

THE ENTOMBED MINERS.

ACTIVE BUT UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO REACH THE MEN.

SCRANTON, Penn., Sept. 14.—The most intense anxiety regarding the fate of the seven miners who were overwhelmed in the Marvine Colliery by the disaster of yesterday morning still prevails in this city. The search was conducted all night long by brave gangs of workmen who literally took their own lives in their hands owing to the perilous character of the quaking mine, in which noxious gases have accumulated rapidly since the demoralization of the air courses. Crowds of persons lingered about the pit during the night eager to learn the fate of their friends and the wailing of wives and mothers intensified the weirdness of the scene. Each gang of workmen that emerged from the pit was plied with anxious questions and their answers that they had no news were invariably followed by the exclamation, "God pity us!"

Early this morning Mine Inspector Blewitt arrived at the scene and descended the deadly shaft. His progress along the slope below, which extends from the diamond to the tower vein, was beset with great peril, as tons of rocks were falling frequently from the jagged roof, and in some places had almost blocked up the way. On his return Mr. Blewitt said he did not think it possible that any of the men could be alive, as if they escaped the fall they were surely suffocated to death by the foul air, which had accumulated in large volumes. He added that the men could not be reached inside of 48 hours and it might take a month to extricate them. Everything depended on their position at the time of the fall of the roof.

Superintendent Vandling, of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, is on the ground directing the search, and has pressed the most expert of his available miners into the service. The progress made in cutting through the wall of coal behind which the imprisoned miners are supposed to be is exceedingly slow. The perturbed superincumbent mass keeps up a constant cracking, like the frequent discharge of guns, and large pieces of coal are forced out of the solid mass and sent flying all about the mine like bullets. Sometimes the searching party is compelled to rest for an hour at a time to avoid imminent peril. This afternoon, after a consultation of Mine Inspector Blewitt, Superintendent Vandling, and several mine Superintendents and foremen, it was decided to make another opening, so that two parties can be at work simultaneously. Everything possible is being done to reach the men, and Superintendent Vandling will not relax any effort to rescue them or bring out their bodies as long as the slightest hope remains of being able to accomplish either of these things.

Mrs. Young and Mrs. Maguire, whose husbands are buried in the mine, are terribly prostrated by grief, and their death is expected.