

# FORTY-SIX DAYS IN THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH

## Bailey, Brown and McDonald Rescued From 1,000-Foot Level of Alpha Shaft of Giroux Mine.

Men Little the Worse for the Terrible Ordeal—People of Ely  
Have a Season of Rejoicing.

(Special to The Herald.)

Ely, Nev., Jan. 19.—After having been entombed forty-six days in the Alpha shaft of the Giroux mine, A. D. Bailey, P. J. Brown and Fred McDonald have been rescued.

At 8:30 o'clock last night Bailey was brought out. Fourteen minutes later McDonald came to the surface, while ten minutes afterwards Brown was brought up. Whistles all over the district blew loudly, while crowds cheered in the streets of Ely and every bell in the town was ringing.

### Fresh Air Once More.

"Ah!" This was the first exclamation of Bailey when he reached the outer air. Without another word he tottered forward into the arms of comrades who stood ready to assist him and was led to the change room of the Alpha shaft, where, in a few minutes, he recuperated.

ferred to meet her husband at their home, where no throng of curious would be watching. Bailey soon declared himself sufficiently rested to make the trip, where he went soon afterwards, supported on either side by a friend.

Another shout of joy echoed when when Fred McDonald was brought out and given to the care of those anxiously waiting, a brother and several friends.

Pete Brown received as great an ovation from the crowd as either of the others.

### Entombed Dec. 4.

On the morning of Dec. 4 McDonald, Brown and Bailey and two Greeks were working in the bottom of the third compartment shaft, eighty-five feet below the pump station and 1,085 feet below the surface. The cave-in occurred at 9 o'clock.

The cable used to haul the cage from the third compartment to the shaft snapped and thousands of tons of rock debris and timbers fell down into

"Is that you, Arthur?" queried Fred McDonald as his brother stepped forward and embraced him, after nearly seven long weeks of separation. "By George, it certainly seems good to be out of that hell-hole," as he was led away, telling his brother in high-pitched voice of his terrible experience.

"Say, somebody give me a chew of tobacco, quick," said Brown. "I'm on the bum, all right." With a happy laugh he was led off by a comrade to the change room.

These expressions were characteristic of the temperaments of the released men. All were supremely happy and relieved.

### **Anxious Waiting on Top.**

News that an early escape would be afforded by the men reached Ely shortly after 11 o'clock yesterday morning by telephone. About 8 o'clock last night the fact that an entry to the surface of the debris in the main way had been effected was telephoned to the men anxiously waiting on top. The entombed men had been working several hours in digging their way to freedom from the 1,000 foot level. The rescuers at the same time did all in their power to remove the earth that was blocking the mouth of the 1,000-foot tunnel.

### **Cheers From the Crowd.**

To the anxious crowd waiting around the shaft mouth the bell signaled "one, two, three," "hoist away," and upon realization of this fact a loud cheer burst forth from the throng. Suddenly the bucket rose to the surface. In it was one of the rescue party, supporting Bailey. His first coherent question as he was being half led, half carried to the shaft house was about his wife. Mrs. Bailey was not present, one of her children being ill, and she pre-

the shaft. From the bottom of the compartment in which the men were working to the pumping station, a distance of eight-five feet, a series of rickety ladders offered the only means of escape.

With falling rocks and timbers streaming down upon them the five struggled up these ladders.

### **Two Greeks Killed.**

Half way up falling timbers knocked the two Greeks from the ladder, killing them. Bailey, McDonald and Brown managed to reach the pump station. Its well timbered roof had withstood the rock and timber that came down the shaft and offered them shelter and safety. Here for the first day after the cave-in the men crouched, while at intervals they could hear the rocks and timbers crashing above them.

At first it was thought that all the men had perished, but twenty-four hours after the cave-in the three men who occupied the pumping station managed to make themselves heard by tapping upon the six-inch water pipe that stretched from the pumping station to the surface. It was this pipe that was the means of saving the lives of the three men.

