

Territorial News

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Vol. 32, No. 5

Your Connection to the Old West

March 6, 2019

Next Issue
Wednesday

March 20

Play
Arizona Trivia
See Page 2 for Details

This Week's
Question:

What famous
Rough Rider is
honored by a bronze
statue in front of the
Prescott courthouse?
(11 Letters)

Index

Arizona Kid.....	14
Arizona Trivia.....	2
Business Directory.....	22
Classifieds.....	22
Jim Harvey.....	2
150 Years Ago.....	14

The Hot Springs Shootout

The spa town of Hot Springs, Arkansas, had a long history of illegal gambling. From the 1870s, two factions, the Flynn and the Dorans, fought one another for control over the gambling inside the city of Hot Springs, which by that time had a population of around 10,000. The two sides were involved in numerous gunbattles in downtown Hot Springs during the course of that feud.

By 1883, Frank Flynn had himself firmly in control of the gambling market in Hot Springs, owning seven gambling houses. Through bribes made to officers on the Hot Springs Police Department, he gave himself the security of not having to worry with local law enforcement. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office also worked for him on occasion, but Flynn gave priority to, and paid more money to, the



police department. In 1884, however, former Confederate Army Major Alexander S. Doran arrived, opening gambling houses of his own. Doran had a reputation as being good with a gun, and

attempts at intimidating him were ineffective.

Flynn challenged Doran to a duel not long after Doran's arrival. That ended with Flynn being shot once in the chest, but not fatally. There were numerous subsequent clashes between the two factions, with sev-

eral murders on both sides. Doran was killed in 1888 in downtown Hot Springs, having killed ten men since the struggle for control of Hot Springs began. Flynn remained in business, and continued to use the city police department to collect debts and to intimidate any competition.

Thomas C. Toler was the Chief of Police during this period, having originally been hired in the early 1870s by the first Garland County sheriff, William Little. By the mid-1890s, Toler had a falling out with Mayor W.W. Waters, leading him to support William L. Gordon in his successful 1897 mayoral election. Gordon appointed Toler once again as police chief, but ordered him to enforce new regulations that would restrict gambling activities. Toler disagreed, not wanting to break the strong alliances he had inside the gambling community.

(See Gunfight on Page 4)

In Their Own Words

Lynching the Chinese

Chinese laborers who built the transcontinental railroad were not welcome in western cities after the railroad was completed. Their willingness to work for low wages angered many Caucasians. Their neighborhoods, almost exclusively male because of alien exclusion laws, turned into rough ghettos.

The incident described here by journalist P. S. Dorney took place in Los Angeles on October 24, 1871, and began with a battle between rival Chinese gangs. After two days of open warfare in



Chinatown, the Los Angeles police moved in. The gang fight stopped temporarily only because the gangs

joined forces to repel the police. When the police made a second attempt to control the quarter, they were joined by a few civilians, one of whom, Bob Thompson, was mortally wounded. He was pulled into a drugstore away from the fighting, where a Caucasian mob gathered.

About 8 o'clock the death of Thompson was announced. The announcement was received in sullen silence; but in a moment the crowd melted away, and

(See Massacre on Page 6)

Mountain Men

Mountain men led the American westward movement, ranging far in advance of other pioneers, restlessly exploring mountain ranges, river valleys, and deserts. Fiercely independent, they were solitary fur trappers who braved war parties, grizzly bears, and hazardous weather. Instead of fighting against Native Americans, mountain men often found it profitable to trade with them—and agreeable to marry their women. The annual gather-

ings of mountain men were legendary orgies of ribald celebration.

Mountain men were hired to lead pioneer wagon trains, turning the trade routes of fur trappers into the highways of the West. The army employed mountain men as scouts and interpreters.

The men who roamed the uncharted wilderness of the Rocky Mountains in the 1830s and 1840s were a remarkably diverse

(See Trappers on Page 8)

An Irish Blessing

May the raindrops fall lightly on your brow.
 May the soft winds freshen your spirit.
 May the sunshine brighten your heart.
 May the burdens of the day
 rest lightly upon you.
 And may God enfold you
 in the mantle of His love.

Captain's Bar Presents

ARIZONA TRIVIA

This Week's Question: What famous Rough Rider is honored by a bronze statue in front of the Prescott courthouse? (12 Letters)

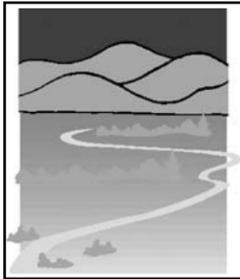
Last Issue's Question: The last volcanic eruption in Arizona took place sometime around A.D. 1064, and created what geologic formation near Flagstaff?
 Answer: Sunset Crater

Congratulations! You got the right answer!

Keith Adams, Sid Clarke, Doyle Ekey, Richard Fordyce, Kevin Gartley, Charlene Harms, Vonnie Harris, Kay Kitchens, Roger Kvammie, Robert Lidgett, Roger Ringer, Bill Riordan, William Smith, Gary Swanson, Nancy Swanson, Richard Valley.

How to Play

Letters are hidden in the advertisements. Find the letters to spell the answer. Submit your answer with your name, address & phone number on a postcard for the current issue's question to Territorial Publishing, P.O. Box 1690, Apache Junction, AZ 85217. Look for the answer in the next issue. To have your name listed in the next issue, cards must be received no later than 10 days past the current issue of the Territorial News. For example: submitted answers to the 3/6/19 question, deadline is 3/16/19. Limit one postcard per household per issue. Must be at least 18 years old. Remember to put your name on your entry!



Arizona - Web of Time

Jim Harvey

The Arizona Trail

Two miles north of downtown Springerville, the Casa Malpais ruins of an American Indian stone house village built before Columbus are open to the public. Artifacts are displayed at the Springerville Malpais Museum.

