

Bringing Coal Creek History to Life



by Barry Thacker, PE (aka David R. Thomas)
Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, Inc.
Knoxville, TN - www.coalcreekaml.com



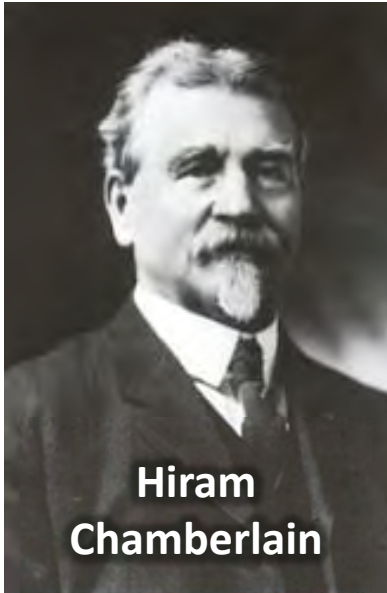
**Samuel Roberts
(1800 – 1885)**



Founded the Welsh Colony of Brynyffynon (the hill with a spring) in Scott County, Tennessee, in 1856, which had its own post office and mill.

His writings educated people in Wales, and Welsh immigrants in America, about opportunities for a better life available in Tennessee.

Due to the hardships caused by the Civil War, most inhabitants had left the colony by 1867 when Roberts and his brother returned to Wales.



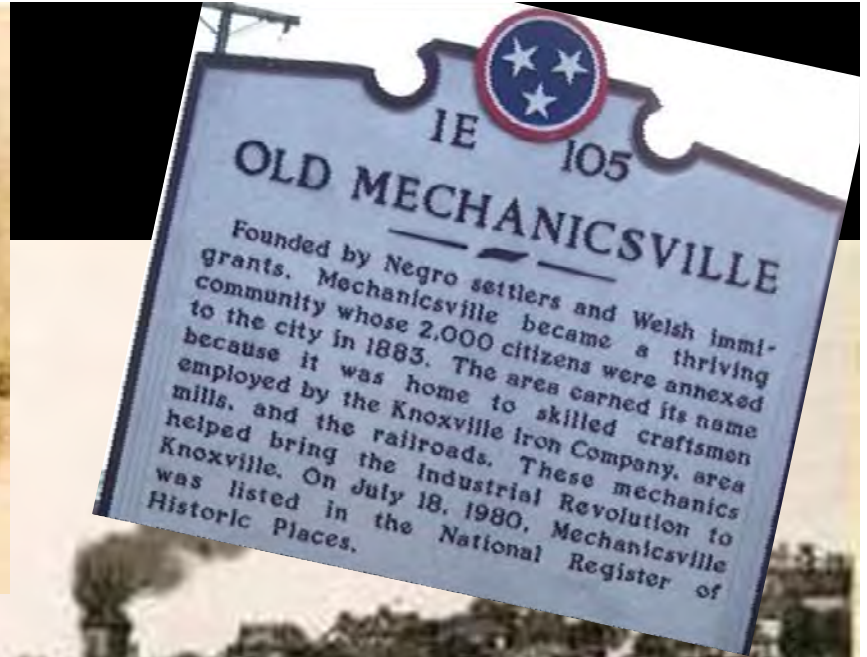
Hiram Chamberlain



David Richards



Joseph Richards



Mills of the Knoxville Iron and Coal Company (KICC) in Knoxville

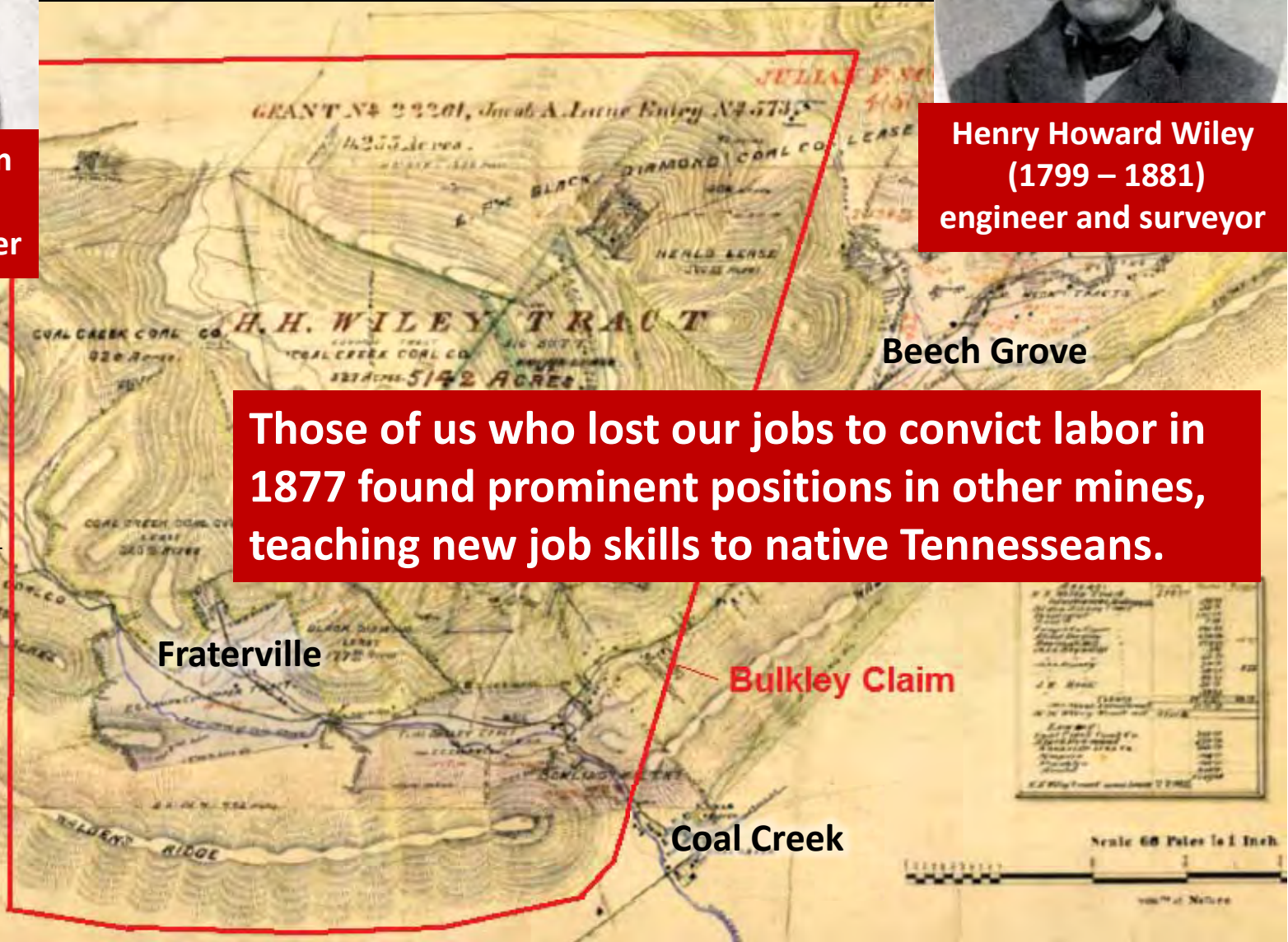
Coal used to fuel East Tennessee's Industrial Revolution came from land owned by Coal Creek Mining and Manufacturing Company (CCMM), which is still in business today as the Coal Creek Company...



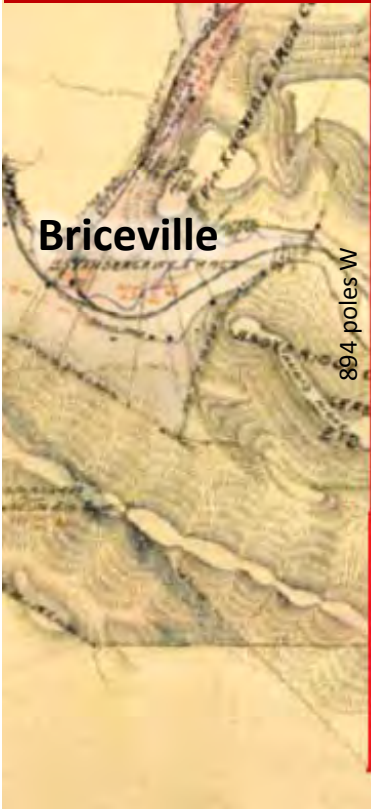
William S. McEwen
(1805 – 1873)
attorney and banker



Henry Howard Wiley
(1799 – 1881)
engineer and surveyor



Those of us who lost our jobs to convict labor in 1877 found prominent positions in other mines, teaching new job skills to native Tennesseans.



Briceville

894 poles W

Fraterville

Beech Grove

Bulkley Claim

Coal Creek

Table with columns for names and numbers, likely a survey or land record table.

Scale 60 Poles to 1 Inch





Article from the Atlanta Constitution, June 15, 1882

“How high are these tunnels?” I asked Mr. Abraham Lloyd, Superintendent of the mine when he had cautioned us about keeping our heads low.

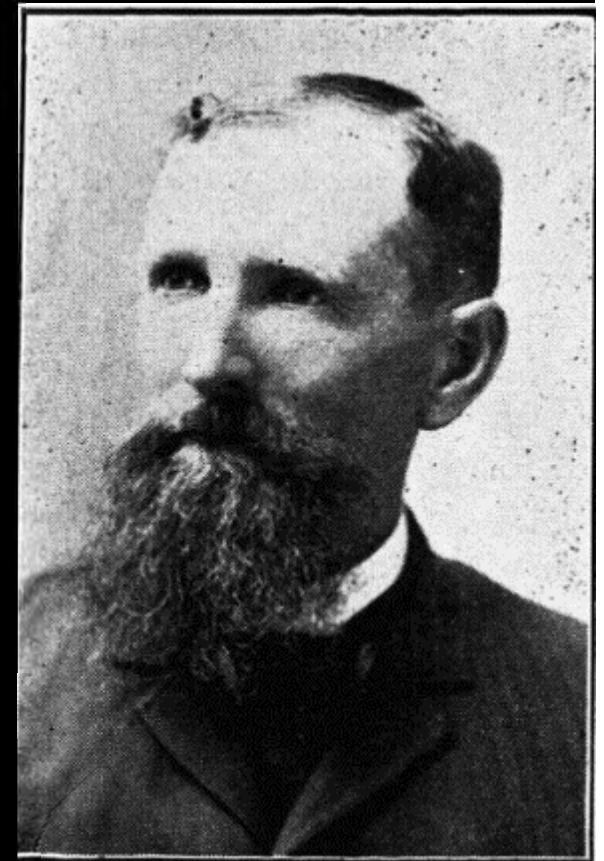
“They vary from three foot eight inches to four and a half feet.”

“You don’t mean to say these mules go through a hole only three feet eight inches high, do you?” “Yes I do. They have a way of stooping, and can run their level best without even touching a hair on their backs...”

