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Last January C. T. Stranahan, north Lewiston historian, and a Tribune photographer called on Len Henry at Sweetwater for pictures and material for a feature story which was to have been part of the series Mr. Stranahan has been carrying on for some time past. Yesterday Mr. Henry died. So these pictures are published ahead of their time. At the top is Mr. Henry, left and Mr. Stranahan before the house where the former had made his home for more than 50 years. At the right Mr. Stranahan is interviewing Mr. Henry, left, with special reference to his age, which the latter claimed was 104 years, a figure supported by his relatives. However, the age was never officially confirmed.

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Pioneer Figure Taken By Death At Advanced Age

Len Henry, last of the old squaw men of the Nez Perce Indian reservation, died about 8 o'clock yesterday morning at his home one half mile south of Sweetwater. Death was attributed to a dropsical ailment with which he was stricken three weeks ago.

Len Henry claimed to have passed the century mark by four years, and unofficial records on the reservation do not dispute the claim. In many ways he was an outstanding figure in the life of Rural Nez Perce county. Despite his age he was mentally alert to the last and believed that his illness was merely a passing inconvenience.

Great Story Teller

As late as Jan. 26 this year he was in fine fettle when his old friend C. T. Stranahan called at his home. They swapped reminiscences dating back many years to the time Mr. Stranahan was superintendent of the Nez Perce agency. He was known in the reservation as a great story-teller, and when surrounded by his progeny was at his best, friends relate.

Henry claimed he was born at Kansas City, Kans., Dec. 31, 1841. He joined the California gold rush and freighted from The Dalles, Ore., to many parts of the northwest. It was in 1880 that he migrated to the Lewiston country, first settling in Asotin county, where he married Agnes Hayes. He lived in eastern Washington 15 years, engaging in farming and stockraising on a big scale.

Raised Stock

Fifty-one years ago he moved to Nez Perce county and located near Sweetwater on the same tract he claimed as his home at the time of death. Contrary to age, Henry successfully farmed a large acreage, carried on stockraising and took an interest in community affairs. Up to the time of his last illness he was energetic in his different lines of endeavor, said Archie Phinney, Nez Perce agency superintendent, who called at the Henry home when he was taken ill.

He knew little sickness during his more than 100 years of life. He often claimed. His brother, the late Nobe Henry, was equally prominent to the farming life of the reservation country.

In early days Henry was a familiar figure on the streets of Lewiston, but because of age his visits narrowed down to infrequent calls. He was known to virtually all old-timers.

Many Survivors

His survived by three children, Mrs. Lydia Switzler, Mrs. Alice Jackson and James Henry, all of Sweetwater; 13 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Methodist church at Lapwai with the Rev. Mrs. James Kule as officiant. Interment will be at the Sweetwater cemetery with arrangements in care of Brower-Wann.

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