

LUKE, CHARLES AUGUST

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LUKE, CHARLES AUGUST, born at Dalhausen, Westphalia, Prussia, August 30, 1832; married (1) Anna Holsehu, a native of Germany at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1866, who died at San Francisco, California April 5, 1880; (2) Mrs. Emma Liebenow (1849-1917) at Phoenix, A.T., by Judge De Forest Porter, on October 13, 1880; step-children, Adolph and Tillie Liebenow, who married his nephew, Frank Luke.

Left Germany late in October and landed at New Orleans, December 25, 1852; went to St. Louis, Missouri in April, 1853 and moved to St. Joseph the next year; crossed the plains to Placerville, California, arriving September 12, 1854; engaged in mining and was naturalized as an American citizen at Yreka, Siskiyou County, July 5, 1859.

Enrolled, aged 29, at Yreka, September 11 and mustered in at Camp Alert, San Francisco, to serve 3 years as Private, Company M, 2d California Cavalry, occupation when enlisted - Miner; went with the Company to Nevada and Utah in 1862; participated in the battle of Bear River, Idaho, against the Snake and Shoshone Indians, January 29, 1863 when 4 men of the Company were killed and 13 wounded; in action with Indians at Spanish Fork, Utah, April 4 and April 14, 1863; stationed at Fort Bridger, Wyoming Territory, from May, 1863 to April 1864.

The Company under command of Captain George F. Price, left Fort Douglas, Utah on May 17, to survey a route for a wagon road from Salt Lake City to Fort Mohave, A.T., and reached the Virgin River by the end of the month; was at Fort Mohave on June 30, and on the Muddy river Nevada, July 31; remarks on the Company return show arrival at Fort Douglas, August 30, 1864.

Having traveled: principal route (as measured by odometer) 1314 miles; secondary routes, 829 miles; observation lines, 555 miles; total, 2,798 miles. Time occupied 114 days.

He returned to California in October and was honorably discharged at San Francisco, November 9, 1864; made a visit to the East and came to Mohave County, A.T., with his bride in 1866 to engage in mining in the Sacramento District but on account of hostility of the Hualapai Indians sent her to California early in September; the Hualapais attacked his camp near the Silver Hill mine on September 22, 1866, killed the foreman, M. Benjamin, Ira Woodworth and two other men named Baker and Judson.

He estimated the value of his property taken or destroyed by the Indians at \$6,265, the principal items being 4 horses, 4 mules, 3 burros, a ladies saddle and 4 gents saddles, bedroom furniture, blankets and quilts, kitchen furniture and cooking utensils, a large quantity of provisions, mining tools, 3 Henry rifles, a carbine, 3 pistols, and assay outfit, a complete blacksmith shop, his wife's jewelry consisting of several necklaces, earrings, bracelets, 2 trunks containing suits of clothes, his wife's silk dresses and "such other things as ladies wear".

On August 20, 1867, he suffered a second loss when the Indians killed James H. Stimson, Frank Messer, Edward Yonkers and two other men; he barely escaped with his life, his saddle having been shot off by severing the girdle, but he rode his horse bareback into Hardyville; his loss by this depredation amounted to \$2500 being 3 horses, 2 mules, 4 saddles, saddle bags and bridles, a field glass, 3 rifles, 4 pistols a barometer, \$575 in currency and \$150 in gold coin.

Moved to Prescott where his name appears in the 1870 census as a liquor dealer; wrote a report on the Hualapai Mining District of Mohave County which was printed in Raymond's 4th Annual Report on Mining West of the Rocky Mountains, 1871; appointed by Governor Safford on March 17, 1873, as Commissioner of the Territory of Arizona to the Universal Exhibition at Vienna Austria; he gathered samples of gold, silver and copper bearing ores from the principal mines in Arizona which were shipped at his own expense to Vienna; his wife went with him and they afterwards visited relatives in Germany; returning to Prescott in October, 1873; elected Mayor of Prescott on January 14, 1875 and served during that year.