The Spanish missionary who named the Colorado River visited the Havasupai Indians at the Grand Canyon while the United States was

declaring its independence in 1776. He was Francisco Garcés and had traveled alone and unarmed from his mission church 300 miles south.

Copper ore from the Ajo area between Tucson and Yuma was so rich the owners of one late 1850s mine could afford to have it hauled by wagon west to the Colorado River and then by barge and ship from the Pacific Ocean

across the Atlantic all the way to Wales. It was sold there for \$360 a ton and was refined to make kitchen utensils and roofing.

In 1866, people from Texas with six covered wagons on their way west across the southern Arizona desert to California were attacked by Apaches. According to one story, the Texans buried a large quantity of gold before they were killed. The only survivor was a small boy who stayed hidden during the attack and knew nothing about the gold which never has been discovered.

1885 was the year 33,000 cattle were brought to northern Arizona from Texas to graze on a million acres of the Hashknife Ranch headquartered between Winslow and Holbrook.

The Santa Fe Railroad built a dam, not of stone or concrete but of steel, five miles northeast of Ash Fork to create a reservoir of water for 1898 steam locomotives. The 184-foot-long dam still stands.

A false 1901 report that astronomers at Flagstaff's Lowell Observatory had seen a flashing light on the planet Mars which was a signal from intelligent life forms created a sensation. H. G. Wells' The War of the Worlds, about an invasion of Earth by Martians, had been published three years earlier. The Lowell Observatory is located at a place called Mars Hill.



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Belle Siddons Gambler and Confederate Spy

Belle Siddons was born in St. Louis, Missouri to a politically powerful family. She grew up with every advantage a spoiled, young child could wish for. Before she was through, Belle would become a spy for the Confederates and an accomplished gambler in saloons throughout the West.

From an early age Belle was into well-appointed attire and was always flawlessly groomed and artfully jeweled from head to toe. She was an educated woman who graduated from a women's university in Lexington, Kentucky.

During the Civil War, Belle used her captivating beauty to her advantage. When the Union forces marched into her town, she utilized her charms to an ultimate advantage. Night after night, she would attend De-

Bar's Opera House, having a soldier in blue as an escort. There, she would get them to drink (Belle herself didn't fancy alcohol) and within a short period they were spill-



ing secrets of the Union front. Soon the authorities became suspicious and it was ordered that she be picked up and investigated as a possible spy for the Confederates.

She nearly escaped as one of her admirers tipped her off about the warrant.

It was too late, though, and she was caught and arrested. Belle always had charm as an ally, and on this occasion she gambled that it would lead her to innocence in a courtroom full of men. She daringly described, in detail, of how she tricked her nightly escorts into revealing pertinent information about troop movements and strategies. These strategies, she boasted, were then passed along to the likes of General Nathan Bedford Forrest of the Confederate Army. She even raised the stakes with an all out bluff, shouting at the court to shoot her like the other spies. The bluff was not called, but Belle was sentenced to prison.

Belle's charm may have served her after all, because within a matter of months she was part of a prisoner

(See Charm on Page 20)



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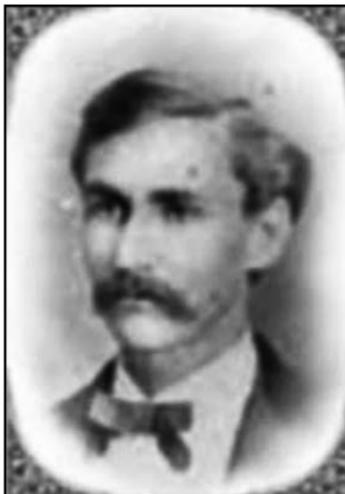
Hot Springs Shootout

Gunfight

(From Page 1)

The county sheriff at the time was Bob Williams, who, at least publicly, supported the mayor's crackdown on gambling. Williams' brother Coffee was his Chief Deputy. As tensions built between the two agencies over the proposed crackdown on gambling, there were several heated verbal disputes between officers. Although from the outside it would appear that the sheriff was siding with the mayor to rid Hot Springs of gambling, in reality the clash was ultimately over whether the sheriff's office or the city police department would control the illegal profits.

On the morning of March 16, 1899, a meeting



Sgt. Tom Goslee

of Independent Party Members was held at the Hot Springs City Hall, to include Mayoral candidate C.W. Fry. There were also several police officers present. Toler was openly supporting Fry for the upcoming election. After the meeting concluded, someone, whose identity was never known, met with Sheriff Williams, informing

him of everything said during the meeting. Williams stormed from his office and went downtown, and happened to meet friend Dave Young, who worked occasionally as a deputy. The two men entered the Klondike Saloon, where they discussed the earlier meeting, at around 1:30 p.m.

At that same time, Hot Springs Police Sergeant Tom Goslee was having lunch at a downtown cafe, after which he departed and went to the barbershop to get a haircut. He had left his .44 caliber revolver in his desk at the police station, but had with him a two-shot derringer. Williams and Young left the Klondike Saloon, heading down to the corner of Spring Street, where they observed

(See Gunfight on Page 12)



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African American Cowboys

Although African-American cowboys were already at work west of the Mississippi River before the Civil War, thousands of emancipated slaves from the South turned their eyes westward when the great conflict ended in 1865. The age of the great cattle drives was about to begin, and hard-working men—regardless of color—could earn a fair if rough living wrangling the millions of Texas longhorns. Despite the ever-present threat of frontier violence, blacks were safer in the West than in the South, which averaged over 150 lynchings per year into the 1890s.

