

**FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
STATE MINE INSPECTOR OF THE
STATE OF MISSOURI FOR THE
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1891**

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June 30, 1891 by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

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STATE MINE INSPECTOR OF THE
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OF THE

STATE MINE INSPECTOR

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STATE OF MISSOURI

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1891



JEFFERSON CITY, MO.:

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

STATE OF MISSOURI,
OFFICE OF STATE MINE INSPECTOR. }

To the Hon. W. C. HALL, Com'r of Labor, Jefferson City, Mo.:

SIR—I have the honor herewith to submit to you the fifth annual report of this Department, for the year ending June 30, 1891.

In presenting this report, it affords me much pleasure to be able to state that we have passed another year in comparative peace between miners and mine operators, only a few local strikes having occurred, and those adjusted without violence.

Considering the mildness of the winter, the coal trade during the past year has been remarkably good, this report showing an increased production of 8½ per cent over the previous year.

The lead and zinc industry has been exceedingly active—the output having surpassed any previous year in the State's history, while the iron product shows a decrease as compared with the report of 1890.

The report affords special information as to the general character and location of each mine, method of mining, production and mineral output, statistical tables showing number of employes, record of accidents, opening of new mines and closing of exhausted mines, and such other information as will, I hope, be of interest to the mining industry of the State.

Very respectfully,

C. C. WOODSON,
State Mine Inspector.

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REPORT.

This is the fifth annual report of this character made for the State. It contains statistics of the coal, zinc, lead and iron industry, with a general description and location of each mine.

In compiling these statistics every precaution was taken to make the information as complete as possible and in such form as to be easily understood. A great deal of time was spent in collecting statistics from mine operators, and in some cases it was necessary to write several letters to a single company, and in a few instances have had to visit mines in person before getting the information desired. But as a rule, mine operators and superintendents have shown a disposition to give us all the information desired. To such operators and managers I desire to return thanks.

A glance at the following table shows a healthy condition of the mining industries of the State as compared with the preceding year. The report of that year shows the value of the mineral output to have been \$8,165,865, while this report shows the value of output to be \$8,896,995, an increase of nearly 9 per cent. It also shows that in producing this amount of wealth 30 lives were lost, 16 wives made widows, 53 children made fatherless, and one life lost for every 413 persons employed, based only on the average number of men at work.

Another interesting feature of the table is the number of employes at Missouri mines. The total number of 12,392 employes shows that a population of no less than 49,568 people is directly dependent on the mines for support, for a ratio of four to one is a very moderate one.

Table 1.—Showing Summary of General Results of Investigations in Coal, Lead, Zinc and Iron Mines,

For year ending June 30, 1891, as compared with the year ending June 30, 1890.

	1890.	1891.	Increase over 1890.
Number of mines of all kinds.....	840	1,012	172
Total value of minerals at mines.....	\$8,165,865	\$8,896,995	\$731,130
Total average number of employes of all kinds	11,562	12,392	830
Total average number of miners	7,654	8,141	487
Total number of other employes.....	3,908	4,251	343
Total number men killed	24	30	6
Total number wives made widows	14	18	4
Total number children made fatherless.....	27	53	26
Total number non-fatal accidents	38	55	17
Average number of employes for each life lost.	448	413

Table 11.—Comparison of Product of Coal, Lead, Zinc and Iron Mines for the past three years—in tons.

	Coal.	Lead.	Pig lead.	Zinc.	Iron.
1889.....	2,223,477	9,469.05	25,440.05	82,357.05	251,006
1890.....	2,437,399	12,906.03	20,451.04	100,248.01	332,835
1891.....	2,650,018	18,925.19	19,968.81	123,752.00	138,356
Totals.....	7,310,894	39,303.89	65,860.71	306,357.06	622,197

The coal trade opened up earlier last fall than usual, and by the middle of September miners were in demand in nearly every coal-producing county in the State; most of the coal companies were running their mines every day, and many of them behind with their orders. In some localities, however, the railroad facilities were inadequate, which somewhat hindered the progress of mining in such localities. This extra demand continued until about the first of December, at which time the trade began to slacken, since which time the mine operators have had no trouble in supplying the demand. Notwithstanding the mild winter, the coal output shows an increase of 8 2-3 per cent over the preceding year, but the price per ton at the mines has decreased from \$1.32 in 1890 to \$1.31 1-3 in 1891.