

History of the Union Guard (Yuba County), California Militia 1871-1875

This history was completed in 1940 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in conjunction with the California National Guard and the California State Library.

Digitized by the History Office, Camp San Luis Obispo, 31 January 2015

Original document on file at the California State Library

UNION GUARD (Marysville)

Union Guard (Marysville) Unattached, Fourth Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 3, File 5 which was a
 Location: Marysville, Yuba County
 Mustered in April 29, 1863
 Mustered out July 10, 1866

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Lorenz Hubbard, Captain (Resigned Sept. 23, 1863)	April 29, 1863	May 20, 1863
Amos Woods, First Lieut. (Resigned October 21, 1863)	April 29, 1863	May 20, 1863
Charles G. Hubbard, Captain*	Nov. 28, 1863	Dec. 30, 1863
Henry Parsons, First Lieut. (Resigned March 5, 1864)	Nov. 28, 1863	Dec. 30, 1863
D. A. McConnel, First Lieut.**	April 6, 1864	May 7, 1864
P. W. Hinkley, Captain (Resigned March 23, 1866)	April 7, 1865	May 20, 1865
W. B. McDonald, First Lieut.	April 7, 1865	May 20, 1865

Activities:

In an endeavor to provide home guard protection and at the same time prepare men for active service in the War of the Rebellion, patriotic men organized themselves into a volunteer military unit in Marysville, Yuba County. The organization was completed April 29, 1863, when an election of officers was held. The commanding officers were Lorenz Hubbard, Captain and Amos Woods, First Lieutenant. The name Union Guard was chosen to designate the loyalty of the new company to the Union Cause. The corps was organized as an infantry unit, but soon after the members favored a change to the artillery branch of the militia. After ascertaining that there was sufficient artillery arms and equipment through correspondence with General Kibbe for the change, the transfer was approved by Governor Low, February 17, 1864. In the early part of 1864 the company was designated as Company A, Seventh Regiment of Infantry, Fourth Brigade.

A requisition for sixty stand of arms was sent to General Kibbe June 8, 1863. The arms and equipment were received in August of that year for which a Bond of \$5,000 had been posted. The supplies consisted of sixty muskets, thirty sabres, one brass six pounder field piece, one brass ~~12~~-pounder howitzer, carriages, caissons, etc. complete. The allowance to new companies of \$300 was used to purchase a banner, drums, fife and similar equipment. The uniforms were secured in time

.000.

*C. G. Hubbard, formerly Captain of Company G, Eighth Infantry Regiment, California Volunteers.

**D. A. McConnel, First Lieutenant, became Lieutenant-Colonel of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry, Fourth Brigade, March 16, 1865.

Activities: (continued)

for the September Encampment, the purchase of which was a grave financial problem to the new unit due to the corps lack of funds and the inability of the State to furnish uniforms. However, Captain Hubbard overcame the difficulty by borrowing on the company's credit. The maintenance of a suitable armory was another financial problem the Guard had to bear as the Supervisors contended they were not liable for same. The State thought differently and while the matter was under consideration the newly organized company had to make the necessary provisions for an armory.

Captain Lorenz Hubbard resigned September 7, 1863, and Charles G. Hubbard was elected to fill the vacancy, the latter having recently resigned his commission in the United States Army and was fully qualified to take command. With his experience and military background, Captain C. G. Hubbard was able to produce a certain degree of efficiency in the use of the arms and company drill among the members before they left for the encampment later in the month. The Captain was an enthusiastic leader and untiring in his efforts to further the interests of the company. In 1864 he was eligible for appointment in the late Brigadier General Collins' staff, who was commander of the Fourth Brigade, but refused July twenty-first, stating the only commission he desired in the militia was the one held by General Collins before his death. This wish was not realized. However, he was promoted to the rank of colonel of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry, Fourth Brigade, in the year 1865. Politics entered into the resignation of Captain Hinkley, March 23, 1866, who had succeeded C. G. Hubbard. He had made remarks which had disrespectfully reflected on Colonel C. G. Hubbard's reputation at a political meeting and although retracting the statement and apologizing, he decided to resign.

The Union Guard's activities were only of a military routine nature the most outstanding event was the Encampment at Camp Kibbe, September 19, 1863. Captain C. G. Hubbard was in command and the corps made a fine appearance in their caps, dark blue blouses, and dark trousers of regulation standard. The corps derived increased efficiency from the encampment in the way of military instruction and in regimental and battalion drills.

After the termination of the War of the Rebellion it was necessary to reduce the militia as an economy measure and eliminate companies whose location was not necessary for defense purposes. Therefore, the Military Law of 1866 was enacted which provided a Board of Location and Organization to determine the companies to be disbanded. In accordance with this ruling the Union Guard was mustered out July 10, 1866. The property belonging to the State was returned in good condition.