

# **History of the Frisbie Guard, National Guard of California 1869-1872**

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, 24 January 2015

FRISBIE GUARD

## Activities: (continued)

Frisbie Guard, Unattached, Second Brigade.

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 3, File 1.

Location: Vallejo, Solano County.

Mustered in September 29, 1869.

Mustered out June 10, 1872.

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Charles O. Ferris, Captain (Resigned June 25, 1870)	Sept. 29, 1869	Oct. 14, 1869
John G. Kelly, First Lieut.	Sept. 29, 1869	Oct. 14, 1869
Orrington L. Henderson, Captain	June 25, 1870	July 14, 1870
James Cluny, First Lieut.	Jan. 4, 1870	Feb. 3, 1870
Orrington L. Henderson, Captain (Re-elected 1872)	_____	_____
William McGill, First Lieut.	Feb. 8, 1872	Feb. 20, 1872

## Activities:

The Frisbie Guard of Vallejo, Solano County was organized by request of residents of Vallejo, September 29, 1869, and became part of the National Guard of the State. The elected officers were Charles O. Ferris, Captain and John G. Kelly, First Lieutenant. On August 27, 1870, the Frisbie Guard was ordered attached to the Second Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade with rank and designation of Company G.\*

The company furnished their uniforms with out financial assistance from the State and were an enthusiastic military group desiring to rank second to none in efficiency. However, after a few short months this fervor wore off and dissension among the officers and members grew alarming. The quarreling continued until the Sheriff found it necessary as a precautionary measure against mutiny to demand the keys of the armory. After this episode, Adjutant General James Allen was notified of the corps' difficulties but before he had time to act, Captain Ferris resigned which ended the strife. Under Captain Henderson, newly elected to the command, the company prospered and attained a good reputation as an efficient corps.

A fire, November 12, 1871, destroyed part of the uniforms, camp equipment, drums, flags and records, a loss which was estimated in excess of \$800. Although this was a discouraging blow, the unit had no thought of remaining inactive and made preparations to

\*Adjutant General Report, 1870-1871, Pages 82 and 108.

FRISBIE GUARD (Continued)

Activities: (continued)

attend and take part in the Grand Military display on the occasion of the Inauguration of the State's new Governor. Adjutant General Thomas N. Cazneau had tendered an invitation for the corps to take part in this celebration, November 28, 1871. In order to participate in this affair, the unit received new arms to replace the ones destroyed in the fire of an earlier date.

The Frisbie Guard in 1872, was ordered to disband according to a decision rendered by the Board of Location and Organization. Being active and highly ambitious, the unit resented this action. However, the company was honorably discharged and mustered out of service June tenth of that year.

Thomas N. Cazneau, Adjutant General	1	1871	Aug. 28, 1871
William Lee, Captain	1	1871	Aug. 28, 1871
William Lee, Captain	1	1871	Aug. 28, 1871

On September 18, 1870, in the city and county of San Francisco, the Veterans of the Mexican War, Company A (Foot Artillery) was sworn into the service of the State, under the command of Captain Daniel Hungerford, formerly Captain of the Sierra Battalion and later Major of the Sierra Battalion. This company was composed of veterans of the Mexican War, including Captain Hungerford, who was also a veteran of the Civil War. The company was organized in accordance with the Military Law of California. They, therefore, asked that James M. Allen, the Adjutant General appoint some suitable person to superintend the meeting to organize and enroll the company into the service of the National Guard of California. The petition of the Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, was approved by Adjutant General James M. Allen, and the organization was to be mustered immediately into the State service.

On February 17, 1870, in the city and county of San Francisco, the Veterans of the Mexican War, Company A (Foot Artillery) was sworn into the service of the State, under the command of Captain Daniel Hungerford, formerly Captain of the Sierra Battalion and later Major of the Sierra Battalion. This company was composed of veterans of the Mexican War, including Captain Hungerford, who was also a veteran of the Civil War. The company was organized in accordance with the Military Law of California. They, therefore, asked that James M. Allen, the Adjutant General appoint some suitable person to superintend the meeting to organize and enroll the company into the service of the National Guard of California. The petition of the Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, was approved by Adjutant General James M. Allen, and the organization was to be mustered immediately into the State service.

Unfortunately this company had only a brief existence in the National Guard of California. The Military Law passed by the State Legislature of 1872, reduced the military companies in the State to forty in all. The Board of Location and Organization

\*Adjutant General Report, 1870-1871, Special Order No. 3, page 99.