THE

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.

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PART I—REPORTS.

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No. 189.

*Organization of the Army of Tennessee.**

POLK'S CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. LEONIDAS POLK.

FIRST DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. B. F. CHEATHAM.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. DANIEL S. DONELSON.

8th Tennessee:
Col. W. L. Moore.
Lieut. Col. J. H. Anderson.
16th Tennessee, Col. John H. Savage.
38th Tennessee, Col. John C. Carter.
51st Tennessee, Col. John Chester.
84th Tennessee, Col. S. S. Stanton.
Carnes' (Tennessee) battery, Lieut. L. G. Marshall.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER P. STEWART.

4th Tennessee, } Col. O. F. Strahl.
5th Tennessee, }
19th Tennessee, Col. F. M. Walker.
24th Tennessee:
Col. H. L. W. Bratton.
Maj. S. E. Shannon.
31st Tennessee, } Col. E. E. Tansil.
33d Tennessee, }
Mississippi Battery, Capt. T. J. Stanford.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE MANEY

1st Tennessee, } Col. H. R. Feild.
27th Tennessee, }
4th Tennessee (Provisional Army), Col. J. A. McMurry.
6th Tennessee, } Col. C. S. Hurt.
9th Tennessee, } Maj. J. L. Harris.
Tennessee Sharpshooters, Capt. Frank Maney.
Smith's (Mississippi) battery, Lieut. William B. Turner.

Fourth (Preston Smith's) Brigade.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN, JR.

12th Tennessee, Maj. J. N. Wyatt.
13th Tennessee:
Lieut. Col. W. E. Morgan.
Capt. R. F. Lanier.
29th Tennessee, Maj. J. B. Johnson.
47th Tennessee, Capt. W. M. Watkins.
154th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. M. Magevney, jr.
9th Texas, Col. W. H. Young.
Allin's (Tennessee) Sharpshooters:
Lieut. J. R. J. Creighton.
Lieut. T. F. Pattison.
Tennessee Battery, Capt. W. L. Scott.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JONES M. WITHERS.

First (Deas') Brigade.

Col. J. Q. LOOMIS.
Col. J. G. COLTART.

19th Alabama.
22d Alabama.
25th Alabama.
26th Alabama.
39th Alabama.
17th Alabama Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. B. C. Yancey.
1st Louisiana (Regulars), Lieut. Col. F. H. Farrar, jr.
Robertson's battery, Capt. F. H. Robertson.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES R. CHALMERS.
Col. T. W. WHITE.

7th Mississippi.
9th Mississippi, Col. T. W. White.
10th Mississippi.
41st Mississippi.
9th Mississippi Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. O. F. West.
Blythe's (Mississippi) regiment.
Garrity's (Alabama) battery.

* Compiled from the reports. Other officers than those named may have also been in actual command of the organizations indicated.

Third (Walthall's) Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. PATTON ANDERSON.

45th Alabama, Col. James G. Gilchrist.
24th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. R. P. McKelvaine.
27th Mississippi:
Col. T. M. Jones.
Lieut. Col. J. L. Autry.
Capt. E. R. Neilson.
29th Mississippi:
Col. W. F. Brantly.
Lieut. Col. J. B. Morgan.
30th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. J. I. Scales.
39th North Carolina,* Capt. A. W. Bell.
Missouri Battery, Capt. O. W. Barret.

Fourth (Anderson's) Brigade.

Col. A. M. MANIGAULT.

24th Alabama.
28th Alabama.
34th Alabama.
10th South Carolina, } Col. A. J. Lythgoe.
19th South Carolina, }
Alabama Battery, Capt. D. D. Waters.

HARDEE'S CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. WILLIAM J. HARDEE.

FIRST DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. DANIEL W. ADAMS.
Col. RANDALL L. GIBSON.

32d Alabama:
Lieut. Col. Henry Maury.
Col. Alexander McKinstry.
13th Louisiana, } Col. R. L. Gibson.
20th Louisiana, } Maj. Charles Guillet.
16th Louisiana, } Col. S. W. Fisk.
25th Louisiana, } Maj. F. C. Zacharie.
14th Louisiana Battalion, Maj. J. E. Austin.
Washington Artillery (5th Battery), Lieut. W. C. D. Vaught.

Second Brigade.

Col. J. B. PALMER.
Brig. Gen. GIDEON J. PILLOW.

18th Tennessee:
Col. J. B. Palmer.
Lieut. Col. W. R. Butler.
26th Tennessee, Col. John M. Lillard.
28th Tennessee, Col. P. D. Cunningham.
32d Tennessee, Col. Ed. C. Cook.
45th Tennessee, Col. A. Searcy.
Moses' (Georgia) battery, Lieut. R. W. Anderson.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM PRESTON.

1st Florida, } Col. William Miller.
3d Florida, }
4th Florida, Col. William L. L. Bowen.
60th North Carolina, Col. J. A. McDowell
20th Tennessee:
Col. T. B. Smith.
Lieut. Col. F. M. Lavender.
Maj. F. Claybrooke.
Tennessee Battery:
Capt. E. E. Wright.
Lieut. J. W. Mebane.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. W. HANSON.
Col. R. P. TRABUE.

41st Alabama:
Col. H. Talbird.
Lieut. Col. M. L. Stansel.
2d Kentucky, Maj. James W. Hewitt.
4th Kentucky:
Col. R. P. Trabue.
Capt. T. W. Thompson.
6th Kentucky, Col. Joseph H. Lewis.
9th Kentucky, Col. T. H. Hunt.
Kentucky Battery, Capt. R. Cobb.

Jackson's Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. JOHN K. JACKSON.

5th Georgia:
Col. W. T. Black.
Maj. C. P. Daniel.
2d Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters, Maj. J. J. Cox.
5th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. W. L. Sykes.
8th Mississippi:
Col. J. C. Wilkinson.
Lieut. Col. A. McNeill.
Pritchard's (Georgia) battery.
Lumsden's (Alabama) battery, Lieut. H. H. Cribbs.

* Joined brigade December 31; transferred, January 2, to Manigault's brigade.
† Temporarily assigned to Breckinridge's division.

Your general deplores, in common with you, the loss of your gallant comrades, who have fallen in our recent conflicts. Let their memories be enshrined in your hearts, as they will ever be tenderly cherished by their countrymen. Let it be yours to avenge their fate, and proudly to emulate their deeds. Remember that your face is to the foe, and that on you rests the defense of all that is dear to freemen. Soldiers, the proudest reflection of your general's life is to be known as the commander of an army so brave and invincible as you have proven. He asks no higher boon than to lead such men to victory. To share their trials, and to stand or fall with them, will be the crown of his ambition.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General, Commanding.

No. 191.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces.

[Compiled from nominal lists.]

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.		
POLK'S CORPS.											
CHEATHAM'S DIVISION.											
Donelson's Brigade.											
8th Tennessee	4	37	41	17	248	265	....	....	....	306	Col. William L. Moore, Capt. William Sadler, and Lieuts. Thomas O. Blacknall, A. G. Denton, and N. Martin Kerby.
16th Tennessee	1	35	36	8	147	155	1	15	16	207	Capt. D. C. Spurlock.
38th Tennessee	1	11	12	5	68	73	....	....	....	85	Capt. B. H. Holland.
51st Tennessee	1	10	11	7	65	72	....	3	3	86	Capt. T. C. Campbell.
Carnes' battery	....	2	2	....	5	5	....	....	....	7	
Total	7	95	102	37	533	570	1	18	19	691	
Stewart's Brigade.											
4th and 5th Tennessee	1	7	8	6	62	68	....	....	....	76	Lieut. J. P. Ferguson.
19th Tennessee	2	14	16	6	105	111	....	....	....	127	Capt. S. J. A. Frazier and Lieut. S. G. Abernathy.
24th Tennessee	3	6	9	5	39	44	....	....	....	53	Capt. Jesse Irwin and Lieuts. J. B. Arnold and J. S. Hardison.
31st and 33d Tennessee	1	13	14	7	64	71	....	2	2	87	Lieut. W. P. Hutcherson.
Stanford's battery	1	2	3	....	7	7	....	....	....	10	Lieut. A. A. Hardin.
Total	8	42	50	24	277	301	..	2	2	353	
Maney's Brigade.											
1st Tennessee	....	8	8	1	74	75	..	....	....	83	
4th Tennessee	....	5	5	5	44	49	....	....	....	54	
6th and 9th Tennessee	....	5	5	5	27	32	....	5	5	42	
Maney's Sharpshooters	....	1	1	....	4	4	....	....	....	5	
Smith's battery	....	1	1	....	4	4	....	1	1	6	
Total	....	20	20	11	153	164	....	6	6	190	
Smith's Brigade.											
12th Tennessee	1	17	18	12	125	137	....	9	9	164	Lieuts. J. S. Fielder and J. H. Patterson.
13th Tennessee	1	12	13	6	82	88	1	8	9	110	Maj. Peter H. Cole.
29th Tennessee	....	27	27	8	74	82	....	....	....	109	

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.		
Smith's Brigade—Cont'd.											
47th Tennessee	1	10	11	7	56	63	1	11	12	86	Capt. James H. Sinclair.
154th Senior Tennessee	1	13	14	6	78	84	....	3	3	101	Lieut. C. S. Hall.
9th Texas	2	16	18	8	94	102	1	1	2	122	Lieuts. R. F. Luckett and E. B. Parham.
Allin's Sharpshooters	1	2	3	1	5	6	....	3	3	12	Lieut. A. M. Bunch. Lt. J. R. J. Creighton died of wounds.
Scott's battery	....	1	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	
Total	7	98	105	48	514	562	3	35	38	705	
Grand total Cheatham's division.	22	255	277	120	1,477	1,597	4	61	65	1,039	
WITHERS' DIVISION.											
Deas' Brigade.											
19th Alabama	1	7	8	13	130	143	....	3	3	154	Capt. Robert J. Healey,
22d Alabama	2	9	11	6	77	83	....	....	....	94	Lieuts. J. N. Smith and J. H. Wall.
25th Alabama	3	13	16	10	79	89	....	4	4	109	Lieuts. W. C. Gibson, A. A. Patterson, and H. B. Scofield.
26th Alabama	....	4	4	6	70	76	....	....	....	80	
29th Alabama	....	3	3	9	83	92	....	....	....	95	
1st Louisiana Regulars	2	6	8	7	64	71	....	23	23	102	Lieuts. B. C. Conas and Bringier Trist.
17th Battalion Alabama Sharpshooters	....	3	3	1	14	15	....	....	....	18	
Robertson's battery	....	....	....	....	19	19	....	1	1	20	
Total	8	45	53	52	536	588	....	31	31	672	
Chalmers' Brigade.											
Staff	....	....	....	1	....	1	....	....	....	1	
7th Mississippi	3	9	12	9	88	97	....	4	4	113	Capt. R. D. McDowell and Lts. H. J. M. Harrigill and G. W. Jones.
9th Mississippi	....	8	8	5	66	71	....	5	5	84	
10th Mississippi	2	6	8	8	62	70	....	6	6	84	Lieuts. J. F. Moseley and D. W. Owen.
41st Mississippi	3	22	25	8	115	123	....	8	8	156	Lieuts. F. M. Betts, W. G. Kennedy, and P. H. McMahon.
Blythe's (Mississippi) regiment.	....	4	4	1	30	31	1	16	17	52	
9th Mississippi Battalion Sharpshooters.	....	7	7	....	22	22	....	....	....	29	
Garrity's battery	....	3	3	2	18	20	....	....	....	23	
Total	8	59	67	34	401	435	1	39	40	542	
Walthall's Brigade.											
45th Alabama	....	13	13	5	66	71	....	7	7	91	
24th Mississippi	....	8	8	5	103	108	....	....	....	116	
27th Mississippi	2	9	11	5	66	71	....	1	1	83	Lieut. Col. James L. Autry and Lieut. M. C. Edwards.
29th Mississippi	4	30	34	14	188	202	....	....	....	236	Capt. H. J. Harper and Lieuts. W. G. Barksdale, W. A. McDaniel, and R. S. Spencer.
30th Mississippi	6	57	63	10	136	146	....	....	....	209	Lieuts. T. W. Boone, G. W. Hope, W. J. McGuire, J. C. McIntyre, D. R. Patton and R. B. Ridge.
39th North Carolina	1	1	2	3	33	36	....	6	6	44	Lieut. John W. Rhea.
Barret's battery	....	....	....	....	4	4	....	....	....	4	
Total	18	118	131	42	596	638	....	14	14	783	

