

# BARTH, SOLOMON

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BARTH, SOLOMON, born at Krutochin, Province of Posen, Prussia, May 13, 1842, son of Samuel and Fredricka Barth; married Refugia Landavaza (1856-1921), daughter of Francisco and Clarita (Sanches) Landavaza, at Cubero, New Mexico, on June 30, 1874; children, Isaac, Clara, Cecelia, Jacob, Maurice, Ricka, Adelaide (Mrs. Joseph Backstein) and Charlotte (Mrs. William Taylor).

Came to America at the age of 13, where he had an older brother; crossed the plains to Utah in 1855 with an emigrant train; went on from there to San Bernardino, California, arriving in 1856; in the winter 1860-61, he made a round trip from San Bernardino to Tucson driving a freight team; came to LaPaz in 1862 where he was employed by Michael Goldwater; in 1863, he and Aaron Barnett were supplied by Goldwater with a stock of goods which they took to the Weaver diggings and established a store where they did a flourishing business, exchanging merchandise and liquor for gold dust. Early mining records made at LaPaz show that on July 7, 1863, he paid \$150 to Alex Jacoby for an undivided 50 foot interest in the north extension of the Vickburg lode claim in the Weaver District.

He had a pack train of burros which was loaded with flour at Ehrenberg to sell to the miners of the Walker Party on Lynx Creek; when he arrived there in the middle of the winter of 1863-64, Captain J. R. Walker seized all of the flour and divided it equally among the miners but paid him for it at the rate of \$25 per hundred pounds with gold dust valued at \$18 an ounce; early in 1864 he went as far east as Zuni with a pack train of 70 burros loaded with goods to

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trade with the Indians and on the return trip brought salt from the Zuni salt lake to Prescott; he later traded the burro train to C. B. Genung and W. H. Kirkland for a ranch in Peeples Valley which he owned for a short time but did not develop.

The Great Register of Apache County shows that he was naturalized as an American citizen in the District Court of Mohave County in 1864; that same year he and Benjamin Block obtained a subcontract to carry the mail on horseback once a week between Prescott and Albuquerque via Zuni; two mail carriers employed by them were killed by Indians; in 1866, they were the successful bidders on the mail contract between Albuquerque and Fort Stanton, New Mexico, and were also awarded a mail contract from Prescott via Maricopa Wells to Tucson and Tubac which they sublet to Aaron and Louis Zeckendorf of Albuquerque.

In 1867 he settled near Cubero, New Mexico, where he engaged in freighting and merchandising; for some time that year he acted as guide for survey parties under William H. Greenwood, the Chief Engineer, who were locating a railroad route across northern Arizona.

He left Cubero in 1868 with six mounted men and a pack train to trade goods with the Coyotero Apaches on Cibecue Creek; they were then invited to trade with other Apaches near the present site of Fort Apache where his animals and goods were seized and he and the other men stripped of everything but their shorn by a visiting band of Chiricaha Apaches under Cochise; Pedro, the Chief of the White Mountain

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**Apaches, arrived** in time to save their **lives**, but they had to walk practically naked to **Zuni** where they arrived after four **days** with nothing to eat but tuna cactus fruit and the carcass of a **small** dog which followed them **from** the **Indian camp**.

He became the **first sutler** at **Camp Ord** (later called **Fort Apache**) when **that army post** was established on **May 16, 1870**, and conducted a store there for a **year**; his brother **Jacob** came to the United States prior to his arrival and his younger **brothers**, **Morris** and **Nathan** came to **Fort Wingate** and **Camp Apache** from the rail head of the **Atlantic** and **Pacific** ( **now Santa Fe Pacific**) **railroad**, then being built westward from **Fort Dodge, Kansas**; they eventually built up their **train** to **38** **Murphy** wagons with **4** **yokes** of oxen to each **wagon**.

The Army Quartermasters at **Fort Wingate** and **Camp Apache** were **paying** **10** cents a pound for **oats**, **barley** and **corn** and **\$50** a ton for **unbaled** hay when the **Barths** decided to grow grain by irrigation from the Little Colorado and to cut the wild hay that grew **nearby**; in **1871** they settled a **party** consisting mostly of drivers of the ox train and their **families** at the **Rock Crossing**, afterwards known as **The Meadows**; in the spring of **1874**, the settlement was moved **3** miles up stream to **El Vado** (the ford) which later became the town of **St. Johns**.

About that time he **was** very successful in a card game **with** some New Mexico sheep men winning a considerable sum of money and a large number of sheep which he afterwards **grazed** on **range lands** near the Little Colorado **River**; the Prescott Arizona Miner of October **15, 1877**, printed the following **item**:

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Sol Barth, of St. Johns, Little Colorado, came in this morning with 90,000 lbs. of barley for C. P. Head & Co. This barley is raised at Stinson's ranch (Snowflake), and is said to be of excellent quality. Sol and his brothers are in the stock and freighting business on the Little Colorado where they have been for several years. Sol was a merchant in Prescott and Wickenburg in 1864 in company with Aaron Barnett.

By an Act of the 10th Territorial Legislature, approved February 13, 1879, he was granted the exclusive right to build a toll bridge across the Little Colorado River at St. Johns; at that same session of the Legislature, the County of Apache was created, largely through his influence; the Act fixed the County seat at Snowflake but at the first election he successfully campaigned for its removal to St. Johns.

On November 16, 1879, he concluded a trade with Ammon M. Tenney, representing the Mormon Church, whereby he transferred his interest in 1200 acres of unpatented land near St. Johns for 700 head of American cows valued at \$19,000; with these cattle and the increase from the sheep that he won in the Monte game, he became well established in the livestock business.

He was instrumental in bringing all remaining members of his family to this country, with the exception of his mother who had died in the old country. His name appears in the 1880 Census at St. Johns, age 38, with his brothers, Morris, age 30, and Nathan, age 26, all listed as natives of Posen, Prussia, and all engaged in stockraising. In November of that year he was elected to represent

Apache County in the Territorial Council and served in the 11th Legislature which met at Prescott on January 3, 1881; he again represented Apache County in the upper house of the 19th Territorial Legislature at Phoenix in 1897.

In addition to his livestock interests he maintained a mercantile establishment and hotel at St. Johns, where he died on November 30, 1928, aged 86; buried in the Eastside Cemetery at St. Johns.

He was very active in the business and political life of Apache County, and at times it might be said that his life was hectic, as will be observed from the following references to him in news articles:

The store of Barth & Barnett, on Montezuma Street, next to the post office is also a creditable building. The proprietors have a well assorted supply of goods, and are soon to have more from California, where Mr. Barnett has been lately. Barth and Barnett are enterprising young men. They also have a store at Weaver.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT. September 7, 1864; 3-2

Barnett & Barth. Dealers in general merchandise. Prescott and Weaver. We have just received a fine assortment of all kinds of goods consisting of groceries, provisions, boots and shoes, hats and caps, dry goods, hardware, queensware and tinware. We are prepared to give you the best article at the lowest cash prices ever sold in this section of the Territory. Call and examine our stock. A large quantity of flour just received, and for sale at the very lowest market price.-- Adv.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT. September 21, 1864; 3-2

Messrs Barnett & Barth have just received a large and well selected stock of wines, liquors and cigars. Give them a call. They have a large stock of goods, and are gentlemanly and obliging.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT. October 5, 1864; 3-1

Barnett & Barth are agents for Grants Express to La Paz and San Bernardino. They have late California papers.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT. October 26, 1864; 3-1

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"Arizona is not a paradise. This portion north of the Gila and east of the Colorado, is all I refer to. We have here a peculiar climate, generally dry, and now warm days, hot at noon, cool as soon as the sun sets and at midnight and til morning I find four or five pounds of Mission blankets none too many for comfort. There is not a surplus of agricultural land, though much that has not been located on. Wages are \$50 per month and board, and laborers not much in demand. Several quartz mills are reported as on the way hither; until they arrive we expect dull times. No one who has lived here a year presumes to think that even this portion of the Territory is half prospected, yet we "old 'uns" are all waiting for the troops from California, and emigration, so that we can go a little further east, where the Indian hunters have been and brought back good reports. The Apache rules the land now. No man feels safe half a mile out from the settlements. Twenty-three of my own acquaintances, have been killed, stripped, and mangled by the Indians during the past year. Cattle, horses, burros and mules daily are reported missing. Mr. Van Tassell, formerly of El Dorado County, California, has lost sixty head of animals the past year. He has lived six miles below Wickenburg on a fine ranch property, which he was improving, and at the same time working quartz from the Vulture. March 23d, the last of his animals were taken, and his herder, Oscar Cress, killed -- shot with seventeen arrows. March 27th, a Mr. Summers, on his way from Prescott, was killed near Wickenburg. April 10th, Wm. Smith, living three miles below Wickenburg, lost 15 fine horses, which he had just brought in from California, valued at \$2,000. His herder, a man named Weaver, was killed. The same day a pack train of burros, laden for Barnett and Barth, was taken about thirty miles from Prescott, while on the way up from LaPaz. A Mexican, the owner of the animals, was killed. The goods were worth about \$2,000.

"Tis thus we live in Yavapai County, Arizona. Next month we look for the beginning of a change. With the advent of 2,800 troops will come safety, and with safety prosperity. With the present prospects, who would urge his mining friends in California to come to Arizona. Host certainly not your correspondent. (Excerpt from Letter directed to Editor, from man named Norton, Prescott, dated April 20, 1864, resident correspondent of the paper named below)

THE ALTA CALIFORNIA, San Francisco.

May 15, 1865; 1-6

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From Messrs. Young and Bryant, who recently came through from New Mexico, we learn that while they were in camp at Zuni, SOL BARTH ("Little Sol.") and George Clinton, formerly of this County, with some Mexicans arrived at the villages from the White Mountains almost naked and in a starving condition. They had left Zuni but a short time previous, with a pack train of some twenty head of animals, loaded with goods and trinkets specially suited for trade with the Indians. With them was an Indian guide.

After crossing the Mogollon range and descending into the valley of the Rio de los Milpas, and while going through a deep and narrow box canyon, the members of the party were seized, one by one, by Indians, deprived of their arms, stripped of their clothing and threatened with death, and would have been murdered but for the interference of an Indian who knew SOL.

