

## HACKENSACK ILLUSTRATED.

## Company C==Now Company G.

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the glory and honorable distinction that Hackensack, the capital of Bergen county, had earned among her sister towns in New Jer-



CAPTAIN JOHN ENGEL.

sey through the medium of her military organizations, her cherished pride for the old Continentals, and the other military commands which in years gone by had flourished in the old town, the memory of which had almost departed and become a thing of the past, the year 1872 found her without a military organization.

Several attempts had been made to organize a company, but the then recent war and the general feeling that always follows struggles of that character, had dampened the military ardor of most of her citizens.

Company A had maintained its organization. Company B was formed early in the same year, and the desire to organize a battalion which prevailed among military men, induced J. M. Van Valen, who was at that time a private in Company A, and who had recently become a citizen of Hackensack, to attempt its organization.

In the month of August, 1872, he having secured a sufficient number of men to sign a roll, made application to have it form part of the National Guard, but failed to have the same admitted; but, not daunted by this failure, the roll was kept filed, and his application renewed a little later, and in the month of September everything was so far perfected that on October 8, 1872, a third company was formed in Bergen county, and Company C came into existence and with it Hackensack's old military pride which had slumbered so long.

The new organization at once proceeded to elect its officers, and Garret Ackerson, Jr., was elected captain, J. M. Van Valen first lieutenant, and Nicholas C. Demarest second lieutenant. George T. Haring was duly elected the first (or orderly) sergeant, and the balance of the offices were duly filled by the members of the command.

In due time the company was duly uniformed, armed and equipped. The first uniform adopted being the cadet grey, and not unlike the New York Seventh Regiment.

At its organization there were only three members who had seen service. These were George T. Haring, first sergeant, who had been for a long time a member of New York's famous Seventh Regiment; John Engel, fifth sergeant, who had seen service in the famous Duryea's Zouaves for three years during the Rebellion, and Lieut. Van Valen, who had served for ten months during the Rebellion, and had been a member of Company A for about two years before. This company soon became, as it has ever since continued to be, the pride of Hackensack. Company C became the color company.

In March 1870, Captain Ackerson resigned the command of the company, and soon after Lieutenant Demarest resigned.

Lieutenant Van Valen was appointed quartermaster of the battalion, and A. D. Campbell, who from the organization had been its quartermaster, was duly elected captain of the company March 7, 1876. Sergeant Engel was elected its first lieutenant May 30, 1876, and John E. Huyler second lieutenant. Many of the old members' time expired and their places were filled by new members. The company thus newly officered, went on in its prosperous career, and under the efficient drill of First Lieutenant Engel, whose untiring energy and self-sacrificing devotion to its interest, has retained the standing taken at its birth.

Ever ready to perform this duty and win distinction on the field of Mars where their patriotism had called them, the members responded with alacrity to the call for men to crush out the railroad strikes of 1877. The company performed its duty for several weeks in the various positions assigned it, and the hearts of the friends of the men were made glad when they returned to their homes uninjured.

During their absence a purse of \$550 was raised by their friends and presented to them in front of the Wash-

LIEUT. W. V. CLARK, COMPANY G.  
Inspector of Rifle Practice, N. G. N. J.

Lieutenant Clark is a prominent resident of Hackensack, and has been active not alone in military affairs, but in the Oritani Field Club and other organizations. He is second lieutenant of Company G, and was recently appointed by Colonel S. V. S. Muzzy inspector of rifle practice, with the rank of captain. He is a thorough military man, and very popular in the company. To his efforts are largely due the organization of the Protective Association for Hackensack and the adoption of a detective system, since the advent of which robberies have ceased.

ington Mansion House on their return. This sum became the nucleus of the fund, which was increased by a fair, and now represents the stock held by the company in the Hackensack Hall and Armory Association.

The company had its first reunion and dinner on October 8, 1882, ten years after its organization, at which nearly all the original and then members of the organization were present; at that time all were living, and a good, joyous time was spent. As time passed, eight years more had been added without any apparent change. Lieutenant Huyler had resigned and John G. Fream, an old soldier, had been elected to fill his place. November 27, 1888, the company again met in the Town

Hall, their new home, but not all. Although many prominent gentlemen and friends of the company were present, yet many old members were missing, many had moved elsewhere, some whose enlistment had expired, and others had gone to that bourne from whence no traveller returns—their habiliments of war had been laid aside—they rested in peace. Many pleasing addresses were made on that occasion and will long be remembered by those who were present.

Company C first was quartered at the old Washington Mansion House, next at the hall attached to the National Hotel, and finally in its present quarters, the Town Hall.

Captain A. D. Campbell was retired in January, 1801, with the brevet rank of major, and Lieutenant John Engel was elected captain January 27, 1801. Captain Engel is the only member left of those who signed the original roll twenty-four years ago.

Of the old officers, Captain Ackerson upon his retirement from the company was appointed judge advocate of the battalion, and later promoted to be judge advocate general of the State, which office he held for a few months and then resigned. He died December 23, 1880.

Lieutenant Van Valen resigned June 15, 1876, as quartermaster of the Second Battalion, and on February 20, 1885, was appointed captain and inspector of rifle practice of the Second Battalion, and on June 8, 1880, was promoted to the rank of colonel and assistant inspector general of rifle practice.

Lieutenant Demarest, upon his resignation, retired from the service, was elected Sheriff, and met with an untimely death in September, 1880.

Sergeant George T. Haring upon his retirement, moved to New York, and has since become a lieutenant in the Thirteenth Regiment. He died two years ago. Many other members of this company have and now are occupying high and honorable positions, both military and civil, in New Jersey and several other States.

In 1802 came the reorganization of the National Guard of New Jersey, and the twentieth anniversary of the company found it bearing the new title of Company G.

Alfred T. Holley, adjutant of the Second Battalion, Second Regiment, N. G. N. J., enlisted in Company C of the Second Battalion on March 5, 1880. He was elected corporal March 24, 1801, of Company C, and corporal of Company G, Second Regiment, on May 31,

ADJUTANT ALFRED T. HOLLEY,  
Second Regiment, N. G. N. J.

1802, and sergeant of the same company March 20, 1803. He served in that position until his appointment by Colonel S. V. S. Muzzy as battalion adjutant with the rank of first lieutenant on June 23, 1895.