Although segregated bunkhouses were the norm on most ranches, African-American men found a readier acceptance on the frontier and far more integrated conditions in western towns than in southern communities. Cowboys judged each other by how they could ride, shoot, tend cattle, and stand on their own. Family breeding, nationality, and race mattered less amid the demands and dangers of a cattle drive. Although most African-Americans worked as regular cowboys—watching after the herd, busting broncos, and the like—they also took on positions of authority, such as ranch foreman or trail boss. For the time, such a thing was remarkable; even in the most liberal parts of the North, it was all but impossible for a black man to find work supervising whites.

One of the most famous of all black cowboys was Bill Pickett. Born in Texas in 1860, Pickett is said to have been hired at age thirteen at the famous 101 Ranch in Oklahoma. When he was about twenty years old, he created the sport of bulldogging, in which a rider leaps



Hall of Fame Cowboy Bill Pickett

from his horse and wrestles a full-grown steer to the ground. As he perfected his bulldogging technique over the years, Pickett found that he could get a struggling steer to submit more quickly if he bit its upper lip.

In the early 1900s, when the 101 Wild West Show was organized, Pickett accompanied such well-known cow-

boy stars as Will Rogers and Tom Mix on the wide-ranging show circuit. He performed in Madison Square Garden and in Europe before returning to Oklahoma and the 101 Ranch. In 1971, Pickett became the first African-American ever inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.



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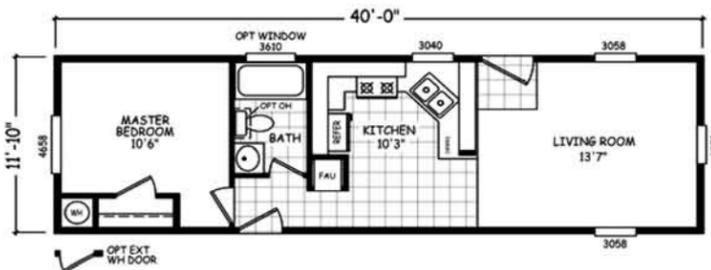
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Lynching the Chinese

Massacre

(From Page 1)

Main Street was deserted. In another moment, armed men were seen hastening, singly and in clusters, from every street and avenue, all heading toward Chinatown. The whole city seemed moved by one grim and tacit purpose--men streamed down from the hills and swarmed from the suburbs, while "Sonora" poured forth

a horde of swarthy avengers. Businessmen closed their shops and joined the gathering clans, and in less than fifteen minutes after the announcement of "Bob" Thompson's death, the cracking of rifles, the roar of shotguns, and the rattle of small arms proclaimed the investment of Chinatown.

About 9 o'clock the first Chinese was captured. He was armed with a hatchet and was taken while at-

tempting to break through the cordon of whites that surrounded the Chinese quarter. A dozen hands clutched him, and a hundred throats hoarsely shouted: "A rope! To the hill! To the hill!"

A man, then and now of standing and influence, dashed into a neighboring store and presently emerged, shaking aloft the first rope--a smooth, kinky, brand-new coil.

As the maddened men surged up the hill (Temple Street), the little ill-favored prisoner, borne bodily along, was stabbed in the back and side and was dead as a doorstep before General Baldwin's corral was reached, to the gate-beam of which the dead man was hanged. While the rope was being fastened to the neck of the corpse, two burly human beasts held it erect, while an Irish shoemaker known as "Crazy Johnson" stood guard, revolver in hand. (Johnson is now a prominent leader of the

(See Massacre on Page 11)

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Elmer McCurdy The Sideshow Mummy

One of the stranger stories of the Wild West involves the story of a hapless bandit named Elmer McCurdy. It seems McCurdy's corpse had a more interesting life than the man did when he was alive.

Born in Washington, Maine, in 1880, McCurdy spent three years in the U.S. Army then traveled to Oklahoma where he fell in with a gang of bank and train robbers. In early October of 1911, the gang had caught wind of a train transporting a safe which held thousands of dollars in government tribal payments. The boys made their plan and waited. However, unbeknownst to the gangmembers, the money train was delayed for a few hours, and McCurdy's gang actually robbed a passenger train, getting away with the princely sum of \$46 and a few bottles of liquor.

After the robbery, McCurdy headed to farm belonging to Dave Sears, hiding away for two days. After hearing that the law was after McCurdy, Sears loaded the drunken outlaw into his buggy and drove him to the ranch of Charlie Revard. Sheriff Harve Freas went to the Sears farm where they questioned Sears about his involvement. Sears, afraid of being implicated in the robbery and proclaiming his innocence, directed the posse to the Revard Ranch. According to witnesses, McCurdy had bragged that his whiskey was "from the train that was held up from below

Okesa." By the time the lawmen showed up, McCurdy was alert and had assumed a defensive position in the hayshed. This gave him an unobstructed view of part of the barnyard. Just before dawn on October 7th, Sheriff Freas and deputies Robert and Stringer Fenton and Robert "Dick" Wallace surrounded the hayshed where McCurdy was holed up. At approximately 7:00 a.m., Sheriff Freas yelled for McCurdy to surrender. McCurdy



Elmer McCurdy's corpse hangs from a sideshow gallows

(See Mummy on Page 10)