After being released by the Indians they took the trail for Zuni, distant 80 or 90 miles, without food of any description, arms, and but very little clothing -- some of them having been stripped of their boots. When the pangs of hunger became unbearable, they killed a dog which accompanied them and lived upon the meat for five days. SOL told Messrs. Bryant and Young that the Indians who robbed him belonged to Ca-chais' band, but we doubt this very much, as Ca-chais and his band live over 100 miles south of where he said he was robbed.. The robbers, no doubt, belonged to the bands of Sierra Ancha and Miguel, who live at the White Mountain and who, occasionally go down to Fort Goodwin, on the Gila, to draw Government rations.

If what we have heard of SOL BARTH be correct, we do not pity him for his misfortune. It is believed here and in New Mexico that he has been in the habit of trading these Indians powder, lead and arms, and if such be the case, we regret that they did not take him down to the village and let their squaws torture him to death.

THE ARIZONA MINER. PRESCOTT.

November 14, 1868; 2-1

Moses Barth, brother of SOL BARTH, formerly of this place, was in the guard house at Fort Wingate for trading powder and lead to Apaches.

THE ARIZONA MINER. PRESCOTT.

July 2, 1870; 3-2

SOL BARTH had put in a very low bid for carrying mail from Albuquerque to Prescott, and it was feared he would get the contract.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT.

March 25, 1871; 3-4

On the Little Colorado beyond Camp Apache, July 27, Charles Davis, (colored) in the employ of Ewing & Curtis, got into a fight with SOLOMON BARTH, and lost his life in the operation.

THE ARIZONA CITIZEN, TUCSON.

August 9, 1873; 2-1

At the bridge, crossing the Little Colorado, are the two brothers, SOLOMON and Maurice BARTH, and their families, to whom I am under great obligation for kindness. They are both active business men and have made locations near Mr. Werner. From the bridge up the Little Colorado for forty miles there is much choice farming land which is being settled up as far as Milligan's, which is near the boundary line between Arizona and New Mexico.

THE ARIZONA CITIZEN, TUCSON.

August 14, 1875; 1-3

SOL BARTH, of St. Johns, Little Colorado, came in this morning with 90,000 pounds of barley for C. P. Head & Co. This barley is raised at Stinson's ranch (Snowflake), and is said to be of excellent quality. SOL and his brothers are in the stock and freighting business on the Little Colorado, where they have been for several years. SOL was a merchant in Prescott and Wickenburg in 1864 in company with Aaron Barnett.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT.

October 19, 1877; 4-2

J. H. Lee, of the American Ranch, one of our thrifty business men, has traded his band of 2,500 sheep to MR. SOL BARTH, for 26 yoke of oxen, eight wagons and two thousand dollars in money. Mr. Lee claims to have lost money in sheep-raising during the last three years and imagines that he can manage money and an ox train to a better and much more lucrative advantage.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT.

December 28, 1877; 4-1

The MINER (C.W. Beach) accuses SOL BARTH, of Little Colorado, of being a thief and of having attempted to kill some one. It wants a Grand Jury to investigate SOL, who has investigated the proprietor of the MINER, and furnished proof to this office that Mr. Proprietor's character isn't like that of Caesar's wife. But that's nothing new. SOL has requested publication of facts furnished by him, but we really do not care to set the MINER man any "higher" in the scale of villany than he is known to rank. 'Twould only elate him.

THE ARIZONA ENTERPRISE SUPPLEMENT, PRESCOTT. November 23, 1878; 1-5.

ANOTHER FALSEHOOD. -- The ENTERPRISE says that we want a Grand Jury empannelled to look into certain irregularities of which SOL BARTH is accused as being Captain Grande. We have not mentioned SOL BARTH'S name, although we might should we feel so disposed; and, by referring to our old files, say something mean and low about him in the language of J. H. Marion.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT.

November 29, 1878; 4-1



On the 17th ult. the people of this precinct, by a general invitation from those of St. Johns, were requested to meet them in "joint convention", at the latter place, on the 1st inst., for the purpose of selecting a County ticket, to be voted for at the ensuing election, and to decide upon the future site, either St. Johns or this place, for the seat of the County Government. Pursuant to this invitation, Messrs. Milligan, Colter, Rudd, Franklin, and Baca, for the Springerville precinct, and Roman Lopez and others for the Concho precinct, went to the so-called "joint convention." But, what was their surprise and astonishment, upon arriving there, to be informed that SOL EARTH must nominate all the candidates and dictate the action of the convention; and that the County seat must be located at St. Johns by his simple fiat. Such at least was the diction of His Royal Nibs, the would be Mogul of Apache County. Therefore, the people of Springerville and quite a number of the respectable citizens of St. Johns are now determined not to allow this Lamanite or anyone else of like reputation, to run the County of Apache nor any part thereof, "if the Court knows itself." Mr. Barth laid a nice trap to catch the Springerville people, but like the fellow who was a "little too smart", he overreached himself and fell headlong into his own pitfall. The people of St. Johns, that is Sol Barth, for he says: "I am the people", proposed to allow Round Valley to choose the candidates and they agreed to support them, but Mr. B. must be allowed to dictate who they shall be. Liberal Dick! What angelic magnanimity! To Mr. Milligan belongs the credit of unearthing his trick and showing the people the deep laid schemes by which he, Sol Barth, proposed to bankrupt the new County of Apache.

It is not generally known outside how, through the false and tricky machinations of this man Barth, we have no Sheriff, but two Supervisors, and possibly no District Attorney. In other words, Barth by his "smooth-ephe" representations procured the influence of that prophetic executive intellect (?) from the South in conjugation with a couple of lesser intellectual lights from the North, so imposed upon the good understanding of his Excellency, the Governor, as to have appointed to the office of Sheriff, one of his (Barth's) shepherders, ditto Supervisor, and so far as the District Attorney is concerned, if he concerns anyone, he is simply a "ninny" in the plastic hands of Solomon. No one blames the Mexican for holding the office of Sheriff, but only for being a polo blanco for Sol Barth. The poor Mexican can neither read, write nor speak a word of English; neither is he cursed with the accomplishment of making "pot-hooks" even in his own language. Under these circumstances, Sol is the Sheriff de facto if not de jure by appointment. The Mexican Supervisor is not a bad fellow by any means, but as he is one of Sol's Sheepmen, consequently is under the absolute control of the "great and good rabbi." This is a nice state of affairs and now the mischief Governor Fremont could have been imposed upon by this notorious fraud is a mystery to the respectable people of Apache County, both Mormon and Gentile.

The respectable element of the, Gentile and Mormon population are opposed to this "bird of ill omen," this parasitical vampire, which has settled upon the vitals of St. Johns, and like that loathsome reptile, sucking up its very existence. They are firmly determined that this fellow shall nevermore dictate to the honest voters of this part of the Territory whom they shall select to administer their public affairs.

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These remarks may appear at first sight to be a little too harsh, but any man -- the Miner man for instance -- who has known the subject of these desultory remarks will say, and truly, that language as portrayed upon paper for publication, cannot do justice to the subject.

Springerville, A. T. May 4, 1879

Beta.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT.

May 23, 1879; 4-2,3

Hon. Sol Barth, a member of the last Council, from Apache County.

Mr. Milligan (of Springerville) informs us that Sol Barth has sold his property at St. Johns to the Mormons, taking 750 head of cows in payment.

THE ARIZONA MINER, PRESCOTT.

December 5, 1879; 2-1

An Act in the Session Laws of 1879, page 64, No. 40, granted the exclusive right to Solomon Barth and his associates and successors to build, maintain, and keep a bridge across the Little Colorado River at St. Johns, in the County of Yavapai.

SESSION LAWS -ARIZONA -1879.

Solomon Barth, from Apache County, was born in Prussia in 1843. He came to California in 1856, living at San Bernardino, where he filled the position of clerk in the store of Wolf & Fox. He is an old pioneer, coming to Arizona in 1862, settling in LaPaz, thence to Antelope Hill, Wickenburg and Prescott, following the business of merchandising, being connected with A. Barnett. He built and occupied as a store the building now occupied by the Arizona Miner. In 1866 he moved to New Mexico, and after nine years he returned to our Territory, settling at what is now the City of St. Johns, he being the first settler, and has resided there ever since, following the business of stock raising and freighting. This is his first session in the Legislature. He was with Col. Woolsey in several of his Indian campaigns, notably those of Bloody Tanks and Tonto Basin.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

January 28, 1881; 1-1

Judge Stilwell denies the writ of mandamus compelling the Sheriff of Pima to assess the property inside the limits of Graham County. He believes that the later Acts of the Legislature were valid. The bill creating Graham County was one of the last bills passed, and it was done only for the purpose of making the Hon. Sol Barth, of Apache, vote for the repeal of the bullion

tax and the moving of the Capital to Tucson. It did not have that effect. We believe that eight votes out of every ten would be polled today to go back to the former order of things. If these Acts are illegal why did the Judges sitting as a Supreme Court -- Stillwell among them -- refuse a writ of mandamus compelling the Territorial Auditor to pay the extra compensation voted to members of the last Legislature in the last bill passed by them? We believe that Graham County was unnecessarily but constitutionally created. We believe that the Act granting additional compensation to legislators was as valid and should have been complied with. -- Silver Belt.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

May 26, 1881; 4-1

Hon. Sol Barth, of St. Johns, Arizona, arrived in the City yesterday. To a Journal reporter he gave the following particulars of his exciting and romantic adventures with the Apache Indians on the road. St. Johns is about fifty miles south of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad. Sol Barth is a noted ranchman in that region, having stores, flocks and herds. He is a State Senator, and quite prominent in the political affairs of the Territory. Once in three months he comes to the City and buys a stock of goods.

Last week, accompanied by two men, he started over the long route from St. Johns to civilization. When passing through a lonely canon in the Zuni Mountains he was astonished to see a band of Indians circling around a pyramid of rock, yelling and firing their guns. Upon the top of the rock was a Mexican mountaineer with his wife and children.

No sooner did Sol take in the situation than he charged the Indians, putting the squad, eighteen in number, to flight, relieving the Mexican and family from a certain death. He found the little children crying for water, but otherwise they were uninjured.

