.. Portland's Pioneer Military Company

Organized in 1861, Three of Its Members Became United States Senators.

BREVET 2 19 LIEUT.

ies of the Oregon National Guard, located in Portland, are called out for parade, every one that can do so takes a holiday of more or less duration in order to witness their evers as well as show by appearing that they are interested in the boys who follow the flag. While such is the case, rould be safe to say that not one in mdred of the onlookers over saw the oneer militia companies of the city arch through the streets, and fewer still ant can tell but little if anything of seir organization, officers or life. It is

also doubtful whether there is a single

who could name the location upon which stood the armory used by the first of

The ploneer militia company of Portland was called the Union Guards. The suggestion to organize it was offered about May, 1861, by some person not now remembered, and the idea meeting with popular favor its formation was effected on June 7 following. The petition circulated contained the preamble noted be-

"We, the undersigned, agree to organ-

ise ourselves into a military company for

the purpose of perfecting ourselves in the ual and Drill of Infantry Tactics, sub-

ject to such laws and regulations as now govern the Militia of the State of Oregon,

and subject to such company laws and

regulations as may be established by a majority of its members."

This preamble was written by E. G.

Randall, and the petition was carried

is unknown, as no roster of the company has been preserved. Some of the signers to the petition did not identify them-

selves with the organization as contem-

plated, and it is a fact that the names of others who were charter members do not appear thereon, some of these latter being among the first officers of the com-

ne petition were:
T. A. Dav's
R. J. Ladd
A. J. Knott
G. F. Greene
Levi Estes
W. S. Caldwell
H. H. Johnston
L. P. Grover
H. A. Ochr
P. C. Schuyler, Jr.
F. C. Pomercy
Theodore F. Miner
S. J. McCormick
Ch. R. Weber
Henry L. Herman
G. Campbell
John Everset
H. Jonos
W. F. Cornell
Thomas W. Rhodes
Edward Failing
C. A. Burkhardt
John Gruber
T. B. Trevett
e following were n

The names on the petition were:

The names on the
George T, Myers
John McCraken
H. Searer
W. W. Spaniding
James W. Goths
Jacob Sitizel
Benjamin L. Norden
J. W. J. Pierson
Mark A. King
A. B. Richardsen
J. W. Jordan
Marcus Procenna
A. R. Stunt
L. M. Starr
A. J. Putler
E. G. Randall
Joseph Buchtel

Joseph Buchtel
H. H. Black
Hichard B. Knapp
Churles E. Hodgkin
James McKlister
P. N. O. Plummer
Zeph Wertz
H. C. Coulses

from signer to signer by A. B. Stuart. Who the actual charter members were

ys of the National

of the boy

their military predecessors.





W.V. SPENCER



P.C. SCHUYLER



E.W.TRACY

ONE the undersigned agree to organize ourselves into a

Military Company, for the purpose of perfecting

Ourselvs in the Manual and Dull of Infantry

TA DAVIS



A B STUART

Ph. Bineter

John Everest Baya

Thus M Rhondy

I bampbell

My Comell



SECOND SERGT.

HENRY FAILING

EDWARD FAILING.



MBMILLARD



THEO.F. MINER



JAS W COOK



A Loyal Movement. The wording of the petition would not

The names of the following were not on the petition, but they were either charca the petition, but they were either charter members or joined the company soon after its organization;

J. M. Breck G. E. Gilbert James W. Cock James O' Neill
H. W. Coebett Simson G. Beed lein Wilson W. Y. Spencer
M. B. Milhard E. W. Tracy
D. F. Harrington Henry Pailing
E. D. Shistinck H. D. Sanborn
Ji. A. Hogue Jasor Royal
M. L. McElman James W. Davis
Deart Grey J. W. Case
John Bermund John W. Failing
T. McF. Patten
J. W. Smythe
John S. White
J. Halloran
Thomas S. Pitspatrick
Calls for the regular meetings and for
drifts were issued by Orderly-Sergeant

Subject to such laws and regulations. as now govern the Volunteer Militia of the State of Oregon. and Subject to such Company laws and regulations. as may be established by a majority of to members.

> Monthardson Theodore & miner Sel In Communch Henry & Herman :

Chat & Hadgking Sames mchinny

Fro Plummer Gond The answer to the rollicall disclosed a full attendance. The guns were all right, but not so with the fit of a portion of the uniforms. Still, the line was formed with as much ardor as though everything was perfect. High-water pants, pants rolled up at the bottom, or baggy from being oversize, did not dampen the enthusiasm, por did any of those in the ranks who were below the medium in height step less proudly because their upper dress made them look like they were enwrapped in dad's overcoat. The late Hon. Henry Failing kept his uniform for many years. It was the regulation for many years. It was the regulation U. S. Army in style and blue in color.

First Officers. The first officers of the Union Guards

Henry W. Corbett, Captain.
E. G. Randall, First Lieutenant.
Thomas A. Davis, Second Lieutenant,
S. G. Reed, Brevet Second Lieutenant
Theo, B. Trevett, First Sergeant.

