

History of the Hayward Guard, California Militia/National Guard of California 1865-1868

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HAYWARD GUARD

Activities: (Continued)

Hayward Guard, unattached, Second Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 7, File 5 Hayward Guard

Location: Hayward, Alameda County

Mustered in November 12, 1864

Mustered out January 4, 1868

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
S. Augustus Woodman, Captain	Nov. 12, 1864	_____
Ela Mitchell, First Lieut.	Nov. 12, 1864	_____
A. L. Fuller, Captain	Nov. 11, 1865	Nov. 20, 1865
Ela Mitchell, First Lieut. (Elected 1865)	_____	_____
A. L. Fuller, Captain (Re-elected Nov. 10, 1866)	_____	_____
James A. Webster, First Lieut. (Elected Feb. 28, 1866)	_____	_____
S. R. Sharp, First Lieut.	Nov. 10, 1866	Nov. 18, 1866

Activities:

Lieutenant A. L. Fuller and Sergeant S. R. Sharp of the Alvarado Guard presided over a meeting on November 12, 1864, for the purpose of organizing a volunteer infantry company to be designated as Hayward Guard, Hayward, Alameda County. The officers elected at the meeting were S. Augustus Woodman, Captain and Ela Mitchell, First Lieutenant. A Bond of \$3,000 was posted for the arms and equipment and the military authorities allotted the company fifty dollars a month for the maintenance of an armory. The corps later hired an armorer to care for the unit's arms and accoutrements. The Hayward Guard was one of the many companies which was organized during the Civil War period. This company had a large membership from the beginning and gave promise of being an efficient unit in the future.

The Hayward Guard and San Lorenzo Guard were consolidated November 13, 1865, with the mutual consent of the majority of members of both companies. The respective Captains believed the consolidation of the units would promote the general interest of all concerned, and the name Hayward Guard was retained. Also the Hayward Guard officers remained in command until the following election which took place in November of that year. The results of the ensuing election were; A. L. Fuller, former Captain of the Alvarado Guard was elected Captain and S. R. Sharp a former Sergeant of the Alvarado Guard, First Lieutenant.

HAYWARD GUARD

HAYWARD GUARD (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

CASTORIA GUARD

There was a complete reorganization of the Hayward Guard September 1, 1866, soon after the Military Law of that year went into effect. Brigadier-General George S. Evans recommended this ruling, contending it would be impossible for the interior mining towns where the population was transient to keep their organizations up to the stringent requirement of the law, therefore, the military companies of the National Guard were materially reduced by disbandment. However, this reorganization did not affect the Hayward Guard. A new Bond for \$4,000 was filed and a more modern supply of arms and accoutrements were received by the corps when the Steamer Chryopolis arrived in Port, November 6, 1866.

The Hayward Guard was a flourishing and well officered company, maintaining a rank of ninety-four active members on the Muster Roll dated February 1867. In 1868, when the Legislature reduced the number of companies in the State as an economy measure, and also as the interest of the Commonwealth did not demand the maintenance of so large a military force, the corps was disbanded and mustered out of service January 4, 1868, pursuant to Special Order No. 1. The arms and accoutrements were returned to the State in good condition.

November 23, 1864, under the supervision of F. J. Woodward a citizen of French Camp. The minutes were duly recorded and the Castoria Guard, under the command of Captain Oliver H. Perry, was mustered into the service of the State of California.

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The Castoria Guard was a splendidly drilled unit participating in all the Brigade drills and considered to be quite an asset to the military strength of San Joaquin County, as they had in their possession forty muskets.

The membership of this company began decreasing during the first part of 1866, and unable to keep the membership of the unit up to the standard required by law, the Castoria Guard upon the recommendation of Adjutant-General George S. Evans, was on July 21, 1866, mustered out of service.

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