Escorting the family to a place of safety, and leaving one of his men to help repel any attack the Indians might make, Mr. Barth, with one assistant, pushed on toward this City. They were confronted by a band of Indians, but their actions seeming peaceful, Barth thought them friendly Navajoes, and allowed them to come within speaking distance of the buggy in which he and his companion were riding, when the Indians suddenly opened fire, mortally wounding his companion. The horse became frightened and overturned the buggy. Mr. Barth seized his Winchester, and protected by the buggy-bed, he drove off his assailants, capturing one of the Indian ponies. Securing the pony, and putting his wounded companion in the buggy, he drove on. When near the town of El Rita he heard firing, and on approaching the town the Indians turned and attacked him. The people of the town turned out, and soon the Indians were driven off. At El Rita the wounded man died. ---

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

Loose Clipping at Museum dated August 1881.

Hon. S. Barth, a member of the 11th Legislature from Apache County, recently had a thrilling trip to Albuquerque, as may be seen by the following special from that place, dated August 15th: "Sol Barth, a merchant of St. Johns, Arizona, drove his team through last week via Alamosa. He was attacked

on the 7th near Rio Quemado, 140 miles from here, by 18 Indians, who killed Juan Salas, who sat by his side. The horses ran away and BARTH escaped. The reds killed two men in Rio Quemado the same day. The same party of Indians attacked BARTH thirty-five miles southwest of Belen, but were repulsed. He says that the road is lined with dead oxen and sheep, and that the tenth is fearful. The Indians have burned all the ranches within their reach. The number of persons killed within the past ten days is known to exceed twenty. Captain Parker met BARTH at the Cienega last Friday morning, and the latter gave him a guide and showed him the direction taken by the Indians. The Indians were dressed as citizens, with clothing captured from Baca's train, and no harm was suspected until they came to close quarters".

THE ARIZONA GAZETTE, PHOENIX.

August 24, 1881; 3-2

DENVER, August 17, -- The Tribune's Santa Fe Special says: "Nana with about forty Indians, some of his own band and some Navajos, are going South. They are well armed and mounted. The team of SOL BARTH, a merchant of St. Johns, was attacked on the 17th near Rio Quemado, 140 miles from here, by 18 Indians. Juan Salas, who sat at BARTH'S side, was killed. The latter escaped by the horses running away. The Indians killed two men on the Rio Quemado on the same day. Last Thursday the same party of Indians attacked BARTH 25 miles southeast of Belen, but were repulsed. He said the road is alive with dead oxen and sheep and that the Indians have burned all the ranches within their reach. The number of persons killed by Indians in the last ten days is known to exceed twenty. BARTH was met by Parker at Cienega last Friday morning and gave him a guide, and informed him of the depredations. The Captain with twenty well mounted soldiers, started in pursuit, being only six hours behind. The Indians are dressed in citizen's clothes, captured from Baca's train, and cannot be distinguished except at close quarters."

THE PINAL DRILL, PINAL CITY. .

August 27, 1881; 4-1

The father of SOL and NATHAN BARTH died recently at St. Johns, Apache County. His remains were taken to Michigan for interment.

THE PRESCOTT COURIER, PRESCOTT.

May 6, 1882; 1-6

JON. SOL BARTH, a member of the last Council, from Apache County, arrived in Phoenix this morning. He has just returned from Germany, where he conveyed for interment the remains of his father, who died while on a visit to this country.

THE ARIZONA GAZETTE, PHOENIX.

June 6, 1882; 3-1

Hon. Sol Barth, the Father of Apache County of which he is a pioneer, is in this city on his way home from Europe. He has hosts of friends here who would be pleased to have him stay with us forever.

THE PRESCOTT COURIER.

June 10, 1882; 3-1

The Apache Chief is urging at this early day, the nomination of Sol Barth as joint councilman for Apache, Yavapai, Mohave, Yuma and Maricopa Counties.

THE ARIZONA GAZETTE, PHOENIX.

April 17, 1884; 3-3

Through certain business troubles which would in no way interest the public, Staab & Co., at a late hour Monday evening, swore out a capias before United States Commissioner E. H. Smith, for the arrest of Sol Barth, of St. Johns, Apache County, Arizona, as it was understood that Barth was on the incoming Atlantic & Pacific train. The capias was placed in the hands of Deputy Marshall Richmond, who arrived at the depot just after the train had stopped, and in consequence he missed Barth who got off the train on the east side of the track. Later Barth was taken into custody at the Maden House and placed in charge of a deputy. Barth's friends say that Sol was not on his way east, but that he came in for the express purpose of settling with Staab & Co., and that he intended to return home this morning. Staab & Co., through Ed Spitz, claim that their action was perfectly warranted under all the circumstances. -- Albuquerque Journal.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

September 4, 1884; 3-2.

Holbrook, A. T., June 18. Much excitement prevails at St. Johns, the County Seat of Apache County, over the arrest of Sol Barth, a wealthy stockman and merchant and an ex-member of the Legislature. He is charged with perjury and other criminal offenses. He has given bail for his appearance at the District Court in the sum of \$4,000. Sheriff Melvenon, Of Yavapai, effected the arrest, the Sheriff of Apache County declining to do so.

THE ARIZONA GAZETTE, PHOENIX.

June 19, 1885; 2-2

Apache County Robbed. Her safe broken open and evidences against her official scoundrels destroyed.

In connection with the forgery on raised warrants an indictment is pending in this County against Sol Barth for uttering a forgery in negotiating a number of warrants with the First National Bank of Prescott.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

July 23, 1885; 4-2

Solomon Barth, formerly of Apache County, has been arrested at ElPaso, on complaint of E. D. Johnson, charged with giving a witness \$1,000 to disregard a subpoena issued by the District Court of the 3rd Judicial District of this Territory.-- Epitaph.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

January 25, 1886; 2-1

Mr. Sol Barth was arrested last Tuesday of mutilating the County Records. On a preliminary examination he was bound over in the sum of \$4,000 to answer. There is another charge of forgery resting against him, on which he was to have had a preliminary trial last night. In default of bond on the first charge he was remanded to jail.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD.

January 13, 1887;

Sol Barth, of St. Johns, has been bound over by Judge Morrison, sitting as a committing magistrate, on two charges - . destruction of the County Records and forging a County Warrant, to appear before the next Grand Jury. His bond was fixed at \$7,000.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD.

January 20, 1887; \_

Solomon Barth, well known and one of the wealthiest men in Apache County was convicted of forgery and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

THE ARIZONA SENTINEL, YUMA.

April 20, 1887; \_

Sol Barth, of Apache County, has been sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary for forgery, his crime consisted in raising County Warrants. Nathan Barth, his brother, and O. B. Lambson have been arraigned for attempting to bribe the Jury.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

April 26, 1887; 2-1

The St. Johns Herald is jubilant over the conviction of Sol Barth.-- Ed.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

April 26, 1887; 2-1

Prescott, April 25. -- At the term of Court just closed in Apache County, Sol Barth, a merchant in St. Johns, and reported to be one of the wealthiest men in the County, was convicted of forgery and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. His crime consisted of raising warrants after being issued by the Board of Supervisors, his peculations in this way amounting to several

thousand dollars. His brother Nathan, also a merchant, has been arrested charged with an attempt to bribe the Jury.

THE ARIZONA GAZETTE.

April 26, 1887; 2-4

Apache County Matters -- At the recent term of Court in Apache County, Sol Barth, one of the wealthiest and heretofore one of the most prominent and influential citizens of that County, was convicted of forgery. The crime consisted of raising County Warrants. He had as his accomplice Chas. Kinnear, who is now a fugitive from justice. Several thousand dollars were acquired by the guilty parties in their criminal peculation. During the time the trial was in progress an attempt was made to assassinate one of the witnesses in the case.. He was sitting in his room one evening when an unknown assassin appeared at the window and fired through it, the ball just grazing the intended victim's nose.

We have it also on pretty good authority that swell organized plan was concocted for breaking open the jail and releasing the prisoner, but which was frustrated, and the shedding of blood thereby averted.

Nathan Barth, a brother of the convicted man, and P. B. Landson have been arrested since the trial, charged with having attempted to bribe the Jury, so that on the whole the most desperate means were resorted to, to prevent the consummation of justice in this case. To the honor of his attorneys, however, we will state they neither participated nor approved of these questionable efforts in behalf of their client, and in fact had no knowledge of them until afterwards. The case will be appealed to the Supreme Court at the adjourned term, which meets in Phoenix on Thursday of this week, and no honorable effort will be spared by his attorneys to clear Mr. Barth. While the zeal and labors of his attorneys are commendable the general verdict of an unbiased and unprejudiced people is that the conviction of Mr. Barth is just, and that justice demands that he should serve his sentence.

From Judge Wright, who returned today, we learn that the sentence in the case of Barth was ten years in the penitentiary. Speaking of this case the St. Johns Herald says: "The case of Sol Barth was fought with all the stubbornness, perseverance and ingenuity of three of the ablest members of the bar of Arizona."

UNMARKED NEWS CLIPPING DATED APRIL 27, 1887, IN MUSEUM.

Sol Barth, swell known citizen of Northern Arizona, was sentenced to ten years in the Territorial prison by Chief Justice Wright for raising County Warrants.

THE TOMESTONE PROSPECTOR.

April 28, 1887; 3-1

Sol Barth, an old and well known resident of the Territory, and one of the wealthiest men of Apache County, and at one time a Representative in the Territorial Legislature, was convicted last week of forgery in raising County Warrants, and sentenced to ten years, The Sheriff of Apache County arrived with him on Wednesday.

THE ARIZONA SENTINEL, YUMA.

April 30, 1887; 3-2

Somebody is cramming a lot of guff in the column of the Albuquerque Democrat in relation to Superintendent Gates, of the Yuma prison, and Sol Barth, his personal prison pet. Superintendent Gates is not that kind of an officer. He is an old and reliable Arizonan that has never been guilty of being a member of Arizona or any other Legislature, and we further learn from our model Sheriff that Sol Barth was at once, upon his arrival at the Yuma pen, placed on duty in regulation uniform. Sol is not the kind of rooster that would display his stripes unnecessarily, whatever he might do with his stars--- Apache Critic.

THE ARIZONA GAZETTE, PHOENIX.