### **Plenty of Food and Drink.**

When communication was once established with the world above and the men had made known the fact that they were still alive, food and drink were immediately lowered through the pipe.

A large supply was sent down, as it was thought possible that the pipe communication might be cut off before the rescuing party could reach the imprisoned men, but throughout their long weeks of imprisonment this pipe has been in daily use. A portable

**Continued on page 2.**

in railroad earnings make up the burden of reports and are accompanied by wide-reaching plans for curtailment of service, suspension of improvements, cutting down of working forces and reduction of pay to those retained in service. Some sign of improvement was reported from the iron and steel trade over the low point of activity at which the year opened. There is hope manifested that improvement is at hand, but the fact that present conditions are to be reflected in reports of earnings yet to be made up makes speculative temper apprehensive of the effect of these reports as they shall come to hand.

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telephone was lowered and the men were able to talk with the people above. This telephone line has been in almost constant use, friends sending them by its means the news of the outside world and messages of cheer.

Following is the story of the experiences of the three men entombed in the Alpha shaft on Dec. 4, written by A. D. Bailey and sent to the surface through a six-inch pipe:

### Story as Related by Bailey.

On Dec. 4, 1907, at 7 o'clock, A. D. Bailey, P. J. Brown, C. W. Turner, Fred McDonald and Hercules Constanti reported at the Alpha shaft, as was their custom, and went down to work. Bailey, as pump man; McDonald and Constanti, as machine helpers, and Brown and Turner, as machine men, with Brown as shaft boss. All went well until 9:30, when the cave-in took place, with Bailey at the 1,000-foot level and the balance of the men in the bottom of the shaft drilling at the time. I had just shut down the pump, and, as my tanks were empty, I was cleaning off the strainer in the suction of the pump, on the 1,000-gallon tank. All of a sudden the tank became so full of dust I could hardly see, and I went to the back of the tank for a few minutes to get out of the dust, thinking it would stop, but as it kept coming faster I thought that either the steam line or water column had burst on the shaft, and as I was on the opposite side of the shaft from my station pump, I got out of the tank and was running for the telephone, when McDonald just fell into my arms and he called "Bailey! Bailey!" but, realizing the danger we were in, I stood McDonald against the wall of the pump station and went to the telephone and called up the engineer at the surface and told him to shut off the steam. By the time I got through telephoning I stepped out of the booth and discovered McDonald and Brown in the pump station, but there was so much dust on them and the dust was so thick at the station it was difficult to tell who they were.

### Realized the Danger.

"By this time I realized that the shaft was caving and knew that our only salvation was the six-inch water

could do for ourselves, so we went back into the south drift and sat down and discussed our situation and argued whether the cave had broken the six-inch pipe or not somewhere above in the shaft.

### Welcome Voice From the Surface.

"We knew in case the six-inch line was broken it was all off with us, but finally we could hear some one hammering on the pipe line, and that was very encouraging, and about 1 or 2 o'clock, as I was standing at the open end of the pipe, some one from the surface hollered down the pipe and called, 'Oh, Bailey,' and you can take my word for it that it was the most welcome sound that ever greeted our ears. A few minutes after they called down they turned compressed air down the steam pipe, and we called up and told them to shut off the air, as the steam line is broken in the shaft somewhere opposite our station, and the dust being raised would have suffocated us. Then they shut off the air from the steam line and made connection with the six-inch water pipe and sent us some compressed air, and it was certainly welcome, as I should judge the temperature in the station was 100 degrees before the cave, and the dirt that came down the shaft was so fine and raised so much dust it was thick enough to cut with a knife.

### Water Sent Down Pipe.

"After sending down enough air to last for a time they found an old can somewhere on top, filled it with water and lowered some down to us through the six-inch water pipe, but as the can was not sealed tight on the upper end, when it got to the elbow at the bottom about all the water leaked out before we could get it. As the can was a dangerous thing to send down, as there was danger of its sticking in the ell at the bottom of the pipe, we kept the can down here and sent a message up to inform the men at the surface what the conditions were, and then the master mechanic, M. Dueikin, got together some two-inch nipples made of gas pipe about six inches long, with pipe caps screwed on the ends of the nipples, so that the next time water was sent down the elbow was all right. Then they made up a train of two nipples instead of one and lashed them to one another with wire, but a short time after the wire broke while they were hoisting them and one of them fell back down the pipe and came out into the station like a cannon ball.

