

RANAY, WILLIAM J.

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RANAY, WILLIAM J., born at Montreal, Canada, February 18, 1826; married Cornelia Escalante at Tucson, A.T., October 30, 1871, who was born in Sonora, Mexico, in 1850, and died at Soldiers Home, California, December 26, 1924; children: William and Mary.

Enlisted, May 24, 1847, at St. Louis, Missouri, to serve one year as Private, Captain E.W. Paul's Company D, Easton's Battalion, St. Louis Legion, Missouri Mounted Infantry; went with the Company to Santa Fe, N.M., arriving in August; left there in November, marched down the Rio Grande and arrived at Chihuahua, Mexico, in January, 1848, participated in action in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Chihuahua, on May 15 and was promoted to Corporal on May 18; returned to Santa Fe, N.M., with the Company where he was honorably discharged August 1, 1848.

Enrolled, age 37, at San Jose, May 20, and mustered in at Stockton, July 11, 1863, to serve 3 years as Private, Captain James Gorman's Company L, 1st California Cavalry; occupation when enlisted - Miner; promoted to Farrier, August 18, 1863, and stationed at Camp Union, near Sacramento, until January, 1864; went with the Company to Drum Barracks in Southern California and remained there until March and then moved via Fort Yuma to Reventon, A.T.; listed, Territorial Census, May, 1864, at Calabasas, resident in Arizona two months, occupation, Soldier.

The Company was stationed at Tubac from June, 1864, until June, 1865; during which time he was on escort duty with the Paymaster from January 1 to March 18; the station of the Company was changed to Fort Bowie in June but he was sent to Tucson where he deserted On August 14, 1865; captured near Tubac, August 19 and was in confinement at Fort Mason, A.T., until restored to duty as Private by the General commanding the Department in person on February 14, 1866; honorably discharged at Fort Yuma, April 20, 1866.

Listed, U.S. Census, 1870, at Camp Grant, Pima County, A.T.,
occupation - Blacksmith; engaged in that trade at Tucson, Phoenix and
Solomonville and had been living at the latter place since 1891 when he
applied for membership in Negley Post No. 1, G.A.R. at Tucson in 1894;
admitted from Solomonville, A.T., to the U.S. Soldiers Home, Sawtelle,
California, April 10, 1895 where he died on August 27, 1904, aged 78;
buried, Soldiers Home Cemetery.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Orton, R.H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion,
1890, p. 160.

The Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records,
U.S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, Mex. S 667,157 and
W.C. 638,454.

The Los Angeles Times, August 28, 1904, p. 11, col. 3 (death notice).
The Arizona Bulletin, Solomonville, September 2, 1904, p. 6, col. 2,
(death notice).