

T H E

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PREPARED, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR, BY
The late Lieut. Col. ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Artillery.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
Lieut. Col. HENRY M. LAZELLE, Twenty-third U. S. Infantry
PURSUANT TO ACTS OF CONGRESS.

SERIES I—VOLUME XX—IN TWO PARTS.
PART I—REPORTS.

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GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1887.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. P. R. CLEBURNE.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. E. POLK.

- 1st Arkansas, Col. John W. Colquitt.
- 13th Arkansas.
- 15th Arkansas.
- 5th Confederate, Col. J. A. Smith.
- 2d Tennessee, Col. W. D. Robison.
- 5th Tennessee, Col. B. J. Hill.
- Holena (Ark.) Artillery, Lieut. T. J. Key.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. Sr. JOHN R. LIDDLELL.

- 2d Arkansas, Col. D. C. Govan.
- 5th Arkansas, Lieut. Col. John E. Murray.
- 6th Arkansas, } Col. S. G. Smith.
- 7th Arkansas, } Lieut. Col. F. J. Cameron.
- 8th Arkansas, } Maj. W. F. Douglass.
- 9th Arkansas: Col. John H. Kelly.
- Lieut. Col. G. F. Bancum.
- Sweet's (Mississippi) battery, Lieut. H. Shannon.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

- 17th Tennessee: Col. A. S. Marks.
- Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd.
- 23d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. R. H. Keeble
- 25th Tennessee: Col. J. M. Hughes.
- Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis.
- 37th Tennessee: Col. M. White.
- Maj. J. F. McReynolds.
- Capt. C. G. Jernagin.
- 44th Tennessee, Col. John S. Fulton.
- Jefferson (Miss.) Artillery, Capt. Pat. Darden.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. S. A. M. WOOD.

- 16th Alabama, Col. W. B. Wood.
- 33d Alabama, Col. Samuel Adams.
- 3d Confederate, Maj. J. F. Cameron.
- 45th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. R. Charlton.
- 15th Mississippi Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. A. T. Hawkins.
- Alabama Battery, Capt. Henry C. Sempie.

McCOWN'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. J. P. McCOWN.

First Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. M. D. ECTOR.

- 10th Texas Cavalry, Col. M. F. Locke.
- 11th Texas Cavalry: Col. J. C. Burks.
- Lieut. Col. J. M. Bounds.
- 14th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. L. Camp.
- 15th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. A. Andrews.
- Texas Battery, Capt. J. P. Douglas.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES E. RAINE.

- 3d Georgia Battalion, Lieut. Col. M. A. Skovall.
- 9th Georgia Battalion, Maj. Joseph T. Smith.
- 29th North Carolina, Col. R. B. Vance.
- 11th Tennessee: Col. G. W. Gordon.
- Lieut. Col. William Theford.
- Enfanta (Ala.) Light Artillery, Lieut. W. A. McDuffie.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EVANDER McNAIR.

Col. R. W. HARPER.

1st Arkansas Mounted Rifles:†

- Col. R. W. Harper.
- Maj. L. M. Ramsaur.
- 2d Arkansas Mounted Rifles,† Lieut. Col. J. A. Williamson.
- 4th Arkansas, Col. H. G. Bunn.
- 30th Arkansas: Maj. J. J. Franklin.
- Capt. W. A. Cotter.
- 4th Arkansas Battalion, Maj. J. A. Rose.
- Arkansas Battery, Capt. J. T. Humphreys.

* Of Smith's corps, serving with Hardee.
† The regiments of this brigade serving as infantry.
‡ Serving as infantry.

CAVALRY.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

Wheeler's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

- 1st Alabama, Col. W. W. Allen.
- 3d Alabama: Maj. F. Y. Gaines.
- Capt. T. H. Mauldin.
- 5th Alabama: Col. John T. Morgan.
- Lieut. Col. J. D. Webb.
- 8th Confederate, Col. W. B. Wade.
- 1st Tennessee, Col. James E. Carter.
- Tennessee Battalion, DeWitt C. Douglass.
- Tennessee Battalion, Maj. D. W. Holman.
- Arkansas Battery, Capt. J. H. Wiggins.