"But, before I proceed further, I must state that in the second or third trip of the nipples a note was sent by the electrician, J. Brown, from the surface, telling us to connect our 'phone to the large transmission cables that were in service for our electric pump, so we connected our 'phone as instructed, and we have been able to talk with the surface ever since.

### Improved Food Train.

"After the little mishap to our supply train, they improved the train by screwing an eyebolt in the caps and added two more vessels to the train, so that now everything is coming down all right, and our improved train, with eyebolt and flexible connection from one

for our dessert. There has not been a day since we have been down here that Mrs. Tice or Mrs. Mayer has not sent something down to us. Mrs. Walter, Mrs. Clapp, Mrs. Dorer and Mrs. Burgeron have all sent us something, and Mrs. Flader sent us our first chicken dinner, with ice cream, pie, cake, sandwiches, iced fruit and cigars. You can see that we have been living on the fat of the land and our boarding boss and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Gates, have sent the best in the boarding house and had schemed to have many dainties.

### Plum Pudding on Christmas.

"I must state that we had plum pudding for Christmas dinner. It was sent from England to our Mr. McDonald, and it was sent by his sweetheart, so you see it was seasoned with love for him, but that did not stop Brown and myself from eating our fill of it. My wife, Mrs. Bailey, gets our breakfast every morning and makes our coffee.

"About every woman in Kimberly has come to the 'phone and had something to say in the way of encouraging us. The work of rescue is in charge of E. W. Waller, manager of the Giroux Consolidated mines, with whom is associated T. W. McFate, superintendent of mines, and J. Gallagher, superintendent of the Veteran mines. These men are all miners of many years' experience. But in the work of rescue and recovery of the shaft that taxes their best skill and ingenuity, particular mention must be given to Mr. McFate in carrying out the general plan of work, and who is ever ready, day or night, to meet conditions and lend encouragement.

### Expert Rescue Work.

"This is one of the hardest propositions I ever heard of. After the cave there was nothing solid to brace or block timbers to, and the men have to drive piling for every inch they get; also have to hang all timbers to wire cables, anchored at the surface.

"At present I think they have nine inch and a quarter cables in the shaft. All the men working in the shaft deserve all kinds of praise, as it has been very dangerous, and a man is taking a desperate chance whenever he goes down the shaft, but we are living in hopes of being rescued soon. All the men here are doing everything possible for us. Mr. Waller, the manager, is leaving no stone unturned to help the work along, and tells us not to be afraid to call for anything we want and he will see that we get it.

### Hoping for Release.

"We have been down here now since the 4th, so you see we are having a long siege of it. They send us down newspapers, magazines and novels, and we have cards, and a friend of ours in New Jersey sent us a letter, and in the letter the first book of the New Testament, God bless him. We have been well, with the exception of McDonald, who had a bilious headache night before last. But we doped him and he is all right now. We trust and pray that we will be out where the sun shines in a short time. As this is about all I can think of just now, I will close this letter with our best wishes to all our friends and well-wishers. We remain yours truly,



pipe. So, while my companions were exhausted from climbing the shaft and were resting a few minutes, I was seeing that the six-inch gate valve was open, as the valve is right at the shaft, and after the cave the valve body and gear wheels were covered with dirt. By this time the boys had gotten their wind and the three of us got what old lagging and old boards we could find and placed and blocked what dirt we could back into the shaft, as we were afraid it would come out into the station and cover the end of our six-inch pipe. You can see how fast it was coming down, as not more than fifteen minutes had elapsed from the time the cave started, and this station is ninety-seven feet above the bottom of the shaft, and from the 1,000-foot level to the bottom the shaft is three compartments, five by fifteen feet inside the timbers, and that space will hold quite a few cubic feet of debris. After resting a short time we went back into the station, and with the aid of a hand hammer, cold chisel and some stiff wrenches we took the flange bolts out of the flanged elbow next to the pump and about seven feet from the line of pipe coming down the shaft. We then took the ell off, leaving the pipe open, as shown in the sketch. I neglected to state above that just as I got my message to the surface to shut off the steam the small telephone wires broke and all communication with the surface was shut off for a time.