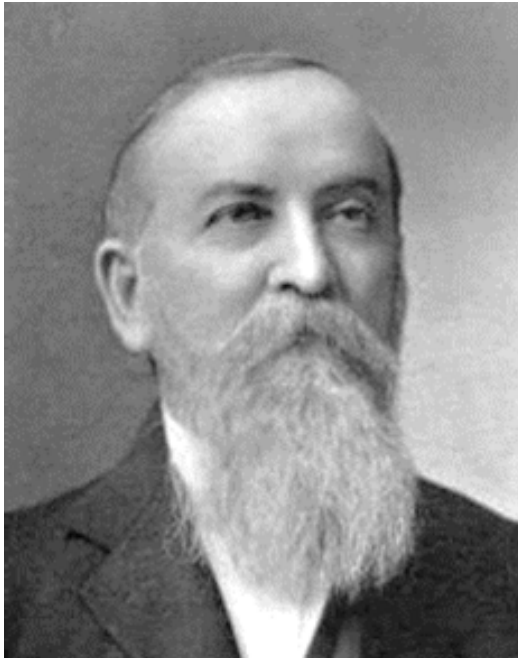
I took a pick from a miner named Roberts and tried to dig... A blast had just been made and the foul air from the powder was almost unbearable, but they don’t seem to mind it much.

“So you like to dig coal, Mr. Roberts?”

“Like it, sir? Why, I could not be happy at anything else.”



Mr. Abram Lloyd, Soddy, Tenn.



Major Eldad Cicero Camp came to Knoxville during the Civil War and stayed, recognizing the potential to develop the area's rich natural resources. He was a U.S. District Attorney and owner of Coal Creek Coal Company's Fraterville and Thistle Mines.

Camp's home, Greystone Mansion, was built during the Gilded Age and now houses the studios of WATE-TV in Knoxville.

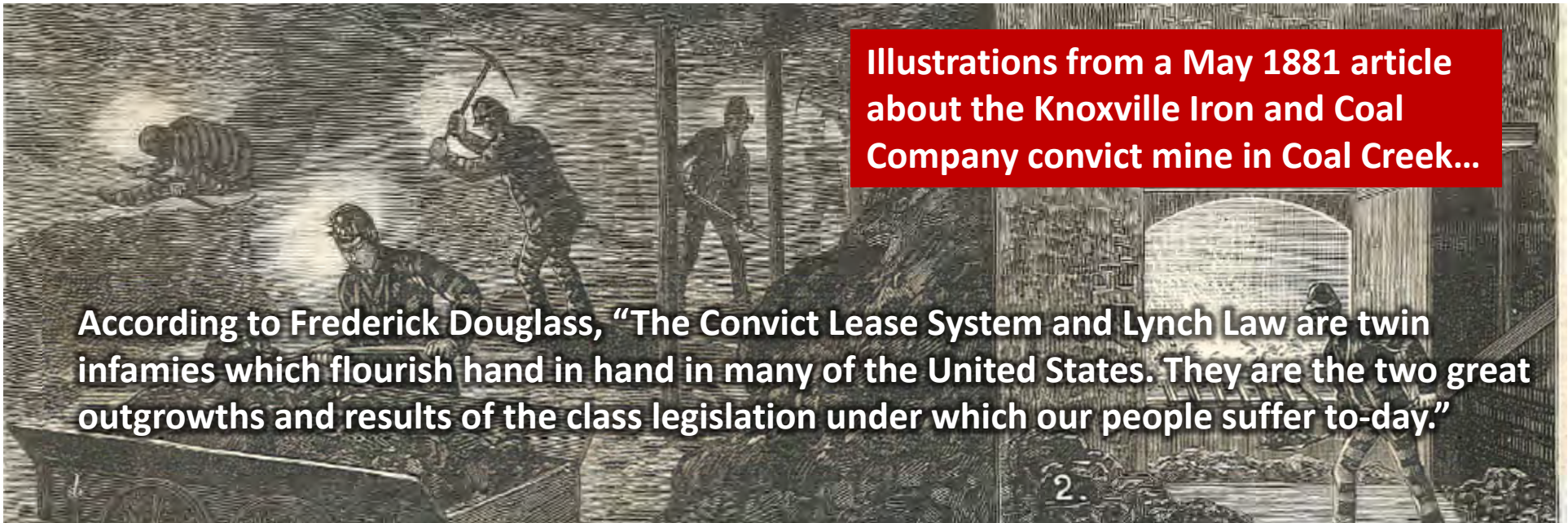
He became one of the richest men in Knoxville and an important philanthropist for such institutions as Lincoln Memorial University in Claiborne County.

Opportunity to serve as an apprentice...For the most part, Welsh miners found contentment in Tennessee, but not so for the convicts that replaced us at the KICC Mine.



Illustrations from a May 1881 article about the Knoxville Iron and Coal Company convict mine in Coal Creek...

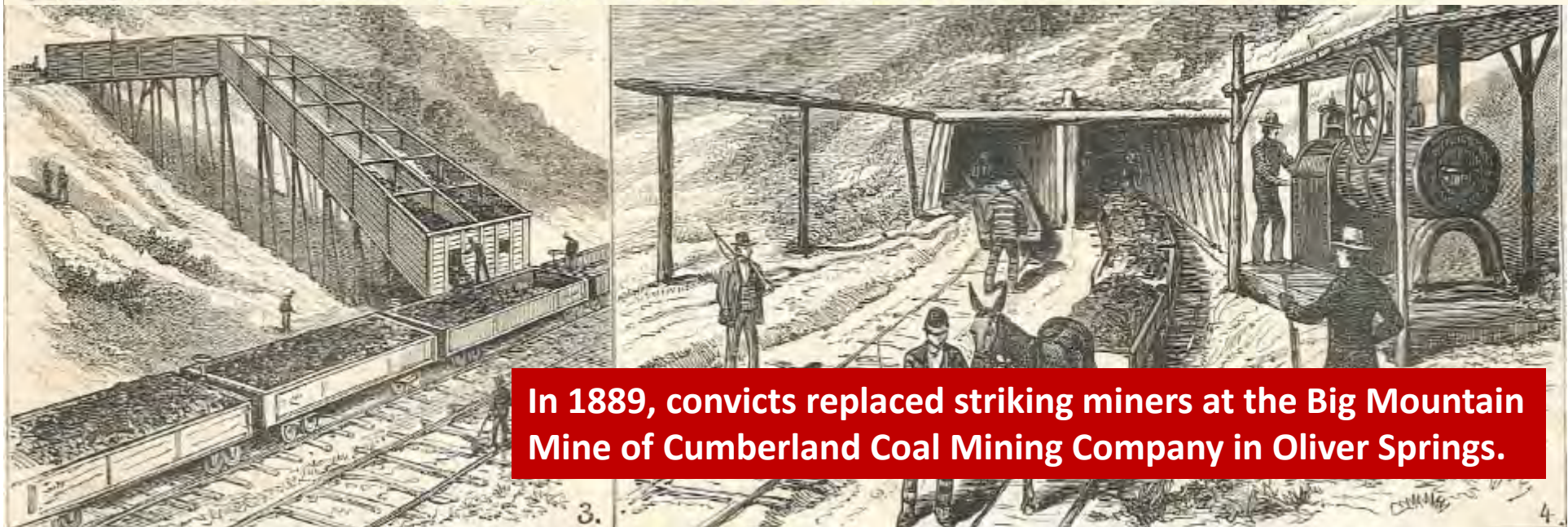
According to Frederick Douglass, "The Convict Lease System and Lynch Law are twin infamies which flourish hand in hand in many of the United States. They are the two great outgrowths and results of the class legislation under which our people suffer to-day."



1. Within the Mine. 2. The Ventilating Furnace. 3. Loading Cars by the Chute. 4. The Entrance to the Mine.

THE MINE AT COAL CREEK, WORKED WITH CONVICT LABOR.

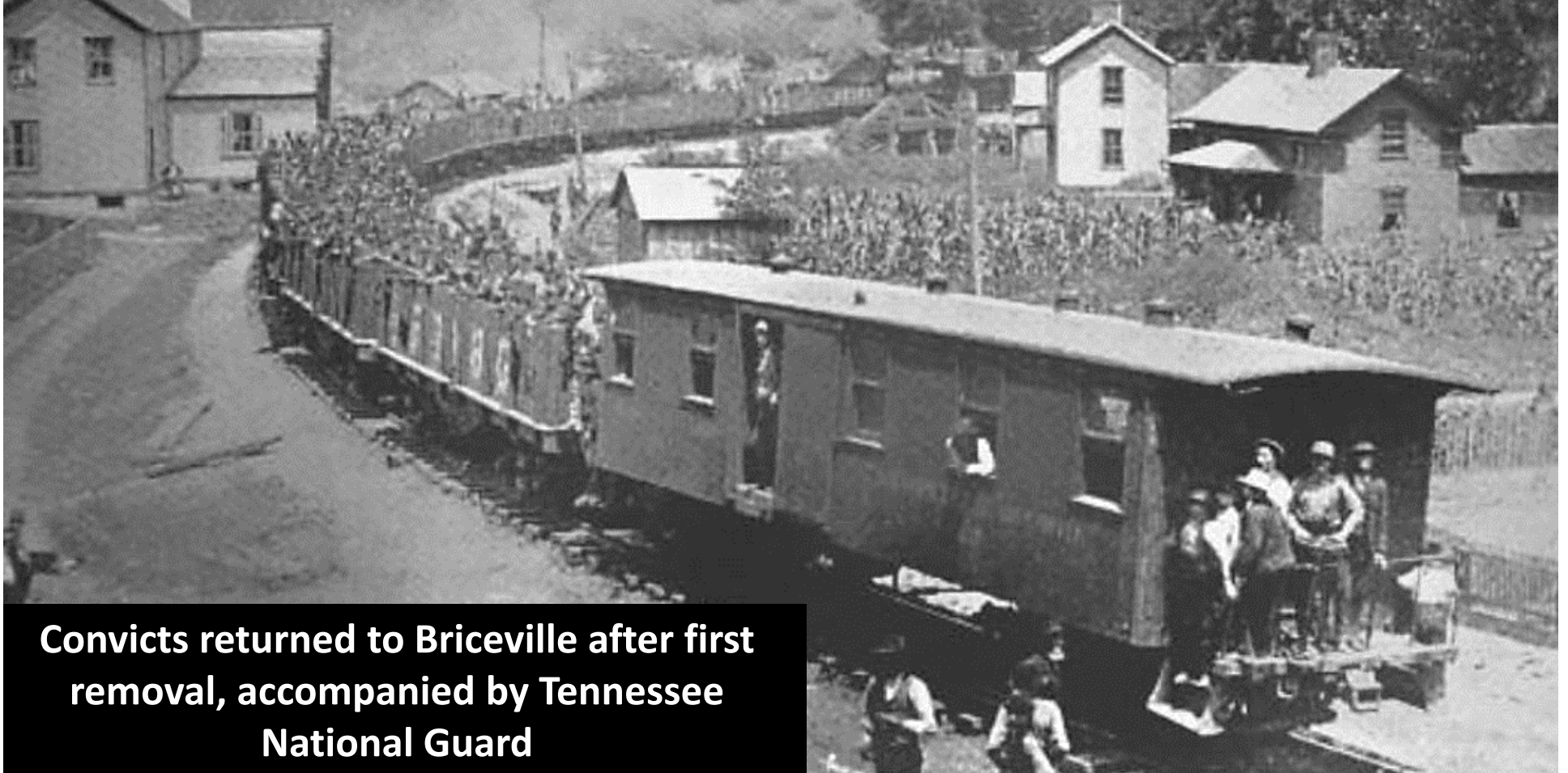
INDUSTRIAL LIFE IN TENNESSEE.—FROM SKETCHES BY WALTER GOATER.



