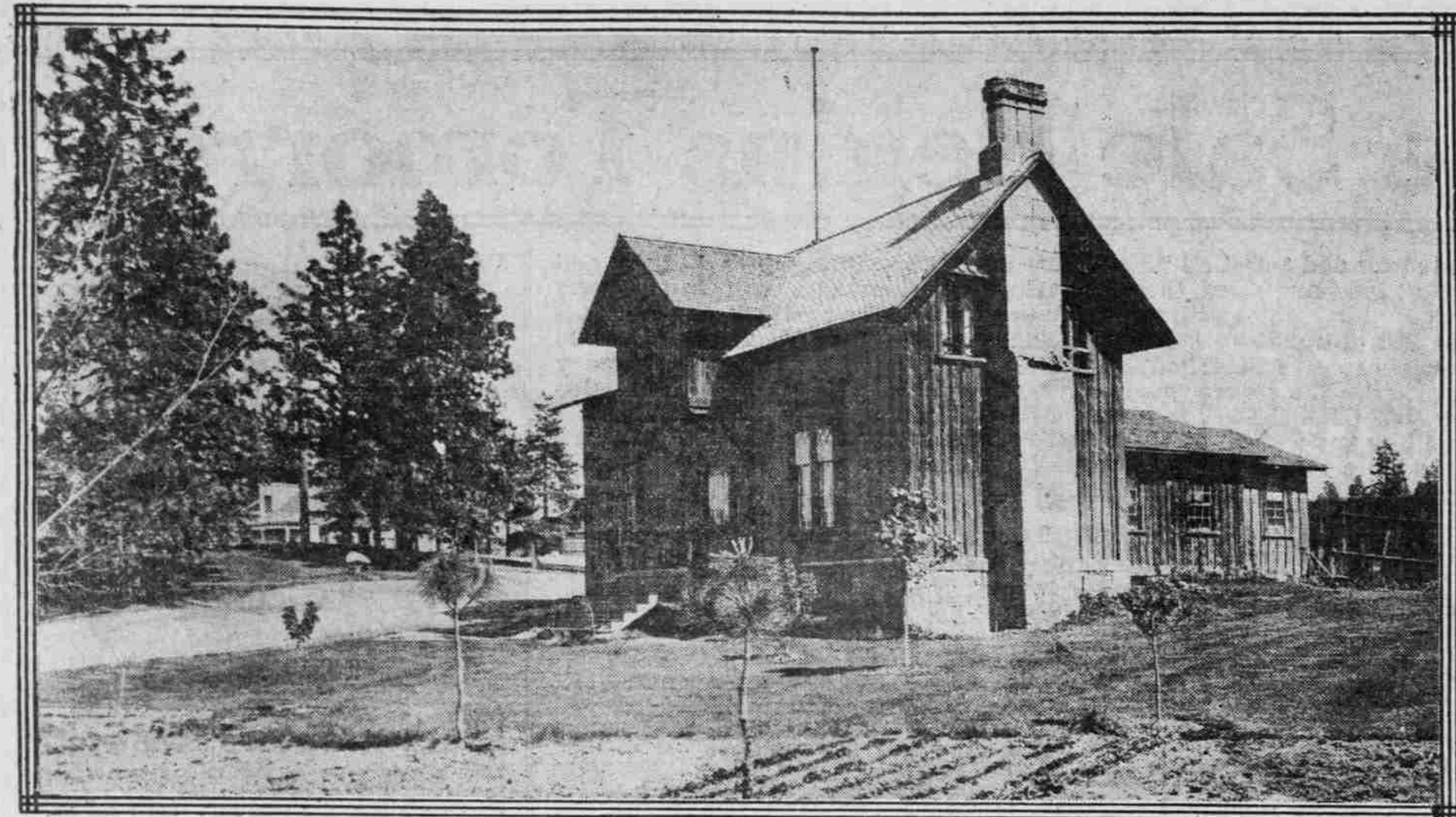


OLD FORT DALLES, FIFTY NINE YEARS AGO.

