

: Hardy M. Pitman

Hardy M. Pitman, my Great-great-grandfather, was born on July 25th, 1838, near Georgetown Missouri. He enlisted at Westfield New York, October 15, 1861, as a Private in Co "G", 9th Reg, New York Volunteer Cavalry, mustered in on October 25, 1861.

In Albany, New York, while on his way with his regiment, which was to be stationed near Washington, DC, he contracted black measles. He was taken from the depot to camp in an ambulance, and he had to sit exposed to the storm while tents were being erected. Since there was not time to ditch and bank the tents, the water flowed under him and he was exposed for four days. Because of this he contracted typhoid pneumonia and the results. After four days orders were given to take a residence nearby for a hospital where he stayed. He was honorably discharged in Washington, DC, on the 9th day of April 1862.

Hardy reenlisted on December 25, 1863, and was in Company "B", 15 NY Cavalry Regiment, at Westfield, NY, which was consolidated with 6th NY Cavalry, and formed the 2nd Regiment, Provisional NY Cavalry.

He served at Camp Stoneman, part of the Defenses of Washington until January 1864, then participated in the Expedition to Petersburg and destruction of the Salt Works near Franklin. He participated in Hunter's Raid to Lynchburg, VA. After quite a few battles and the occupation of several towns, the Regiment was ordered to Cumberland, MD with duty at Remount Camp. There he participated in Sheridan's Raid from Winchester, which lasted 26 days, the Appomattox Campaign, the Dinwiddie Court House March, the Fall of Petersburg, and was at Appomattox Station, Courthouse at the Surrender of Lee and his army. He participated in the expedition to Danville, and the march to Washington, D.C. and the Grand Review. I count 98 battles in which he participated. He was wounded in the leg. He mustered out on August 9, 1865.

Hardy married Eleanor E. Tate in 1865 in Erie County, Pennsylvania. Hardy was 5 foot 11 inches, dark complexion, blue eyes, auburn hair, and his occupation was penman. They lived at Harbor Creek, Erie County, PA until 1868, where my Great-Grandfather was born, then at Burlingame, Lion County, Kansas until 1875 where the next two or three children were born, and then at West Chehalem and Laurel, Yamhill County, where the last 6 or seven were born. Hardy's brothers stayed in Missouri and Texas (although we think there may have been a much older brother here in the 1850's). Hardy's family arrived in Oregon in 1876, at the latest. The homestead was up on Chehalem Mountain. All the land is now sold, but the foundation to the house is still there and the flowers my great great grandmother planted still bloom in the spring and summer. The family graveyard is there, too, and we visit it.

Hardy had a limp. No one told dad why, but that memory was there.

Hardy, being one of the few 'lettered' people up on Bald Peak, became the first school master there. His school house is still standing, but I believe it is a museum now.

When his children got older he gave each of them the choice, land or money for

further schooling. Most took the land, but several went on to become teachers. William Michael, my Great Grandfather, took the money and bought another DLC, which we didn't know about until I found it in the DLC records. Interesting. When I visited the homestead with dad, he showed me the backside of the mountain (the land is right on top, near Bald Peak Park), facing west, and showed me where he and his dad had driven a land rover straight down the mountain, where the old road had been, going through farmers fields and everything. Taking that point down, at the bottom, and heading directly north was the old Indian trail that went all the way to the Columbia. A friend of mine is documenting that trail right now. Hardy died May 20, 1909, and is buried at the in the family cemetery on Chehalem Mouuntain.

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