

e mine carrying with it a very large quantity of surface clay which lodged the mine workings, practically ruining the mine. The workings of this aft having communication with the workings of the slope (an adjacent mine longing to the same company) which lay to the dip, it was also flooded until only one entry remained workable. Although no more water is allowed enter the mine and the pump has been kept running steadily, ever since e water broke into the mine, they have not been able to get it out, but they e lowering it slowly and steadily.

Crown Mine No. 1, belonging to the Crown, Coal & Tow Company has not en worked during the year. The top works of this mine were made a complete wreck by the cyclone of May 27, 1896, and have not been rebuilt since. l that was left of the top works was the engine and boilers.

The Ruby Mine has not been operated for several months and is at present andoned. It was operated last by the Adams Coal and Tow Company, of . Louis. This mine is located near Caseyville, on the B. O. & S. W, R. R. St. Clair county.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

The Odin Coal Co., at Odin, Ill., is putting in a mining machine plant consisting of one 100 K.-W. Independent mine type dynamo, one Imperial engine 160 H. P., at 250 revolutions per minute, manufactured by the Western Engine Co.; two improved Independent cutting machines, having a ven-foot undercut. The power house is to be equipped with the latest electrical equipment for measuring pressure, current, etc. There are two silers 66 inches in diameter and 22 feet long with twenty-four 6-inch flues. At the Glendale Mine, Belleville, a new 12-foot fan is being erected in ace of the 8-foot fan now in use. It should make quite an improvement in e ventilation of the mine.

The Oak Hill Coal Co., has put in a new boiler 42 inches in diameter, and s built a new brick smoke stack.

At the Sandoval mine the company has put in a new shaker screen and has ded some new bins to their outfit.

The Madison Coal Company has improved the casing of their fan at No. 2 ine by making it eccentric with expanding chimney, and has changed from lt to cog-wheel gearing. The improvement has greatly increased the efficiency of the fan, the quantity of air passing having increased from 72,000 93,000 cubic feet per minute.

The Lumaghi Coal Co., at Collinsville, is preparing to retimber and equip air escapement shaft, which will improve the ventilating capacity of the ine by enlarging it and removing obstructions.

#### ESCAPEMENTS.

The Kolb Coal Co., of Mascoutah, after a tough experience in getting rough the sand, nas succeeded in getting down with their escapement. It not yet equipped so as to make it available as a good escapement, but it is greatly improved the quantity and quality of the air.