

# JAMES H. WHITLOCK OF PLUMAS CO., CALIFORNIA

In the June 1996 issue I included an article on the Whitlock Mountains of Arizona. We knew at that time they were named for James H. Whitlock, Captain, Fifth Infantry, California Volunteers but we did not know James H. Whitlock's family. New information sent in by Chuck Rockett, Leo Whitlock and Jeff Whitlock has enabled me to make a likely connection.

One of the clues that should have sent me off on the right track was in the June 1996 article. James H. Whitlock raised Company F in Quincy, Plumas Co., California. Had I consulted the 1900 US census for California at that time I would have seen that James H. Whitlock had returned there and was still living there. He is born May 1829 in Illinois and shown as a Boarder living with Joseph H. Fletcher. Leo Whitlock provided the next clues. James H. Whitlock was born May 15, 1829 in Union County, Illinois and married 1877 to Mary H. Baldwin in Warren Co., Illinois. James was in Plumas Co, California prior to 1860 and was County Surveyor. He was also commanding officer at Tucson until April 1863. In 1864 he was brevetted Major and attached to another regiment. He mustered out in 1866 and returned to Plumas County in 1867.

The reference to Union Co., Illinois allowed me to make a reasoned guess that his parents were likely William C. & Elizabeth Whitlock. They are the only Whitlocks shown in Union Co. in 1830 and their eldest son was James H. Whitlock born about 1829. William C. Whitlock wrote "Journal of a Journey made from Virginia to Union County, Illinois in 1823" which is listed under Book Reviews in the Illinois State Historical Society Journal Vol.46. William C. & Elizabeth are listed with ten children including James H. in the 1850 census of Union Co. so we know James H. was still there at that time.

William C. Whitlock was the son of Charles & Peninnah (Copeland) Whitlock of Richmond, Henrico Co., Virginia. Charles and Peninnah are buried at William Savedges Plantation, Bottom's Bridge on the Chickahominy River.

It is not clear if James H. & Mary (Baldwin) Whitlock had any children. James H. Whitlock died at Quincy, Plumas Co., California July 11, 1901.

There are several places in Arizona named for Captain James H. Whitlock. Whitlock Mountains, Whitlock Peak, Whitlock Valley, Whitlock Hills, Whitlock Sink; Whitlock Draw and Whitlock Cienaga (Marsh). Many of these are listed in *Arizona Place Names* by Byrd H. Granger (1977). Whitlock Valley is shown elevation 3,500' in Graham Co. The Whitlock Hills are at the east end of Upper San Simon Valley. Whitlock Peak is at Peloncillo between Graham and Greenlee counties. Whitlock Sink is also in Graham Co.

Further information is given in *Gem Trails in Arizona's Whitlocks* which mentions Whitlock Mountains and Whitlock Valley. *Earth Treasures* Vol.4 The Southwestern Quadrant by Allan W. Eckert gives a map of Graham Co. showing Whitlock Mountains, Valley, Peak & Wash surrounding Parks Lake.

Thanks to all those who researched this item and sent in their findings.

Sources: UBC142,143; X546; X2139; X2666; X2672; X2673; R211; R1502