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S CORPS,
Shelbyville, January 13, 1863.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Since this army commenced falling back from Murfreesborough, I have, upon all occasions, publicly and privately, stated that I, myself, was one of the first to suggest the movement, and fully indorsed it.

B. F. CHEATHAM,
Major-General, Commanding.

—

TULLAHOMA, *January* 13, 1863.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding Army of Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have received your communication of the 11th instant,* with inclosures, and will answer candidly, as you desire. I understood the retrograde movement to have been decided upon, and partially executed, before we met in council on Saturday night, the 3d instant, and the only question presented to me, and the only question before us there, to be, whether the movement should be suspended, as far as practicable, for twenty-four hours. To this I replied that, in my opinion, it could be suspended. I offered advice on no other point. Subsequently, on learning fully the condition of General Polk's corps and General Breckinridge's division, I felt it my duty to say to you that in answering as I had just done I had looked only to the condition of my own division; that it had been successful in the fight, and, notwithstanding its losses and weariness, was still capable of making a firm resistance; that I was also influenced by the fact that my men had had no sleep the previous night, having suffered and repelled a night attack of the enemy, and immediately thereafter been moved from the extreme left to the right of the army, which led me to fear that, in case of a retreat, involving, as it must, the loss of another night's rest, large numbers of my men would fall out by the way, and I might in this manner lose as many as in an attack by the enemy in our then position. I further stated that, in case the enemy attacked us, I believed the chances were in favor of our repulsing him, but that it might turn out otherwise, and that it was for you to decide whether our cause should be risked on a cast the issue of which was doubtful; that I believed the final success of our cause depended in a great measure upon the safety of this army.

I have consulted with all my brigade commanders at this place, as you request, showing them your letter and inclosures, and they unite with me in personal regard for yourself, in a high appreciation of your patriotism and gallantry, and in a conviction of your great capacity for organization, but at the same time they see, with regret, and it has also met my observation, that you do not possess the confidence of the army in other respects in that degree necessary to secure success.

I have, general, the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. R. CLEBURNE,
Major-General.

* See Inclosure No. 1, Polk to Davis, February 4, 1863, p. 609.

No. 192.

Report of Lieut. Gen. Leonidas Polk, C. S. Army, commanding Army Corps, with resulting correspondence.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Winchester, Tenn., March 24, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the report by Lieut. Gen. L. Polk, with those of division and brigade commanders, of the operations of his corps at the battle of Murfreesborough. This report, though dated February 28, was only transmitted, as will be seen by its accompanying letter, on the 21st, and was received at this office on March 22. The accompanying map* has some inaccuracies in regard to troops and operations not under the general's command, but not to the extent of materially affecting its usefulness. The general requests leave of absence for an officer of his staff to carry this report to Richmond and transact other official business for his corps. I request the officer named be ordered to deliver the report to the Adjutant-General, but be confined to that specific duty. All other official business must be transacted through these headquarters.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General, Commanding.

Col. B. S. EWELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Shelbyville, Tenn., March 21, 1863.

I have the honor herewith to transmit my official report of the battles before Murfreesborough, with accompanying statements and map.* I send also copies of the report of Major-General [B. F.] Cheatham, and of the brigade, regimental, and battery commanders of his division; also a list of its casualties. Major-General [J. M.] Withers, having been absent on sick leave since the battle, has not sent me his report. It will be forwarded in a few days. The report of brigade, regimental, and battery commanders of his division, with a list of casualties, have been already forwarded to you. As these papers are of importance, and as I have other matters of interest to my corps to be attended to, I have to respectfully request that I be permitted to send a staff officer with them to Richmond. Lieut. P. B. Spence, who is the bearer of this, is the officer I desire to send. To accomplish this, I ask for him fifteen days' leave of absence.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. POLK,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. POLK'S CORPS D'ARMÉE, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Shelbyville, Tenn., February 28, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following as my official report of the operations of my corps in the battles on Stone's River, in front of Murfreesborough:

One of my brigades (that of General Maney) was on outpost duty in

* To appear in Atlas.

front of Stewart's Creek, and, with a cavalry brigade under General Wheeler, was held in observation. The enemy made a general forward movement on the 26th in their immediate front, and they were ordered to retire slowly upon the line of battle which the general commanding had decided to adopt—on Stone's River, a short distance from Murfreesborough.

On the evening of the 28th, my brigades struck their tents and retired their baggage trains to the rear, and on the morning of the 29th they were placed in line of battle. As the brigades composing the division of Major-General Withers had not been engaged in any heavy battle since that of Shiloh, I placed them in the first line.* They extended from the river, near the intersection of the Nashville turnpike and railroad, southward across the Wilkinson pike to the Triune or Franklin road, in a line irregular, but adapted to the topography. The division of Major-General Cheatham was posted in the rear of that of Major-General Withers, as a supporting force. The division of Major-General McCown, of Lieut. Gen. Kirby Smith's army corps, was in prolongation of that of General Withers, on the left, having that of Major-General Cleburne, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps, as its supporting force. Major-General Breckinridge's division, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps, occupied the ground on the east side of the river, in the line of Major-General Withers, on the right. The enemy moved forward, and our outposts fell back slowly and took their place in the line of battle on the 29th.

On the 30th, in order to discover the position at which we proposed to offer battle, he moved up cautiously, shelling his front heavily as he advanced. The cannonading was responded to along our line, and the theater of impending conflict was speedily determined. On the left of my line the skirmishing became very active, and my left brigades, front and rear, became hotly engaged with the line which was being formed immediately before them. The enemy pressed forward very heavily with both artillery and infantry, and a sharp contest ensued, in which he attempted, with several regiments, to take one of my batteries by assault, but was repulsed in the most decisive manner. In this preliminary onset many lives were lost on both sides. It was, from its severity, an appropriate introduction to the great battle of the ensuing day and prepared our troops for the work before them. Twilight following soon after, the enemy settled around his bivouac fires for the night.

Orders were issued by the general commanding to attack in the morning at daybreak. The attack was to be made by the extreme left, and the whole line was ordered to swing around from left to right upon my right brigade as a pivot. Major-General Breckinridge, on the extreme right and across the river, was to hold the enemy in observation on that flank.

At the appointed time the battle opened, evidently to the surprise of the opposing army. Major-General McCown, who was acting under the orders of Lieutenant-General Hardee, was upon them before they were prepared to receive him. He captured several batteries and one brigadier-general, wounded another, and drove three brigades—those composing the division of Brigadier-General [R. W.] Johnson—in confusion before him. He was followed quickly by Major-General Cleburne as a

* The division of Major-General Withers was placed in the front line by my order. See memoranda to general and staff officers, accompanying my report.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General Commanding.

supporting force, who occupied the space left vacant by the forward movement of McCown between the left of my front line and McCown's right. Opposing him in that space was the Second Division, of Major-General [A. McD.] McCook's corps, under the command of Brig. Gen. J. C. Davis, to confront which he had to wheel to the right, as the right of General McCook's corps was slightly refused. Cleburne's attack, following so soon on that of McCown, caught the force in his front also not altogether prepared, and the vigor of the assault was so intense that they, too, yielded and were driven.

Major-General Withers' left was opposed to the right of General Sheridan, commanding the Third and remaining division of General McCook's corps. The enemy's right was strongly posted on a ridge of rocks, with chasms intervening, and covered with a dense growth of rough cedars. Being advised of the attack he was to expect by the fierce contest which was being waged on his right, he was fully prepared for the onset, and this notice and the strength of his position enabled him to offer a strong resistance to Withers, whose duty it was to move next. Colonel [J. Q.] Loomis, who commanded the left brigade, moved up with energy and spirit to the attack. He was wounded and was succeeded by Colonel [J. G.] Coltart. The enemy met the advance with firmness, but was forced to yield. An accession of force aided him to recover his position, and its great strength enabled him to hold it. Coltart, after a gallant charge and a sharp contest, fell back, and was replaced by Colonel [A. J.] Vaughan, [jr.], of Major-General Cheatham's division, of the rear line. Vaughan, notwithstanding the difficulties of the ground, charged the position with great energy; but the enemy, intrenched behind stones and covered by the thick woods, could not be moved, and Vaughan also was repulsed. This caused a loss of time, and Cleburne's division, pressing Davis, reached a point where Sheridan's batteries, still unmoved, by wheeling to the right, enfiladed it. Colonel Vaughan was speedily reorganized and returned to the assault, and, in conjunction with Colonel Coltart, drove at the position with resistless courage and energy; and although their losses were very heavy, the enemy could not bear up against the onset. He was dislodged and driven with the rest of the fleeing battalions of McCook's corps.

In this charge the horses of every officer of the field and staff of Vaughan's brigade, except one, and the horses of all the officers of the field and staff of every regiment, except two, were killed. The brigade lost also one-third of all its force. It captured two of the enemy's field guns.

The brigade of Colonel [A. M.] Manigault, which was immediately on the right of that of Colonel Coltart, followed the movement of the latter, according to instructions; but as Coltart failed in the first onset to drive Sheridan's right, Manigault, after dashing forward and pressing the enemy's line in his front back upon his second line, was brought under a very heavy fire of artillery from two batteries on his right, supported by a very heavy infantry force. He was, therefore, compelled to fall back.

