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ELLICOTT CITY, MD., SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1892.

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of No. 6 colliery, near Lansford, in this state, and it is raging still with all the fury which the very best of fuel can give it. It is in a bed of coal 2,000 feet long, 30 feet thick and 450 feet deep, and though i is covered with rock and clay to a depth ranging from thirty to fifty feet, the stone on the surface are so heated that a parlor match laid on them will ignite in an instant. In one spot the men employed a the diamond drill light their pipes with the superheated pebbles. There is very little external evidence of the fire, save the constantly rising vapor and the noxious gas that fills the air and at times kills birds and small animals that linger to long in the neighborhood.

The early history of No. 6 was very un eventful until about 1873. It was opened some thirty odd years ago by "Old Jim' Andrews, and was worked on the wate level for some years without serious acci dent, and without producing any consider able quantity of coal. The gangways were turned east and west at a point 150 yards vertically below the surface, and a number of breasts were opened and continued to be worked until the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company reclaimed the place The company originally obtained control of the largest tracts upon the rental of an ear of corn per year, but, as may readily be imagined, in lieu of paying the great increase of rent demanded when the de velopments had been made, the company

acquired title in fee. The workings were all opened from the foot of the slope, and the machinery for pumping and hoisting was not only in place, but working along smoothly when the fire broke out. It is alleged that a handful of oily cotton waste used about the machinery and carried perhaps by the rats up the slope and behind the timbers ignited spontaneously and caused a conflagration which has since cost a fortune is cash and coal. It is estimated that a yard of coal in the vein weighs a tou.

The dimensions of the area in which the fire is now confined, and beyond which it cannot extend hereafter, indicates 1,170,000 cubic vards or tons of coal involved. From this must be deducted the small amount which "Old Jim" Andrews and his suc cessors mined and the portion which may eventually be saved.

From all these circumstance the state ment will be the more readily credited that in all the hundred of mine fires in the an thracite region the one at No. 6 is unique. There are others which have burned longer East Pine Knot, a few miles from Potts ville, has burned more than thirty years without working one-quarter so much de struction. At Wadesville, in the same neighborhood, there is a mine which has burned forty years, and at night is quite volcanic in appearance, but which likewise did vastly less damage and was not fought with the persistency which marked the efforts at No. 6. Nor did it exhibit the stub born resistance and energy which this has

There are numberless instances of inter nal fires which had much greater start than this and were subdued in a short time, but they were below the water level and were quenched by turning a stream of water into the blazing subterranean recesses. In the case of No. 6 the fire started below the water level, but it spread so rapidly upward that, while the slope fire was soon drowned out, there was no known way of checking its progress above water level, except by shutting out the air that s needed to support combustion.

This was the first effort made. Brattice were built across the gangways, stopping every hole and crevice through which air could reach the fire. The mine was pracically hermetically sealed. All pumping of water and air was suspended, and men were left to watch the result. In two weeks, when reopened, it was found that the fire burned with increased fury. The attempt to smother it was a failure. Then an effort was made to draw the fire, and men were engaged in mining the glowing coals until one after another they were overcome by the heat and gas, and several lives were endangered.

ATTEMPTS TO PUT OUT THE FIRE.

At various times men were so far gone that their recovery was doubtful. General Superintendent William D. Zehner was carried out in an unconscious condition and for half a day he lay in the brush with excited men working over his inanimate body. Another man was packed in an envelope of moist clay, with no part of his skin exposed but that which covered his nostrils, and thus he lay for six hours be fore returning life became apparent. The third attempt was by drowning Dams and brattices were constructed across the tunnels. Two dams of brick laid in the best cement, were built across No. 6, and one on the other side across No 7. which cuts all the veins and extends right through the entire mountain. Water was poured in, but year after year there

were surface indications that the fire was still raging. Wherever these indications appeared it was a sign that there the fire was getting air, and clay was piled upon the spot by men employed for the single purpose of watching for these manifesta-At one time an effort was made to detroy the atmospheric air by the introduction through a drill hole of lime and nitric acid gas, and at other times other gases have been manufactured high up on Lo cust mountain side and forced in upon the burning mass, but without having the

slightest apparent effect upon the energy Thus the unequal contest was waged unceasingly until 1890, when all hope of extinguishing the fire was abandoned, and it was decided to cut the fire off, or rather to confine it to a definite area, 2,000 feet long, by deep cuts, transversely to the vein .-Philadelphia Press. Pleasure in Watching Birds.

However fixed the determination to observe a snake, a lizard or a fish, let a bird come near and how quickly we turn to it! If it is a thrush, in early June, or the Carolina wren at any season, and it breaks forth in song, what power have we to turn a deaf eart Though the problem at our feet may be almost solved, the rhythmic rush of a thousand wings overhead will draw us away; earth and its creeping creatures will pass from our minds that

This is the great problem of life which few satisfactorily solve. Some fail because of poor health, others want of luck, but the majority from deficient grit-want of nerve. They are nervous. irresolute, changeable, easily get the blues and "take the spirits down to keep CANNED FRUITS & VEGETABLES the spirits up," thus wasting money, time, opportunity and nerve force. There is wholesale and betall, the Restorative Nervine is the Condition of the Restorative Nervine in the Restorative Nervine diseases, as



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