#### Turner and Constanti Dead.

"C. W. Turner and H. Constanti without doubt are at the bottom of the shaft, buried, as they were working in the west end under the cage, and when drilling in the shaft it is customary for the engineer to hold the bucket about fifteen or twenty feet above the bottom, and therefore the bucket was in this position when the cave started. We had our bucket suspended underneath the cage, and the engineer, Gus Swenden, states that the first thing he noticed out of usual was the rope running off the drum with the brake set, so he reversed his hoisting engine and turned on steam, but all to no avail, as the cage and bucket descended to the bottom of the shaft, as the debris on top of the cage was bound to take it down. After disconnecting our water line in the station, we had done all we

nipple to the next, makes a capital train and also a train we can get around the elbow. For a short time we were puzzled and did not know how to get the small vessels around the elbow and out of the end of the pipe within reach, but we found an old three-quarter-inch pipe round hanging bolt and arranged a hook on the end of same, so now we have very little trouble fishing our train from the elbow and out to the end of the pipe.

#### Nearly Knocked Off Ladder.

"How my companions ever managed to climb out of the shaft with such a shower of dirt going down I do not know, but when they got to this level they certainly were a sight to look at, as their clothes were just covered with dirt and dust and the pockets on the side of their jumpers were as full of dirt as you could pack them. McDonald was the first man to get to the station, but on the way up the shaft he was struck on the head with a rock and very nearly lost his hold on the ladder, but, thank the Lord, he held on to the ladder, because if he had fallen Brown, being below him, would have been also knocked off, and it would have been all off with them.

#### Filled Up Fast.

"Brown says that while he was coming up the shaft he stepped on dirt, so you can see that the shaft was filling up as fast as the boys were climbing. Brown and McDonald had this much in their favor—the rock that fell was very fine, and they were working on the east end of the shaft, and as the shaft is a two-compartment affair to the 1,000-foot level, and three-compartment from there down, they were not under the worst part of the cave, and you could not find a rock among the dirt here as large as a turkey egg. After the shaft was filled up above this level everything on the station was covered from five-eighths of an inch to one and a half inches with dust, and for several hours we were spitting mud, and it seemed to take from three to four days for the dust to settle. Whenever I touched my teeth together I could feel the grit between them. We took oil and waste and soaked the dust so that at the present time we are not troubled with dust, and it is quite pleasant here. We did not sleep any for the first three nights we were down here.

#### Made Three Bunks.

The only place we had to lay down was on the station floor, and the floor being cold and damp, and our nerves being strung up to G, it was impossible for us to sleep. On Dec. 7 we found an old canvas wagon cover that we used to cover the motor when they were blasting in the shaft. From the old lumber we picked up an old handsaw that had been through the war, and we made one bunk. On the 8th we made another and on the 9th made the third, so that now we have a bunk apiece. After completing our bunks, the next thing we wanted was some bedclothes, so we telephoned our wants to the surface, and they got some blankets, and by cutting them into pieces about four inches by thirty-six inches and lashing them to the rope, they lowered them down, and also sent us thread and nee-

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_, yours truly.

"A. D. BAILEY,  
"P. J. BROWN,  
"F. G. McDONALD."

#### TO PREVENT THE GRIP.

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE removes the cause. There is only one "BROMO QUININE." Look for signature of E. W. GROVE. 25c.

