

this company; the main entry is lighted with incandescent lights, which makes it very convenient for the drivers and others traveling on the entry.

The Crown Coal Co., of Belleville, have sunk and completed its escapement shaft at mine No. 1, and at No. 2 shaft the company have put in a new fan.

At John Maule & Son's mine, Belleville, they have put in a new boiler, and completed a new air-shaft.

Groom & Allen, lessees of the Enterprise mine, Belleville, have put in a new ten-foot fan, which enables them to ventilate their mine according to the requirements of the law.

At J. Beatty's mine, located at Mascoutah, a new boiler and ropes have been put in.

Marsh & Son, of Belleville, have completed their escapement shaft.

At the Ashley Coal Co.'s mine, Ashley, Washington county, new ropes and cages have been put in, and a general overhauling of the machinery has taken place; this mine was abandoned soon after it was sunk, on account of the poor roof over the coal. It has been reopened, and entries are now being driven to further test the roof.

The new Enterprise Coal Co., of Marissa, St. Clair county, have completed an escapement shaft, which has made the necessary improvements in ventilation; the company have also put on new ropes, at the hoisting shaft.

The Union mine at Caseyville has been greatly improved and its means of hoisting facilitated by the erection of a new head frame. A number of improvements have also been made at the mine of the Consumer's Coal Co., Caseyville, such as completing an air-shaft, erecting a ten-foot fan, building bins for the storage of pea, nut and egg coal, and putting up a revolving screen.

At the Vancourt mine, O'Fallon, a new cylinder boiler has been put in, cage repaired, and the air-ways secured by timbering.

The Mintor mine, at Ridge Prairie, has been greatly benefited by the erection of a new fan, the closing up of cross-cuts, sprinkling the road-ways with water, and the placing of doors; the company have also put in two new ropes. A new boiler has also been placed at the Alma mine, Ridge Prairie.

At the Knecht mine, Birkner, they have put in two new ropes and cages.

At Sibert's mine, Rentchler, the shaft has been retimbered, a new drum built, and a new ten-foot fan erected.

At the Oakland Coal Co.'s mine, Belleville, an escapement shaft has just been completed, over which has been constructed a ten-foot fan, improving the sanitary condition of the mine.

The improvements at Brandenberger's mine, Belleville, are as follows: Air-shaft completed, new ten-foot fan put in, new air compressor erected, and for a distance of several hundred feet, at the bottom of the shaft, the entry is arched with brick, making a very neat and solid looking piece of work.

A. Ogden, Rentchler, has retimbered his hoisting shaft, put in two new cages, and erected a new ten-foot fan.

Robert Brennon, Caseyville, has completed the escapement shaft to his drift.

At Hurst mine, Belleville, the escapement shaft has been completed, and a new cage and rope placed in the hoisting shaft. Maddox & Son, Belleville, have completed their escapement shaft.

L. McDonough, at Blair, Randolph county, has also completed an escapement shaft.

Bernard Coal Co.'s shaft located at Percy, Randolph county, has been retimbered.

New ropes have been put in at the following mines not mentioned heretofore: White Oak, Marissa; Union Coal Co., Millstadt Mf. Co., and High Prairie Coal Co., Millstadt; Centralia Mf. Co., Centralia; Carterville Coal Co., Carterville; J. Johnson, Richland mine, Humboldt Mining Co., George Renther, and F. Murphy, Belleville; Turkey Hill Mining Co., Wilderman; Lenzburgh Coal Co., Lenzburgh; Bennett mine, Lebanon; Renicke No. 1, Birkner.

The following mines have had new cages put in during the year: Centralia Mf. Co., Centralia; Harris Bros., G. Gilwick and St. Clair Steam Supply Co., Belleville; High Prairie Coal Co. and Maskop & Co., Millstadt; Ben Johnson, Smithton.

*New Furnaces*—D. Zileesdorf, Marissa, and the Pittsburgh Coal Co., Belleville.

*Abandoned Mines Fenced Off*—Owing to the growing population surrounding many of the abandoned mines, it was thought advisable, for the safety of the public, to strictly enforce the following provision of Section 8 of the mining law: "The top of each and every shaft, and the entrance to each and every intermediate working vein, shall be securely fenced by gates, properly protecting such shaft and entrance thereto; and the entrance to every abandoned slope, air or other shaft, shall be securely fenced off."

There have been 32 main, or hoisting shafts, and 18 air-shafts securely fenced off during the year; the names of which, with location, etc., are given in the following table: