

YATES, CHARLES

Born at _____ England _____ 18 ____ (about 1836).

Son of _____ and _____ .

Came to Arizona from California where he was naturalized as an American citizen at Los Angeles in 1857; listed, Territorial Census, April, 1864, 3d District, age 28, single, occupation - Laborer, resident in Arizona 2 years, property valued at \$160; U.S. Census, 1870, at Prescott, A.T., age 32, occupation - Farmer, property valued at \$200; he was a professional well digger as is shown by the following references to him in the Prescott

Arizona Miner.

August 24, 1877 -- Charles Yates was yesterday afternoon badly hurt by the falling of a tub of dirt in a well which he was digging for the Hon. E. J. Cook, at his new house in the eastern part of town. Yates was in the well and had filled a tub which his helper was drawing up, and when some ten feet from the bottom the rope broke, letting the tub and contents down on Yates' head, which is badly bruised, besides his collar-bone and two ribs are broken. Dr. McCandless attended to his wounds and we learned that he was doing well as could be hoped this afternoon.

It is now pretty well settled that Charley can't be killed in a well; he has had a number of accidents that would have finished off nearly everybody else, but he always manages to escape with his life.

May 23, 1879 --- Charley Yates, the explorer, is now engaged digging a hole through the earth with a view to opening up direct communication with Hong Keng, China, from Prescott. Charley says that the Chinese of the Pacific coast "must go", and he proposes to send them home via his route. Yates is heavy and generally accomplishes what he undertakes, therefore we conjecture that the pigtail race will soon leave us.

June 2, 1882 -- Charles Yates -- This gentleman, who lived many years in Prescott, recently went over to the old country, England, for the purpose of settling up his father's estate. We caught a glimpse of Charley, since his return home, and our first impression was that Lord Gladstone had dropped down in our midst. Mr. Yates comes to stay, and we would impress upon the gentleman, that a Mrs. should be added to the family.

An obituary printed in the Prescott Courier reads:

Charles Yates was found dead in bed in a room of his residence, in southeast Prescott, yesterday morning. His death is attributed to heart failure. He was a native of England; came to this county in 1863, and has resided here ever since. He came to Prescott from Texas but landed in New Orleans when he came from England. He has a brother some where in California. He was a pioneer well digger of Prescott and had followed the business of digging and cleaning out wells for years.

Died at Prescott, Yavapai County, A.T., October 24, 1901; buried

City

Cemetery.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Great Register of Yavapai County

The Prescott Courier, October 25, 1901, 1:9 (obituary)

The APACHE RIVER, Prescott, April 8, 1864, 5:3; April 9, 1875, 3:2;
August 24, 3:3, September 7, 1877, 3:1; May 23, 1879, 3:1;
June 2, 1882, 4:2

The Journal Miner, Prescott, June 2, 1898, 4:1; October 24, 1901,
4:3 (death notice)