

REILLY, JAMES, born in Larah Parish, County Cavan, Ireland, October \_\_\_\_, 1830; son of Terence and Eleanor (Brady) Reilly; married, Nicolasa Ruiz (1868-1934), a native of San Jose, California, at Phoenix, A.T., April 3, 1893.

Came from Ireland to New York City with his mother in 1848; enlisted to serve 5 years as Private in the Regular Army at Albany, New York, June 20, 1849 and was assigned to Company C, 8th U.S. Infantry; for three years the Company was mounted to better pursue hostile Indians in Texas and New Mexico; discharged at Camp Salinena, Texas, June 20, 1854; reenlisted in same company at Ft. Clark, Texas, Sept. 16; in escort of Capt. (afterwards Major General) John Pope, U.S. Topographical Engineer on trip into Arizona, 1857; honorably discharged, as private at a camp near Ft. Inge, Texas, Oct. 20, 1859.

Engaged in freighting until the Indians stole all of his mules in Sept., 1860 at Beaver Lake, Texas; left Port La Vaca, Texas, late in 1860 with three other Americans in charge of 21 Mexican teamsters and 18 teams with supplies for Ft. Buchanan, arriving in Feb., 1861; engaged in freighting between Ft. Buchanan and Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico, and again had his mules stolen by Indians in 1862; operated a flour mill and farm lands at Santa Cruz, Sonora, until June 1863 when he was exiled for 4 years to La Paz, Lower California, for killing a Mexican; worked in the mines until the fall of 1866, when after a long, stormy voyage in the Gulf of California, lacking food and water, arrived at Port Isabel, and thence by steamboat to Yuma.

Engaged in freighting, prospecting and mining in Yavapai County, 1867-68; then moved to Yuma where he had a mercantile and hotel business until 1874; served as Deputy Sheriff under William Werninger, 1875-76, when he was admitted to the bar and elected District Attorney of Yuma County; in a petition to the 9th Territorial Legislature, he stated that the total annual compensation of that office does not exceed \$400 of which \$300 is paid in County warrants worth about 50 or 60 cents on the dollar at the time of issue and:

"that no man having any reasonable degree of fitness for any business in life ( though not a good lawyer) can give his time and attention to the business of the County for such a miserable pittance, and that anyone who so undertakes will be very apt to neglect the duties of the office, if he do no worse."

The Legislature increased the salary of the District Attorney of Yuma County from \$250 to \$500 per annum with the same fees as allowed by law in other Counties; became publisher of The Expositor at Yuma in 1878 and moved that newspaper to Phoenix in 1879; opened a law office in Tombstone, in 1880, and was appointed Justice of the Peace; member from Cochise County, H. of R., 17th Territorial Legislature, 1893; became attorney for Martin Costello in litigation over the "Irish Mag" group of mines near Bisbee, which he conducted for 10 yrs. to a successful conclusion in the Supreme Court, (Cohn V. Daly, 174 U.S., 539) (1899); Costello sold the properties to the Calumet and Ariz. Mining Co. for \$550,000 and Reilly was well rewarded.

Died at Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California, June 8, 1909, aged 78; buried, Sunnyside Cemetery.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- McFarland & Poole - Historical and Biographical Record of the Territory of Arizona, Chicago, 1896, pp. 539-540.
- Chapman Pub. Co. - Portrait and Biographical Record of Arizona, Chicago, 1901, pp. 155-156 (portrait).
- McClintock, J. H. - Arizona - The Youngest State, Chicago, 1916, pp. 428, 504.
- Kelly, G. H. - Legislative History, Arizona, Phoenix, 1926, p. 166.
- Hinton, R. J. - Hand-Book to Arizona, S.F., 1878, appendix, p. 52.
- Disturnell, W. C. - Arizona Business Directory and Gazetteer, S.F., 1882, p. 181.
- 9th Territorial Legislature, Tucson, 1877 - Journals, pp. 90-91.
- 17th Territorial Legislature, Phoenix, 1893 - Journals.
- The Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records.
- U.S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, W.C., 1,635,264.
- California Bureau of Vital Statistics - Death Certificate, 1909.
- Probate Court of Cochise County - Docket No. 279.
- Dunbar's Weekly, Phoenix, September 26, 1941, 2:1-2.

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- Dunbar's Weekly, Phoenix, September 26, 1941, 2:1-2.

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, April 6, 2:3; June 12, 2:3;  
June 12, 2:3; July 24, 4:1; September 18, 2:3;  
October 19, 1:4 and December 7, 1878, 1:4
- The Arizona Miner, Prescott, May 10, 3:2; June 14, 3:3; July 12,  
3:3; July 26, 3:1 and 4:2, and November 29, 1878,  
4:3; January 10, 4:2, January 17, 3:4; January 24,  
3:4; February 21, 3:1; March 7, 2:1; July 11, 2:4;  
July 18, 2:3 and 2:4; August 1, 1:5 and 3:1;  
September 19, 2:3; October 3, 4:2; October 17, 3:3;  
October 24, 3:2 and 4:2 and December 12, 1879;  
January 9, 3:2, March 12, 4:2; April 2, 3:1;  
April 9, 4:2 and May 14, 1880, 2:4
- The Tombstone Prospector, April 2, 4:4 and April 3, 1901, 4:2
- The Bisbee Review, June 9, 1909, 1:7 (obituary)
- The Arizona Star, Tucson, June 9, 1909, 6:3 (obituary)
- The Arizona Republican, Phoenix, June 10, 1909, 1:2 (death notice)
- The Tombstone Epitaph, June 13, 1909, 2:5 (obituary)