

ALSAP, JOHN TABER

ALSAP, JOHN TABER, born at Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky, February 28, 1830; only son of Rev. John and Keziah (Randall) Alsap; married (1) Louisa A. Osborn, daughter of John Preston and Perlina Elizabeth (Swetnam) Osborn, at Prescott, A. T., June 6, 1866, who died in 1867; (2) Anna Dugan Murray, daughter of William P. and Margaret (White) Murray, at Phoenix, A. T., September 7, 1876; children, Alton Pinkney, who died March 14, 1885, when only eleven months and fourteen days old; John Wormser (1882-1939; Albion Guy (1885-1935); daughters, Margaret Beatrice, Genevieve M., and Florence Anna (Mrs. Clifford McKee).

The following account of his early life was printed in the Tucson Arizona Citizen on February 13, 1875, along with brief biographies of other members of the 8th Territorial Legislature:

At the age of two, his parents emigrated to Ohio, and at ten to Indiana near Fort Wayne, and he with them of course. At the latter place he remained until seventeen, when he studied medicine with Dr. John Cole Morton, at Marion, Ohio. Then he returned to Indiana, remained about one year; thence went to Illinois and practiced medicine a year; thence to Missouri, where he traded in stock and also practiced medicine. Arrived in California in the latter part of 1853, where he was a stock-trader, miner and farmer until late in 1863, when he came to Arizona and where he has since continuously resided.

Arrived at the Walker Diggings on Lynx Creek in November, 1863, and not long afterwards he was with Samuel C. Miller and Con Moore when they were attacked by Apaches between Granite Creek and Lynx Creek, Miller being slightly wounded in the thigh; at a meeting of citizens of Lynx Creek on March 14, 1864, he was appointed as one of a Committee of three to prepare and present to Governor Goodwin resolutions urging that soldiers be stationed in the vicinity for protection against hostile Indians.

As a member of the second Woolsey Expedition against the Apaches March 29 to April 1864, he was mentioned by Henry Clifton who wrote:

On April 1st, while we were at Cane Creek, Artemus Ingalls came into camp with two arrow wounds - one in the back and another in the right shoulder --- On reaching camp his wounds were dressed by Dr. Alsap and, although I think he is badly injured, the general impression is that he will recover.

Clifton later reported that about daybreak on April 8, on the headwaters of Clear Creek:

John Donohugh, while on guard, was shot through the neck with an arrow. Dr. Alsap extracted the arrow and dressed the wound. The arrow passed between the windpipe and the jugular vein, the point merely pricking through on the other side. Donohugh has since recovered.

The report of a meeting held at Woolsey's Ranch on the Agua Fria before the expedition disbanded on April 17, states that:

"Messrs. Al-sap, Beauchamp and Clifton were appointed a committee on resolutions, and proposed the following, which were unanimously adopted:

"RESOLVED-- That these men who have or shall volunteer to fight the Indians in this Territory, should, in their absence on such duty, be protected in any rights or claims they may have in the Territory, either in placers, quartz, or water-claims, and that we pledge ourselves to support and protect them against any and all persons, who may attempt to deprive them of such rights, by reason of any alleged default of work or improvement during their absence, or for 60 days thereafter. "

Listed, Territorial Census, April 1864, age 34, occupation - Physician, resident in Arizona 5 months, property valued at \$150; from April 25 to May 28, 1864, he served as Acting Recorder of the Walker Quartz Mining District ; between July 24 and December 31, 1864, he joined with others in locations on the Lawrence, Franklin, Brooklin, Florence, Fulton, Pine Forest and Curtin lodes; on January 2, 1865, he located a quarter section of auxillary land for the purpose of working ores from the Lawrence, Brooklin and other quartz lodes in the Walker District.

Appointed by Governor Goodwin as the first Territorial Treasurer on December 21, 1864 and served until December 31, 1867, when he was succeeded by John B. Allen; elected from Yavapai County to the 5th Territorial Council and was its President at Tucson, November 10, to December 16, 1868.

His name appears at Agua Fria in the Sheriff's Census of Yavapai County taken in April, 1869, but later that year he moved to the Salt River Valley where he is listed in the 1870 Census as a farmer; reelected from Yavapai County to the 6th Territorial Council which met in Tucson, January 11, 1871, and sponsored a bill creating Maricopa County; appointed by Governor Safford as the first Probate Judge and ex-officio School Superintendent of Maricopa County on February 21, 1871; reappointed to a second term February 15, 1873, and served until January 1, 1875; admitted to the bar at Phoenix, May 7, 1872.

With James T. Murphy and J. P. Perry he served on a Commission for the Salt River Valley Town Association that laid out the town of Phoenix in 1870 on the North $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 8, Township 1 North, 3 East, which was patented to him as Probate Judge and Trustee on April 10, 1874; elected the first Secretary of the Democratic Territorial Central Committee at its formation in February, 1873.

