

to the furnace, at the bottom of the shaft. The engine house at this mine was burned down February 14, but was rebuilt and in operation again March 15.

D. Stedder, Superintendent and Mine Manager.

#### NO. 2 OR JUNCTION SHAFT.

The buildings at this shaft were burned down on the night of April 27. The company had just completed several improvements, among them being 20 feet of new curbing at the top of the shaft. The new curbing being dry was readily consumed by the fire, allowing the shaft to cave in. It was first thought that the fire originated at the furnace below, but on going down the escape shaft to the furnace, nothing was found to confirm the belief. The furnace is located 60 feet from the shaft bottom, with 20 feet of brick arch extending from the furnace towards the air chamber. The mine was worked on the same principal as the foregoing, but was in better condition, owing to its being a newer mine. No effort has been made to rebuild.

#### THE ATHENS COAL CO.

This company is operating a shaft 225 feet deep, at Athens, on the Wabash R. R. Ventilation in excess of the requirements of the law is maintained by a furnace at the bottom of the shaft. Doors have been placed on the entries instead of screens, and an effort has been made to turn the air around the working faces by the use of screens at the mouth of the rooms. The escape shaft being small and wet is now being enlarged and made dry. I required more effective safety catches to be put on the cages, which were ordered, and are doubtless now in use.

James Eddy, Superintendent.

James Pierson, Mine Manager.

#### THE SOUTH VALLEY COAL CO.

This shaft is located at the southern extremity of Petersburg, on the line of the Wabash R. R., and is 68 feet deep. Only 29 men were employed in winter and 6 in summer, there being only two entries in progress. These were safe and well ventilated by a furnace at the top of the escape shaft, which is small and wet. The company was notified to enlarge it and overhaul the ladders.

J. C. Cabanis, Superintendent.

Thomas Ackford, Mine Manager.

#### SWEET WATER MINE.

This is a local supply shaft 170 feet deep, located at Sweet Water, three miles south of Greenview, and everything about it is in splendid order.

Wm. Parker, Proprietor and Manager.