

THOMPSON, WILLIAM W.

Born at \_\_\_\_\_ North Carolina or Tennessee, January \_\_\_\_ 1800.

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

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

Children, DeWitt Clinton, Milan \_\_\_\_\_ (Dutch).

The following was printed in the Florence Arizona Enterprise at the time of his death:

He was born in North Carolina; emigrated to Alabama and from there went to Texas with the first party of colonists, with Stephen F. Austin in 1821. He served as a soldier in the war of the Texas Revolution under Sam Houston, Fannin and Milan, and was the first man with his family to move to Austin, the present capital of the State. Upon the discovery of gold in California he closed out his business in Austin and was one of the first party of emigrants who came over the southern route.

That he was interested in a ferry across the Colorado River is shown by a reference to him in Bell's "Log of the Texas - California Cattle Trail":

During my stay at Pilot Knob (1854) I made my home at Mr. Thompson's--one of the owners of the ferry, and must do him the justice to say that a cleverer man I have not met with for many a day. Mr. Thompson has been for several years an unsettled citizen of Sonora and California and in former times kept a hotel in Austin City; he anticipates a great run of customers for some time to come, from the immigration from Sonora.

Listed, U. S. Census, 1870, at Casa Blanca, Pima County, A.T., age 70, born in Kentucky, age 70, occupation - Clerk in store, property valued at \$1,000; the obituary in the Arizona Enterprise concludes:

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Uncle Billy, as he was familiarly called by his friends, was a remarkable man in a great many respects. His sight has been gradually failing him for some time past, but his intellect was clear to within a few hours of his death. He will be remembered by many old Arizonans as a good, kind hearted old man, who never willingly wronged anyone.

Died at Florence, Pinal County, A. T., February 28, 1882, aged 82; buried there.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Arizona Weekly Enterprise, Florence, March 4, 1882, 3:3  
The Prescott Courier, March 31, 1883, 1:5