

HANLON, HALL

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Born at _____ Maryland, _____, 18__ (about 1823).

Son of _____ and _____.

Married, Mrs. Martha W. (Richards) Carter (1821-1904) a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, at San Francisco, California, _____, 1858; Joseph Swift Carter was his step-son.

Came to Arizona in 1854; listed, U. S. Census, 1860, at Colorado Township, California, age 38, occupation - Merchant, property valued at \$12,000; U. S. Census, 1870, at Yuma, A. T., age 45, occupation - Grocer, property valued at \$5,000; an obituary printed in the Yuma Sun of July 19, 1912, stated in part:

In early life Mr. Hanlon went to New Orleans, then the rapidly going emporium of the Mississippi Valley, and when the discovery of gold in California occurred he moved again and was one of the pioneers in the placer diggings of American River. Here he contracted asthma from working on the bars of the river and on this account sought the dry air of the Colorado.

He arrived in Yuma in 1854 and being a carpenter by trade found work at Fort Yuma, the first permanent buildings of which were then in the course of construction. From that time on till failing health compelled him, 4 or 5 years ago, to enter the hospital at Santa Barbara, his home was in the Yuma valley.

Several years after he arrived here he opened a store two miles below Fort Yuma. Later he entered and proved up a homestead in the angle formed by the Colorado and the Inter-California boundary where he devoted his time in raising cattle and managing a ferry across the river.

When the California Development Company began operations preparatory to the construction of the Imperial canal the company purchased this homestead and the great headgate is located near the middle of it.

On the north east corner of this tract he planted a fifteen acre date orchard which was in bearing many years ago and was probably the first attempt to cultivate this fruit within the boundaries of the United States.

Mr. Hanlon was a quaint character. He had a great fund of humor, a singularly ready wit and a command of sparkling language that always made a company merry when he was one of them. Old timers love to repeat many of his comments.

The following references to him appeared in the Yuma Arizona Sentinel:

March 2, 1874 -- Ferry, Hanlon & Bowman, across the Colorado river six miles below Fort Yuma, at the regular crossing of the U. S. Mail Lines. The roads are good and two miles and a half the shortest to hay, grain or pasture. Two first class boats run day or night for the accommodation of the traveling public. The above described property for sale, with everything pertaining to the ferry completes Apply to Hall Hanlon at his store in Yuma. --Adv.

June 10, 1876 -- We are informed that on last Sunday night some men entered the house of Hall Hanlon at his ferry, six miles below Yuma, and using chloroform upon Mr. Hanlon who was asleep in bed, proceeded to rifle the house. They took a lot of jewelry, gold-dust, money, and many other articles, even taking Mr. Hanlon's pants from a chair at his bed side and taking the money from his pockets. The robbers then took Mr. Hanlon's boat, crossed the river, and left for parts unknown. It might be well for our citizens to keep their shotguns loaded and ready for such fellows, and look out for chloroform.

February 24, 1877 -- Hanlon's Ferry is doing better business than ever before; travel this way is increasing, and his boats are in perfect order for crossing livestock or the heaviest teams.

December 28, 1878 -- Hall Hanlon, who has been so successful with grape culture at his ranch, about six miles down the river, received 100 orange trees on Christmas day.

July 5, 1884 -- Hall Hanlon, is we hear preparing his ferry, nine miles below Yuma and will be soon ready to accommodate the California travel. Mr.

Hanlon was in town this week, and we are sorry to learn from him that his vineyard has been completely destroyed by the high water. Mr. Hanlon saved only a small garden.

February 28, 1891 -- Joe Carter came up from Hall Hanlon's today. The old Hanlon house is under water up to the top of the doors. Mr. Carter sent his men and Rafael Martinez family to the mesa where they are camped. His cattle, horses and mules went to the mesa before the flood came. He thinks that the loss of stock is small.

April 30, 1892 -- The immense growth of the date palm trees at Hall Hanlon's and the great bunches of delicious dates which they bear, is evidence enough that the rich soil in the river bottoms near Yuma is well adapted to their growth, and to the production of this fine fruit.

October 14, 1899 -- Hall Hanlon was in town yesterday on a shopping expedition. He says the origin of the fire at his place, seven miles below Yuma, last week is as much of a mystery as ever. He was unaware of the presence of fire until he awoke in his sleep and heard the flames crackling, then barely time remained for the occupants of the house to save themselves.

March 11, 1903 -- Hall and Martha Hanlon have sold 318 acres of land to the California Development Company for \$13,000. The land adjoins the Yuma Indian reservation.

January 6, 1910 -- Visitors from Adrade, formerly called Hanlon's, says that the California Development Co., is fencing in the Hanlon ranch and preparing to lay out a townsite on that part of it lying along the international boundary. This ranch, comprising 320 acres, covering the ground between the river and Pilot Knob peak on the American side, was purchased from Hall Hanlon just before the work on the Imperial canal was commenced. The Imperial headgate is near the middle of it.

Died at Santa Barbara, California, July 18, 1912, aged 89;

buried, _____ Cemetery, _____ California.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- The Morning Sun, Yuma, January 22, 1904, 5:3 (death of wife) and July 19, 1912, 1:6 (obituary).
- The Arizona Sentinel, Yuma, January 17, 3:3 and March 2, 1874, 2:6; June 10, 1876, 3:3, February 24, 1877, 3:3; December 28, 1878, 3:2; February 18, 1882, 3:1; July 5, 1884, 3:1; November 6, 1886, 3:3; February 19, 1887, 3:4; April 20, 1889, 3:1; February 28, 1891, 3:1; February 20, 3:5 and April 30, 1892, 2:1; October 7, 3:1 and October 14, 1899, 3:4; March 11, 2:4 and November 4, 1903, 3:3; January 20, 1904, 3:3; March 29, 3:5 and December 6, 1905, 3:3; November 7, 1907, 3:4; January 6, 2:2 and September 29, 1910, 4:2.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- The Arizona Sentinel, Yuma, March 16, 4:4 (advertisement) September 21, 1872, 3:4, March 29, 1873, 2:3; January 17, 3:3 and August 15, 1874, 2:5; August 3, 1878, 1:5; October 4, 1879, 3:2; February 18, 3:1 and May 20, 1882, 3:3; April 21, 3:1 and October 6, 1883, 3:1; June 21, 3:2 and July 5, 1884, 3:1; August 8, 1885, 3:3; February 20, 3:2, and November 6, 1886, 3:3; April 20, 3:1 and August 10, 1889, 3:1; June 28, 3:3 and November 29, 1890, 3:1; September 12, 1891, 1:4; June 18, 1892, 1:4; February 25, 1893, 1:4; February 3, 3:5 and August 19, 1894, 3:4; August 17, 1895, 3:5; October 31, 1900, 3:1; June 26, 1901, 3:1; March 11, 1903, 2:4; July 7, 1910, 4:1.
- The Yuma Sun, January 4, 1901, 5:2.
- The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, October 8, 1901, 3:3, (reprint from the Yuma Sun).