

History of the Company C (Hewston Guard), 5th Infantry Regiment, National Guard of California 1885-1917

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Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade (formerly
Hewston Guard)

Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: Petaluma, Sonoma County

Organized June 29, 1869

Reorganized March 22, 1882*

Reconstituted August 1, 1885**

Reconstituted December 9, 1895***

Mustered into Federal Service July 7, 1898****

Mustered out of Federal Service February 6, 1899+

Reorganized as Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment June 10, 1899++

Mustered out September 30, 1907+++

Reorganized, mustered in and stationed Berkeley December 3, 1907++++

Mustered into Federal Service June 28, 1916†

Mustered out of Federal Service October 7, 1916††

Resumption of Service in the National Guard 1916†††

Mustered into Federal Service April 8, 1917††††

Redesignated September 24, 1917†††††

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*Company C, formerly Hewston Guard redesignated Company C, Fifth Infantry Battalion Second Brigade, March 22, 1882.

Adjutant General Report 1881-1882, General Order No. 6, page 93.

**Company C, Fifth Infantry Battalion, Second Brigade designated Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, August 1, 1885.

Headquarter Papers Second Brigade, 1885, Special Order No. 44.

***Company C Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade designated Company C, Eighth Infantry Battalion, December 7, 1895. Two days later, December 9, Company C, Eighth Infantry Battalion redesignated Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade.

Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order Nos. 17, 18, pages 87, 88.

****Company C, redesignated Company C, Eighth Infantry Regiment, and mustered into Federal Service during the Spanish-American War, July 7, 1898.

Adjutant General Report 1896-1898, page 8.

†Adjutant General Report 1899-1900, page 6.

++Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade re-entered the National Guard as Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, June 10, 1899. Adjutant General Report 1899-1900, page 64.

+++General and Special Orders and Circulars 1907, General Order No. 23.

++++A new company organized in Berkeley and designated Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, December 3, 1907.

General and Special Orders and Circulars 1907, General Order No. 29.

†Company C as part of the Fifth Infantry Regiment mustered into Federal Service for duty on the Mexican Border, June 28, 1916. Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 18.

††Adjutant General Report 1914-1920, page 18.

†††General and Special Orders and Bulletins 1916, General Order No. 34, page 150.

††††Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment mustered into Federal Service for duty during the World War April 8, 1917. History 159th Infantry Regiment C.N.G. File #314.7 Adjutant General Office.

†††††Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment consolidated with Company K, Fifth Infantry Regiment and designated Company C, 159th Infantry Regiment September 24, 1917.

Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 24.

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COMPANY C (Continued)

| Commanding Officers | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Name | Rank | Commission |
| Dolphes B. Fairbanks, Captain (Re-elected June 15, 1885) | Oct. 10, 1882 | Nov. 28, 1882* |
| George W. Zartman, First Lieut. (Re-elected June 15, 1885) | Oct. 10, 1882 | Nov. 28, 1882* |
| Lewis J. Winans, Captain (Resigned Dec. 27, 1888) | Mar. 5, 1888 | Mar. 30, 1888 |
| Charles E. Dillon, First Lieut. | Mar. 5, 1888 | Mar. 30, 1888 |
| B. B. Hinshaw, Captain (Resigned April 1, 1892) | July 28, 1890 | Aug. 5, 1890 |
| Edward L. Emmons, First Lieut. | July 28, 1890 | Aug. 5, 1890 |
| Thomas Maclay, Captain | July 11, 1892 | Aug. 6, 1892 |
| Benjamin F. Phillips, First Lieut. | Oct. 24, 1892 | Dec. 10, 1892 |
| Thomas Maclay, Captain (Re-elected Jan. 27, 1896) | _____ | _____ |
| Benjamin F. Phillips, First Lieut. (Re-elected Jan. 27, 1896) | _____ | _____ |
| Thomas Maclay, Captain (Re-elected April 4, 1898) (Resigned June 27, 1898) | _____ | _____ |
| Joshua B. Dickson, Captain | July 7, 1899 | Aug. 14, 1899 |
| A. H. Cassidy, First Lieut. (Resigned Nov. 6, 1899) | April 4, 1898 | June 9, 1898 |
| Charles E. Lundholm, First Lieut. | Nov. 27, 1899 | Feb. 7, 1900 |
| Joshua B. Dickson, Captain (Re-elected Sept. 13, 1901) | _____ | _____ |
| Charles E. Lundholm, First Lieut. (Re-elected April 21, 1902) | _____ | _____ |
| Joshua B. Dickson, Captain (Re-elected July 13, 1903) | _____ | _____ |
| Charles E. Lundholm, First Lieut. (Re-elected Nov. 28, 1904) | _____ | _____ |

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*Captain Fairbanks and Lieutenant Zartman retained their former commissions as of November 28, 1882, when they commanded the Company C, Fifth Infantry Battalion.