Henry Falling, Second Sergeant, J. E. Gilbert, Third Sergeant, W. V. Spencer, Fourth Sergeant, James O'Nelli, First Corporal, P. C. Schuyler, Second Corporal, S. J. McCormick, Third Corporal, E. W. Tracy, Fourth Corporal,

First Militia Co.

John Everest, T. W. Rounds and F. N. O. Plummer furnished the music and Joseph L. Aillson, First Sergeant, Company K. Ninth United States Infantry, of Vancouver, was drillmaster. At the meetings of the company Captain Corbett presided, J. M. Breck took care of the funds as treasurer, and John Wilson, as secretary, made a record of the proceedings. The armory was situated on the northeast corner of First and Stark streets, the drill and meeting rooms being on the upper floor of a wooden building then located there and owned by Pat Raleigh.

Drillmaster Allison could not absent

Drillmaster Allison could not absent himself from the post at Vancouver at will, nor yet at the pleasure of the mi-litia company, and through this, opportunities to come over to Portland and give instructions in military tactics were not overfrequent. His inability to be present did not postpone drilling, as there was a determination on the part of all to learn themselves other means not at hand. Quite often in the beginning the officers marched the company into sit-uations where it was somewhat demor-alized. On one occasion the parade was along Sixth street, going south, and on resching Yamhill street. Captain Corbett intended that the company should left wheel and go down that street, but in-advertently gave the order to right wheel. when the boys faced a rail fence, and were about to climb over it into Colonel Chapman's cow pasture, when "Halt! Left wheel, forward march!" brought or-der out of entanglement. Captain Cor-bett resigned in the Spring of 1861 and was succeeded by First Lieutenant Randall. At the same time Second Lieutenant Davis was promoted to First Lieutenant, and Brevet Second Lieutenant Reed was pro-moted to Second Lieutenant, and the of-fice of Brevet Second Lieutenant was dis-continued.

Old Jefferson Guards.

Early in June of the same year it was proposed to organize a second company, and after a few preliminary meetings, one was held at the Courthouse on the 2th of the same month for the election of officers. At this time Stephen Coffin was chosen president and John H. Mitchell, secretary. The list of members of this company is at the present time unobtainable, and it is doubtful whether it ever will be. The name selected was

it ever will be. The name selected was "Old Jefferson Guarda," and the following were elected officers:
William H. Farrar, Captain,
S. E. Barr, First Lieutenant,
John H. Mitchell, Second Lieutenant. R. J. Ladd, First Sergeant,
F. Harbaugh, Second Sergeant,
S. R. Holcomb, Third Sergeant,
Levi Ebtes, Fourth Sergeant,
W. C. Hull, First Corporal,
F. C. Poim, Second Corporal,
T. Levi Corporal,

T. Lee, Third Corporal, L. L. Peck, Fourth Corporal, The company being organized, the fol-lowing resolution was offered and adopt-

ed:
Resolved, Trat William H. Farrar, Captain of this company, be, and is hereby instructed to report to the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army that the Old Jefferson Guards of Portland, Oregon, are now organized and rendy to receive orders from headquarters to aid and assist in the putting down all rebellions, Pacific Republics and foreign fors.

Resolved, That we will never let up while the black voitines of tyramay and despotism howers over any part or portion of our believed country.

The purposes for which the Union

The purposes for which the Union

(Concluded on Page 44.)



GEO T MYERS JOHN W FAILING

indicate that politics had anything to do with the organization of the company, but as a matter of fact it was a political move on the part of patriotic citizens. The Southern states had rebelled, and secession sympathizers here were talk-ing of co-operation, a republic to be established on the Pacific Const and other treasonable schemes. Those loyal to the Government did not propose to be taken out of the Union without a protest and

ing. This record does not specify the of- fer at a later date, and General Summer ficial positions of the members of the authorized the issuance of the needed authorized the issuance of the needed guns and other menitions of war neces-sary. These were delivered to the Guards on July 16, 1861, and figure on the reon July 16, 1861, and figure on the reports turned in as having been charged
to the State of Oregon. Strictly speaking, General Sumner overstepped his authority to dispose of Government property, but actions in a good cause are
sometimes deemed the right thing to do,
and his superiors never questioned his
procedure in the premises or held the
state accountable for arms received
through its supposed requisition.

First Uniforms.

R. D. Sanborn
H. A. Horus
James W. Davis
W. L. McBran
James W. Davis
Jeans Grey
L. W. Case
John Bermand
John W. Falling
T. McF. Patton
John W. Falling
T. McF. Patton
John W. Smythe
John S. White
Thomas S. Fitzpatris
Calls for the regular meetings and for
drills were issued by Orderly-Sergeant
Trevett and a portion of the time he kept
a record of those answering the rollcall
for drill, but this latter duty soon seems
to have failen to the lot of Second Sergeant
Testent Falling, as a record of the rollcalls has been found among his effects
since his decease. In this the writing of
the names of those present on July 2,
last from that date to February 14, 182,
last from that date to Sergeant Fall-As the regulations of the Government did not provide for the furnishing of