectionate hands to minister to them in their hour of dissolution. Deprived alike of the tender care of their friends and the consolation of religion; deprived even of the light of day, they met death with impotent struggles, in its most terrible form. So far as they are concerned the catastrophe is complete, and no relief is possible; but for the long train of kindred who survive them something may be done. The sympathy of Christian men and women will lighten their sorrow, and contributions of money will supply their present need of bread. As one means to this end, the undersigned respectfully ask the clergy of Brooklyn to present the subject to their congregations on Sunday next, and to take up collections in aid of the sufferers. The Mayor has consented to act as treasurer of the fund. Whatever is done should be done without delay in order to be effectual.

Martin Kalbfleisch, Mayor, Archibald M. Bliss, S. L. Husted, Samuel Booth, J. Van Auden, J. S. T. Stranahan, H. W. Slocum, Greenville T. Jenks, Corland A. Sprague, John P. Atkinson, Henry C. Murphy, Wm. A. Fowler, S. B. Chittenden, R. W. Potter.

Another Mining Disaster.

Almost an Avondale Calamity in Missouri—Fifteen Men Rescued from a Burning Mine.

St. Louis, Sept. 9.—The Warrensburg Coal Mine, at Carbon Hill, Mo., caught fire in the main shaft on Monday last while fifteen men were in the mine. Seven of the men succeeded in getting out by clinging to the ropes of an ascending car, although they were badly burned; but the remainder were forced to remain in the mine until the fire was extinguished, when they were rescued in a more or less injured condition, the foreman, Mr. HARVEY, probably fatally.