

History of the Humboldt Guard, National Guard of California 1874

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HUMBOLDT GUARD (Continued)

Humboldt Guard, Sixth Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 4, File 5

Location: Arcata, Humboldt County

Mustered in February 11, 1874*

Mustered out _____

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
D. W. Minor, Captain	_____	_____
T. H. Minor, First Lieut.	_____	_____

Activities:

Residents of Arcata, Humboldt County, who were desirous of having a military unit in their immediate vicinity followed the regularly prescribed course in perfecting the organization of an independent military company. This company was organized on January 12, 1874, and the muster roll of February eleventh was received and filed in the Adjutant General's Office on March tenth. It is interesting to note from this list that there are five sets of names of the same families. The two commanding officers with the surname of "Minor", the First Sergeant and two Privates of the name "Light", the Third Sergeant, Third Corporal and one Private of the surname "Daniels", two Privates with the name of "Falor", and two Privates of the surname of "Kemp".

Captain Minor's first communication to the Adjutant General on January fourteenth informed the General that, "His company had been organized for the purpose of instruction in Upton's Infantry Tactics and that they respectfully solicited the use of State arms which were in the possession of Robert Burns (formerly Captain of Company B, Home Guard of Arcata), also, if possible the uniforms from the same source." The Captain signed himself as "Ex-Lieutenant, Company A, 71st United States Infantry". This letter was signed by Isaac Minor and Robert Burns as "Sureties". The request in the letter was granted by the Adjutant General as a notation was made from the office indicating it was answered January 31, 1874. The Captain's second letter of February twenty-third, acknowledged receipt of the ordnance stores received of Robert Burns, late Captain of Company B, which included both the arms and the uniforms as had been requested. An Invoice of property received gave a detailed description of the condition of the same, and the Bond properly subscribed and sworn to according to requirements of the State Law.

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*Date taken from Muster Roll, on file Adjutant General's Office, March 10, 1874.

HUMBOLDT GUARD (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 5, File 1

There are no further records of this independent company. However, there is no doubt but that Captain Minor intended to have a well drilled military unit representing his district, but for lack of enough support from other sources he was unable to continue his activities in making the Humboldt Guard a permanent unit of the Sixth Brigade, National Guard.

Louis J. Sacriste, Captain (Resigned April 14, 1875)	Sept. 8, 1874	Oct. 1, 1874
Dennis F. Fitzpatrick, First Lieut.	Sept. 8, 1874	Oct. 1, 1874
James Bartley, Captain (Resigned Oct. 23, 1875)	June 25, 1875	April 19, 1876
Thomas Boland, First Lieut.	June 25, 1875	April 19, 1876
P. M. Darcy, Captain	1877	Feb. 3, 1877
James Gorman, First Lieut.	June 6, 1877	Feb. 6, 1878
P. M. Darcy, Captain (Re-elected)	1879	July 11, 1879
William H. Stephens, First Lieut.	June 4, 1879	July 11, 1879

THE OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
 CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD
 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
 1879

Activities:

On May 21, 1873, a petition to Adjutant General L. S. Foote was filed by Louis J. Sacriste and forty other citizens of Los Angeles, requesting permission to organize an independent unit of the National Guard of California. It was on September 8, 1874, before the authorities were ready to muster in this new company at which date the Los Angeles Guard was duly organized, and Louis J. Sacriste was elected Captain and Dennis F. Fitzpatrick, First Lieutenant.

Captain Sacriste had served during the Civil War rising from Corporal to the rank of Major in the Federal Army, and had been wounded once while in action. He was honorably discharged when the Federal forces were reduced to peace time quotas. A large percentage of the members of the Los Angeles Guard were honorably discharged soldiers of the Civil War.

The company had been in existence about six months when Captain Sacriste moved from Los Angeles to San Bernardino, but previous to the change of residence the Captain had been a candidate for the office of Mayor of Los Angeles, which undoubtedly caused the entrance of political feeling into the ranks of the unit. This ill feeling led to formation of cliques within the company, and after the election of P. M. Darcy to the Captaincy it increased and finally became so intense that on the evening of March 14, 1879, Captain Darcy assaulted Corporal Wallace while in the armory. The Captain was arrested charged with battery and after a jury trial in the Los Angeles County Justice Court,