In this charge the brigade suffered severely, sustaining a very heavy loss in officers and men, but the gallant South Carolinians* returned to the charge a second and a third time, and, being aided by the brigade of General [G.] Maney, of the second line, which came to his relief with its heavy Napoleon guns and a deadly fire of musketry, the enemy gave way and joined his comrades on the right in their precipitate retreat

* See Indorsement No. 2, p. 697.

across the Wilkinson pike. This movement dislodged and drove the residue of Sheridan's division, and completed the forcing of the whole of McCook's corps out of its line of battle and placed it in full retreat. The enemy left one of his batteries of four guns on the field, which fell into the hands of Maney's brigade.

Here I think it proper to bring to the notice of the general commanding an instance of self-sacrificing devotion to the safety of their immediate commands and of our cause, which, for heroic courage and magnanimity, is without a parallel. A battery was pouring a murderous fire into the brigade of General Maney from a point which made it doubtful whether it was ours or the enemy's. Two unsuccessful efforts had been made by staff officers (one of whom was killed in the attempt) to determine its character. The doubt caused the brigade on which it was firing to hesitate in returning the fire, when Sergeant Oakley, color-bearer of the Fourth Tennessee Confederate Regiment, and Sergt. M. C. Hooks, color-bearer of the Ninth Tennessee Regiment, gallantly advanced 8 or 10 paces to the front, displaying their colors and holding themselves and the flag of their country erect; remained ten minutes in a place so conspicuous as to be plainly seen, and fully to test from whom their brigade was suffering so severely. The murderous firing, instead of abating, was increased and intensified, and soon demonstrated that the battery and its support were not friends but enemies. The sergeants then returned deliberately to their proper positions in the line, unhurt, and the enemy's battery was silenced and his column put to flight. The front of Manigault and Maney being free, they swung round with our line on the left and joined in pressing the enemy and his re-enforcements into the cedar brake.

At 9 a. m. Brig. Gen. [J.] Patton Anderson, on Manigault's right, moved, in conjunction with its left brigade, forward upon the line in its front. That line rested with its right near the Wilkinson pike, and is understood to have been General [J. S.] Negley's division, of General [G. H.] Thomas' corps, which constituted the center of the enemy's line of battle. This division, with that of General [L. H.] Rousseau in reserve, was posted in the edge of a dense cedar brake, with an open space in front, and occupied a position of strength not inferior to that held by Sheridan's right. His batteries, which occupied commanding positions, and enabled him to sweep the open field in his front, were served with admirable skill and vigor, and were strongly supported. Anderson moved forward his brigade with firmness and decision. The fire of the enemy of both artillery and infantry was terrific, and his left for a moment wavered. Such evidences of destructive firing as were left on the forest from which this brigade emerged have rarely, if ever, been seen. The timber was torn and crushed. Nothing but a charge could meet the demands of the occasion. Orders were given to take the batteries at all hazards, and it was done. The batteries, two in number, were carried in gallant style. Artillerists were captured at their pieces, a large number of whom and of their infantry support were killed upon the spot, and one company entire, with its officers and colors, were captured. The number of field guns captured in this movement was eight, which, together with four others, from which the gunners had been driven by the heavy firing from Maney's long-range guns and Manigault's musketry on the left, made twelve taken on that part of the field. This was one of the points at which we encountered the most determined opposition, but the onward movement of the Mississippians and Alabamians was irresistible, and they swept the enemy before them, driving him into the dense cedar brake, to join the extending line of his fugitives.

This work, however, was not done without a heavy loss of officers and men. The Thirtieth Mississippi, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel [J. I.] Scales, in the act of charging, lost 62 officers and men killed and 139 wounded; others lost in proportion. Here the brave Lieut. Col. James L. Autry, of the Twenty-seventh Mississippi, fell while cheering and encouraging his troops.

The supporting brigade of General Anderson, commanded by Brig. Gen. A. P. Stewart, moved with that of Anderson. It was ordered by the division commander (Major-General Withers, who was in command of Major-General Cheatham's two right brigades as Major-General Cheatham was of his two left) to move to the support of the left regiments of Anderson, which were pressed. These regiments, which had suffered greatly, he replaced, and, moving forward, attacked the enemy and his re-enforcements on Anderson's left. After strong resistance they were driven back, shattered and in confusion, to join the host of their fleeing comrades in their retreat through the cedars. In their flight they left two of their field guns, which fell into the hands of Stewart's brigade.

Brigadier-General Chalmers' brigade (the remaining one of those constituting my front line), whose right flank rested on the river, was the last to move. This brigade, owing to its position in the line, was called on to encounter a measure of personal suffering from exposure beyond that of any other in my corps. The part of the line it occupied lay across an open field in full view of the enemy, and in range of his field guns. It had thrown up a slight rifle-pit, behind which it was placed, and to escape observation it was necessary for it to lie down and abstain from building fires. In this position it remained awaiting the opening of the battle for more than forty-eight hours, wet with rain and chilled with cold; added to this the enemy's shot and shell were constantly passing over it. Not a murmur of discontent was heard to escape those who composed it. They exhibited the highest capacity of endurance and firmness in the most discouraging circumstances. In its front lay the right of Brigadier-General [J. M.] Palmer's division, of Major-General [T. L.] Crittenden's corps, which constituted the left wing of the enemy's line of battle.

The general movement from the left having reached it at 10 o'clock, it was ordered to the attack, and its reserve, under Brigadier-General Donelson, was directed to move forward to its support. This charge was made in fine style, and was met by the enemy, who was strongly posted in the edge of the cedar brake, with a murderous fire of artillery and infantry. In that charge their brigade commander (General Chalmers) was severely wounded by a shell, which disqualified him for further duty on the field. The regiments on the left recoiled and fell back. Those of the right were moved to the left to hold their place, and were pressed forward. The brigade of General Donelson having been ordered forward to Chalmers' support, moved with steady step upon the enemy's position and attacked it with great energy. The slaughter was terrific on both sides.

In this charge—which resulted in breaking the enemy's line at every point except the extreme left, and driving him, as every other part of his line attacked had been driven—Donelson reports the capture of 11 guns and about 1,000 prisoners.

The regiments of Chalmers' brigade, having been separated after he fell, moved forward and attached themselves to other commands, fighting with them with gallantry as opportunity offered.

There was no instance of more distinguished bravery exhibited during this battle than was shown by the command of General Donelson. In

the charge which it made it was brought directly under the fire of several batteries, strongly posted and supported, which it assaulted with eager resolution. All the line in their front was carried except the extreme right. This point, which was the key to the enemy's position, and which was known as the Round Forest, was attacked by the right of the brigade. It was met by a fire from artillery and musketry which mowed down more than half its number. The Sixteenth Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, under the command of Col. John H. Savage, lost 207 out of 402. It could not advance and would not retire. Their colonel, with characteristic bravery and tenacity, deployed what was left of his command as skirmishers and held his position for three hours. In the Eighth Tennessee, of the right wing, under the lamented Colonel [W. L.] Moore, who fell, mortally wounded, and who was succeeded by Lieut. Col. J. H. Anderson, the loss was 306 men and officers out of 425.

The enemy was now driven from the field at all points occupied by him in the morning, along his whole line, from his right to the extreme left, and was pressed back until our line occupied a position at right angles to that which we held at the opening of the battle. After passing the Nashville and Murfreesborough turnpike, his flight was covered by large bodies of fresh troops and numerous batteries of artillery, and the advance of our exhausted columns was checked. His extreme left alone held its position. This occupied a piece of ground well chosen and defended, the river being on the one hand and a deep railroad cut on the other. It was held by a strong force of artillery and infantry, well supported by a reserve composed of Brigadier-General [T. J.] Wood's division.

My last reserve having been exhausted, the brigades of Major-General Breckinridge's division, and a small brigade of [Brigadier-]General J. K. Jackson, posted to guard our right flank, were the only troops left that had not been engaged. Four of these were ordered to report to me. They came in detachments of two brigades each, the first arriving nearly two hours after Donelson's attack, the other about an hour after the first. The commanders of these detachments, the first composed of the brigades of Generals [D. W.] Adams and Jackson, the second under General Breckinridge in person, consisting of the brigades of General [William] Preston and Colonel [J. B.] Palmer, had pointed out to them the particular object to be accomplished, to wit, to drive in the enemy's left, and, especially, to dislodge him from his position in the Round Forest. Unfortunately, the opportune moment for putting in these detachments had passed. Could they have been thrown upon the enemy's left immediately following Chalmers' and Donelson's assault in quick succession, the extraordinary strength of his position would have availed him nothing. That point would have been carried, and his left, driven back on his panic-stricken right, would have completed his confusion and insured an utter rout. It was, however, otherwise, and the time lost between Donelson's attack and the coming up of these detachments in succession enabled the enemy to recover his self-possession, to mass a number of heavy batteries, and concentrate a strong infantry force on the position, and thus make a successful attack very difficult. Nevertheless, the brigades of Adams and Jackson assailed the enemy's line with energy, and, after a severe contest, were compelled to yield and fall back. They were promptly rallied by General Breckinridge, who, having preceded his other brigades, reached the ground at that moment, but as they were very much cut up, they were not required to renew the attack. The brigades of Preston and Palmer, on arriving, renewed the assault with the same undaunted determination, but as another battery had been added since the previous attack, to a position already strong and difficult of access, this assault was alike ineffectual. The enemy, though not driven from his position, was severely punished, and, as the day was far spent, it was not deemed advisable to renew the attack that evening, and the troops held the line they occupied for the night.

The following morning, instead of finding him in position to receive a renewal of the attack, showed that, taking advantage of the night, he had abandoned this last position of his first line, and the opening of the new year found us masters of the field.

This battle of December 31 developed in all parts of the field which came under my observation the highest qualities of the soldier among our troops. The promptness with which they moved upon the enemy whenever they were called to attack him, the vigor and *élan* with which their movements were made, the energy with which they assaulted his strong positions, and the readiness with which they responded to the call to repeat their assaults, indicated a spirit of dauntless courage, which places them in the very front rank of the soldiers of the world. For the exhibition of these high traits they are not a little indebted to the example of their officers, whose courage and energy had won their confidence and admiration.

January 1 passed without any material movement of either side, beyond occasional skirmishing along the lines in our front. I ordered Chalmers' brigade, now commanded by Colonel [T. W.] White, [Ninth Mississippi,] to occupy the ground in rear of the Round Forest just abandoned by the enemy. This it did, first driving out his pickets.

On the 2d there was skirmishing during the morning. In the afternoon, about 3 o'clock, General Bragg announced his intention to attack the enemy, who was supposed to be in force on the north side of the river, and ordered me to relieve two of General Breckinridge's brigades, which were still in my front, and send them over to that officer, who had returned to his post, as he proposed to make the attack with the troops of Breckinridge's division. I issued the necessary orders at once, and the troops were transferred as directed. The general commanding ordered me also to open fire with three batteries, which had been placed in Chalmers' line, to distract the enemy at the time of Breckinridge's attack, and to shell out of the woods which covered his line of movement any sharpshooters who might annoy him while approaching the river. The shelling ordered, which was to be the signal for Breckinridge's advance, was promptly executed and the woods were cleared. Of the particulars of this movement General Breckinridge will speak in his own report.

