

History of the Liberty Guard, California Militia/National Guard of California 1864-1868

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LIBERTY GUARD

Liberty Guard, Company D, Second Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 6, File 8

Location: San Francisco, San Francisco County

Mustered in June 22, 1864

Mustered out April 1, 1868

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Thomas J. Dixon, Captain	June 3, 1864	June 22, 1864
Alden L. Hathaway, First Lieut.	April 19, 1864	May 16, 1864
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Thomas J. Dixon, Captain (Re-elected May 1, 1865)		
John Gillan, First Lieut. (Resigned July 6, 1865)	May 1, 1865	May 19, 1865
John D. Rice, First Lieut.	July 6, 1865	Aug. 4, 1865
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Thomas J. Dixon, Captain (Re-elected Sept. 3, 1866)		
Patrick, Flynn, First Lieut.	Sept. 3, 1866	Sept. 28, 1866
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John Sneider, Captain	May 22, 1868	May 29, 1868
George Cantos, First Lieut.	May 22, 1868	May 29, 1868

Activities:

The Liberty Guard, Company D, was organized in San Francisco, April 17, 1864. The meeting was not conducted with the customary procedure, inasmuch as a First Lieutenant was elected immediately while the Captain was not elected until June third of that year. The company had a membership of fifty-four volunteers. When the required Bond was filed, fifty stand of arms were shipped the unit by the Steamer "Yosemite," July 29, 1864.

In 1866, after the enactment of the Military Law when the National Guard was materially reduced, the Board of Location and Organization was responsible for the reorganization of the Liberty Guard, changing the company's letter from F to D. This change occurred September third of the same year.

There is no doubt of the corps efficiency from the increased membership of fifty-four members at organization to eighty-nine in 1865. In its early years the company was loyal, active and filled with the spirit of patriotism. However, with the conclusion of the War of the Rebellion the corps lost a great deal of its enthusiasm, and finally requested of the Adjutant General that the company be disbanded. In accordance with Captain Dixon's request Special Order No. 70 was issued mustering the Liberty Guard, Company D, out of the State service. The arms and accoutrements were returned to the State soon after disbandment.