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THE HALL VALLEY SNOW-SLIDE.

Full Particulars as Related by the Survivor.

We copy the following from the Black Hawk Post:

Mr. George Cardier, who arrived from Hall Valley last Monday evening, gives us the following particulars of the snow-slide which occurred at the Whale mine, Hall Valley, Park county, Sunday, the 7th inst. It being Sunday, Mr. Reed, his family and the boarders, Henry Ralph, John Reed and George Cardier, had a late breakfast. After breakfast, Cardier, Ralph and John Reed went up to the mine, but as the wind was blowing terribly, they remained there but a short time and returned to the cabin. A few minutes later Mr. Cardier stepped out of the cabin and had not proceeded to exceed twenty yards when he was struck by a snow slide, knocked down and carried a distance of 100 yards. As he rose to his feet he was again knocked down and this time carried but a short distance. He again arose and started for the cabin. The storm almost blinded him, and being bareheaded and barefooted—having lost his hat and slippers in the snow-slide—he aimed to return to the cabin and get another hat and put on his boots, which he had pulled off and left in the house on his return from the mine. On reaching the place where the cabin had stood all he could find of it was a portion of a door protruding from the snow. This was the first intimation he had of the fate of the victims. He tried to dig down and rescue the inmates of the cabin. This, however, proved fruitless, as the snow was packed too solid. He then proceeded due east to an old building formerly used for an office and store building. Arriving there he saw two men in the distance, who had come down the valley for their usual matter. He hailed them and related what had happened. The men built a fire for Cardier, and then left him to try and extricate the people at the Whale mine. Soon after their departure Mr. Cardier started for Yount's cabin, thinking he could get some clothing there, but was forced by the storm to return to the office. He had not been in the room five minutes, when an avalanche came down the mountain side, crushing in the door and windows of that portion of the building in which Cardier was sitting, and carrying away the other part of it. Above the office and in the track of the snow slide, stood two cabins, which were carried away, and which in all probability were the means of saving Cardier's life, as they tended to break the force of the snow. The room was in total darkness. Cardier found a piece of board with which he managed to dig a hole large enough to admit of his egress. After escaping from the office, Mr. Cardier went to a deserted cabin in the vicinity, which contained a small sheet iron stove, and carried the stove to the old boarding house, formerly occupied by the Hall Valley mining company, set it up and built a fire. Here he remained all night. The next morning Cardier went up to the cabin of Mr. Yount, who kindly cared for him. The storm continued to rage so fearfully that it was not until Wednesday evening following that the bodies of the unfortunates were recovered. It appears that the snow did not carry the cabin down to the valley, as has heretofore been reported, but crushed it with its excessive weight. The bodies were found pressed to the floor of the room. They were taken to Grant for interment.

1877 Whale mine avalanche NEWS1

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