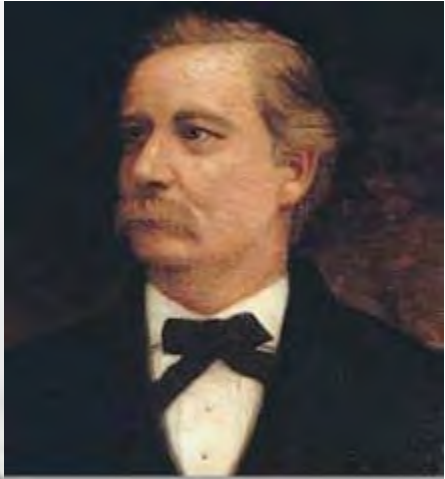
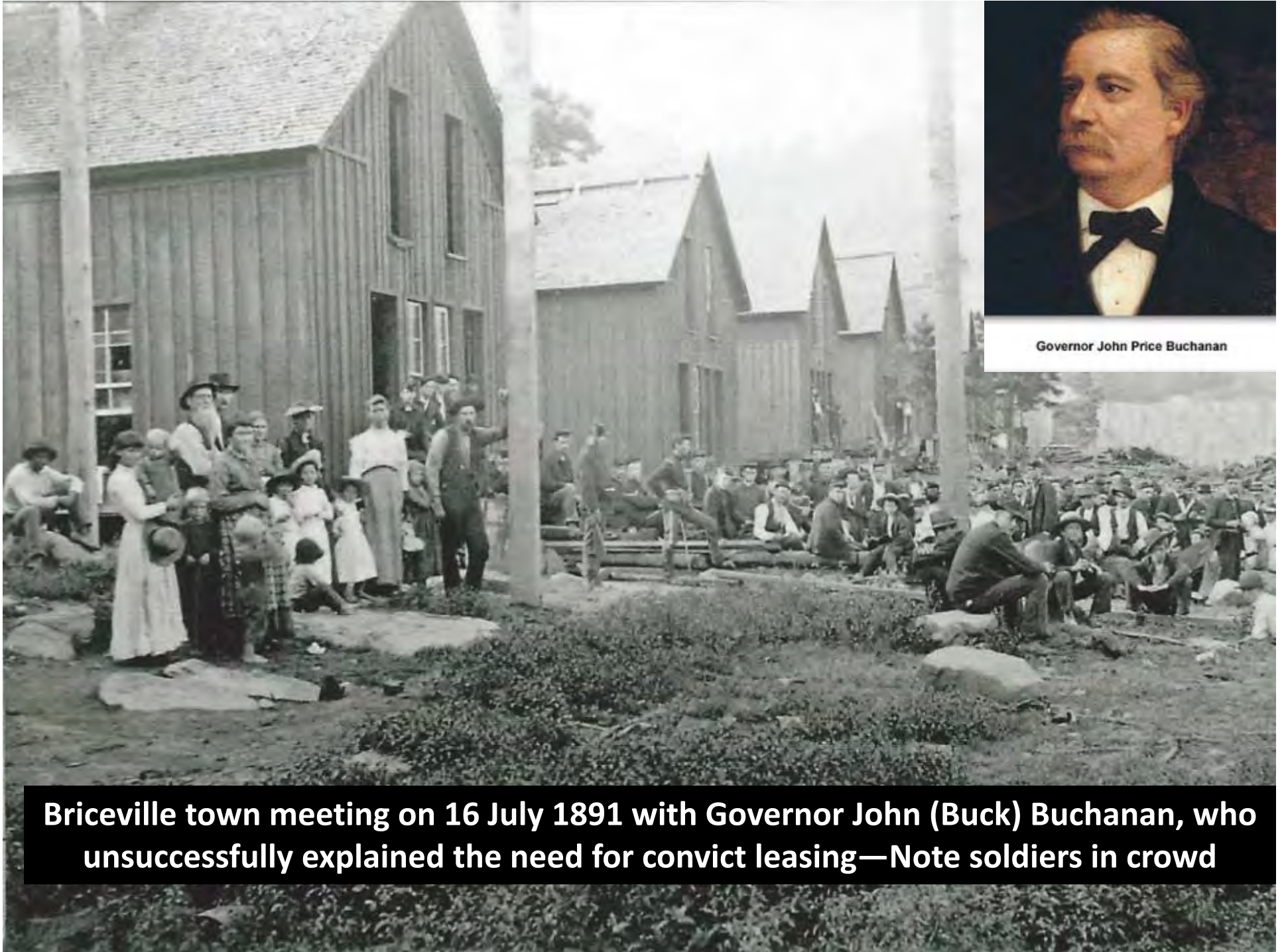
In 1889, convicts replaced striking miners at the Big Mountain Mine of Cumberland Coal Mining Company in Oliver Springs.

Meeting of miners and business leaders at Thistle Switch on 14 July 1891 to plot a course of action to end convict leasing after the Tennessee Coal Mining Company (TCMC) replaced striking miners with convicts at its Tennessee Mine in Briceville. (David R. Thomas in circle)





Convicts returned to Briceville after first removal, accompanied by Tennessee National Guard



Governor John Price Buchanan

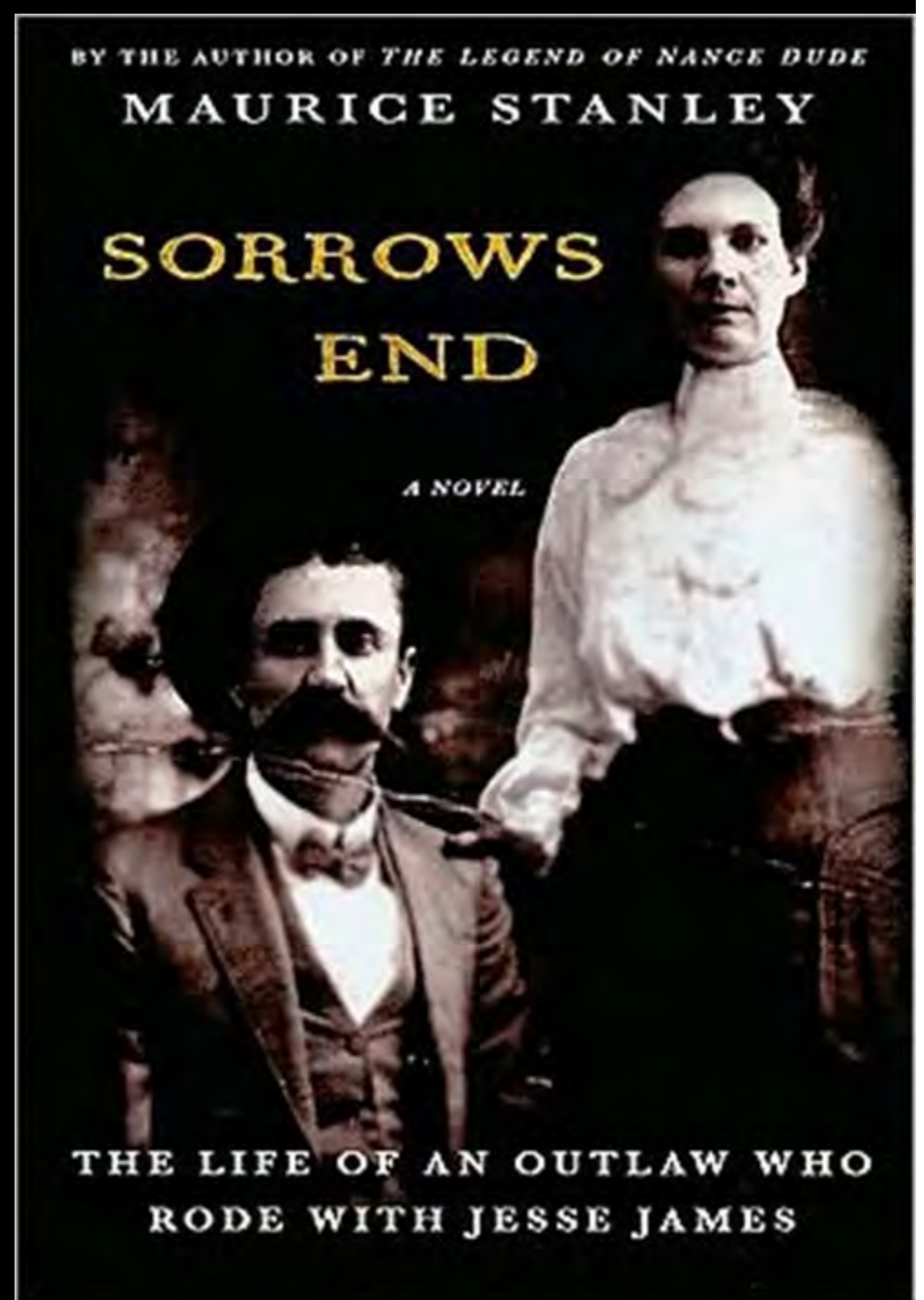
Briceville town meeting on 16 July 1891 with Governor John (Buck) Buchanan, who unsuccessfully explained the need for convict leasing—Note soldiers in crowd

Henry Baker, who rode with the James Gang, was later arrested in Tennessee and served time working in the KICC convict mine in Coal Creek.

He was one of the convicts marched by miners to the Southern Railway Depot in Coal Creek on 20 July 1891 and sent by train to Knoxville.

He escaped by jumping from the train...

Negative press coverage after the second removal of convicts prompted us to agree to the Governor's offer of a truce...



THE WELSH NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD!

OF TENNESSEE,

To be held at Chattanooga, Tennessee,
October 30th, 1891.

EISTEDDFOD WAS KING.

Chattanooga Received a Splendid
Taste of the Welsh Feast

And the City at Large
the Delightful
terday at the

KIRMESS NOT IN IT. ENGLISH

Fully 1,000 Welsh Lads and Lasses Enjoy

the Competition
the Like of
Been Heard
Prize Winner
Choral Prize-

HENWLAD FY NHADAU.

**The Welsh National festivals
in Tennessee in 1890 and
1891 became known as the
Dixie Eisteddfod...**

**Plan developed for responding to the
deadlock in the Tennessee Legislature
over the issue of convict leasing...**

Eisteddfod Dalaethol Tennessee

CYNEIJJU YR UCROD-YR-YR

OPERA HOUSE, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.,

Hydref 30, 1891.

TESTYNAU.

DATGANIAETH.

| | |
|---|-------|
| 1 "Hallelujah Chorus" (Handel), i gor heb rind dan 40 na throes 70 | 20.00 |
| 1'r arweinydd..... | 10.00 |
| All oreu..... | 50.00 |
| 2 "Y Blodeu" (Lloyd), i gor heb 60 | 20.00 |
| Thomas, i gor heb ter..... | 40.00 |
| gor o blant..... | 25.00 |
| (Parry), i barti | 25.00 |
| "Darling" (Parry) | 12.00 |
| "Soul of the | 5.00 |
| "Soul of the | 4.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |
| "The Star is | 5.00 |

KHYDDIARTH.

| | |
|--|-------|
| 1 Tracthawd, "Hanes a gwrthdri y Cymry a gymerasant i'w blaenllaw yn rhy- fel cartrefol yr Unol Dalaethau" | 20.00 |
| 2 "Chattanooga; ei hanes a'i mantei- lou" | 15.00 |

BARDDONIAETH.

| | |
|---|-------|
| 1 Pryddust goffiadwriaethol i'r diweddar Thomas, "Rock bardd a..... | 20.00 |
| Jefferson Da- Mountain, 6.00 | 6.00 |
| Hard Recita- tion (Standard men..... | 5.00 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| 1 Brass Band, "Pride of Wales" | 40.00 |
| 2 Cwaraeu ar y piano, "The Storm and Silvery Waves" | 5.00 |

Hydref
↳ October

→ essays

→ verse

→ recitation

Chicago Tribune Nov. 3, 1891

TENNESSEE IN A FUROR.

