

Is Still Young Despite His Eighty-Six Years

HERE is an elderly man, looking possibly 60 years old, living just across the way from Mayor Williams, on Eighteenth street. It is Lieutenant-Colonel Theodore J. Eckerson, who entered the United States Army 67 years ago. From that it would appear that he could count more than the 82 autumns that the Mayor has seen. In fact he is 86.

This young old man has lived retired in Portland for a long time. When he was placed on the retired list he came to Portland because the best portion of his life had been identified with Oregon, the case with many another well-known Army officer. He came and lived here because it had come to be his country, though he had served in all portions of the continent and those who have been fortunate enough to know him and his wife have heard many tales of the time when this was the frontier.

Colonel Eckerson has lived very quietly, like all men who have suffered hardship in youth and known stirring times. The petty activities have had no attraction for him. He has not been prone to look upon his own eventual career as anything out of the usual, and has taken it all in the line of duty. But he has a strong personality. Colonel J. A. Watrous, also retired, has been talking of the doings of his comrade, and there has appeared in an Eastern paper account of the life of Colonel Eckerson.

"I do not know where Colonel Watrous may have secured his information regarding my career," said the old soldier when shown the article, "but he is correct."

The story as told by Colonel Watrous follows: Colonel Eckerson was a printer, but from early boyhood had desired to become an American soldier. That explains why he ran away and enlisted in the Third United States Infantry, December 20, 1828. He was 16 years old and had been in the Army 67 years.

After serving five years he re-enlisted in the same regiment and then enlisted in the First United States Artillery, with which he served until 1852, when, by good fortune, he was promoted to military storekeeper. He served as a private in the Seminole and Mexican Wars. For a time he was clerk at brigade headquarters in Mexico and had opportunities to meet many of the officers. Among these were Lieutenants U. S. Grant, of the Fourth Infantry, from the Mexican War to his death, General Grant was a staunch friend of Soldier Eckerson.

At the battle of Churubusco Private Eckerson was one of six, including Captain Smith, of the Third Infantry, to volunteer to scale the walls and enter the Mexican fort. For this service he was given a certificate by the Secretary of War. That was before medals were issued.

Sergeant Eckerson met Captain Grant at Vancouver Barracks in the early '50s, soon after the Captain was assigned to that station. Other officers at barracks in those days were Second Lieutenants Philip H. Sheridan, Captain Rufus Ingalls and Captain McPeck, all of whom afterwards won high rank. Through the officers Eckerson became interested in Sergeant Eckerson, and joined in a successful request that he be appointed military storekeeper. That placed him in charge of the arsenal at Vancouver.

In one of the Indian wars Military Storekeeper Eckerson was a greater man than the Brigadier-General commanding the department. The commanding officer was at San Francisco, nearly 500 miles away.

In 1835 the Indians of Oregon and Washington killed upon the military storekeeper for arms and ammunition. The Indians had been committing numerous depredations and killed many settlers, burned houses and stole stock. A general uprising of settlers resulted. The settlers were anxious to punish the savages, but they were without arms and powder. Hence the call of the Governors for guns, powder and lead. Eckerson submitted the request to General John E. Wood, commander of the army in the Pacific Coast. General Wood promptly returned answer that the request must not be granted, saying there was no authority for it.

At this time the Indians were redoubling their efforts and scores of innocent women and children were being slaughtered. The Governors renewed their demand for arms. The storekeeper had heretofore always obeyed orders. Should he disobey now? He was close enough to the scene of action to witness the smoke of the burning houses.

Early one morning he asked himself: "What are these guns for, and why is this ammunition here? I will issue all they ask for, if it costs my commission."

The guns were issued, 5000 of them, with the necessary ammunition. God use was made of them. The savages were severely punished by the settlers.

Captain Eckerson promptly reported his action to the Secretary of War, at the time James K. Polk was President, and approved the action of Eckerson and directed him to accept the receipts of the Governors of Oregon and Washington for the arms and ammunition, and to drop them in his next report. The receipts of the two Governors are now in the possession of the Oregon Historical Society and highly prized.