When the firing of my batteries was opened, as above, there was a forward movement of the enemy's infantry upon my pickets in the Round Forest, and a sharp conflict, which lasted for some time, and ended in the enemy's regaining possession of the forest. This position being of much value to us, I found it necessary to regain it, and gave the requisite orders.

On the following morning, at daybreak, I ordered a heavy fire of artillery from several batteries to open upon it, and, after it was thoroughly shelled, detachments from the brigades of Colonels White and Coltart charged it with the bayonet at a double-quick and put the enemy to flight, clearing it of his regiments and capturing a lieutenant-colonel and 13 men. The enemy, however, knew the importance of the position also, and was occupied during the day in throwing up earthworks for the protection of batteries within easy range. These being completed,

he opened fire from three points with batteries of heavy guns, and placed it under a concentrated fire for many minutes. It was a severe ordeal, and was followed by a charge of a heavy force of infantry; but our gallant troops met the advance with firmness, and, after a severely contested struggle, drove back the advancing column with slaughter and held possession of the coveted position.

In this battle we lost several men and officers, especially of the First Louisiana Regiment (Regulars). Among those who fell mortally wounded was Lieutenant-Colonel [F. H.] Farrar, [jr.] This young officer was one of the most promising of the army, intelligent, chivalrous, and brave. His loss will be felt by his country and lamented by his many friends.

This battle closed the operations of my corps in the field in front of Murfreesborough. By orders from the general commanding, after being eight days under arms, and in actual battle or heavy skirmishing, in the rain and cold without tents and much of the time without fires, my troops were retired from the field and ordered to take up a position near Shelbyville. This they did at their leisure, and in perfectly good order. In all the operations in which they were engaged no troops ever displayed greater gallantry or higher powers of endurance. They captured 1,500 prisoners and 26 guns.

For the details connected with these operations I beg leave to refer to the reports of division, brigade, and regimental commanders. To the same reports, also, I respectfully refer for instances of distinguished gallantry in the case of corps and individuals. I beg leave to refer also to the accompanying statement, marked A, containing a list of the number of men and officers of my corps engaged in the battle; also to B, containing the number of killed, wounded, and missing. I refer also to the accompanying map of the field of battle, marked Bb.* This map was prepared with care by Lieutenant [W. J.] Morris, of the engineers of my corps, from actual survey, and from the reports of the corps commanders of the Federal Army. From these sources he has been enabled to fix the relative positions of the corps, divisions, and brigades of both armies at different periods during the battle with great accuracy. The statements D and B I submit as parts of this report; also the accompanying map, marked Bb.*

To Major-Generals Cheatham and Withers, my division commanders, I am under obligations for their cordial support and active co-operation in conducting the operations of my command; also to the brigade commanders, who, without an exception, managed the parts assigned them in the general programme of the battle with great skill, energy, and judgment. Of the conduct of the regimental, battery, and subordinate commands their immediate commanders will speak in their reports, as they were more directly under their eyes. Our artillery also was well handled when it could be used, but the dense cedar brake into which the enemy was driven continuously prevented it from following our advancing columns. This made it necessary to have the work done chiefly with the musket and the bayonet.

To Maj. George Williamson, assistant adjutant-general, who was severely wounded in the shoulder; Maj. Thomas M. Jack, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. Col. T. F. Sevier, inspector-general; Lieut. P. B. Spence, of the same department; Lieut. John Rawle, acting chief of ordnance; Capt. Felix [H.] Robertson, acting chief of artillery; Capt. E. B. Sayers and Lieut. W. J. Morris, of engineers; Lieut. W. N. M. Otey, chief of the signal corps; Dr. [W. C.] Cavanaugh, medical director;

* On file.

Majs. Thomas Peters and R. M. Mason, of the quartermaster's department, and Maj. J. J. Murphy, chief commissary, members of my general staff, I am indebted for their vigilance and activity in the execution of my orders, and the fearlessness with which they exposed themselves in the discharge of their duties.

To my aide-de-camp (Lieut. W. B. Richmond) I am particularly indebted for the intelligence, decision, and energy with which on this, as on other fields, he gave me his support; also to Lieut. Col. Henry C. Yeatman, my volunteer aide, for services of a like character. And our thanks and praise are above all due to Almighty God, the Lord of Hosts, for the success of our arms and the preservation of our lives.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. POLK,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure A.]

Field return showing the aggregate of officers and men belonging to Polk's corps d'armée actually engaged in the battles before Murfreesborough, from December 28, 1862, to January 4, 1863.

Command.	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Remarks.
Cheatham's division*	496	5,863	6,359	Wharton's (commanding cavalry brigade) reported effective total, 2,876, on December 27; weekly return.
Withers' division	537	7,237	7,774	
Total	1,033	13,100	14,133	

L. POLK,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., *March 23, 1863.*

[Inclosure B.]

List of killed, wounded, and missing in Polk's corps in the battles before Murfreesborough, from December 28, 1862, to January 4, 1863.

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Cheatham's division:				
Donelson's brigade	102	570	10	691
Stewart's brigade	50	301	2	353
Maney's brigade	20	164	6	190
Vaughan's brigade	105	562	38	705
Total	277	1,597	65	1,939
Withers' division:				
Deas' brigade	68	600	27	695
Chalmers' brigade	67	445	36	548
Walthall's brigade	130	620	13	763
Anderson's brigade	73	428	16	517
Total	338	2,093	92	2,523
Aggregate	615	3,690	157	4,462

W. B. RICHMOND,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Shelbyville, March 21, 1863.

* But see inclosure to Cheatham's report, p. 709.

Sixteenth Tennessee. The battery accordingly took position on the right of the Nashville road, about three-fourths of a mile in advance of its former position, and near the river. Here we halted about an hour, during which we lost 1 man killed and 2 horses without opening fire. The battery was then ordered to advance, in order the better to return the enemy's fire. We therefore proceeded up the road about 200 yards, when we were met by our forces, making a slight retrograde movement, and the battery was compelled to take its former position, nearly. Here we immediately went into battery and fired a few rounds, by order of General Breckinridge, to assist in steadying our own troops, though not having a very fair shot at the enemy. Late in the evening the battery was ordered to cross over to the Wilkinson road, and finally to its old position near the railroad bridge for the night.

On the next day, the 1st instant, we were ordered to occupy a position in line with four or five other batteries on the high ground to the left of the Nashville road, and about the same distance in front as our position the day before. We here fortified our guns as well as circumstances permitted, but did not return the few shots the enemy gave us in this position.

During the evening Captain Carnes, by order, took our two howitzers over to the bluff, on the right of the railroad and pike, near the river, and opened what we afterward learned to be a very destructive fire upon the enemy, compelling them to retire and change their position. The enemy did not reply with artillery, and our immediate front was cleared of his sharpshooters.

The next day, the 2d instant, our whole battery (also [Capt. T. J.] Stanford's and [M.] Smith's) took position in line on the same bluff. To our left, across the Nashville road, were [W. L.] Scott's and [F. H.] Robertson's batteries. We all opened simultaneously to clear our front of the enemy's sharpshooters, who had reoccupied the woods along our front during the night. The enemy replied by several batteries, two of which were composed of rifled guns. The firing continued about twenty minutes. Our caissons, under command of Lieutenant [James M.] Cockrill, were then ordered up to replenish our ammunition chests. Two similar artillery conflicts took place during the day, our caissons being brought up each time to supply our limbers. The caissons were held under such cover as the ground allowed, about 300 yards in the rear.

During the evening Captain Carnes took our two howitzers to the right of our line of batteries, very near the river, and effectually cleared the woods of the enemy in front of our right. At night the battery was ordered back to the rifle-trench running across the field, 200 or 300 yards in rear of the burnt brick house, and supported by General Maney's brigade.

At daylight on the morning of the 3d instant our battery took the same position by itself on the bluff, instructed not to reply to the enemy's artillery, but to repel any advance of the enemy's infantry or sharpshooters. We immediately opened a brisk fire upon the enemy's skirmishers, who had again occupied the woods in our front. We soon cleared the woods of the enemy, though supported, as usual, by their artillery.

Late in the evening the enemy opened a powerful fire of his artillery upon our position, attracted, probably, by the appearance of a regiment going to relieve our pickets in the woods. We lost at this time 1 man killed and 4 wounded. About 7 p. m. we were ordered to return to our old camp, near town.

Our battery had thus stood at strict attention for seven days, during which the harness had not been taken from the horses. Our men behaved with firmness throughout, and handled their guns with admirable skill and quickness.*

Corpl. Martin Armstrong, missing, heard of at home since, near Tracy City.

We lost 4 horses killed. Three caisson wheels were rendered unserviceable.

We fired in all between 300 and 350 rounds. The battery was engaged once on Wednesday, once on Thursday, four times on Friday, and once on Saturday—in all seven times. We used almost entirely spherical case and canister, and in every case so far successful as to have the effect intended. The fuses operated in accordance with the tables, as we had taught the gunners. We used only the Bormann fuse. As to the adjustable sights, we could make little or no use of them, though we ascertained nothing against their character for very long ranges; but on the occasion under discussion our chiefs of pieces much preferred to watch the effect of their shots, and regulate the elevation accordingly.

L. G. MARSHALL,
Lieutenant, Commanding Capt. W. W. Carnes' Battery.

No. 201.

Report of Brig. Gen. Alexander P. Stewart, C. S. Army, commanding Second Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,
POLK'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
January 13, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the military operations in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., commencing on Monday, December 29, 1862, and closing on Sunday, January 4, 1863:

The brigade was composed of the Fourth and Fifth Tennessee Regiments, amalgamated and commanded by Col. O. F. Strahl; the Twenty-fourth Tennessee Regiment, Col. H. L. W. Bratton; the Thirty-first and Thirty-third Tennessee Regiments, amalgamated and commanded by Col. E. E. Tansil; the Nineteenth Tennessee Regiment, Col. F. M. Walker, and Capt. T. J. Stanford's Mississippi battery. We struck tents, packed up baggage, and sent the wagons to the rear on Sunday night, December 28.

Early Monday morning we crossed Stone's River and formed line of battle on its north bank, being on the left of Donelson and right of Maney, the right of the brigade being some distance on the left of the Wilkinson pike. An open country lay in front of the line, excepting on the left, where Walker's regiment was covered by the open forest. From 800 to 1,000 yards in front of us lay the first line, Major-General Withers' division, our division forming the second and supporting line. Nothing of special interest occurred on Monday.

