

James Martin Milliken, (17 Feb 1883 – 3 Jul 1904), Patriot, Monday, July 4, 1904; Drowning Man Refused Help – When He Saw Rescuer’s Peril **Milliken** Pushed Him Away – “Good Bye, I’m a Goner” – Marysville Man Taken With Cramps Lost His Life While Bathing in the River.



Realizing that efforts to save him from drowning were futile, **James Milliken**, who was taken with cramps while swimming in a deep pool in the Susquehanna River, opposite Marysville, at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, broke the hold of a companion who was working desperately to keep him from going under the last time, and sank, never to come up alive.

Milliken had been struggling violently for his life in the arms of his friend, who was barely able to sustain his weight. Suddenly **Milliken** must have realized that he was placing his companion's life in jeopardy by permitting him to fight against great odds, and with the last strength left in his body tore loose the hands of his would-be rescuer from his body. "Good-bye, old boy. I'm a goner." he cried as his body sank.

Milliken and his friend had gone into the river for a bath. Both were good swimmers and frequently went in beyond their depth without a thought of danger. There was practically no current in the pool where they swam and when **Milliken's** sudden cry for help was heard, his companion immediately surmised that he had been taken with cramps and made his fruitless attempt to save him.

The dead man resided at Marysville and was 21 years old on February 15. He was employed at Enola by Contractors H. S. Kerbaugh and Co., and supported his widowed mother, **Mrs. Anna C. Milliken**, she is more than sixty years old and also helped to support a widowed sister who resided with them.

Milliken is survived by the following six brothers and sisters: **Mrs. George A. Kies** and **Mrs. John Arndt**, both of Harrisburg; **Mrs. M. E. Barger**, Marysville; **John W. Milliken**, Harrisburg, and **George and Thomas Milliken**, Marysville.



At a late hour last night dynamite was still being used in the bottom of the river in an effort to recover the body.

Patriot, Tuesday, July 5, 1904; Dove An Brought Up Dead Man's Body – An Enola Engineer Yesterday Recovered The Remains of **James Milliken** Who Drowned on Sunday – Dynamiting the River Failed

The body of **James Milliken**, who was drowned when taken with cramps while swimming in a deep pool of the Susquehanna River opposite Marysville Sunday afternoon was found and raised to the surface yesterday morning at 6 o'clock by an engineer of one of the Enola steam shovels of H. E. Kerbaugh and Company.

During Sunday night heavy dynamite blasts were put off in the river in an effort to raise the body but with no result. Men in rowboats and sandflats with large torches eagerly searched for the remains.

The engineer, who refused to give his name, dove in the river at the spot where **Milliken** sank and after having been under the water a few seconds, arose to the surface with **Milliken's** body clutched under his left arm. The remains were placed in the hands of an undertaker at Marysville.

www.theperryhistorians.org