While a Sergeant, Eckerson was directed to take six men across the Columbia River from Vancouver, in a yawl, and arrest an Indian chief, who had murdered some woodcutters, a short distance up the Columbia. The camp was safely reached and an effort made to arrest the chief, but he stoutly resisted. A half-breed told the Indians they had better submit, if they did not, a large force would be sent over and likely kill him, whereupon the chief was given up.

When they were in the middle of the stream, on the way back, the water fairly boiling, the Indian set upright, placed a hand on either side of the yawl and began to rock it. It was in danger of overturning. It was his aim, Eckerson struck the chief a stunning blow on the head thus saving the lives of the party.

The Indian was delivered and placed under a heavy guard, but was not tried. He attempted to escape. The guard planted a bullet in his brain and he was a good Indian.

A half-breed rode into Vancouver Barracks and reported that the soldiers at the Cascades had been surprised by a band of Indians and taken refuge in the blockhouse. Second Lieutenant Philip H. Sheridan, later General, volunteered to go to the rescue. Taking 20 or 30 men, he loaded a supply of ammunition and provision on the schooner Mary. Two old howitzers were taken.

Sheridan, after sailing as close to the blockhouse as possible, double-ported the howitzers and fired into the savages, that being their first intimation of danger. A few shots scattered them and the little force commanded by Sergeant McGrath was overjoyed.

While General Grant was at City Point, early in 1865, he recalled his old friends, Eckerson, through an applica-



LEUTENANT-COLONEL THEODORE J. ECKERSON, RETIRED.

tion, and asked President Lincoln to commission him Captain and Assistant Quartermaster. Here is General Grant's letter:

"Headquarters Army of the United States, City Point, Va., Feb. 3, 1865.—To the President of the United States: I most heartily approve the application of Theodore J. Eckerson for the appointment as Assistant Quartermaster in the Regular Army. He has served for more than 35 years in the Army and has maintained high character. He is efficient and well acquainted with the duties of almost every department of service. I know him personally and can vouch for what I say of him. He will make a most excellent Quartermaster to have on the Pacific Coast, where he has been long and favorably known.—U. S. Grant, Lieutenant-General."

He was appointed and served with great credit, retiring as Major over 20 years ago, receiving a new rank under the act of April 23, 1864.

While President, General Grant appointed one of Major Eckerson's sons a Lieutenant in the regulars and sent another son to West Point.

There is an interesting story connected with the appointment to West Point and his wife were on the White House grounds when he heard some one call: "Major! O, Major!" Looking back he saw General Grant, walking towards them. When he reached them the President said: "Major, I thought you and the young man another might be glad to know that I have just nominated your son to West Point; one of the candidates who had been nominated has failed, thus leaving a vacancy."

Lieutenant-Colonel Eckerson is a member of the society of the Sons of the American Revolution, his grandfather having been a soldier in the New Jersey Continentals, and he was

STATE SOCIETIES' QUARTERS

It is Planned to Have a Central Meeting Place.

The presidents of the several state societies in Portland met in the rooms of the Commercial Club yesterday and decided that permanent headquarters be used by all the state societies should be engaged. W. M. Calk was elected chairman of the meeting and presided over a stirring debate as to the merits of state societies, which served to make every president present more enthusiastic regarding the work of the new organizations.

The societies, through their several presidents, expressed a wish to "get together" and work through united effort. It was universally conceded that it would be better to engage one headquarters for all the societies, a move which would be in the same line as the headquarters being engaged and at the same time center the interests of the several groups.

No decision was reached beyond a determination to engage a headquarters, and a committee of three was appointed by Chairman Calk to look over the town and discover available apartments. A meeting will be held in the near future, possibly in the same place, at which time the committee will report and definite action be taken.

