

PIONEER GOES TO SOLDIERS HOME.

Sergeant Robert S. Dunlap, Veteran of the Mexican War, Sexton of the Local Cemetery and Revered Member of Masonic Orders, Soon to Leave for Roseburg.

Sergeant Robert S. Dunlap has received the order permitting him to enter the Oregon Soldiers Home at Roseburg, but with it was the statement from Commandant W. W. Elder of the Home that he would have to wait his turn for a vacancy the Home now being full. The Sergeant may leave Jacksonville within a week and it may be a month before he can go. Sergeant Dunlap has been a resident of Jacksonville for more than half a century and he has become one of the best known personages in the town and the unselfish and honorable life that he



has lived has made for him many friends who though regretting his leaving Jacksonville are glad to know that at the Soldiers Home he will have the quiet comfort, the care and the congenial companionship of old comrades that will make his declining years peaceful and contented.

Sergeant Robert S. Dunlap is of Scotch-Irish descent his great grandfather coming to America with his family in 1773 from the north of Ireland and settling in South Carolina. The Dunlaps were Presbyterians and as were all those stout hearted old Covenanters were so soon as they settled in America loyal to the interests of the colonies and were not loath to take up arms in defense of their liberty. Sergeant Dunlap's grandfather, Robert Dunlap, enlisted when 17 years old in the South Carolina militia and served through the greater part of the Revolutionary War. At the close of the war he married and moved to North Carolina and thence to Bath county, Kentucky and then to Missouri in 1821 renting a farm near St. Louis. Two years later, his sons having preceded him, he moved to Calloway county, where later on he died. The Sergeant's father, James M. Dunlap, was married in Missouri and it was on October 8, 1827, that the Sergeant was born.

On June 24, 1846, Sergeant Dunlap enlisted in Colonel A. W. Doniphan's regiment, the First Missouri Mounted Rifles and marching to Fort Leavenworth they joined General Stephen W. Kearney's command and marched across the plains to Santa Fe, which they captured from the Mexicans. General Kearney with part of his command went to California, while Colonel Doniphan took the remainder of the command and marched down into Old Mexico and after a series of hard-fought engagements he gained control of the Mexican state of Chihuahua. From Chihuahua Col. Doniphan's regiment marched east and joined Gen. Taylor's command. Soon after the regiment was mustered out, their time having expired. Sergeant Dunlap went home to Missouri and in the spring of 1849 he joined a train for California. He remained in California, having a miner's luck, until the summer of 1852 when he

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went by steamer to Portland and remained there a short time when he went to Salem and there spent the winter. In the spring of 1853 he came to Jacksonville. The first Rogue River Indian war was then on and Sergeant Dunlap was put in command of the Jacksonville Home Guards. In the fall he returned to Marion county, going as a guard to one of the pack trains, where he remained for a year working at the carpenter's trade. He came back to Jacksonville in the fall of 1854 and has lived here ever since except from 1859 to 1862 when he lived on Williams creek.

In April, 1863, he took charge of the Jacksonville cemetery, which had been laid out in 1859, and for the 40 years since he has had charge of it and under his supervision it has become one of the handsomest cemeteries on the Pacific Coast. Sergeant Dunlap has assisted in placing in their last resting place the bodies of many of the men and women whose lives were a part of the early history of Oregon. Sergeant Dunlap joined the Masons in April, 1856, and he is now a member of Warren Lodge No. 10, Oregon Chapter No. 4 and Adarel Chapter No. 3, O. E. S., and he was a member ever faithful to his lodge duties for he never missed a meeting unless by reason of sickness or imperative business engagements. He was tyler for 30 years of Warren Lodge and he has been tyler for Oregon Chapter since 1867. In the Eastern Star he is Chaplain and his sonorous prayers and kindly patriarchal figure will be greatly missed by the members of that order.

Sergeant Dunlap was never married, a soldier's heart and a brown-eyed Missouri girl having been estranged by untoward circumstances during the Mexican war. The sergeant, while a great admirer of women and fond of children, has lived all to himself but not for himself, for he has been generous to the needy and a friend to everybody and he has done much toward making the world better by his having lived in it. The boys and girls of Jacksonville, some now men and women prominent in Oregon and California life, well remember many a jolly picnic on the banks of Rogue river when they were the guests of the kindly old Sergeant.

Judge J. R. Neil was at Eagle Point Thursday on some legal business.

Mrs. W. B. Moore and Mrs. W. H. Meeker of Medford spent Thursday afternoon and night in Jacksonville, guests of Mrs. C. W. Conklin and other friends.

Miss Martha Robinson, who came from Junction City last week on a visit to her uncle, Wm. Robinson, has gone to Wagner Springs where she has secured a seven months school at \$40 per month. Miss Robinson is a graduate of the Monmouth Normal and she has had the best of success in her school work in the Willamette Valley and she will doubtless succeed as well with her school at Wagner Springs.

The Sentinel exhibit has been increased by a sample of corn brought in by Mr. E. Britt from their Butte creek farm. One of the stalks is over 13 feet high and the other four are over 12 feet high. Each of the stalks has two large well developed ears of corn and a field of such corn would yield fully 60 bushels to the acre. The corn is a new variety of the white dent and the seed was sent to Mr. Britt by the department of agriculture to test. It is too rank in growth and slow to ripen to be a perfect success in this climate where cool nights are the rule, but it would be a profitable corn to grow for ensilage.

Wanted.—A ratchet-setter and a grader behind the edger at the Iowa Lumber Company's mill.

Mr. O. Harbaugh will leave next week for California where he will spend a couple of months in the Sacramento Valley and other sections looking over the opportunities for investment, he having decided to again take up his residence in California. Mr. Harbaugh came to Jacksonville from California in 1874, and since has been engaged part of the time in the mercantile business and later in farming. The world has prospered with him and now he proposes to spend his remaining days in California amid the scenes of his early life on this Coast. Mr. and Mrs. Harbaugh have many friends here who will regret their leaving the Valley and who will though wish them the best of prosperity in their new home. Mrs. Harbaugh will remain in Jacksonville while Mr. Harbaugh is on his trip to California.

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