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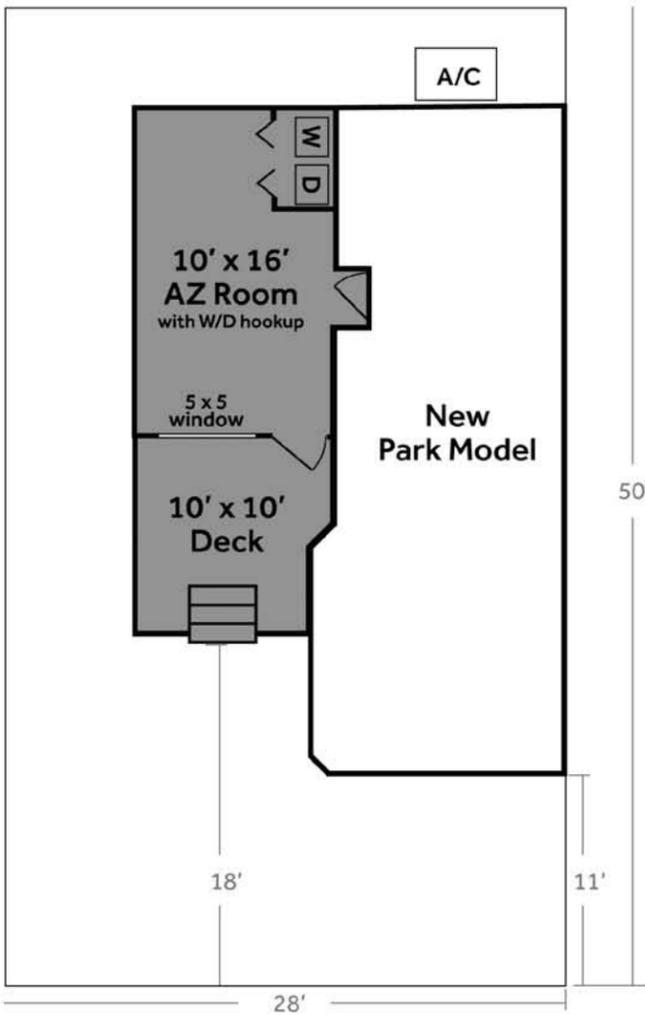
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Mountain Men

Trappers

(From Page 1)

group—black and white, old and young, Irish, French, Scottish and German, businessmen and backwoodsmen. Deeper than all that, though, they shared a characteristic resilience, self-reliance, and fierce individualism that served them well in their rugged environment. On the surface, the demands and rigors of their lifestyle also gave them a characteristic and unmistakable appearance, as described here by veteran trapper Rufus Sage.

“His skin, from constant exposure, assumes a hue almost as dark as that of the Aborigine, and his features and physical struc-



ture attain a rough and hardy cast. His hair, through inattention, becomes long, coarse, and bushy, and loosely dangles upon his shoulders. His head is surmounted by a low crowned

wool hat or a rude substitute of his own manufacture. His clothes are of buckskin, gaily fringed at the seams with strings of the same material, cut and made in a fashion peculiar to himself and associates. The deer and the buffalo furnish him the required covering for his feet, which he fabricates at the impulse of want. His waist is encircled with a belt of leather, holding encased his butcher knife and pistols—while from his neck is suspended a bullet pouch securely fastened to the belt in front, and beneath the right arm hangs a powder-horn transversely from his shoulder, behind which, upon the strap attached to it, are affixed his bullet-mould, ball screw, wiper, awl, etc. With a gun stick made of some hard wood and a good rifle placed in his hands, carrying from thirty-five balls to the pound, the reader will have before him a correct likeness of a genuine mountaineer when fully equipped.”

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Elmer McCurdy

Mummy

(From Page 7)

responded with a barrage of curses and, according to a contemporary newspaper account, the train robber's last words were: "You'll never take me alive!"

This led to an hour-long standoff, as the posse want-

ed to capture McCurdy alive and collect the \$2,000 reward for his arrest and conviction. According to Robert Fenton, McCurdy fired the first shots. "He took a shot at me first. Then he took a shot at Stringer. After that he took three shots at Wallace before we opened up," he told reporters. The posse's return fire was so intense

that the neighbors came out and stood at a safe distance to watch the gun battle. After awhile, the firing stopped and no sound was heard from the hayshed. The deputies sent a young boy into the hayshed to investigate. Then local Police Chief William Davies slowly ascended the ladder into the hayloft, the posse's guns transfixed on the ladder's top rung. Davies put his hat on his rifle barrel and poked it into the hay loft. There was no response from McCurdy; the outlaw was found dead with a gunshot to the chest.

His body was subsequently taken to a funeral home in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. When no one claimed the corpse, the undertaker embalmed it with an arsenic-based preservative and allowed people to see "The Bandit Who Wouldn't Give Up" for a nickel. People would place nickels in

(See Mummy on Page 21)

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Lynching the Chinese

Massacre

(From Page 6)

San Bernardino Holiness Band.)

By this time, Chinatown, wholly surrounded, was in a state of siege. Mounted men came galloping from the country--the vaquero was in his glory, and the cry was "Carajo la Chino!" ["Damned Chinese!"]

After the assault became general, the Chinese never returned shot or blow; but securely barricading every avenue of approach, each like a badger retired to his den and in sullen silence awaited his fate. But few attempted to escape, and all who made the attempt fell riddled with bullets. Not far from eleven o'clock the Main Street side of Chinatown fell into the hands of the besiegers, and, led by Jesus Martinez, the assailants scaled the low adobe walls and mounted to the asphaltum roof. This achievement was hailed with deafening cheers by the crowd below.

The condition of the Chinese had now become wretched indeed. The "Quarters," it will be remembered, were an old Spanish hacienda one story high, with an open courtyard in the center. Martinez and his companions, armed with axes as well as firearms, cut holes in the asphaltum roof, through which the cowering creatures below were shot in their hiding places or hunted from room to room out into the open courtyard, where death from the bullets of those on the roof was certain. Within or without, death was inevitable. The alternative was terrible. As each separate wretch, goaded from his covert, sought in his despair the open space, a volley from the roof brought him down; a chorus of yells telegraphed that fact to the surrounding mob, and the yells were answered by hoarse roars of savage satisfaction.

A simultaneous rush from Los Angeles Street forced the doors upon that side, and the work of real diabolism began. Men were dragged forth, many

of them mortally wounded, and hurled headlong from a raised sidewalk to the ground. To the neck of some of the most helpless writhing wretch prone upon the ground. More and, with a whoop and a

(See Massacre on Page 17)

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Hot Springs Shootout

Gunfight

(From Page 4)

Goslee leaving the barber-shop. Sheriff Williams called out to him from across the street, and Goslee crossed over to meet with them. Goslee held out his hand to greet Williams, who ignored it and instead accused Goslee of working against him. Goslee denied nothing, calmly defending Chief Toler.