WORK OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWARD PRESERVING AN OREGON LAND MARK AND RELICS OF AN IMPORTANT MILITARY POST



FORMER SURGEONS' QUARTERS AT OLD FORT DALLES, AND PRESENT HEADQUARTERS OF THE OLD FORT DALLES HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Gifford, Photo



OLD BAKESHOP AT OLD FORT DALLES, ESTABLISHED IN THE EARLY '50'S BY JOAQUIN MILLER, "POET OF THE SIERRAS," SEATED, EXCHANGING REMINISCENCES WITH FRED BINZER, STANDING. BINZER STILL DOING BUSINESS AT THE OLD STAND. PICTURE TAKEN IN 1907. Gifford, Photo

THE Old Fort Dalles Historical Society, which recently celebrated its fourth birthday anniversary and the 59th anniversary of the establishment of the post with a "silver shower" in the building formerly used as the surgeon's quarters, has at last won a long, uphill fight for the preservation of grounds, buildings and accessories, whose connection with the early history of Wasco County and Oregon make them invaluable to the future generations of this commonwealth.

Where once was a vast wilderness and where the Government had reserved the land for a distance of ten miles in every direction, now only a small plot of ground is preserved—occupied by a single building. On all sides the march of improvement is very noticeable and the scramble for the elusive dollar is apparent. Since the old fort building was placed in a habitable state through the efforts of the society it has been surrounded by small cottages and land values in its vicinity have increased threefold in the last few years. A lot adjoining the property donated by a special act of Congress was purchased by the society recently at double the cost it could have been secured two years before.

Honorary and active members responded to the call for a "silver shower" to such an extent that the additional land holdings will soon be free from all incumbrance. Among the prominent honorary members remembering the occasion substantially were: Mrs. G. O. Haller and Mrs. R. H. McKee, of Seattle, Wash., widow and daughter of Major Haller, who assumed command at the fort in 1853—Mrs. McKee was born in the old log barracks during the time her father was in command—E. B. McFarland, of Portland; ex-Governor Z. F. Moody, of Salem; George H. Himes, secretary of the Oregon Historical Society; Mrs. S. S. Munson, of Warrenton, a Whitman survivor; Mrs. M. M. Cushing and Mrs. Robert Mays, of this city.

The society's president, Mrs. William Shackelford, delivered the following address, which gives important historical data in relation to the post from the time it was established to the present:

It is most gratifying to the Old Fort Dalles Historical Society to greet so many of its friends today; it is also suggestive to our minds of your loyalty to our work, which has been carried on so successfully for the last five years. Without your support, we could have done but little.

As you perhaps remember, this is the 59th anniversary of the establishment of this old post, built first of logs by the First Rifle Regiment, which came in 1850 to this Coast. It was rebuilt in 1856-57-58, and now, after the ravages of time, the desecration of the graves and the usual misfortunes which attend unoccupied premises, this building is the only one left of the officers' quarters of Old Fort Dalles.

The Government reserves consisted originally of a tract of land ten miles square. As emigrants arrived and the land commenced itself for homes and settlement, this was cut down to a piece five miles square, and as the necessities of the post were not in proportion to the size of the reserve, it was again reduced to one mile square. The cost of building ran up into hundreds of thousands of dollars, and as mill machinery, etc., had to be brought around Cape Horn, and transported up the Columbia in very primitive and small steamers, time and money were consumed.

