

# MELVIN, JOSEPH

MELVIN , JOSEPH

Listed, Territorial Census, 1864, at Castle Dome, age 28, born in Pennsylvania, occupation - Miner, married, resident in Arizona 4 months, wife, Bernardina, age 25, born in Sonora; U. S. Census, 1870, at Rio Verde, Yavapai County, age 38, born in Tennessee, occupation - Farmer, wife, S.-J.-age 33, born in Kentucky.

McFarland & Poole's History of Arizona, pages 413-428, gives an account of the adventures and hardships of the first settlers in the Verde Valley in 1865 and names him as one; the following references to him appeared in the Prescott Arizona Miner:

September 14, 1877 - - We see the genial countenance of Joe Melvin, one of Verde's heaviest farmers, in town to-day. Joe will raise about 60 tons of grain for the market this season, which we consider good, for the drouth of the season has been great.

January 11, 1878 -- Joseph Melvin who was thrown from his buggy some two months since, and has his shoulder dislocated had about recovered, when on Saturday last his team which is a spirited one, got the better of him and he got "tipped out" receiving severe injuries, and his shoulder again displaced.

February 22, 1878 -- Joe Melvin received about 26,000 pounds of corn, wheat and beans, yesterday, raised on his ranch at the Verde, and stored the same with C. P. Head & Co., where the articles are for sale.

May 24, 1878 -- Joe Melvin with his pacing team attached to Asher & Wollenberg's wagon, and with Asher & Wollenberg as passengers, pulled out for the Verde this morning on some sort of speculation. They will be back in three or four days.

August 15, 1879 - - "---dry leaves, that before the wild hurricane fly, when they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky," So it would have been with Joe Melvin's team last evening when he

fetches up against the porch of the old Excelsior Brewery, had he not had Cheap Jack as a passenger. Jack was too heavy for any such ethereal flight as Joe evidently had in contemplation.

March 19, 1880 -- Mrs. Joseph Melvin is causing valuable repairs to be made on her dwelling house, Marina street.

**Fair Warning!**

All persons are cautioned against trusting any person whatsoever on my account, as I will not be responsible for debts contracted without a written order from me.

JOS. MELVIN,  
Prescott, March 17th, 1880.

May 28, 1880 -- Joseph Melvin wants to lease his ranch for a term of two years. Here is a chance for some one who has the "git up and git" in him.

December 3, 1880 -- Joseph Melvin, Deputy Sheriff at the Verde, brought up Pablo Martinez and placed him in the County Jail for an assault made upon Mr. Ochoa, of the Verde.

The Prescott Courier of October 26, 1895, made the following announcement of his death:

Joseph Melvin of Verde Valley died at his home on October 23d at 6 p.m. and was buried the next day at 4 p.m. Mr. Melvin had been sick for about ten days before his death and on Saturday last was thought to be recovering, when he became worse and gradually failed till he died.

MELVIN, JOSEPH

- 3 -

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- The Arizona Miner, Prescott, September 14, 1877, 4:1; January 11, 3:2, January 25, 4:1, February 22, 3:1, April 5, 4:1 and May 24, 1878, 3:2; August 15, 4:2, November 7, 3:3, December 5, 3:2-3, and December 19, 1879; March 19, 3:1-4, May 28, 4:1, December 3, 3:1.
- The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, January 9, 2:1; January 19, 2:2, May 15, 2:2, June 26, 3:1, August 24, 4:1 and September 28, 1878, 4:1.
- The Journal-Miner, Prescott, October 26, 1895 (death notice).
- The Prescott Courier, October 26, 4:1 (death notice) and December 16, 1895, 4:1 (arrival of his brother James A. Melvin from Greenville, Pennsylvania, to settle estate).

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Probate Court of Yavapai County - Docket No. 417.
- Yavapai County Marriage records - Book 1, p. 21.
- Yavapai County Divorce records - Docket No. 813.
- Great Register of Yavapai County - 1876, '84, '88, '92, '94.
- The Arizona Miner, Prescott, October 8, 1870, 3:5; June 22, 3:1 and September 14, 1872, 3:1; July, 3:2 and July 19, 1873, 3:2; April 16, 3:1 and August 27, 1875, 2:5.
- The Arizona Democrat, Prescott, April 16, 1880, 6:2.
- The Prescott Courier, August 31, 1886, 3:2.
- The Arizona Enterprise, Tucson, March 10, 1892, 1:7.