

Veterans

S. N.

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# Circuit Rider

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The following is part of the chapter on Santa Cruz in Civil war days from the history of Santa Cruz which the Sentinel-News is preparing for publication this fall:

## CIVIL WAR DAYS IN SANTA CRUZ

A strong minority faction in Santa Cruz county opposed Lincoln in the presidential election of 1860 but when he took office and the secession of the southern states followed the county rallied patriotically to the flag.

A mass meeting on the night of May 8, 1861, in Luther Farnham's Exchange Hotel formed the Union Club, with postmaster Elihu Anthony as president, Henry W. Peck and boyish Thomas T. Tidball, both Soquel men, as vice presidents and I. C. Willson the attorney as treasurer.

The meeting adopted resolutions beginning, "Whereas insurrectionary war actually exists in our republic—," setting forth that those present declared their unalterable devotion to the American union and were "ready to obey the call of duty in defense of our country wherever it may direct."

### SENTIMENT DIVIDED

Sentiment was not undivided. Before the patriotic resolutions were adopted an alternate set was presented by W. D. Farrand and Judge Henry Rice, southern born and leading Democrats, which condoned secession and attacked the coercion which the Washington government was asserted to be using to keep the slave states in the federation. The alternate resolutions were voted down overwhelmingly.

At Davis & Jordan's lime kilns, at Van Valkenburg's paper mill and at Kirby & Jones' tannery poles were erected for the employees for flags furnished by the employers. The Union Club staged a big Fourth of July celebration with committeemen from every community in the county.

Santa Cruz' first volunteer, impatient to get into the fighting, was 31-year-old George Irving Holt who took a steamer to San Francisco and joined the "California Hundred," a group from the west coast whose passage was defrayed by the city of Boston and who fought through the rebellion as members of a Massachusetts regiment. Holt returned to Santa Cruz, where he was a painter, and died in 1891 to be buried in the I.O.O. F. cemetery.

### RECRUITING OPENED

When, late in August, Governor Downey issued a proclamation calling for organization of a regiment of infantry and five companies of cavalry for protection of the overland mail routes an enrollment office was opened in the Exchange Hotel. The company roll was filled in two weeks.

The government was to furnish horses, so the company went into camp on the flat east of the San Lorenzo river until, on the evening of Sunday, September 22, down a street lined with waving handkerchiefs, it marched to the wharf and embarked on the steamer Salinas with free passage furnished by Davis & Jordan. Landed at San Francisco the men were given breakfast by Davis & Jordan and marched to Camp Alert, the old Pioneer race track, where 25th and Folsom streets now intersect.

### ELECTED THEIR OFFICERS

On the Friday before departure from Santa Cruz the company had elected Albert Brown, foreman of the Davis & Jordan quarry, as captain and Alfred H. Hawes, John Quinn and H. B. Stephenson lieutenants.

The contingent, with its number swelled by recruits from other parts of the state, was sworn in at Camp Alert as Company L, Second California Cavalry. Santa Cruzans on its roster were:

Albert Brown, captain; David Berry, first lieutenant; John Quinn, second lieutenant; Wilmer Brown and James Bradley, first sergeants; Thomas Burns, Howard B. Stephenson, James W. Yoacham, Gaylord Mead and Daniel Shibly, sergeants; James H. Gray, Ezra C. Chase, Michael Murphy and John McLane, corporals; Smith Farris, farrier; George W. Rapely, blacksmith; Phineas A. Nixon, saddler; Samuel Kirkhuff and Lester G.

Clark, wagoners; and the following privates:

William H. Adams, Joseph H. Barnes, John Barr, Francisco Bock, Alexander Brown, Levi L. Button, Marshall Clark, Adam Cook, John Covaney, George W. Crowley, John D. Cumming, Alfred Davis, Edward Davis, James F. Dolan, Leonard Doty, Charles Dunlap, John Durkin, Evelyn Dutton, James R. Earl, Horace B. Fuller, George Haskins, Alfred H. Hawes, James M. Hecox, William F. Higgins, Daniel B. Ingersoll, Isaac H. Jackson, Ruell W. Kittridge, Peter Kristian, William Ladd, Robert L. Lane, Frank E. Lellemand, Augustine Lincoln, Charles J. Lind, George W. List, William Martin, Upton L. Matthis, Thomas F. McAuliffe, Donald McCloud, William McKane, William H. Mills, Charles Moore, Matthew Mulcahy, John E. Poole, George W. Robinson, Hiram Rice, Frederick E. Rocco, Edward W. Ryan, Thomas J. Shively, John Spencer, Jeremiah Sullivan, Frederick Weed, George M. West, Joseph H. Wightman, George K. Winner, Israel J. Winner and Enoch E. Yoder.

Two young Santa Cruzans, Alexander Brown and Asa Anthony, son of George Anthony, died at Camp Alert and were brought home to be buried, the city's first Civil War losses.

With the departure of the cavalry appeared Santa Cruz' prototype of the Red Cross. Girls of the town made "haversacks" each of which contained "stout needles, unbleached linen thread, a yard-long coarse crash towel and a handkerchief."

Captain Brown, returning on a down trip of the Salinas to secure six extra recruits, voiced formally at the weekly Union Club meeting in the Exchange Hotel his appreciation of the efforts of the women, who were led by Miss Maria Field. Miss Field was one of the daughters of Storer W. Field, a Massachusetts man who, after a term in the Wisconsin legislature, had come to Santa Cruz and who, in 1868 with James W. Brown opened a general merchandise store next to Anthony's building. His daughter, Maria, a few years later married James O. Wanzer but divorced him, studied at Lane medical school in San Francisco and became California's first woman doctor.

### MUSTERED OUT IN UTAH

In the early summer of 1863 Company L was in Owens valley; in August it traveled to Salt Lake where it was stationed at Fort Douglas when it was mustered out in September of 1864. Captain Brown re-enlisted in March, 1865, at Fort Bridger, Wyoming Territory, to remain a soldier until July 12, 1866. Back in Santa Cruz he served from 1870 to 1874 as county clerk, auditor and recorder. In the eighties he was living in San Francisco where he made an unsuccessful race for the office of county recorder. He died April 12, 1919, at the veterans' home at Yountville.

Even before the cavalry company left young T. T. Tidball began recruiting an infantry unit. By the middle of November he sent word to Gov. Downey that he had 36 men enrolled. Benjamin F. Bayley resigned as head of the Soquel school to be first lieutenant.

(Continued Next Sunday)

F. Knego came from Sonoma county, called by the death of his brother, Martin Knego.