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Rank</u> | <u>Commission</u> |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| Joshua B. Dickson, Captain (Re-elected Nov. 27, 1905) | | |
| Charles E. Lundholm, First Lieut. (Re-elected Mar. 25, 1907) | | |
| George C. Pape, Captain (Re-elected April 26, 1909) (Resigned Sept. 6, 1910) | Dec. 3, 1907 | Feb. 10, 1908 |
| Lawrence S. O'Toole, Captain | Sept. 20, 1910 | Sept. 23, 1910 |
| Frances E. White, First Lieut. (Resigned Sept. 8, 1908) | Dec. 3, 1907 | Dec. 30, 1907 |
| Robert M. Searls, First Lieut. (Re-elected April 26, 1909) | Sept. 21, 1908 | Oct. 1, 1908 |
| Lawrence S. O'Toole, Captain (Re-elected Oct. 20, 1913) (Promoted to Major, 5th Infantry Regiment Jan. 30, 1916) | | |
| Robert M. Searls, First Lieut. (Re-elected Oct. 20, 1913) (Resigned May 11, 1914) | | |
| D. A. Daly, First Lieut. | May 26, 1914 | July 14, 1914 |
| D. A. Daly, Captain | May 23, 1916 | June 19, 1916 |
| Guy W. Hassler, First Lieut. (Resigned Nov. 29, 1916) | June 26, 1913 | June 19, 1916 |
| Ernest S. Evans, First Lieut. | April 1, 1917 | April 4, 1917 |

Activities:

Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment was not as old a unit as Companies A and B of the Fifth, having been organized June 29, 1869, as the Hewston Guard, Petaluma. However, their service was unbroken, in comparison to that of Companies A and B, and although the unit was in the service of the National Guard for thirty-eight years, twenty-two years of which was in the Fifth Infantry Regiment, and three years in the Fifth Infantry Battalion, and thirteen years as an unattached unit. There was one unfortunate bit of history that blights what otherwise would have been an excellent record, as was Companies A and B. In September 1907, Company C was mustered out of the National Guard, not for inefficiency, but for disobedience of orders and for lack of the proper support by the citizens of Petaluma.

The disobedience of orders was the failure of the company to report at or attend the annual encampment, while the lack of support of the citizens was the refusal of most of the employers to allow the men vacation so they could attend the encampment.

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

Captain Joshua B. Dickson, commanding the company when it was mustered out was an unusually good officer and it was unfortunate that the business heads assumed the attitude they did. Although not a part of this history in justice to the former Company C, it is fitting to state here that Captain Dickson and most of the men re-entered the National Guard service and were mustered into the Fifth Infantry Regiment as members of Company K, May 8, 1909; Company K as a unit continued on until the World War, and after the war was reorganized as Company K, 159th Infantry, and continues to date.

Captain D. B. Fairbanks, who later rose to be Colonel of the Fifth Regiment was Captain of Company C when it entered the Fifth Regiment.

From the muster roll of 1885 the first inspection record of Company C will be taken. At that time the company discipline was fair, instruction was good, military appearance fair, and arms and property were in good condition. Five years later Lieutenant-Colonel William Edwards, Inspector, found the company in very good condition considering the fact that for the last six months they had been without a Captain. The First Lieutenant in command had labored under some disadvantages. The behavior of the men while in and out of rank was excellent. The arms and equipment were in the best of order. The armory and arms were cared for by Private F. Schell for the same, for not one gun was out of order.

