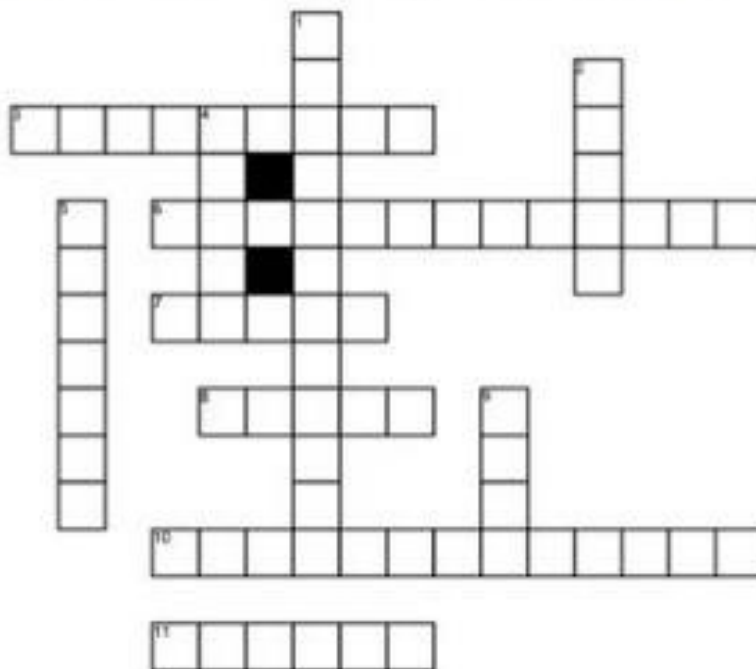


Forever Stalwart in Illinois



Across

3. Who was Titus Billings mission companion?
6. Who would play with the children every day, if he could?
7. Which Tuttle was called to serve in the Whistling Brigade?
8. Who was martyred with his brother?
10. Who gave the shirt off his back so Brother Shurtliff could leave for his mission?

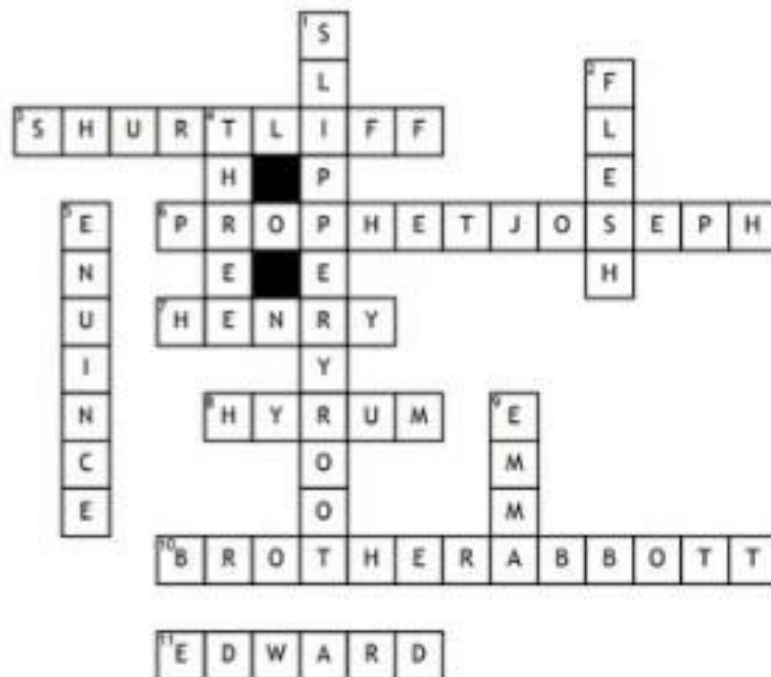
11. Which Tuttle was called to serve as a Seventy?

Down

1. What did Titus chew on when he was starving?
2. What came off with Titus' boots?
4. How many mummies were displayed in the Mason Home?
5. Who read Book of Mormon aloud to her sick brother?
9. Who was the first president of the Female Relief Society of Nauvoo?

Find clues to this puzzle in Volume Three Forever Stalwart in Illinois: A Time of Sacrifice

Forever Stalwart in Illinois



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The Nauvoo Legion



Overview

The Nauvoo Legion was a military organization formed by the members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints while they lived in Nauvoo, Illinois. It was organized on March 1, 1841, for the purpose of protecting the city and its people during a time of growing conflict and threats.