May 27, 1887; 4-3

The following "card", which we find in the St. Johns Herald, will prove to the Albuquerque Democrat that its informers were wrong, and the Courier, as usual, was right.

YUMA, ARIZONA, May 24, 1887.

EDITOR HERALD--- I notice in your issue of the 19th instant, a clipping from the Albuquerque Democrat which does me great injustice.

I never was a member of the Arizona Legislature. I never was SOL BARTH'S friend nor boon companion. I have never had business transactions with him. SOL BARTH is locked up every night at the usual hour. He has never been outside the prison walls except yesterday, when he came to my office, at my request, to meet his brother who had come to see him. He is treated in every way the same as other convicts, and any other report to the contrary is false and malicious.

I trust you will give this the same publicity you gave to the Albuquerque Democrat clipping. THOS. GATES.

We take great pleasure in publishing the above contradiction from Mr. Gates. It is far from our intention to do injustice to any one, and if by chance we do so, are always ready and willing to do any and every thing in our power to right the wrong.-- HERALD.

THE PRESCOTT MORNING COURIER.

June 6, 1887; 1-1

Mr. Jacob Barth, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, arrived in town on Tuesday. Mr. Barth has been visiting his brother SOL BARTH at Yuma, and another brother, Nathan, at Winslow. He will extend his trip to St. Johns and visit the family of MR. SOL BARTH before returning to Michigan.

THE PRESCOTT MORNING COURIER.

June 14, 1887; 1-1



The Supreme Court of Arizona has delivered, through Judge Barnes, its decision affirming the conviction of SOL BARTH, for forgery, at the last April term of the District Court, presided over by Chief Justice Wright. There were a dozen points raised for reversal by defendant, but the Supreme Court sustained Judge Wright on every one.-- St. Johns Herald.

THE ARIZONA SENTINEL, YUMA.

December 17, 1887; 3-3

(See also Judge Barnes' Opinion

Vol. 2, Lewis, 1885-1888, P. 319)

Mrs. Sol Barth and two or three of her daughters arrived in this place yesterday from Apache County. Mrs. Barth is here, we learn, to beseech Governor Zulick to pardon her husband out of the penitentiary. She has with her a very lengthy petition and it is signed by 10 of the 12 jurors who tried her husband. She is a noble woman, a faithful wife, a loving mother. Her husband, with others, committed wrong. He has been punished; the others have gone scot free. Usually we go in for letting the law take its course, but as BARTH is getting old; as he has been a trail maker in Arizona, a brave pioneer who never feared danger; whose heart is as large as one of our mountains; as he must naturally pine for the companionship of his good wife and his innocent little ones, we say society will lose nothing by setting him free.

THE PRESCOTT MORNING COURIER.

June 13, 1888; 1-2

John Marion wants the Governor to let SOL BARTH out of the Territorial prison. Why John?

THE PRESCOTT MORNING COURIER.

June 18, 1888; 4-1

Through our exchange we learn that a strong effort is being made to secure from Governor Zulick a pardon for SOL BARTH. His petition has been signed by ten of the twelve jurors who tried him, and by more than 400 residents of Apache County. From our knowledge of the man, we think there are many worse men outside of the penitentiary than SOL BARTH. He is one of the pioneers and trail makers of Arizona. He has risked his life in more than one encounter with the Apaches, and by his energy and industry did more than any man in Apache County to make that section what it is. He has a large family, and his wife, an accomplished Spanish lady, is devoted to him and doing all in her power to secure his release, in which we wish her success.

THE TOMBSTONE PROSPECTOR.

June 19, 1888; 3-2

The vile Tucson Star instigates that SOL BARTH has money to pay for a pardon. The man hasn't a cent in the world, and so the Star lied as usual.

THE PRESCOTT MORNING COURIER.

June 20, 1888; 1-1

The Winslow News of June 23 has the following item:  
Mrs. Sol Barth and family passed through on Monday, on her return from Prescott, where she has been to deliver the petition for the pardon of her husband, to the Governor. The News hopes to see her prayer granted.

THE PRESCOTT MORNING COURIER.

June 26, 1888; 1-2

SOLOMON BARTH.-- Enemies actively working against him while he is in prison. - From Journal Miner.

THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER, KINGMAN.

July 28, 1888; 2-2

SOL BARTH'S enemies are actively working against him while he is in prison. His entire herd of stock was seized recently in New Mexico and sold. The sheep, some 3,600 head, were bid in at 50 cents per head all around. The cattle, 309 head, averaged about five dollars and a half per head, and the horses, 18 head, brought an average of \$12.36. -- Journal-Miner.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

August 2, 1888; 3-4

The STAR learns from reliable authority that SOL BARTH will be released on the 17th of this month. It is said the Governor signed his pardon some two weeks ago to take effect on the 17th and that it has been in the hands of the Superintendent of the Prison for some days. MR. BARTH is no doubt informed of the fact that the Superintendent has the pardon in his possession. As MR. BARTH is a wealthy citizen of Apache County he will no doubt return and re-establish himself in business there.

THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR, TUCSON.

February 15, 1889; 2-1

TERRITORIAL PENITENTIARY -- YUMA, A.T.  
PRISON RECORD BOOK  
Discharge Book  
1881-1906

Solomon Barth  
No. of Commitment- 442  
Name of Convict- Solomon Barth  
Crime-Forgery  
Date of Imprisonment-April 28, 1887  
Term of Sentence-10 years  
From what County-Apache  
In what Court Sentenced - 3rd District  
Commencement of Term- April 23, 1887  
Date of Discharge under Commitment - April 22, 1897  
Remarks - Pardoned by Gov. Z. Mar. 12, 1889

SOL BARTH, merchant, politician, was sent to prison for burning County Records; was pardoned by Governor Hughes, and later was elected to the Upper House of the Legislature to enact laws for the people.

REMINISCENCES OF MIKE RICE.

MSS .

SOL BARTH, who was pardoned some days ago, has gone to his former home in Apache County.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

March 16, 1889; 3-2

SOL BARTH, the crooked Apache County official who has been serving a term in the Territorial prison for his misdeeds, was pardoned last week by Governor Zulick.

THE VALLEY BULLETIN, SOLOMONVILLE.

March 29, 1889; 4-3

It is now openly stated that it cost SOL BARTH \$12,000 all told to secure his pardon, \$7,000 constituting the last payment. Who got the money?

It is also stated it cost the friends of a young man who was sent to Yuma from Phoenix, \$2,000. If this be so who got the money? It is pretty generally believed that Wong Ti, the Chinaman released on pardon, cost \$10,000. If this be true who received the coin?

It is said that during the last two years a regular pardon brokers' business has been carried on in connection with the Territorial Prison. If it is a fact that such a brokerage has been carried on, who constitute the board of brokers? What is their business, and who gets the profits if any there be? These all appear to be proper subjects for the investigation of the Grand Jury.

THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR, TUCSON.

April 16, 1889; 2-2

We have heard and continue to hear ugly rumors of a pardon brokerage having been run in connection with the Executive Department; and while, of course, we cannot believe Mr. Zulick made money in connection therewith, there still are a few little cases that need explanation, particularly those of Wong Ti, the murderous highbinder, and SOL BARTH the notorious Apache County forger. Wong Ti was arrested in a hut on the Santa Cruz bottom by Sheriff Eugene A. Shaw.

THE ARIZONA DAILY CITIZEN, TUCSON.

April 16, 1889; 2-1

For five years the affairs of Apache County have been administered in an honest and economical manner. Prior to that time, that is up to 1885, the County was in the hands of an unscrupulous set of scoundrels, that robbed it right and left. In 1885 the Board of Supervisors began a rigid examination into the past methods of these fellows, which resulted in the indictment of Chas Kinnear and afterward of SOL BARTH for forging County Warrants. Kinnear was turned loose on straw bail and fled the country. BARTH was convicted and sent to the penitentiary for ten years, and would have been there still had it not been for the sickly sentimentality of a good portion of our fellow citizens.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD.

February 13, 1890; 4-2

DON SOLOMON BARTH came in last Monday afternoon, about sundown, to visit his old friends and view the scenes of his past glory. He stopped with Don Clements ----, who lives on the east bank of the Little Colorado, about one-half mile below town. Quite a number of our prominent citizens paid their respects to him during his stay among us.

THE ST JOHNS HERALD.

February 20, 1890; 3-1

SOL BARTH, brother of Nathan Barth, is here from his sheep ranch out west. He states that sheep raising generally, especially in the vicinity of the Zuni salt lakes, Socorro County, have met with losses in their flocks, and that his brother Nathan is the loser of about 3,000 head of sheep. -- Albuquerque Citizen.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

March 28, 1891; 3-2

DON SOLOMON BARTH came in from Jarloso on Wednesday. He says that three feet of snow fell near his place. Two of his herds of sheep had been snow bound for twenty days. When he first found the herd he asked the Mexican in charge why he did not go and tell him before. The Mexican replied that he was waiting for God Almighty to help him out.

THE PHOENIX HERALD.

February 28, 1895; 4-1

SOL BARTH, the industrious and sober merchant of St. Johns, is nominated for the Council. No one realizes more than he that he has been under a ban in the past, but his intention now is to retrieve his character from the odium which has been attached to it, and asks the voters to give him a chance. He has no political "ax to grind", so he informed the writer. He is a taxpayer, and hence his interests are with us.

It has been asserted by his opponents that he intends to recover warrants through legislative enactments that he has failed to recover by law. This he cannot do because it is not within the power of any Legislature to

legalize an illegal thing. SOL will make his own refutation of these charges, and will stand "square" before the voters. Give him a chance.

If he is sent to the Legislature he will not dishonor Apache County, neither will he prove false to the trust the people repose in him. Give him a chance.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD.

October 31, 1896; 1-4

SOLOMON BARTH, of St. Johns, will represent us in the Territorial Council next winter. He will be heard from, and wise legislation will be the result of his election.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD.

November 7, 1896; 1-4

SOL BARTH, member of the Council, Nineteenth Legislature, Apache County. Democrat.

THE GRAHAM COUNTY BULLETIN, SOLOMONVILLE. November 20, 1896; 4-4

SENATOR BARTH is somewhat under the weather -- has a cold. "That Tucson trip is to blame", said he. "It was altogether too rich for my blood. Made the trip in three hours running time by special train, and the pace was too swift."

