

BINGHAM, ALONZO

Alonzo Bingham Laid To Rest. Well Known Old Time Resident of Safford Passed Away Tuesday After Illness of Several Months. On Tuesday morning last at about 7 o'clock, Alonzo Bingham, a pioneer resident of this valley and highly respected citizen, passed away at home of his son Reuben, in Thatcher. The deceased had been ill off and on for some years past, and for the past few months had suffered considerably with stomach troubles. He left his home in Safford about three weeks ago to join Messrs. Chris Madsen and Henry Dial on a trip to Black river. Mr. Bingham overtook the party at Rice station and from thence they journeyed about three hundred and fifty miles overland. Mr. Bingham returning as far as Camp Apache, where Mr. Nice took him in charge and finally brought him home, giving him the very best of care all the time. He was quite ill a portion of the trip, and was often compelled to lie down during the travels of the party. Nevertheless, in spite of the illness which afflicted him, he bore up with remarkable fortitude. His companions testify to the vast endurance he displayed, it being, as it now appears, his death bed journey. Upon arrival at Apache Mr. Bingham remained there awaiting the departure of the government stage, but as none came Mr. Nice got an Indian outfit and got him through, although the bridge over Black river had washed away, necessitating boating across with the sick man. He arrived at Rice last Sunday and at once took the train for Thatcher, arriving there last Monday. He was taken to the home of his son, Reuben, and everything possible was done for him that kind and loving hands could do or hearts suggest. His illness resulted fatally as already stated. When Mr. Nice arrived at Thatcher, his patient was unconscious, but an hour or two after arrival he became conscious and recognized his relatives. He remained conscious until almost the time of his death. He suffered great pain until his death. He had two or three attacks of hemorrhage from the stomach during the later part of the trip, and the physicians in attendance characterized his illness as ulcer of the stomach.

The funeral was held at the Layton hall Wednesday at 2 p.m. and was one of the largest ever held in this valley, relatives and friends from all parts gathering to pay their respects to a good and useful citizen. The speakers were Elders Christian Madsen, Richard Layton, Bishop J. R. Welker and President Andrew Kimball. All spoke of the many good qualities of the deceased, of his fortitude in suffering, of his sterling honesty, his kindness to his family under adversities and misfortunes, and the great physical strength and endurance he displayed when overtaken by accidents. They gave many details of his life, which had been passed among the hardships of pioneer life, and of the energy and perseverance that characterized all his movements.

His wife preceeded him to the grave just a year ago. He leaves four sons and three daughters, all married; thirty eight grand children and five great grand children. He had buried four sons and one daughter.

The deceased was born in Upper Canada seventy four years ago on the tenth of next month. His parents joined the church of Jesus Christ of Latter day saints when he was a small boy, and went to Mauvoo where both died while he was quite young. He passed through all hardships of the Nauvoo days, and followed the Saints in all their journeys, finally going to Salt Lake with some of the earliest emigrants. He lived in Cache Valley and Bear Lake Valleys, being among the earliest settlers in those valleys and was the first bishop in the latter valley. He came to Arizona in 1879, living first in the San Pedro, coming to Safford in 1892, residing here since that year. He was always happiest when pioneering in a new country, and developing the resources of the frontier. He followed farming during the greater portion of his life.

The deceased me with a number of accidents during his long life, some of which would have resulted fatally to the less robust man. While loading freight at Huachuca post about eighteen years ago a heavy box containing marble fell on him, breaking all the ribs loose on one side of his body, and so badly injuring him that the physicians state that it would be impossible for him to live. However he recovered. A year ago he had his leg broken by being kicked by a horse, and has suffered injuries in two or three runaways recovered, thanks to his strong constitution and good health.

The members of the family desire through the columns of the Guardian to express their heartfelt thanks to Mr. Nice, who so generously and nobly took charge of Mr. Bingham on the journey homeward and brought him safely and carefully through that long and painful trip. They also wish to express their sincere gratitude to the many friends who assisted them through the illness and after the death of their late beloved father. They appreciate these many kindness to the fullest extent and pray that heaven will raise up such generous friends to all in time of need.

Transcribed by Jean Walker, October 2024. Graham Guardian, Safford, AZ. September 6, 1907. Page 1

BLAKENEY, MRS. B. F.

A Sad Death. Last week Mrs. B. F. Blakeney gave birth to a son. Two or three days later she contracted pneumonia, from the effect of which she died on Sunday morning. The funeral was held at their place of residence on Monday by Revs. Wardlaw and Sigler. Mrs. Blakeney leaves a husband and very large family, some of them quite small, to mourn her loss. She was the mother of seventeen children.

Transcribed by Jean Walker, July 2024. Graham Guardian, Safford, AZ. March 28, 1902. Page 1

BLAIR, JOE

B. Kempton was up from Eden last Monday and gave us the particulars of the tragic death of Joe Blair, which occurred on last Friday. Mr. Kempton says the only one that he knows of who saw the accident was Fred Webb, who was not far away at the time, and by the time he reached Mr. Blair, he was dead. It seems that Mr. Blair had started to drive some cattle from Eden to Hubbard. When they came to a bridge crossing one of the canals a steer broke away from the herd. In attempting to drive him back the horse ran over the steer and fell. Mr. Kempton thinks Mr. Blair's neck was not broken but that the horn of the saddle struck his head causing instant death. The funeral was held on Sunday at Hubbard, and the body buried at Graham.

Transcribed by Jean Walker, August 2024. Graham Guardian, Safford, AZ August 4, 1905. Page 1

BRALEY, F. E.

Early Monday morning F. E. Braley, aged 63 years, died at his home in Safford after being confined to his room about two months. Mr. Braley has been a sufferer with lung affliction for a number of years. He was born in Missouri in 1843, came to Arizona in 1881 and settled at Tombstone. In 1898 he came to Safford where he has resided ever since as one of our most respected citizens. He has been a steward in

the Methodist church for the past five years. The funeral was held in the Methodist church on Tuesday, the remains being laid away in the Union cemetery.

Transcribed by Jean Walker, August 2024. Graham Guardian, Safford, AZ. January 19, 1906. Page 1

BROWN, MRS.

One week ago last Saturday Mrs. Brown, of Thatcher, gave birth to twin boys. On Tuesday following one of the children died. Shortly after this Mrs. Brown was attacked with pneumonia and died on Saturday last. The mother was buried on Monday and on Tuesday the other little one passed away. Now the mother and two babies lie side by side in the Thatcher cemetery. Mrs. Brown leaves a husband and a little girl five year of age to mourn her loss.

Transcribed by Jean Walker, July 2024. Graham Guardian, Safford, AZ. March 7, 1902. Page 1

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