

Woodstock Sentinel Newspaper Article January 7, 1863- General Rosecrans Report

General Rosecrans' Official Report

Headquarters 14th Army Corps in front of Murfreesboro

GEN. ROSECRANS' OFFICIAL REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS 14TH ARMY CORPS,

DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,

IN FRONT OF MURFREESBORO, Jan. 2 via NASHVILLE Jan. 4, 1863.

To Major General H.W. Halleck:

On the 29th of December we marched from Nashville in three columns, Gen. McCook by the Nolansville [sic] Pike, Gen. Thomas from his encampment [sic] on Franklin Pike via Wilson Pike, and Gen. Crittenden on the main Murfreesboro Pike. Our left and centre [sic] met with a strong resistance, such as the nature of the country permits. The rolling or hilly routes, skirted by cedar thickets and farms, intersected by small streams with rocky bluff banks, formed serious obstacles.

Gen. McCook drove Gen Hardee's corps a mile and a half from Nolansville [sic], and occupied the place. Gen. Crittenden reached within a mile and a half of Lavergue. [sic] Gen. Sherman reached Wilson Pike, meeting with no serious opposition.

On the 27th Gen. McCook drove Gen. Hardee from Nolansville [sic], and pushed a reconnoitering division six miles towards Shelbyville, which found that Gen. Hardee had retreated towards Murfreesboro.

Gen. Crittenden fought and drove the enemy before, occupying the line of Stewart's Creek, and captured some prisoners, with slight loss.

Gen. Thomas occupied the vicinity of Nolansville [sic], when he was partially surprised and thrown into confusion and driven back.

Gen. Sherman's division had repulsed the enemy four times, and protected the flank of the center, which not only held its own, but advanced until this untoward event, which compelled me to retain the left wing to support the right until it should be rallied and resume a new position.

On the 1st the rebels opened by an attack on us and were again repulsed.

On the 2d inst., there was skirmishing along the front with threats of an attack, until 3 o'clock p.m., when the enemy advanced and threw a small division across Stone [sic] River to occupy the commanding ground.

They were reconnoitering the ground occupied by this division, which had no artillery. I saw a heavy force coming from the woods and advancing in line of battle three lines deep.

They drove our little division before them after a brief contest, in which we lost seventy or 80 killed, and 375 wounded. They were finally repulsed by Gen. Negley's division and the remaining troops of the left wing of Gen. Morton's Pioneer brigade, and fled far over the field and beyond their entrenchments, their officers rallying them with great difficulty.

They lost heavily. We occupied the ground with the left wing last night. The lines were completed at four o'clock in the morning.

The 3d inst, [sic] was spent in bringing up and distributing provisions and ammunition. It has been raining heavily all day and the ground is very heavy.