SERIOUS CRISIS IN THE HISTORY OF
THE STATE.

Another Mob of Miners Attacks the Oliver Springs Branch Prison, Releases the 155 Convicts Confined There, and Leaves the Buildings and Stockades a Mass of Blazing Ruins—Rewards Offered by the Governor for the Capture of the Convicts and the Mob Leaders.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 2.—[Special.]—The State of Tennessee is today confronted by the most serious situation of any in many years. East Tennessee miners, aided by miners from Kentucky, not only have released the 305 convicts at the Briceville and Coal Creek branch

The Chattanooga Times

Nov. 6, 1891

During the meeting of the Welsh Eisteddfod in Chattanooga, a secret meeting was held by the miners present, and the convict question discussed. It now transpires that the action of the Briceville men was endorsed, and Tracy City and Whitwell given to understand that they would receive all necessary assistance. It was decided that as soon as Tennessee was rid of convict miners, Alabama men would be assisted in reducing the stockade and prison at Pratt mines...

Convict leasing reminded us of the British practice of arresting young Welshmen for petty crimes and shipping them to the British prison colony in New South Wales, Australia...





Queen City Guards on Walden Ridge



In February 1892, TCMC removed convicts from its mine in Briceville and sold stock in the company to its former miners. Convicts remained at the KICC Mine, so the Tennessee National Guard stayed at Fort Anderson on Militia Hill, which infuriated Coal Creek miners. Why?



Belle of Coal Creek.

CONVICTS GONE!

on the 20th Day of July, 1891,

— AND ON —

WED'Y. JULY 20th. 1892.

— there will be a —

Grand Picnic at Briceville, Tenn.,

near the mines of the Co-operative Mining Company. This picnic is to celebrate the day the Convicts and State Militia were driven out of Briceville.

Orators.

The Addresses of Welcome will be delivered by EUGENE MERRILL, of Briceville, and W. G. WEBB, of Pittsburg, Ky., Also Mr. B. A. JENKINS will positively deliver an address to the crowd.

Amusements.

There will be a Grand Ball given, and a platform will be erected 30x60 feet from the lumber remaining from the destroyed stockade.

FOOT RACE BY BOYS under 15 years old will be rewarded 1 pocket knife by J. F. Matthews and 1 scarf by W. B. Robbins.

SACK RACE, 100 yards, by men winner to receive a meerschaum pipe by L. N. Brown.

THREE LEGGED RACE, 100 yds., \$1.00 in cash by John Simpson.

WHEELBARROW RACE, blindfolded 20 yds., by ladies premium pair of Mitts by Mrs. C. Leinart.

THE YOUNG LADY who gathers 25 potatoes first will receive \$1.00 by Dr. G. L. Hill.

THE YOUNG LADY, who runs 25 yds., with an egg in a spoon will receive a handsome album by H. S. Pless also \$1.00 cash by Dr. Madison.

JUG BREAKING, by ladies blindfolded, premium 1 scarf by S. S. Burris.

TAILING THE MULK, by ladies, successful lady \$1.00 by W. B. Underwood 50c by Dr. S. Petree.

HAMMER THROWING, by men 1 box cigars by G. E. Irish.

RACES RUN by men, weighing 300 pounds or more 1 pocket knife by E. M. Chapman.

RACES BY LADIES weighing 200 pounds or more pair fine slippers by M. E. Bibbe.

THE HANDSOMEST young lady over 15 yrs., 1 pair silk mitts by Robt. Hart.

THE YOUNG LADY repeating the largest number of words in five minutes, Silk Handkerchief by W. H. Branscom.

SHOOTING MATCH, 27 yds., off hand, and 40 yds., with a rest premium, \$2.50. Entrance fee 50 cents.

BASE BALL TEAMS have been invited and are expected.

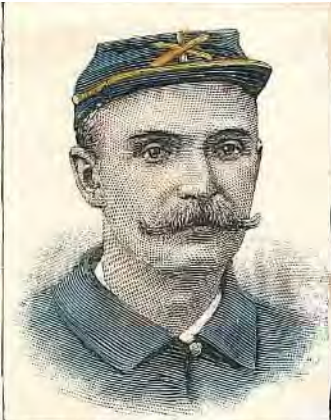
Music will be furnished for the Occasion by the Famous Rockwood String Band.

REFRESHMENTS of all kinds will be served by Local Assemblies Nos. 361 and 2987.

The Railroads will give Excursion Rates from Jellicoe, Harriman Junction and Clinton.

Committee of Arrangements:

C. M. WOODWARD, President,
SAMUEL TAYLOR, Secretary.



Col. Keller Anderson,
Commander of
Fort Anderson



Garrison of Fort Anderson on Militia Hill



MORE CONVICTS SENT AWAY
MINERS HAVE DRIVEN THE PRISONERS OUT OF INMAN.
LEASE SYSTEM IN TENNESSEE ABOUT AT AN END IT IS THOUGHT—COMPANY SAYS IT IS WILLING TO SURRENDER CONTRACT TO STATE—QUIET REPORTED AT TRACY CITY
NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 15.—Tennessee's convict lease system may be considered almost as good as abrogated. It was not done by the process of legislation, but by mob violence. One year ago the stockades at Coal Creek and Briceville were burned and several hundred prisoners set free. Four months later the convicts of Oliver Springs were released, and on Saturday last the prisoners at Tracy City were sent to

The New York Times
Published August 16, 1892
Copyright © The New York Times

TENNESSEE'S SHAME!

Convicts in the Coal Creek Mines.

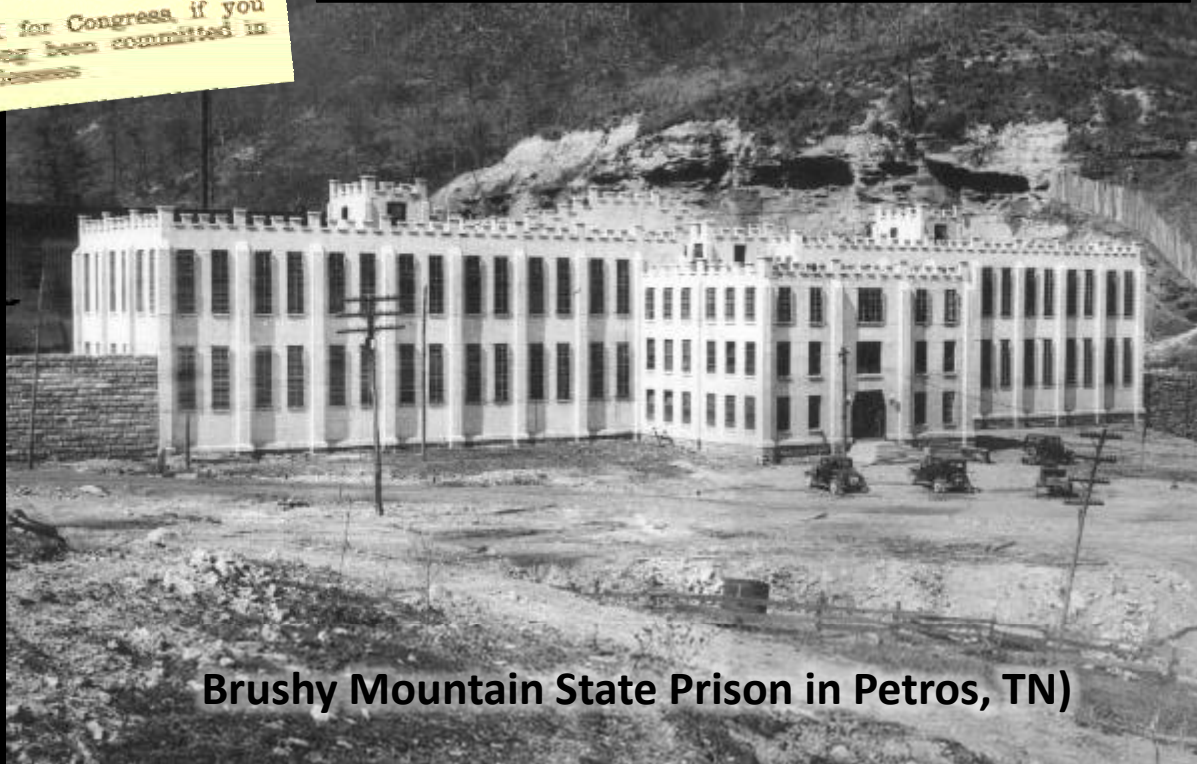


ONE OF THE BRUSHY MOUNTAIN CONVICTS.
The convict who had been in the Brushy Mountain State Prison.

Vote for **TURNEY** for Governor and **WELCKER** for Congress, if you wish this to continue.
Vote for **WINSTEAD** for Governor and **HOUK** for Congress, if you wish to abolish this great crime, which has so long been committed in order to raise Democratic campaign funds from the lessees.

Coal Creek miners lost the final battle, but won the war when newly-elected Gov. Peter Turney convinced the legislature to appropriate money to build Brushy Mountain State Prison in Morgan County with a coal mine and coke ovens operated by convicts, thus eliminating the need for convict leasing by replacing that revenue stream...

