

# ALEXANDER, HENRY NASH

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ALEXANDER , HENRY NASH

Born at Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio, October 14, 1832.

Son of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Married (1) Feliciana Domingues, daughter of Don Pedro (18\_\_\_\_-82 )  
and Maria de Jesus (Cota) Dominguez (1809-63) at Los Angeles,

California, February 24, 1856; Children, Joseph Lancaster Brent  
(1856-1931), Henry Myles (1858-1932), Maria de Jesus (1861-19 )

(Mrs. Albert Cornelius Baker) and Francisco de Paula (1865-1901)

(Mrs. Ernest William Fleming); Married (2) Mary S. Scholer

(18-1872) a t \_\_\_\_\_ California, on \_\_\_\_\_, 1867, son,

James Barney(1869-1918); Married (3) Mrs. Mary A. Parsons (18\_\_\_\_-1903)  
at Arizona City, Yuma County, A.T., May 11, 1872.

Came to San Francisco, California, in 1851 and shortly afterwards located in Los Angeles; became a member of the Los Angeles Rangers, a company of about 100 mounted men organized in 1853 which, according to Horace Bell, "rid the country of a horde of freebooters and assassins who threatened a war of extermination on the comparatively few Americans that inhabited the southern (California) counties"; in his reminiscences of "Sixty years in Southern California" Harris Newmark wrote;

"Henry N. Alexander appeared in Los Angeles at about the same time that I did (1853) and was very active as a Ranger. He too occupied positions of trust, in business as well as public life, being both City and County Treasurer--in the latter case, preceding Maurice Kremer (in 1859-60). It is not surprising, therefore, that he became Wells, Fargo & Company's agent when much uphill work had to be done to establish their interests here.

First came to Arizona as Wagonmaster in the Quartermaster Department, U.S. Army, at \$80 per month; stationed at Fort Yuma from June 16 to August 31, 1865, and at Fort McDowell, A.T., from September 1, through November; returned to Fort Yuma in December and became Public Storekeeper at that Post at \$100 a month on March 1, 1866, served as such until May 30 of that year when he received his discharge and went back to Los Angeles.

Returned to Yuma about 1870, to practice law and was attorney for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company; served as School Trustee at Yuma, 1871-72; appointed by Governor Safford as Probate Judge and ex-officio School Superintendent of Yuma County, June 29, 1874 and served during 1875; appointed District Attorney of Yuma County in June, 1878; was a member of the Yuma County Democratic Central Committee in 1882; moved to Phoenix in 1882; served as delegate from Maricopa County to a Convention authorized by the 16th Territorial Legislature which met in Phoenix in September, 1891, and adopted a Constitution for the proposed State of Arizona; the following is taken from an obituary printed in the Phoenix Gazette:

"Judge Alexander had the distinction of being the first agent and trusted employee of Wells Fargo & Company's express at Los Angeles. He came to Arizona as master of transportation for the Government during war times. After that he became associated with W. B. Hooper & Co., merchants and government contractors. Yuma county in those days was the leading one in the Territory in the point of population and wealth, and to keep in touch with such civilizing conditions the necessity for a system of schools was apparent.

"Judge Alexander became deeply interested in the matter, and by virtue of that interest was appointed Probate Judge and County Superintendent of Schools, and through devotion to the education of the young, and the splendid

work he did in that line, he is known to this day by the old residents of the Territory as 'the father of our public school system.'

"Having mastered the principles of law, anterior to the period referred to, he began active practice in 1872 at Yuma. He was successful and always held a large clientage to the day of his death, at which time he was associated with ex-District Judge W. H. Stilwell, and it is only justice to say that he was the peer of any lawyer practicing at the bar in Arizona."

Died at Phoenix, Maricopa County, A. T., August 1, 1895, aged 62; buried Rosedale Cemetery, Los Angeles, California.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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 The Graham County Bulletin, Solomonville, August 9, 1895, 1:2 (Obituary reprinted from the Phoenix Gazette).  
 The Tucson Citizen, August 3, 1895, 2:1 (death notice) .