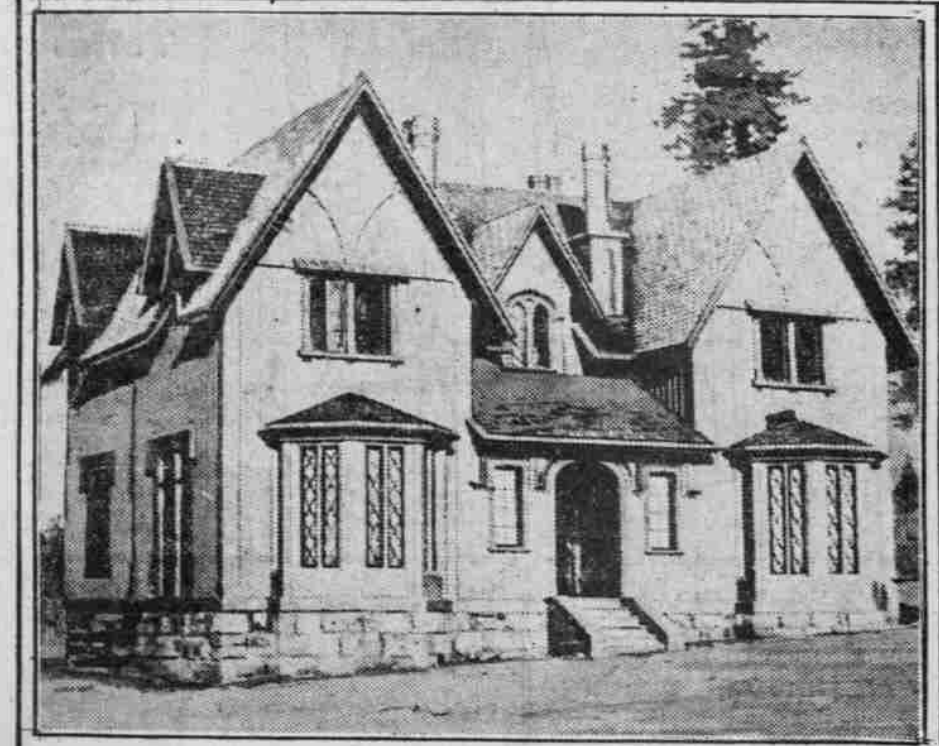
The garrison was occupied until the breaking out of the rebellion, when the soldiers were ordered East. For about twenty years it was looked after by Louis Fritz, who was paid by the Government, and then it was laid out as Fort Dalles Military Addition to Dalles City, the streets dedicated to the city and the lots appraised and sold. The appraisement varied and that on the houses on the premises was very high.

The first effort to secure this building was made in a little literary society of ladies and gentlemen called "The Taine Class," of which Jay P. Lucas was a member, and he was also one of the officials in the United States Land Office. He was appointed to open correspondence with the Department of the Interior in regard to securing this building for the use of the Taine Society. A voluminous correspondence ensued, which came to naught. The building was appraised at \$100, and a reduction from this amount did not make it possible to secure it, so the matter was dropped.

The next effort was begun by the Sorosis Club, May 6, 1903, when I was appointed to look into the matter and ascertain what could be accomplished. The Sorosis was greatly disappointed to



MR. AND MRS. LOUIS SCHOLL, NOW LIVING IN WALLA WALLA. MR. SCHOLL WAS ARCHITECT AND BUILDER OF GARRISON BUILDINGS AT OLD FORT DALLES.



DESTROYED BY FIRE. QUARTERS OF CAPT. THOS JORDAN, QUARTERMAS-TER.

find it could not hold property, not being an incorporated body. The next idea was to get it as city property, but on investigation it was found that any city council could sell it at any time, the ladies in the Sorosis being powerless in the matter. I then took a trip to Portland to interview the officers and directors of the Oregon State Historical Society. Judge Bellinger, who was then president, Secretary Himes, and, in fact, all connected with the society, were much interested, and offered to hold the property for us and also to use their influence in Washington, D. C., in securing this property, which we found must be done by a special act of Congress.

Fortunately, our fellow-townsmen, J. N. Williamson, was then a delegate, so we invited him to meet a committee of Sorosis at the building and look over the situation. Mr. Williamson became much interested at once, and went actively to work on his return to Congress, with the result that it was donated to the Oregon Historical Society in 1904. The society at once appointed a committee of custodians, consisting of Mrs. William Shackelford, Mrs. C. J. Crandall, Mrs. W. Lord, Mrs. Belle C. Ferguson, and Mrs. M. M. Cushing. Mrs. Brooks on this committee. The committee has been reappointed each year since 1904.

"Out of this committee has grown the local auxiliary—the Old Fort Dalles Historical Society—working under the constitution and by-laws of the state society, and the custodian committee comprises the following officers of the society: President, Mrs. Shackelford; first vice-president, Mrs. Lord; second vice-president, Mrs. Marden; secretary, Mrs. C. J. Crandall; treasurer, Dr. Belle C. Ferguson.

"We have fulfilled all our hopes and friends have arisen on all sides of us. We have expended by their help about \$100 on the property, and have most ef-

ficient aid from Mr. Paddock and wife, who reside in the building, and are always found to be courteous and helpful to the many strangers visiting the premises.

"Our membership is large, consisting, first, of the active members—any member of the state society is eligible as an active member by paying an annual fee of \$2, and has the privilege of bringing in an associate member. Added to these is a long list of honorary members, which brings in no fees, but much valuable interest and bits of early history, from time to time, and often substantial aid, as on this occasion, as you will see by the letters our secretary will presently read. This honorary list also preserves a record of the names of our early pioneers.