Byford's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. A. BURFORD.

- 3d Kentucky, Col. J. R. Butler.
- 5th Kentucky, Col. D. H. Smith.
- 6th Kentucky, Col. J. W. Grigsby.

Pegram's Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. JOHN PEGRAM.

- 1st Georgia.
- 1st Louisiana.

ARTILLERY:†

- Baxter's (Tennessee) battery.
- Baxter's (Kentucky) battery.
- Gibson's (Georgia) battery.

No. 190.

Reports of General Braxton Bragg, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Tennessee, with congratulatory orders, &c.

MURPHRESBOROUGH, TENN., December 30, 1862.
(Received at Richmond, Va., January 1, 1863.)

Artillery firing at intervals and heavy skirmishing of light troops all day. Enemy very cautious, and declining a general engagement. Armies are in line of battle within sight.

General S. COOPER.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

* Forrest's and Morgan's commands on detached service

† Probably incomplete.

‡ Byrnes's battery mentioned in Breckenridge's report. The others do not appear to have been engaged in the campaign. Baxter's battery reported as at Shelbyville, December 31, and Gibson's was ordered, December 1, 1862, to Chattanooga, Tenn., to be fitted for the field.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces—Continued.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.		
Wood's Brigade—Cont'd.											
33d Alabama.....	14	14	28	63	86	149	1	1	2	101	
3d Confederate.....	5	5	10	24	27	37	37	37	74	69	
45th Massachusetts.....	1	4	5	35	39	44	6	64	70	114	
16th Battalion Mississippi Sharpshooters.....	1	2	3	25	23	48	5	5	10	33	
Seiple's battery.....	1	1	2	18	19	37			37	20	
Total.....	7	45	52	20	319	339	6	107	113	504	
Johnson's Brigade.											
17th Tennessee.....	1	16	17	10	154	164	6	20	26	207	
23d Tennessee.....	3	3	6	38	40	78	8	8	16	51	
25th Tennessee.....	1	15	16	11	78	89	2	13	15	120	
37th Tennessee.....	1	10	11	45	51	96	1	6	7	68	
44th Tennessee.....	1	13	14	121	136	257	1	1	2	152	
Devden's battery.....				6	6	12			12	6	
Total.....	4	57	61	46	442	488	9	48	57	606	
Izdeell's Brigade.											
2d Arkansas.....	15	15	30	2	94	96	9	9	18	118	
24 Arkansas.....	1	11	12	128	135	263	1	1	2	148	
6th and 7th Arkansas.....	3	26	29	128	140	268	8	8	16	177	
Total.....	4	25	29	10	114	124	18	18	36	153	
Brett's battery.											
Total.....	8	78	86	33	470	503	18	18	36	607	
Polk's Brigade.											
1st Arkansas.....	11	11	22	81	90	171	1	1	2	102	
13th and 15th Arkansas.....	4	4	8	47	59	106	6	6	12	68	
5th Confederate.....	7	7	14	55	64	119	12	12	24	83	
2d Tennessee.....	2	2	4	53	59	112				63	
5th Tennessee.....	1	1	2	23	24	47				25	
Calvert's battery.....	3	3	6	2	2	4	1	1	2	6	
Total.....	2	28	30	37	201	298	19	19	38	347	
Grand total Cleburne's division.....	21	208	229	138	1,492	1,630	15	107	122	2,006	
Grand total Hardee's corps.....	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565	583	4,127	
MCCOWN'S DIVISION.											
Redor's Brigade.											
Staff.....											4
10th Texas Cavalry.....	10	10	20	81	93	174	14	10	24	118	
11th Texas Cavalry.....	8	8	16	79	89	168	3	15	18	115	
Total.....											

* Dismounted.