The next inspection noted is that made by Major Charles Jansen, Inspector Second Brigade on March 30, 1898. Under the heading of general condition of Company C the Major reports:

"Armory and property inspected in the afternoon. Rooms, officers quarters, and men's lockers all in neat and good condition. Store room, very neat. All State and United States property very well taken care of and safe. At inspection, appearance of men, very good; discipline, excellent; arms, very clean; personnel of company, very good; company drill, very good; manual, very good; firing, very good; extended order, very good. The company as whole very good. The emergency call is a blast of an electrical whistle, also squad system kept up to date. Captain Thomas Maclay is a good officer and manager."

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The next inspection report is that of Colonel Thomas Wilhelm, Assistant Inspector General, National Guard of California, made on February 6, 1907. The Colonel's general remarks were that the company was available for active service, and the entire organization could be depended upon in case of emergency. Uniforms and equipment were very well kept, and stored as safely as the character of the building will permit. The armory was in a brick building; drill hall 70 x 112 feet. Target practice takes place once a month over a 500 yard range during the target season. Gallery practice held frequently and with good results. No instruction in first aid methods had been given the company by the regimental medical officers, and no first aid packages were on hand. The physical appearance of the men was very good. They were of a good class and zealous in their work, and could be relied upon in case of emergency. The company has had no practice marches during the year, but was for a month on active duty after the earthquake of April 18, 1906. The required number of drills was had each month in the armory.

Percentage of attendance at inspection, excellent, 100 per cent; promptness at roll-call and company exercises, very good, 94 per cent; discipline, very good 95 per cent; military appearance, very good, 98 per cent; condition of arms, very good, 97 per cent; condition of equipment, very good, 99 per cent; condition of clothing very good, 91 per cent; condition of records, good, 85 per cent; company movements, good, 89 per cent; manual of arms and other exercises, good 88 per cent; general average 93.6 per cent.

Yet this highly rated company was unfortunate enough to be mustered out six months after this inspection, as the men were required by their employers to choose between going to the annual encampment and losing their position at work, or staying at work and disobeying the Adjutant General's orders to attend camp. A new Company C was organized in Berkeley and mustered in on December 3, 1907. George C. Pape was Captain of the new company. Only one inspection report of the new company will be given, that of February 28, 1910, two years after its being mustered into service. Colonel Thomas Wilhelm was the inspector and made the following report:

Company C to be made up of an excellent class of young men, and available for domestic emergency. The entire strength of the command can be depended upon in case of call for duty.

The Armory is a brick building, with drill hall 50 x 100 feet, and very good storerooms. The organization is sufficiently armed, uniformed,

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The newly organized Company C was compelled to travel, and equipped for active service in the field. Property, stores, and equipment are well kept and safely stored. Schools for officers and non-commissioned officers are held twice a month. Target practice has been held ten times, and gallery practice once a week. Instruction in fire discipline, sighting, and estimating distances has been given. Twenty first aid packages are kept on hand, but no instruction in first aid has been given.

Percentages were as follows: attendance, 95 per cent; promptness at roll-call and company exercises, excellent; discipline, excellent; military appearance, excellent; condition of arms, very good; condition of equipment, excellent; condition of clothing, very good; condition of records, good; company movements, very good; manual of arms and other exercises, good.

From the report it can be seen that in a little over two years the Berkeley company appears to be a very worthy successor to the former Petaluma unit.

Company C was above the average company in the National Guard in target practice. In 1885 Company C won the Fifth Infantry Battalion Trophy at the encampment in Santa Cruz, defeating Companies A, B, D, and F of the battalion, which was in reality a regiment at that time. Ten years later, 1895, Company C had three First-class, sixteen Second and twenty-four Third-class riflemen. The regulations at that time required between 90 and 100 points out of a possible 100 to rate First-class. Between 80 and 90 was Second-class, and Third-class was from 60 to 80 points out of a possible 100. In 1895 Company D was the only unit in the Fifth Infantry scoring a higher number of medal men than Company C. Company D had 54 members that were shooting above 60, while Company C had only 43 medal men. The comparative rifle practice score of 1905 is not available, but Company C had two members on the State championship team, which consists of the fifteen best shots in the National Guard, and went back east to compete with other teams in the National shoot. In 1907 Company C had five of the fifteen members that were on the State Rifle team.

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

The newly organized Company C was compelled to travel considerable distance in order to hold rifle practice, so their scores were not very high. In 1911 there were only 14 medal men, in 1913 there was 23, in 1914 22, and 1915 only 11.

