

DORAN, ANDREW JAMES

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DORAN, ANDREW JAMES, born at New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, July 11, 1840; son of George and Jane (Cribbs) Doran; never married; educated in the public schools and attended Wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant, Iowa; his mother died when he was 4 years old and he went to live with his paternal grand parents in Cooper County, Missouri, and later at Mount Pleasant, Iowa; in 1855 he joined his father in Booneville, Iowa, where he learned the millwright and bridge builders trade.

Went to Central City, Colorado, during the gold excitement of 1860 and then via Salt Lake City to California arriving at Marysville, Yuba County, in the summer of 1861; enlisted at Sacramento, October 30, 1861, to serve 3 years as Private, Company H, 5th California Infantry; went with the Company to Southern California in February, 1862, and arrived at Fort Yuma in April; left there in May and marched up the Gila to Fort Barrett (Casa Blanca) where he was placed in charge of the commissary store; the Company was stationed at Tucson from July to December and from January to June, 1863, at Fort Bowie where he was again assigned to the Commissary Department; was with the Company at El Paso, Texas from June to August, 1863; the remainder of his service was on the Rio Grande in New Mexico except from July to October, 1864, when he was on duty with the Company at Fort Goodwin, A.T.; honorably discharged as Private at Mesilla, N.M., November 30, 1864.

After his discharge, went to Canyon City, Oregon, where he was superintendent of a quartz mill for two years; returned to California in 1867 to operate a saw mill and lumber business in Butte County; in 1868 he began building snow-sheds and bridges for the Central Pacific Railroad and saw the last spike driven at Promontory, Utah, on May 10, 1869; made an extended trip by rail to the eastern States in 1870 and then returned to the

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Pacific Coast where he was employed for a time with the engineer branch of the U.S. Lighthouse Service; in 1874-75 he was engaged in building a quartz mill for mines in Inyo County, California.

Came to Arizona in 1876 to supervise construction and operate a mill and concentrator for the Silver King mine at Picket Post (Pinal) on Queen Creek; elected from Pinal County to the Lower House of the 11th Territorial Legislature in 1880; became Superintendent of the mine in 1881 and made a record shipment of 22 bars of silver valued at \$70,000 and an equal value of concentrates, all the result of 15 days run of the mill; moved to Florence and was Sheriff of Pinal County in 1883-84; the Silver King - Casa Grande stage was twice robbed while he was Sheriff but each time he recovered the stolen bullion; one of the robbers was captured after a chase of over 100 miles into Pinto Basin; on another occasion he recovered \$14,000 taken from a wagon near Bisbee; he later served twice as a Member of the Board of Supervisors of Pinal County and represented that County as Commissioner at the Cotton States Exposition in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1886; again a Member from Pinal County, 14th Territorial Legislature, at Prescott, 1887.

Became associated with John D. Walker in the Reynart Mine, located about 12 miles southwest of Pinal, in 1884 and was its Superintendent from the fall of 1888 until April, 1890; built the present Pinal County Court House at Florence in 1889; Member of the Territorial Board of Tax Equalization under Governors Wolfley and Irwin, 1890-92; Member from Pinal County, 16th and 17th Territorial Councils, 1891 and 1893, and sponsored a military code which established the National Guard of Arizona; appointed in 1891 by Governor Irwin as Lieutenant Colonel, 1st Arizona Infantry, and served for 7 years; MOM

in 1894 from the Territory at large to the 18th Territorial Council and became its President.

Moved to Prescott in 1898 to engage in mining; nominated Republican candidate for Delegate to Congress in 1898 but was defeated by Marcus A. Smith, Democrat, the vote being Smith 6065, Doran 4049 and W.O. O'Neill, Populist, 3695; served as chairman of a convention held in Phoenix, October 26, 1901, which urged Statehood for Arizona; President, Board of Managers for the Arizona exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, Missouri, 1904; elected from Yavapai County to the 24th Territorial Council and for a second time became President of that body on January 21, 1907; appointed by Governor Kibbey as first Superintendent of Arizona Pioneers Home at Prescott in 1909 and supervised the construction of the original buildings.

He was a member of Gila Valley Lodge 9, F. & A.M. and Pinal Lodge No. 4, I.O.O.F. at Florence and of the B.P.O. Elks at Prescott; Comrade, Hagley Post No. 1, G.A.R. at Tucson, 1881 to 1900; Post Commander, Barrett Post No. 3, G.A.R. at Prescott, 1902; Member of the Arizona Pioneers Historical Society at Tucson.

Due to an injury caused by an automobile accident in Los Angeles, he was in the U.S. Soldiers Home at Hartelle from August 14, 1916 until October 19, 1917; returned to Prescott and was admitted to the Arizona Pioneers Home January 6, where he died on February 14, 1918, aged 78; buried, Pioneers Home Cemetery; War Department headstone.

The following is taken from an obituary printed in the Prescott Journal Miner at the time of his death;

Arizona has lost one of her strongestmen, one of her ablest citizens and one of her staunchest industrial builders in Major A.J. Doran.

It is a strange and yet beautiful coincidence that the earthly career of this dean of Hassayamper should end under an environment which he practically moulded, when many years ago, as a legislator, he initiated the movement by which Arizona pioneers were to be given a home. So, accordingly, will this pillar of kindly consideration of others remain and serve as a fitting monument to his memory as time rolls on. Major Doran reluctantly accepted the position as the first Superintendent of that institution, but retired later owing to urgent mining business, and returned to its shelter only a few weeks ago out of affection for its associations and as a guest of the State at large.

A splendid trait of the character of this Hassayamper was his fearless nature, and yet his disposition was tempered with a kindly feeling under all circumstances, in which his open-handed generosity gave him a splendid name throughout Arizona. He would give freely, but not take, he disdained the fulsome, and his modestmanners made him beloved by all.

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- The Arizona Daily Citizen, Tucson, September 26, 1896, p. 1
- The Arizona Republican, Phoenix, February 16, 1910, p. 3, Col. 3 (obituary).
- The Journal-Miner, Prescott, February 15, 1918, p. 5, c. 3-5.
- The Prescott Courier, February 16, 1918, p. 8, c. 1.

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ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Notes from interviews with him in the Office of the Arizona State
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The Phoenix Herald, November 29, 1882, 3:2; January 13, 3:1;
August 13, 2:3, August 18, 2:2, September 3, 2:1 and
September 4, 1883, 2:1 and 3:2.