Lieut. M. V. Clark, G. Heiner, and J. M. Hopson mortally wounded. Col. John C. Burks mortally wounded.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces—Continued.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.		
Redor's Brigade—Cont'd.											
14th Texas Cavalry.....	5	5	10	42	52	94	1	11	12	69	
15th Texas Cavalry.....	5	5	10	37	36	73	3	3	6	44	
Douglas' battery.....				2	2	4			4	2	
Total.....	28	28	56	237	276	513	5	43	48	352	
Reiser's Brigade.											
3d Georgia Battalion.....	6	6	12	28	33	61			61	39	
9th Georgia Battalion.....	1	1	2	9	11	20			20	12	
29th North Carolina.....	5	5	10	3	50	53	5	5	10	60	
11th Tennessee.....	8	8	16	10	54	64	11	11	22	83	
Buranda (Ala.) Artillery.....				3	3	6			6	5	
Total.....	20	20	40	141	161	302	18	18	36	199	
McNair's Brigade.											
1st Arkansas Rifles.....	0	0	0	15	69	84	4	7	11	95	
2d Arkansas Rifles.....	1	0	1	10	17	27	4	7	11	120	
4th Arkansas Rifles.....	4	4	8	9	62	71	1	0	1	79	
4th Arkansas Battalion.....	2	4	6	19	19	38	5	5	10	29	
80th Arkansas.....	8	8	16	12	51	63	22	22	44	95	
Humphreys' battery.....				1	5	6			6	6	
Total.....	4	38	42	52	278	330	5	47	52	424	
Escort company.....		2	2		2	4		1	1	5	
Grand total McCown's division.....	4	88	92	111	658	769	10	109	119	980	
JACKSON'S BRIGADE.											
5th Georgia.....	2	10	12	48	48	96			96	60	
2d Georgia Battalion.....				36	29	65			65	32	
5th Mississippi.....	1	19	20	12	101	113			113	80	
8th Mississippi.....	4	37	41	23	264	287			287	133	
Total.....	4	37	41	23	264	287			287	305	

RECAPITULATION.

Polk's corps.....	54	547	601	282	3,404	3,686	5	101	106	4,433	
Hardee's corps.....	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565	583	4,127	
MCCOWN'S DIVISION.....	4	88	92	111	658	769	10	109	119	980	
JACKSON'S BRIGADE.....	4	37	41	23	264	287			287	305	
Grand total.....	109	1,122	1,230	667	6,099	7,796	33	835	868	9,865	

* Dismounted.
 † Notes on original lists indicate that all these casualties, except 4 of the wounded in Reiser's brigade, occurred December 31, 1862.
 ‡ Note on original list indicates that all these, except 1 man wounded January 2, 1863, occurred near Cowan's house, between 12 noon and 4 p. m., December 31, 1862.
 § No nominal lists for Buford's, Wharton's, or Wheeler's cavalry brigades; but see Inclosure C to Bragg's report, p. 674. No returns from Pegram's cavalry brigade.

Company F. This soldier was too badly wounded to carry his gun. He asked to be allowed to carry the colors, and did so throughly the rest of the day. Three color-bearers had been shot down previously. In Sixth and Seventh Arkansas: Captain [J. W.] Martin, Lieutenant [J. A.] Beever, and Captain [S. C.] Brown, ever foremost in leading their men; Captains [J. G.] Fletcher, [W. E.] Wilkerson, and [M. M.] Duffie (wounded); Sergeant-Major Eddins, Sergeant Bratton, Company H; Private Hutise, Company K; the color-bearer, whose name has not been furnished to me.

Johnson's Brigade.—In Twenty-fifth Tennessee: Capt. A. Green, Company G; Capt. G. H. Swope, Company H; First Lieut. D. S. Walker, Company D. In Forty-fourth Tennessee: Maj. H. C. Ewin and Capt. Samuel Stiles, Company A; Adjt. R. G. Cross, Lieutenants [F. M.] Kelso, Company B; [J. W.] Dickinson, Company C; [W. H.] Gibbs, Company F; A. P. Forester, Company K (wounded); Color-Sergt. M. J. Turner and Corp'l. I. S. Berry, Company I (wounded); Corp'l. John W. Gill, Company J (killed); Privates J. D. Stone, Company B; S. G. Hedlin, Company C (killed); B. P. Hargroves, Company B (wounded); James D. Orenshaw, Company H (wounded), and J. M. Sellers, Company K. In Twenty-third Tennessee: Capt. N. R. Allen, Company E; Capt. W. H. Harder, Company G; Privates Henry C. Haynes, Company E, and Stephen M. Foster, Company C. In Seventeenth Tennessee: Adjt. James [B.] Fitzpatrick.