"Why", he continued, growing reminiscent, as the Councilmen often do, "the last time I made the trip from Tucson to Phoenix, there wasn't any Phoenix and the journey took me twenty-one days. You see I was a merchant at Weaverville at that time. Weaverville was on the Hassayampa, above Wickenburg. It isn't there now. It was pretty hard to get supplies and in '64 I had to go way down in Sonora to get wheat. The wheat I took to Magdalena to get ground and then started for home by way of Tucson and this valley. The flour was packed on burros and, as I said before, it took just twenty-one days to go the distance we got over in three hours last Sunday. There's no doubt about it, the pace was too swift for me".

UNMARKED ITEM - PRESCOTT MUSEUM.

Penciled date, February 1897.

COUNCILMAN BARTH, of Apache County, has given notice in the Legislature of his intention to introduce a bill repealing the military laws of the Territory. In case the measure should pass there may be some Arizona dignitaries left without a title. -- Gazette.

Oh No! The titles will stick. They will be simply a little more empty than before.

THE OASIS, NOGALES.

February 20, 1897; 4-3

SOL BARTH has returned to St. Johns from Santa Fe. He reports that he recovered 110 head of his sheep at the Albuquerque stock yards which had been *stolen* from his herds in the Zuni Mountains. The sheep had been taken last November, and had changed hands several times since. He says they were all selected ewes and lambs, showing that the thief was a connoisseur.

THE ARGUS, HOLBROOK.

February 19, 1898; 5-3

HON. SOL BARTH started for his lambing camp in the Zuni Mountains last Monday.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD.

May 28, 1898; 4-1

Pioneer SOL BARTH, and his son, Attorney Isaac Barth, are here from Apache County. SOL BARTH is a pioneer of the first vintage and carried the chain for the surveying party which laid out the townsite of Prescott in the early sixties.

THE PRESCOTT COURIER.

July 11, 1905; 3-1

At a fire last Saturday evening, which threatened to destroy the property of HON. SOL BARTH, at St. Johns, some miscreant cut the water hose in three places, thus stopping the flow of water. Fortunately there was no wind, otherwise there would have been a serious conflagration.

THE TOMBSTONE PROSPECTOR.

December 28, 1910; 1-4

While the home of HON. SOL BARTH at St. Johns was burning, some miscreant cut the hose in three places to stop the flow of water. Had a wind been blowing there would have been a serious conflagration.

THE PRESCOTT COURIER.

January 21, 1911; 3-4.

In 1867 the writer drifted back to the Zuni villages. Some time in June of the same year SOL BARTH and a few Mexicans from the frontier village of Cuñero passed Zuni for the Apacheria. The party was well supplied with saddle animals; also pack animals loaded with Indian goods. In due time and without mishap the party reached the Rio Carizo, the home country of the Coyotero Apaches.

Here follow a few remarks, parenthetically, which may not be out of place.

In the olden days, before the subjugation of the Apaches, and their confinement upon reservations, the trail from Zuni to Apacheria followed down the valley of the Zuni river until it reached the last black mesa which bordered the Zuni river on its northern side. At this point the trail left the valley and led across some sandy hills and table lands, striking the Little Colorado river among some sandstone cliffs, about twelve miles below the present town of St. Johns. Amongst these rocks was the usual place of meeting, for the purpose of trade, between the Zuni Indians and the White Mountain Apaches. It was the usual custom of these Apaches to make signal fires on the summit of the mountain by which they indicated the day they could be expected at the "Rock Crossing". At night these signals could be seen at the Zuni villages, one hundred miles distant. The writer speaks from personal knowledge, having gone with Zuni Indians to the "Rock Crossing" for the purpose above mentioned. Crossing the river at this point, the trail led down the south side to Concho creek; here the trail forked, the one for the Coyotera country taking a westerly course, and the trail leading to the White Mountain country followed up Concho creek in a southerly direction.

From time immemorial, or within the writer's knowledge of the past fifty-four years, the Little Colorado river has been neutral ground for the mutual benefit of the various Indian tribes, and no hostilities ever occurred between them in its immediate vicinity. Nevertheless, it is no bar to scraps (as the writer knows from experience) going to or from the river itself.

The BARTH party remained some days at the rancheria of the Coyoteros, by whom they were hospitably treated, when they decided to visit the White Mountain Apaches, whose country lay some distance southeast from the Carizo. Unfortunately, for the BARTH party, the notorious Cochise with a large band of his picked warriors had arrived at the rancheria of Pedro, the chief of the Sierra Blanca Apaches, a short while prior to the BARTH party; and to make matters worse, Pedro happened to be temporarily absent from the rancheria. Cochise being of a dominating disposition and notoriously cruel and savage, he simply overawed the sub-chief left in charge of the rancheria, and before they realized what was taking place, the members of the BARTH party were disarmed, stripped of every strip of clothing and of all their animals and plunder. Pandemonium was rampant for a time, and the naked bunch of terrified captives expected nothing else but instant death. However, the savage Cochise, to give his captives all the mental distress possible, decided to postpone the execution to the following morning. He had decided, after a conference with his warriors, to lash the captives to trees and have another old fashioned human barbecue. In the meantime, the sub-chief

had dispatched a swift messenger to meet his chief. The White Mountain chief made all haste to reach his camp. Pedro rushed in, released the captives, and demanded in a loud angry voice, "By what authority is this done in my camp and in my absence?" The captives stood huddled together, hardly daring to breathe, listening to the angry conversation -- not understanding a word -- between Chief Pedro and the bloody-minded Cochise. Pedro told Cochise that "you have violated my hospitality; have violated the hospitality of my camp and my people; have committed outrages enough, and when I want people killed in my camp, I, alone, will give the order. What I have said I have said." He then turned from Cochise and said to the captives "Go, go quickly!" His motion and words were understood, and they hit the trail without any ceremonious farewells. As they passed by some women, one of them handed SOL a pair of cotton drawers. And without food, clothing or even a match to start a fire, the fugitives had one hundred and twenty-five miles to hoof between the Apache camp and the Zuni villages, the nearest point where assistance could be obtained.

It must be remembered that Chief Pedro labored under a great disadvantage; all his women and children were in that camp and Cochise had only his band of picked men; and in the event of a fight, Cochise had much the best of the situation. Cochise absolutely refused to give up as much as a string of the plunder; but, as a compromise, he allowed Pedro the privilege of disposing of the captives in any manner suitable to him. Cochise suggested that "the proper ending of the affair would be an old fashioned roast and big dance."

Most of the foregoing facts were obtained from two Mexican captives -- Miguel, of the Coyotero Apaches, and Concepcion, of the White Mountain Apaches. Miguel gave me his version of the affair in 1869, and Conception in 1872.

The second day of their flight a little Apache dog came to them, which was caught and killed. They carried the dead dog until they fortunately came to some flints, and with these the dog was dressed. The next thing was to make a fire. Taking a small piece of cotton drawers and pounding it and rubbing it to a fuzzy pulp, and with the flints a spark caught the cotton and with patient blowing a fire was made. They made a fairly good meal out of the roasted dog meat without salt, and were comparatively happy and laughed at their present predicament. SOL BARTH being the only "aristocrat" in the bunch, being sumptuously and gaily dressed in a pair of cotton drawers, he was unanimously dubbed "El Rey". Before leaving this camp fire they charred a chunk of wood, and by waving it occasionally kept it afire for the following night. The third day's tramp carried the party well up in the Zuni river, and having fire and the remnants of the dog they were fairly well, so to speak. However, by this time their feet were sore and their bodies were badly blistered by the sun.

The fourth day the fugitives reached the neighborhood of the Zuni villages, where they concealed themselves in a ravine until the "King" could go to the village for some sort of apparel for the party. MR. BARTH came to my place, and after he had filled himself with beans, mutton and shah-kay-way (an Indian substitute for bread), I let him have sheeting enough to dress his companions, and late that evening the whole party came in and were comfortably housed. The party was exhausted and lay over for a few days to recuperate. In the meantime, I let MR. BARTH have more manta and a full piece of gaiyeta,



(a species of red flannel highly prized by the Indians, and especially by the Navajo). With this he hired animals to ride and bought grub to last the party till they could reach Cubero, New Mexico. The distance from Zuni to Cubero, the nearest town, is about one hundred miles.

I doubt if MR. BARTH and the Mexicans ever knew they were to be burned; although they had every reason to expect death at the hands of the bloodthirsty Apaches. -- A. F. Banta.

THE PRESCOTT COURIER.

January 20, 1917; 2-1,2

Few men have had a more curious history than SOL BARTH. He was born at North Orange, New Jersey, seventy-five years ago, but was taken back by his parents to the Posen district of Eastern Prussia when only a few months old. At the age of 13 he joined an uncle who had embraced the Mormon faith and with him journeyed back to Arizona. For part of the distance, on a road that eventually led to the old Mormon settlement of San Bernardino, Cal., he traveled in true Mormon fashion at the bar of a two-wheeled pushcart. He left San Bernardino in 1862 for the old Colorado River town of La Paz, to work for Mike Goldwater. At this time probably 1,500 men were washing gold in the creek beds around La Paz. Among the settlers were Miguel Peralta, M. Goldberg, Levi-n, later of Tucson, and Ehrenberg, a German surveyer, after whom a nearby town was named. In 1864 BARTH went to the first term of court held in La Paz, by Judge Allen, to secure citizenship, for curiously, at that time he was not informed of the fact that he had been born in New Jersey and thought himself a native of Germany.

He knew Kit Carson when the famous scout came through Zuni as a colonel of volunteers to settle some trouble among the Navajo Indians. He remembers Carson as an ignorant and uncouth frontiersman.

BARTH went to St. Johns in 1864 with a prospecting party, though not to stay. About that time he was freighting and packing with a train of seventy burros, which he later traded to Genung & Kirkland for the Peoples Valley ranch, though he never occupied the ranch or gained any benefit from its temporary ownership. After freighting around New Mexico for a year, in 1869 he was sutler at Camp Apache. In 1874 he located permanently at St. Johns, where he still resides.

