

BELCHER, ARTHUR F.
June 23, 1886-December 3, 1907

ARTHUR BELCHER KILLED IN RUNAWAY Meets Death on Tuesday of This Week near Junction

Arthur F. Belcher, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. F.L. Belcher, of this place, met with an untimely death, Tuesday morning, near Junction. In company with Mr. Hale and son, and Frank Baker, Mr. Belcher had gone to the hills southeast of Junction on Monday for a load of wood, the party camping near Junction that night. Tuesday morning they started to load their wagons with wood, when Mr. Belcher's team became frightened while he was chopping a limb from a log and had started to run. Mr. Belcher succeeded in grabbing one horse by the bridle bits, but this seemed to have frightened them all the more for they continued to run despite his efforts to stop them. The other members of the party called to Arthur to let the team go, but this he failed to do. The team, by this time, was running in a circle, when they ran into a washout in a draw, when an accident occurred which cost Arthur his life.

When the wagon reached the washout, the team was thrown off its feet, falling in the crevice in the earth, with Arthur underneath the animals.

The other members of the party were close at hand and upon reaching the scene, endeavored to rescue Mr. Belcher from his perilous position, and while they were working, they heard him to say "hurry". They cut the tugs and harness but found they could get but one horse to its feet. One of the party went to Badger for help, when it was found necessary to hitch a team to the other horse to haul it out of the "washout". After the last horse was dragged from the washout, the body of Mr. Belcher was removed, but it was found that life was extinct, death being caused by suffocation.

The body was brought to Wheatland on the evening train, and funeral services were conducted at the Congregational church on Wednesday at two o'clock by Rev. Jas. Eadie Butler, pastor, and Rev. E.L. Butler of the M.E. church. The pastors spoke of the manly character and kindly disposition of the deceased, and the church was crowded with sorrowing friends of the bereaved family.

The deceased was 21 years of age on June 23rd last, and was a hale and hearty young man. He was a member of the Fraternal Union order, in which he carried insurance to the amount of \$1200.

Mr. and Mrs. Belcher have the heartfelt sympathy of everyone in their sad affliction.