

# ARIZONA CITIZEN.

Vol. 1.

TUCSON, PIMA CO., A. T., SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1871.

No. 39.

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**The Arizona Citizen**  
—18—  
**PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.**

**Subscription Rates:**  
One Copy, one year.....\$5 00  
One Copy, six months..... 3 00  
Single numbers..... 25

**Advertising Rates:**  
[Twelve lines in this type, one sq.]  
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**LETTER FROM PRESCOTT.**

**Bold Raid of the Apaches—Murder**  
**of John Gantt—130 Head of Stock**  
**driven off—Pursuit by Soldiers**  
**and Citizens—Recapture of most**  
**of the Stock—Slaughter of 56**  
**Apaches—Great Jollification in**  
**Prescott.**

PRESCOTT, June 20, 1871.—On  
Monday evening, June 5, the two  
herders of Messrs. H. & N. Bowers  
had just driven the herd of cattle,  
horses and mules to water, and were  
starting them towards the corral where  
it has been customary to keep the  
herd at night, when the Indians to the  
number of fifty or sixty charged upon  
the herd with a volley of gun shots  
and arrows, and with terrific yells ac-  
cording to their usual custom. One  
of the herders, John Gantt, was in-  
stantly killed. The mule of the other  
herder was killed and fell with his  
rider—who escaped. The herd was  
stampeded and driven eastward by the  
redskins at a rapid rate. The only  
animals left on the ranch were four  
horses in use in a team. One of these  
was saddled, and a messenger des-  
patched to Fort Whipple and Pres-  
cott, distant sixteen miles, in hot haste.  
Colonel W. H. Brown, commanding  
at Fort Whipple, could render no as-  
sistance as he could mount only four  
men—those he had on the road to  
Camp Verde with a dispatch in one  
hour from the time the messenger  
from the ranch reached the post. Mr.  
H. Bowers is post-trader at Fort  
Whipple, and on receipt of the bad  
news and finding that no soldiers  
could be sent from Whipple in pursuit  
of the Indians, he came to Prescott  
and told the oft heard story of an at-  
tack by Indians, a murder, and the  
stealing of the herd. It was ten  
o'clock at night—but the news spread  
through the town and in half an hour  
great excitement prevailed. Several  
of the best Indian hunters in the  
country fortunately were in town and  
offered to go; plenty of men followed  
their lead, and the rustling around for  
riding animals was very brisk. A  
large party of citizens and strangers  
had left town that day and the day  
before, and horses were very scarce.  
By 12 o'clock every available horse  
and mule was secured, and the party  
started for Bowers' ranch, where they  
arrived in due time and made the final  
arrangements for the trip. Tuesday  
morning, the party numbering in all  
sixteen hardy pioneers, having chosen  
J. B. Townsend as their Captain, took  
the trail and left the ranch, announc-  
ing their determination to follow the In-  
dians to Camp Grant, if they could not  
overtake them this side. In the mean-  
time, the military were not idle. The  
express from Fort Whipple made good  
time, and on its arrival at Camp Verde  
Colonel C. Grover detailed Lieutenant  
Charles Morton of the Third Cavalry,  
with twenty-nine men and Surgeon  
Prindell, to go after the murdering  
thieves. The necessary arrangements  
were so rapidly made that the party  
started before daylight Tuesday morn-  
ing, and went south to strike the trail  
of the Indians, which was found 30 or  
35 miles below Camp Verde, following  
the trail till water was found, the  
party camped. The citizen party fol-  
lowed the trail from the ranch some  
35 miles and made a dry camp Tues-  
day night; started early Wednesday  
morning, traveled on 11 miles to wa-  
ter and stopped for breakfast, being

joined by Lieutenant Morton and  
party. That night the Verde river  
was crossed and camp made at the  
mouth of the east fork of Verde.  
Thursday, June 8, the party traveled  
up the east fork about 25 miles and  
surprised the Indians in two ranche-  
rias a mile apart, feasting on horse  
and mule meat. A lively muss en-  
sued. Many of the redskins ran with-  
out getting their guns and bows and  
arrows. Thirty-one were killed and  
the huts and everything destroyed by  
fire. Two miles from the scene of at-  
tack the party rested for the night,  
calling the place Camp Morton.

