

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

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(continued)

NAPA RANGERS

Napa Rangers, Company H, First Cavalry Regiment, Second Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 5, File 8

Location: Napa, Napa County

Mustered in April 18, 1864

Mustered out June 8, 1868

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Joseph F. Lamdin, Captain	April 18, 1864	May 16, 1864
Lyman Chapman, First Lieut.	April 18, 1864	May 16, 1864
Joseph F. Lamdin, Captain (Re-elected April 8, 1865)	_____	_____
J. G. Norton, First Lieut.	April 8, 1865	April 19, 1865
J. C. Pierson, Captain	Aug. 17, 1866	Aug. 23, 1866
J. G. Norton, First Lieut. (Re-elected Aug. 17, 1866)	_____	_____

Activities:

The Napa Rangers was organized as a cavalry company, April 18, 1864, at Napa. The elected officers were: Joseph F. Lamdin, Captain and J. G. Norton, First Lieutenant. The ranks consisted of forty-five members, armed with sabres and pistols. The arms and accoutrements were received in May of that year, but it was several months later before the uniforms were received.

Under the Military Law of 1866, when the National Guard of California was materially decreased, the Napa Rangers was one of the ten cavalry companies allowed to reorganize and remain in the service of the State. The corps was mustered in as an unattached company September ninth of that year and a new Bond of \$2,480 was posted.

The unit's military activities consisted only of the necessary drill routine. It is assumed lack of interest and decline of membership, which placed the corps below the military standard, was the cause for disbandment. On December 20, 1867, Colonel E. McKenzie wrote to General George S. Evans verifying Captain Pierson's recommendation that the Napa Rangers be disbanded, and the corps was mustered out pursuant to Special Order No. 10, June 8, 1868.*

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*Adjutant General Report 1867-1869, Special Order No. 30, page 142.