

ful readiness to comply with all that the law requires, and I am happy to say that W. R. Storrs, esquire, the general agent, as well as the president and directors, always manifest the same disposition. They are all evidently convinced that it is to the interest of the company, as well as for the good of their workingmen, to keep their collieries in their present excellent condition.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, perhaps have done more to improve the ventilation of their collieries during the last three years, than either of the other larger corporations, and they are now entitled to the second place on the list in this respect, thus changing positions with the Pennsylvania Coal Company. Three years ago, their collieries in Carbondale were about as poorly ventilated as it was possible that they could be, but since that time, they have erected three fans there, the third being added last year, to ventilate the five tunnels composing the Coal Brook colliery. Hereafter, there need be no complaint of poor ventilation in the Carbondale collieries, unless the mine bosses fail to conduct the air properly through the workings. There is a very great and agreeable change for the better, and I am very grateful to the superintendents, especially to A. H. Vandling, esquire, for these improvements. There are now only two collieries owned by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, in my district, where the ventilation is not satisfactory, the two being the White Oak colliery, in Archbald borough, and the Grassy Island shaft, in Olyphant borough. Neither of these, however, is very bad, nor is either of them good, and I do not expect them to be good until a fan is provided for each.

The Pennsylvania Coal Company have also done considerable, but are more tardy in effecting the necessary improvements than either of the other large companies. One trouble with them is, their persistant clinging to the objectionable, unhealthy, and dangerous system of ventilating collieries successively with the return air passing from one to the other, instead of ventilating each colliery separately with "pure air," as the law requires. It is very fortunate for them that neither of the collieries where this is done is very fiery, or they could not be allowed to work them at all until this evil was remedied. They have extended two of their shafts down to the Marcy vein during the year—No. 4 and No. 11 shafts—and the probability is, that there will be gas enough in this lower vein to oblige them to abandon this dangerous system.

They have some collieries, however, in excellent condition as to ventilation, notably, No. 4, No. 7, No. 8, new No. 9, new No. 10, No. 13, and Law shafts. All their other collieries can be very materially improved, and must be improved before they can be rated as first class, though none of them are very bad. They have erected a new 17.5 feet diameter fan on an air shaft sunk for No. 7 shaft, in Jenkins township, which commenced running October 21, 1879; and another of the same size was put in at the new No. 9 shaft, which commenced running August 2, 1879. These are improvements inaugurated during last year, and were much needed.

of the said Thomas McDonald, Cortland Rolls and Alex. Young on 31st day of December, 1895, caused by boiler explosion.

JOHN E. PERKINS,
Deputy Coroner.

JOHN MOORE,
M. J. REAP,
MICHAEL FADDEN,
HENRY SAVANNAH,
CON. McLAUGHLIN,
JAMES CONNELLY,

Jury.

COLLIERY IMPROVEMENTS DURING 1895.

Pennsylvania Coal Company.

A new shaft was sunk a distance of 79 feet with a sectional area of 100 feet. It is used for ventilation at their Barnum colliery. A new 14 foot fan was erected which exhausts 95,000 cubic feet of air per minute while running 62 revolutions. It is driven by a horizontal engine steam cylinder 10x24 inches.

At **Law's shaft** a new 20 foot fan was erected which exhausts 95,500 cubic feet of air per minute, steam cylinder 15x30 inches.

At the Hoyte shaft a new 20 foot fan was erected as a duplicate to the one in present use and so arranged that it can be started at a minute's notice in case of the disarrangement of the other one.

The No. 5 shaft was enlarged from the surface to the Pittston seam, and cribbed from the rock to the surface with stone. It was then sunk from the Pittston to the Red Ash seam, a distance of 232 feet which opens up a large territory of coal. The second opening has been started for some time and will be connected with Number 11 shaft which will answer in the same capacity for it. A new fan 20 feet in diameter has been erected to ventilate the workings but it is not in operation at this writing.

Lehigh Valley Coal Company.

At the Exeter colliery of this company the culm washery was enlarged and fitted with the latest improved machinery for cleaning the smaller size coal. A new steam shovel was put in use to convey the culm to the washery, which works very successfully.