



Spanish and Puerto Rico Occupation Medals



M1896 Krag Rifle



John Adam Hartzell
Private U.S. Army
7 May 1898 – 16 November 1898



4th Pennsylvania Regiment
Philadelphia Peace Jubilee
27 October 1898

John was born on 1 May 1873 in Pennsylvania, probably in Lower Macungie Township where the family was living in 1880. His parents were **James F. Hartzell** (28 June 1838 – 21 December 1919), a Civil War Veteran, and **Susanna Mohr** (8 August 1846 – 14 December 1906). John mustered into the Army, while living in East Texas, Pennsylvania, as a Private on 9 May 1898 with Company D, 4th Pennsylvania Regiment, a company of about 106 men from Lehigh County and known as the “Allen Rifles.” The Company had been formed in April 1898 at Camp Hastings at Mount Gretna in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, and was then ordered to Camp Thomas, situated on the old Civil War battlefield at Chickamauga, Georgia, where it arrived on 16 May. The 4th Pennsylvania was brigaded with the 3rd Illinois and the 4th Ohio Regiments of the Second Brigade, First Division, First Army Corps. They trained for battle at Camp Thomas, and on 22 July 1898, they proceeded to Rossville, Georgia, where they embarked on trains for Newport News, Virginia. There they established a temporary camp, named Camp Brooke, on 25 July 1898, and three days later embarked on the transport *City of Washington*. She arrived at Ponce, Puerto Rico, on 2 August 1898, and the next day proceeded to Arroyo, a port fifty miles farther east where they disembarked under the protective gunfire of the *USS St. Louis*, *USS Cincinnati*, and *USS Gloucester*. The regiment established a camp near Arroyo, and was placed on outpost duty on Patillo and Guayama Roads, and the road leading from Arroyo northward into the mountains. On 6 August 1898, the 3rd Illinois and 4th Ohio Regiments advanced on the town of Guayama, with the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment held in reserve. After securing Guayama, news came of the Peace Protocol, and the 4th Pennsylvania Regiment was ordered to withdraw to a point just south of the town. They remained on outpost duty there until 27 August 1898, when they broke camp and marched to Ponce. From there they returned to New York aboard the transport *City of Chester*, arriving on 6 September 1898, and went on 60 days’ furlough. On 27 October 1898, the Regiment participated in the Peace Jubilee in Philadelphia. John mustered out as a Private on 16 November 1898. He returned home to East Texas, and married **Ellen J.** — (1879 – 1938) in 1900. They initially lived in Upper Milford Township, Pennsylvania, and later moved to Emmaus, Pennsylvania, where they were living in 1910 and John was working as a Foundry Foreman. In 1930 he was working as an Auto Repairman for Mack Auto Company. John died on 14 July 1955. He was buried at St. Paul’s Union Church cemetery in Trexlertown, Pennsylvania, next to his wife Ellen in a family plot.



City of Washington



USS St. Louis



USS Cincinnati



USS Gloucester



City of Chester