On Tuesday morning a few shells from the enemy passed over and near us, wounding one man in Bratton's regiment, and late in the evening we were under a heavy artillery fire for some half hour or more, but without injury. In the course of the afternoon of Tuesday an officer came from Colonel Manigault, of the Tenth South Carolina, who com-

*Nominal list shows 2 men killed and 4 wounded.

manded the third brigade from the right in Withers' division. He stated that Colonel Manigault was in need of a section of long-range guns to dislodge guns of the enemy, he having only smooth-bores of short range, and that he had applied to General Maney, whose brigade was the support of Manigault's, who replied that he had none suitable for the purpose. He came to me, therefore, for a section of Stanford's battery. Knowing that Stanford, his officers, and men were always ready to go wherever needed, two pieces were promptly dispatched in charge of Lieutenant [A. A.] Hardin. On their return I was informed they were not properly supported; that they were required to engage, at a distance not exceeding 600 yards, guns that were throwing shell, canister, and spherical case; that they accomplished no useful purpose, but sustained some loss, one or two men being wounded, and Lieut. A. A. Hardin, commanding a section, a most estimable and gallant young officer, being killed.

Tuesday night, or early Wednesday morning, was received a copy of General Bragg's order directing an attack to commence on the left and gradually extend to the Murfreesborough and Nashville pike, the left wing to swing round toward the right on a pivot at the pike. I was also informed both by Lieutenant-General Polk and by a staff officer from Major-General Withers that I was to be directed by the latter, and to obey his orders.

On Wednesday morning, December 31, about 8 o'clock, I was notified to move forward, gradually wheeling to the right and maintaining a distance of a few hundred yards (supporting distance) from Anderson's brigade, Withers' division. After advancing some distance directly to the front across the open field, the brigade was moved to the left by the flank, so as to place the entire line under cover of the forest from the enemy's artillery fire. The ground over which we were then moving being wet and heavy, Captain Stanford was directed to take the Wilkinson (or Wilkerson) pike. I did not see anything more of him or his battery for a day or two, they having doubtless been employed elsewhere by the orders of some one of my superiors.

The line of infantry advanced through the woods, gradually wheeling to the right, and occasionally halting to readjust the line, and maintaining its supporting distance from Anderson, General Withers himself being often with us, and the movements of the brigade corresponding to his wishes. At one point he sent word that Anderson's two left regiments would be thrown forward, perhaps, to attack the battery that continued to play upon our advancing lines, and desired me to throw forward two regiments in a corresponding manner. Fearing this would scatter the brigade and produce confusion, it was suggested to him that the entire brigade had better be advanced, to which he assented. We shortly arrived at the stone wall built by Anderson's men, where they were placed in line on Sunday, the 28th. Several men were wounded here by the fire of the battery in front. While in this position the Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Regiments Mississippi Volunteers (belonging, as was supposed, to Anderson's brigade) fell back in disorder, leaving a large number of dead and wounded in the open ground beyond the Wilkinson pike, over which they had charged. They were rallied in our rear chiefly by Major [L. W.] Finlay, of my staff, and again sent forward. The Twenty-ninth ultimately formed on my left, where it remained until the close of the battle, when it moved away to join its brigade. The brigade moved on from this position to the pike, where it was faced by the left flank and marched a short distance down the road, to bring its right under cover of the woods, when it moved

again to the front. It crossed the open ground intervening between the pike and the cedar forest beyond, and advanced to the relief of the front line, which was giving way, and, by a rapid fire, commencing with Walker's regiment (the Nineteenth) on the left and gradually extending to the right, repulsed the enemy, who fled in confusion to the dense cedar woods, leaving many dead and wounded behind. Near the edge of the woods we came upon the battery (First Missouri) that had previously annoyed us so much, and which the enemy were now attempting to remove. Our advance was so rapid and fire so destructive that they were compelled to abandon two pieces and one or two caissons. We left them behind, and, pressing rapidly forward, drove the enemy before us. They attempted to make a stand at several points, but, unable to endure our fire, were driven through the forest and across the open field beyond to the high ground in the vicinity of the railroad. Here they took shelter under the guns of three or four batteries, leaving a number of prisoners in our hands and many dead and wounded scattered through the woods and covering the open field over which they fled in double-quick time. These batteries opened upon us, and for some time we were exposed to a terrific fire of shell, canister, and spherical case. Having no battery of our own, and being nearly out of ammunition, it was impossible to proceed farther. Staff officers were dispatched—one to bring up Stanford's battery, another for ammunition. The latter was soon supplied, but word came from Lieutenant-General Polk that Stanford was employed under his own immediate orders, and could not be spared. While moving through the cedar forest the command of Brigadier-General Jackson came up on the right. The Fifth Georgia, immediately on the right, with the Fourth and Fifth Tennessee, advanced beyond the general line and delivered a heavy and well-sustained fire upon the retreating ranks of the enemy, doing fine execution.

About this time Colonel [J. A.] Jaquess, of the First Louisiana (Regulars), rode rapidly up to Colonel [E. E.] Tansil and delivered some order, which I did not hear. Immediately Tansil's regiment began to fall back without waiting for a command, and was gradually followed by the rest of the brigade, and I learned from Tansil that Jaquess brought to him an order purporting to come from Major-General Cheatham to "move by the right of companies to the rear." The order not having been delivered to me, not recognizing Colonel Jaquess as a member of General Cheatham's staff, and satisfied that the movement was demoralizing in a high degree, it was arrested as promptly as possible. The line was halted and reformed, and moved forward again to the edge of the woods, where we remained until dark, when, leaving a strong picket guard, the command was withdrawn a few hundred yards to the rear, to bivouac, taking along a large number of small-arms, ammunition, and equipments, which were removed next day by wagons brought out for the purpose.

Late in the afternoon, Lieut. Col. W. B. Ross, formerly of Col. [J.] Knox Walker's (Second) Tennessee regiment, was wounded by a minie bullet in the right side of the neck and throat. He was removed to the hospital, and subsequently to a private residence in Murfreesborough, where he died on Friday, January 2. He was serving as a volunteer on my staff. He was with his regiment at the battle of Belmont in November, 1861; resigned in January, 1862, and joined me as a volunteer aide at Corinth a few days before the battle of Shiloh, where he behaved well, and was very useful. He was a brave man and a good officer.

While attempting to stop the retrograde movement alluded to, Col. H. L. W. Bratton, of the Twenty-fourth Regiment, had his left leg shat-

tered near the thigh joint by a piece of shell or a grape-shot. The limb was amputated, and he was left in hospital in Murfreesborough, with little hope on the part of the surgeons of his recovery. He was one of the best and bravest officers in the entire army. Always prompt to obey or execute an order, indefatigable in drilling and disciplining his men, he was animated by a lofty courage and patriotism that bid defiance to danger. He distinguished himself by his cool and courageous bearing both at Perryville and Murfreesborough, and was indeed a "knight without fear and without reproach."

The force we engaged in this famous cedar brake was composed, at least in part, of regulars. Some of the prisoners and wounded men stated that they belonged to the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Regulars, and that their brigade was commanded by Colonel [George W.] Roberts, who fell while gallantly attempting to rally his men about opposite the center of my line. He was buried Saturday evening, and the spot marked by a stone having his name scratched upon it with the point of a bayonet.

During the three following days (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) we held our position at the edge of the brake, the enemy occupying the ridge, but a few hundred yards in front, with a heavy force of infantry and artillery, frequently shelling us, and wounding a few men at almost every round. The command remained in line, enduring this trying ordeal with admirable patience and fortitude. At length, on Saturday night, our pickets were relieved by Colonel Carter's cavalry, and about 1 or 2 a. m. on Sunday, the 4th, we left the field for Shelbyville.

Throughout the week officers and men behaved in a manner that is beyond praise.

I desire especially to mention Col. O. F. Strahl, commanding Fourth and Fifth Regiments; Col. H. L. W. Bratton, of the Twenty-fourth; Col. E. E. Tansil, commanding the Thirty-first and Thirty-third, and Col. F. M. Walker, of the Nineteenth, who, with all their field officers, behaved most nobly.

The Nineteenth (Colonel Walker's) suffered more heavily than any other in the brigade. Colonel Walker, in his report, mentions the brave conduct of Orderly Sergt. Joseph Thompson, Company I, who, after the brigade had halted at the edge of the cedar bottom, advanced far into the field and captured 2 prisoners. Our loss was heavy—over one-fourth of those engaged. The list* of killed and wounded has already been sent in.

Besides those already mentioned, Lieutenant-Colonel [J. A.] Wilson and Adjt. H. W. Mott,† of the Twenty-fourth, were wounded, as were also Major [R. A.] Jarnigan, of the Nineteenth, and Captain [T. H.] Francis, of the Fourth. Several valuable officers were killed. Lieutenant-Colonel [Andrew J.] Kellar, of the Fourth, was really too ill for duty; nevertheless, he was at his post.

Many of the enemy's dead, and some of our own, were left on the field unburied. We procured a few spades on Saturday evening, and buried as many bodies as was possible under the circumstances. I would respectfully submit that at least all our own dead might have been buried during the three days we held the field. Attention is also respectfully called to the plundering and stripping of the dead, even our own, and to the propriety of a general order prohibiting it.

I cannot close this imperfect sketch without expressing my obligations to the gentlemen who served on my staff, and who made themselves so

* See No. 191, p. 676. † Register has W. H. Mott killed at Murfreesborough.

intelligently useful and efficient, regardless of danger, viz: Col. [Capt.] W. M. Reed, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. R. A. Hatcher, aide-de-camp; Capt. John A. Lauderdale, formerly of the Fifth, a volunteer aide; Maj. L. W. Finlay, of the Fourth, and Lieut. Paul Jones, jr., of the Thirty-third, supernumeraries by the amalgamation of their regiments with others, but who preferred to be in the field. These officers, and Private Frank C. Usher, of the First Tennessee, acting as orderly, were active and efficient, and contributed not a little to the ease and facility with which I was enabled to handle the brigade.

Having received no report from Captain Stanford, and his battery having been detached from the brigade before it really went into action, it is not in my power to give an account of its services, which I learn, however, were, as usual, valuable.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. STEWART,
Brigadier-General.

Capt. JOHN INGRAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 202.

Report of Col. Oscar F. Strahl, Fourth Tennessee Infantry, commanding Fourth and Fifth Regiments.

JANUARY 5, 1863.

SIR: On the morning of December 29, 1862, I took command of the Fourth and Fifth Regiments Tennessee Volunteers, and was immediately ordered out to take position in line of battle. The position we occupied was on the west bank of Stone's River and immediately on the left of General Donelson's brigade, the right of which brigade rested on the Chattanooga and Nashville Railroad. We remained in this position until about 9 o'clock in the morning of the 31st, when we were ordered to advance in such a manner as to change direction gradually to the right, keeping dressed to the left. We advanced in this manner until we came to where General Withers' men had thrown up small breastworks. At this point we were halted for a short time, and had several men wounded by grape and canister from the enemy's guns. While remaining here, a regiment from General Withers' division fell back and formed immediately in my rear. We then advanced, first through a cedar thicket and then through an open field for some 400 or 500 yards, where we entered a cedar glade. All this time we were gradually changing direction to the right. In a few minutes after passing into the cedar glade we were engaged by the enemy, but drove them before us, taking quite a number of prisoners. We continued to press the enemy, fighting as we advanced, until we had driven them entirely out of the glade. The slaughter of the enemy was very great just at the edge of the glade, as they were slow to leave the timber and our men were close upon them, and every shot did its work. Then the enemy opened a very heavy fire upon us from a battery within a few hundred yards of our lines. We soon silenced it, however, by sending out some sharpshooters, who so disabled it that the battery retired, leaving one gun and caisson behind. This was on Wednesday evening, the 31st. We remained in the position we now occupied until Saturday night, all the time exposed to the enemy's guns.

range late in the evening, being beyond my range. I withdrew my battery from its position, and ascertained orders had already been sent for me to retire, which I had not received.