His settlement in Apache County was wholly a matter of luck. He "sat into" a little game of monte with some Mexican sheep men at the little settlement of El Vadito on the Little Colorado River and by morning was richer by several thousand dollars and a large band of sheep. With this stake he settled down and became the first settler at St. Johns, which he named in compliment to Senora Maria San Juan de Padilla, its first female resident. Late in 1879 he sold his 1,200 acre farm for a consideration of 770 cows, estimated worth, \$17,000. The purchaser was the Mormon church, represented by Jesse N. Smith and D. K. Udall, and the Mormon element since that time has been predominant in the locality.

He has had a life of rare adventure, with enough incident to fill a book of melodramatic sort. He was a storekeeper at the Weaver diggings in 1864, where the members of the Weaver party would spend the rich returns of

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their hill-top labors in hours of most riotous dissipation. He freighted with a train of burros from San Bernardino to Prescott, making no large money on a return of 20 cents a pound. Sometimes he went with his burros after flour and grain far down into Mexico. Then he was a mail contractor through the Apache country, from Prescott to Albuquerque and from the latter point to Fort Stanton and he even took a contract for a mail route from Prescott to Tubac. Hardship was the rule rather than the exception. On one trip from the Zuni villages to the San Francisco mountains he started in midwinter with two days' rations to overtake a surveying party. He failed and had to turn back, and for eleven days lived on water and mouldy corn found in a cache. Even his matches were exhausted.

At another time he was captured by Indians while on a trading expedition near the site of the present Fort Apache. The lives of himself and six companions were saved by a chieftain's caprice, but they were turned loose stripped of all save their shoes. It took four days of travel to reach the Zuni village. Of days the men's bare skins were scorched by an autumn sun, while of nights they huddled together around fires. The journey was done on very light diet, mainly the fruit of the prickly pear and a scanty sharing of the carcass of a small dog that had followed them from the Indian camp. On the last day BARTH, who was well ahead, was given tortillas by a Zuni Indian and, refreshed, made rapid time into the village, from which he sent food and help.

THE ARIZONA MAGAZINE, PHOENIX.

April-May 1918; Page 13.

AS MY MEMORY RECALLS - BY GEORGE H. CROSBY, JR. -- The earliest recollections in the early day newspapers from St. Johns told of them -- SOL, NATHAN AND MORRIS. I remember particularly the "St. Johns purchase" as it is known in local history, when the Mormon settlers bought the holdings of various Spanish-Americans and others from SOL, and that in 1884 Morris was elected to the long term as supervisor, but was killed in a tailend railroad collision on the old Atlantic and Pacific just before he took office. Nathan was running a store at Holbrook when I came to the country, but SOL had closed his out at St. Johns and was then giving his attention to sheep.

SOL BARTH was the founder of St. Johns, and he came to trade and contract in and around a crossing of the Little Colorado some five miles north of town. He later moved to where the town is now located, then known as El Badito, meaning the crossing from the rock crossing where the field dam is now. To grow barley for Fort Apache, he brought in Mexican farmers from the Rio Grande in the early '70s. After the first woman, Mrs. Marcos Baca, mother of Mrs. J. R. Armijo, who came to the new settlement, it was named San Juan, later to be Anglicized into St. Johns.

All of the early politics of Apache County centers around the BARTH brothers and particularly around SOL. He was the leader in getting the County of Apache cut off of Yavapai in 1879. Three months later, when a special election was held to elect county officials to replace the temporary appointees and select a county seat, SOL BARTH'S town of St. Johns took the seat of the county government away from Snowflake, the first county seat.

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Up to 1884 all of the county elections were between a BARTH and an anti-EARTH ticket, and the county seat election by which the county seat was moved to Springerville in 1880 was in reality a contest between the BARTHS and the Beckers, and it was SOL BARTH and his forces that came quickly to recover the prize and bring it back when Graham County was created in 1881 and Clifton's big vote was lost to Springerville.

Nathan Barth is spending his old age in Los Angeles, that great center of hope, growth and opportunity, but with more than eighty years that have passed over his head, SOL BARTH, who has seen and lived all of Arizona's separate history, lives quietly in the town he founded among people who have followed into his old haunts.

THE ST. JOHNS OBSERVER.

December 22, 1923; 4-5

SOLOMON BARTH, Pioneer of Arizona, died Friday at his home in St. Johns.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLICAN, PHOENIX

December 4, 1928; 5-1,2

MR. BARTH first came to Arizona with a freight team from San Bernardino, California, enroute to Tucson. After the cargo had been unloaded he went back to California with the teams, but returned again in 1862, to make this State his future home. In 1869 he established Sutler's store at Fort Apache, in the White mountains, and in 1874 he located permanently at St. Johns.

MR. BARTH was one of the leaders in the movement for the separation of what is now Apache County from Yavapai County and it was through his influence that the county was finally created. After a strenuous fight in a special election, he also succeeded in getting the county seat located at St. Johns, where it has remained since. He was elected as the first Councilman to the Territorial Legislature from the newly-formed county.

At one time, it was claimed, MR. BARTH owned nearly all the land in northern Arizona, holding the title through edicts of the tribal chieftans. In 1875 he sold 1,200 acres of land in Apache County to the Mormon church, negotiations for the deal being conducted by Joseph Smith and D. K. Udall, representing the church.

For many years MR. BARTH had engaged in the mercantile business in St. Johns and for a long period operated the only hotel there.

THE PRESCOTT COURIER.

December 4, 1928; 3-4

HONORABLE SOLOMON BARTH, distinguished pioneer of Arizona, passed peacefully away at his home in St. Johns, Apache County, on last Friday afternoon. He had been in Arizona longer than any living white man.

SOL BARTH arrived in this State either on Christmas day, 1860, or on New Year's day, 1861. At the time of his death he was 86 years of age. Until his last illness he was a remarkably well preserved man. He was as active mentally and physically as the average man of 60 years.

About SOL BARTH'S life in the Southwest, there might be written a volume as replete with thrilling adventure as any "Leather Stocking Tales."

He was born in Prussia in 1842. At the age of 13 he came to America. Before he was 16 years of age he crossed the plains afoot to California. At 18 years of age we find him at the Bonanza gold diggings at La Paz on the Colorado river above Yuma. From there he went to the rich diggings at Weaverville and Granite Creek.

His next venture was to carry the mails for the U. S. Government, between Fort Whipple, Arizona, and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Nothing in the annals of the pony express riders of the Western plains was more venturesome than this job of young BARTH'S. He rode at night, and hid himself and pony from the hostile Indians during the daylight hours, in sheltering draws. At that time there were very few white men in northern Arizona.

After several months as pony express rider for the military, SOL BARTH turned his hand to trading with the Indians. At one time he was the reputed owner of all the country south of the Grand Canyon to the Little Colorado river, including what is now the northern half of Apache County and southern Navajo County. His title was based on a treaty which he had made with the Navajo Indians, by which the tribal chiefs recognized his title to these lands. According to the treaty, he was the proprietor of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. He established the settlement at St. Johns, subsequently transferring much of his lands to the Mormon colonists. He became a successful business man and reared a fine family of sons and daughters.

He was the moving spirit in the organization of Apache County and represented that county in the 11th and 19th Territorial Legislative Council. One of the most interesting pages in the pioneer 'experiences of MR. BARTH is described in Farish's History of Arizona.

THE TOMBSTONE EPITAPH.

December 6, 1928; 4-3

One by one the sturdy pioneers of our county, state and nation are slowly but surely being gathered into that eternal home.

Last Friday afternoon (30th Nov.) SOLOMON BARTH answered the final summons.

MR. BARTH was born in the State of New Jersey on May 12, 1842, and would have been 87 years of age May 12, 1929.

His death marks the passing of the last surviving member of the Eleventh Territorial Legislature, and in his honor the flag at the State Capitol was at half mast.

In the death of MR. BARTH Apache County loses one of its best known citizens and St. Johns its colonizer and the family a kind and devoted father.

SOLOMON BARTH came to Arizona in the year 1855 and has the distinction of having lived here longer than any other white man. He came to St. Johns

in 1874 and took out the second water right on the Little Colorado river, and when the Mormon people came here, he sold his rights to them, giving them a quit claim deed, which is of record in the County Recorder's Office of Apache County.

In early days he managed many freight outfits, both pack and wagon from Dodge City, Kansas, to San Bernardino, California, and other points, and also ran a pony express from Dodge City to San Bernardino.

He was the father of three sons, Isaac, Jacob and Maurice, and five daughters, Charlotte, Addie, Clara, Cecelia. All the above were present at the bedside before the end came. There was another daughter Rika, who died when just a child and rests beside her mother in the Eastside cemetery.

He served Apache County in the Legislature two terms and acquitted himself with honor and credit to his supporters.

He established the settlement at St. Johns, subsequently transferring much of his land to the Mormon colonists. He became a successful business man.

He was the moving spirit in the organization of Apache County, and represented that county in the Eleventh and Nineteenth Territorial Legislative council. One of the most interesting pages in the pioneer experiences of MR. BARTH is thus described in Farish's History of Arizona.

BARTH, Magdakeba, Calderon, George Clifton, Francisco Tafolla, Jesus and Ramon Sanches, and a Mexican named Mazon, who had been an Apache captive, had been trading on the Cibicu with the White Mountain Indians, of which tribe Pedro was the chief. The white men were thence called over, possibly enticed, to trade with a band of Apaches headed by Cochise. The band had but lately come from the south and were hostile. BARTH and his party were led about forty miles to a point near the present Fort Apache, by a treacherous Mexican, who effectively delivered them into the hands of their enemies. The Indians had been making tizwin and all were drunk. The traders approaching by a narrow trail, were seized singly by the Indians and stripped of everything including clothing. BARTH was last, and found his companions standing naked and waiting for death, within a circle of Indians who were threatening therewith clubs that had been charred and hardened by fire. BARTH'S arms and clothing went the same way as had his companions' belongings. Juana Marta, a Mexican captive of the band, then appeared in the role of Pocahontas. It appeared that she cited some tribal law concerning the taking of captives on the lands of a friendly tribe, and so the case had to be appealed to Pedro, chief of the White Mountains. He was not long in coming, and there was only a short confab after he arrived. He was a decent sort of Indian and well disposed toward the white man, but the best he could do was to save their lives, without any reference to the loot. The conference concluded, the white men were dismissed with a mere wave of the hand.

