

PLATT, MORTIMER R.

PLATT, MORTIMER R. _____

Born at Oswego County, New York, March 11, 1836
~~XXXXXX1836~~.

Son of _____ and _____.

Married, Bevvie Helm at Hannibal, Missouri, November 5, 1873.

Children, John H., Beverly C., Virgil N., Ernest C., and Mortimer R., Jr.

Came to Tucson, Arizona, 1865; elected from Pima County to the 3d and 4th Territorial Legislatures, 1866 and 1867; listed, U. S. Census, 1870, at Tucson, age 34, born in New York, occupation - Lawyer, property valued at \$21,000.

Moved from Tucson to Kansas City, Missouri, in 1871; On October 5, 1897, he wrote a letter to Samuel Hughes of Tucson thanking him for a copy of a small book published that year by J.G. Hilzinger; the following is extracted from his letter:

I received yesterday the "Treasure Land" from the sun kissed land, "dear old Tucson", and while I am and was indeed very glad that you sent it, I cannot exactly understand why you could not let out warm feeling of a true and tried friendship that has stood the test of more than thirty years lie asleep and slumber without stirring up and reminding me again of the only great mistake of my life, Leaving Arizona. It was not alone leaving the Territory, but so many of my old friends, "The Old Pioneers".

It was in Tucson with you and others of the "Old Band" that nearly six of the happiest of a life that is now by a large majority in the past was passed, and with as brave, true and manly a set of men as ever settled and pioneered any portion of the world.

Died at _____ on _____, 18____.

Buried _____ Cemetery, _____.

PLATT , MORTIMER R.

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An obituary printed in the Kansas City Journal of May 3, 1911, stated:

Mortimer R. Platt, known among cattle men throughout the Southwest, died at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, 3525 Harrison street.

In 1860 Mr. Platt was admitted to the bar at Rochester, N.Y., and practiced in that city three years. Then he came West to Omaha where he enlisted in the army and was sent as guard of a pack train to Washington Territory. All during the trip he rode a government mule, which with constant attacks from marauding Indian bands helped make the event one not to be forgotten by Mr. Platt. Mustered out of the service on the Pacific coast, Mr. Platt wandered south to Tucson, Ariz., where he became a government contractor, carrying all the United States mail from Tucson to Los Angeles, a distance of 500 miles. The contracting firm of Platt & Capron was for many years the biggest and most reliable business concern in Arizona. In the early '70's the completion of the Southern Pacific put the firm out of commission and Mr. Platt, with a fortune of \$48,000 started back to New York. He stopped however at Kansas City and made its vicinity his home.

Mr. Platt is known among cattle raisers chiefly from the fact that he introduced the first Galloway cattle found in the Mississippi valley and since was president of the American Galloway Breeders' Association. At his death he owned a 1,000-acre fine stock ranch near Waldo and a 20,000-acre ranch in Comanche county, Kas.

Died at Kansas City, Missouri, May 2, 1911, aged 75; buried in Forest Hill Cemetery.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Farish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 4, p. 165. Vol. 5, p. 1.
 Kelly, G. H. - Legislative History, Arizona, 1926, pp. 24, 33.
 Barney, J.H. - Political Activities of the Territorial Governors, (manuscript) p. 16.
 A.P.H.S. - Letters and clippings in Samuel Hughes Scrap Book.

Mortimer R. Platt

Pima county - Mortimer R. Platt is from New York. He settled-in Tucson in 1865. His age is 30 and he was elected to the House of the last Legislature but did not attend. He is an able lawyer in the enjoyment of a large practice, and but for his temporary illness would be a leader in the Council.

Third Legislature members, Ariz. Miner Oct. 27, 1866
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