

EHLE, JOHN HENRY

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EHLE, JOHN HENRY, born in Washington County, Iowa, October 12, 1842; son of Joseph and Margaret (Williams) Ehle; married (1) Mrs. Mary E. (Nichols) Davis (1852-18___), daughter of _____ Nichols and a native of Indiana, at Skull Valley, November 12, 1876, and (2) Elizabeth Brenton Medd at Prescott, October 12, 1907; children, Albert E., James H., William R. and Frank A., an adopted son, Sandy Davis Ehle, and twin daughters born in Skull Valley, July 12, 1891.

Arrived in Arizona with his parents in 1864 having moved with them from Denver, Colorado via Albuquerque, New Mexico; joined his father in locating the Thud and New York lodes in the Walker Mining District, October and November, 1864; in Skull Valley on February 15, 1865, he saw the Apaches drive off four of his horses worth \$575; on November 20, 1869, at Skull Valley, the Indians destroyed 3,000 pounds of his corn worth 8 cents a pound or \$2,400; listed U. S. Census, 1870, at Prescott, age 27, occupation - Farmer, property valued at \$2,000; in Miller Valley, near Prescott, on September 15, 1875, the Apaches stole a horse and a mule from him.

Was Justice of the Peace at Skull Valley, 1877-78 and again in 1891-92; appointed Postmaster at Skull Valley in January 28, 1878 and served until February 25, 1879; listed U. S. Census, 1880, at Prescott, age 38, occupation - Teaming; was living at Walnut Grove in March, 1882, but, according to an item in the Prescott Courier of December 1, 1883, decided to leave there;

John Ehle, one of the Hassayamps, has leased Burt Crouch's place in Skull Valley and will move his family there. Besides farming and stockraising, John will keep a good way station.

EHLE, JOHN HENRY

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He became a member of the Arizona Pioneers Historical Society at Tucson, January 20, 1910, occupation - Farmer, near Prescott; served as Constable of Prescott precinct, 1915-16; the following are extracts from articles printed in the Prescott Journal-Miner:

October 12, 1907 - - Never before in the history of Arizona has one of its honored pioneers celebrated his 66th birthday as did John H. Ehle of Skull Valley, last evening, when, erect and sturdy as an oak, despite his advanced age, he marched up the aisle of the First Baptist Church to join in wedlock with Mrs. Elizabeth Brenton Meed.

With his parents, he arrived in Prescott, July 13, 1864, then a youth of only 23 years, when there were only fourteen huts in the town occupied by settlers. He herded and stood night guard with a bunch of cattle where the court house now stands, and shot deer on the site of the Elks theater building. Later, he moved with his father to Skull Valley, and assisted the latter and Charley Genung to construct the first water wheel ever built in Kirkland Creek to operate an arastra. He has resided in this City and Skull Valley ever since.

September 19, 1916 - - John Ehle who arrived in Prescott in 1864, and camped out where is now located the court house plaza, last Sunday ascended Thumb Butte on foot, planted Old Glory at the crest, and made the emblem secure, 25 feet in the air, by setting the iron staff in a crevice.

The feat is remarkable considering the age of this pioneer, who is nearing his 74th year. He walked the distance from Prescott to the summit of this landmark without any exertion, and imparted the surprising information after reaching the goal that he was sorry to admit that it was the first time that he had ever reached the elevation. Ehle pointed toward the dim distance and recalled old landmarks which he passed under over a half century ago, and recalled attacks made by Indians at certain places. "I should be ashamed of myself as a

Hassayamper to stand here and confess that the old Sentinel of the Prietas did not have a visit from me until after over half a century of being acquainted," he informed those by his side.

Admitted to the Arizona Pioneers Home at Prescott, August 18, where he died on November 8, 1922, aged 80; buried, Pioneers Cemetery, Prescott.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Arizona Pioneers Historical Society - Membership Book.
 Jackson, O. - The White Conquest of Arizona, p. 16.
 Journal of the Walker Mining District, 1863-65, p. 85.
 U.S. Court Or Claims - Indian Depredation Docket No. 7120.
 Yavapai County Marriage Records - Book 1, p. 53, Book 4, p. 427.
 Probate Court of Yavapai County - Docket No. 2350.
 U.S. Post Office Department - appointment records.
 W. P. A. - Roster of Yavapai County Officials, 1942.
 Arizona Division Of Vital Statistics - Death Certificate, 1922.
 Arizona Pioneers Home, Prescott - Admission and death records.
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott - August 24, 1877, 4:2; March 28, 3:1, October 24, 3:2, and December 5, 1879, 4:1; October 8, 1880, 3:2 .
 The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, February 13, 3:2, March 2, 3:2 and June 29, 1878. 3:1.
 The Prescott Courier, March 18, 1882, 2:6, December 1, 1883, 4:3; July 14, 1891, 4:1; January 1, 1892, 3:7; November 9, 1922, 1:2 (obituary) .
 The Journal-Miner, Prescott, October 13, 1907, 1:3 and 4:2; September 19, 1916, 6:3; November 9, 1:3 and November 10, 1922, 4:4 (obituary and funeral) .
 The Arizona Sentinel, Yuma, February 9, 1878.