Williams called Goslee a liar and a coward, and began to yell at him. When it appeared Williams was reaching for something un-

der his coat, Goslee quickly drew his derringer. Young then stepped between both men, placing a hand on each man's shoulder, saying, "Boys, boys, this will not do."

Sheriff Williams opened his coat, and showed Goslee that he was not armed, then continued to yell at him. Williams then saw his son, Johnny, who worked part-time as a deputy, walking out of the City Hall Saloon. Sheriff Williams walked to him to greet him. According to witnesses, Johnny passed his father a .44 caliber revolver, then took another

from a friend for himself. The sheriff suddenly opened fire on Goslee, who returned fire with his two-shot derringer, then retreated under fire from both Sheriff Williams and his son.

Goslee escaped unhurt down an alley to the Sumpter House, where he remained until Chief Toler and another officer arrived to escort him to city hall. Toler notified prosecutor David Cloud, who after taking statements from witnesses and the two men, issued a warrant for the arrest of Sheriff Williams. Fourteen shots had been fired during the exchange, but no one was hurt. Chief Toler suggested Goslee meet with Johnny Williams to try to patch things up with him before things got worse, and Toler himself would meet with Sheriff Williams. Toler then called a private meeting at his home, asking Goslee, C.W. Fry, Captain Lee Haley, and others to attend. In that meeting they discussed how to best lessen tensions

(See Gunfight on Page 18)

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Canyon de Chelly On the Navajo Reservation

Canyon de Chelly is a breathtaking cut on the plateau of northeastern Arizona. Sheer walls of red sandstone plunge 500 to 1,000 feet to the canyon floor, which is called Defiance Plateau. Cliff-dwelling Indians made their homes in the canyon 2,000 years ago. During the great Pueblo Period, approximately 700 to 1300 A.D., hundreds of cliff dwellings were built along the precipitous 25-mile length of Canyon de Chelly. Ladders were pulled up at night so that residents were secure from warlike raiders. Among the most impressive ruins are the White House and the Mummy Cave Ruin.

In 1863, Brigadier General James H. Carleton

ordered Colonel Kit Carson to command more than 700 men in a campaign to force the Navajo Indians onto a despised reserva-



Spider Rock at Canyon de Chelly

tion in New Mexico. Early in 1864, Carson penetrated their final stronghold in Canyon de Chelly. Although bombarded with arrows and rocks launched from the rim, Carson's men stared in awe at the prehistoric ruins and spectacular scenery of the canyon.

The Canyon de Chelly Expedition climaxed the Navajo War, and although

the battle itself had been somewhat anticlimactic, the operation as a whole proved to be a great success to the United States. The destruction of the Navajo camps, crops and supplies came at a crucial time for the Navajo. Cold, hungry and tired, many realized they would not be killed or captured by the soldiers if they came in peacefully and by the summer of 1864 Carson had accepted the larg-

est Native American surrender in history. Nearly 8,000 people had surrendered and were soon moved to the Basque Redondo reservation in New Mexico. The arduous journey became known as the Long Walk of the Navajo.

In 1868, after four years of exile, the Navajo were allowed to return to their homeland.

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Indian Agents

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Few if any agents achieved long-term success in their efforts. Some were not qualified as administrators or had no understanding of the culture they were dealing with. Others were shamelessly corrupt, pocketing federal monies, selling goods meant to be used on the reservation, or parceling out Indian lands to the highest bidders. The qualified and dedicated agents could really achieve little with the resources given them. Reservation lands were typically poor, and supplies and equipment were often inappropriate, outdated, or in disrepair.



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|---|---|---|
| <p>March 1, 1869
A Union Pacific Railroad train crosses the newly constructed Devil Gate Bridge in Utah.</p> | <p>President Ulysses S. Grant speaks about "civilizing Indians."</p> | <p>Tucson, and start shooting. One citizen is wounded.</p> |
| <p>March 3, 1869
Congress cuts the size of the military from 54,641 to 37,313 enlisted men.</p> | <p>March 6, 1869
Construction of the Denver Pacific Railway's South Platte Bridge is completed. It is 984 feet high.</p> | <p>March 8, 1869
The Union Pacific's rails reach Ogden, Utah.</p> |
| <p>March 4, 1869
In his inaugural address,</p> | <p>Some 20 soldiers from Arizona's Camp Lowell go on a drinking binge, ride into</p> | <p>March 9, 1869
The Union Pacific's temporary bridge across the Missouri River in Omaha is removed.</p> |

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Compromise of 1850

The 1848 treaty ending the Mexican War added 500,000 square miles to the United States. This provoked immediate debate over the vexing question of slavery. Many southerners wanted to extend the Missouri Compromise line of 1820 to the Pacific and allow slavery south of 36°20', while northern abolitionists urged that slavery should be banned in the Mexican Cession.

The increase in California's population as a result of the 1848 Gold Rush gave a new urgency to the matter. Since 1840, four new states—Florida, Texas, Iowa, and Wisconsin—had joined the Union, maintaining the balance between free and slave states. A decision either way on California would upset that balance. In January 1850 Kentucky Senator Henry Clay proposed a compromise in hopes of appeasing both North and South, defending it in a speech that lasted two days.

Although South Caro-

lina's John C. Calhoun vilified the proposal as an attack on the South and slavery, Clay's old opponent, Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, provided support for the compromise with a superb oration putting the Union before factional interests. After intense debate, the Senate defeated an omnibus bill, but Illinois Senator Stephen A. Douglas split Clay's proposal into individual bills that allowed senators to vote

or abstain on each.