I wish to call particular attention to the gallant conduct of Sergt. William N. Cameron, color-bearer of Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiment. In the last fight he advanced in front of his regiment so far that when it fell back he was unable to follow, and was captured. He tore the colors from the staff, concealed them upon his person, and made his escape from Bowling Green, bringing with him the flag of the Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiment.

In conclusion, I would state that I carried into the fight 6,045 men, out of which I lost 2,081 killed, wounded, and missing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. R. OLEBURN, *Major-General.*

Maj. T. B. ROY,
Chief of Staff, Hardee's Corps.

No. 254.

Report of Brig. Gen. Lucius E. Polk, C. S. Army, commanding First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S BRIGADE,
January 13, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to circular of January 10, I submit the following report of the operations of my brigade in the battle before Murfreesborough:

My brigade was arranged in the following order from left to right: Fifth Confederate, First Arkansas [Infantry], Second and Fifth Tennessee, and Thirteenth and Fifteenth Arkansas Regiments.

On the evening of December 30, 1862, I received orders from the division commander to move my brigade from its position (the extreme right of our line of battle) across Stone's River to the left of General Cheat-

ham's division. This having been accomplished by 9 o'clock at night, I remained in line of battle until nearly 7 o'clock on the morning of the 31st. At that time I again received orders from division commander to wheel my command to the right, keeping the right connected with General Cheatnam's left. General Cheatnam's division not moving at same moment, I found if I attempted to keep with his line I should become separated from the division, then advancing. General Wood, about this time, having been ordered to my right by Lieutenant-General Hardee, and General Cheatnam having commenced to move up, I continued my move, gaining ground slightly to the left. About 7:30 o'clock, and before I had moved more than 700 yards, I received word from Colonel [B. J.] Hill that my right had commenced to engage the enemy in a grove of cedars near the old Franklin dirt road. I did not believe at first that the enemy could be so near us, having understood that we were supporting General McCown. Riding to the place, I was received by a volley from the enemy, resulting in the severe wounding of my orderly (Mike Connell). In a few moments my entire line advanced across the Franklin dirt road, entered this cedar brake, and engaged the enemy all along the line. In a very short time, by the aid of Captain [J. H.] Calvert's battery, we succeeded in driving the enemy out of the cedars in great confusion. Here Major Carlton, Captain Dixon, and Lieut. William H. Pearce, Fifteenth Arkansas Regiment, were wounded while gallantly leading their men.

Following them closely as we could, we encountered them again in a woods pasture immediately in our front, in direction of Wilkinson Cross-Roads pike. After a few moments fighting, we succeeded in breaking their lines, and again they fell back in much confusion. From this position, after having reformed my line, I advanced in a line parallel to Wilkinson pike, General Wood on my right and General Johnson on my left *en echelon*, with the exception of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment (which was in advance) of his (Johnson's) brigade. Advancing through the pasture, the enemy were seen posted across an open field near one of their hospitals and only a few hundred yards of the pike. My brigade was obliged to move across this open field with the enemy's artillery and infantry playing upon them. This they did most gallantly, causing the enemy to fall back across the pike under heavy undergrowth of cedars. Getting possession at this place of four or five ordnance wagons, which were sent to the rear, I again moved on, but did not proceed far when the enemy's batteries, posted across a corn field on the right of the pike, commenced playing fearfully upon my ranks. Here Captain [Charles P.] Moore, Second Tennessee, was killed, and many other officers of that regiment. (See Colonel [W. D.] Robison's report.)*

The battery was so placed, by moving straight forward my line would have been enfiladed. To prevent this, my brigade was wheeled to the right. At this time, Captain Hotchkiss sending me word that he had three batteries that required supporting, I left two of my smallest regiments and moved the rest farther to the left, for the purpose of trying to move the enemy's batteries. The Fifth Confederate here first engaged the infantry supporting these batteries, and in a few moments (the First Arkansas arriving in position) their infantry gave way and their batteries changed their position, with the exception of four guns that fell into the hands of the Fifth Confederate and First Arkansas, and in eagerness of pursuit were passed over.

