

Five Hundred Strikers Headed by Women Attack the Works.

WEIR CITY, Kan., July 20.—The expected crisis has come in the Kansas miners' strike. Miners who were willing to work quietly and peaceably have been attacked by the strikers and blood has been shed. The feeling which has been growing **COAL MINERS' STRIKE** days culminated to-day in a fierce battle at Clements' pit, one mile south of this city. All the forenoon there were mutterings of the approaching storm and the feeling was universal that serious trouble was at hand. Just before noon a band of 500 of the strikers, headed by 100 women, which had been marching to the various strip pits, reached Clements' pit and sent in a committee to persuade the miners working there to quit. This they refused to do, and when the committee reported the entire body of marchers moved on to the works to force the men out.

The strip men were ready for them, and when they had passed the trespass line, they were fired upon, and a general battle ensued. In which Winchester rifles, pistols and clubs were used. Over one hundred shots were fired, and it is nothing short of a miracle that nobody was killed.

One man was injured in the forehead, another in the leg, a boy was shot in the foot, and one of the women got a ball through the arm. None of the wounds are fatal and it is believed none of them are dangerous. A number on both sides were badly beaten up with clubs and clubbed guns. The wounded were quickly removed by their friends, and ~~when the battle was over~~ As a result of the battle, the men in the strip were routed by the strikers and were forced to flee for their lives, pursued by the howling mob, which would have lynched them had they been caught.

The owner of the strip, Clements, his son and a man named Big Dick Reed are said to be the ones who did the shooting, and they have given themselves and up were run out of the county for safe keeping. The excitement was intense after the shooting, and it was feared that matters would become worse, but a prominent striker, George R. Fulton, made the crowd a speech in which he advised them to keep cool and counseled peace. It is rumored that a quantity of firearms have been received here to-night. The excitement continues at a high pitch, and further bloodshed now seems inevitable.

The strikers were led by 100 women, and in the vanguard were also an equal number of children. They were evidently placed in the front rank in the belief that the guards and the men at work would not fire upon them. The men followed behind and the whole body, men, women and children, were armed with sticks and clubs and some with firearms. In the front rank four flags were carried—one big United States flag and on either side of it two black flags. The latter were carried by German women. When the men at work and the guards fired upon the strikers the children fled, but the women entered boldly into the fight and fought with as much ferocity as the men. They wielded their clubs with vigor and precision, and many a sore head to-night has its cause in the clubs in the women's hands.