

# **History of the Yuba Light Infantry, California Militia/National Guard of California 1863-1880**

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YUBA LIGHT INFANTRY

Yuba Light Infantry, unattached, Fourth Brigade  
Reference: Dead Office File, Row 5, File 1.  
Location: Camptonville, Yuba County  
Mustered in November 7, 1863  
Reorganized March 19, 1880\*

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Josiah P. Brown, Captain	Nov. 7, 1863	Nov. 23, 1863
John G. McLellan, First Lieut.	Nov. 7, 1863	Nov. 23, 1863
Josiah P. Brown, Captain (Re-elected Jan. 13, 1866)	_____	_____
John G. McLellan, First Lieut. (Re-elected Jan. 13, 1866)	_____	_____
Josiah P. Brown, Captain (Re-elected Jan. 9, 1869)	_____	_____
Edward Eaton, First Lieut.	Jan. 9, 1869	Jan. 16, 1869
Josiah P. Brown, Captain (Re-elected 1875)	_____	_____
John G. McLellan, First Lieut.	Jan. 9, 1875	Jan. 16, 1875
Josiah P. Brown, Captain (Re-elected Jan. 20, 1877)	_____	_____
John G. McLellan, First Lieut. (Re-elected Jan. 20, 1877)	_____	_____

Activities:

There was no information on file concerning the early history of the Yuba Light Infantry with the exception of the organization papers of the company November 7, 1863, and the commissions of the officers--Josiah P. Brown, Captain and John G. McLellan, First Lieutenant. The unit was armed with muskets, although there was no evidence of a Bond having been posted or

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\*Yuba Light Infantry redesignated Battery E, First Artillery Regiment, March 19, 1880. Adjutant-General Report 1880, General Order No. 19, page 76.

\*\*Adjutant General Report 1875-1877, page 33.

\*\*\*Adjutant General Report 1880, page 76.

YUBA LIGHT INFANTRY (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

an approval for the requisition of arms. The company's activities consisted chiefly of reorganizations. The first one occurred under the Military Law of 1866, and in pursuance the company was reorganized on August eighth of that year with a membership of seventy-two members and designated as Company H, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade, National Guard of California. At an election of officers January 13, 1866, Josiah P. Brown was re-elected Captain and John G. McLellan, First Lieutenant. A Bond of \$4,000 was filed December fourteenth of the same year to secure the clothing, arms and accoutrements of the company. A second reorganization occurred after the passing of the Military Law of May 1868. The Legislature reduced the number of companies in the State as an economy measure by disbanding the units located in the interior mining districts where protection was unnecessary, making it a hardship on the commands to keep their organization up to the stringent requirements of the Law. It is assumed the Yuba Light Infantry had a high efficiency rating and the company was retained as a part of the State Militia force. Under this reorganization it was designated as unattached, remaining that way until September 9, 1872, when the company was changed to Company E, First Battalion, Fourth Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade.\* A third reorganization took place March 31, 1877, when the Fourth Infantry Regiment, Fourth Brigade, was disbanded. Five companies remained and were formed into a Battalion to be known as the First Infantry Battalion, Fourth Brigade, National Guard. Company E, Yuba Light Infantry was one of these five units.\*\*

A fourth reorganization was made in pursuance of Special Order No. 19, March 19, 1880, upon the recommendation of Brigadier-General John F. Sheehan, commanding the Fourth Brigade. By this order the companies of the First Infantry Battalion, Fourth Brigade, to which the Yuba Light Infantry, Company E, was attached together with the Sacramento Light Artillery, were formed into a Regiment, designated as First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade.\*\*\* After the consolidation the Yuba Light Infantry was designated as Battery E, and for further particulars refer to Battery E, First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade.

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\*Muster Roll, October 19, 1872.

\*\*Adjutant General Report 1875-1877, page 66.

\*\*\*Adjutant General Report 1880, page 76.