From this place I moved on with my brigade, the regiments left in

*Not found.

it proper to submit a more minute statement of facts touching the matter at issue than was contained in my report of that battle.

When I ceased firing at my second position, which was about 1½ miles in rear of the hospital, the brigade charged and captured the battery referred to in my report, and continued to advance rapidly in the direction of the hospital. I moved the battery promptly to the front and left about 1,200 yards, and took position to prevent the enemy's cavalry from getting in rear of the brigade. I was detained here some fifteen minutes, but did not fire on the cavalry, as I had some doubt as to their being Federal; at the same time I replenished my ammunition chests. The cavalry disappeared, and I moved to the right and from through the open field, and thence forward through a narrow strip of woods into a cotton-field in rear of the hospital. I found the brigade posted behind a fence, the right resting at the hospital. General Liddell in person indicated the position for the battery, which was posted 50 or 60 yards in rear of the brigade, and about 60 or 70 yards to the rear and left of the hospital, on the left, and within 20 yards of the lane running from the Wilkinson pike to the rear of the hospital. From this position I fired 18 or 20 rounds to the piece, driving the enemy from his position behind the fence running parallel to the Wilkinson pike, when the brigade moved rapidly forward in pursuit into the woods across the pike.

I remained in this position at least twenty minutes after the brigade had advanced, when General Liddell, returning from the front in search of his ordnance train, directed me to seek a position to the right. I moved across the lane to the right of the hospital, and, when opposite thereto, halted to receive ammunition from two of my limbers, which had just come up. At this moment General B. R. Johnson rode up to me. I saw a regiment of his brigade at a halt, the left resting at a horse lot, about 80 or 100 yards to the right and front of the hospital, with the right of the regiment somewhat to the rear, or, rather, at almost a right-wheel from our proper front. Finding a confused state of affairs to my right, I moved forward through the regiment and to the left and front to the Wilkinson pike, in order to rejoin the brigade, which was in the advance. I saw a number of dead and wounded Federals in the cotton-field and lane, and near the line house and hospital; also a large number of prisoners in the hospital yard.

Sergeant John McMullen states that it was here he was severely wounded in the chest by a minie ball, and not at the position last occupied by the battery, as stated in my report. I also lost 4 horses killed and disabled. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

H. SHANNON,

Lieutenant, Commanding Sackett's Battery.
Capt. G. A. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 264.

Report of Brig. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, C. S. Army, commanding Third Brigade.

HEADQRS. JOHNSON'S BRIG., [THIRD,] CLEBURNE'S DIV.,
HARDER'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Williamson, Tenn., January 15, 1863.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken in the action before Murfreesborough on December 31, 1862, by the brigade under my command

In the first position taken by Major-General Cleburne's division at

Murfreesborough, on Sunday, December 28, this brigade was the second one from the extreme right of the second line; was north of Murfreesborough and a little west of the Lebanon pike. Though there had been skirmishing with artillery and small-arms, no regular engagement had taken place between our troops and those of the enemy up to the night of December 30.