New Band at Silverton.
SILVERTON, Or., March 17.—(Special.)—Silverton is to be well supplied with music this season, for in addition to the Marine Band, which has done such good service for a number of years, a new band has been organized by the young men between the ages of 15 and 20 years, to be known as the Crescent Band. They have secured Gustave Oppinger for instructor. Last evening a St. Patrick's ball was given in the opera-house under the auspices of the band, the music being furnished by Steinhammer's Orchestra. The members of the band are:

Robert Mount, Oscar Benton, H. E. Pillsbury, Arthur Steinhilber, C. B. Benton, Frank Wray, Cal Schlador, Willie Steinhilber, Albert Durant, Albert Desaut, K. Kaser, George Bied, hammer, Melbird Wray, Albert Lighty, Lloyd Riches, Joe Ludowitzke, Oscar Olsen.

Law Students Give a Banquet.
The junior class of the University of Oregon law school gave a banquet Thursday night in honor of Lieutenant Richard Wetherill, of the Nineteenth Infantry, who is soon to leave for the Philippines. During his stay in Vancouver Lieutenant Wetherill has been an attendant at the law school and belonged to the present junior class. The affair was given at the Calumet and was largely attended by the members of the class.

SEE M'ALLEN & M'DONNELL
For table linen, napkins, towels, hemmed sheets and pillow cases, blankets, quilts, curtains and draperies. We are headquarters for the wide-awake cash buyer.

ROW ON RIVER FRONT

Clash Between Longshoremen and Sailors.

GUNPLAY CAUSES AN ARREST
Police Men Detailed to Portland Mill Prevent More Serious Disturbance—War Regarded as Inevitable Between Two Unions.

There was another chapter in the water-front strife yesterday that, in the opinion of shipping people, brings closer the threatened war between the rival unions of sailors and longshoremen. The trouble took place at the Portland lumber mill, and led to the arrest of Charles Buck, Sailors' Union man. The presence of police prevented any serious disturbance.

Men belonging to the Sailors' Union were engaged in loading the barkentine steamer at the Portland mill. A dozen or more longshoremen were employed on other vessels at the same dock. The bitter feeling between the two organizations had been increasing, and yesterday the men thus working side by side, and from taunts they nearly came to blows. The sailors say a longshoreman named Conroy, dug this up one day a few years ago, and it was thought fitting to place the original in the corner-stone of the monument to Lewis and Clark, which was laid May 21, 1903. The poem follows:

There's the mist of morning years,
From this vale of hope and fears,
There's a future bright ahead,
And thy soul, amid their toil,
On this far, far distant soil,
Shall be proudly seen to smile.

There's no more a foreign rod
That should mark thy sod,
But thy hills and vales are north
By the free;

There's the children of the North
In their might have sallied forth,
To assert Columbia's worth,
Gloriously!

Yet alas! the parent hand
That should mark a bright a hand,
Dost but faintly, feebly stand,
For its fate;

While with anxious eyes we look
On the homes we once have known,
Oregon!

But we laugh despair to scorn!
The forgotten and forlorn,
We remember the dawn
Thou' the gloom;

When thy sons and daughters fair,
Sweetly rest of grief and care,
Shall Native's bounty share,
And a home!

For the day is drawing nigh
When a long-expected cry
Not in vain shall raise on high,
The shout of freedom;

And thy sons, amid their toil,
On this far though distant soil,
Shall in sweet contentment smile,
Oregon!

THOS. J. ECKERSON.

DUMFRIESHIRE IS CHARTERED

Big Bark Will Take a Cargo of Lumber to Melbourne.

The British bark Dumfrieshire, after being idle in port for seven months, secured a charter yesterday. She was taken by J. J. Moore & Co., lumber agents, and will probably be engaged for lumber carrying before the new wheat comes on.

The Dumfrieshire will carry a cargo of about 125,000 feet of lumber. Her engagement leaves but three free ships in port suitable for this kind of business, the Christal, Londale and Pythome. They have a combined capacity of 450,000 feet and will probably be engaged for lumber carrying before the new wheat comes on.

LAUNCHING OF ARAGON.

Largest Steamer of the Royal Mail Packet Line.

