

New Mines.—The Jefferson Coal Co. has opened out a new mine near the Converse brick plant, one mile and one-half from the southeast corner of the corporate limits of Springfield. A spur is run from the B. & O. S. W. R. R. to this mine; the escapement or air shaft was sunk as soon as the main shaft was down; both shafts are now connected. A fifteen foot fan has been set up for ventilation, and the mine is now working very successfully. A number of houses are now being built near the mine for the use of the miners.

Escapement Shafts.—The Raymond Coal Co. of Raymond, Montgomery county, has finished its escapement and air shaft during the year; this mine was formerly known as the Progressive Coal Co.'s mine. The property was sold to a St. Louis firm, who changed the name to the Raymond Coal Co. The mine is being opened on the long-wall system of mining; the coal seam is three feet and three inches in thickness, of a good quality, and suitable for long-wall working.

Improvements—The Chicago Virden Coal Co., of Virden, Macoupin county, has made some important improvements at its No. 1 mine during the year; Two new boilers have been set up; each boiler is 66 inches in diameter by 20 feet long and 26 inch flues. An engine and a 112 K. W. generator and two 13 ton general electric traction motors have been installed, new tracks of 40 pound rails have been laid on the main haulage roads of the mine, a new shaker screen and weigh hopper have also been put in and the water supply has been largely increased.

The Montgomery Coal Co. of Paisley, Montgomery county, has made some very substantial improvements at its mine. A new tower, shaking screen, weigh hopper and scales have been put up.

The Greenridge Mining Company at Girard, Macoupin county, has put in a new and larger fan which has greatly increased the ventilation.

The Victor Coal Co. of Pawnee, Sangamon county, has put up a new 20 foot fan, also substantial stairways in the escapement shaft.

Fatal Accidents.—The following is a detailed statement of the fatal accidents that have taken place in the fifth district during the year ended June 30, 1902.

Aug. 26, 1901, James Ryan, mine manager, age 52 years, married, leaves a widow and four children, was killed by being caught by mine cars on the endless rope plain in the Capital Coöperative Coal Co.'s mine at Springfield, Sangamon county. He was walking on the rope plain behind a trip of cars; the couplings between the cars suddenly broke, allowing some of the cars to run back, which caught him, bruising him so that he died in a few hours.

Sept. 21, 1901, Wm. S. Owens, miner, age 52 years, married, leaves a widow and two children, was injured by a fall of slate in the Junction Mining Co.'s mine of Springfield, Sangamon county, which caused his death Oct. 21, 1901.

Oct. 18, 1901, Fred Courtney, driver, age 21 years, single, was killed by being caught between pit cars in the Girard Coal Co.'s mine, Girard, Macoupin county.