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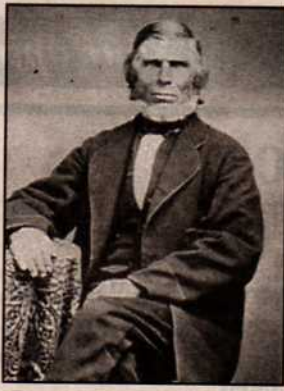
Learning about David McFarlane Sr.

For the Record-Times

David McFarlane Sr. was born in Lankinshire County, Scotland in 1818. He died at his son John's home in Owen, Wyoming on July 20, 1895 at age 77, having been bedridden after a stroke for nearly seven years. At his request, he was originally buried near his beautiful mountain home that he shared with his wife, Jenet, and son David McFarlane Jr. and his wife, Agnes Oliver McFarlane. In formation indicates that Jenet and David were moved to the Wheatland Cemetery in 1928.

David McFarlane Sr. set sail for America on June 28, 1852. He originally settled in the coal mining area of Peach Orchard, KY. David and Jenet brought their children who had been born in Scotland with them: John (The oldest was age 9), Elizabeth, Duncan, and David Jr. who was just a baby. Two more daughters: Ellen and Agnes were born in

Peach Orchard. David and Jenet left the Kentucky area because they did not want to be part



David McFarlane Sr.

of the Civil War. They moved to La Cross, Wisconsin where their last child, Thomas McFarlane, was born in 1862. In the 1860 U.S. census, David Sr. and son John are both listed as being miners. Twelve children were born to Jenet and David Sr., but only six survived to become adults. Duncan died in childhood in Wisconsin, but it is not known where the other babies were buried.

David McFarlane Sr.

was severely injured in a coal mining cave in, with ribs being torn loose from his backbone. After the cave in, he always walked with a cane and had bits of coal in his face, permanently embedded.

Son John McFarlane came to Fort Laramie, Wyoming in 1866. He worked as a freighter for several years. In 1870, he and his partner, Dan McUlvan, bought from Charlie Clay the M Bar ranch buildings, located on Chug Creek near Chimney Rock. John Hunton, who was the McFarlane's closest neighbor, stated in 1870 that there were fewer than ten settlers in what was later to become Platte County. John and Dan established one of the first cattle herds in the area.

David and Jenet, along with David Jr., Ellen, Agnes, and Thomas left Wisconsin and joined John at Chimney Rock in 1871, with David Jr. buying into the ranch partnership of John and Dan McUlvan in that same

year. The Indians raided the area several times, and the family had to leave the area in 1882, moving briefly to Cheyenne before their final move to their mountain home on McFarlane Creek located about 12 miles south of Laramie Peak.