Late in the evening of this day my brigade, with the others of Major-General Cleburne's division, was moved from the extreme right to the extreme left of the second line of battle, in order to support Major-General McCown's division, which formed the extreme left of the first line. My brigade consisted of five regiments, whose position from right to left, and whose strength, respectively, on the morning of the battle in front of Murfreesborough, were as follows:

General and staff.....	6
37th Tennessee, Col. Moses White.....	225
44th Tennessee, Col. John [S.] Fulton.....	509
25th Tennessee, Col. John M. Hays.....	336
17th Tennessee, Col. A. S. Marks.....	598
22d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. R. H. Keeble.....	272
Darden's battery.....	70

Strength of brigade taken into action..... 2,016

The Jefferson Artillery (four guns), commanded by Capt Putnam Darden, having been on detached service with Brigadier-General [S. A. M.] Woods's brigade, reported for duty with my command on the morning of December 31 and moved with my brigade. My brigade was posted between Brigadier-General Liddell's brigade (which was on the extreme left of our line) and the brigade of Brig. Gen. L. [E.] Polk.

At early dawn, on the last day of the old year, 1862, a year so full of bloody records, our line was formed, running north and south on the west side of the West Fork of Stone's River, my left resting on the lane leading up to the McCullough house. The order was immediately given to advance in support of Major-General McCown's division, by wheeling the whole of our division to the right.

My brigade moved first over open fields up a gentle ascent for about 1,200 yards, when we reached the summit of the slope, with my left within about 150 yards of the Triune road. Here the enemy's balls from cannon and small-arms fell around and in our ranks. Though we had moved out on the second line to support Major-General McCown's division, it became evident that there was here nothing before us but the enemy, whose sharpshooters were posted at the fence and in the woods along the north side of the Triune road. We therefore prepared to take our place in the first line. I ordered out skirmishers in front of each regiment, halting and correcting the right of my line, which had been somewhat broken in passing through a small thicket in the field. Col. Moses White and Lieutenant-Colonel [R. D.] Fryaser, of the Thirty-seventh, and several men of the Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment, were here wounded before we had fired a gun. Major [J. T.] McReynolds, a faithful and brave officer, then took command of the Thirty-seventh Regiment Tennessee Volunteers.

Our skirmishers now drove the enemy from the fence and border of the woods, and the brigade advanced to the Triune road in a beautiful line, completing the wheel to the right. My command was here moved to the left on the road, to give room to Brigadier-General Polk's brigade. In front of the left wing of the Twenty-fifth Regiment Tennessee Volunteers there was, at this time, a lane running nearly perpendicular to

the Triune road; and with a narrow opening on the right of this lane there was on either side a cedar glade. The brigade advanced into the glade, and, passing it under a warm fire on the right wing, it entered a wide corn-field on the left and a narrow field on the right of the lane. The conflict now became very severe—perhaps as much so as at any period during the day.

Immediately in front of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, and to the right of a small thicket, was a battery of four guns—afterward found to be a Michigan battery—supported by a heavy force of infantry. Farther to the left was posted a second battery. As soon as the brigade entered upon the open ground it was exposed to a very heavy fire of grape, shells, and bullets. The Twenty-fifth Regiment, on the right of the lane, was especially exposed to a flank fire of the enemy's battery. The Seventeenth advanced steadily to within 150 yards of the battery, halted, and engaged the enemy most gallantly and efficiently for some time. Captain Darden's battery at the same time took position on the south side of the field, and with admirable skill poured in a well-directed fire of shell, shrapnel, and solid shot over the heads of our men upon the battery and infantry in front of my left wing, which soon silenced the enemy's pieces. The Seventeenth then charged and took the battery of four guns in front of it, having, with the aid of the artillery, killed eight men of the battery and many horses, and having wounded the captain and a number of his men and damaged one of his pieces.

As our men advanced, Captain Darden moved his battery to the left and engaged the enemy's battery on the left of the small thicket, which finally moved back from its position. After continuing the fire for a time from the open fields upon the enemy now in the woods beyond, the Seventeenth again charged and gained the woods, where a stubborn resistance continued to be offered by the enemy, who took shelter behind trees and logs. Still the Seventeenth pushed rapidly forward, driving the enemy until his left was exposed to an enfilading fire from the enemy, who occupied a fence some 60 yards to the left. The Twenty-third Tennessee Regiment, in conjunction with the right of Brigadier-General Liddell's brigade, now approached in good time, and gallantly relieved the Seventeenth from this flank fire, enabling it to pass forward and drive the enemy from the woods.

