

History of the Company E (Wolfe Tone Guard), 3rd (Irish) Infantry Regiment, National Guard of California 1883-1895

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COMPANY E

Company E, Third Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade (formerly
Wolfe Tone Guard)

Reference: Adjutant General's Files

Location: San Francisco, San Francisco County

Organized February 15, 1862

Reorganized April 18, 1883*

Consolidated and redesignated December 9, 1895**

<u>Commanding Officers</u>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Michael McCormick, Captain	April 18, 1883	May 19, 1883
Richard Ennis, First Lieut.	April 18, 1883	May 19, 1883
Michael McCormick, Captain (Re-elected April 24, 1885) (Resigned June 28, 1886)		
Richard Ennis, First Lieut. (Re-elected April 24, 1885) (Resigned Jan. 22, 1886)		
Edward I. Sheehan, Captain	Aug. 13, 1886	Sept. 7, 1886
D. J. Nichols, First Lieut. (Resigned May 14, 1887)	Mar. 26, 1886	May 5, 1886
Edward H. Kennedy, First Lieut.	June 10, 1887	June 22, 1887
Edward I. Sheehan, Captain (Re-elected Oct. 26, 1888)		
Thomas P. Tierney, First Lieut.	May 18, 1888	June 20, 1888
Edward I. Sheehan, Captain (Re-elected Oct. 3, 1890)		
Patrick O'Mahoney, First Lieut.	April 10, 1891	July 10, 1891

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*Company E, formerly Wolfe Tone Guard organized February 15, 1862, was mustered in and designated Company E, Third Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade, April 18, 1883.
Adjutant General Report 1883-1884, General Order No. 16, page 66, and 42.

**Companies E and A, Third Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade consolidated and redesignated as Company A, Fifth Battalion, December 7, 1895. Two days later, December 9, Company A, Fifth Battalion became Company A, First Infantry Regiment.
Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order Nos. 17, 18, pages 86, 88.

COMPANY E (Continued)

Commanding Officers (Continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Harry J. Meagher, Captain	Dec. 2, 1892	Jan. 10, 1893
Frank Fontaine, First Lieut.	Oct. 6, 1893	Nov. 8, 1893
Frank Fontaine, Captain	May 24, 1895	Oct. 11, 1895
Thomas J. Mellotte, First Lieut.	May 24, 1895	Oct. 11, 1895

Activities:

Company E was formerly the Wolfe Tone Guard, organized February 15, 1862, and reorganized and mustered in as Company E, Third Infantry Regiment April 18, 1883.*

Captain H. Edwards, Inspection Officer, Second Brigade reported on July 18, 1888, that generally speaking the arms of the new unit were not good; fourteen were fair, sixteen entirely unfit for use and only thirty were in good condition. However, taking into consideration the fact that the unit was poorly equipped and that the majority of members were new, the men did well in the manual of arms. Due to the poor equipment, besides part of the uniforms missing such as helmets and belts, and percentage of attendance gradually decreased and on July 7, 1891, George C. Pardee, Division Inspector, reported the percentage only 32.26 per cent. The target practice was also very poor. Because of the poor accoutrements the company possessed, there were only five Third-class Marksmen in the unit at the close of 1891.**

During the existence of the unit from 1883 to 1895, they participated in six encampments. The one outstanding encampment in which the unit took part was that of August 15 to 23, 1885, at Santa Cruz. At this Camp of Instruction the entire National Guard was present. It was found that at large camps the units became better acquainted with the drills and different activities of camp life.

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*Adjutant General Report 1883-1884, General Order No. 16, page 66, and 42.

**Adjutant General Report 1891-1892, General Order No. 22 A, pages 107; 155.

COMPANY E (Continued)

Activities: (Continued)

In 1891, the corps took part in the funeral ceremonies of King Kalakaua of Hawaii on January twenty-second, Senator George Hearst March eighteenth, and Sergeant D. W. Hudson of this unit on June twenty-eighth of the same year.

The following year in January, Company E took part in the inaugural ceremonies of Governor J. H. Budd at Sacramento. The unit also acted as an escort to the Grand Army of the Republic on Memorial Day, 1892.

Two years later the Guard was called to active service to aid in controlling a Railroad Strike which had developed among the employees of the Southern Pacific Company. This Strike had spread over the entire nation, practically paralyzing industry. Company E performed guard and patrol duty in Sacramento, from July third to twenty-fourth when they were dismissed and returned to San Francisco.*

In 1895 when the National Guard was reorganized, Companies E and A were consolidated and designated as Company A, Fifth Battalion. Two days later Company A was redesignated Company A, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade.**

Company E, formerly Hatcher Guard, Third Infantry Regiment organized May 17, 1882, reorganized as Company E, Third Infantry Regiment, April 18, 1883. Adjutant General Report 1883-1884, General Order No. 18, page 86.

Adjutant General Report 1883-1884, General Order No. 31, page 73.

A new company organized in San Francisco and designated Company F, Third Infantry, September 24, 1883. Letter from Captain Patrick Boland to Adjutant General George B. Cosby, January 24, 1884, Adjutant General's Office.

Companies F and E, Third Infantry consolidated and redesignated as Company E, Fifth Battalion, December 7, 1895. Two days later, Company E, Fifth Battalion, redesignated Company A, First Infantry Regiment, Second Brigade.

*For further details refer to the National Guard and the Railroad Strike. Adjutant General's Office.

**Adjutant General Report 1895-1896, General Order Nos. 17, 18, pages 86, 88.