Respectfully submitted.

W. L. SCOTT,
Captain, Commanding Light Battery.

Brig. Gen. PRESTON SMITH,
Comdg. Fourth Brigade, Cheatham's Division, Polk's Corps.

No. 218.

Report of Lieut. W. M. Polk, Scott's Tennessee battery.

JANUARY 20, 1863.

In accordance with orders received, I make the following report of the part taken by Scott's battery in the battle of Stone's River, and of the effect and efficiency of the different kinds of projectiles used:

The battery crossed Stone's River Monday morning and took a position on the river, near the Triune road and in rear of our brigade. We remained with the brigade until Wednesday morning, not having done any firing up to that time. We were separated from the brigade on that morning, Captain Scott being ordered to hold the battery in reserve on the Triune road.

The battery remained on the Triune road until Thursday morning, when we received an order to take position at the breastworks between the Wilkinson and Nashville pikes, where we remained until Friday morning, not having fired a shot up to that time. The battery was then ordered to take a position about 400 or 500 yards in front of the breastworks between the railroad and Nashville pike, Captains Stanford's and Carnes' and Lieutenant Turner's batteries being on our right beyond the railroad, and Captain Robertson's battery being on our left beyond the pike. After being in that position about fifteen minutes, the enemy's infantry commenced an advance, when we opened on them with spherical case and shell at three seconds time. The enemy, after a little, fell back, upon which we increased our range and time, and continued the firing until they were beyond our range. Two of the enemy's batteries were advancing with their line of infantry, both of which returned our fire, but both ceased firing when their line of infantry retired. One of the batteries fell back with the line, the other remained in its position, having, as we afterward learned from our skirmishers, one of its pieces disabled. It, however, fell back after we ceased firing. As soon as the enemy's line commenced falling back, they opened fire on us with two rifle batteries, which were beyond our range. Having received an order to cease firing, we did so, and fell back about 50 yards, under cover of a little rise in the ground. The batteries of the enemy ceased firing soon after we did. In this engagement we lost 1 man killed. About 2 o'clock we shelled the enemy's skirmishers out of a skirt of timber about 250 yards in our front, from which they had driven our skirmishers. Their batteries replied, but did us no harm. That evening we fired a few spherical case at the enemy's line, all of which burst short, they being beyond our range. We then retired to the breastworks for the night.

The next morning we took the position we had occupied the day previous, and shelled the enemy's skirmishers out of the skirt of woods I mentioned before. The enemy's batteries did not reply. From that time until late that evening we occupied the position quietly.

About 4 o'clock Saturday evening the enemy opened a well-directed fire upon us with three batteries, all of which were beyond our range. The battery fell back inside of our intrenchments, and Captain Scott reported to General Cheatham, when he ordered him to bring the battery to his headquarters, where we remained until 2 o'clock that night, when Captain Scott was ordered to cross the river and join the rest of the division, which was on its way to this point.

During the various engagements of the battery we used the pendulum hausses with tolerable satisfaction. The most of our shrapnel and shell did very well. Our friction-primers also did very well. My experience in regard to the table of ranges used by us, which is the one found in the instruction for field artillery, is that it does not answer as well as it should, from the fact that the powder for which it was prepared is so much superior to ours.

During the various engagements of the battery we had 1 man killed, 1 slightly wounded, and 1 man's leg broken by being run over by one of the guns. No horses were lost and the carriages were not damaged. We fired between 200 and 250 rounds, principally spherical case. Killed, Sergt. A. L. Townsend; wounded, W. McRea; missing, none.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. POLK,
First Lieutenant, Commanding Scott's Battery.

Maj. M. SMITH.

No. 219.

Report of Maj. Gen. Jones M. Withers, C. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

HDQRS. WITHERS' DIV., POLK'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENN.,
Shelbyville, Tenn., May 20, 1863.

MAJOR: This division took position in line of battle in front of Murfreesborough and Stone's River on the morning of December 28, 1862, as directed in "Memoranda for general and staff officers," issued from headquarters of the army. The brigade of Brig. Gen. James R. Chalmers was placed, with its right resting on Stone's River and extending in a direction west of south, nearly across the open field toward the Wilkinson pike; Walthal's brigade, in command of Brig. Gen. [J.] Patton Anderson (by whose name it will be designated in this report), was placed next; and Anderson's brigade, under Col. A. M. Manigault, of the Tenth South Carolina Regiment, was placed next, and on the left of the line then formed. That night Deas' brigade, under Col. J. Q. Loomis, of the Twenty-fifth Alabama Regiment, arrived from outpost and was placed on Manigault's left, extending the line to the Franklin or Triune road. This was the front center division of the line of battle, the division of Major-General Breckinridge being on the right, its left flank resting on the east bank of the river and to the rear of Chalmers' right, and the division of Major-General McCown being on the west side of the Franklin road, with its right some distance in advance of Loomis' left. The general direction of the line from right to left of the division, the initial point being on the river, was west of south, crossing the Nashville rail and pike roads about 1,000 yards from their crossing of the river and near their intersection; thence across the Wilkinson pike,

and thence to the Franklin road, on which was placed Robertson's battery. The open fields extending along their fronts and the character of the ground rendered it proper to throw Anderson's left to the front of the general direction, Manigault's left to be retired, and again Loomis' left to be advanced, the greatest angle being formed by Anderson and Manigault, and which would require that Manigault's left should describe an arc of near 60° to bring his front on a line with that of Anderson's.

On the evening of the 29th, skirmishing commenced between Chalmers' admirable battalion of sharpshooters and the enemy, which gradually extended to Anderson's right. About the same time there was a dash made by a portion of the enemy's cavalry on Manigault's skirmishers, which was creditably punished by Companies A and C, of the Tenth South Carolina Regiment. The supporting division, under Major-General Cheatham, now occupied its position from 500 to 800 yards in rear, and near the crest of the river ridge. The character of the country rendering it impossible for the division commanders to give that immediate, personal supervision which would insure the supports being thrown forward when necessary and with the least delay, it was agreed that Major-General Cheatham should take position on the left and the immediate control of the brigades of Manigault and Loomis, giving to me the direction of his two right brigades, Donelson and Stewart.

Early on the morning of the 30th, firing commenced between the skirmishers on the right, and gradually extended throughout the line to the Franklin road. The artillery of the enemy also opened, and the firing was kept up with more or less rapidity through the day. The cannonading was mostly directed against Chalmers' brigade and Anderson's right, which occupied the exposed position across the field from the Wilkinson pike to the river. About 2.30 p. m. the enemy made a dash to capture Robertson's battery, on our extreme left, which was handsomely repulsed and severely punished by a well-directed and rapid fire from the battery and from the Twenty-sixth and Thirty-ninth Alabama Regiments. The attempt, with less vigor, was repeated late in the evening with similar result, the Twenty-fifth Alabama having been thrown forward to the support of the other two regiments. The enemy's line of battle was now established in our front. His left rested on the river bluff, some 1,000 yards from Chalmers' right, in a skirt of woods; thence through the Round Forest, or Mississippian's "half acre"; thence through the south end of the cedar brake, and along the ridges and woodland to the cedar pedregal on the Franklin road, and about 300 yards from Loomis' front. From this point his line seemed to be retired, making quite an obtuse angle with that running back to the river.

The commanding general's order, directing an assault to be made by our left on the right of the enemy the next morning as early as it was "light enough to see," was received at 9 o'clock at night. Chalmers' brigade was to remain stationary, and constitute the pivot on which the movement was to be made; my left to "swing around and correspond with the movement of General McCown's division," on my left.

Early on the morning of the 31st, skirmishing commenced on the extreme left, and was followed by artillery, and then the full volleys of the line, announcing that the stern work of the day had commenced.

About 7 o'clock Loomis' brigade moved forward, and was immediately and hotly engaged. Steadily advancing, it drove back the first line of the enemy, but having no commanding officer (Colonel Loomis subsequently reporting himself as having been disabled), and the enemy being re-enforced by the second line, the brigade was driven back in some

confusion. The reserve, being promptly ordered forward by Major-General Cheatham, made a gallant charge, but was also repulsed. Colonel Coltart, of the Twenty-sixth Alabama Regiment, having assumed command of Loomis' brigade, with the assistance of Captains [D. E.] Huger, [J. R. B.] Burtwell, and [E. B. D.] Riley, of my staff, ordered to the left for the purpose, quickly rallied and reformed the line. The two brigades, under Colonels Vaughan and Coltart, being now formed in line, were moved forward under the immediate direction of Major-General Cheatham, and, after a desperate conflict, dislodged the enemy from their strong position, and drove them for more than a mile and beyond the Wilkinson pike. Moving forward to the cedar brake, between the Wilkinson and Nashville pikes, and finding other troops pressing after the enemy in his front, Colonel Coltart, by direction of General Cheatham, moved his command to the right, and, coming into the front line on the east edge and extreme right of the cedar brake, had a sharp engagement with the enemy, occupying a ridge across a narrow cotton-field, and strongly supported by artillery. Manigault's brigade moved promptly at the proper moment, and his left swinging round, drove the enemy from the wooded ridge back on his second line. In the wheel through the open field, and before his command had completed the angle necessary to bring it on a line with Anderson's, a heavy fire from two batteries and a column of infantry was opened on him from his right, which, enfilading his line, checked and finally forced him back to his former position. Col. A. J. Lythgoe, of the Nineteenth South Carolina Regiment, was killed in this charge while gallantly leading his command. He dies well who dies nobly. Manigault, quickly rallying his command, again moved forward, successfully driving the enemy, and with every prospect of being able to hold his position, when the repulse of the troops on his left, leaving both flanks exposed, rendered it necessary for him again to fall back. The position of the forces and character of the ground and movement, however, rendered it impossible altogether to avoid a cross or enfilading fire. The repulse at any point only increased the liability. The supporting brigade, under Brigadier-General Maney, was now moved forward, and, taking position on Manigault's left, both brigades moved forward, meeting comparatively with but little opposition. As Manigault swung round to a line with Anderson, this brigade was put in motion, and soon Manigault's right was engaged in an attack on a battery, with strong supports of infantry. The assault seemed successful, but before the capture was made, a brigade of the enemy moved up from below the hill, forcing back the regiments engaged, but was in turn driven back by Anderson's left, which was sweeping round. This concluded the engagements of Manigault for the day. His command had been subjected to a most trying ordeal, and had suffered heavily. The calm determination and persistent energy and gallantry which rendered Colonel Manigault proof against discouragements had a marked influence on and was admirably responded to by his command.

