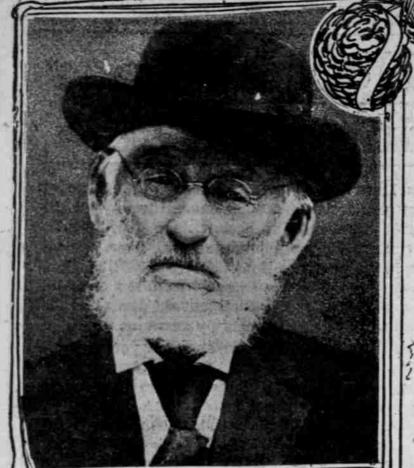
ELPEDTO BUILD VANCOUVER BARRACKS



Philip Christ, Sole Survivor of the First Command Sent to the Pacific Coast; Hale and Hearty at the





BY GORDON STUART. VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 1.—(Special correspondence of The Sunday Oregonian)-The last survivor of the first company of artillery, of New York, sent by Uncle Sam. in 1848, still lives a faw blocks from the post in which he served as a soldier in 1849, after having helped to build it. Philip Christ, senior, is his name and he has lived a most eventful and ndventurous career of \$7 years and is yet strong And he never married.

He has lived since before the telegraph was invented to see wireless messages sent and received; he has twice beheld Halley's comet, once in Germany. 75 years ago, and last May in this city; he has lived from the time of the primitive stagecoach to the flying muchine and has seen every advance made in transportation from the slow-moving ox team to the swift and speedy aeropiane; he has lived to see months reduced to days in the matter of transportation of mail, and he has been through all of the various hardships of wars. Indian wars and wilderwars, Indian wars and wilder the present civilization; he fred capitalist and farmer.

Philip Christ was born in Nassau, Germany, May 24, 1824. He was ap-prenticed and learned to be an expert shoemaker. In 1847, when 22 years old, Philip sailed from Antwerp, Belgium, for New York. The voyage took 52 days. After working at his trade a short time, he colleted in the United pany L. First Artillery, for service in

Governor's Island, the company was ordered to Vera Crus. The Government transport, with all on board, was wrecked in the Bahama Islands, but with lifeboats and rafts all save one teached an island, where they were compelled to remain 11 days. Two small transports then saw their sign of distransports then saw their sign of dis-tress, and took them to Fort Mgultrie, South Carolina. After six weeks drill-ing there, the troops were again or-dered to Vera Cruz and were taken there by the back Empire safely.

The Mexican War was soon over and Philip and his comrades were taken back to New York, where they landed in July, 1848.

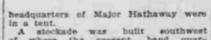
For many months the President of the United States had been receiving requests for troops to be stationed in the far Northwest at Fort Vancouver. Oregon Territory. Little was known of the country then, except that it was everyon with Indians, and that the Hidsen's Hay Company had established trading posts in several places. A trading posts in several places. A few settlers had braved the dangers of the plains, while others had sailed around the Horn, and settled in this vicinity. They needed protection from the Indians, and possibly from the

Accordingly an order was issued for The Massachusetts, a vessel fitted cut with crude steam-propelling apparatus, in addition to her sails, was provisioned in New York, and supplies enough to last for two years were stored away

She sailed and steamed down the Atlantic seahoard, conserving her supply of fuel by every favorable wind. The first stop for water and fresh supplies was made at Rio de Janetro, Brazil; the was made at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; the second at Valbaraiso, Chile, and the third at Honeiulu, Hawali, where among other supplies taken on board were some small potatoes. The mouth of the Columbia River was signted about May 12, 1848, and a short stop made. A store was heing kept in a wrecked bark off Astoria, and a few supplies were bought there.

auppiles were bought there.
Two days later, May 15, the present Government dock at Fort Vancouver, Government dock at Fort Vancouver, Oregon Territory, was reached, and a landing made. A few hundred feet below this ancient dock grew the famous old witness tree, which was blown down two years ago. From this tree all of the Government, military and state and county surveys were begun. Amos Short, when he located a donation land claim in 1846, began his description of the land thus: "Beginning at a Saim of Gilcad tree on the north at a Balm of Gilead tree on the north bank of the Columbia River, running

Upon landing, Companies L and M, in command of Major John Samuel Hathaway, the first United States troops stationed here, pitched the canvas tents they had brought with them, prepara-



in a tent.