BEAUFEST, March 17.—The launching of the largest steamer of the Royal Mail Packet Company's new steamers, the Aragon, built by Messrs. Harland & Wolff, was a notable event. The naming ceremony was performed by Lady Fitzwilliam.

The building of this steamer marks an epoch in the history of the Royal Mail Company, for besides being the finest steamer in the fleet, the Aragon will be the largest steamer engaged in the South Atlantic route. Her length is 327 feet 6 inches; beam, 50 feet; with a gross register of about 10,000 tons. She is designed to carry a large quantity of cargo, but her chief feature is her speed.

By the adoption of Messrs. Harland & Wolff's latest balance quadruple type of engines vibration is greatly reduced. There is a double set of engines for the twin screw. The Aragon, which is a schooner-rigged vessel, will start on her maiden voyage to South Africa on July 15. The launching ceremony was held at the Victoria Basin in the afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Pirrie entertained a large number of guests at luncheon at Ormiston.

LEADS IN WHEAT EXPORTS.

Portland's Shipments Last Month Larger Than Any Other Port.

February proved a dull month in the line of wheat exports all over the country, but this city led all other ports, according to the bulletin of the Department of Commerce and Labor. The shipments from the district of the Willamette were 10,945 bushels, valued at \$2,425. Puget Sound's exports last month amounted to 10,222 bushels, worth \$2,245. Philadelphia shipped 9,215 barrels; Puget Sound, 8,276 barrels; Portland, 4,235 barrels and San Francisco, 2,941 barrels.

Profits of Compulsory Piloting.
VICTORIA, B. C., March 17.—The Board of Trade, at a general meeting, has

adopted the report of its special committee named for the investigation of pilotage matters generally, the net finding of which committee was that the following paragraphs of an extensive report: That there are about 100 vessels entering the port of Victoria from sea annually; that about 100 per annum are docked by pilots, leaving about 100 which are docked unaided; that there are five pilots engaged to do the work; that their average earnings for ten years amounted to about \$15,000 per annum (actual earnings for 13 months ending December, 1903, \$15,284; ditto, December 31, 1904, \$12,205.17); that this tabulation of facts would show that compulsory piloting is unnecessary; that a docking master appears to be all that is required. At present all vessels coming to Victoria bring their pilot's bill. If it were the pilot they pay full fee; if they do not, they are assessed half pilotage dues.

Disabled Bark Sighted.
ASTORIA, Or., March 17.—Captain Anderson, of the schooner Luson, which arrived in last evening, reports that on March 15 he sighted a bark with the foremast and royal mast carried away. He was not close enough to distinguish her name, but from her general description she is believed to be the German bark Honzler, due here from Fort Los Angeles. He says that there were no signals of distress flying, and the vessel appeared to be all right otherwise.

Hawaii Reaches Gray's Harbor.
ABERDEEN, Wash., March 17.—(Special.)—The big steel barkentine Hawaii came into port last night and is lying off Hoquiam awaiting destination by the customs officers. The Hawaii is the first steel sailing vessel to put into this harbor. She came from Japan and made the good record of 30 days for the trip. She will take away a cargo of 1,200,000 feet of lumber for a Japanese port at the Western Mills and at Bryden & Leitch's.

Chinese Crew on Navy Collier.
NORFOLK, Va., March 17.—The United States collier Ajax has arrived at the Norfolk Navy-yard from the Asiatic station, after two years' service in the Pacific. She has a complete crew, with the exception of her engineering staff, and is the first vessel of the American Navy ever to arrive at this navy-yard with a crew of Mongolians.

Will Try to Raise the Elder.
Captain Cunway, superintendent of the water lines of the O. F. & N., and Captain Turner left last night on the Harvest Queen for Goble, where they will assist in an attempt to raise the George W. Elder, now hanging on a submerged rock in the Columbia River near the Oregon shore.

Cargo of the Klone.
ASTORIA, March 17.—(Special.)—The American schooner C. A. Klone cleared at the custom house today for San Francisco with a cargo of 50,000 feet of lumber, loaded at Vancouver, Wash.