It happened that none of them had been robbed of their shoes, a fortunate circumstance, inasmuch as it took four days of travel to reach the nearest point of safety, the Zuni village in northwestern New Mexico. During that time the men's bare skin was scorched by the sun of the days, while they huddled, nearly frozen, around fires at night, for winter was coming on. BARTH tells that he stood the trip rather better than the others and kept in the lead. The journey was made on a very tight diet, consisting almost entirely of tuna fruit,

. - 29 -

and an all too scanty share of the carcass of a small dog that had followed them from the Indian camp. On the last day BARTH was well ahead, and, at a point fifteen miles out of Zuni, met an Indian who divided with him a few tortillas. BARTH happened to be well acquainted with the Indian, but the recognition was not mutual, for the fugitive by that time, had little resemblance to the well fed and cheerful freighter who for years had made Zuni a stopping place. Refreshed by the tortillas, BARTH then made rapid time into the village, from which he sent runners out with assistance and food. All recovered from their hardships, though BARTH suffered a severe attack of "Chills and fever".

Sunday at 1:30 p. m. funeral services were conducted at the L.D.S. chapel with Pres. Levi S. Udall conducting.

The remains were interred in the Eastside cemetery.

THE ST. JOHNS HERALD .

December 6, 1928; 1-2,3.

HON. SOL BARTH, distinguished pioneer of Arizona, passed peacefully away at his home in St. Johns, Apache County, on last Friday afternoon. He had been in Arizona longer than any living white man. SOL BARTH arrived in this State, either on Christmas day, 1860, or on New Year's day, 1861. At the time of his death he was 86 years of age. Until his last illness, he was a remarkably well preserved man. He was as active mentally and physically as the average man of 60 years.

About BARTH'S life in the southwest, there might be written volumes as replete with thrilling adventures as any Leather Stocking Tales.

He was born in Prussia in 1843. At the age of 13 he came to America. Before he was 16 years of age, he had crossed the plains afoot to California. At 18 years of age, we find him at the Bonanza gold diggings at La Paz on the Colorado river, above Yuma. From there he went to the rich diggings at Weaverville and Granite Creek.

His next venture was to carry the mails for the U. S. government, between Ft. Whipple, Arizona and Santa Fe, N. M. Nothing in the annals of the pony express riders of the western plains was more venturesome than this job of young BARTH'S. He rode at night and hid himself and pony from the hostile Indians during the daylight hours, in sheltering draws. At that time there were very few white men in northern Arizona.

After several months as pony express rider for the military, SOL BARTH turned his hand to trading with the Indians. At one time he was the reputed owner of all the country south of the Grand Canyon to the Little Colorado river, including what is now the northern half of Apache County and southern Navajo County. His title was based on a treaty which he had made with the Navajo Indians, by which the tribal chiefs recognized his title to those lands. According to the treaty, he was the proprietor of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. He established the settlement at St. Johns, subsequently transferring much of his lands to the Mormon colonists. He became a successful business man and reared a fine family of sons and daughters.

He was the moving spirit in the organization of Apache County and represented that County in the 11th and 19th Territorial Legislative Councils. One of the most interesting pages in the pioneer experiences of MR. BARTH is

thus described in **Farish's History of Arizona:**

"One of the most memorable experiences in the adventurous life of SOL BARTH occurred in November, 1868. (Balance is same as quoted in the St. Johns Herald, December 6, 1928.)

THE COCONINO SUN.

December 7, 1928.

**Grand Canyon Buyer Dead. Springerville, Dec. 8.-** The colorful life of SOL BARTH, aged 86 years, one of the most distinguished citizens and characters of Arizona and the West of pioneer days, came to an end last Friday in the progressive Mormon town of St. Johns, in Apache County.

SOL BARTH was the last surviving member of the 11th Territorial Legislature of Arizona.

At one time BARTH was the proprietor of the Grand Canyon of Arizona and owned all the country south of the Grand Canyon to the Little Colorado river, including what is now the northern half of Apache County and Navajo County. His title to the vast domain which today includes one of the world's most noted wonders, was based on a treaty with the Navajo Indians by which the tribal chiefs recognized his title to those lands. This treaty showed him to be the sole owner of the Grand Canyon.

He established the settlement of St. Johns, subsequently transferring much of this property to the Mormons.

When the Santa Fe Railroad sought a route west from Albuquerque, through Gallup, Winslow, Holbrook and Ash Fork to Needles, BARTH rode with the Santa Fe engineers, including Holbrook, Seligman and General Palmer, while locating the route, and he took an active part in the surveying of that pioneer line west.

He was the riving spirit in the organization of Apache County and represented that County in the Territorial Legislature.

For years BARTH carried the U. S. mail from Fort Whipple Arizona, to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and there is nothing in the annals of the pony express riders of the western plains that was more venturesome than this job of the sturdy young pioneer settler. He rode at night and hid himself and pony from the hostile Indians during the day time in sheltered draws and canyons.

After his mail carrying experience, BARTH turned to trading with the Indians, and that is how he came into possession of the Grand Canyon and a major part of two of the largest counties in Arizona.

SOL BARTH was born in Prussia in 1842, and came to America when but thirteen years of age. At sixteen he crossed the plains to California, traveling on foot with a body of Mormon women, and all pushed carts in which were bedding and other belongings of the party. The year President Lincoln was elected, BARTH left San Bernardino and located in Arizona, either on Christmas or New Year's day.

At the age of eighteen he was at the Bonanza gold diggings at La Paz on the Colorado. From there he went to the rich diggings of Weaverville and Granite Creek.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION.

December 9, 1928 25-4

Phantoms of past march in solemn array as State Senate honors late pioneer.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLICAN.

December 12, 1928; 1- 2, 3 and 3-1

HON. SOL BARTH, Arizona pioneer and a resident of St. Johns, Apache County since that county was created in 1879, and for a number of years prior to that date, died at his home at St. Johns on Friday, November 30, 1928, having reached the age of 87 years. He had been a resident of Arizona for 67 years. His first stop in Arizona was either on Christmas day, 1860, or on New Year's day, 1861, when he arrived in Tucson with a freighting outfit which brought freight across the desert from San Bernardino, California. He returned to California with the freighting teams and remained there until 1862, when he returned to Arizona, going to the old town of La Paz, on the Colorado river, where he entered the service of Michael Goldwater, the pioneer merchant of that locality.

In 1864 he secured the contract to carry the government mail from Prescott to Albuquerque, New Mexico, the route passing through the Zuni Villages. He secured the assistance of the late Alfred F. Banta in carrying the mail. In those days hostile Indians were plentiful in the country, and BARTH and Banta would ride at night and hide in the rocks and canyons during the day, as Indians very seldom attacked during the night. In 1869 he owned the Suttler's Store at Fort Apache, and from this point traded with Indians over a wide area. In 1874 he located, permanently, at the present site of St. Johns. During his earlier residence in Arizona, and after he acquired the traders' store at Fort Apache, he engaged in trading with Indians, carrying his goods to the camps of the Indians on pack animals, usually burros. Several times he narrowly escaped death at the hands of the hostiles, once when he went to an Apache camp and instead of finding his friendly chief, Pedro, whom he knew, he found the Apache warrior chief Cochise in charge. He lost his pack animals and his goods, including his clothing and the clothes worn by six Mexicans who accompanied him. Thus stripped, he and his companions were allowed to go and they returned to the Zuni Villages, a distance of one hundred miles, subsisting on the flesh of a dog that followed them from the Indian camp. Chief Cochise had BARTH and the Mexicans tied to trees and was making preparations to dispatch them when Chief Pedro returned to the camp, and interceding in behalf of his friend BARTH, succeeded in having them released.

It was through the influence of BARTH that Apache County was created by the Twelfth Territorial Legislature in 1879. The legislative act provided that the county seat of the new county should be located by a vote of the people residing therein. After a strenuous fight at the special election BARTH succeeded in locating the county seat in his home town. Soon after he located permanently in St. Johns. BARTH sold a possessory right to twelve hundred acres of land in that vicinity to the Mormon church. Negotiations for this deal being conducted by Joseph Smith and D. K. Udall, representatives of the church. BARTH had a personal acquaintance with Kit Carson, meeting this famous scout when he came through the Zuni Villages as a colonel of



volunteers to settle some trouble among the Navajo Indians.

MR. BARTH was a member of the Eleventh and Nineteenth Territorial Legislatures. He was a successful business man and continued in the mercantile and hotel business to the time of his death; in recent years assisted by two daughters and a son. The death of SOL BARTH leaves Billy Fourr of Cochise County, as the dean of Arizona pioneers, he, too, having arrived in Arizona in 1861.

FROM THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL REVIEW.

January, 1929; 5-6

SOLOMON BARTH, Arizona Pioneer, Born in Krutochin, Prussia, May 13, 1842. Died in St. Johns, Arizona, November 29, 1928.

He came to Arizona 80 years ago, when it was just a county of the Territory of New Mexico.

He came to America in 1855 and crossed the continent in that year with some Mormon Immigrants, landing in 1856 at San Bernardino, California, and coming to La Paz, Arizona, in the fall of 1860. Then moved to Weaverville and freighted by ox train from there to Dodge City, Kansas. In 1863 he settled in Prescott and with a man named Barnett established the first store in Prescott.

He carried the mail on horseback ("Pony Express") from Prescott to Albuquerque and then took the contract to carry the mail from Albuquerque to San Bernardino, California, on horseback. It was while carrying out this contract that he guided Holbrook, Kingman, Winslow and General Palmer, the engineers who laid out the right of way for the first railroad between New Mexico and California -- now the Santa Fe.

He settled at Rock Crossing on the Little Colorado in 1871, at what has since been called The Meadows and 3 years later founded St. Johns.

In 1879 he persuaded the Tenth Territorial Legislature to create Apache County and he served as its first member of the Council of the Eleventh Legislature and afterwards served in the Council (now called "Senate") of the Nineteenth Territorial Legislature.

He introduced the first herds of sheep into Arizona and helped dozens of men to get "a start" and hundreds to make a good living.

He always gave generously of his substance to help those who needed help and always defended the rights of the weak and the oppressed.

