

MCCANNON (MCKENNON?) PETER

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MCCANNON, (MCKENNON), PETER

Born at _____, Pennsylvania, _____, 18____(about 1828).

Son of _____ and _____.

Came to Arizona in 1860; participated in the second Woolsey expedition against the Apaches in what is now Yavapai County, March 29 to April 17, 1864, in which he was in command of 25 men; listed; Territorial Census, 1864, 3d District (Yavapai County), age 36, single, born in Pennsylvania, occupation - Miner, resident in Arizona 4 years, property valued at \$500.

Was second in command to Colonel Woolsey during the third expedition against the Apaches in Eastern Arizona, June 1 to August 26, 1864, during which he wrote the following report:

Fort Goodwin, August 12, 1864

To Lieut. Col. King S. Woolsey, commanding Arizona Volunteers,
Apache Expedition.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you of the movements of the party under my command as follows:

The next morning after you left us (July 25) we broke camp and travelled up the left fork of the Black River, in an easterly direction. We made but about 8 miles, owing to the heavy rain, and camped. The next day continued our march in the same direction until noon, when we were compelled again to camp by the heavy rain, having travelled about 8 miles. Our camp was on the top of the dividing ridge between the Black River and San Francisco.

The next day we travelled about four miles north, looking for a trail or place to get down the mountain, which was very steep and rough. The next day we travelled down a canyon about 6 miles, having to cut our way through dense underbrush--course E.15S. The next day we travelled down the creek (coming out of this canyon, which we called Trout Creek) about 7 miles in a northeast course, when we left the creek and continued our march east--down a divide--until we struck another small stream, when we turned southeast and travelled about 8 miles to another stream--a tributary of the Black River. We followed up this about 9 miles--course N.25E.

We now turned S.S.E. and passed over another mountain--the top of which was about 12 miles from the point of turning last mentioned-- and from its summit we discovered the valley of the San Francisco in a direction southeast about 10 miles. Here Captain R.M. Porter, one of

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our party, becoming angry because he was not allowed to water his animals at the tanks until the men were supplied, left the company with the intention of returning to Fort Goodwin, and has not since been heard of by us.

We continued in a south-east course about 4 miles to the San Francisco, striking it in the valley before mentioned--as seen from the top of the mountain. We crossed the river and travelled down the eastern bank about 20 miles, crossing two tributaries or branches. Course of the river, when we left it, was south.

We travelled on--leaving the river--S.S.E. to the Gila River, distant about 40 miles. About 8 miles after leaving the San Francisco We found a beautiful valley, extending north-east and south-west, and containing several thousand acres of good land. We called it Walnut Valley, there being no other timber in it but walnut. We struck the Gila about 75 miles above Fort Goodwin and camped on the northeast side.

At this camp a sad accident occurred. By the accidental discharge of a gun belonging to Mr. C. Allen, one of our party--A. Morel--was killed. The gun was lying in the blankets after night and some movement caused its discharge. The whole load of thirteen buck-shot entered the body of Morel in the region of the kidneys, killing him almost instantly.

We came down the Gila about 10 miles to near the mouth of the San Francisco--crossing the latter there--and continued our march down the Gila to the Pueblo Viejo, about 30 miles, and from thence to this place.

I have the honor to be, sir, respectfully yours,

P. McCannon,

Commanding Detachment.

The following was printed in the Prescott Arizona Miner on September 16, 1867:

TO PROSPECTORS -- We have received a letter from Mr. P. McKennon, an old and highly esteemed citizen of Arizona, who at present is residing at Salt River Station, near Fort McDowell. McCannon states that he is anxious to raise a company of twenty five or thirty men for the purpose of prospecting the country adjacent to Salt River, and if any of our citizens feel like taking a trip, we can assure them, from personal knowledge, that it is about the only country east of Prescott that looks at all like a gold country.

It is Mr. McKennon's intention to follow up Salt River for about one hundred miles, and, should he find nothing, he will then cross the country to Pinal Mountain. Mac has been all over Arizona, and confidently believes the country he proposes to visit contains good placer mines. For further information apply at the Miner office.

Died at _____ on _____.

Buried _____ Cemetery, _____.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Barney, J.M. - The Woolsey Expeditions against the Tonto and Pinal
Apaches, Manuscript, 1942, pp. 19, 47-48.
The Arizona Miner, Prescott, April and May, August and September, 1864;
September 16, 1867, p. 2. c. 2.