

(1838) Elias White Hale Eisenbise (w:1.9.4)

Compiled by Missy Sutton (w:1.9.4.3.4-3). The following information was printed in the Chester Times, Chester, Pennsylvania on Friday, 19 April, 1929. The information is printed exactly as it was printed in the newspaper article.

Fall Fatal to Civil War Vet

Captain E.W.H. Eisenbise, Former Chester Man Dies at Drexel Hill

Captain Elias W. H. Eisenbise, former widely known resident and business man of this city, died yesterday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Chriwell, 320 Fariview avenue, Drexel Hill.

Captain Eisenbise was one of the best known Civil War veterans in this State, he being the last survivor of the Logan Guard, one of Pennsylvania's Civil War Units. His death was caused by complications, which resulted from a fracture of the leg and other injuries sustained in a fall last week.

Captain Eisenbise helped to organize the famous Logan Guard, upon which President Lincoln bestowed the title of "First Defenders". When the call for volunteers to defend the Union was sent out, Captain Eisenbise, the a mere slip of a lad, went about Lewistown, his native town, beating a drum and calling upon his fellow citizens to respond. Within a short time 106 men, all of whom are now dead, answered the call.

The old veteran often took pride in recounting his experiences during the Rebellion. On April 18, 1861, in company with four other Pennsylvania units of infantry, the Logan Guards started on a forced march for Washington. They were wildly greeted by the populace and after their arrival at the Capitol, President Lincoln and Secretary of War Cameron shook the hand of every man and personally thanked them for their prompt response. Later, Congress passed a vote of thanks, acknowledging them as the first troops to respond and it was from this act that the unit took its name, "The First Defenders."

After the war, Captain Eisenbise moved from Lewistown to this city and for a great number of years, was connected with Eisenbise Brothers, tin merchants, who conducted a store at Eighth street and Edgmont avenue. For many hears and until quite recently he lived at Sixth and Sproul streets.

Captain Eisenbise was in his ninety-second year. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Jennie Eisenbise; a son, Percy Eisenbise, local business man, and a daughter, Mrs. Frank Griffith, of Prospect Park.

The funeral services will be conducted this evening at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Chiswell, at Drexel Hill, with burial tomorrow in the family plot at Lewistown.