At the time of his death he had lived in Arizona 68 years and it was said of him by Arizona Historians in 1926 that "He bears the distinction of having resided in Arizona longer than any white man now living.

SOLOMON BARTH'S living descendants are Isaac, Clara, Cecelia and Jacob Barth living at St. Johns, Maurice Barth at Holbrook and Mrs. Adelaide Backstein of Phoenix, sons and daughters, Milton Backstein, grandson, and Bobbie Backstein, great-grandson, living at Sonora, Arizona, and Mrs. Joe Wolf, granddaughter, and Charlie and "Patches" Wolf, great-grandsons, living at Buckeye, Arizona, and Mrs. Donald Chase of New York City, a great-granddaughter, and Ilon Chase a great-granddaughter.

THE ST JOHNS HERALD-OBSERVER.

December 7, 1940.

THE CORRECT STORY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF ST JOHNS. Prior to the year 1850, there lived in the little village of Krutochin in the Province of Posen, Prussia, a Jewish couple, Samuel Barth, a glazier by occupation, his wife, Fredricka and their two daughters Adelaide and Mary and their four sons Jacob, SOLOMON, Morris and Nathan.

The BARTH sons had a military record -- they left Prussia for America to keep from serving in the German army.

Jacob came to America in 1850 and settled in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he became a successful and well to do merchant and where he lived until his death in 1903.

SOLOMON, usually known as SOL, came to America in 1855 and crossed the continent in the latter part of that year with a "train" of Mormon emigrants landing in San Bernardino, California in 1856 and came to La Paz in the late fall of 1860.

He acquired an "ox train" which consisted of big Murphy ore wagons and the necessary complement of oxen and he hauled ore from Weaverville, at the foot of Rich Hill -- now known as Yarnell Hill in Yavapai County -- to Dodge City, Kansas and hauled back supplies for the mines at Weaverville.

In 1863 he settled in Prescott and with a man named Barnett established the first general store in Prescott.

He then used his "ox train" in filling Government contracts to haul grain and supplies between Dodge City, Kansas, and Camp Verde, the Government Military Post in Yavapai County.

He carried the mail on horseback from Prescott to Albuquerque for the U. S. Government, and afterward contracted to carry the mail on horseback -- Pony Express -- from Albuquerque to San Bernardino, and moved to Cubero, New Mexico, which was on his route and also on the road upon which his "ox train" travelled in delivering supplies to the Government.

In 1870 his brothers, Morris and Nathan came to America and settled near Cubero at El Rito, Colorado, a small Spanish settlement.

By this time the BARTH "train" consisted of 38 big Murphy wagons with 4 yoke of oxen to each wagon, and Morris and Nathan joined their brother SOL in the management of his various enterprises.

At that time the road that led from Kansas ran through Albuquerque, to Old Fort Wingate -- San Rafael -- Gallo Springs -- now -- through the 8 miles of precipitous cliffs of Zuni Canyon over the Zuni Mountains past El Morro -- Inscription Rock -- into Zuni, thence south to cross the Little Colorado River at the Rock Crossing -- about 12 miles south of what is now St. Johns -- and thence on Southwest into the White Mountains to Camp Apache -- now called Fort Apache.

And it was this road that the BARTH "ox train" used in its trips between Dodge City, Kansas and Camp Apache and Fort Wingate.

The Government was then paying 10 cents a pound for oats, barley and corn and \$50 a ton for unbaled hay at either Fort Wingate or Camp Apache.

The mesas, draws and hills surrounding the country between the two Military Posts and the Little Colorado were rich in production of gramma, sacaton and mountain grasses, ample to supply all the needs of the two Military Posts.

The valley of the "Coloradito" and its ample waters offered potential wealth in grains to fill all the BARTHS' government contracts.

The BARTHS figured that it would be more profitable to grow the grains in the valley of the Little Colorado and cut tine hay on the local lands than it would be to earn the freight for hauling the grain and hay from Kansas.

At that time there was a road leading from San Martial and Socorro, New Mexico, across the Plains of San Augustine by the Salt Lakes in New Mexico to "El Vado" -- the Ford -- across the Little Colorado then Southwest to Camp Apache.

Having decided to grow their own grain and cut their own hay, in the fall of 1871 the BARTHS settled a party, consisting mostly of the drivers of oxen from the "train" and their families, at the Rock Crossing, afterwards called "El Puente" on the Little Colorado.

Nathan and Morris BARTH and his wife, who was Perfecto Sevedra and Don Teodora Chavez and his wife, Dona Espirdiona Sevedra, and her father and mother, Dona Anastacia Sevedra. I have forgotten the father's name. I only remember that the children called him "Mi Patita". There was young Jose M. Sevedra, his son, and his then young wife.

Don Cruz Rubi and his wife and their beautiful daughters, two of whom married the Armijos, Ambrosio and Gabriel, and Dona Lina said to be the most beautiful girl in the whole Southwest, subsequently married the handsome and dashing young trader from the Navajo Reservation, Don J. Lorenzo Hubbell.

There were the brothers, sisters, parents of Dona Peffecta -- Mrs. Morris BARTH and the Mestas families and others I cannot now remember -- about 30 families in all.

In the spring of 1874 the entire colony moved up the Little Colorado to "El Vado" -- the crossing.

This was the actual first settlement of what is now St. Johns . . .

Before 1876 there wasn't a single resident of St. Johns who wasn't a native of New Mexico.

Except SOL, Morris and Nathan BARTH, natives of Germany; Col. James Hunt, a native of New Jersey; Jack Conley, a retired U. S. soldier, Jose M. Mideles, Jose Tamallo and Sisto Saravia, natives of Mexico -- these three were the only Mexicans among the early settlers of St. Johns. --(Excerpts from article by Isaac Barth).

THE ST JOHNS HERALD- OBSERVER.

June 20, 1942; Vol. V., Page 1.  
(Historical Edition)

"The colorful life of SOL BARTH, aged 86 years, one of the most distinguished citizens and characters of Arizona and the West of pioneer days, came to an end last month in the progressive Mormon town of St. Johns in Apache County, near Springerville, which he founded while Lincoln still was President.

Nobody now remembers SOL BARTH of Arizona. The legend goes that he once claimed the Grand Canyon -- and everything else in Northern Arizona from the Little Colorado to the Big Sandy. To MR. BARTH, the canyon was simply a nuisance -- it prevented him from visiting his domain on the north side more often. He seldom went near there -- it annoyed him. It was, to a man raised on the Russian steppes, a thoroughly disorderly piece of territory.

TOVARISH BARTH was born in Russia in 1842 and came to the United States at the age of thirteen. Three years later he crossed the plains with the Mormons, helping them push the cumbersome two-wheeled carts in which they rolled their belongings. He followed the trail to San Bernardino, California, where there was an early colony of Latter Day Saints. He remained two years and then went back to Arizona which he had noticed and liked on his trip west. This was in 1860; he was eighteen. He got to trading with the Indians and at one time had a mail contract between Fort Whipple and Santa Fe. His Indian business was successful and, as the story has it, he finally managed to "trade" the Navajos out of the Grand Canyon and about 1,000,000 acres around it. On part of his holdings he established the town of St. Johns, which he gave to the Mormons for a settlement. He served in the Arizona Legislature during the Eleventh and Nineteenth terms and, when the Santa Fe was surveyed across New Mexico and Arizona,, accompanied Kingman, Holbrook and others on their locating trips.

SANTA FE, THE RAILROAD THAT BUILT  
AN EMPIRE BY JAMES MARSHALL

Published by Random House, New York,  
1945 - Page 272.

"Who is that little man with the merry twinkling eyes, the pronounced nose and the full brown beard?" asked a visitor to the Council. He was informed it was "SOL" BARTH, member from Apache County. "SOL" is a character in his way, and his manner and conversation instinctively recalls to mind some typical specimens of his race, found in the pages of fiction. He is a wiry little man -- the shortest in the Council -- full of vim, energy and untiring industry. He is not an orator, as Brutus was, but a plain matter-of-fact child of Israel, who doesn't take much stock in "chin music", but looks at things from the practical work-a-day standpoint of cent per cent. He has all the shrewdness of his race and is not very easily taken in by any little Legislative game or "combination". It may happen sometimes that his views on public affairs are put up within the boundaries of Apache County, but of his sound sense and good judgment there can be no doubt. MR. BARTH has made for himself in the present session a record for honest and upright legislation, and as a "worker" on the outside, he has no superior in the Council. He is always at his post, not bothering his head about the subtle intricacies of parliamentary law, manages to "get his work in" when the occasion calls, in a way that is "chill like and bland.") "SOL" is a resident of St. Johns, Apache County, and is engaged in merchandising and stock raising. Socially, he is pleasant company, and over a quiet "rubber" of whist with a few friends, he comes out uncommonly strong.

FROM ARTICLE "A GROUP OF COUNCILMEN"  
ANGIE MITCHELL'S SCRAPBOOK NO. 2/In Museum)

Page 17.

- 35 -

SOL BARTH was the last surviving member of the Eleventh Territorial Legislature of Arizona, and in his honor the flag was displayed at half mast over the State Capitol at Phoenix when his passing was announced. He also was a member of the Nineteenth Territorial Assembly, and was one of only three living survivors, the other two being Governor George W. P. Hunt and B. A. Packard of Douglas.

At one time MR. BARTH was the proprietor of the Grand Canon of Arizona and owned all the country south of the Grand Canon to the Little Colorado River, including what now is the northern half of Apache and Navajo Counties. His title to the vast domain, which today includes one of the world's most noted wonders, was based on a treaty with the Navajo Indians by which the tribal chiefs recognized his title to those lands. This treaty showed him to be the sole owner of the Grand Canon.

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After his mail-carrying experience MR. BARTH turned to trading with the Indians, and that is how he came into possession of the Grand Canon and a major part of two of the largest counties in Arizona.

SOL BARTH had lived longer in Arizona than any other white man. He was born in Russia in 1842 and came to America when but thirteen years of age. At sixteen recrossed the plains to California, traveling on foot with a body of Mormon women immigrants, and all pushed carts in which were bedding and other belongings of the party. The year President Lincoln was elected MR. BARTH left San Bernardino and located in Arizona -- either on Christmas Day or New Year's. (From the Santa Fe Magazine for January 1929 - Page 77).

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