Served as Secretary of the 7th Territorial Council at Tucson, 1873; elected from Maricopa County to the 8th Territorial Legislature and served as Speaker of the House at Tucson, 1875; was Secretary of the 9th Territorial Council at Tucson, 1877; elected to be District Attorney of Maricopa County, 1877-78; Member of the House from Maricopa County, 10th Legislature, at Prescott, 1879; appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County and served from August 5, 1879, to December 31, 1880; when the City of Phoenix was

was incorporated on February 25, 1881; he was elected as the first Mayor.

Was the first Master of Azlan Lodge, F&A.M. at Prescott, 1865-67 and the first Master of Arizona Lodge at Phoenix 1878-79; the first Grand Master of Masons of Arizona, 1882; member, Society of Arizona Pioneers, Tucson, 1884.

The following references to him were printed in the Tucson

ARIZONA CITIZEN:

May 7, J. T. Alsap, W. A. Hancock, J. R. Darroche and E. Irvine were admitted to practice in the District Court.

May 18, 1872, 3:2

John T. Alsap admitted to practice in Supreme Court of Territory.

January 25, 1873, 3:2

John T. Alsap of Maricopa County. Secretary of Territorial Democratic Organization at its formation.

February 22, 1873. _____

The Chairman briefly stated the object of the meeting (at Tucson) to be to consider and adopt such measures as may be necessary for the complete and thorough organization of the Democratic party in this Territory. On motion, J. T. Alsap was elected Secretary.

March 1, 1873, 3:3

Hon. J. T. Alsap, Superintendent of Public Schools, has been a faithful laborer in behalf of education in Maricopa County, for which I tender him my thanks.

(Report of Governor Safford on Education in Arizona)

March 15, 1873, 1:5

J. T. Alsap has been appointed Justice of the Peace for Phoenix precinct.

December 20, 1873, 4:2

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- ✓ 5th to 10th Arizona Legislative Assemblies - Journals, 1868 to 1870.
 - ✓ Chapman Publishing Company - Portrait and Biographical Records of Arizona, Chicago, 1901, pp. 171 - 172.
 - ✓ Farish, T. E. - History of Arizona, Phoenix, 1915-18; Vol. 2, p. 266; Vol. 3, pp. 27, 189, 215, 255, 274; Vol. 4, p. 163; Vol. 5, pp. 33, 34; Vol. 6, pp. 86, 91, 124, 133, 312, 270-71.
 - ✓ Sloan & Adams - History of Arizona, Phoenix, 1930, pp. 172, 176.
 - ✓ McClintock, J. H. - Legislative History of Arizona, Phoenix, 1926, pp. 320, 332, 566, 568.
 - ✓ Kelly, G.H. - Legislative History of Arizona, Phoenix, 1926, pp. 17, 24, 41, 48, 49, 52, 66, 76, 88, 360.
 - ✓ W. W. Elliott & Co., - History of Arizona Territory, San Francisco, 1884, pp. 275, 308-313.
 - ✓ Fish, Joseph, - History of Arizona - Manuscript, p. 384.
 - ✓ Hinton, H. J. - Handbook to Arizona, San Francisco, 1878, Appendix, p. 58.
 - ✓ Disturnell, W. C., - Arizona Business Directory and Gazetteer, San Francisco, 1881, p. 151.
 - ✓ Barnes, W. C., - Arizona Place Names, Tucson, 1935, p. 16.
 - ✓ M. W. Grand Lodge of Arizona, F. & A. M. - Proceedings, 1887.
 - ✓ W. P. A. - Inventory of Maricopa County Archives, Phoenix, 1940, pp. 10, 13, 14, 24, 27, 55, 267, 356, 358, 362, 366, 374.
 - ✓ Barney, J. H., - Political Activities of the Territorial Governors - Manuscript, 1942, pp. 4, 11, 14, 35, 50, 53, 58, 61, 62, 63, 64.
 - ✓ Arizona Pioneers Historical Society, Tucson - Membership Book and Minutes, October 5, 1886.
- Yavapai and Maricopa County Marriage Records.
- Probate Court of Maricopa County - Docket No. 157.
- The Arizona Miner, Prescott, - June, October, December, 1864; January, February, May, June, October, 1866; February and May, 1867; January, February and November, 1868; January and February, 1869; April, August and November, 1870; January, 1871; March, May, September and November, 1872; January and December, 1873; March, June and July, 1874; January, May and November, 1875; and September 1876 and September 1886.
- The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, - May 1872; January, February, March and December, 1873; January, November and December, 1874; February, 1875; and September, 1876.
- The Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, - December 1880; June, August, September, October and December 1881; April, May, October and November, 1883; April and November, 1884; May and June, 1885; and September 1886.
- The Phoenix Herald, Phoenix, - January and May, 1878; January and August, 1879; March, 1880; April, May and July and August, 1881; September, 1886; and October, 1889.
- The Prescott Courier, Prescott, - September, 1886.
- The Prescott Arizona Journal Miner, - September 1886
- The Arizona Republican, Phoenix, - April 13, 1921 and April 10, 1940
- The Territorial Expositor, Phoenix, - August 8, 1879.
- The Weekly Enterprise, Florence, - January, 1891; March, 1892.