The history of the Metropolitan Light Infantry is interspersed with periods of lulls and fresh outbursts of enthusiasm among its members. Internal troubles produced rather a checkered career for the company. It did not re-enlist under the State military law of 1890, but was not officially disbanded and continued to exist, though in a badly disorganized state. It was reorganized after the law of 1891 was passed, requiring all military organizations to enlist or disband, but in the course of time the old troubles reappeared, and finally came to a climax on August 14, 1895, when all of the officers resigned. J. S. Maxwell, second lieutenant of the Jacksonville Light Infantry, was assigned by Major Turner to the temporary command of the M. L. I., and he was theoretically in command of the company until it was reorganized September 4, 1895, as the Jacksonville Rifles.

Members of the Metropolitan Light Infantry possessed a fund of interesting and amusing anecdotes of instances in its history. They discussed the happenings during the encampment at Pablo Beach in the Murray Hall days of 1886. With a twinkle in the eye they told of a momentous occasion when, spick and span in their white duck pants, they were ordered on dress parade and given the command to kneel and fire upon a dirty field; and further, as they executed that order, about the ripping sound akin to the parting of seams. And many other occasions of fun and frolic during the company's career. But history also points out that whenever emergency called them they were there, and for that reason the people of Jacksonville always had a kindly feeling for this company and viewed with regret the troubles that beset it from time to time.

The company changed its uniform several times. The most striking was the bottle-green uniform of 1889-90, militia days when a company could choose its own uniform. For the officers the coat was cut frock-style, three rows of brass buttons, with gold epaulets and trimmings; gold pants-stripe, and a helmet decorated with a flowing white plume. Enlisted men wore the same bottle-green; but their coats were cut "swallow-tail", silver decorations instead of gold, and plumes of green instead of white.

O. J. Leite was the first captain of the M. L. I. He was succeeded in 1884 by W. J. L'Engle, and Captain L'Engle by F. P. Fleming in 1885. Captain Fleming resigned in July,