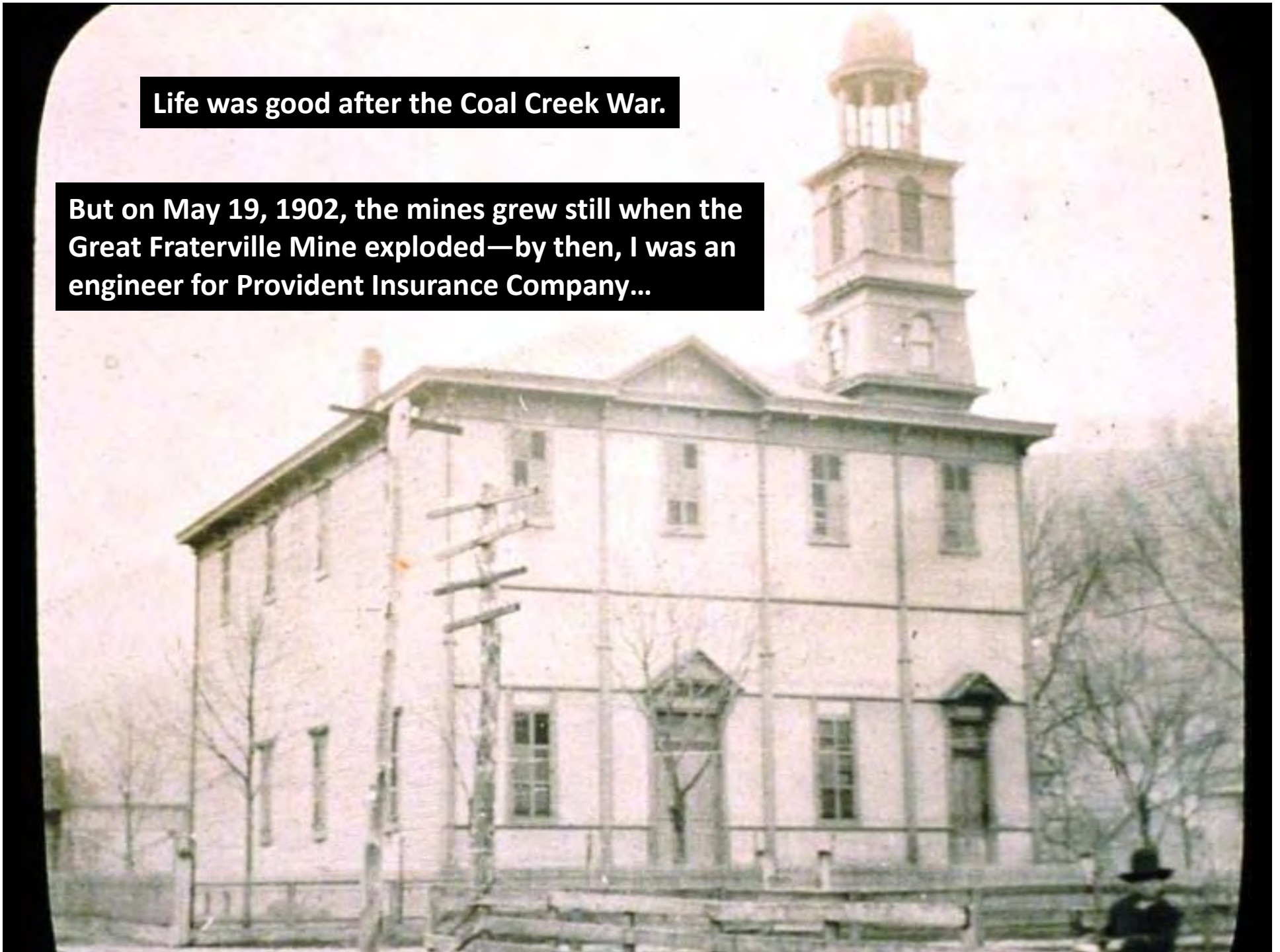
The Brushy Mountain Mine continued to yield substantial profits for the state each year until it closed in 1938, when coal reserves were depleted.



Brushy Mountain State Prison in Petros, TN)

Life was good after the Coal Creek War.

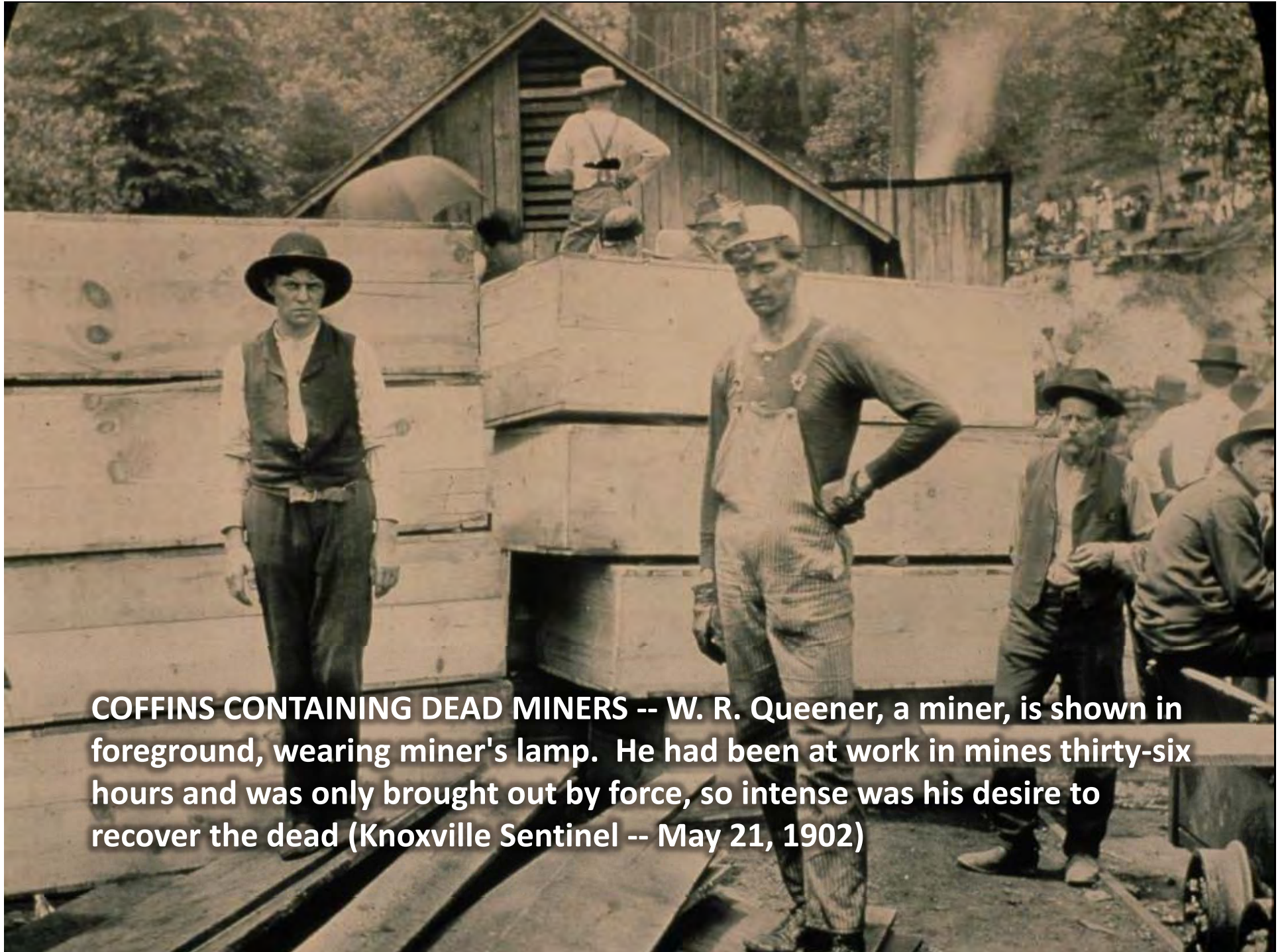
But on May 19, 1902, the mines grew still when the Great Fraterville Mine exploded—by then, I was an engineer for Provident Insurance Company...



...and served on a mine rescue crew with Philip Francis after the explosion.



Friends and relatives gather to await word of the miners at the entrance to the Thistle Mine where many of the bodies were brought to the surface after the Great Fraterville Mine Explosion of 1902.



COFFINS CONTAINING DEAD MINERS -- W. R. Queener, a miner, is shown in foreground, wearing miner's lamp. He had been at work in mines thirty-six hours and was only brought out by force, so intense was his desire to recover the dead (Knoxville Sentinel -- May 21, 1902)



Raise the children
the Best you can
O how I wish to
be With you
good Bye all of you
good Bye
Burry me and
Albert in the
same Grave
by little Eddie
Good Bye Ellen
Good Bye Albert
Good Bye



216 fatalities
including 26 miners
found suffocated
behind a
barricade...

Those farewell letters were published in
newspapers around the world...

We are all
Praying for you
to Sup out us but
it is getting so bad
without any air
I hope Albert
said for you to
Wear his shoes and
it is now half past
one
Bonwell
andly Wood
Ellen I want
you to live right
and come to heaven



Each of the ten farewell letters is about God and family, which tells you all you need to know about life's priorities in 1902.



Only three adult males were left alive in the town of Fraterville after the 1902 disaster...



According to a granddaughter of Fraterville miner David Dezern, “The women in our family are known for their strength, a trait we inherited from Mother Dezern.”

