

ATCHISSON, HIEROM

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ATCHISSON, HIEROM, a younger brother of Captain Charles Atchisson, born on a farm in Hamilton County, Illinois, October 18, 1834; married (1) Marietta Richardson about 1870 who died on February 6, 1884, (2) Margaret Evaline Atchisson on December 30, 1886; children, Charles, Harvey, Edgar, Hiram, Ada, Mary, Sarah, Lillie May, Clara M., Alma A. and Hattie M.

Went to California in 1853 and engaged in mining; enlisted in Company I, 4th California Infantry at Nevada City, California, October 7, 1861, and became a Sergeant; served under his hi-other in California and Arizona Territory until honorably discharged by expiration of enlistment at Drum Barracks, California, October 3, 1864; listed, Territorial Census, 1864, at Fort Mohave, age 29, occupation - Soldier, resident in Arizona 10 months.

After his discharge he returned to Mohave City, A.T., where he became a Government contractor and engaged in merchandising and mining; went back to Illinois/and engaged in farming at the place where he was born until the death of his first wife in 1884 when he returned to Arizona where he was associated with his brother in mining and merchandising for two years; again resumed farming on the old homestead and in 1887 owned 400 acres 7 miles west of McLeansboro; when he applied for a pension in 1890 his brother Charles executed an affidavit/^{stating}that he became disabled on July 1, 1864, at Fort Mohave, Arizona, in the following manner:

He was reported to have received a blow on the left side of the head from a club in the hands of a drunken Indian. I was not present at the time and did not see him receive the blow but I heard of it and know that the claimant was partially deaf in the left ear after he was reported to have received the blow.

The claimant is my brother and I was Captain of the Company and I know his hearing was good prior to this and since *coon* after he was reported to have received this blow he has been partially deaf in that ear.

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His first vote was for Buchanan for President in California in 1856, but later he became a Republican; Member, F. & A. M. and of the G. A. R; died in Hamilton County, Illinois, February 14, 1918, aged 83.

WINFIELD S. PIERSON, born in New York about 1822, was a soldier in the same Company who enlisted at Stockton, California, on February 24, 1862; his family accompanied him to Fort Mohave and their names appear in the 1864 Territorial Census as Mrs. E. Pierson, age 31, a native of Indiana, and four sons, H. J. age 10, born in Texas, Charles A., 6, born in Kansas, George H., age 2, and Willie W., age 1, both born in California; the death of his wife was reported in a letter from another soldier (probably Alonzo E. Davis) printed in the San Francisco Alta California on October 3, 1864:

It is but a few days that Company I was called to mourn the loss of Mrs. Pierson, wife of Corporal Pierson, of our Company. By her good qualities of heart Mrs. Pierson has endeared her memory to all with whom for the past three years she has been in the constant society. Not one of the whole Company that followed her to the grave but was a deep and sincere mourner. This is the first death that has occurred in our garrison since we have been here, some 16 months.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Goodspeed Pub. Co. - History of Gallatin, Saline and Hamilton Counties, Illinois, 1887, pp. 672-673.
Orton, R. H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, 1890, p. 657.
The Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records.
U. S. Veterans Administration - pension records, W. C. 719, 256.
The Alta California, San Francisco, October 3, 1864, 1:5.