

ROBERTS, JOHN MALORY

001

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Born at _____ North Carolina, _____ 18____ (about 1828) .

Son of _____ and _____ .

Listed, Territorial Census, April 1864, age 36, single, occupation - Miner, resident in Arizona 4 months; the following references to him were printed in the Prescott Arizona Miner:

November 1, 1873 - - John Roberts, one of the old-time citizens, has arrived at the Verde from Texas with 1700 head of cattle, which he and his partner, a Mr. Franks, sold to G. W. Bowers and Hugo. Richards.

February 5, 1875 - - J. M. Roberts, of Donahue, Cal., with whom we occupied a place at Bigelow's stove very pleasantly, but who went prospecting with Theo. Boggs just before the late storm, sends us by the hand of Ed. G. Peck some very rich specimens of copper ore, which, without pretending to be an expert, we estimate at 90 per cent copper, at least, besides an appearance of silver.

February 19, 1875 - - Theo. Boggs was in town after provisions, tools, etc. last Thursday and reports fair prospects at Copper Mountain, where he and J. M. Roberts, have located some 3,000 feet on a copper lode which is believed to be rich also in silver. Mr. Roberts sent us a specimen of the copper ore which he had roasted, and it is so full of metallic copper that it hangs together after being broken.

He also mentioned in the Prescott Courier:

April 1, 1882 - - Mr. John M. Roberts, who arrived in this part of Arizona in 1863, is up from the Agua Fria, 30 miles east of Prescott, where he has as good a cattle range as any in Arizona, well stocked with cattle and horses. He recently built himself a good dwelling house, has about 40 acres of wheat growing, and is going to erect wind mills, etc. Knowing him to be a good man we are pleased at his prosperity.

May 19, 1883 - - J. M. Roberts, a pioneer of pioneers, left for his home on the Agua Fria. While here he purchased the Old I. Q. Dickson-Wormser farm and range on the Agua Fria.... The Bell mine, about 15 miles S. E. of Prescott, was discovered by the late D. R. Poland,

ROBERTS, JOHN MALORY

- 2 -

who, in connection with John M. Roberts, proved its great value. They sold it to Chicago people from whom John Howell & Co., purchased the mine.

February 8, 1886 - - J. M. Roberts of the lower Agua Fria expects to have plenty of fat beeves as early as May.

The following report of his death is copied from a loose newspaper clipping dated September 7, 1889, found in the old Governor's Mansion in Prescott:

John M. Roberts died yesterday morning at his ranch on Agua Fria Creek, about 35 miles east of Prescott. This was the sad news brought here yesterday by his nephew, J. R. Lowry, and Mr. Ferguson, of Willow Creek. He was a pioneer of California and Arizona. Came here in 1863, returned to California a short time, came back and settled here permanently, putting money and labor into mines and stock.

An honest, quiet, unassuming man, he was as near faultless as any of God's creatures; never wronged man, woman or child by word or deed. He leaves two nephews, John R. Wells and Jas. R. Lowry, and other relatives here; also near and dear relatives in California and North Carolina. His remains will be laid away at his ranch. Hundreds of his old comrades in California and Arizona will be sorry to learn that they can see him no more on earth.

The above obituary was probably printed in the Prescott Courier since the following report of his death appeared in the Prescott Journal-Miner:

The many friends of John M. Roberts, both here and in California, will regret to learn of his death. His life of usefulness was brought to a close yesterday morning on his ranch on the Agua Fria, thirty-five miles east of Prescott. Relatives in California and Arizona are left to mourn his loss.

ROBERTS JOHN MALORY

- 3 -

Died at his home on the lower Agua Fria, Yavapai County, A.T., September 6, 1889, aged 61; the Probate Court records show that he had a half interest in a partnership with his nephew, John R. Wells, and that they owned farming and range land worth \$6,000 with cattle and other personal property valued at \$18,000.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Probate Court of Yavapai County - Docket No. 276a.
 The Great Register of Yavapai County, 1876, 1882-88.
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, November 1, 1873; February 5, 3:1 and February 19, 3:3; April 30, 1875, 3:1
 The Prescott Courier, April 1, 1882, 4:2; May 19, 1883, 3:1-2; February 8, 1886, 3:1 and September 7, 1889 (obituary?).
 The Journal Miner, Prescott, September 7, 1889, 3:1 (obituary).
 The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, November 15, 1873, 1:2 (reprint from the Arizona Miner of November 1, 1873).

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES TO HIM

The Alta California, San Francisco, March 29, 1869, 1:6.
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, January 4, 1868, 3:2; July 10, 1869, 3:1; October 12, 3:1, November 9, 1877, 4:3; February 15, 4:1, May 24, 4:2, August 23, 4:3; August 30, 4:3, October 25, 1878, 3:2.
 The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, March 13, 3:4, June 5, 1:3, July 10, 1878, 1:2.
 The Prescott Courier, May 20, 4:2, July 22, 1882, 4:3; April 10, 1885, 4:2; November 25, 1890, 2:1.
 The Journal Miner, Prescott, March 24, 1886, 3:2.
 The Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, October 11, 1883, 4:2; June 24, 1890, 3:3.