

# **History of the Tuolumne Guard (Columbia, Tuolumne County), National Guard of California 1866-1868**

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TUOLUMNE GUARD

Tuolumne Guard, Unattached, Third Brigade  
Reference: Dead Office File, Row 6, File 2  
Location: Columbia, Tuolumne County  
Mustered in July 4, 1866  
Mustered out June 12, 1868

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Stephen Wing, Captain* (elected July 4, 1866)	April 3, 1864	Oct. 29, 1864
M. C. Andross, First Lieut. (elected July 4, 1866)	Sept. 7, 1866	Oct. 24, 1866
Stephen Wing, Captain (reelected August 31, 1867)	_____	_____
John W. Tuttle, First Lieut.* (elected August 31, 1867)	Sept. 2, 1864	Sept. 28, 1864

Activities:

The Tuolumne Guard, unattached, numbering seventy-three men, a number of whom were former members of the Tuolumne Home Guard, Company A which was disbanded at the termination of the Civil War in 1865, was organized as an unattached military company in Columbia, Tuolumne County on the Fourth day of July 1866.

While the need for an active military organization was not as urgent as during the War of the Rebellion, the old enmities still smoldered and individuals and factions of opposite political tendencies would frequently become so excited while arguing concerning the merits or shortcomings of one faction or the other and also the much mooted question as to who had actually won the war, that frequent clashes took place and the Guards were not by any means idle, as they were called upon frequently to quell local disturbances.

Captain Stephen Wing and First Lieutenant Andross, who had been Captain and Lieutenant respectively, of Company A, were elected to the command of the reorganized unit. Captain Wing had been active in organizing and maintaining the original company and to him is due much of the credit for the reorganization.

The new company was well equipped, having rifles, sabers and uniforms as well as a good armory, and was well drilled and disciplined. Weekly drill practice was held, parades in public were frequent, and target practice was eagerly looked forward to. On account of their exceptional qualifications and splendid appearance the company was an attraction eagerly sought after on occasions of public gatherings as  
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\*Captain Stephen Wing and Lieutenant Tuttle received their commissions while serving with the Tuolumne Home Guard, Company A. With the formation of the new unit, Tuolumne Guard, unattached, the two officers were again reelected.

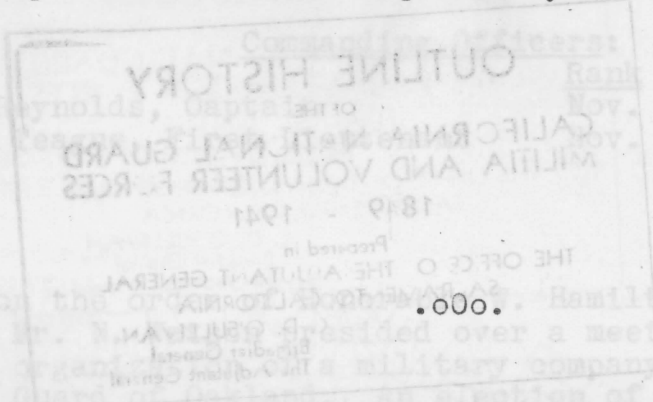
TUOLUMNE GUARD (Continued)

JACKSON GUARD

Activities: (continued)  
well as at social functions.

The Tuolumne Guard, unattached, was mustered out of the service of the State, June 17, 1868, by Brigadier General William A. Davies, pursuant to Special Order No. 33, dated May 23, 1868.\* No cause was given for the mustering out order, but it may be safely assumed that it was in conformity with the wishes of the company as the membership was above that required by law.

Name	Rank	Commission
Muriel Reynolds	Captain	Nov. 22, 1865
William Teague	First Lieutenant	Nov. 22, 1865



Hamilton, Judge of Alameda County, Nov. 22, 1865, decided over a meeting, November 22, 1865, for the organization of a military company designated as the Jackson Guard. The following officers followed the organization with Muriel Reynolds and William Teague, elected Captain and First Lieutenant respectively.

During the War of the Rebellion Loyalty to the Union Cause was manifested on every side by the citizens organizing themselves into military companies. However, when the Jackson Guard applied for admission into the State Service, the quota of the militia force of the State was filled and, therefore, approval was not granted the newly organized company, and it is assumed that the unit disbanded soon after organization.

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\*Adjutant General Report 1867-1869, page 145. company never entered into State Service, (only tentatively attached to Second Brigade).