A stockade was built southwest of where the present hand quarters are and barracks of logs for the soldiers were erected. The last of these original loghouses is now used as the Officers Club, and it is covered with weather-boarding Laier General Grant when on dure here used the Grant, when on duty, here, used the building. It is on "officers' row," and is

building. It is on "officers' row," and is designated as quarters 22. All around this section of the country in the pioneer days were dense forests of fir and pine and cottonwoods. When the land was cleared the logs, fine timber, were burned as the most economi-cal method of getting rid of the timber. Before the rainy season of 1849 had ar-rived, the ploneer troops had huilt quar-ters for themselves and for their sup-plies, which must last them at least a

Then different jobs were assigned to different soldiers. To the lot of Philip Christ fell that of supplying the camp with fresh water. He was given a balky old mile and a two-wheeled cart, on which were placed two barrels and in-structions to act as the water system for the soldiers. Cisterns were dug and these Philip kept filled with the primitive method.

In the morning he would begin his strenuous duties of hauling water and with his mule would go to the very brink of the Columbia River and with a big copper kettle dip up the water and transfer it to the barrels. When the barrels were filled he would put over the tops a piece of canvas and start for injured, the effects of which he feess an-til this day, and that was 60 years ago. Philip had trouble with the balky mule and when he was trying to get him to go, the animal started so quickly, with a lurch, that Philip was thrown to the ground and one of the barreis fell on his right leg, cutting it badly. Later a large wagon, drawn by six mules, was made and used to haul water.

As might be supposed, the rations given the soldiers in those pioneer days were not always the most appetizing. Their daily fare was black coffee, pork—rusty pork at that—and beans, bread made from musty flour, and occasionally potatoes. After the troops had been they had brought with them, preparatory to building more permanent quarters. The supplies were taken from the Massachusetta and stored in tents at tirst and later in strong logosbins, where a constant guard was set over them.

For all logic and logic and later the troops had been smoking for 69 years, a constant guard was set over them.

For all logic and logic an

headquarters of Major Hathaway were and potatoes were \$3 a bushel.

All of the early commanders were what might be termed self-imposed agricult tural teachers. They knew a great deal ters are and barracks of logs for about farming so that they could, when

about farming so that they could, when stationed in remote regions, raise part of their provisions, and thus lessen the danger of the troops contracting scurvy, or other diseases caused from eating a straight sait pork diet without vegetables. The chaplain of the army then was carried on the muster rolls as "chaplain and schoolmaster," but there was no chaplain with the first soldlers sent here. The first one arrived February 13, 1853. Little garden truck was raised the first or second years, but in 1851 one company was sent to Astoria to clear land there for raising a garden, but they were called back before they reaped the benefit of their efforts.

With the more than 200 men, there were but five or six women, who were wives of soldlers, hot of officers. They drew rations the same as the men and did the soldlers' washing, being paid about 75 cents a month per man.

The soldlers' pay then was much smaller than now. The enlisted men

The soldiers pay then was much smaller than now. The enlisted men of their caives. One in particular rewere paid \$7 a month, but a bill was passed by Congress increasing the pay of men on duty in distant posts to double for 20 months, after which period they ware paid for time and a half, or \$10.50 a month, clothes and rations.

The Indians were on the warpath

for the gold fields. He did not make continuously, his reason. However, tofortune there after working a year,
or he came back to this county and
ook up a Donation Land Claim two
niles east of Vancouver Barracks,
was a habit that did me no good, so morning when the day to the form of the property of the came back to the county and
ook up a Donation Land Claim two
a little dizzy once in a while. "It
was a habit that did me no good, so morning when the day is yet to the came back to the county and
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ook up a Donation Land Claim two
a little dizzy once in a while. "It
was a habit that did me no good, so morning when the day is yet to the came back to where he had served as a soldier.