Friday, June 9, the party started at  
6 A. M., and still following the trail  
went over the divide between the east  
fork and Tonto creek, thence traveled  
17 or 18 miles in a southerly direction  
and came suddenly upon an Indian  
camp where they killed 23 Indians.  
Three of Bowers' horses were found  
in the camp, but the Indians killed  
one when the attack was made, and  
wounded another so badly that the  
boys killed him after the fight; the  
third was brought back with the vic-  
tors. After finishing up the business  
at the rancheria, the party took the  
trail again and following it hotly  
overtook three Indians with two more  
horses. Each horse was well laden  
with horse meat, and on top of the  
loads two Indians were riding one  
horse and one on the other. They  
were in fancied security which was  
broken upon by a discharge of rifles,  
resulting in the death of two Apaches  
and the wounding of the third, who  
got away into the brush with one  
broken arm and leaving a bloody trail  
behind. The two horses were taken  
and brought home. Right there the  
party camped for the night, and  
named the spot Battle Hill.

Saturday, June 10, the party went  
on south to the deserted Camp Reno,  
making 20 miles. The remainder of  
the horses and mules, seven or eight  
in number, were still ahead leaving a  
plain trail, but the pursuers were  
poorly mounted, some horses had  
given out, and the determination was  
made to turn homewards. Captain  
Mills, with 40 men from Camp Mc-  
Dowell out on a scout, joined the  
party at Reno, and all rested there  
till next day.

Sunday, June 11, all the spare ra-  
tions in the party were turned over to  
Captain Mills, who went on his way,  
and Lieutenant Morton and party  
came on 15 miles to Miller's camp and  
rested a few hours, leaving camp at  
1 A. M. and arriving at Camp Mc-  
Dowell at 7 A. M., on Monday, June  
12, where they rested till Wednesday,  
June 14, at evening; then taking up  
the line of march, they came on over  
Stoneman's road, reaching Townsend's  
ranch on the Agua Frio on Saturday  
morning, June 17, where they break-  
fasted. Lieutenant Morton left for  
Camp Verde, and the citizens came on  
to Bowers' ranch, 24 miles; leaving the  
ranch early next morning, they ar-  
rived in town at 9 A. M. on June 18.

When the good news of the success  
of the expedition became known, great  
excitement ensued in Prescott, and a  
complimentary supper was at once  
proposed in honor of the victors. It  
was speedily ascertained that the men  
must leave for their homes the next  
day, and what was done must be done  
quickly. The better the day the bet-  
ter the deed, was the word, and the  
Prescott public was bound to celebrate.  
Niles & Griffin were ordered to have  
supper for 300 men at 9 P. M., and a  
subscription was started at once to de-  
fray expenses. Anvils were brought  
into the plaza, and at 6 P. M. 56 shots  
were fired, one for each peaceable In-  
dian left on the other side of the Verde  
by the expedition. The supper came  
off at 9 P. M. and was free to all.  
Everything was well arranged. Lieuten-  
ant E. B. Rheem, commander of  
Fort Whipple, Colonel C. W. Foster,  
disbursing officer of this sub-district,  
Dr. DeWitt, Post Surgeon, and other  
military gentlemen were present.  
There was no lack of good viands, and  
champagne was free as water. The  
occasion was as joyful as ever was  
witnessed, and no sorrow was mingled  
with the rejoicings, for no member of  
the expedition received any serious  
wound on the trip. Often and again  
the Apaches have made their raids on  
our settlements, killed our citizens and  
got away without a scratch. This  
time the tables are turned and the  
Apaches were surprised. It seems  
that continued success had made them  
careless and they had posted no senti-  
nels around their villages. Never

had they been followed to their homes  
before, and they evidently felt per-  
fectly safe when once across the Rio  
Verde. Bitterly did they suffer for  
their lack of watchfulness.

