

# ANKRIM (AUKSIENE), WILLIAM J.

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CAPT. WILLIAM AUKSIENE.

From the Diary of a Yuma Ferryman, as printed in Historical Society of Southern California Publications, vol. 14, p. 95.

The editor apparently lacked knowledge of the Colorado river personal<sup>ne</sup> in the 1850's and the original diary was probably hard to read. I am sure his "Ankrim and Captain" refers to Capt. William Auksiene, one of the original members of the Colorado river ferry company. ] 8, 4

These are excerpts found throughout the diary referring to Auksiene. The diary undoubtedly was written by Lewis John Frederick Jaeger.

1856  
January 4, (San Diego ).

I received a letter of Ankrim from the River...I wrote him also.

March 10, (back at the ferry).

Hooper was down and Ankrim is rather bad.

April 7.

Hooper got a letter from Major Heintzelman to let Ankrim have Ms third back again or he would sell one half his interest to me.

April 9.

Captain was up at the Fort.

April 10.

Ankrim was up at the Fort.

April 12.

I brought Hooper and Captain Willcox down and they appraised the property for one half of Major Heintzelmans share for Ankrim

## CAPT. WILLIAM AUKSIENE

Johnson, George A. Manuscript , page 36.

The names of the party (Johnson party to start the Colorado river ferry, 1850) were: Benjamin M. Hartshorn, Capt. Wm Auskiene, Louis Frederick, John Iager, Doctor Ogden, Heinselwood, Moses, Joe Anderson and George A. Johnson.

Page 47.

Fort Yuma now being established and garrisoned, there was no necessity for so many in the ferry company, so we dissolved leaving Capt. Wm Auskiene and Louis Iager in possession of the property and returned to San Francisco.

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1856  
to take it at the valuation.

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April 15.

Captain put in window glasses and painted his room.

April 16.

I worked on the chimney in Captain's room.

April 17.

I worked at the chimney and Hubly worked at window frame and put up a mast at the post to hoist the rope up higher and Captain was up at the Fort and saw Hooper. And McLean made a proposition to sell out to US on condition as is, 1000 thousand dollars, or wait till next January and then whatever the boat is worth to let us have it.

April 21.

Ankrim white washed his room and he had a fly up with... the adobe layer and he ordered him away and hit him few licks and Hubly finished his room plastering.

April 22.

I and Captain out out a door in his room and took out the door out the store room.

April 23.

Hubly worked at Captain's room and calked the boat.

April 24.

Ankrim got through with the statement of the Colorado Ferry affairs and Ankrim was up to the Fort.

April 25.

Ankrim got through with the room and moved in. .

April 26.

Ankrim was up at the Fort and Hubly worked at the blocks for the boat.

1856

April 29.

Captain and John went after the mules but they did not get them. Nothing heard from them and they came back. (Mules that were stolen from a German).

April 30.

Made arrangements with Mc Lean about the ferries to bring them together again if Major Heintzelman is agreed on (it). He is to get his 6 of the proceeds. If not he would take 600 dollars, on the first of January *one* thousand dollars he would take.

May 1.

Mc Lean told Thompson about the arrangements about bringing the two ferries together and he is very much pleased and tomorrow we are going to bring up the boat.

May 25.

Antony arrived with the two mules from Sonora and are in bad state, worked down. And had to leave Ankrims horse at Sonora account sore feet.

May 28.

Hubly worked at the boat...I got an anchor off the steamboat for our bust in case of accident.

June 19.

Ankrim and Chapo arrived from Sonora... Lytle got his (interest in the ferry) back again from Thompson.

June 25.

We bought Mr. Lytle's share out. I made the agreement for 600 dollars, 400 dollars down and note 200 in 3 months payable to satisfaction both parties, and Lyle left for Los Angeles.

1856

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June 27.

Hubly fixing up boat ... Ankrim and myself fixing up the book.

June 28.

