

A FATAL ACCIDENT

William Murphy was struck by the engine of First No. 5 Tuesday morning while at work on the track at the east wye switch, and instantly killed. The engineer saw the man at work as he rounded the curve and whistled a warning which was regarded by all but Mr. Murphy. Some of his fellow workmen called his attention to the approaching train and he started to get off on the south side, but changed his mind and started back to the north. As he stepped across the north rail he appeared to stumble and turned, half facing the engine, when the pilot beam struck him on the side of the face, breaking his neck and hurling 42 feet into the ditch beside the track.

Coroner Pray and Sheriff Winkler came up this (Thursday) morning, empanelled a jury and examined several witnesses, among them the engineer and fireman of the train. The engineer testified that he saw the man at work as he came around the curve and whistled. Most of the men got off at once and Mr. Murphy stepped to the south of the track and then to the north, and he supposed that he was gone. When within two car-lengths saw him apparently start back onto the track and applied the emergency brake. He said they were making about 30 miles an hour at the time. The testimony of the other witnesses was substantially the same. The verdict of the jury was as follows:

We, the jurors, whose names are hereunto subscribed: The said jurors, upon their oaths do say, that William Murphy came to his death on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 17, 1907, at about 10 o'clock, from being struck by engine 209, on first section of No. 5, his death being accidental and not felonious. In testimony whereof the said jurors set their hands the day and year aforesaid.

C. O. LANGER,

E. W. STROH,

D. M. SHANNON,

Mr. Murphy was somewhat crippled in his feet, and by reason of his long service on the road was inclined to be careless and on several occasions before has had very narrow escapes.

Mr. Murphy was born near Swinford, Ireland, and was 65 years and 5 months old. He came to Eckelson in 1882, and has resided there or in Sanborn ever since, most of the time working on the section.

He was twice married. Both wives are dead. Two sons survive him, Martin, who is employed in the car shops at Spokane, and Tom, a conductor on the N. P., working out of Missoula. He has several brothers living, among them T. M. Murphy of this city. The funeral will be held Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

"Old Bily," as he was familiarly known to his host of friends, was a quaint character. His was a nature that could harbor no meanness. In spite of his long years of heavy toil and few luxuries he radiated good cheer wherever he went. With good words for all unkind words for none, and a friendly greeting for everybody he met, he was truly an "apostle of sunshine," and will long be remembered for his unflinching good nature, his whimsical humor and his sterling integrity. His station in life was a lowly one, but he filled it with credit to himself and benefit to his fellow man.—Sanborn Enterprise.