

Adam Crompton, Chas. Hepp, George Steel and Harvell & Baker have opened out new mines southwest of Ottawa. LaSalle county.

Lockwood & Dietman have sunk a new shaft three miles north of Wilsman, LaSalle county.

The Star Coal Company of Kangley has sunk a new hoisting shaft at the face of No. 2 workings, about two miles west of the old shaft, doing away with the endless rope haulage.

ABANDONED MINES.

The following mines have been abandoned in Grundy county: The Big Four-Wilmington Coal Company No. 2, at Carbon Hill; Taylor & Cavanaugh's No. 4, at Carbon Hill; R. Blair's mine, east of Morris.

The Star Coal Company has abandoned its No. 2 mine at Kangley, LaSalle county; Thomas Smith & Sons, William Thomas & Company and Bargreen Bros. have abandoned their mines near Streator, LaSalle county.

T. B. Farrell, James Edson and William Saxby have abandoned their mines southwest of Ottawa. LaSalle county.

Alex Steel & Company, John Westerlund and Harry Wonders have abandoned their mines near Coalville, Livingston county. Beggs, Davis & Company have abandoned their mine at Fairbury, Livingston county.

CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP.

The Consolidated Coal & Iron Company of Chicago has purchased the mine formerly operated by the Gardner-Wilmington Coal Company at Clark City, Kankakee county. This mine was closed down in February, 1904; at that time the lower seam was being worked. The new company is now opening up the upper seam, and has purchased 80 acres of coal land, which is situated 400 feet west of the shaft. All the old workings have been closed off except the pair of entries leading toward the new coal fields: the parting and roadways around the bottom of the shaft have been retimbered and put in safe condition.

The Phoenix Coal & Mining Company of Chicago has purchased the mine formerly operated by the Manhattan Coal Company of Cornell, Livingston county.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Installation of Electric Haulage Plant.

The most notable improvement in this district made during the year has been that at the Oglesby mine of the Oglesby Coal Company, LaSalle county. This company has installed two high pressure tubular boilers, 125-horsepower, 6x18 feet, made by the Atlas Engine works; one electric generator, 125 K. W., made by the Goodman Manufacturing Company of Chicago; one high speed generator engine, 200-horsepower, made by the Ridgeway Dynamo & Engine Company, Ridgeway, Pa. The company has also installed an electric mine motor, 80-horsepower of the third rail type, also furnished by the Goodman Manufacturing Company. About 4,500 feet of entry has been laid with third rail track. An improved Ottumwa box car loader has been installed with an 80-horsepower electric motor for driving the same. Electric lights have been put in the boiler and engine rooms, shops and the entire top works, also at the bottom of the shaft, at each switch and place of refuge on the main hauling road. Four arc lights have been put in the yard adjacent to the works. About 100 pit cars have been added to the equipment of the mine; a heater has been installed for heating, with exhaust steam from the generator engine, the water for the boiler feed. A plant has also been installed for heating the main office, store buildings and the president's residence, with exhaust steam from the fan engine.

The Acme Coal Company, Streator, LaSalle county, has installed in its mine a tail-rope haulage, which has increased their output 150 tons daily.