Company C as part of Fifth Infantry Regiment attended five regiments, two brigades, three divisional and four Joint Army-National Guard Encampments and Maneuvers during the thirty-two years they were in the Fifth Infantry Regiment. Also Company C like the other members of the Fifth held many week-end marches and company or battalion bivouacs. The United States Army officers and inspectors gave credit to companies who had held marches and week-end camps when mustering and inspecting National Guard units.

Under the heading of parades participated in by Company C it is difficult to select the most important as they took part in nearly every regular holiday parade as well as those on special occasions. On May thirtieth, each year Company C acted as escort to the Grand Army of the Republic and together would decorate the graves of their departed members. On the Fourth of July a celebration either in Petaluma or some neighboring town would find Company C parading and helping to make the celebrating a success. This was true of every unit in the Fifth Infantry Regiment.

Frequently on September ninth Company C would take part in some parade in honor of the admission of California into the Union. Perhaps the biggest Admission Day parade was the one held in San Francisco on September 10, 1900, commemorating the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Admission of California as a State. The entire Fifth Infantry Regiment joined in making the parade one of San Francisco's largest and best parades.

Company C also paid homage to several presidents of the United States when the executives visited California cities. The first to visit San Francisco was Benjamin Harrison on April 25, 1891. Ten years later President William McKinley visited San Francisco and again Company C paraded in honor of a Chief Executive of the United States on May 14, 1901. After an elapse of two years President Theodore Roosevelt, who became Chief Executive when William McKinley was assassinated made a visit to San Francisco on May 14, 1903. Company C again paraded in what was undoubtedly the most enthusiastic parade ever held in that city.

***General Inquirer, May 3, 1911, page 1, column 2; page 2, column 3.

***General and Special Orders and Circulars 1915, General Order No. 15.

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

In 1908 the Atlantic Fleet, with Secretary of the Navy Victor Metcalf on board visited the San Francisco Bay region. On May seventh a large and enthusiastic parade was held in San Francisco, and two days later another was held in Oakland. Company C as part of the Fifth Infantry Regiment took part in both parades.

The list of parades in which Company C took part are too long to enumerate, but perhaps three funeral processions should be mentioned. The first that of Adjutant General W. H. Seamans, National Guard of California on January 12, 1902, whose remains were escorted to the Presidio in San Francisco and placed in a plot in the George H. Thomas Post in the Presidio cemetery.* The second funeral was that of Major Milton W. Simpson, Fifth Infantry Regiment, who was accidentally drowned in San Francisco Bay on May 1, 1911. The funeral was held on May 3, 1911.** The third was in honor to Adjutant General E. A. Forbes on June 20, 1915. The Adjutant General was one of the best the militia had known, and his death meant a distinct loss to the National Guard. He was a native of California, having been born in Brandy City, Sierra County. His early vocation was that of school teacher in Yuba County. Later on he graduated from Hastings Law College in San Francisco. He was District Attorney of Yuba County for eight years. His military career was in the National Guard where he rose from a Private to the highest office in the gift of the National Guard, that of Adjutant General. He also served as Major in the Eighth California Volunteer Regiment during its service in the Spanish-American War.***

And now to take up the story of active service rendered by Company C in times of emergency or war. Their first active service was during the Railroad Strike of 1894. Company C was called to their armory on July 4, 1894, and ordered to Oakland where they were quartered in the armory of Companies A and F. They remained there until July tenth, when they made a camp at Piedmont, in order to preserve the health of the men in the company. They remained at Piedmont until July thirteenth, when they were ordered to Alameda Point by the Sheriff of Alameda County, where they guarded railroad property. On July twentieth, Companies C, D, and E were moved over to west Oakland

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*San Francisco Examiner, January 13, 1902, page 4, column 4.

**Oakland Enquirer, May 3, 1911, page 1, column 2; page 2, column 3.

***General and Special Orders and Circulars 1915, General Order No. 15.

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

and camped at the foot of Peralta Street. Two days later July twenty-second, Company C was dismissed from further duty during the strike.