Background

By 1840, the Saints in Nauvoo had faced opposition and violence from those who disagreed with their beliefs. Their homes and the printing press had been destroyed, and some Saints had been injured or killed. Leaders in the Church felt it was important to organize a defense so the Saints could live in peace and continue their religious practices without fear.

Organization

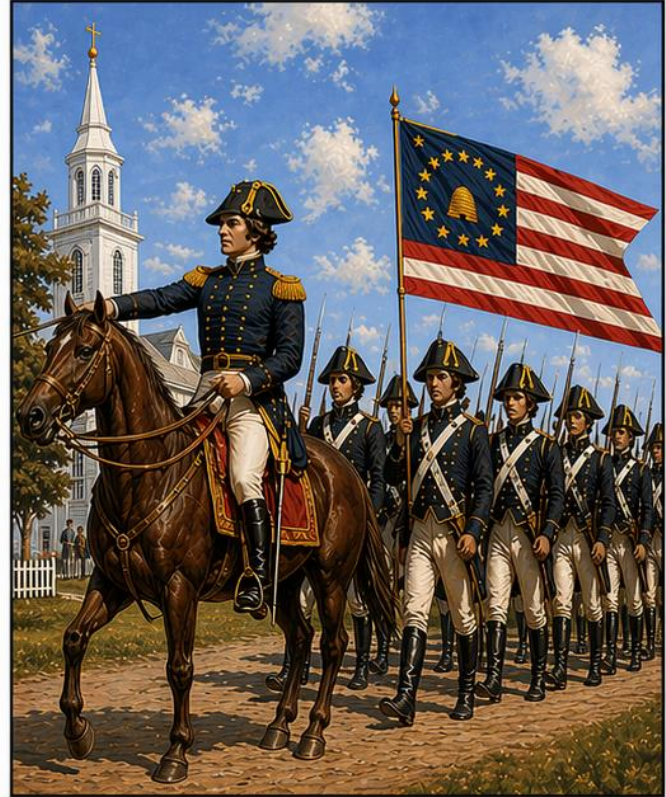
The Nauvoo Legion was officially mustered into service under the command of Joseph Smith, who was the Prophet and Mayor of Nauvoo. The Legion was structured with ranks, companies, and officers, similar to other military organizations of the time. It included infantry, cavalry, and artillery units. At its peak, the Legion had about 2,500–3,000 members.

Purpose

The primary purpose of the Nauvoo Legion was defensive. The Saints taught that they were law-abiding citizens and did not seek to fight, but they had a right to protect their homes, their families, and their city. The Legion also took part in helping to keep order and maintain peace in the region.

Legacy

The Nauvoo Legion was never used in an offensive battle. Its presence, however, helped deter attacks and gave the Saints a sense of security. After the Saints were forced to leave Nauvoo in 1846, the Legion was disbanded. Today, it is remembered as an important part of Church history, showing the faith, courage, and determination of the Saints to stand for what they believed while seeking peace and protecting their community.



The Saints desired peace, but the Lord commanded them to be prepared.

-Doctrine and Covenants 105:38-

WORD of HONOR in NAUVOO

Keep all your pledges (Doctrine and Covenants 136:20).

A TRUE STORY
By Susan Billings Mitchell

Eunice loved to sing. Her parents, Thus and Diantha Morley Billings, often sang for Church meetings at the request of the Prophet Joseph Smith. At a very early age, Eunice was taught to harmonize with them and sing the alto part. The Prophet Joseph must have enjoyed her singing, because every time he saw her, he took her on his knee and had her sing a song. Eunice attended Eliza R. Snow's school with the Prophet's children. Her mother did sewing and doctoring for the Prophet's family, so Eunice was in his home often.

One day Mother finished a sewing project and asked Eunice to deliver it to Sister Smith. Upon doing so, Eunice saw the Prophet. This was not unusual, except that at the time, Joseph was in hiding for the safety of his life. He had just slipped home for a change of clothes. The Prophet knelt and lovingly sat young Eunice on his knee. He had her sing a song as always. Then he looked deeply into her eyes.

"Eunice," he said, "no one must know that I am here. My family is in danger. Please rush home and tell no one that you saw me."

Eunice ran all the way home so that no one could stop her to talk. Long afterward, she said, "I would have cut out my tongue before I would have told anyone I had seen the Prophet that day!"

22 THE FRIEND

From "The Friend" - April 2001

ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL MERRICK

