

COLLIERIES IN MORGAN COUNTY.

APPLE CREEK COAL Co.

This is a new shaft, located within the corporate limits of the village of Franklin, Morgan county, on the Jacksonville and South-eastern Railroad. The shaft is 202 feet deep, and the coal seam $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness. The company sunk 138 feet below the present seam. A drill hole had previously been sunk and a 6-foot seam reported, but upon reaching this level with the shaft the coal was found to be only $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The works are opened up with double entries and are in good shape; an 8-foot Brazil fan has been put in to secure good ventilation. The company is at present sinking an escapement shaft. When finished the fan will be located there. The coal is hoisted by twin first motion engines Litchfield make, with all the latest appliances; disk indicator connected by worm gearing, and relief valve. Two cylinder boilers are used for steam, each 42x22; the hoisting drum is 5 feet in diameter, ropes $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch, head sheaves 5 feet. Fan engine, is 6x12, geared direct to the fan shaft. The air is split at the bottom of the downcast with a capacity of 8,000 cubic feet in each split.

Barnard Gavin, Manager.

FARMERS' COAL Co.

This is a new shaft, located within the corporated limits of Neelyville, on the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific Railroad. It is a co-operative company, consisting of John Murray, Edward Holt, Neil Donald, John Quigley, Laffette Weinesberg, F. H. Donald, Carnipple and Seeman. The shaft is 50 feet deep, and the coal seam $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, No. 1 coal. The entries are opened up 20 feet wide, with a six-foot wall in the centre, built of slate, making it virtually double entries. The mine is ventilated by a furnace on top. The coal is hoisted by a single engine 10x20, second motion; one boiler 24x36; hoisting rope 1 inch. They have a royalty of about 170 acres. The company is at present sinking an escapement shaft. At my first visit the shaft was in a deplorable condition, but is now in good order. Gates have been put around the shaft, covers on the cages, and new ropes.

John Murray, Mine Manager.

COLLIERY IN SCOTT COUNTY.

WM. H. BATES & Co.

This shaft is located one mile north of Winchester, on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. There have been some improvements made in this mine during the year. Iron track has been put in all the entries. Formerly the miners themselves pushed the coal to the shaft; now laborers are employed to do it. The entries are extended for a distance of 1,800 feet. The underground works are in very good order, and the ventilation good. This is a very

fair quality of coal, and is seam No. 1. It is nearly all blasted with powder. The coal is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. Hand-power geared drills could be very economically used here, as it is very laborious work for a miner to use the common, ordinary hand drill in such a low seam of coal.

Wm. H. Bates, Manager.

COLLIERY IN COLES COUNTY.

MATTOON COAL AND MINING Co.

Considerable improvement has been made at this shaft during the year, both above and below. The return air-courses, when the present management took charge of the works, were nearly closed up; 30 cubic feet per man per minute was all the air that could be obtained with the fan. The air-courses have all been repaired and cleaned out, so that now there is over 100 feet of air per man. The hauling roads have been made wider, and the partings at the bottom of the shaft retimbered and made higher. The underground works are now in a tolerably fair condition. The company had some trouble in securing a site for an escapement shaft, but now the ground is secured and the company is sinking another hoisting shaft, to be used as an escapement. The shaft is going down at the intersection of the Illinois Central and Peoria, Decatur and Evansville railroads, and it will be pushed ahead until completed. Timbers 10x12 will be used for cribbing timbers. If much water is met with an inside lining of 8x10 timbers will be put in, with a puddling wall of 4 inches of Portland cement. It is the intention of the company to puddle all shaft water back.

Jas. P. Cummings, Manager.

COLLIERY IN CHRISTIAN COUNTY.

PANA COAL AND MINING Co.

This shaft is located within the corporate limits of the village of Pana, and at the intersection of the Illinois Central, the Indianapolis and St. Louis, and Ohio and Mississippi railroads. The shaft is 742 feet deep. They began hoisting coal September, 1884. The shaft is 7x18 in the clear, having two cage ways and a fan chamber. The shaft is very substantially timbered, 10x12 timbers being used until the stone head was reached. The coal seam has an average of 7 feet in thickness, and is of very fair quality. Double engines are used for hoisting the coal, 20x48 cylinders, drum 10 feet in diameter, rope $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Two tons of coal are hoisted at a time. Coal is shipped on all three railroads, with chutes for locomotives on the I. & St. L. The underground works are laid out with double entries. A 12-foot fan has been erected for ventilation, giving 25,000 cubic feet of air in two splits. The mine has been