

FERGUSON, WILLIAM C.

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FERGUSON, WILLIAM C., born in Franklin County, Virginia, February 13, 1825; was in St. Louis, Missouri, when mustered in on August 24, 1846, age 21, to serve during the Mexican War as Corporal, Captain Holt's Company H, 3d Regiment of Missouri Mounted Volunteers; marched with the Company to Fort Leavenworth and was there when an order was received stating that it had been decided that further troops were not needed and that "the 3d Missouri Infantry be mustered out of service except that any companies which had left for Santa Fe will not be interfered with"; the War Department records show that all the men of Company H, were honorably discharged on September 30, 1846; he afterwards made the following explanation of why he did not have a discharge certificate;

My regiment was under marching orders and ready to start when, late in the night before the day we were to start, an express came from the Secretary of War directing that if the regiment was on the march to allow it to proceed, but if not to disband it at once. The regiment was thereupon disbanded by Companies, and no discharges were given. We were informed that those who desired discharges could apply to an officer whose name I have forgotten and get them. I did not apply and thus did not obtain my discharge.

The records of the Quartermaster Department show that William C. Ferguson was employed as Teamster at \$35 per month at a Camp near Nier, Mexico, on April 12, 1848, and that he was at Chihuahua, Mexico, on July 1; on August 31 he was reported as being en route to Independence, Missouri, where he was discharged on October 12, 1848; the records are incomplete but he is reported as Teamster at Indian Point, Texas, on May 1, 1849, at \$25 per month; was at Franklin, near El Paso del Norte on September 22, 1849, and was discharged and paid

off at that place on February 3, 1850.

When applying for membership in the Society of Arizona pioneers at Tucson on February 9, 1884, stated that he first came to Arizona in 1861; served as Doorkeeper of the lower House, 5th Territorial Legislature, at Tucson, November 10, to December 16, 1868; was an unsuccessful candidate for Village Marshal at a special election held in Tucson on March 15, 1873; the Tucson Arizona Citizen of August 29, 1874, reported that :

W. C. Ferguson, quite well known in Tucson has been severely hurt at Oro Blanco while working about an arrastra. Doctor Handy has gone out to attend to injuries to his head.

He joined with Alexander McKey and D. C. Thompson in relocating the Cerro Colorado Mine in February, 1876, and in reoccupying the village at this place; in an advertisement in the Tucson Arizona Star, as the owner of a half interest in the Cerro Colorado mine, he warned all persons against trespassing *on the property*.

Was at Nogales, A.T., on December 23, 1895, when he applied for admission to the Soldiers Home at Sawtelle, Los Angeles County, California and was admitted on January 9, 1896; the following was printed in the Nogales Oasis on November 19, 1898:

The Los Angeles Times of Monday has the following: "W. C. Ferguson, an old soldier, was taken to the receiving hospital last night from a house on the corner of Macy and Lyon streets, where, in climbing the stairs to get to his room he fell and fractured his left hip at the joint. Dr. Hagan set the broken bones and put the old man to bed. He will be removed to the county hospital this morning." Mr. Ferguson formerly resided at Nogales and was well known here.

FERGUSON, WILLIAM C.

- 3 -

Died at the U. S. Soldiers Home, November 27, 1898, aged 73;
buried there.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Adjutant General of the Army - Military Service Records.
The Quartermaster General's Office - Archives & Claims.
U.S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, S.C. 16, 764.
The Arizona Pioneers Historical Society - Membership Book, p. 24.
The Arizona Miner, Prescott, November 28, 1868, 2:4
The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, March 8, 3:2 and March 22, 1873, 3:2;
August 29, 1874, 3:2; February 26, 1876, 1:3.
The Arizona Star, Tucson, September 26, 1878, 3:4.
The Oasis, Nogales, November 19, 4:4 and December 3, 1898, 1:2.

FERGUSON, WILLIAM CRUMP

Information from the Great Registers.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Nativity</u>
1882	- Pima County, Precinct 1		56	U. S.
1884	- Great Register of Pima County Missing.			
1886	- Pima County, Precinct 18		62	U. S.
1888	- " " " 18		62	U. S.
	Registration Date, March 16, 1886. Listed as <u>Ferguson, William Crump</u>			
1890	- Pima County, Precinct 18		65	U. S.
1892	- " " " 18		67	U. S.
1894	- " " " 18		69	U. S.

Not registered later.

Died at Sawtelle, California, November 27, 1898.