Marine Notes.
The Army transport Buford is due from San Francisco Sunday.

The steamer Ellieric started down the river yesterday morning barry-laden for Kobe.

Work has started at the foot of Oak street on a wharf about 30 feet long by 30 feet wide, which will be used as a landing-place for launches.

Before acceptance by the Government the Arago will give a thorough test in all respects during the next two weeks.

The steamer Asuncion arrived yesterday with 30,000 barrels of crude oil from San Francisco. The Whittier is due with 30,000 barrels of oil and ten drums of distillate.

The Government tug Mendall in service at Port Stevens in connection with the jetty construction, will be brought to Portland within a few days for repairs.

This boat was lately completed under contract awarded to the Willamette Iron Works and the results obtained on the builder's trial trips were entirely satisfactory.

The steamer Noma City shipped yesterday from Imbabura, Ecuador, to the Eastern & Western mill to take on 20,000 feet of lumber, and will go back to the upper mill to finish.

The schooner Alexander T. Brown, chartered by the Government from the Globe Navigation Company to transport lumber from the Philippines, arrived at Astoria yesterday in tow from Winslow.

The gasoline launch Gazelle had a successful trial run in the harbor yesterday. She is 65 feet long and has the engine formerly in the Jessie Harkins. She will be used in the harbor during the fair.

The Indrapura, formerly of the Portland & Asiatic line, has been chartered by the Orient Line to load at San Francisco for the Far East. The steamers Adalo and Comeric, both in Oriental waters, have also been chartered by the company.

The new coast survey steamer ARAGO.

AT HIGH WATER

The Flood Plays Many Pranks.

Rev. William Alexander Smith, prominent as the author of many works on Oriental travel, was in the city yesterday, and he had to go about in boats, many of our neighbors suffering sad experiences both from loss of life and property.

"We-wife and myself—had an experience quite unique and thereby hangs a tale. My wife for years past and myself as well, had been annoyed, pained and worried so greatly at times by dyspeptic trouble as to take much of the joy of living out of life. I had been in Portland some months ago, I decided to try some Postum for myself. We tried it around and around, and we were satisfied from the start and we quit coffee.

"Gradually my digestive organs have grown healthier and stronger, my sick headache left and we both could eat almost what we pleased without discomfort."

"But what was this result of the discontinuance of tea and coffee?"

"The food came and found us out of Postum and shut off from all supplies in the village for six days. But we got hold of some left over tea and a little coffee and this we used as long as it lasted. This was the only respect in which our manner of living differed from what we had been using, but a change came over us. My wife thought I had more temper than grace, while I, in my turn, thought—well, it is a matter of fact did not seem to appear to be the jolly creature she was before flood days. She said she did not rest well and that made her irritable and on my part I suffered pains in my digestive organs night and day that would have caused the meekest man to speak unadvisedly with his lips."

"Well, the clouds cleared away, the flood abated, dry land appeared and we made ready to visit the grocery store and my wife suggested that we needed more Postum. To tell the truth, when Postum came back the domestic atmosphere became more genial, in fact felt normal. Our troubles and sick feelings disappeared and there can be no doubt they were due to tea and coffee, for they quickly yielded when Postum was used in their place."

Dr. Perrin's Pile Specific
The Internal Remedy
For dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation, biliousness, catarrh of the stomach and kindred ailments it is the greatest remedy that has ever yet benefited mankind.

Certain in its results, this Remedy will cure the most obstinate case of Piles.

Dr. Perrin Medical Co., Helena, Mont.

HAND SAPOLIO

FOR TOILET AND BATH
Delicate enough for the softest skin, and yet efficacious in removing any stain. Keeps the skin in perfect condition. In the bath gives all the desirable after-effects of a Turkish bath. It should be on every washstand.

ALL GROCERS AND DRUGGISTS

Beauty Your Complexion Without Cost.

