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**CRANDAL, ROBERT M.**

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CRANDAL, ROBERT M., born in Ohio about 1832; Griselda P. Saens, his common law wife, was born in Sonora about 1838 and is listed in the 1870 Census, at Tucson as Seams tress, property valued at \$2,750; his will bequeathed all of his property to her in trust for their daughter, Mary Crandal.

Went to school in Indiana; crossed the plains to California in 1852; he had a two-story hotel and saloon known as the "American" in Jackson, Amador County, about 1856; enrolled at Amador City, August 6 and appointed 2d Lieutenant, Company C, 1st California Infantry, August 16, 1861; went with the Company to Southern California where he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and transferred to Company G, same Regiment, at Camp Latham, near Los Angeles, California, March 16, 1862; the Company arrived at Fort Yuma April 7 and left there April 17 arriving at Fort Barrett April 29, 1862; enroute from Fort Barrett to Tucson May 14 to 21, 1862; designated as Provost-Marshal, Western District of Arizona, with headquarters at Tucson, October 11, 1862.

Promoted to Captain and transferred to Company A., same Regiment, at Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 14, 1863, to take effect as of December 4, 1862; stationed at Las Cruces, N. M., until June and at Fort Craig in July, 1863; marched to Fort Union, N. M., in August and was stationed there until mustered out of the service except from March to May, 1864, when he was with the Company at Santa Fe, M. M.; mustered out at Fort Union, New Mexico, August 31, 1864.

Appointed on December 23, 1867, as Mounted Inspector Of Customs on the road between Fort Yuma and Tubac, A.T.; tendered his resignation so that he could serve as member from Pima County, 5th Arizona Legislature, at Tucson from November 10, to December 16, 1868; his

resignation was then withdrawn and he continued in the Customs Service; became Inspector of Customs, October 1, 1869, and served until he resigned on April 1, 1871.

W. W. Mills in his book "Forty Years in El Paso" tell this story about him;

While I was Collector of Customs at El Paso a good friend of mine, Captain Crandal, had been honorably discharged from the Union army and had located at Tucson.

Crandal came to El Paso and stopped at my house and informed me that his father had died in Indiana and that he ("Bob") was enroute there to get his portion of the estate, and he hoped to return pretty well fixed. After several months Bob returned, and came to my house looking dejected and rather seedy. He told me that others had administered on his father's estate before he arrived and had got away with it all and that he was destitute.

I asked my friend what he proposed to do? He said he would work his way back to Tucson and commence life anew. The next morning I asked him to accompany me to my office, and as we walked I said; "Bob, as soon as we get to the office I will write your appointment as Deputy Collector of Customs at Tucson at a salary of \$1,800 a year, and I will advance you a month's salary".

My friend paused and when he spoke there were tears in his voice. "Mills," he said, "do you know that I am a Democrat?" "Yes," I replied, "but is that any reason why you should be a damphool?" "Well," replied the Captain, speaking slowly, "I don't know that it is, but sometimes it appears to me that it amounts to about the same thing".

The Tucson Arizonian of May 28, 1869, stated that;

Our enterprising friend R. M. Crandal bought J. H. Tool's interest in the La Paz silver mine, and declares that neither Apache nor any other man shall impede his operations in developing said mine. We believe R. M.; he generally means everything he says. This mine is situated about 12 miles west from Tucson.

Listed, U. S. Census, 1870, at Tucson, age 37, occupation - Inspector of Customs, property valued at \$30,000; Captain J. G. Bourke wrote of him in "On the Border With Crook" as he knew him in the early seventies;

Over by the faro bank stood Bob Crandal, a faithful wooer of the fickle goddess Chance. He was one of the handsomest men in the Southwest and really endowed with many fine qualities; he was then in Tucson making a livelihood as a gambler. The beautiful diamond glistening on his breast had a romantic history. I give it as I remember it:

When Maximilian was in Mexico there was a French brigade in the two towns of Hermosillo and Magdalena, Sonora. Desertions were not rare and the fugitives made their way across the United States boundary. One of these deserters approached Crandal and asked him for assistance. He had a stone which he believed was of great value, which was a part of the plunder coming to him when he and some comrades had looted the hacienda of an affluent Mexican planter. He would sell it for 400 francs - eighty dollars.

Crandal was no judge of gems but there was something so brilliant about the bauble that he paid over the sum demanded. Four or five years afterwards Crandal was making some purchases in a jewelry store in San Francisco, when the owner, happening to see the diamond he was wearing, inquired whether he would be willing to sell it and offered \$1500 cash for the gem which had been so lightly regarded."

The Tucson Arizona Citizen of April 10, 1875 printed this item:

Capt. R. M. Crandal in one of his gunning expeditions this week took in a red fox. Reynard was roosting on a limb of a tree near a flock of chickens, and the Captain made him retire from the poultry business.

The following is extracted from an obituary published in the

Citizen;

The death of Captain Robert M. Crandal on Thursday morning of this week. leaves a wide gap in the ranks

of the old residents of Tucson. A little over a year ago, if the old "residents" of this town had met in conclave and done some close figuring on the remaining years of life probably in store for each, we believe that Captain Crandal's number would have been placed among the highest. He was a strong man mentally and physically and of the finest physique.

Captain Crandal came here in May 1862 as a Lieutenant of California Volunteers. He belonged to the detachment under General J. H. Carleton, and upon arrival here was Adjutant of the detachment. The regiment to which he belonged was under the command of Colonel J. R. West, now United States Senator from Louisiana. Subsequently Captain Crandal was made Provost Marshal, of this District and was more or less associated with the military government of Tucson.

Thereafter, we lose trace of him for a while, although we learn that he was for sometime stationed in Santa Fe. His soldierly qualities gained the most marked recognition from General Carleton who, as is well known, was a very strict disciplinarian, and Crandal gained his full confidence and esteem, and was early promoted to a Captaincy.

After the disbanding of the California Volunteer Captain Crandal is said to have made a visit to the States, whence he returned here in a short time, taking up a permanent residence in Tucson. He has been widely and favorably known in Southern Arizona for many years and his remains were followed by yesterday morning to the grave by a large portion of the people of Tucson.

Died at Tucson, Pima County, A.T., March 2, 1876, aged 44; buried, City Cemetery, War Department headstone; his estate was appraised at \$3,945 which included three lots in Tucson fronting on the Church Plaza, a diamond ring valued at \$1,000, a diamond pin, \$200, a gold watch, \$200 and a set of moss-agate studs worth \$50.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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CRANDAL, ROBERT M.

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