Some cash being left in hands of  
the Finance Committee, after the cele-  
bration expenses were paid, pistols  
were bought and presented to C. Davis  
and Thomas Roddick, each of whom  
lost one on the trip. A fine Henry  
rifle was also purchased and presented  
to J. B. Townsend, the Captain of the  
citizens. A silver plate was set into  
the stock bearing this inscription:  
"Presented to J. B. Townsend, by the  
citizens of Prescott, June, 1871.  
Honor to the brave."

One cause of congratulation in con-  
nection with the matter under con-  
sideration, is the fact that the military  
and citizens worked together so har-  
moniously and successfully. There  
was no display of envy or jealousy.  
Lieutenant Morton and his party and  
Townsend and party all wanted to get  
Indians; they traveled by night to  
secure their object. Lieutenant Mor-  
ton had with him a Mexican guide  
who had been prisoner among the  
Apaches fifteen years, and could read  
every sign left on the trail like a book;  
he proved of great value in making  
the approach to the rancherias. More-  
over, Lieutenant Morton is a sensible  
young man and was not above asking  
and following the advice of the old In-  
dian hunters who were along. The  
boys admire Morton and declare that  
his bravery cannot be excelled. At  
Camp McDowell, Major N. A. M.  
Dudley, commander of the post, and  
Captain Henry, A. A. Q. M., spared  
no pains to make the boys comforta-  
ble, and were themselves as jolly over  
the success as though they had helped  
secure it.

Nearly all the horned cattle driven  
off by the Indians, were abandoned  
by them before reaching the Verde,  
and returned to Bowers' ranch within  
three or four days after the raid.

The "Camp Grant massacre" has  
now a sequel. What blood-thirsty  
wretches these Arizonans are! Isn't  
it shocking? And then to hold a  
meeting of public feasting and thanks-  
giving over the slaughter of the Ap-  
aches! Oh, dear! And on the Sab-  
bath, too? What will Vincent Colyer  
and Horace Greeley say? Nobody be-  
tween the Colorado and the Rio  
Grande cares what they say. We are  
the people—and are satisfied for this  
time.  
H. A. B.

**Official Report of the Prescott**  
**Jubilee.**

PRESCOTT, Arizona, June 18, 1871.  
A meeting of the citizens of Prescott  
and vicinity was held at Niles &  
Griffin's restaurant on Sunday even-  
ing, June 18, in honor of the partici-  
pators in the expedition which fol-  
lowed, overtook and chastised the Ap-  
aches who killed John Gantt, and stole  
the herd of cattle and horses from  
Bowers Bros. ranch on the evening of  
July 6th. In accordance with previous  
notice the doors of the restaurant  
were thrown open at 9 o'clock P. M.,  
discussing an array of tables laden  
with all the attainable luxuries of the  
season—and every available standing  
place in the room was speedily occu-  
pied.

The meeting was called to order,  
and Wm. J. Berry, Esq., was chosen  
Chairman, and H. A. Bigelow, Secre-  
tary.

On motion that all necessary com-  
mittees to further the objects of the  
meeting be appointed by the Chair,  
Messrs. Joseph Melvin and Jesse  
Jackson were appointed a Committee  
on Finance, and Henry A. Bigelow,  
A. L. Moeller and Geo. D. Kendall, a  
Committee on Resolutions. The lat-  
ter committee was requested to report  
at once, and through the Chairman  
offered the following preamble and  
resolutions:

WHEREAS, The hostile Indians have  
been, ever since the first settlement of  
Central Arizona, making frequent  
raids upon the settlements, stealing  
and driving off our stock and murder-  
ing our citizens, until the soil is rock-  
ing with the blood of our brave pion-  
eers; and whereas, so swift have been  
the movements of these depredators  
after such raids, and to such a distance  
have they fled into their mountain  
fastnesses with their plunder that  
they have seldom heretofore been over-  
taken and punished; and, whereas,  
on the evening of the fifth day of  
June, 1871, hostile Indians did, in a  
large body, make a descent upon the  
ranch of our fellow citizens H. and