#### MILITIA IN HAWAII.

#### Six Additional Companies to Be Organized in the Islands.

San Francisco, Jan. 19.—Mail advices from Honolulu received today say that under instructions from the war department the national guard of Hawaii is to be recruited up to full regimental strength. At present although the national guard is regimental in its organization, there are only six companies, four in Honolulu, one in Hilo and one in Wailuku. Another company is to be organized in Hilo and also a company on the island of Kauai, which has never had a military organization since the final conquest of the island by Kamehameha the Great 100 years ago. Four new companies will be organized in Honolulu, or, at least, on this island.

#### INQUIRY ORDERED BY THE COMMANDER

Newport, R. I., Jan. 19.—Rear Admiral John B. Merrill has ordered an inquiry to be begun tomorrow into the death of H. A. Hartnet, the naval apprentice who died yesterday from a blood clot on the brain, following a fight aboard the United States training ship Cumberland. The naval authorities have been unable to locate the young man's father, who is believed to live in Philadelphia. Unless the body is claimed previously it will be buried here Tuesday.

D. H. Manning, of Middletown, N. Y., the naval apprentice with whom Hartnet is said to have had a pugilistic encounter, is held in custody pending the investigation.

#### LOSS \$100,000.

Coffeyville, Kan., Jan. 19.—Fire today destroyed the Sunflower Glass company's plant, causing a loss of \$100,000. The property was only partially insured. Four hundred men are thrown out of employment by the fire. The plant had been closed down for several months. B. F. Burke of Indiana, the principal owner, has been here for some time preparing to open the plant next Monday.

of clothes

\$10.50

so good to be true

what you can get  
Suits which were  
\$25 are really

Toothsome  
and  
Appetizing

are

n in this special

o drive

and get one

*W. Adams*

N STREET.

dies, and we sewed them together, so that now we have a pair of blankets apiece, and you can appreciate our joy when we were able to take our boots off and climb into a warm bed. After our rough experience it was a great relief.

**Entombed Men Well Fed.**

"In regard to our supplies, we have the best that can be had in the state of Nevada, and if we had tried to eat and drink all the good things they sent down, or wanted to send down, we would all have been down with the gout before this time. Every woman in Kimberly seemed to want to do something for us. Our Christmas dinner consisted of roast chicken, cranberry sauce, pie, cake, celery and ice cream. We had about the same for New Year's, with the exception of ice cream. Our surveyor, Mr. Sales, sent us down iced fruit

**MRS. BROWNING'S MEAT  
PIES**

served hot with delicious, invigorating Coffee at our Fountain. Try them for your luncheon today.

**F. J. Hill Drug Co.**

"The Pure Drinks Store."

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**Cheers From the Crowd.**

To the anxious crowd waiting around the shaft mouth the bell signaled "one, two, three," "hoist away," and upon realization of this fact a loud cheer burst forth from the throng. Suddenly the bucket rose to the surface. In it was one of the rescue party, supporting Bailey. His first coherent question as he was being hoisted, half carried to the shaft house was about his wife. Mrs. Bailey was not present, one of her children being ill, and she preferred to meet her husband at their home, where no throng of curious would be watching. Bailey soon declared himself sufficiently rested to make the trip, where he went soon afterwards, supported on either side by a friend.

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Continued on page 2.

## 1908 Three miners rescued from Giroux mine after 46 days trapped

Clipped By:



usmra\_rob  
Wed, May 12, 2021

**of clothes**  
\$10.50  
good to be true  
what you can get  
Suits which were  
to \$25 are really  
in this special  
drive  
and get one

*Adams*  
STREET.

**Forty-Six Days in the Bowels of the Earth**

**Story as Related by Bailey.**

**Water Seal Done Pipe.**

**Expected Food Train.**

**Nearly Tracked Off Ledge.**

**Filed Up Fast.**

**Yarn and Coarsest Deal.**

**Many True Brags.**

**Extended Men Well Fed.**

**Plan Fitting as Christmas.**

**Expert Rescue Work.**

**Nothing for Rescue.**

**To Prevent the Use of Militia in Hawaii.**

**Inquiry Ordered by the Commander.**

**Loon Shot Down.**

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