Anderson's left, being now moved forward immediately after the right of Manigault, was quickly engaged with the strong force in front. No brigade occupied a more critical position, nor were the movements of any invested with more important consequences. Opposite there were three batteries strongly supported by infantry. The capture of the batteries and rout of the supports was a necessity. Anderson was, therefore, directed to take the batteries at every cost. Stewart's brigade had been moved up into the woods within close supporting distance. In rapid succession Anderson threw forward his regiments from left to right, and

terrific was the fire to which they were subjected. Time and again checked, and almost recoiling before the tremendous fire, the regiments were as often rallied by their gallant and determined officers, and the brigade advanced by its cool, steadfast, and skillful commander. His right temporarily falling back in some confusion, caused by the fall of the gallant commanders of the two right regiments (Lieut. Col. James L. Autry, commanding Twenty-seventh Mississippi, killed, and Col. W. F. Brantly, of the Twenty-ninth Mississippi, stricken down by the concussion from a shell exploding near him), Brigadier-General Stewart was ordered forward to the support. In splendid order, and with a cheer, this fine brigade moved forward under its gallant and accomplished commander. Anderson's right, quickly rallying and pressing forward vigorously, attacked and drove back the enemy. This completed the rout of his first line and the capture of the batteries. Our loss, however, was very heavy, the Thirtieth Mississippi alone having within the limits of an acre 62 officers and men killed and 139 wounded.

Stewart, having moved his brigade to the left down the Wilkinson pike, now pressed forward on Anderson's left and hotly engaged the enemy. The determined advance and steady fire of our forces was more than the enemy could withstand. The entire force gave way, and in wild confusion rushed through the cedar brake in rear, being pursued to the northeast edge of the brake, and subjected to an irregular but quite effective fire. Within the northeast edge of this cedar brake, nearly parallel with the Nashville pike road and at right angles to the original line of battle, our troops were halted. They required rest and ammunition.

At 11 a. m. Brigadier-General Chalmers received an order direct from the lieutenant-general commanding to move forward and attack the enemy posted in his front. Quickly advancing to the Cowan, or burnt, house, he was there met by a destructive fire, and soon after, while actively engaged in the discharge of his duties, was stricken down by a fragment of a shell and borne senseless from the field. The quick perception, prompt decision, and fearless energy of this gallant officer being lost to his command, and his staff failing to report promptly to the officer next in rank, this veteran brigade became disorganized, the regiments attaching themselves to and serving with other commands until night, when they were brought together and placed in their original position under Colonel [T. W.] White, of the Ninth Mississippi Regiment. The brigade of Chalmers being driven back, the support under Brigadier-General Donelson was ordered to the attack by the lieutenant-general commanding, and moving rapidly forward was warmly engaged, but was repulsed, and, gradually swinging to the left, passed into the cedar brake.

On the morning of January 1, Anderson's brigade was moved to the position originally occupied by Donelson, and in rear of Chalmers. At daylight on the morning of January 1, Chalmers' sharpshooters were ordered forward, to ascertain the position of the enemy. Moving forward, and into the Round Forest, they drove out the skirmishers of the enemy, whose forces had been withdrawn during the night, and could then be seen in a northeast direction. Quiet prevailed until late in the evening, when the enemy sent forward a force and retook the Round Forest, driving back our skirmishers into the skirt of woods above and on the river.

Before daylight on the morning of the 2d, the batteries of Stanford, Carnes, and Smith had been moved up and placed in the north and outer edge of this river skirt of woods by Capt. J. R. B. Burtwell, division chief of artillery, and Scott's battery advanced up the Nashville pike to a line within but some 300 yards south of the others. In support,

Chalmers' brigade, under Colonel White, had been moved up and occupied the crest of the ridge in rear, and the skirmishers thrown forward extended to the railroad on the left.

At dawn the skirmishers advanced and drove out the enemy from the Round Forest, but in turn were forced to retreat before superior numbers. The enemy advancing, opened fire on the artillery, which, promptly responding, soon shelled them into a precipitate retreat, when, with an increased force, we again occupied the Round Forest. Anderson's brigade had been advanced to and now occupied the former position of Chalmers. The brigades of Manigault and Coltart occupied the southern extremity of the cedar brake, and the right of the column facing the Nashville pike.

Shortly after 3 p. m. the batteries on the hill, as previously instructed, opened a brisk fire on the enemy, whose line extended toward the river and beyond, or into the extreme edge of a skirt of woods, the nearest point of which was some 300 yards from that in which our batteries were. The firing was continued as long as it could be with safety to the column of General Breckinridge, advancing on the east side of the river. The left of this column passing across the river into the woods, in or behind which rested the left of the enemy's force, was immediately attacked by it and driven up the river toward the position of Chalmers' brigade. Colonel [T. W.] White immediately threw out supports, with instructions to drive back the enemy. This was followed by a general advance of the enemy along his entire front, and his being driven out of the Round Forest back into the woods on the river. Night closing in, the fighting ceased for the day.

Late in the evening, Anderson's brigade, under orders from the commanding general, was moved rapidly across the river to the support of General Breckinridge, and did not rejoin the division until the morning of the 4th. That night Manigault was moved to the position vacated by Anderson, and Coltart was moved up to White's support, and their commands placed in proper positions for operations the next morning.

At daybreak on the morning of the 3d, the artillery shelled the Round Forest, which was immediately thereafter charged into by the infantry, and the enemy driven out with considerable loss. Brisk skirmishing was kept up through the day, chiefly with Coltart's command, which occupied the Round Forest.

Late in the evening, after subjecting the Round Forest and woods to a terrific cannonading, the enemy advanced in force, and, engaging our troops, succeeded in breaking a part of our line, when the timely arrival of the reserves enabled the line again to advance, and, after a very sharp and well-contested engagement, to repulse the enemy. Lieutenant-Colonel Farrar, of the First Louisiana (Regulars), was mortally wounded in the engagement. He was a bold and gallant officer, and had arrived on the field only in time to assume command of his regiment in this last engagement. Their infantry being driven back, the enemy renewed the cannonading, continuing it some time after dark. Colonels White and Coltart proved themselves deserving of commendation by the admirable conduct of their commands throughout the harassing period of their occupancy of this important and almost isolated position.

The troops were withdrawn on the morning of the 4th without contest or pursuit. For seven days they had cheerfully endured fatigue, exposure, and hardships sufficient to cause despondency in any breast not actuated by the same steadfast determination to dare all and suffer all in defense of the right. In temporary repulses and the most trying

positions, the total absence of everything like panic, and the cool self-possession and alacrity with which they rallied, reformed, and moved forward against the enemy, was as truly remarkable as it was most honorable.

The timely preparations made under direction of Surgeon [Carlisle] Terry for the care of the wounded seem to have been as judicious and ample as was practicable, and the infirmary corps for the division discharged its duties fearlessly and well.

To Capts. D. E. Huger, assistant adjutant-general; J. R. B. Burtwell, chief of artillery, and E. B. D. Riley, chief of ordnance, I am indebted for valuable and indispensable services. In extending orders, seeing to their execution, and in rallying and cheering on the troops, they were energetic and untiring, displaying gallantry and capacity. Maj. B. M. Thomas, adjutant and inspector general, reported on the field from sick leave on the morning of the 2d, and immediately entered on the discharge of his duties with intelligence and efficiency. Lieut. R. W. Withers, aide-de-camp, Asst. Surg. J. Paul Jones, and Lieut. Charles L. Huger, First Louisiana (Regulars), were, through the entire engagement, actively, zealously, and most creditably engaged in the discharge of the various duties assigned them. Maj. W. H. Ross, acting commissary of subsistence, and Maj. R. Q. Pinckney, quartermaster, did good service in their respective departments. Captain [T. M.] Lenoir and Lieutenant [H. R.] Gordon, commanding escort, gave valuable assistance in the collecting and sending off captured property, in driving forward stragglers from and laggards in the fight, and in staff duties, which they were several times called upon to perform. Private M. G. Hudson, of the Twenty-fourth Alabama Regiment, long engaged in the assistant adjutant-general's office, and well and favorably known within the command, rendered services on the field evidencing his fitness and capacity for a more responsible position.

The total strength of the division was 7,774; the total loss by casualties, 2,519. Brigade and regimental reports and detailed statement of casualties have heretofore been forwarded.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

J. M. WITHERS,
Major-General.

Maj. THOMAS M. JACK,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Polk's Corps, Army of Tennessee.

No. 220.

Reports of Capt. Felix H. Robertson, Florida battery, Deas' brigade.*

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., *January* 12, 1863.

SIR: By direction of Lieutenant-General Polk, I reported to General Breckinridge on Friday evening, January 2, with Robertson's battery of six Napoleon guns, and Semple's battery of four Napoleon guns; in all, ten guns. My command was formed in rear of the line of the infantry, and finally behind the artillery of the division which was immediately behind the second line. Leaving my caissons, I advanced to the edge of the opening through which the infantry had charged. The highest point of the hill to the left was selected to be the site of Robertson's battery; Semple's was to take the right. So soon as the ground

* Roberteon's battery claimed both by Alabama and Florida. Finally credited to Florida.

was cleared upon which Semple's battery was to stand, it was at once pushed to its place. The infantry not being able to clear the crest of the hill, and the fire being very heavy on our right, I decided to alter the plan and send my battery to the right, but our line being cramped by unfavorable ground to the right, I only ordered a section up to fill a gap in our line of artillery. By the repulse becoming general, I determined to stop the remainder of my own battery in the field to check the enemy's advance. The artillery of my command was brought off with the loss of one piece of Semple's battery. This only occurred after the infantry supports had given way entirely.

The fighting of this battery (Semple's) was entirely creditable. The confusion was such that it was not to be wondered at that three pieces were left on the field, but that more were not lost. The artillery as it entered the woods was placed, and by a rapid fire checked the enemy's advance. The batteries under my command were subjected to a hot infantry fire and the worst cross-fire I ever saw.

The loss of the two batteries I cannot know, as I have not seen Lieutenant [E. J.] Fitzpatrick, commanding two sections of Semple's battery. My own lost 6 horses and 6 men.

After dark the guns fell back, and Major [R. E.] Graves having been severely wounded, I, at the request of General Breckinridge, placed the artillery upon the new line.

But for the artillery fire the enemy would surely have carried the position entirely, as our infantry was scattered.

The men of the artillery generally behaved spendidly, but individual exceptions were many to this rule, and I found it necessary to draw my revolver in order to make the drivers halt long enough to fix the piece to be limbered up and brought off.

Very respectfully,

FELIX H. ROBERTSON,
Captain, &c.
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, BRECKINRIDGE'S DIV.

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., *February* 18, 1863.

