

CHASE, JAMES S.

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CHASE, JAMES S. _____

Born at _____, Washington County, Pennsylvania _____

_____ 18 _____ (about 1824). Son _____ of _____.

Stated in 1891 that he first came to Arizona, February 10, 1858; joined the Walker Party in New Mexico which arrived in Northern Arizona in the spring of 1863; on June 12 he recorded claim No. 10 above the discovery of placer gold on the Hassayampa River "consisting of 100 yards in length and 50 yards in width each side of centre"; he joined with James G. Sheldon on July 15, 1863, in recording claims No. 5, 6 and 7, each 100 yards in length "below the head of the canon on Link Creek, Pioneer District"; was mining at Rich Hill, near Weaver, in September of that year.

He testified in 1889 that he and Washington P. Elair were at the ranch of A. H. Peoples on the night of November 10, 1863, when a band of Apaches stole 21 horses and 8 mules; the three of them later joined a party headed by King S. Woolsey, pursued the marauding Indians across the Verde River and from the mouth of that stream went to the Pima Villages where they secured provisions and the aid of 15 Indians; after a fight he counted 25 dead Apaches; one of the party (Cyrus Lemon) was killed at Bloody Tanks in what is now Gila County.

Was one of 52 signers of a letter addressed to Richard C. McCormick at Fort Whipple, A.T., March 15, 1864, urging him to become a candidate for Delegate to Congress and pledging their warmest support; again went with Colonel Woolsey on a second expedition to punish the Apaches from March 29 to April 17, 1864; listed, Territorial Census, 1864, 3d District, age 40, single, resident in Arizona 4 years, occupation - Miner; the following references to him have been found in the Prescott Courier:

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- May 5, 1883 -- James S. Chase, a very old pioneer is up from the Walnut Grove district.
- March 29, 1884 - Mrs. Chase, pioneer miner, took out with a pan in 3 days on the Callen estates mines, Weaver district, \$89 in coarse gold.
- February 2, 1886 -- J. S. Chase, a pioneer of this county, is in a fair way to become rich out of the Oro Fino gold diggings.
- February 18, 1886 -- J. S. Chase has sold his interest in Walnut Grove placers, and will locate in Wickenburg.
- Died at Wickenburg, Maricopa County, A. T., April 24, 1904, buried
 _____ cemetery_____.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Great Register of Yavapai County, 1876-1892
- Farish, T. E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 2, p. 243
- Barney, J.M. - Political Activities of the Territorial Governors - manuscript, 1942, p. 42.
- W.P.A. - Journal of the Pioneer and Walker Mining Districts, 1941, pp. 1, 99, 103, 114, 127, 130.
- U. S. Court of Claims - Indian Depredation Docket No. 6253 (Peoples)
- McFarland & Poole - History of Arizona Territory, Chicago, 1896, p. 407
- The Prescott Courier - May 5, 1883, 3:4; March 29, 1884, 4:1; February 2, 3:1 and February 18, 1886, 3:1.
- The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, Sept. 5, 1891, 1:7 and Sept. 22, 1892. (Memorial to J. H. Marion-dates of arrival of signers in Arizona).
- The Phoenix Herald, April 4, 1891, 1:8 (article by C. D. Poston)
- The Arizona Star, Tucson, May 6, 1904, 8:4 (a poor obituary).