Hubly made a table for Captain.

June 30.

Hubly working at Captain's table and Ankrim and I fixing the books.

July 6.

Ankrim was up on the hill (Fort Yuma) and he got a letter wrote to ... for a woman ... Pancho was down in the evening and I had a talk about Rose again for Captain but I can't say whether it will be done or not.

July 10.

Fixed the harness and captain also helping and getting ready for to go in Sonora with the team.

August 5. (After reaching Alta Sonora)

Sent Chico back to Caborca after a woman also for Captain - we could not get one for him.

October 12 (They are back at Yuma)

Ankrim still sick.

October 13.

Captain still on a spree.

October 14.

Doctor and McJean down to see captain and very sick.

October 15.

Doctor was down and Ankrim don't drink anything and very sick.

October 16.

Got medicine of Doctor for Ankrim.

1856

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October 17.

Ankrim still bad and at 4:00 o'clock he got out of his head - got wild and in the evening he was so.

October 18.

Ankrim very wild last night and I went up to the fort for the doctor and he came down with Madison.

October 19.

Doctor stopped over night last night with Ankrim and he was nearly his last.

October 20.

Ankrim is getting better but ain't got his right senses yet and Doctor was down to see him.

October 21.

Ankrim is getting better.

October 22.

Ankrim is getting better.

October 24.

Ankrim is getting better and I went up at Fort at Doctor's and got some medicine for him.

October 25.

Ankrim is getting right.

October 28.

Ankrim is getting right well again and got his right senses.

November 26.

I was up at Hooper's and had a talk about Ankrim and Hooper wrote to Major Heintzelman about it and myself.

November 27.

I wrote to Heintzelman about Captain.

1856

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November 29.

Ankrim and Lieut. Mowry took a ride up to La Crow's camp.

December 3.

A wild cat, got at our chickens last night and killed 4 head but we killed the cat - Ankrim shot 4 times at it and hit twice.

December 29.

Suvero brought in 2 mules for Catlick and Ankrim to hunt tomorrow.

December 31.

Ankrim and Catlick got back from hunting but did not get anything but two coons.

1857  
January 1 (1857).

Ankrim making out the bills.

January 5,

I had a small talk with Ankrim about a horse of ours, not want him bring out and Ankrim want him brought out.

April 28.

Express got in from San Diego and had a great fly up by word got in the morning ... Captain and Ankrim and Slaton got killed by 3 ... and Catlick and Doctor and Harem and 6 soldiers were sent after them to Cook's Wells to search them. And after they left 3 hours Ankrim and Slaton arrived from Sonoita and brought great news about the filibusters got all out up to pieces.

April 30, 1857.

Ankrim was up at Fort.

May 25, 1857

Arrived San Felipe (on a trip to San Bernardino) and met Mr. Burns and told me that Ankrim had gone into San Diego and up to San Francisco to buy goods.

With reference to the Diary of a Yuma Ferryman  
I am satisfied that Captain WILLIAM AUKSIENE and  
Captain A. J. ANKRIM were two different men.

On page 3 of the sketch of the life of  
Edward E. Dunbar, that I sent to you, is the  
name of Captain Ankrim and I have seen other  
references to him. Unfortunately neither his name  
nor that of Captain Auksiene appears in any of the  
census returns which indicates that both of them  
left the Colorado River before 1860.

Ankrim, William J.

See "Crabb Expedition" file, excerpts from  
Sacramento Union, p. 6, 11,

Ankrim, (A.J.)

Hobbs: WILD LIFE IN THE FAR WEST, Hartford,  
Wiley, Waterman & Eaton, 1874.  
p. 211-219.

(Hobbs, Ankrim and others bought cattle  
in Mexico and drove them to Cal. Not copied)

ANKRIM, William J.

California Census, 1858  
San Diego County

Ankrim, William J.; age 50; born, Penn.;  
blacksmith; res. San Diego.