N. B. Bowers, and after killing one  
of the herders, did drive off more  
than one hundred head of horses,  
mules and horned cattle; and, whereas,  
said Indians were pursued by Lieut.  
Charles Morton with a detachment of  
30 soldiers from Camp Verde, and, by  
sixteen citizens from Prescott and vicin-  
ity, under command of J. B. Town-  
send; and, whereas, the combined  
force did, on the 8th and 9th of June,  
overtake the marauders and kill fifty-  
six of them and their tribe; therefore  
be it

Resolved, That by the festivities of  
this occasion we desire to testify our  
gratitude to the officers and men of  
the mixed commands of soldiers and  
citizens, who, by persistently follow-  
ing the murderous, thieving, mule-  
eating redskins to their homes, have  
taught them that they cannot forever  
perpetrate their barbarous deeds with  
impunity.

Resolved, That while we mourn over  
the death of John Gantt, who was  
killed at his post of duty by Apaches,  
on the evening of June 5, we do  
most heartily rejoice that his death  
was so promptly and signally avenged  
by the killing of his murderers and  
their aiders and abettors to the num-  
ber of fifty-six.

Resolved, That Lieutenant Charles  
Morton, commanding Troop A, Third  
U. S. Cavalry, has won the regard of  
this entire community by the gallant  
bravery he displayed in leading his  
men to the attack upon the Indians  
on Thursday and Friday, the 8th and  
9th of June, and that we tender to  
him and the brave men of his com-  
mand the thanks of this meeting in be-  
half of the public, and deeply regret  
that they are unavoidably prevented  
from associating with us this evening  
in this celebration.

Resolved, That we are most happy  
to thus show to our brave fellow-citi-  
zens, that their arduous labors of the  
two weeks past, in "camping on the  
trail" of the devilish Indians who  
have carried desolation and death to  
the hearthstone of so many of the  
pioneers of Central Arizona dur-  
ing the past eight years, are fully ap-  
preciated, and that we consider their  
example worthy of imitation.

Resolved, That the sixteen citizens  
who were concerned in the retributive  
deeds of June 8th and 9th, whose  
names are: Captain J. B. Townsend,  
C. Davis, J. E. Thomas, L. Elliot, C.  
B. Genung, Thomas Roddick, I. Bar-  
ricklaw, Wm. Smith, N. P. Piers,  
J. McCaffery, J. Carder, R. W. Grant,  
John Bullard, J. Ryland and James  
Smith, deserve to be remembered by  
all Arizonans as men who "have  
done the State some service."

Resolved, That in behalf of the citi-  
zens of Prescott and the Territory of  
Arizona, we hereby express our thanks  
to Major N. A. M. Dudley, com-  
manding at Camp McDowell, for the  
whole-souled style in which he received  
and entertained the above-named citi-  
zens, who, with Lieutenant Morton  
and command called at Camp Mc-  
Dowell weary and way worn, on their  
return from the homes of the Tonto  
and Pinal Apaches.

Resolved, That we ask that the public  
will notice the fact that in this rejoic-  
ing we are jubilant, not merely for  
the reason that fifty-six Apaches have  
been killed, but because the identical  
Indians who murdered Gantt and ab-  
ducted the cattle he was guarding,  
were caught red-handed and punished  
as their deeds deserve.

Resolved, That a copy of the proceed-  
ings of this meeting, and of these res-  
olutions, be furnished to The Arizona  
Miner, and THE ARIZONA CITIZEN  
for publication.

The preamble and resolutions were  
unanimously adopted as expressing  
the feelings of those present, and on  
motion the committee was discharged.

On motion that three cheers be given  
for the participants in the expedition,  
the cheers were given with a will and  
a "tiger."

The President then announced that  
the principal business of the evening  
—the destruction of the fluids and  
solids—was next in order, and advised  
a direct attack which was vigorously  
made without delay.

The festivities were prolonged till  
a late hour of the night, and no other  
business was transacted necessary to  
refer to in this report, which is respect-  
fully submitted.

HENRY A. BIGELOW,  
Secretary.

RAINS have fallen in New Mexico,  
much to the advantage of the crops.