

History of the Sarsfield Grenadier Guard, National Guard of California 1870-1880

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, 10 January 2015

SARFIELD GRENADEER GUARD

Sarsfield Grenadier Guard, Company G, Fourth Brigade

Reference: Dead Office File, Row 6, File 4

Location: Sacramento, Sacramento County

Mustered in July 29, 1870

Reorganized March 19, 1880*

Commanding Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Commission</u>
William H. Ashton, Jr, (Resigned December 8, 1870)	Captain July 30, 1870	Aug. 3, 1870
Henry C. Johnson, (Resigned March 3, 1871)	Captain Dec. 8, 1870	Dec. 31, 1870
Charles Brady,	First Lieut. July 30, 1870	Aug. 3, 1870
Henry Lewis,	Captain Mar. 3, 1871	Mar. 10, 1871
Joseph A. Comboie,	First Lieut. Aug. 20, 1872	Sept. 7, 1872
Joseph A. Comboie, (Resigned February 26, 1875)	Captain Mar. 25, 1873	April 9, 1873
Albert S. Woods,	First Lieut. Mar. 25, 1873	April 9, 1873
Robert Dolan, (Resigned January 18, 1876)	Captain Mar. 24, 1875	April 3, 1875
John Egan,	First Lieut. Mar. 24, 1875	April 3, 1875
Clement A. Laufkotter,	Captain Feb. 17, 1876	April 14, 1876
B. M. Van Alstein,	First Lieut. Feb. 17, 1876	April 19, 1876
Clement A. Laufkotter, (Re-elected February 6, 1878) (Resigned January 10, 1879)	Captain _____	_____
T. W. Sheehan,	Captain Jan. 24, 1879	Feb. 7, 1879
J. P. Dalton,	First Lieut. Feb. 6, 1878	Feb. 16, 1878
T. W. Sheehan, (Re-elected February 2, 1880)	Captain _____	_____
J. P. Dalton, (Re-elected February 2, 1880)	First Lieut. _____	_____

Activities:

The Sarsfield Grenadier Guard was organized in Sacramento as a company of Infantry and mustered in as an unattached unit of the National Guard of California on the twenty-ninth of July, 1870 in compliance with Special Order No. 26, dated July 20, 1870.*

This company, named after the famous Irish General, Patrick Sarsfield, who was a commanding officer in the English Army during the reign of Charles II in the seventeenth Century, was composed of young men of Irish extraction and immediately became

*Sarsfield Grenadier Guard redesignated Battery G, First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade, March 19, 1880.
Adjutant General Report 1880, Special Order No. 19, page 76.

**Adjutant General Report 1870-1871, page 107.

SARSFIELD GRENADEIER GUARD

Activities: (Continued)

an active unit in drill and target practice and developed into one of the most efficient companies in the Fourth Brigade. On the nineteenth of February 1872, pursuant to Special Order No. 7 of that year the company was attached to the Fourth Regiment of Infantry, Fourth Brigade and designated as Company G.* The corps was among those chosen to act as military escort at the inauguration of the Governor-elect in January 1872. In July 1873, the members of the company obtained new uniforms at a cost of \$25.00 each and caps for \$5.00 each. Both uniforms and caps were of regulation design.

From 1873 to 1877 this enterprising company participated in many public parades, attended all military Encampments held during that period, and maintained an active interest in drill and target practice. On March 31, 1877, Special Order No. 5 disbanding the Fourth Infantry Regiment was issued and the Sarsfield Grenadier Guard, was attached to the First Infantry Battalion, Fourth Brigade, National Guard of California.** Nothing of especial importance took place from 1877 to 1880. The company continued to be active and took a prominent part in parades and Encampments.

On March 19, 1880, upon the recommendation of Brigadier-General Sheehan commanding the Fourth Brigade, the Sarsfield Grenadier Guard together with certain other companies of the Fourth Brigade were formed into a regiment to be known as the First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade, National Guard of California.***

For further activities of this company refer to the history of Company G, First Artillery Regiment, Fourth Brigade, National Guard of California.

*Adjutant General Report, 1872-1873, page 116

**Historical Record of Fourth Brigade, 1869-1880, page 98.

***Adjutant General Report 1880, Special Order No. 19, page 76.

For further information refer to Sarsfield Guard, Company F, San Francisco 1868.