"We have celebrated four birthdays since the new birth of Old Fort Dalles took place in 1904. The first was in the form of a reception to the public, after repairs and renovation of the building had been made, and those of you who remember in former years the appearance of this forlorn, grimy old structure must certainly notice a marked contrast in appearance now. The second birthday was celebrated with a china shower, so that our cupboard could be supplied with china for serving our friends with refreshments after a long, uphill walk. The third was a silver shower of 50-cent pieces, and today another silver shower of larger denomination, and, judging from the secretary's table, I think it has been quite a storm after the long dry spell.

"This shower is to help us in the payment of what we owe on the piece of ground recently purchased, lying west of the building. We thank you sincerely for your liberal donations and your helpful and cheery presence here today."



DESTROYED BY FIRE. DOUBLE QUARTERS; OCCUPIED BY MAJOR LUGENBEEL AND CAPT FLETCHER.



GUARD HOUSE AT OLD FORT DALLES AS IT APPEARS TODAY. GIFFORD, PHOTO.

stationed here. The bodies of the ex-President and his wife now lie in a mausoleum on Riverside drive, New York City, which was built 1892-1897, at a cost of \$600,000.

General Sheridan came to the relief of Major Haller against the Yakimas in the late Fall of 1855, crossing the Columbia here.

The Rifle Regiment came to Oregon in 1849, and to Fort Dalles in May, 1850. Governor I. I. Stevens, of Washington territory, outfitted here before leaving for the treaty grounds of Walla Walla, in 1855. Major Rains providing him with a squad of soldiers as a guard, under Lieutenant Gracie. Guests of this party were Lieutenant Kip, a son of Bishop Kip, the first bishop of California, and Hazard Stevens, a son of Governor Stevens, then a lad of 15, now General Stevens, of Boston.

From Fort Dalles Colonel Wright went on to his famous expedition into the Spokane country in 1858, when he subdued all the tribes of the great "Inland Empire," opening in the Fall of that year this great country to settlement, which had been closed for some years.

Dr. Hammond was one of the surgeons at the fort in 1855, eminent afterwards in San Francisco and New York City, and at one time Surgeon-General in Washington, D. C.

Bishop Scott, the pioneer bishop of the Episcopal Church, baptized an infant, the son of Captain Whittesey, at the surgeon's quarters in the Spring of 1861, the reverend gentleman being entertained at dinner. There is no doubt the first official act of the Episcopal Church at The Dalles.

Louis Scholl, the architect of the garrison buildings when the old log quarters were replaced with frame structures during 1856, '57 and '58, came to Oregon in September, 1852, and is now living in Walla Walla, Wash., at the ripe old age of 89. He was also the architect and builder of Forts Walla Walla, Simcoe and Colville.

Theodore Winthrop, author of "Canoes and Saddles," who came to the fort in 1853 as a correspondent for an Eastern newspaper, was stricken with smallpox and

arrived and cared for in the old log quarters. Winthrop later was made a major in the regular army and was killed at the battle of Bethel, in Virginia, at the first volley, during the Civil War.

and Colfax celebration held in The Dalles. C. J. Crandall and Moore Grimes are the only "boys" left now of the small brigade that helped to bear it aloft.

A copy of the bill, which passed both houses of Congress, giving the property to the State Historical Society, always claims the attention of the thoughtful. Alongside the likenesses of many local pioneers, the benign face of Dr. John McLoughlin, said to be framed in apple wood from one of the historic apple trees planted at Fort Vancouver and raised from seed brought by the doctor from London in 1824, looks down upon the visitor, who is ever welcome.

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ODD TANGLE OVER WEDDING

German Count First Declared Insane and Then Called Sane.

BERLIN, July 10.—(Special.)—Strange litigation is proceeding over the affairs of the eldest son and heir of Count George von Erbach, head of an enormously rich family, which had the right to intermarry on equal terms with the sovereign houses of Europe.

The Count's son and heir, hereditary Count Erasmus von Erbach, four years ago married, in London, the daughter of a washerwoman, one Dora Fisher. The father, after prolonged litigation, succeeded in getting his son declared insane, upon which the marriage was annulled, and the son put under tutelage. The Erbach house is governed by rigid family laws, which are guarded by a council of relatives. The relatives are now trying to deprive Count Erasmus of his rights as heir, which include a fortune estimated at from 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 marks.