

Decatur Daily Democrat, Adams County, Indiana; Thursday, May 19, 1921

BEN BRANDYBERRY CRUSHED TO DEATH

In Blue Creek Township Stone Quarry at Two O'Clock This Afternoon

WAS EMPLOYED THERE

Monroe Man Meets Sudden and Terrible Death -- Son of Solomon Brandyberry

Monroe, Ind., May 19 - (Special to Daily Democrat) - Ben Brandyberry, aged about 40, of this place was killed instantly at about two o'clock this afternoon at Blue Creek Township stone quarries where he was employed.

The quarries are located five and a half miles southeast of here and are owned by Jeff Crum and Amos Stoneburner, the road contractors. Brandyberry was in the crusher, packing the stone, when in some manner he was caught and drawn into the cogs. He was terribly mutilated and when found his legs were protruding from the machine. The unfortunate man was a son of Solomon Brandyberry who now resides at Rosewood, Ohio.

Coroner L. L. Mattax of Geneya was notified of the accident immediately.

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DEATH DUE TO ASPHYXIATION

Benjamin Brandyberry Was Not Ground by the Cogs of Stone Crusher

STONE COVERED BODY

When Effort Was Made to Loosen It - Will be Laid to Rest on Sunday

Benjamin Brandyberry, who met death at the Crum and Stoneburner in Blue Creek township, was not crushed between the jaws of the crusher, as first reported here Thursday afternoon.

Death was due to traumatic asphyxia, and was brought about when a large quantity of stone suddenly became loosened and in sliding, completely covered his body, thus shutting off the air, causing asphyxiation.

The stone in the huge bin, which has been crushed some time, was rather damp, and in dumping it into wagons driving up to the chute for the purpose, a sort of a pocket had

formed, and all of the loose stone had been dumped in wagons. As no more stone would come without being loosened, Mr. Brandyberry had climbed to the pit and was attempting to break this crust, so that the stone would slip freely down the chute through the opening to the wagons below. He lost his balance and slipped down the chute. The stone encased his body to the hips. He was unable to free himself and the workmen were helping to extricate him from his position. They had partly succeeded when instructions were given to pull the door of the chute. It is stated the wrong door was opened, and this loosened another quantity of stone and his body was completely encased with crushed stone, and buried under about four feet of the powdered stone. Death was instantaneous and workmen at once set to work to remove the body. All possible haste was made, that they might succeed before the last thread of life was severed, but their efforts were in vain.

After the body was removed, Dr. L. L. Mattax, county coroner, was called, and he gave his verdict as stated.

Benjamin Brandyberry was born Oct 8, 1873, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Brandyberry, in Champaign County, Ohio, and had he lived until next October would have been forty-nine years old. Besides the aged parents, who live at Rosewood, Ohio, he leaves three brothers and two sisters: John, Spencerville, Ohio; Freeman, Spring Hill, Ohio; Lemman, Rosewood, Ohio; Mrs. Peter Bixler, Berne and Mrs. Peter Kessler, Monroe, with whom he made his home.

He went to work at the stone crusher three weeks ago last Tuesday.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon leaving the Kessler home at 1:30 o'clock, and from the Friend's church at Monroe, at 2 o'clock. The Reidenbach will officiate. Burial will be at the Ray Cemetery west of Monroe.

Contributed by drbuck