

History of the 10th Infantry Battalion, Company A (Eureka Guard), National Guard of California 1890-1895

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COMPANY A

Company A, Tenth Infantry Battalion, Sixth Brigade (formerly Eureka Guard)

Reference: Adjutant General's Files
Location: Eureka, Humboldt County
Organized March 15, 1879
Reorganized May 13, 1890*
Reconstituted July 23, 1895**

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
John L. Crichton, Captain	May 4, 1887	May 27, 1887***
Daniel J. Foley, First Lieut.	Feb. 8, 1888	April 30, 1888***
John L. Crichton, Captain (Re-elected April 17, 1889)	_____	_____
Daniel J. Foley, First Lieut. (Re-elected Feb. 19, 1890)	_____	_____
John L. Crichton, Captain (Re-elected April 30, 1891)	_____	_____
Daniel J. Foley, First Lieut. (Re-elected Feb. 24, 1892)	_____	_____
Daniel J. Foley, Captain	May 17, 1893	June 10, 1893
Charles V. Otto, First Lieut.	May 17, 1893	June 10, 1893

Activities:

On May 13, 1890, a new battalion of two companies was organized in the Sixth Brigade, and designated the Tenth Infantry Battalion. The Eureka Guard, an unattached company, organized in Eureka, Humboldt County, March 15, 1879, and for many years the only company in the brigade, was designated Company A.

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*Company A, formerly Eureka Guard, unattached, designated Company A, Tenth Infantry Battalion, May 13, 1890.
Adjutant General Report 1890, page 4.

**Company A, Tenth Infantry Battalion, Sixth Brigade designated Company A, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, July 23, 1895.
Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order No. 11, page 76.

***Captain Crichton and Lieutenant Foley retained their former commissions as of May 27, 1887, and April 30, 1888, respectively, when they commanded the Eureka Guard.

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COMPANY A (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Company A attended a Camp of Instruction, held in Santa Cruz, from July 5 to 13, 1891. The general conduct and discipline of both officers and men was satisfactory and their appearance soldierly, indicating a high degree of respect for their superior officers, their uniform, and themselves. The absence of drunkenness and the diminished number of regimental and company bars was especially commendable. Guard duty and guard mounting was efficiently performed, and sentries well posted in their duties. However, as comparatively few posts were established, it is doubtful if a large proportion of the enlisted men of Company A present performed a tour of guard duty. The morning roll-calls in the battalion were attended by brigade staff officers, a practice of great value to all concerned. Battalion drills were promptly and efficiently entered upon and continued during the time allotted. No pains or efforts were spared by the field officers in command to explain and carry out the tactical movements.*

On January 26, 1892, Company A, with the Tenth Infantry Battalion, marched in the funeral procession of John Vance, Humboldt County's most prominent citizen, and for many years the Mayor of Eureka. At 1:00 P.M., the Tenth Infantry Battalion, with the staff officers, and band approached and formed lines in front of the Pioneer Hall. All of the members wore crape on their arms as a sign of mourning. The remains were borne down to the waiting hearse, and when the cortege moved, the Tenth Infantry Band was in the lead, playing a funeral march. Behind them came the Tenth Infantry Battalion, under the command of acting Mayor John L. Crichton.**

From August 6 to 14, 1892, Company A attended the encampment of the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Brigades, held at Camp Columbus, Santa Cruz. It was the intention of the commanding officers, as far practicable, to make this camp one purely for military instructions and not for display. This was done for the purpose of enabling the several commands to discover their possible deficiencies and to correct them; also, to use the short time in camp to its greatest extent. The routine as

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*Adjutant General Report 1891-1892, page 156.

**Humboldt Weekly Standard, January 28, 1892, page 2, column 4.

COMPANY A (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

laid down was rigidly enforced, the results of which were most marked and beneficial.*

There is no further record of the activities of Company A until 1895, when the unit was detached from the battalion. The Board of Location and Organization recommended that Company B of the Tenth Infantry Battalion be mustered out of service and the Tenth Infantry Battalion disbanded, which was accomplished by the issuing of General Order No. 10, dated June 29, 1895.** Company A remained an unattached company until July twenty-third, when General Order No. 11, was issued, transferring the company to the First Infantry Regiment. Company A was designated Company A, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade.***

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- *Adjutant General Report 1893-1894, page 146.
- **Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order No. 10, page 75.
- ***Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order No. 11, page 76.