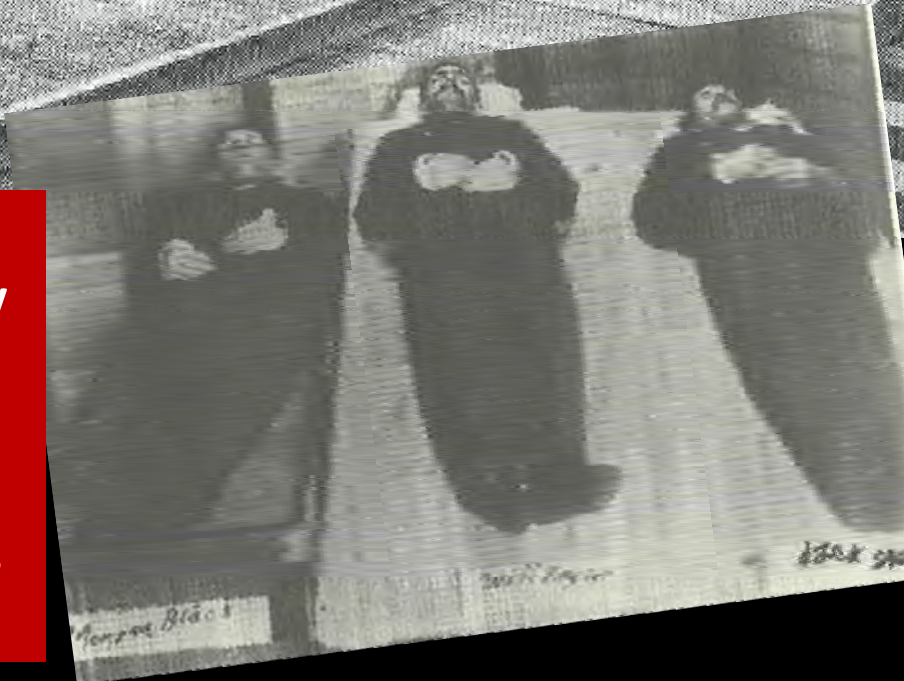


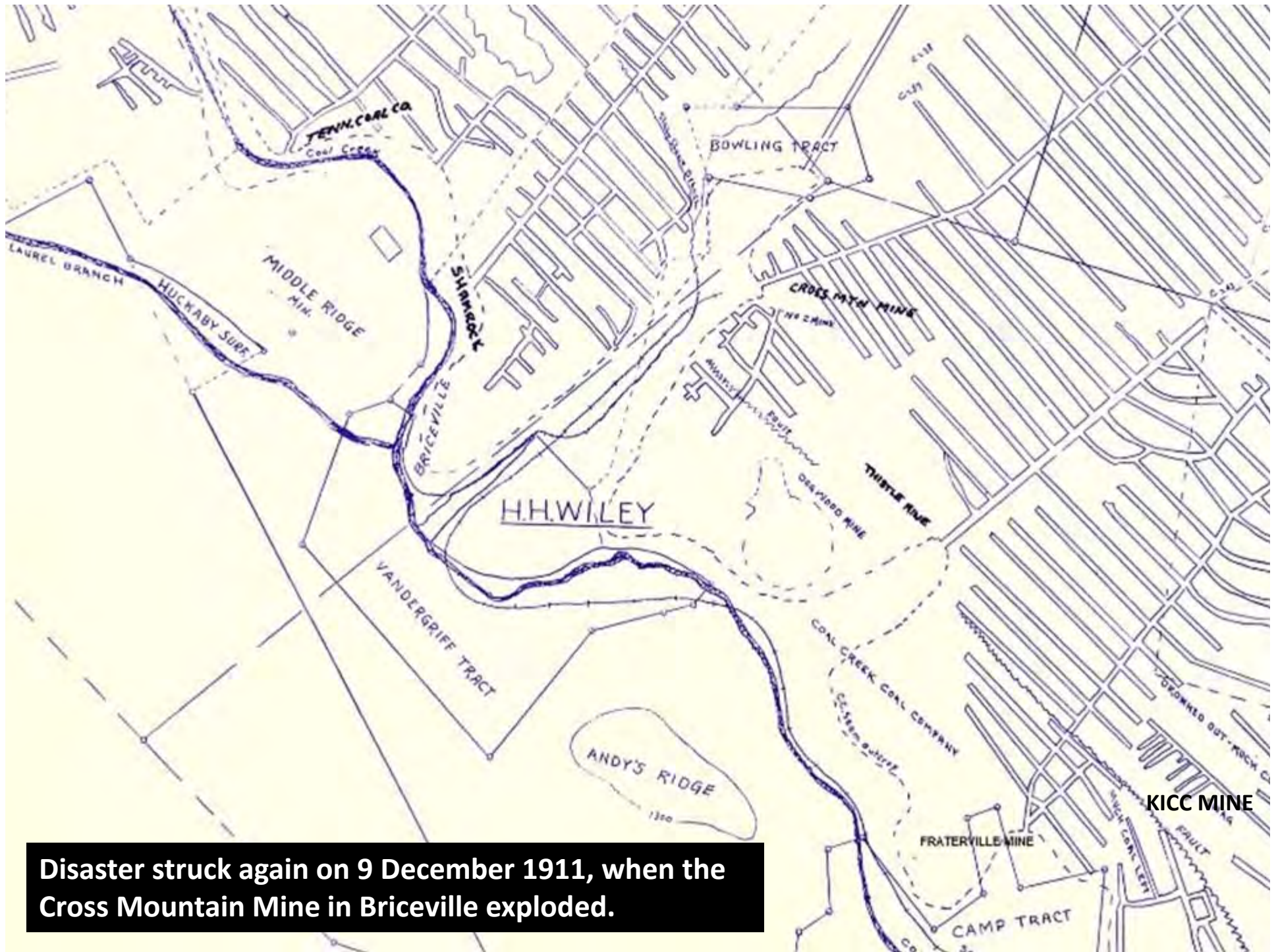
Began when kids set off firecrackers...



According to Fraterville Mine Superintendent George Camp, "I went to St. Louis and got 27 men, the riff-raff of St. Louis slums. I lost ten of 'em on the way back and got to Coal Creek with 17. A miner brushed by me yelling, 'Kill the SOB!' Judd Reeder, one of the guards, opened fire, and the others joined in. In the confusion, nine spectators were wounded, four fatally."

Gunfight at the Southern Railway Depot in Coal Creek during a strike by UMWA miners —Sunday, 7 February 1904

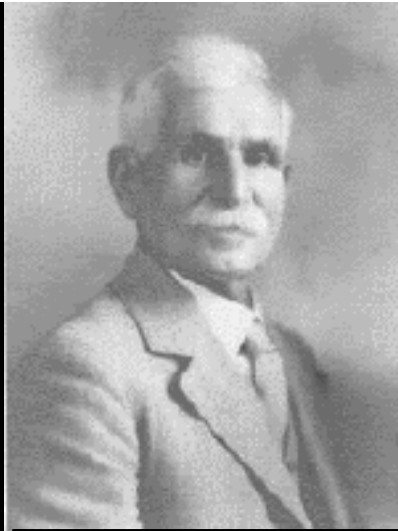




Disaster struck again on 9 December 1911, when the Cross Mountain Mine in Briceville exploded.



The fan at the adjacent Thistle Mine where George Camp was superintendent, normally operated as a force fan, but its direction was reversed in an attempt to induce ventilation after the Cross Mountain Mine exploded. The effort at Thistle was done to draw out afterdamp (i.e. poisonous gases that form after an explosion) from the Cross Mountain Mine. It worked, as evidenced by all the rats in the Thistle Mine being killed by afterdamp.



Welsh miner and mine owner Philip Francis wrote about his role during the rescue efforts after the Fraterville and Cross Mountain Mines exploded in his book, "70 Years in the Coal Mines":

On arriving at the mine, women and children were weeping and all in great distress. Once again I must control myself and not let my sympathy weaken me... for I had a duty to perform to a fellow miner. So I went into the mine with forty men... I met a man with a small cage with a dead canary in it. I met another man with a gas mask on and carrying his oxygen with him.

His great-grandson became dean of Emory Medical School.



Engineers and apparatus crews from the U.S. Bureau of Mines (USBM) led the rescue effort at the Cross Mountain Mine



Wives and children of Cross Mountain miners awaiting word from rescuers after the explosion

Don't shut this door
Men in 16.2 left

Don't shut this door
men of 18.16.2

18.2. MEN IN
16.2

Coal Creek



Rescuers found that barricade walls had been built with slate and straw between 16 Left and 17 Left entries. They tore down the barricade wall and tested the air with one of their canaries. Headlines the next day read, "Five alive in Cross Mountain Mine."

Although 84 miners died, Cross Mountain was the first successful mine rescue, first use of canaries to test air quality, and first use of self-contained breathing equipment by engineers and apparatus crews from the U.S. Bureau of Mines.

The next time you hear the phrase, "A canary in a coal mine," you'll know its origin.

Labor Saga

POPULAR MECHANICS

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

1912



The Fallacy of the Dirigible

By VICTOR LOUGHEED
In This Issue

CANARY BIRDS IN MINE-RESCUE WORK

That canary birds are destined to play an important part in mine-rescue work was proven for the first time to the United States government in its rescue work recently at the Cross Mountain mine explosion at Briceville, Tenn., in which 89 miners were killed.

It was the first chance for the government rescue workers to test the value of canary birds in connection with their work, and for the first time the rescue cars each had from one to three dozen birds on board as part of their equipment. It was known that the canary bird is very susceptible to impure atmosphere and this led the government experts to experiment with them in air of unknown quality in the depths of mines.

to their backs, and protected with hoses leading into their mouths, entered the mine depths with these canary birds and a squad of unmasked volunteer rescuers. The birds were watched closely as the party moved further into the tunnels of the mine.

As long as the birds remained cheerful and hopped about in their cages it was known that all was well with the surrounding atmosphere, but suddenly when the birds began to droop and

gasp for breath it was realized that the traces of the deadly "afterdamp" were present and the unmasked volunteer rescuers with no oxygen equipment had reached the place for them to stop, for no one but the men with the oxygen machines could penetrate into the death-dealing atmosphere beyond.

The canary birds drew the line of safety. At no time were the rescuers exposed to the dangers of the afterdamp. It was the first time in mine-rescue work where rescuers were not brought forth overcome with gas and afterdamp.

TREATMENT OF CANCER BY FULGURATION

The apparent increase in the number of cancer cases has led physicians to put forth the greatest efforts to find a cure for that dread disease. Many methods of treatment have been devised and much study has been given to determining the cause. No definite cause has been established, and the great number of methods of treatment employed shows that no absolutely successful one has yet been found.

Dr. De Keating-Bart, a noted cancer authority, of the Hospital Saint Luc, Paris, has originated a treatment which he believes is the most successful yet employed, and in New York recently he explained and demonstrated his electro-surgical method which he calls "fulguration." The word means flashing, lightning-

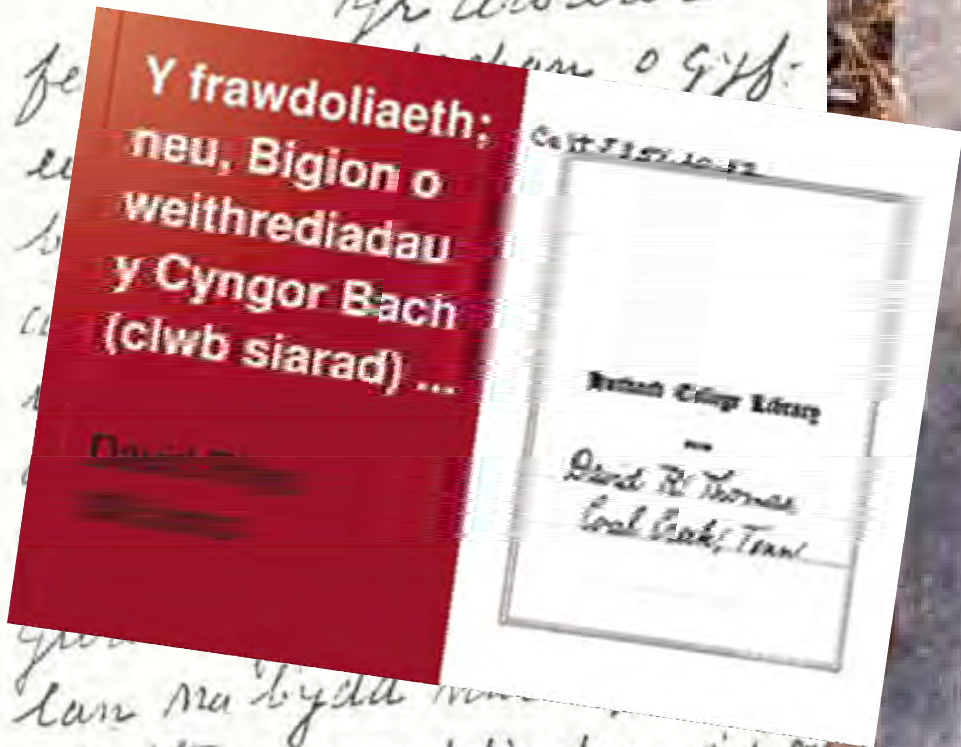


Mine-Rescue Worker, Equipped with New Oxygen-Making Machine and Canary Birds, About to Enter a Mine after Explosion

Historical significance?

