

HANCOCK, WILLIAM AUGUSTUS, born at Barre, Worcester County, Massachusetts, May 17, 1831; son of Nathan and Catherine (Lee) Hancock; attended public schools and the Leicester Academy; married Lillie Bell Kellogg, daughter of Benjamin Kellogg, at Phoenix, A.T., February 5, 1873; children, Harry Lee and Mabel D. (Mrs. H. I. Latham).

Started for California in 1853 with his brothers, John and Henry; in Iowa they purchased a band of horses and cattle which they drove across the plains arriving with 275 head; settled about 9 miles north of Sacramento where he resided for 8 years; made a trip to Massachusetts via Panama on account of the death of his father, 1858.

Enrolled at Downieville, Sierra County, November 4 and mustered in at the Presidio of San Francisco as Private, Captain J. H. Shepard's Company K, 7th California Infantry, November 19, 1864; promoted Corporal, January 30, 1865; arrived at Fort Yuma in March and was promoted Sergeant, April 15, 1865; marched to Fort McDowell, A.T., in July, where he was honorably discharged to accept promotion, August 15, 1865.

Appointed by Governor Goodwin as 2d Lieutenant, Company C, 1st Battalion, Arizona Volunteer Infantry, August 7 and mustered in at Maricopa Wells, A.T., November 10 to date from September 1, 1865; the enlisted men of the Company were Pima Indians; stationed at Fort McDowell, A.T., from November 24, 1865 to August 30, 1866; served as Post Adjutant at Fort McDowell and was promoted 1st Lieutenant, June 20, 1866; named Greenback Valley in Tonto Basin, A.T., because he found a \$100 bill there in a deserted Apache wickiup while on a scout against hostile Indians; honorably discharged with the Company at Pima Villiage, A.T., September 13, 1866; employed as Assistant Superintendent of the Post farm at Fort McDowell at \$50 per month, September 14, 1866; promoted to \$100 per month,

December 1, 1866; promoted to Superintendent at \$150 per month, June 15, 1867, and served until March 25, 1868; Justice of the Peace at Fort McDowell, 1866-68; the Apaches stole a bay horse worth \$125 from him in February and a gray horse worth \$175 in April, 1867; Post Trader at Camp Reno, Tonto Basin, A.T., until May, 1870.

Listed, U.S. Census, August 30, 1870, at Salt River Valley, Yavapai County, A.T., occupation, Merchant; at a meeting held on October 20, 1870, he was elected Secretary of the Salt River Valley Town Association the articles of which were signed by 23 citizens; that fall and in the spring of 1871 he surveyed and staked out 98 blocks in the north $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 3 East which became the original town of Phoenix, now bounded by Van Buren Street, 7th Street, Harrison Street and 7th Avenue; erected the first store building in the townsite on the northwest corner of Washington and Montezuma (First) Streets which was an adobe structure, 15 by 30 feet; appointed by Governor Safford as the first Sheriff of Maricopa County and served from February to May, 1871; appointed Postmaster, February 13, 1871, to succeed J. M. Olvaney, when the Phoenix Post Office was moved to the new townsite from a location three miles eastward; served as Postmaster until August 19, 1879; the building which he erected was used as the first County Court House and as the Post Office; served as Surveyor of Maricopa County, 1871-72 and again in 1874-77; admitted to the bar, May 7, 1872; and became District Attorney of Maricopa County that year, again serving in that office in 1874-76; Public Administrator and ex-officio Coroner of Maricopa County, 1873-76; Probate Judge and ex-officio School Superintendent of Maricopa County, 1876-80; established the corners of 12 sections of land in the vicinity of Mesa City, A.T., upon which the Mormon Settlers located, and prepared the articles of incorporation of the Mesa Canal Company, 1878.

Surveyed and located a number of the early canals in Maricopa County and during his later years engaged in promoting a water storage and irrigation development on the Agua Fria river; member of the Society of Arizona Pioneers, at Tucson, of the Territorial Bar Association, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Comrade, J. W. Owen Post No. 5, Grand Army of the Republic at Phoenix; always a staunch Republican; died at Phoenix, Maricopa County, A.T., March 24, 1902, aged 70; buried, Old City (Pioneers) Cemetery, Phoenix, Arizona; his funeral was conducted by the G.A.R. and was attended by a number of Pima Indians who served as soldiers under him and who came to mourn his death.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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