Signed into law in September 1850, the Compromise of 1850 admitted California as a free state and allowed Utah and New Mexico to make their own decisions regarding slavery. Although slave trading was prohibited in the District of Columbia, slavery itself would continue, and a stronger fugitive slave law would be enacted. The compromise helped stave off civil war for eleven years.

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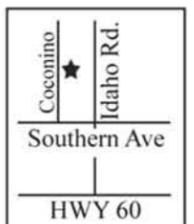
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Naturalist John Muir

When John Muir was still a boy, his parents emigrated to the United States from Scotland. He grew up on a farm in central Wisconsin in the 1850s, a time when the region was still a relatively wild western frontier. When he was 23, Muir left the family farm and traveled around the Midwest working in a variety of industrial jobs. A talented mechanic and inventor, he seemed to be headed for a successful career in the rapidly expanding industrial economy, but an accident changed Muir's direction in life.



While working in an Indianapolis factory for wagon parts, Muir's hand slipped, and a file he was using cut the cornea of his left eye. Not long after, his right eye also temporarily failed in a

sympathetic reaction. Muir's experience of being blind for several weeks led him to re-think his life plans. When he recovered his sight, he abandoned his career as a skilled mechanic and opted instead

to embark on a 1,000-mile walking tour of the American West.

During his western ramblings, the beautiful Sierra Nevada range in California especially moved Muir. Drawing on the ideas of American transcendentalists like Ralph Waldo Emerson

and Henry David Thoreau, Muir argued that wild nature offered a "window opening into heaven, a mirror reflecting the Creator." Muir developed a near-religious veneration for the Sierra Nevada territory and a passionate desire to preserve the wild state of the area. In 1892, he and several other early preservationists formed the Sierra Club. Muir served as the club president for 22 years, tirelessly advocating the importance of preserving wilderness as a place

where thousands of "tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people" could find spiritual and physical rejuvenation.

It is hard to overestimate Muir's influence in fostering modern concepts of wilderness appreciation and protection. However, in practical terms, Muir and the Sierra Club lost several of their battles to protect the wilderness. From 1908 to 1913, Muir fought fervently against the proposed construction of the Hetch Hetchy dam in Yosemite National Park, which was being built to provide a reservoir of water for the city of San Francisco. Muir railed against his opponents, calling them "temple destroyers" and "devotees of raging commercialism," but to no avail--the dam was built and water covers the Hetch Hetchy Valley today.

Deeply discouraged, Muir died in 1914, a year after the Hetch Hetchy defeat. The conservationist ideas he proposed in books like Our National Parks, The Yosemite, and dozens of influential magazine articles have become an accepted part of mainstream American thought.

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Lynching the Chinese

Massacre

(From Page 11)

doomed and bleeding mis-erables were jerked along by as many eager hands as could lay hold of clothing and queue, cuffed and cursed in the meantime by the infuriated multitude. A boy was thus led to the place of slaughter. The little fellow was not above twelve years of age. He had been a month in the country and knew not a word of English. He seemed paralyzed with fear--his eyes were fixed and staring, and his face blue-blانched and idiotic. He was hanged.

An estimated 17 to 20 Chinese immigrants were hanged by the mob in the course of the riot, but most had already been shot to death. At least one was mutilated, when someone cut off a finger to get his diamond ring. Ten men of the mob were prosecuted and eight were convicted of manslaughter in these deaths. The convictions were overturned on ap-

peal due to technicalities.

Nothing improved after the riot. In 1879, a new California constitution outlawed employment of Chinese workers. In 1882, pressure from California led the U.S. to pass the Chinese Exclusion Act, restricting immigration from China. It was not repealed until 1943.

To make up for the loss of cheap Chinese labor, Japanese immigration was encouraged instead. But the

Japanese Americans eventually faced the same problems. By 1900, immigration limits were established. In 1924, Japanese immigration was halted.

Other restrictions were also aimed at Asians. Immigrants already in the country were prevented from becoming citizens until the late 1950s. Laws making it difficult for Asians to own or lease land also stayed on the books until the 1950s.

1860 Census	
California	379,994
Colorado	34,277
Dakota	4,837
Iowa	674,913
Kansas	107,206
Louisiana	708,002
Minnesota	172,000
Missouri	1,182,012
Nebraska	28,841
Nevada	6,857
New Mexico	93,516
(Includes present Arizona and part of Colorado)	
Oregon	52,000
Texas	604,215
Utah	40,273
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Hot Springs Shootout

Gunfight

(From Page 12)

between the two police agencies.

Toler then contacted Sheriff Williams to arrange a meeting at 5:30 p.m., which Williams agreed to but said it had to be short as his daughter Florence was having her 21st birthday party.

Around 5:00 p.m. that day, Captain Haley and Sgt. Goslee walked down Central Avenue, meeting Johnny Williams, Coffee Williams, and Deputy Ed Spear in front of the Oliver and Finney grocery store. They greeted one another cordially, even jokingly, with Johnny Williams commenting that he wanted everyone to be his friend. Chief Toler and Captain Haley went to Lemp's Beer Depot, where Haley's brother-in-law, Louis Hinkle, was bartender. It was here they were to meet Sheriff Williams. Coffee Williams and

Ed Spear soon joined them in the bar. It was after this that things began to take a turn for the worse.

Haley told Spear, "Ed, I understand you have told people that if I put my head out, you're going to shoot it off." Spear seemed stunned for a moment, then replied that anyone who said that was lying. Louis Hinkle, standing behind the bar, became enraged. "Don't you make me out to be a liar," he told Spear, then with one swift motion he grabbed Spear around the neck, pulled out a knife, and sliced Spear's throat. As Spear struggled to get himself free, and to stop the bleeding, Haley shouted to Hinkle, "For God's sake, stop!"