On the right of the lane, where the Twenty-fifth, Forty-fourth, and Thirty-seventh Tennessee Regiments passed, there was much less open ground than on the left. When the enemy gave way in the field on the left of the lane, they fell rapidly back to the woods, and were soon driven from this cover; but on the right of the lane my right wing had to advance much more slowly against artillery and infantry, and gradually drive the enemy step by step, without the aid of artillery, through woods almost equal in extent to the woods and open ground on the left. The consequence was, that the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment gained the open field beyond the woods and advanced to the woods beyond the Federal hospital before my right had got through the woods in which this protracted struggle took place. This struggle on the right was maintained by our troops with the same gallantry and persistency as by those on the left, though that struggle presented not the same variety of phases in the former as in the latter. A battery of the enemy's artillery was posted in the corn-field in advance of the woods on the right of the lane. This battery was removed before our troops passed out of the woods.

The first serious conflict in which my brigade was engaged in this

battle may be considered as closing here. More than half of the whole loss of this brigade, in my opinion, occurred in this conflict. Without attempting to enumerate the loss in men, it is known that in killed and wounded the Forty-fourth lost here its major, 8 officers, and its color-bearer; the Seventeenth lost its colonel, adjutant, and 12 company officers; the Twenty-fifth lost its colonel and 6 company officers; the Twenty-third lost 2 officers; the Thirty-seventh lost its colonel and lieutenant-colonel. One of my staff was also wounded by a shell. The command of the Seventeenth devolved on Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd, and that of the Twenty-fifth on Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis, after the colonels of these regiments were wounded, which was early in this fight. Colonel [A. S.] Marks, of the Seventeenth Regiment, advanced within sight of the battery, afterward taken by his regiment, and exclaimed, "Boys! do you see that battery? It is ours, is it not?" It was, however, taken after he was wounded.

After clearing the woods, the Seventeenth Regiment was fired on by the enemy stationed in and about the cotton-gin, about 70 yards in front of a large Federal hospital. One piece of artillery was observed just on the left of the hospital and a battery of four guns about 300 yards to its right. This battery was playing on the woods occupied by the right of the brigade, and an undulation in the ground served to conceal from it the movements of the Seventeenth Regiment, while that regiment passed some 50 yards to its rear and about 150 yards from its right. The fire of the enemy in and about the cotton-gin was returned by the Seventeenth Regiment, killing and wounding several of the enemy, and the conflict was kept up on both sides until the regiment had passed the hospital, seven companies passing to the right of the hospital and three to the left. The enemy was now observed forming at a distance of several hundred yards in front. The battery on the right moved off about this time, leaving behind one piece of artillery. When our troops approached the hospital, a second flag was raised, and a man came out with another, a white flag, which he waved with much energy. A large number of prisoners had been passed in the woods, with whom our men were prohibited from leaving the field, and a number were captured with the hospital. The Seventeenth also captured here two wagons, well loaded with ammunition for small arms, and the cannon on the left of the hospital. It will be observed that the lane which separated my right from my left wing, and along each side of which my men moved, passed immediately by this Federal hospital. The line of march to this hospital for my brigade was shorter than that for any brigade or regiment on my left. The Fifth Confederate Regiment, commanded by Col. J. A. Smith, of Brig. Gen. L. [E.] Polk's brigade, was the first command to reach the hospital after the Seventeenth Tennessee Volunteers. The officers of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment are very confident that this regiment was the first to reach and pass the hospital. Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd remarks that "At the time I ordered the charge into the woods in front of the hospital, I was at least 70 yards in advance of any other troops on my left; that we passed through the woods very rapidly, and certainly had less space to pass over in getting there than any troops on our left." There may be but little importance attached to the taking of this hospital, and but little honor won in reaching this position first, but as it has been made a subject of some conflict in opinion between honorable men, honestly differing in their opinion, it is but proper that the facts in the case should be determined. The only interest which the undersigned can have in the matter arises from an honest wish to have justice done to those who have a right to expect it at his hands, while