Nearly four years passed by before the National Guard was called upon again. This time our country was at war with Spain. Company C with the Fifth Infantry Regiment was not accepted into Federal service under the first call for volunteers on April 21, 1898, but when the second call on May 25, 1898, came Company C as part of the Fifth Infantry was mustered into Federal service on July 7, 1898. Company C was redesignated Company C, Eighth California United States Volunteers on that date at Camp Barrett, Oakland. The company remained in camp until September tenth, when Companies B, C, and E were ordered to the San Francisco Presidio and took up station there until February 6, 1899, when the three units were mustered out of Federal service. On June 10, 1899, Company C was again accepted back into the National Guard as Company C, Fifth Infantry Regiment.

Seven years later an earthquake and fire in San Francisco and nearby towns necessitated the calling out of the National Guard to police and aid in preserving order, and in some cases combating the fires that followed the quake in several cities. Company C situated at Petaluma was ordered to Santa Rosa on the eighteenth of April to assist Company E of that city in fighting fire and maintaining order. From the entries made on the April 1906 monthly return of Company C, the following item is taken:

"An emergency call was issued by Captain J. B. Dickson at 1:20 P.M., April 18, 1906, for the company to report at Santa Rosa. The company assembled and reported in heavy marching order with three days travel rations and boarded train at 2:20 P.M. Reported to Major Haven at 2:50 P.M., at Santa Rosa. The entire command was placed on duty of every description immediately. Every man in the command served for twenty-four hours continuously without rest, fighting fire and patrolling. Have been on guard, patrol and outpost duty ever since."

Company C was called back to Petaluma by Lieutenant-Colonel Juilliard, April twenty-first, at 3:15 P.M., by request of Citizens Committee of Petaluma to quell an expected riot at the depot. Boarded train at Santa Rosa in full marching order with baggage at 4:15 P.M. Captain Dickson reported to Citizens Committee and was informed that company was not needed. Reported

Earthquake and Fire, 1906.

Adjutant General's Office.

COMPANY C (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

back to Lieutenant-Colonel Juilliard at Santa Rosa at 6:10 P.M., in full marching order with baggage. Detailed again on guard duty with Major Haven. The unit remained in Santa Rosa doing guard duty and assisting Company E and the Civil authorities to maintain order until May sixteenth, when Company C was ordered back to Petaluma and dismissed.

The good, efficient, and highly satisfactory work of Companies C and E of the Fifth Infantry Regiment at the time and immediately following that awful catastrophe will long live in the memories of those who passed through that harrowing ordeal.*

As related at the opening of this history, Company C at Petaluma was mustered out of the service of the National Guard about a year later on September 30, 1907. A new company was organized in Berkeley and mustered in as Company C on December 3, 1907. George C. Pape was elected Captain of the new company and Frances E. White was chosen First Lieutenant.

The new company received their first call for active duty on July 10, 1913, when a brush fire on Mt. Tamalpias became threatening to the towns of Mill Valley and Ross Valley and the historic old Muir Woods. Company C was one of the National Guard units to be called to help fight fire. For four days July tenth to fourteenth inclusive, the unit was on duty before the fire was brought under control.

About three years later disturbances along the Mexican border resulted in Company C as part of the Fifth Infantry Regiment being called into the Federal service on June 28, 1916, and early in July was ordered to Nogales. Company C remained there approximately three months and then was ordered to Sacramento and mustered out of Federal service on October 7, 1916. Soon after dismissal from the Federal service, Company C resumed service in the National Guard.

Company C was destined to remain in the service of the California National Guard for only a few months before the call for service during the World War came. Company C as one of the units of the Fifth Infantry Regiment was called into the Federal service on March 26, 1917, and for several months performed guard duty at factories and plants turning out war materials and guarding railroads, tunnels, and other places of importance in time of

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*For additional information refer to the National Guard and the Earthquake and Fire, 1906.

Activities: (continued)

war. In September the Fifth Infantry Regiment was ordered to Camp Kearney where on September 24, 1917. Company C and Company K, Fifth Infantry Regiment was consolidated and designated Company C, 159th Infantry, 40th Division.* The redesignation closed the history of the Fifth Infantry Regiment, National Guard of California. At the conclusion of the World War the former Fifth Regiment was reorganized in 1921, the World War designation of the 159th Infantry was retained. For additional information concerning the activities of this unit, refer to history of Company C, 159th Infantry, 40th Division.

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C. O. OSBURN
Adjutant General
1914
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*Adjutant General Report 1920-1926, page 24.