

[No. 264, A.]

[Published April 15, 1885.]

CHAPTER 298.

AN ACT to amend section 621, chapter 34, of the revised statutes, relating to cavalry companies and batteries, and section 640, of chapter 34, of the revised statutes, relating to organizations of batteries and regiments and acts amendatory thereof, and to promote the greater efficiency of the Wisconsin National Guards.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows :

Duties pre-
scribed.

SECTION 1. Section 621, of chapter 34, of the revised statutes, as amended by section 3, chapter 185, of the laws of 1880, is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 621. The companies, organizations and membership of the companies, troops and battery of the Wisconsin National Guards shall be such as may be prescribed by the governor in orders which may be altered and amended from time to time as the interest of the service may require. Original musters and enlistments in the Wisconsin National Guards shall be for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged as provided by law, or the order of the governor. Any honorably discharged soldier of the Wisconsin National Guard may be re-enlisted for the term of one year. Vacancies occasioned by the death, resignation, promotion, discharge or removal of any officer shall be filled by the promotion of the officer next in rank, subject to the approval of the governor.

Soldiers of the
Wisconsin
National Guard
may re-callist.

Governor may
form compan-
ies of the na-
tional guard
into battalions
and regiments.

SECTION 2. So much of section 640, chapter 34, of the revised statutes, as amended by section 2, chapter 185, of the laws of 1880, and section 2, chapter 162, of the laws of 1882, as relates to the organization of battalions and regiments, is hereby amended so as to read as follows: Section 640. The governor may form the companies of the national guard into battalions and regiments, and appoint officers therefor, on the recommendation of a majority of the commissioned officers of the companies forming such battalion or regiment. Any number of companies, not less than three

nor more than seven, may be formed into a battalion; and any number of companies, not less than eight nor more than twelve, may be formed into a regiment, and the officers of such regiment shall be a colonel, who shall be the commanding officer, one lieutenant-colonel and one major, for each four companies of such regiment. A battalion of five or more companies shall be officered by a lieutenant-colonel, who shall be the commanding officer, and one major; and a battalion of three or four companies shall be commanded by a major. The staff of a colonel or of a lieutenant-colonel or major commanding a battalion shall consist of one adjutant, one quartermaster, an assistant surgeon for each four companies in a regiment, one inspector of rifle practice, and one chaplain each with the rank of captain; and when the command consists of six or more companies, one surgeon with the rank of major. All such staff officers to serve until their successors are nominated by their commanding officers. Each troop and battery shall have attached thereto one assistant surgeon with the rank of first lieutenant. The non-commissioned staff of a regiment or battalion shall consist of one sergeant major, one quarter-master sergeant, one commissary sergeant, one hospital steward and one chief musician and one drum major, to be appointed by the commanding officer.

How each is to be composed.

SECTION 3. The governor may, whenever requested so to do by the commanding officer of any regiment, battalion or company, or whenever he deems that the interests of the service will be promoted thereby, order any subordinate officer of any regiment, battalion or company, or any officer or person nominated or recommended for promotion in such regiment, battalion or company, to be examined by any competent officer or board of officers, designated in orders for that purpose, as to his qualifications for the office to which he may be recommended or commissioned, and may take such action on the report of such examining officer or board of officers as he may deem to be for the best interests of the service.

Further duties required of the governor.

SECTION 4. The captain or other commanding officer for the time being is the legal custodian of the money, property and effects of any company, troop or battery of the Wisconsin National Guard,

Commanding officer to be custodian of company property.

whether such property is owned by said company, or its members collectively, or has been issued to it or any of its officers, for its use by state or United States authority, and may sue for and recover possession of the same, whenever wrongfully withheld from his custody, or the custody of the company, in an action before any competent court or magistrate.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.
Approved April 6, 1885.

[No. 502, A.]

[Published April 16, 1885.]

CHAPTER 299.

AN ACT to amend the charter of the city of Fond du Lac.

(See Vol. 2.)

[No. 346, A.]

[Published April 13, 1885.]

CHAPTER 300.

AN ACT to amend section 3, chapter 85, of the private and local laws of 1870, relating to the incorporation of the Sheboygan Mutual Benevolent Association.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Power to establish by-laws and to use common seal.

SECTION 1. Section 3, of chapter 85, of the private and local laws of 1870, is hereby amended so as to read as follows: "The said corporation shall further have power to establish for its government a constitution and by-laws, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state, to have and to use a common seal, and to alter the same at pleasure, and to take, by gift, grant or devise, and to hold and convey real and personal