

SCHINDLER, W. F. R.

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SCHINDLER, WILLIAM FERDINAND ROBERT, born at Berlin, Prussia, November 7, 1830; married Rosalie Jung (1838-1901) at San Francisco, California, March 20, 1864; daughter, Pauline M., who married Captain William Owen (Bucky) O'Neill of the "Rough Riders" who was killed in battle at San Juan, Cuba, July 1, 1898.

At the age of 18 as a university student he participated in the German revolutionary movement of 1848; after its suppression was forced to flee from the fatherland, like Carl Schurz and many other patriots who came to the United States; declared his intention to become an American citizen in the Superior Court of the City of New York, November 20, 1854.

Enlisted at New York City, June 7, 1855, to serve 5 years in the Regular Army and assigned to Light Company B, 4th U.S. Artillery; joined the Company at Fort Brown, Texas, July 25, 1855, and remained in that State until late in 1856; promoted Corporal at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, March 1, 1857; stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and left there with the Battery for the Utah Expedition of 1857-60 commanded by Brigadier General Albert Sidney Johnston; he told of how a herd of stampeding buffalo headed for the soldiers was stopped on the plains of Kansas by shrapnel and grape shot fired from his Battery.

Reduced to Private and transferred to Company H, 2d U.S. Dragoons, at Camp Floyd, Utah Territory, January 15, 1859; promoted Corporal August 16 and to Sergeant, October 16, 1859, at Camp Floyd; left the Company March 1, as part of the escort to General Johnston from Salt Lake City to San Francisco and was honorably discharged at the Presidio

on April 12, 1860; naturalized as an American citizen in U.S. District Court, San Francisco, September 3, 1861.

Enrolled October 15, and mustered in October 25, 1861, at San Francisco, California, as 1st Sergeant, Company I, 2d California Infantry; promoted, 2d Lieutenant November 22, 1861; went with the Company from San Francisco to Santa Barbara in December and stationed there until April, 1862; promoted, 1st Lieutenant at Santa Barbara, March 8, 1862; went by sea to Humboldt County, California, and was stationed at Fort Gaston from May, 1862, to March, 1863; appointed Regimental Quartermaster and transferred to Field and Staff, March 28, 1863; stationed at Fort Humboldt until July and then moved, with the Headquarters, by sea to Benecia Barracks and thence to Fort Miller, Fresno County, California, where he remained from August, 1863, until October, 1864.

Went to San Francisco and was stationed at the Presidio until August, 1865, when the Regiment went by sea to San Pedro, California, and marched from there via Fort Yuma to Camp Grant on the San Pedro River, arriving in October; honorably discharged at Camp Grant, A.T., January 12, 1866.

Returned to San Francisco, where in September, 1868, he was appointed a civilian employee in the office of the Commissary General of Subsistence, U.S. Army; resigned in 1870 to publish a German language newspaper in San Francisco, becoming widely known on the Pacific Coast; returned to his position in the Quartermaster's Department about 1882; transferred to Whipple Barracks, A.T. as clerk at \$150 per month, October 28, 1884, and served until October 31, 1885;

at the request of General George Crook he served as clerk at Fort Bowie, A.T. from November 3, 1885, to October 31, 1886.

Was Clerk of the Probate Court of Yavapai County under Probate Judge, W.O. O'Neill, 1887-88 and office Deputy under Sheriff O'Neill, 1889-90; was Clerk at the Hotel Burke, Prescott, A.T., from 1891 until 1899 when he retired from active business and moved to Phoenix.

Comrade Barrett Post No. 62 (3) G.A.R., Prescott, 1887-1902; Post Commander, 1892; Commander, Department of Arizona, G.A.R., 1895; transferred to Owen Post No. 5, G.A.R., Phoenix, 1903; Adjutant, Department of Arizona, G.A.R., 1907; Companion, California Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion, 1884-1908.

Died at the home of his son-in-law, Eugene Brady O'Neill, 4 miles north east of Phoenix, A.T., July 15, 1908, aged 77; buried, Porter (G.A.R.) Section, lot 34, grave B, Old City (Pioneers) Cemetery, Phoenix, Arizona; his daughter said of him:

My father was always an ardent patriot and loved to display his loyalty to the United States by raising the "Flag" on national holidays. He allowed no one to call him a "German" -- he was always "an American citizen".

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Rebellion Records, Series I, Vol. 50, parts 1 and 2.
- McClintock, J.H. - Arizona, The Youngest State, Chicago, 1916, p. 168.
- Orton, R.H.-Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, Sacramento, 1890, pp. 423, 431, 491.
- California Commandery, Military Order, Loyal Legion, Circular 34, S.F., July 28, 1908.
- U.S. Immigration Service - Naturalization records.
- The Adjutant General of the Army - Military service records.
- The Quartermaster General's Office - Archives and Claims.
- U.S. Veterans Administration - Pension records, S.C. 910,602.
- Pioneers Cemetery Association, Phoenix - Mortuary records.
- The Arizona Republican, Phoenix, July 16, 1908 (obituary).
- The Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, July 17, 1908, p. 4, col.2, (obituary).
- The Journal Miner, Prescott, September 10, 1887, 3:3; January 11, 1899, 4:2; July 17, 1908, 7:3, (obituary).
- The Prescott Courier, June 1, 4:2, July 6, 1888, 3:1 and December 30, 1896, 3:1; July 15, 1908, 4:2.

SCHINDLER , WILLIAM FERDINAND ROBERT

ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The Prescott Courier, June 1, 1888, 4:3; July 4, 1889, 4:1;
September 5, 4:1 and December 10, 1895, 4:3; January 27,
4:2; January 28, 4:2; and September 28, 1896, 3:2
The Arizona Journal-Miner, Prescott, April 5, 3:2 and
April 9, 1890, 3:6