With no experience whatever as a farmer, Philip began the arduous task of clearing some ground and started farming. He made a small clearing the farming. He made a small clearing the first year, burned the trees when he had felled them and planted potatoes which he had bought for \$1 a bushel. The following season when he harvested his crop he was compelled to sell his potatoes for only 50 cents a bushel, so small was the demand for them. He bought a few chickens from the Hudson's Bay Company and sold ploneer farmers of the Northwest.
Philip well remembers the many visits made him by Colonel Bonneville as he rode up to his farm two miles from the post, stopped in the road and talked to him over the fence. He bought most of his clothing from the soldiers, an easy matter in those days when soldiers were anxious to get a little extra money to spend. Whisky was then sold for \$3 a gallon by the Hudson's Bay Company, and gin or rum could be secured for the same price. Clothing sold by the sutlers was extended to the same price.

orbitant, is being charged for a cheap coat that did not fit at any point. The soldiers would go hunting occa-sionally, and when they returned would have venison for their company. It was later learned that several of the farmers, who were then trying to make The soldlers pay then was much a living near the post, missed many of their calves. One in particular remailer than now. The enlisted men

that the tobacco began to make him a little dizzy once in a while. "It was a habit that did me no good, so I just quit," said Philip. "I will admit to you, though, I have never told any one else before, that it did make me somewhat dizzy at times."

Philip spends his time now, and has for the last 20 years, in caring for his

family. Henry owns and drives an automo-Henry owns and drives an automobile himself, and once in a while he can induce Philip to ride with him, but not often. When asked why he did not enjoy himself by taking long rides in the machine Philip, with a wise turn of his white head, said: "I am afraid of an automobile. I would rather feel the solid ground under my feet than to be flying along on the rubber tires. It's safer on the ground."

And so Philip Christ, plonger, and

And so Philip Christ, ploneer, and oldest resident lives. He goes to bed regularly every night at 2 o'clock and rises in the morning at 6 o'clock without an alarm clock, Philip has lived here, within a radius of two miles, for 61 long years; from the time the virgin forests covered the whole country until the present day of civilization. He has seen the advancement of the transportation facilities from a slow moving and uncertain ox-team to the auing and uncertain ox-team to the au-tomobile and flying machine, and he has ridden in all of the vehicles, ex-cept the flying machine, which he saw when Charles K. Hamilton was here last Spring.

He is now content to spend his alow-He is now content to spend his slowly declining years in peace and quiet
with his brother, with whom he has so
long and so strenuously labored, enduring untold hardships. He enjoys
telling friends of his early life here,
but he never for an instant thinks
that he has done or schleved anything
out of the ordinary. All of his old
friends have died and this leaves him

EQUAL SUFFRAGE WILL PROVE HEALING BALM

Mrs. Duniway Sees in "Votes for Women" Relief for Confusion.

PORTLAND, Dec. 2.— (To the Ed-posed by organized human tyranny and lo destroy the law, but to fulfill. Please remember this, Republicans, itor.)—The hopeless jeremiad of my human sin that it has taken war to friend, Colonel Hofer, over the present make the law of God effective among to save your party from distinction. condition of the Republican party; the the sons of women. well-grounded anxiety of Margaret McKay over the unequal (possible) re-sults of the single tax, and the astute half of liberty and plunged our unlogic of Governor Ger over almost happy land into bloody war? It is everything, make up an interesting combination of letters on The Oregonian this period here. Every school boy and editorial page of today, which remind girl knows it by heart. Suffice it to me of several suggestive bits of history, some of which I ask space to re- end, as she always does, and all the

It is recorded in Hely Writ that one of the Pharaohs, a ruler in Egypt, feelto release his tax-burdened vassals, the as "the Oregon plan." It was born tivity. quent visitations of plague had come great were the calamities that befell the new can be established. Egyptian people and so general the It is the object of this lett liberty, that a law of God was sent to fundamental cause for this last and

they were paid for time and a half, or \$10.50 a month, clothes and rations.

