

# BENNETT, WILLIAM

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BENNETT, WILLIAM, born In New York, about 1836; enlisted, age 26, at Nevada City, Nevada County, California, October 30, 1861, to serve 3 years in Captain Atehisson's Company I, 4th California Infantry; occupation when enlisted - Miner; went with the Company to Southern California and stationed at Fort Mohave, A.T., from May, 1863, to November, 1864; he was on detached service at La Paz, A.T., from August 8 to November 27, 1863; honorably discharged at Drum Barracks, California, December 5, 1864.

Listed, Territorial Census, 1864, at Fort Mohave, age 28, occupation - Soldier; U.S. Census 1870, at Mohave City, Mohave County, A.T., age 34, occupation - Shoemaker; the following letter addressed to the editor of the Yuma Arizona Sentinel was written at Aubrey, A.T., on May 2, 1880:

Since my last letter another man has turned up "missing," and, doubtless like Mr. Calloway and the mail-rider, has become a victim of Indian barbarity.

Mr. William Bennett, an old and favorably known resident of Mohave county, arrived in Yuma from San Francisco, sometime about the 1st of April or last of March, en route to his ranch in Mohave county. From Ehrenberg to the Reservation he came by Mr. Edely's team, thence on foot to Aubrey, where he stayed all night. Starting in the morning on foot, the next morning he reached Liverpool Landing, where he cooked breakfast in the camp of Mr. Kelly, myself and Mr. Ludwig being there at the time. We were the last to see him alive. His tracks were traced to the Needles, the same place the mail-rider met his death, a couple of days previous.

Now that the military under Colonel W.R. Price, 6th Cavalry (2 companies and about 50 Indian scouts) are at the Colorado River Agency,

I trust that a thorough search will be instituted for these hell-hounds, and the long merited punishment meted out to those deserving of it. Life and property have been unsafe in this vicinity, and even the close proximity of the troops does not seem to intimidate these scoundrels, for no later than Friday, the mail-rider from Mohave saw fresh tracks in the Canons of the Needles, and changed his course accordingly, or else he might have failed to return. The Chimehuevas assert that the Mohaves have perpetrated these outrages to precipitate a war upon them.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Arizona Sentinel, Yuma, May 8, 1880, 3:3.

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Additional newspaper references to him and obituaries in other Arizona newspapers .