

Edward Eaton

1853 - 1912

EATON, ED

Park County Enterprise no. 81 June 01, 1912, page 1

ED EATON NEAR DEATH

Ed Eaton, member of the convict road gang, who is kept at the M. Benedict residence ill with spotted fever, is in very bad condition Saturday and his death may occur before the day is over. He is unconscious part of the time, but appeared to recognize Mrs. Benedict two or three times Saturday morning.

Worland Grit no. 29 June 06, 1912, page 1

Edward Eaton, of Tensleep, died in Cody last Saturday and was buried in the Church Cemetery at Tensleep, Tuesday of this week. He was 54 years of age, having been born in the state of New York in 1838. His parents moved to Kansas when he was ten years old. At the age of fourteen he began riding the range in Colorado and Wyoming, later spending a year in New Mexico. In 1879 he returned to Wyoming, taking up his residence in Johnson County and in 1892 came into Big Horn County where he has since resided. He was a typical "cowboy" of the old school and was always recognized as one of the most efficient and expert in his line of work. Ed Eaton's word was as good as his bond and he expected all men to measure up to the same standard.

The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Campbell of Hyattville and were attended from far and near by his old associates and those who knew him best. It is estimated by those in attendance that fully two hundred and fifty were present, some coming forty and fifty miles distant. The casket was banked with wreathes of wild flowers, which at this season are growing in profusion in the haunts he loved so well. Loving tributes were paid by his old friends and many were the expressions of appreciation of the manly traits of character possessed by the deceased during his lifetime, as he moved quietly among his associates. He was a true and loyal friend, cool and fearless at all times; he held the respect of his enemies, as well as excited the admiration of his friends, until the end.

The pall bearers were John Luman, Frank Helmer, Mark Warner, John Seaman, Jack Donohue and W. T. Whaley.

Sheridan Enterprise no. 192 June 05, 1912, page 3

TENSLEEP RAIDER IS DEAD AT CODY

Ed Eaton, Noted Desperado, Succumbs to Spotted Fever After a Few Days' Illness.

Recently Sent to Park County From Rawlins With Other convicts to Build Roads.

CODY, June 5.— Ed Eaton, one of the cattlemen convicted in November, 1909, of participating in the noted Ten Sleep raid on the sheep men, and who was recently sent into Park county to build roads, with other convicts, died here Saturday.

Eaton was brought to Cody a few days ago suffering, it is said, from the bite of a tick. He steadily grew worse and passed away at the home of Milton Benedict, day policeman of Cody. Eaton's remains, were shipped to Manderson Monday.

Eaton was born in Texas about 1853 and came into Wyoming about 25 years ago, being identified with the cattlemen of Wyoming for the most of the time. He bore the reputation of possessing exceptional skill with the gun. When the evidence pointed to him as being one that had taken part in the Ten Sleep raid, the deputy sheriff of Big Horn, who was directed to go and get Eaton, took along another deputy and said, "Frank, when Eaton opens the door, you draw down on him and if he gets me, you get him."

When the officers reached Eaton's home, the deputy knocked and Eaton instantly called out "Howdy, Ed. (the first name of the deputy being also Ed), come in— who's that with you?"

The deputy replied: "Eaton, I have a little business with you."

"Yes, I know all about it. You've got a warrant for me. It's all right, I'll go."

So the most feared man gave the least trouble.

Eaton was sentenced to three years and had but a few months to serve. With Eaton and the convicts now working on public roads in Park county is George Sabin, the alleged leader of the raiders.

Sabin's term is 80 years with about three to his credit already served. He is regarded as a model prisoner and for this reason was one of those chosen to aid in constructing public highways.

Basin Republican no. 52 June 07, 1912, page 8

Death Of Ed Eaton.

Ed Eaton, one of the old timers of the Tensleep country and formerly in business in Basin, died last Saturday afternoon in Cody of spotted fever after a brief illness.

Deceased was born in 1858 and was a pioneer of Wyoming. He was unmarried and is survived only by two brothers in Wolfe, this state.

The remains were taken to Manderson on Monday on the train and from there taken overland to Tensleep where the funeral was held Tuesday morning. W. T. Whaley and J. C. Frison of Tensleep met the remains here.

Deceased, during his many years of residence here, had many friends and acquaintances who will sincerely mourn his departure.

EDWARD EATON

Edward Eaton, of Ten Sleep, the stock foreman of the Osage Cattle Co., of Big Horn county, has come to his knowledge of the stock business through a wide and varied experience, embracing every phase of it as exhibited in various places and under a great variety of circumstances. He rode the range in Colorado and Wyoming in his earlier

years, he was active in the industry under the summer sun of New Mexico, he has served in several capacities with a number of the leading cattle companies of the Northwest, so that he is through long practice a thorough stockman, and he had by nature and early inclination a decided aptitude for the business. Among the men engaged in it in this part of the world few are better known or hold a higher rank for practical knowledge of its different branches. Mr. Eaton was born on February 6, 1858, in the state of New York, the son of William and Anne (Blackner) Eaton, for former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Massachusetts. When he was three years old they removed to Minnesota and in 1868 farther west to Kansas, locating in Marshall county, and there he attended school at intervals between work on the farm and reached the age of seventeen. Then in 1875, he took up his residence in Colorado and for three years rode the range in the cattle industry in that state and Wyoming. He also spent a year in New Mexico connected with the same industry. In 1879 he came to Wyoming and settled here permanently, living until 1892 in Johnson county and working for the 71 Cattle Co., and other cattle outfits. In 1892 he came to the Big Horn basin and for a number of years was with the Bay State Cattle Co., in a leading capacity, after which he became a stock foreman for the Osage Cattle Co., a position which he still fills with great credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the company. In this capacity he has general charge of the stock belonging to this great organization and all the facilities which his long and varied experience has given him are called into play. The duties are exacting and responsible to a high degree, great readiness and resourcefulness being required in their proper discharge. There is scarcely an hour in the day or night when some unexpected emergency may not arise and the man in charge must ever be on the alert. Mr. Eaton's familiarity with all phases of the business and his knowledge of the men engaged in it, give him special fitness for the successful supervision of a large outfit like the one with which he is connected, and make his services of unusual value in this regard. It is much to say of any man who is employed in a place of great trust and responsibility that he meets its requirements in a complete and masterful manner; but this is true of Mr. Eaton, and it is but a just tribute to merit to place it on record here. SOURCE: Progressive Men of Wyoming, 1903, page 546