



Mine Statues

Heinz Zander, from Emmerzhausen, Germany, sends photos of a group of mine workers suitable for any mantelpiece. These are painted zinc, from France circa 1900, and depict a miner with safety lamp, the “miner’s wife” with coal shovel, and the blacksmith at his anvil. The miner is 35 cm tall.



Cincinnati Mill & Mine Supply Co.

Milton Ellison of Wise, Virginia, sent us a copy (opposite page) of the 1904 Machinery and Supplies catalog for the Cincinnati Mill & Mine Supply Co., the “Big C.” Most notably, the company carried a line of oil wick lamps, which seem to be pictured with a paper label of the “Big C” logo. Has anyone seen one of these on a lamp?

The company carried a full line of dinner pails, oil and powder cans, squibs and squib cases, blasting machines and supplies, and the “Buckeye Torch Light,” a portable kerosene flame-thrower advertised for use in mines. “When turned on, it at once becomes vaporized and sends forth a strong white, smokeless flame, 12-30 inches long...it will penetrate fog

or smoke, and casts only the least shadow.” Looks like it might go through steel plate, too!

Notice that the catalog includes a “torch basket” similar in design to the pitchpine torch baskets used in early hydraulic mining operations.