H. C. Hodge in "Arizona As It Is" states that in 1877 he was interested in the Gretna, Idelewild and Thurman mines in the Bradshaw basin and describes him as "an active wide awake man, who has made arrangements to erect suitable reduction works the present season which will add much to the prosperity of the district"; the following advertisement was printed in the Prescott Arizona Miner on July 20, 1877:

MINERS AND MINE OWNERS

Luke's ten-stamp mill, situated in Bradshaw Basin will soon be ready to run and to accommodate the miner in that vicinity, we will do custom work at the lowest possible rates. Our mill will be a complete silver mill and we employ none but first-class mechanics to enable us to give entire satisfaction. Parties having ore at the mill will be privileged (at their own expense) to be present while their ores are being worked. For further information apply to

C. A. LUKE
President of the Company
Prescott

Moved to Phoenix in 1879 and is listed in the 1880 census with Joseph Thalheimer as operators of a brewery; joined the Society of Arizona Pioneers in 1884, occupation - proprietor, Arcade Brewery in

Phoenix; comrade, J. W. Owen Post No. 5, G.A.R., Phoenix, 1892-99;
 member of the Order of Red Men; died at Phoenix, A.T., November 16,
 1899, aged 67; buried, St. Francis Cemetery, Phoenix.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Farish, T. E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 6, p. 87
 Hodge, H. C. - Arizona As It Is, New York, 1877, p. 96
 Raymond, R.W. - Statistics of Mining West of the Rocky Mountains, 4th
 Annual Report, Washington, 1871, p. 336
 Orton, R. H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion,
 Sacramento, 1890, pp. 194, 300
 Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records
 U. S. Veterans Administration - Pension records
 Dept. of Arizona, G.A.R. - Annual Reports, 1882-1899.
 Probate Court of Maricopa County, A.T., Docket No. 712
 U. S. Court of Claims - Indian Depredation Docket No. 3940.
 Bensel Co. - Phoenix Directory, 1892, p. 84
 District Court of Siskiyou County, California - Naturalization records,
 1859.
 Prescott Town Council - Minute book, 1875-76
 W.P.A. - Inventory of Maricopa County Archives, 1940, pp. 359
The Arizona Miner, Prescott, October 25, 1873, 2:2; January 8, 1875, 4:3
 (Biennial Message of Governor A.P. K. Safford)
The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, December 26, 1874, 4:2 (Report on Vienna
 Universal Exhibition)
The Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, November 16, 1899, 5:2 (obituary)
The Arizona Journal Miner, Prescott, November 17, 1899, 4:3 (obituary)
The Arizona Republican, Phoenix, November 16, 5:3 (obituary), November 17,
 5:3 (funeral)

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- The Arizona Miner, Prescott, October 3, 1867, 2:1; January 22, 2:1, January 29, 3:1, July 23, 3:1, September 17, 1870, 3:3; June 24, 3:1, November 25, 1871, 1:5 (advt); January 6, 1:4 and 3:3, July 20, 1872, 3:1 and 3:4; March 20, 3:2 and December 24, 1874, 3:1 and 4:2; January 8, 2:1 and 3:2, January 15, 3:1 and 3:4, January 16, 1:3-4, May 5, 3:3 and May 21, 1875, 2:5; March 3, 2:1, March 10, 2:4, April 7, 3:3, May 5, 3:3 and May 26, 1876, 3:1; June 15, 3:2 June 22, 3:2 and 3:4, June 29, 2:1, July 6, 3:2, July 13, 3:1, July 20, 3:3, July 27, 3:2-4 and 4:3, August 3, 4:2, August 10, 3:4, August 17, 3:1, September 7, 4:1, September 14, 3:2, October 26, 4:3, November 9, 4:3 and December 21, 1877, 3:4; January 3, 4:2, February 7, 3:5, February 28, 4:2, March 21, 4:1, June 20, 4:3, July 4, 3:1, August 29, 3:1, October 10, 4:1 and December 19, 1879, 3:1; February 27, 3:1, April 2, 3:2, April 9, 3:2, April 16, 3:2 (Mrs. Luke's obituary), June 25, 3:1, August 20, 3:2, October 1, 3:1 and October 15, 1880 (marriage).
- The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, October 14, 1871, 1:2-3-4; April 20, 1872, 1:5; April 26, 2:1 and December 26, 1873, 2:1; February 28, 1874, 1:2; January 9, 2:1 and January 16, 1875, 1:3-4; November 17, 1887, 4:2.
- The Tombstone Prospector, April 6, 1887, 2:3 and April 10, 1888, 3:3.
- The Tombstone Epitaph, July 26, 1893, 3:1.
- The Phoenix Herald, April 6, 4:1, April 10, 4:1, May 1, 4:1 and May 11, 1880, 4:1; March 11, 1881, 2:1.
- The Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, July 6, 1882, 2:6 (advt).
- The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, April 1, 3:2, June 5, 1:3, June 22, 2:2 and November 6, 1878, 1:4.
- The Prescott Courier, July 2, 1886, 2:1; February 10, 1888, 2:1.