

# BERRY, GEORGE EDWIN

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BERRY, GEORGE EDWIN, born at Wofford, Whitley County, Kentucky, March 19, 1833; probably a son of John S. Berry; his first wife died in Kentucky prior to 1860; he was married to Mrs. Anna (Hencke) Miller at Prescott, A. T., July 26, 1891, by the Probate Judge, E. W. French.

Enrolled, age 28, at LaPorte, Plumas County, Calif., August 16 and mustered in at Camp Downey (Oakland) to serve 3 years as Private in Captain Henry M. Benson's Company F, 1st California Infantry; occupation when enlisted, Miner; went with the Regiment to Southern California; stationed at Fort Yuma January 1, 1862; left there on May 15 and arrived at Fort Barrett May 31; marched from Fort Barrett to Tucson, June 23-27; left Tucson July 23 and marched via Apache Pass to Mesilla, N. M., arriving August 15, 1862; stationed at Fort Craig, N. M., from September, 1862, to October, 1863; left Fort Craig October 16 and marched via Los Pinos to Fort Wingate, N. M., arriving November 3; marched thence to Fort Whipple, A. T., arriving December 21, 1863; honorably discharged at Fort Whipple, A. T., August 28, 1864.

Enlisted at Virginia City, Nevada Territory April 1, 1865, as Private, Company C, 1st Battalion, Nevada Infantry; wounded by an arrow in action with Indians at Queens River, Nevada; honorably discharged at Fort Churchill, Nevada, December 23, 1865; returned to Arizona and was listed, U. S. Census, 1870, at Prescott, occupation, Miner.

The following statements about him appeared in the Prescott Journal-Miner shortly after his death:

"The passing of this well known pioneer will be learned of with regret. He arrived in Prescott in 1863, with Captain Hargrave's (Benson's) command, which was the first infantry to garrison Fort Whipple the following spring. He followed mining, and was the first to locate what is now known as the Little Jessie in Chaparral, which in later years verified predictions made by Berry that it would be an attractive proposition when some method became known to treat the base ores.

Placer mining occupied his time until later when his mechanical abilities were appreciated and he was made foreman of the old Curtis sawmills to the South of this city. The deceased was charitably inclined, and with a generous hand was free to give on any and all occasions. His death removed one of the historical figures of border days, and one also, whose kindly deeds he desired to be withheld from channels of publicity."

He was a member of Astian Lodge No. 177(1), F. & A. M., and a comrade of Barrett Post No. 3, G. A. R., admitted from Prescott to the U. S. Soldiers Home, Sawtelle, California, April 27, 1897, where he died, March 29, 1915, aged 82; buried, National Soldiers Home Cemetery.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Orton, R. H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, Sacramento, 1890, p. 360.

The Adjutant General of the Army - Military Service Records.

U. S. Veterans Administration - Pension and Soldiers Home records, S. C. 813,736

The Journal-Miner, Prescott, July 27, 1891, p.3.c.1(Marriage) and April 8,1915, p. 3,Col. 3 (Obituary), July 27, 1891, 3:1.

The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, March 13, 1878, p.3, c.4, March 13, 1878, 3:1

The Prescott Courier, November 1, 1889, 4:1 and July 27, 1891 (marriage).