Hinkle, however, would not let go. Toler and Goslee moved quickly toward the struggle, but before they reached the men, Spear wrestled free, pulled his pistol, and shot Hinkle in the throat. As Hinkle staggered backward,

wounded, Coffee Williams shot him in the chest one time. Goslee was then shot by Johnny Williams, who was outside the bar, shooting him twice, once in the right knee, and once in the groin. Goslee returned fire, shooting Johnny Williams in the head, but not killing him instantly. Coffee Williams then shot Goslee, killing him.

Chief Toler then began shooting at Coffee Williams, who ran into the street and took refuge behind a freight wagon. Captain Haley had fled when the first shots were fired, leaving Toler outgunned and alone. Ed Spear, still bleeding badly, began shooting at Toler, along with Coffee Williams, and Toler returned fire toward both, hitting Spear in the shoulder. Toler then moved to get a better position on Coffee Williams, and as they exchanged shots, Toler was hit twice, killing him.

(See Gunfight on Page 23)

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A breed apart, scouts were loners who were accustomed to spending long periods of time by themselves. They understood nature like no others, save for Native Americans. When hunting or tracking, they navigated by the map of the terrain they carried in their heads. Most importantly, they were walking encyclopedias of facts about the Native Americans whom they were hired to trail.

A scout's job included more than just leading an expedition to its destination or trailing Native Americans. Often, scouts were in charge of finding game to eat and a sufficient water supply. When trailing, a scout gathered information by studying the land for clues. Broken

twigs, displaced rocks, hoof-prints, even manure provided valuable data to help him locate his quarry, be it man or beast. For this specialized and sometimes dangerous work, they were paid about the same as a captain.

Some army scouts—such as Kit Carson, Thomas Fitzpatrick, and Jim Bridger—had been fur trappers. Their knowledge of the terrain, game, and Native Americans resulted from their experiences as mountain men. Other army scouts, including Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody, were men who had lived and worked on the frontier long enough to have a keen knowledge of the Native Americans who lived there.

Scouts were also selected from a group of men who had more knowledge of the wilderness than any fur trapper or frontiersman: Native Americans. Frequently employed by the army, they often proved to be the most efficient scouts. Several eastern nations furnished scouts for the army, including the

Delaware and Iroquois. Among the western peoples, the Pawnee, Apache, Cheyenne, Crow, and Sioux scouts proved to be essential to the success of the army's campaigns.

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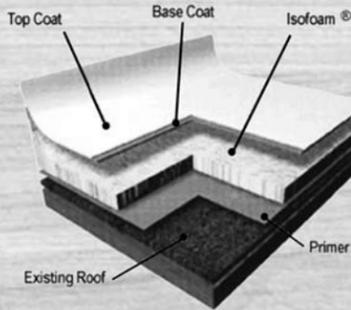
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Belle Siddons

Charm

(From Page 3)

exchange and sent down south. After the war, she returned to Jefferson City, Missouri, and married Dr. Newt Halleck, an army surgeon. They moved to Texas where the doctor and his wife opened a practice. Unfortunately, Halleck contracted yellow fever and died. A year later she married a tin-horn card shark who taught her "the trade." He soon died also, and she became a Black Jack dealer, sticking to her trade until she was among the best in the West.

Wichita, Kansas, was one of the great boomtowns of the West, and it was here

that her gambling career flourished. The pickings were good enough to attract ranking gamblers, and the



cultured, attractive brunette quickly acquired a stake and branched out on her own. Soon she operated gambling halls in Fort Hays, Ellsworth, and Cheyenne. She moved to Denver in the winter of 1876 and set up a big tent under the name of Madame Vestal.

Since a woman gambler was a frontier rarity, men flocked to match their wits against her. Her upbringing would not allow her to hire the gold rush girlies that enticed men to the boudoirs of her competitors. In contrast, she advertised free drinks and a square deal.

When gold was discovered in the Black Hills, Belle migrated to Deadwood, South Dakota, and opened a gambling parlour. With a taste for refinement, she furnished her gambling den with the finest of luxuries. She tried to find new and profitable ways of hosting select clientele. She knew how to charm. What differentiated her from other Old West ladies, and made her a legend, were her personal techniques of hospitality and femininity that cleverly cloaked a greedy, scheming vixen. She was very good about speaking of her past and of becoming a lonely widowed woman trying to make her way in the world alone. This, compounded with her looks, got her the sympathy of many generously rich patrons.

Among her most frequent patrons was a man named Archie Cummings. Belle soon found out that he was a daring and ruthless stagecoach robber. Archie had taken a strong liking to Madam Vestal, and she knew it. She played the part of liking him in return, in order to cash in on the advantages he offered.

Archie, and his bandit crews, became big spenders in Vestal's parlours. Soon she was able to align herself with gangs that operated against Black Hills stagecoach lines. She agreed to, once again, play the part of a meek and innocent girl for Archie. He wanted her to find pertinent information on stagecoach operations in the area. Over games and drinks in her parlour, Madam Vestal coaxed men into divulging private information on shipments and money that was leaving town by coach. This information was then passed along to Archie and his guerrilla agents. With invaluable knowledge in hand, the gangs' winnings increased exponentially.

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(See Charm on Page 22)

Elmer McCurdy

Mummy

(From Page 10)

McCurdy's mouth, which the undertaker would collect later. As increasingly large numbers of people came to view his remains (with each leaving a nickel), McCurdy was said to have made more money in death than in life. Many carnival operators asked to buy the mummified body from the undertaker, but he refused.

