

JOHNSON, HARRISON W.

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JOHNSON, HARRISON W., born in Missouri about 1821; listed, Territorial Census, April, 1861, 3d District (Yavapai County) age 43, unmarried, resident in Arizona 5 months, occupation, Miner, property valued at \$300; Patrick Hamilton has recorded what happened to him on one occasion;

Resources
of ARIZ.
S.F. 1884, p. 390

In the early days, deer, antelope and wild turkey were abundant, and several men made a business of killing game and selling it to the miners. It is an inexplicable fact that the Indians rarely molested the hunters, though they went out alone miles from the settlements, always with two or three animals, and would be away several days. However, they got the best of one hunter who used to supply the miners of Weaver, Rich Hill and Antelope Creek, with meat in 1864.

Everybody in those days had a nickname, and he was known as "Hog Johnson." About three miles from Weaver, one morning, while on a hunt, he saw a band of deer. Tying his horse to a tree, he crept up to within about 600 yards and killed one. He cut off its head, took out its entrails and prepared it to load upon the horse and then went for the animal.

When half-way to where he had left his horse, he heard a yell, and looking up on a hill-side saw four Indians, out of rifle range, going off with his horse; just when he heard shouting behind him, and turning around he saw four more Indians, each with a quarter of the deer he had just killed upon his shoulder. In relating the affair, Johnson said he sat down upon a rock and watched the "darned varmints" load the deer on his horse and start off towards the Hassayampa creek, and then went home and said his prayers.

Was on herd when killed by Apache-Mohaves near Arrastra Creek, in Yavapai County, A. T., June 12, 1865.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Hamilton, P. - Resources of Arizona, S.F., 1884, p. 390
 Farish, T. H. - History of Arizona, Vol. 3, p. 255; Vol. 8, p. 128
 The Weekly Arizona Miner, Prescott, October 14, 1871, p. 1, Col. 2

"Hog" Johnson

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From the '64 files of the Arizona Miner, a paper long since dead, which paper was, for a time, a democratic paper and run by the late John Marion, founder of the Courier, the following reminiscence is taken:

"Indians rarely molested hunters. One of these hunters was known as Hog Johnson. He supplies the miners of Weaver, Rich Hill and Antelope Creek with meat. About three miles from Weaver, one morning, while on a hunt, he saw a band of deer. Tying his horse to a tree, he crept to within about 600 yards and killed one. He cut off its head, took out its entrails and prepared to load it upon the horse and then went for the animal. When about half way to where he had left him, he heard a yell and saw four Indians, out of rifle range, on a hillside, making off with a horse; then he heard shouting behind him and saw four more Indians, each having upon his shoulder a quarter of the deer he had just killed. Johnson sat down on a rock and saw the Indians load his deer upon his horse and vanish in the direction of the Hassayampa. Some years later the Apache-Mohaves killed Johnson as he was mining alone, near Antelope Hill."

Journal Miner - loose, undated clipping

The Hog Johnson killing at Antelope creek, above Stanton. Indians ran mules across steep backbone to right of Rincon mine and on to top of hill over little peak and up range on left side of Antelope creek.

Hog Johnson was following higher up the creek - saw the Indians with the mules and thought them to be Mexicans, as they all had on Mexican hats captured from a wagon train of Wormser and Weitheimer, at Date creek, about a month before. They shot and killed Johnson before he could get away.

pencil notes in Governor's Mansion, Prescott - Sharlot Hall's writing.