

# MASON, CHARLES G.

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MASON, CHARLES G.

Born at \_\_\_\_\_ Maine, \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_ (about 1824).

Son of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Married \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_.

Children \_\_\_\_\_.

Listed, Territorial Census, April 1864, 3d District, (Yavapai County) age 40, single, born in Maine, occupation - Stonecutter; resident in Arizona 4 months; in reporting his death the Florence Citizen stated:

The deceased was one of the first settlers in this section of the Gila valley. He came here about thirteen years ago and with some companions located and commenced the cultivation and improvement of a large and fertile ranch. He continued in this occupation until 1875, when it was his good fortune to be one of the four original discoverers of the new famous Silver King mine.

This rich discovery at once secured for him a large fortune which enabled him to retire from the labor and hardships such as characterize the efforts of all frontier farmers and to pass his declining years in such manner as might best suit his inclinations. He is known and respected for his honesty and his energetic and industrious nature. He had many warm friends in this section and these were not forsaken by him in his prosperity.

Having his affairs in Arizona satisfactorily arranged he left with his family for Los Angeles last May where he had purchased a handsome home and where it was his intention to pass his latter days. He was spared but a brief period to enjoy the comforts of his new home.

The following is taken from an obituary in the Prescott Arizona

## Miner:

Col. Mason came to Arizona from California in 1863, and has ever since continued to reside with us and take an interest in the welfare of the Territory second to none, until very recently, when he came

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into possession of a handsome wealth, having sold a half interest in the celebrated Silver King mine, in Pinal County, to Col. James M. Barney for \$300,000, when he removed and took up residence among the orange and lemon groves of Los Angeles.

There is not a hill or ravine for miles around the village of Prescott but what has known his presence, for during the years of 1863 and 1864 they were his home, affording him shelter, and the gold from the ravines furnishing him the needful wherewith to purchase food.

Colonel Mason, about ten years since, took up his residence near the beautiful town of Florence, on the Gila, where he redeemed from a thorny, bushy state 160 acres of land and made it a productive home. It was while residing here that he made the trip with Jack Long and B. F. Reagan to the Picket Post mountains and found the wonderful King mine, which finally made him independent in a worldly point of view, the sweets of which he only lived to taste but a short time.

Died at San Francisco, California, July 28, 1878; buried  
Cemetery.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Farish, T.E. - History of Arizona, 1918, Vol. 6, pp. 49, 60.  
 Elliott & Co. - History of Arizona Territory, 1884, pp. 262-264  
 Barney, J. M. - Political Activities of the Territorial Governors,  
 Manuscript, 1942, p. 59.  
 The Citizen, Florence, August 2, 1878, 4:3 (obituary).  
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, August 9, 1878, 4:3 (obituary).  
 The Morning Call, San Francisco, Calif., August 4, 1878, 8:6 (death-notice)

#### WANTED

Obituaries in other Arizona newspapers and mention of him in the indexes.