Send to-day for a 75c set of Skin-Beauty Treatment FREE. Have clear, healthy skin, beautiful, rosy skin, luxuriant hair. Dandruff, falling hair and all diseases of scalp, skin and blood are due to germs. And Skin-Beauty Treatment is the only safe, quick, permanent, economical cure.

To prove its merits we will give you absolutely FREE the first set of Skin-Beauty Treatment if you will use it. Skin-Beauty Treatment consists of HARPIN SOAP, medicated, deodorizing, germicidal, fragrant; best for bathing, nursing, scalp hair and for baby. SKIN-HEALTH OINTMENT—Infallible for itching, eruptions, rashes, etc. SKIN-HEALTH TABLETS—Vegetable, chocolate-coated. Destroy all disease microbes, purify and vitalize the blood.

It's a FREE gift to prove the wonderful powers of Skin-Beauty Treatment as a skin, scalp and blood cleanser, a complexion, hand and hair beautifier.

Cut Out This Coupon.
Fill out the blanks and mail to the Photo Specialty Co., Newark, New Jersey.
My disease is _____
I want a FREE gift to prove the wonderful powers of Skin-Beauty Treatment as a skin, scalp and blood cleanser, a complexion, hand and hair beautifier.
Give full name and address.
This offer may not appear again.

STRIKERS STORM A FACTORY
Nonunion Men Escorted Through the Mob by Girls

CHICAGO, March 17.—Girl leaders have escorted hundreds of frightened strike-breakers to safety from the big clothing factories in the wholesale district, which were besieged by 400 garmentworkers. The company advertising this strategy when it was feared the police would be unable to prevent a serious clash between the union and nonunion workers.

After it was thought the disturbances were ended plate-glass windows valued at \$500 in the offices of Lamm & Company were shattered by strikers, who sought revenge for the arrest of three pickets for beating Emil Winnes, a nonunion worker and watchman.

An hour later bottles and stones were hurled through the windows on the street level, and much damage was caused. The police claim the bottles contained acid intended to destroy clothing material. Several shots were fired at the fleeing strikers by watchmen, but they escaped.

CHICAGO, March 17.—(Special.)—Arrived—Steamer J. M. Coleman, schooner Orient and barkentine Newberry, from San Francisco; barkentine H. W. Miller, from Seattle; schooner Oliver, Oken and Isopold and steamer Homer, for San Francisco.

FREE TO MEN
MEDICAL BOOK FREE
First copy cost \$1000
100 pages, 35 pictures.
1000 copies, 35c postage.
Send.

Love, courage, manliness and a diagnosis of men explained in this medical book tells everything you want to know and everything you should know regarding the diseases which weaken life, destroy health, ruin memory, reduce vitality, cause nervousness, blood poisoning, and all the ailments of the body. Write for it today and address AT THE MEDICAL INSTITUTE, 222 Second Avenue, South, SEATTLE, WASH.

LOWEY'S COCOA

It is distinguished from all others by its full flavor, delicious quality and absolute purity.

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NONE SUCH MINCEMEAT

It is Always CLEANLY, DAINTY, ECONOMICAL, PRACTICAL

Merrell-Soule Co., Syracuse, N. Y.

No Knife Needed

Piles can be cured by internal treatment. To get at the cause—that is the secret, and that is why Dr. Perrin's Pile Specific is so universally successful in its results. It increases the flow of digestive juices in the stomach—accelerates the action of the liver. With congestion of the liver removed and constipation relieved, the two chief and distinct causes of piles are reached and conquered.

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The Internal Remedy
For dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation, biliousness, catarrh of the stomach and kindred ailments it is the greatest remedy that has ever yet benefited mankind.

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Dr. Perrin Medical Co., Helena, Mont.

ASKS FOR BATHS

A PLEASANT LAXATIVE NO INTOXICATING

It is a non-poisonous remedy for constipation, biliousness, indigestion, and all the ailments of the stomach and bowels. It is a pleasant laxative, and it is non-intoxicating. It is a non-poisonous remedy for constipation, biliousness, indigestion, and all the ailments of the stomach and bowels. It is a pleasant laxative, and it is non-intoxicating.

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