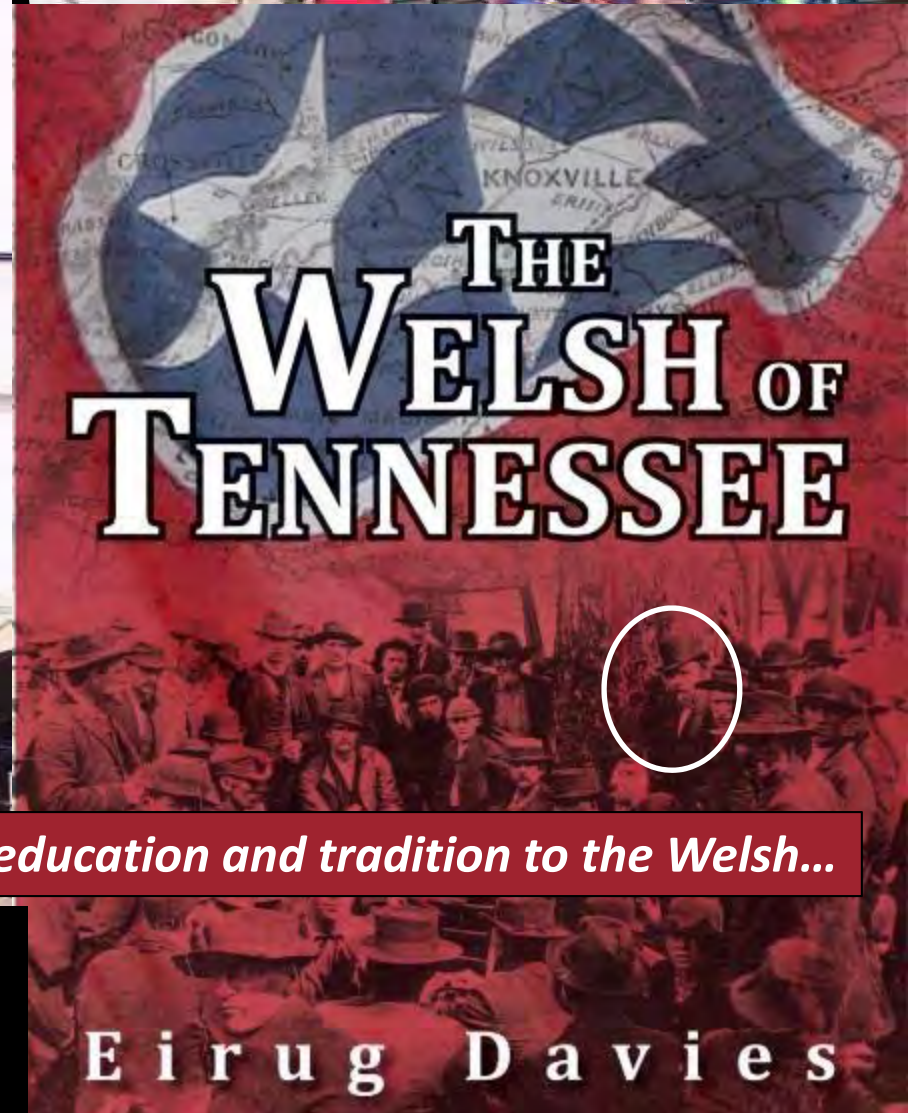
Donated an extensive collection of
Welsh language books to Harvard
University in 1915.

Rees R Thomas
Coal Creek, Tennessee
Amrhe gwylt gan
Ryf. Ardwr
... o 9/18



www.coalcreekaml.com

Dr. Eirug Davies of Harvard University presented students at Briceville School with a flag of Wales in 2004



Importance of education and tradition to the Welsh...

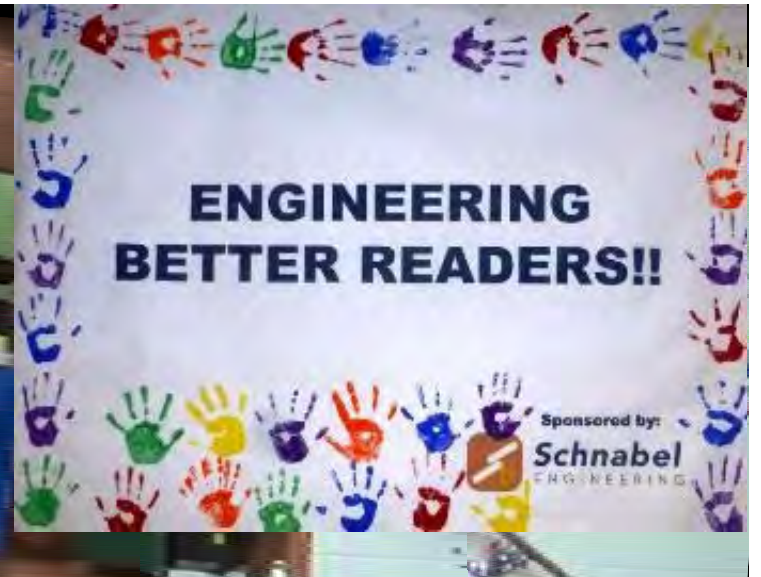
Students learned how the Welsh held the Dixie Eisteddfod cultural festival in Knoxville in 1890 and Chattanooga in 1891...

E i r u g D a v i e s

Winners of the 2016 Dixie Eisteddfod literary competition as adjudicated by Gwalch Gwalia (Welsh Rascal), which is the bardic name of David R. Thomas

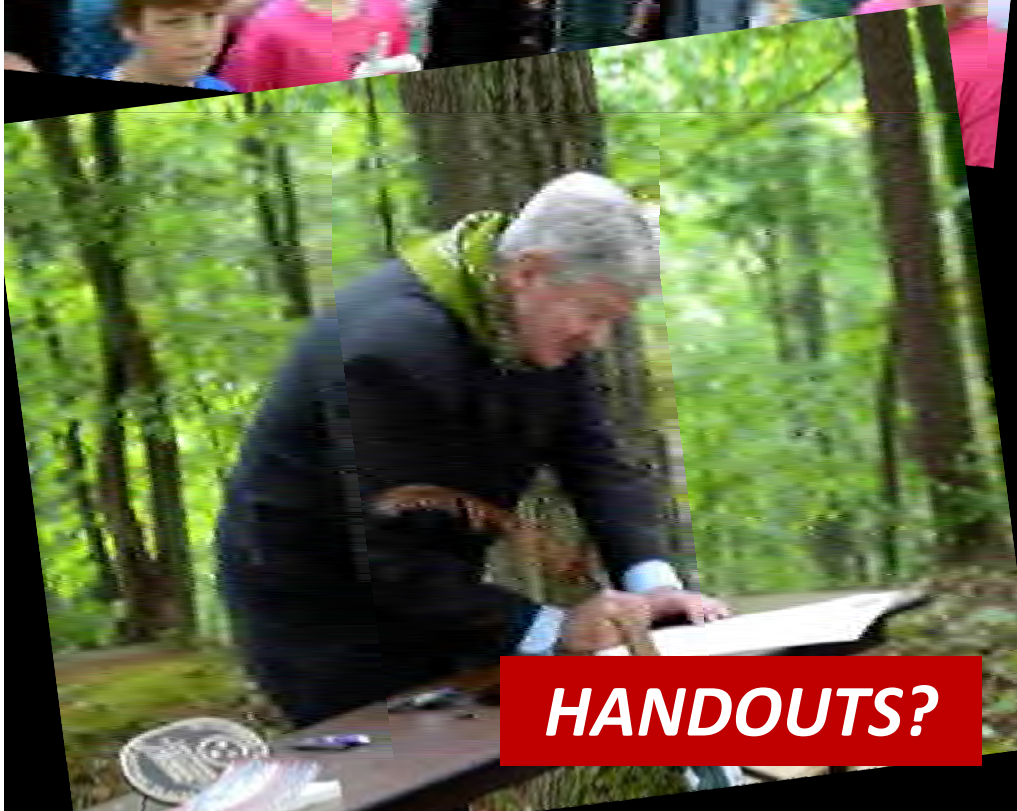


...traditional methods for motivating students to read...



Teaching using primary sources/original documents...





TREATY OF PEACE
[CYTUNDEB HEDDWCH]
BETWEEN
COAL CREEK MINERS AND THE
TENNESSEE NATIONAL GUARD



Whereas, after organizing in 1774 to face a threat from Shawnee Indians, the Tennessee Militia led by John Sevier and Isaac Shelby joined other colonial militiamen to attack Maj. Patrick Ferguson's Corps, which was protecting the left flank of Lord Cornwallis' army during the American Revolution. That 1780 Battle of Kings Mountain was the turning point against Britain's southern campaign during our Nation's fight for freedom; and

Whereas, Maj. Gen. Andrew Jackson, commander of the Tennessee Militia, who eventually became the seventh U.S. president, penned these words to Pvt. David Crockett, Lt. Sam Houston and 6,000 other militiamen as they mobilized for the War of 1812: "We will die once, these citizen-soldiers left their jobs and families, vowing the consecration for Tennessee's 'volunteer' freedom and

Whereas, Jackson's troops defeated a veteran British Army at the Battle of New Orleans...

Whereas, many Tennessee militiamen joined the fight against the British in 1812 and the British in 1838 in Texas' fight for Indiana...

Whereas, Tennesseans served on both sides of the Civil War. In the western theater, more Tennesseans died as soldiers in the Union cause than all other...

Whereas, community leaders in east Tennessee fled from the Civil War, but lacked the leadership to teach Tennesseans those skills...

Whereas, Tennessee's 40th General Assembly during the Coal Creek War of 1891 to 1892 its first finally subdued the Coal Creek miners, in Tennessee. Violence in the coal fields peaked in 1891, with over 600 miners arrested and killed. Tennessee one of the first Southern states to...

Whereas, Colonel Keller Anderson and Co. led the 1st Tennessee Cavalry during the Spanish-American War...

Whereas, other veterans of the Coal Creek War in 1911. Education was important to the Welsh, and in the mines raised public awareness. Fittingly, one of the first successful mine rescues...

Whereas, as part of the 30th Division in World War I hastening the end of the war, for which five Tennessee divisions in the theater; and

Whereas, during World War II, the 117th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Army, crossing the Germans from the Ruhr, once again defeating Hitler's 1st SS Panzer Division, making it one of the most decorated Army Infantry regiments...

Whereas, coal miners have continued to provide the energy that powers the world...

Whereas, members of the Tennessee National Guard, with nearly 20,000 Tennesseans having been deployed...

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Coal Creek War ends while facing the industrial revolution. Furthermore, to provide the state with units trained and equipped to defend the United States and its interests around the world.

In recognition of the above, this treaty of peace is hereby signed on this 17th day of May, 2015, thus ending the Coal Creek War.
[Ar gyddwobod yr uchod, ffafmodd yr cytundeb huddwch hwn wr yr 17eg o Fai 2015, gwn ddod i dderbyn (Rhyfel Nantglo.)

Signed on behalf of: The State of Tennessee John A. Raizer
Coal Creek Miners
Brenda Mitchell
Jim [unclear]
Jim [unclear]
Dorothy [unclear]
Marilyn Davis Smith
America Hyman
Renee [unclear]
Stephanie Wells
Marilyn [unclear]
Paul [unclear]
Tara





Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative



Restoring the American chestnut to the Appalachian Mountains on mined land prepared by the Forestry Reclamation Approach...



