

Rutland Historical Society
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The Rutland Light Guards

This quarterly, published in 1980, that discusses the Rutland Light Guards, of whom were inspired by Captain William Young Warren Ripley. Ripley was the first man in Vermont to volunteer for the Union Army. The Rutland Lights Guards was organized “as a unit of the state uniformed” militia in 1858. The quarterly includes a section discussing the rules and regulations of militia laws. These laws ranged from the number and order of command, the duty of properly caring for equipment such as weapons and maintenance, the person(s) who have authorization to make purchases for needed items, and the captain, who was primarily in charge of preserving the conduct of order and that the laws were being followed. Another section outlines the by laws and rules and regulations, which reviewed the process of accepting new joining members, the responsibilities of men and their given ranks, titles and consequences of intoxication, and discharge and absences of meetings. There is also mention of the Franklin House, known as the leading tavern in Rutland. This building was unfortunately destroyed by a fire in 1868.