

GRIGALVA, MEREGILDO

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GRIGALVA, MEREGILDO (Merijildo Grijalva)

Born at _____ Sonora _____ 18__ (about 1848).

Married _____ at _____ on _____ 18__.

Children, _____.

The records of the Quartermaster General's Office show that he was employed as a Teamster at Mesilla, New Mexico, at \$35 per month on November 1, 1862; from January 11, to July 31, 1863, he was at Fort West, N. M., as Spy and Scout at the rate of pay; transferred to Fort Bowie, A. T. and served from October to December, 1863; during the years 1866-1871, he served for the most part on the Upper San Pedro as Guide at \$75 per month.

He was a Guide at Camp Bowie at \$80 a month from January to August, 1872, and at Camp Grant as Guide and Interpreter at \$125 from April to July, 1874; in September and October, 1881, he was employed at \$100 a month at Camp Thomas as Interpreter; his last recorded service as a civilian employee was at Fort Lowell, under Captain C. C. Smith as Interpreter at \$100 per month from January 1, to March 6, 1882, when he was sent to Fort Thomas for discharge; the following article about him was printed in the Solomonville, Arizona Bulletin, on December 29, 1899:

Meregildo Grigalva, one of the oldest inhabitants in this section of Arizona, came over from Fort Grant with his family to spend the holidays with his old friends in Solomonville and to look after his property interests, he owning a ranch seven miles west of town and some town property. When but a boy, in 1852, Merigildo was captured by a band of hostile Apache Indians during one of their raids in the state of Sonora, Mexico, and brought to the Indian country in the Chiricahua mountains. He remained with the Indians seven years and

six months, running away from them after the overland stage route had been established in 1859 .

After leaving the Indians he went to Mesilla, N. M. and in 1862 entered the employment of the government as a guide. From that time he has been almost constantly in the service of the government either as guide or scout. In 1864 he passed the spot now covered by Solomonville with Col. Davis and a troop of cavalry. That was when old Fort Goodwin was first established. There was no person living in the Gila valley then. Tucson was the nearest place where any person lived. Meregildo Grigalvais now chief of Indian scouts with his headquarters at Fort Grant.

Died at Solomonville on April 1 1912 .

Buried _____ Cemetery _____ .

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Quartermaster General's Office -- Archives and files.
The Arizona Bulletin, Solomonville, December 29, 1899, 3:4.
Superior Court of Graham County, Docket No. 5--265