

CORRESPONDENCE.

Written for this Paper

THE BODIES BURIED.

ALMY, Uinta, Wyoming, March 23.—The government inspector, David Thomas Esq., accompanied by A. C. Bradbury Esq., superintendent of the C. P. mines, James Bowns Esq., superintendent of the U. P. mines, Mr. William Graham, mine foreman, Mr. William Bell, fireman, and Joseph Bird, fireman of No. 5 mine, went through the north side of the mine where it is supposed the fire originated, and it appears from the report made that the entire north section of the mine is in good condition. It is most likely that Mr. Thomas will inspect the south side of the mine before he leaves the district.

Names of the dead brought to the surface from 4 p.m. Friday to 9 a.m. Saturday: John Marlin leaves an invalid wife and family;

Mat Slita, leaves a wife and family; John Laith, leaves a wife and family; Aaron Butte, leaves a wife and family;

George Hardy, leaves a wife and family;

Mat Johnson, leaves a wife and family;

George Sibane, leaves a wife and family;

William Mason, single man;

James P. Clark, leaves a wife and family;

David Lloyd, leaves a wife and family.

Five more men are still in the mine at this writing, 9 a.m., viz.: William Sellers, Hugh Sloan, John Leaster, Walter Miller and John Rexter; all leave wives and families.

It is generally thought these five men are under the fall in the No. 7 entry on the main slope.

I have overlooked my nephew and now give him: John Puebey, leaves a wife and five children.

Andrew Mason, injured by falling timber, died last evening.

R. R. HODGSON.

THE LAST BODIES.

ALMY, Wyo., March 23.—The last five dead men were recovered from the mine at 8:30 last night.

R. R. HODGSON.

EVANSTON, Wyoming,
March 24th, 1895.

President Joseph F. Smith, Elders F. D. Richards, of the Apostles, and Seymour B. Young and Edward Stevenson, of the Seventies, were called upon by President Wilford Woodruff to visit and administer comfort and consolation to the bereaved and distressed widows and orphans so suddenly made so by this disastrous coal mine explosion at Almy, seven miles from this place.

We had a very pleasant journey of 115 miles over the Union Pacific railroad to this place, arriving here at 10 p.m. Saturday, leaving Salt Lake City on the 5:20 p.m. train. We were met at the station by President Wm. W. Cluff, Bishop Brown and others who with feelings of tenderness as officers of this Stake of Zion had come to assist the unfortun-

nate victims, and the wailing wives and fatherless children. We were welcomed as messengers of comfort, and with many thanks to President Woodruff for the expressed sympathy and remembrance of them in this sad bereavement.

We learned from Elder Cluff that sixty of the victims had been rescued and cared for, only one yet remaining unfound in the deranged coal mine.

About midnight we retired with sorrowing hearts—to continue our journey Sunday morning and to prepare for the funeral services at Almy, seven miles up the valley. At 7 a.m. Sunday President Cluff and Elder Stevenson took train, preceding the other brethren. In a few minutes we came to the scene of the disaster. The spirit of gloom lingers mournfully around the sad spot and sympathetic and humane feelings are aroused as we look over the work of the destroyer.

We met one gentleman who witnessed the explosion and was close at hand. He said first he heard three distinct concussions closely following each other, immediately followed by a black cloud of smoke and fire; with this rushing cloud which looked terrific, came debris—timber, coal cars, boards and the shedding—flying in all directions. There were three openings—one, the main shaft, the man-way, also the air shaft and fan. The fan building was blown to atoms in an instant. If a thousand kegs of powder had been exploded all at once, they could not have made worse the disturbance which left its marks on every hand. The shaft was swept as clean and smooth as a cannon, carrying everything before it—all the timbers—not one piece being left. Three men outside the shaft and between the man-way and main shaft, and near the hoisting works, were framing some timbers. One was a Brother W. E. Cox, head carpenter, and a helper; the third one was Brother James Bruce, the mine foreman, who had come up out of the shaft to go home, as his boy had just arrived with a one-horse carriage to take him home for the evening. The boy came just in time to see his father and the other two killed in an instant. Bro. Cox, of Herriman, was struck in the neck with a pointed piece of board flying with the force of a bullet. It pierced the neck, remaining with an end on both sides of his head. Another piece about four inches wide was pulled out of one of the men's heads. All of them fell dead in a pile within a few feet of each other; a pool of blood still showed the fierceness of the tragedy. The boy in passing over the roadway over the main shaft, which sunk under him, broke the shafts of the carriage. After sometime the boy, horse and damaged carriage were successfully gotten out; the dilapidated carriage is still on the grounds.

Another workman was just stepping on the second step of a long, broad stairway as the explosion reached him. He saw fire and smoke, and when he was picked up he was over by the railroad track, blown in to a hole where the fierce wind

blast passed over him. He was there in person to tell us the sad effect it had upon him until he was lost and he recovered his mental faculties.

Near him was a father with his head scalped two inches. He picked up his son, who was 16 or 18 years of age; I believe his name was Jerry Crawford. The poor boy said at first, "Father, I shall get well;" but soon after he began to give way, and said, "Father, I am dying." Before he expired his father ordained Jerry Crawford an Elder.

The weighmaster was at his work, but fortunately for him the force was partly broken by the great strength of the immense hoisting works; but a coal car was dashed against the main beam, as well as other heavy timbers, breaking the beam and tearing through a post of the roof, etc. Although there was force enough to crash everything around the two men in the weighing room, and they saw the smoke and fire, they caught each other in their arms, fell to the floor and escaped with their lives.

The engineer was blown through the window and the clock stopped at 5:40 p.m.

The watch boy was blown up into the broken roof of the hoisting works. Everything around was scattered and fragments of timbers were here and there for a long distance around. The last victim, Mr. Walter Miller, was taken out last night. After visiting the sickening sight, we passed on to No. 7 mine and took breakfast with Bishop Bowers, about one mile north of the explosion mine No. 5. President Cluff looked weary and bagged by the great anxiety manifested. Bishop Bowers has done everything humanity could suggest. As soon as the disaster occurred No. 7 was closed by request of Superintendent Bowers and all hands went to the rescue. Bishop Bowers did not cease his utmost exertion until the last man was out and cared for.

We met Mr. A. E. Bradley the superintendent of the mine, who was ready to explain and do all possible in his power to aid the sufferers, he said the C. P. company had instructed to give each family \$15 to \$20 as temporary aid, and had ordered their coffins and boxes. He said further that the fan's capacity was 1,000 feet of air to the minute instead of 100 feet per man; that the inspector had tested the mine in the morning and the day's work was done before the accident. The road was doing to every appearance all possible for the unfortunate families. Before 2 p.m. the coffins began to be brought to the large meeting house followed by the bereaved. In some cases a row of them, which all looked quite respectable, were placed in front of the draped stand, but as room would not permit all of them to be placed in the churning a vote of the people was taken to set in rows all of them outside, the house was not sufficient to hold one-half of the people, so the doors were thrown open and the services were impressively conducted under the guidance of Bishops Bowers, of Almy, and Brown of Evanston, President Cluff superintending the whole affair. The singing was tenderly conducted by Prof. James Hood. Prayer was offered by Elder S. B. Young. President Joseph F. Smith was the first speaker and Elder F. D. Richards was the next, followed by Elders Edward