The strength of the garrison, December 31, 1850, was is officers, 234 enlisted men, composing six companies, A, B, C, D, F, G and I, Mounted Riffemen. The old-fashloned flintlock and percussion cap guns were in use here then.

Letters mailed October 5, 1850, in Washington, D. C, to the commanding officer, Port Columbia, for that was the name of the poet in the early days, reacher their destination the following January 27. One letter was sent August 18 and it reached the officer to whom it was addressed on the following January. The trip is now made in about four days and a letter mailed in London, England, has reached Vancouver this year in less than nine whole days.

The Pourth Infantry came here in 1854, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel L. E. Bonneville, Companies Land M, Fourth Artilliery, that had been serving here since 1845, were badly discoursed by that time. Some of the men were sick, others failed to re-enlist when, their term of five years expired, so the few remaining were transferred to the fourth Infantry. rising which is to have its place in history along side of all past efforts of any part of the race to regain its liberty, which, though established in the beginning (as recorded by the Creator, who made man male and female and gave to them dominion over everything in and upon the earth except one another) has for all time been so op-

Need I mention another epoch in his-

not necessary to pursue the annals of hosts of oppression were brought low. Within the last decade there came into being the Initiative and Referendum, now known the wide world over

Children of Israel, from enforced cap- in a psychological moment, catching This ruler was not even in- organized oppression unawares; but is duced to bestow equal rights upon his a plan which our esteemed ex-Governor handicapped subordinates after fre- wisely accuses of "throwing Government into a confusing jumble," even going so far as to "disembowel it's natisfaction among them all-that le, fundamentals." This is to be expected in all progressive movements. But the are always few in number compared to end thereof is progress, always, though the old order must be

It is the object of this letter to call to reflecting minds the fact that the the Woman movement, is a natural. and in the order of progress, an inschool children are taught, the good evitable one. That many men recog-people of Massachusetts resisted op-nize it and spring to its rescue when nize it and spring to its rescue when opportunity offers, is seen in the fact that 36,200 electors cast their votes at the last election to remove the cause of the disturbances they deplore; and almost past endurance by the uprising they did it without the firing of a

shirk its manifest duty at the next election, but must vote to make Oregon free. Already the Democratic party is sitting up to take notice. cialists are leading, and the Prohibitionists and Granges, the labor unions and industrial brotherhoods are falling into line. Women offer this friendly warning because we are not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill.

men and brethren, before it is too late to save your party from disruption.
ABIGAIL SCOTT DUNIWAY.

An Idle Understudy.

Wallace Irwin, in Smith's.
For twenty-seven years I've lived for Art
And now I'm understudy to the star:
I wear mu hair like him, I've learned his

t wear mu mair like him, I've learned his part.

(I'd like to emulate his motor car.)

If I could take his place I think that I would hoist the old profession up a peg;

There'd be another planet in the sky—

If only he would slip and break his leg!

look for signs of illness, but I find He's most stupendous careful of his healt de looks so well and strong I've half mind To fill his beer with knock-out drope by

At center-stage six evenings in the week He thrills the mob. Bouquets? He takes

his choice.
Through speaking lines that I could also speak—
If only he would dislocate his voice! The star's so overrated it's a shame, And how he gets his pull I can't quite

I guess he'll draw a contract up with me. At first I'd start in modest, then I'd grow To Shakespeare parts—try Hamlet for a trip:
I've got the talent, all I need's a show—
Say, if the star would only get the grip!

When Mr. Savage bears me do the same

When I'm made up for him you wouldn't

Us two apart-we're doubles limb for

If any night to Rector's I should go.
Wouldn't they rubber, thinking I was him!
The critics would applied me to the stars,
The bill-boards would proclaim "Auother
Hit"
My picture would be pasted on cigars—
If only he would fall down in a fit!