Almost five years after McCurdy died, a man showed up from a nearby traveling carnival known as the Great Patterson Shows claiming to be McCurdy's long-lost brother. He indicated that he wanted to remove the corpse to give it a proper burial. Within two weeks, however, McCurdy was a featured exhibit with the carnival. For the next sixty years, McCurdy's body was sold to successive wax museums, carnivals, and haunted houses. Over time, the corpse became so seedy that on one occasion the owner of a haunted house near Mount Rushmore, South Dakota, refused to purchase it because he thought that McCurdy's body was actually a mannequin and was not lifelike enough.

Eventually, McCurdy's corpse wound up at "The Pike," an amusement park in Long Beach, California which existed under various names from 1902 to 1979.

In December 1976, during filming at The Pike (by then known as Queens Park), of the television show The Six Million Dollar Man episode "Carnival of Spies," a crew member was moving what was thought to be a wax mannequin that was hanging from a gallows. When the mannequin's arm (some accounts say it was a finger) broke off, it was discovered that it was in fact embalmed and mummified human remains. Later, when medical examiner Thomas Noguchi opened the mummy's mouth for other clues, he was surprised to find a 1924 penny and a ticket from Sonney Amusement's Museum of Crime in Los Angeles. That ticket and archived newspa-

per accounts helped police and researchers identify the body as that of Elmer McCurdy.

His remains were examined in 1976 by forensic anthropologists. McCurdy's remains revealed incisions from his original autopsy and embalming, as well as a gunshot wound in the right anterior chest.

Elmer McCurdy was finally buried in the Boot Hill section of the Summit View Cemetery in Guthrie, Oklahoma, on April 22, 1977. The state medical examiner ordered that two cubic yards of concrete was to be poured over the casket, so that his remains would never be disturbed again.



Outlaw Elmer McCurdy's body on display after dying in a shootout

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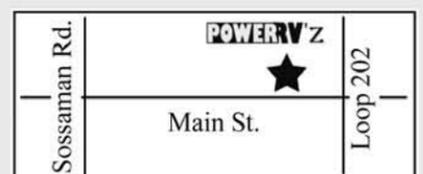
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 –Bat Masterson

Belle Siddons

Charm

(From Page 20)

After a while, lawmen began to take notice of Belle’s activities. They began to periodically search her establishment, but nothing was ever found. In fact, Belle welcomed the authorities to come by at any time; that they were always welcome at her place. When she got wind of a plan to arrest Archie, she notified him and he skipped town.

It was at this time that she ran into another dashing gunman named Boone May. Boone was as rugged as they came in the Old West. Madam Vestal knew nothing of him, but he knew much of her. He was actually sent by authorities to clean out all of the gangs that were causing problems for the Deadwood stagecoach lines. He pretended to be her type of man and was easily able to sway her confidence toward him. Hiding his true identity, he told her of his voyages and boasted of the countless stagecoach robberies that he had been a part of. From Belle he learned that Cummings was pre-

paring to board a train in Laramie, bound for San Francisco.

Officers arrested Cummings minutes before boarding the train and he was hauled off to Deadwood for questioning. He never made it, however, as a group of vigilantes intervened and hung Cummings and another outlaw by the side of the road.

Devastated, Belle unsuccessfully attempted to poison herself. She recovered, but according to the Deadwood newspaper reporter who interviewed her later, Belle “lost all of her characteristic courage and surrendered herself to drink.” She spent the next several years drifting from boomtown to boomtown, reportedly turning up in Leadville, Colorado, Tombstone, Arizona, and finally San Francisco, where a newspaper reported her arrest for vagrancy and noted her deteriorating physical condition.

Soon after, the once famous Madam Vestal, born Belle Siddons, reportedly passed away a lonely, drunken soul in an opium den in San Francisco.



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Hot Springs Shootout

Gunfight

(From Page 18)

When Toler went down, the shooting stopped. Toler, Goslee, and Hinkle lay dead, and Johnny Williams lay dying. Bystander Alan Carter had been wounded by a stray bullet; Spear was badly hurt, but would survive.

However, the shooting was not over. Hot Springs Detective Jim Hart responded to the shootout, having been informed by citizens. Sheriff Williams had arrived by that time, found his son dying, and got a full report of what had happened from his brother Coffee. Seeing Hart, Sheriff Williams walked over to him and said, "Here's another of those sons of bitches," then pointed his pistol and shot Hart point blank in the face. Deputy Will Watt, nephew to Sheriff Williams, then leaned over the sheriff and fired two more bullets into Hart's already dead body. Chief Toler's wife by this time had arrived. However, she did not cry, she simply glared at Sheriff Williams, who told her "Yes, we got Toler, and I wish we had you where he is now." Toler's wife then left, retrieved a gun from her house, and returned with the intent to shoot Sheriff Williams, but by then he had left the scene. Johnny Williams later died, bringing the total to five killed and two wounded.

Mayor Gordon called an emergency meeting, replaced Chief Toler with L.D. Beldin, and the two officials selected 150 men to carry out armed patrols of the city. The following day an inquest was held, with Governor Daniel Webster Jones present. Sheriff Williams, Ed Spear, Will Watt and Coffee Williams were arrested and charged with murder. All four made bail.

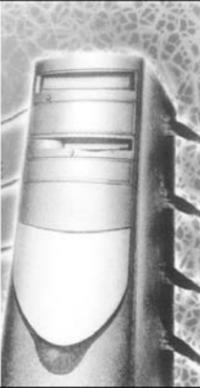
A series of trials followed, resulting in the finding Spear and Coffee Williams had acted in self defense. The trials of Sheriff Williams and Deputy Watt ended in a hung jury, on conflicting testimony

from witnesses. Jim Hart's wife later filed a \$20,000 lawsuit against Sheriff Williams, but lost.

Although Frank Flynn was forced out of town following the shootout by a "Citizens Commission" formed by Mayor Gordon,

illegal gambling did not go away, and corruption within both law enforcement agencies remained. The tensions between the Hot Springs Police Department and the Garland County Sheriff's Office were strong well into the early 20th century.

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