

# **History of the Company H, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, National Guard of California 1893-1895**

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## COMPANY H

Company H, Second Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade

Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: Grass Valley, Nevada County

Organized June 3, 1893

Reconstituted July 1, 1893\*

Consolidated and redesignated December 7, 1895\*\*

### Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Pete T. Riley, Captain	June 3, 1893	June 10, 1893
George H. Fletcher, First Lieut.	June 3, 1893	June 10, 1893

### Activities:

Company H was a new unit of the National Guard, having been organized June 3, 1893, eleven days before General Order No. 7 was issued transferring the artillery to the Second Infantry effective July 1, 1893. Company H was designated Company H, Second Infantry, Fourth Brigade. The mustering in of the unit was a colorful event and several prominent officers from Sacramento were present for the ceremony, among whom were Colonel J. W. Guthrie, Colonel C. H. Hubbard, Colonel E. H. McKee, and T. W. Sheehan, Brigade Commander. An election of officers was held and the commanding officers elected were Captain Pete T. Riley and First Lieutenant George H. Fletcher who received their commissions June 10, 1893. The evening's activities closed with a banquet where toasts were given and responded to by members of the company.\*\*\*

The Annual Inspection and Muster of Company H held March 23, 1894, reported the unit having the average merit of 4.8 which indicated the corps was in "very good" standing. The corps was one of the three out of eight companies of the Second Infantry rating this high percentage of efficiency. The Inspection Officer, Major F. D. Ryan, used the following standard as the guide in determining the rating, 6; excellent, 5; very good,

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\*Company H organized nominally as an artillery unit June 3, 1893, redesignated Company H, Second Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade, July 1, 1893.

Adjutant General Report 1893-1894, General Order No. 17, page 87.

\*\*Company H and Company C, Second Infantry Regiment, consolidated and redesignated Company C, Eleventh Battalion, Third Brigade, December 7, 1895.

Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order No. 17, page 87.

\*\*\*Sacramento Bee, June 5, 1893, page 4, column 3.

COMPANY H (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

4; good, 3; fair, 2; poor, 1; bad. The company presented a good appearance in the new fatigue uniforms furnished by the State.\* Major F. D. Ryan, Inspecting and Mustering Officer of the brigade, reported that the companies needed a new armory; however, the corps had promise of an erection of a new building suitable for the accommodation of the unit. There was no cash balance in their account, for as one of the new companies of the brigade the unit had existed on half allowance, and it was hoped that the next Legislature would make a sufficient appropriation and put the company on equal footing with the other companies of the Guard. The members of the company displayed great interest in their organization and attended and participated in thirty-two squad drills; two drills, parades and inspections; one target practice; and twenty-three meetings of civil organizations during the year. Captain P. T. Riley was commended on his ability as commander of the company and for keeping his men interested to the extent that of the fifty-one members only one was absent from the inspection. The corps was armed with fifty-five stand Springfield rifles.\*\*

During the Railroad Strike of 1894 Company H remained in readiness at their armory in Grass Valley awaiting the call for active duty, which came on July 25, 1894, when the unit under command of Captain R. T. Riley was ordered to Truckee. The company together with Company D of Auburn relieved Companies A and B, First Infantry, Second Brigade, who had been on duty at that point since July Fourth. Captain Riley reported to Major George R. Burdick, Truckee for instructions and remained on duty guarding the railroad tracks, trestles, bridges and other railroad property in and about Truckee, and east to the Nevada line, until August seventh when the unit was dismissed and ordered to their armory at Grass Valley.\*\*\* The experience gained during the strike undoubtedly was of lasting benefit to the company and increased their efficiency.

Owing to lack of material on file it is impossible to narrate the unit's returns from target practices and other activities. The Railroad Strike evidently was the last major event in the history of the unit before the company was consolidated with Company C in 1895.

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\*For further details concerning the uniforms of Company H refer to the History of Company F, Second Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade.

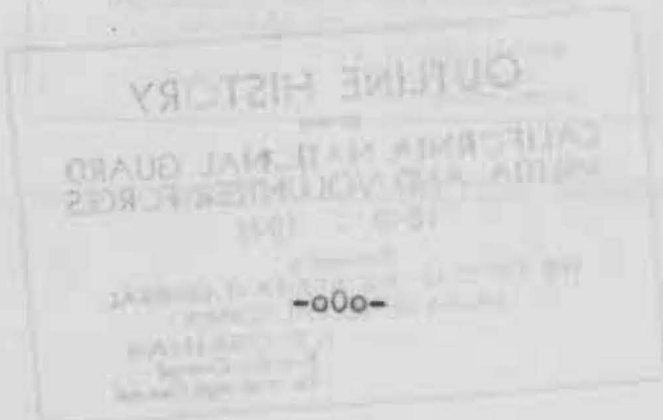
\*\*Adjutant General Report 1893-1894, pages 185, 186.

\*\*\*For further details concerning Company H and the Railroad Strike refer to National Guard and Railroad Strike, 1894. Adjutant General's Office. -2-

COMPANY H (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

After the Railroad Strike the National Guard was completely re-organized and on December 7, 1895, General Order No. 17 was issued authorizing the consolidation of Companies C and H, Second Infantry to be redesignated Company C, Eleventh Battalion, Third Brigade, and stationed at Nevada City.\* Two days later Company C, Eleventh Battalion was redesignated Company C, Second Infantry Regiment.



\*Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, page 87.