

THE DAILY MASH



Friday 5th August 1839

Mine Blast Leaves Fourteen Dead

Disaster struck the small mining village of Swavesey yesterday morning, when a huge explosion occurred deep in the pits, leaving fourteen workers dead and many more injured.

Early reports indicate it was caused by a build up of gas and triggered by a worker's candle shortly after 7am.

Thomas Foster and George Smith, who are responsible for the gas safety at the mine, told us that young workers were likely at fault, as they told us that many had recently been caught sleeping on the job.

Mine worker, John Sleaford, who has twenty years experience in the Swavesey pits, told us a very different story: "The safety of that pit has been neglected by bosses for years - this was an accident waiting to happen."

The explosion was heard across the village and has left many residents in complete shock. Whilst the pit was closed for the rest of the day yesterday, workers were told last night to return this morning for the reopening and resumption of work.

Mourners have arranged a service at the local church this afternoon to mourn those who passed and to collect funds for their families. It will begin at 4pm

*A young victim
being consoled in
the aftermath*