**Where there be mountains, there be chestnuts.
(Hernando De Soto, 1542)**

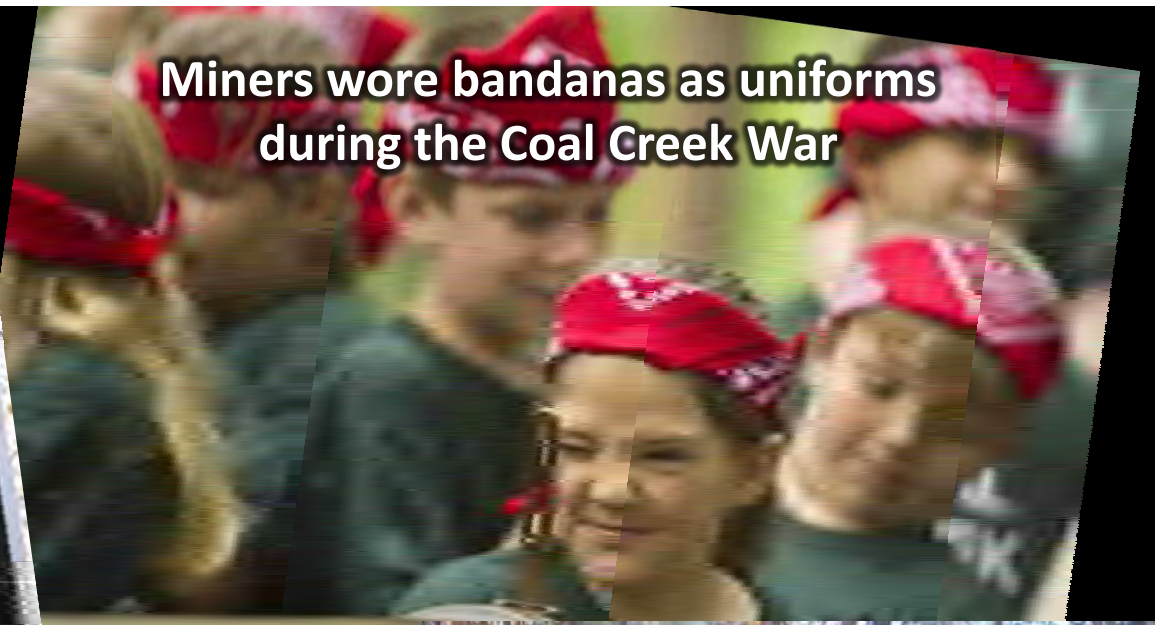
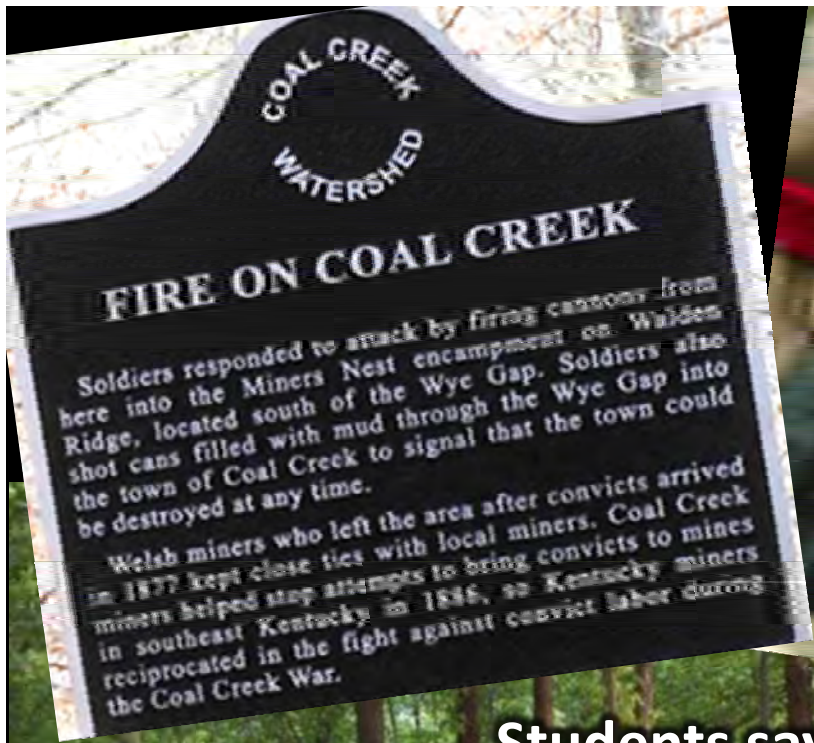




Coal Creek Scholars have installed twenty historical markers to tell the Coal Creek story where that history happened...



--Coal Creek History Tour Guide and History DVD Handouts--



Four sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places



MAY/20/2016

WARNING: If you visit Coal Creek historic sites, leave by dark or face the wrath of Dick Drummond's ghost...



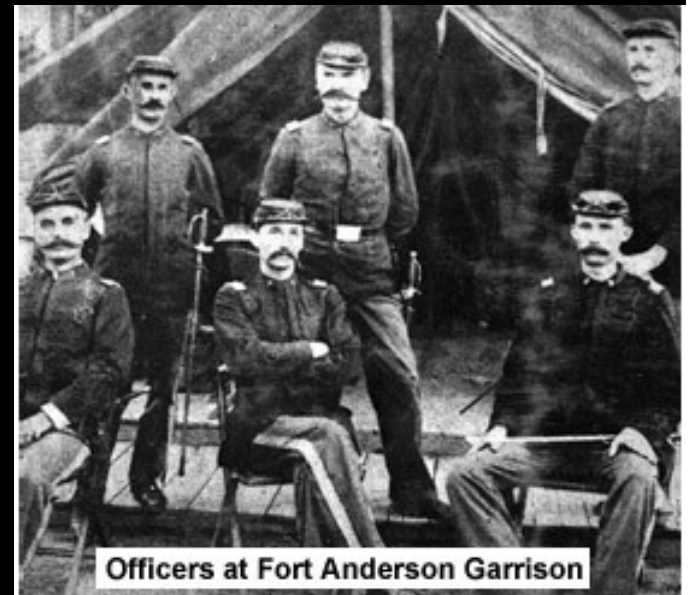
Dick Drummond served in the Navy before becoming a miner at the Shamrock Mine in 1892



Near the end of the Coal Creek War, Drummond got into a fight with a soldier at a dance. That soldier was murdered and his fellow soldiers arrested Drummond, who was later found lynched from what is now known as Drummond Bridge.



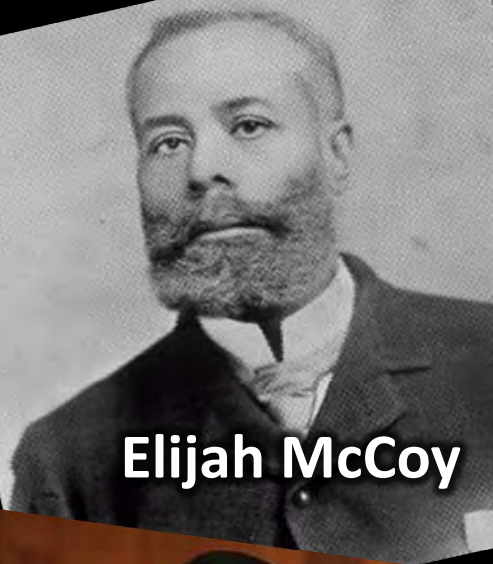
From the Office of Paranormal Studies, "We were getting weird emf readings all night at Drummond Bridge."



Officers at Fort Anderson Garrison

Promoting STEM as a living STEM-historian

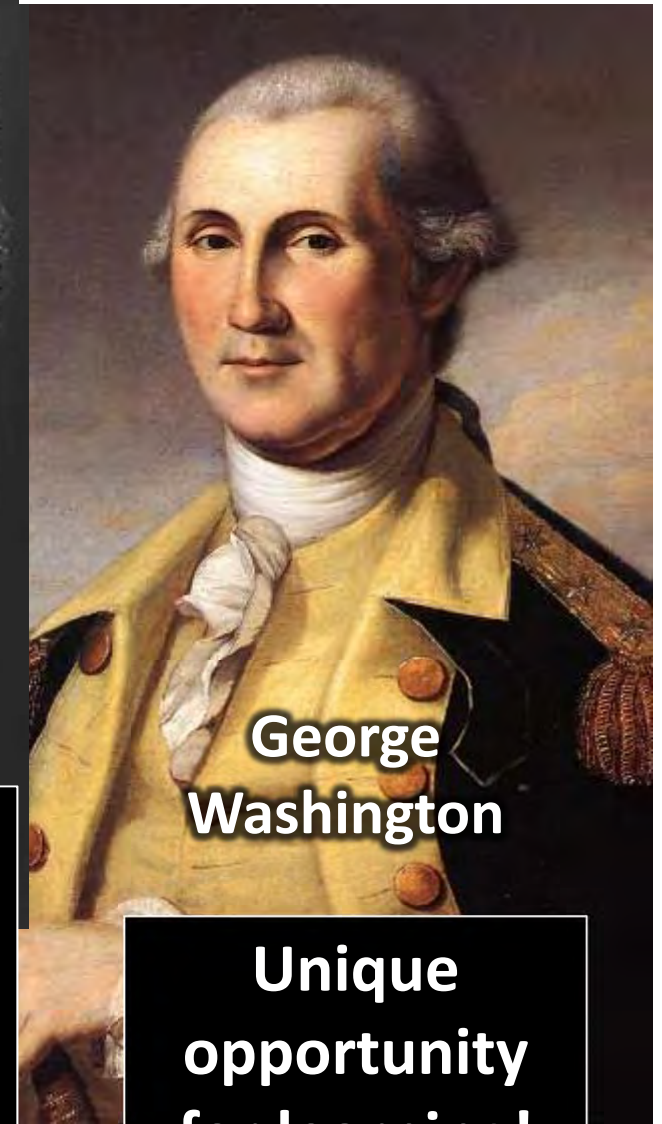
www.historicalemporium.com



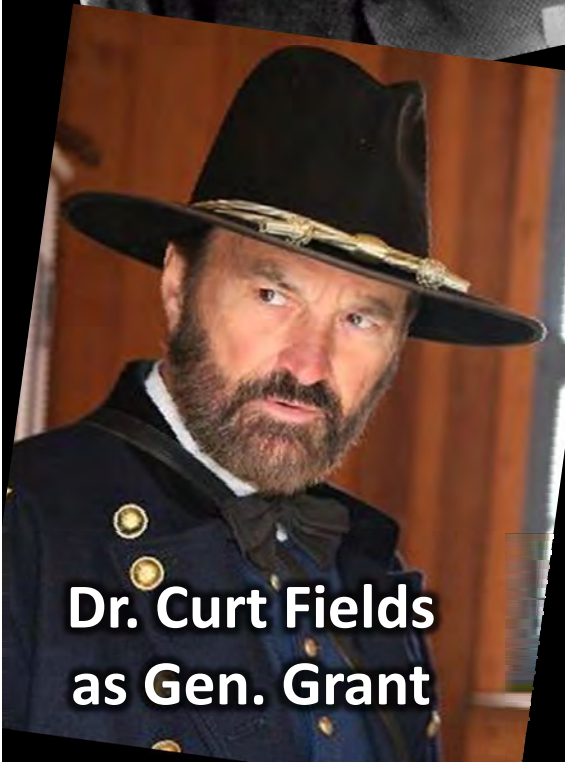
Elijah McCoy



Hedy
Lamarr



George
Washington



Dr. Curt Fields
as Gen. Grant

by Barry Thacker, PE
(aka David R. Thomas)



Schnabel
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Did inhabitants of the lost Welsh colony of Brynyffynon or Welsh miners who lost their jobs in Coal Creek to convicts in 1877 migrate to your community? Are descendants of those Welsh miners still living there today?

COMMON WELSH SURNAMES:

Adams, Bennett, Bevan, Bowen, Brice, Davies (Davis), Edwards, Ellis, Evans, Francis, Griffiths, Harris, Hopkins, Howells, Hughes, Humphreys, James, Jenkins, John, Jones, Lewis, Llewellyn, Lloyd, Martin, Matthews, Morgan, Morris, Owens, Parry, Pearse, Phillips, Powell, Price, Pritchard, Pugh, Rees, Rice, Richards, Roberts, Rogers, Rowlands, Thomas, Watkins, Williams

Songs about Coal Creek history performed by Tony Thomas:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fKuEcO4BA8> Coal Creek War

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOGogr6Ykp4> Fraterville Mine Explosion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMOSnU2VIT4> Cross Mountain Mine Explosion

Song about Fraterville Mine Explosion by Sarah Pirkle <https://vimeo.com/35218399>

Coal Creek Labor Saga

Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, Inc.

Knoxville, TN - www.coalcreekaml.com