CAPTAIN: On the morning of January 2, I was ordered to accompany Colonel Brent, assistant adjutant-general, and endeavor to find a position from which the enemy's line might be enfiladed with artillery. Such a position having been found, a report of the fact was made to the general at once. The enemy's skirmishers being in possession of the point selected, it was determined to attack and carry it. I received orders from General Bragg to take Robertson's battery (six Napoleons), two sections Semple's battery (four Napoleons), two rifles and two 12-pounder howitzers belonging to Breckinridge's division, and to occupy and hold to the utmost extremity the desired position after the enemy had been dislodged by the infantry. The necessary preparations for the artillery were made at once. The batteries arrived on the ground and were soon in position.

Having to await the arrival of a still absent brigade, I took an opportunity to consult General Breckinridge. I found his ideas of the attack and my own differed materially. He supposed it was to be made by a combination of both arms, while I was positive the general's orders were that infantry alone should take the hill. General Breckinridge then desired me to form my batteries in the space between his two lines of infantry and advance. This I declined to do, stating as a reason the danger both of confusion and loss from such an arrangement. He then

tions to this general rule arose from a faulty manner of driving the paper well into the wood. The Bormann fuses worked to my satisfaction. There were no sights used with my guns; the effects of each shot served to determine the direction of the next. My aim always low, the effect of my shots good. I had an opportunity to examine some practice made at our cavalry by mistake, and again on the evening of December 30, during a little affair with the enemy; everything was satisfactory. I have no means of determining accurately the number of rounds fired from my battery, as my boxes were frequently replenished, though I think I would be within bounds in saying 70 rounds to the gun.

My loss in *matériel* was 1 caisson; the number of horses killed and disabled, 15. My loss in men was severe; 34 men in my company bear the marks of the enemy's missiles upon their persons. Of this number, however, 17 only were unfitted for duty; the remainder continued at their posts. One of the 17 is missing, and supposed dead; seen to fall while advancing to position on the evening of January 2. None killed on the field, though 5 are thought to be mortally wounded.

Very respectfully,

FELIX H. ROBERTSON,
Captain, Commanding Battery.

Capt. J. R. [B.] BURTWELL,
Chief of Artillery, Withers' Division.

No. 221.

Report of Brig. Gen. J. Patton Anderson, C. S. Army, commanding Walthall's brigade.

HDQRS. WALTHALL'S BRIGADE, WITHERS' DIVISION,
POLK'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Shelbyville, Tenn., January 26, 1863.

MAJOR: On the evening of December 27, I received an order from corps headquarters to turn over the command of the brigade recently assigned to me to Colonel Manigault, my next in rank, and to assume command of Walthall's brigade, that officer being absent on sick leave. The several brigades of Withers' division had been previously ordered to have three days' cooked rations in their haversacks, and to hold themselves in readiness for action at a moment's notice.

About midnight of the 27th and 28th, orders were received to move out at an early hour on the morning of the 28th, so as to have a line of battle formed by 9 a. m. At daylight, however, corps, division, and brigade commanders were to assemble at a point designated on the Nashville pike, for the purpose of reconnoitering the ground on which the line was to be formed. On assembling at the rendezvous, the fog proved to be so thick as to prevent, in a great measure, a thoroughly satisfactory reconnaissance. The line, however, was determined upon, and the major-general commanding the division designated the positions of the several brigades. They were immediately marched out from their encampments, and drawn up in line of battle at right angles with the Nashville pike, and about 1,000 yards in front of the point where the pike crosses Stone's River, Brigadier-General Chalmers' right resting upon the pike very near the point where the railroad intersects it, and his left reaching up a slope in an open field, and resting about the crest

of the hill, with an interval on the top of the hill of about 80 yards between General Chalmers' left and my right. My line was a prolongation of his, stretching some 300 yards into a dense cedar forest. Colonel Manigault was on my left; his line was deflected to the rear at an angle of about 45°. My command was posted from right to left as follows: Barret's battery (four guns) on the crest of the hill, in open field; the Twenty-seventh Mississippi, Col. T. M. Jones commanding; Twenty-ninth Mississippi, Colonel [W. F.] Brantly; Thirtieth Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Junius I. Scales; Twenty-fourth Mississippi, Lieutenant-Colonel [R. P.] McKelvaine, and the Forty-fifth Alabama, Col. James [G.] Gilchrist. The troops remained under arms during the afternoon and night of the 28th.

On the 29th, rifle-pits were constructed along the line of the Twenty-seventh Mississippi, which was in the open field. Captain [Overton W.] Barret also threw up slight earthworks to protect his cannoneers and horses against the enemy's sharpshooters. The other regiments, all of which were in the cedar forest, erected temporary breastworks of stone, great quantities of which covered the ground about them. A line of skirmishers had already been thrown out from 200 to 300 yards in front, connecting on the right with those of General Chalmers, and on the left with Colonel Manigault's. Some skirmishing took place during the day, and a few casualties were the result.

On the 30th, the skirmishers were more hotly engaged, killed and wounded on this day amounting to 35. At 9 p. m. the order for attack the next morning was received. Regimental commanders were immediately assembled, and the order communicated to them.

On the morning of the 31st, soon after daylight, a few shots on our extreme left, quickly followed by the thick roll of musketry and then by booming artillery, announced that the action had commenced. In pursuing the instructions contained in the order, it was necessary that the extreme left of our line should advance some distance, swinging around upon the right, before my command should move beyond the breastworks. The direction of Colonel Manigault's line on my left, as heretofore explained, made it necessary for his left to describe an arc equal to the eighth of a circle, the length of his line being the radius, before reaching the point where it would be on a prolongation of my line. The enemy's right was being steadily driven back.

About 9 a. m. Colonel Manigault came to me and informed me that he intended to charge a battery in his front; wished me to send two regiments to his support. I consented to do so, and immediately ordered the Forty-fifth Alabama and Twenty-fourth Mississippi forward to perform that duty. They became hotly engaged soon after leaving their breastworks, the enemy being in heavy force and strongly posted, backed by many pieces of artillery, so planted as to enfilade a portion of our line. In addition to this enfilading fire, Colonel Manigault was exposed to a cross-fire from a battery in front of his left. In the unequal contest our line halted, staggered, and fell back in some confusion, but were easily rallied, reformed, and moved to the front. The Thirtieth, Twenty-ninth, and Twenty-seventh Mississippi were now successively ordered forward, with instructions to swing round upon and preserve the touch of elbow to the right. Captain Barret, commanding the battery, was directed to hold his fire, not to respond to the long-range guns of the enemy, and only to use his pieces when a favorable opportunity of playing upon the masses or lines of the enemy was presented. Immediately in front and in short range of these regiments the enemy had two batteries advantageously posted, so as to sweep an open field

over which they had to pass in their advance. The ordeal to which they were subjected was a severe one, but the task was undertaken with that spirit and courage which always deserves success and seldom fails of achieving it. As often as their ranks were shattered and broken by grape and canister did they rally, reform, and renew the attack under the leadership of their gallant officers. They were ordered to take the batteries at all hazards, and they obeyed the order, not, however, without heavy loss of officers and men.

Not far from where the batteries were playing, and while cheering and encouraging his men forward, Lieut. Col. James L. Autry, commanding the Twenty-seventh Mississippi, fell, pierced through the head by a minie ball. (The evening before, the colonel of the regiment, Thomas M. Jones, had gone to the rear, complaining of being unwell, and had not returned during the action.)

The death of this gallant officer at a critical period caused some confusion in the regiment until they were rallied and reformed by Capt. E. R. Neilson, the senior officer present, who subsequently was seriously wounded on another part of the field.

About the same time that Lieutenant-Colonel Autry fell, Colonel Brantly, of the Twenty-ninth Mississippi, and his adjutant (First Lieut. John W. Campbell) were knocked down by concussion, produced by the explosion of a shell very near them, but the regiment was soon after carried forward by Lieut. Col. J. B. Morgan in gallant style, capturing the battery in their front, and driving the enemy in great confusion into and through the dense cedar brake immediately beyond. On the left of this last regiment was the Thirtieth Mississippi, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Scales. Most gallantly did they perform their part. In moving across the open field in short range of grape, canister, and shrapnel, 62 officers and men were killed and 139 wounded, of this regiment alone, all within a very short space of time, and upon an acre [area] not greater than an acre of ground. The Twenty-fourth Mississippi, Lieutenant-Colonel McKelvaine commanding, and the Forty-fifth Alabama, Colonel Gilchrist commanding, respectively, on the left of the Thirtieth Mississippi, also encountered a battery in their front, strongly supported by infantry on advantageous ground. For a moment these regiments appeared to reel and stagger before the weight of lead and iron that was hurled against them. They were encouraged to go forward by the example of their officers, and a battery was taken. A number of prisoners also fell into our hands. Artillerists, who felt confidently secure in the strength of their positions, were captured at their pieces, and others were taken before they knew that their guns had fallen into our hands. One company entire, with its officers and colors, which had been posted in a log-house near the battery in front of the Twenty-ninth Mississippi, was captured by the Twenty-seventh Mississippi, while the pieces were falling into the hands of the Twenty-ninth.

After losing his artillery, the enemy retired through a dense cedar forest in a direction almost parallel to our original [line] and to the right. In this forest they made no obstinate stand, but, owing to the density of the growth and the exhausted condition of our troops, the pursuit was slow and cautious. It was impossible to preserve a regular and continuous line through such obstacles as the fallen and standing cedars presented. After having pushed through this brake a distance of 500 or 600 yards, an open field appeared in front, through which the enemy was fleeing in scattered confusion. The ground in our front was gently ascending for several hundred yards until the crest of the hill was

reached, upon which he was now industriously planting artillery and apparently massing heavy forces of infantry. Our second line had come up and occupied the edge of the forest near the open field. It was growing late in the evening, and advance across the open field, where the enemy would have such decided advantage, was not deemed advisable. Indeed, after resting awhile to collect stragglers and replenish cartridge-boxes, and having become satisfied that my first apprehensions of an effort on the part of the enemy to repossess themselves of the forest was not well founded, a staff officer was sent to Major General Withers, commanding the division, suggesting that, with his consent, I would withdraw my brigade to its original position, where the troops could better recover from their exhaustion, and obtain that rest which they so much needed. He returned soon with the reply that the major-general approved the move. Accordingly, about sundown the brigade resumed its position of the morning, leaving the troops of the second line in position at the far edge of the cedar brake, confronting the enemy's line.

We remained here during the night, but moved forward at an early hour the next morning by order of Major-General Withers, and by his direction had begun to deploy the column on the right of the line then formed in the woods, when Colonel Brantly, of the Twenty-ninth Mississippi, informed me that, by continuing the deployment, much of the line would be exposed to a severe fire from the batteries last above alluded to. I communicated this to General Withers, who directed me to withdraw the line to a position in rear of the second (now become the first) line, near where the batteries had been taken on the day before.

We remained in this new position until about noon of this day (January 1), when, by order of Lieutenant-General Polk, we were conducted by one of his staff officers to the position originally occupied by Brigadier-General Donelson's command, in front of Stone's River, and stretching from Wilkinson pike, on the left, to the railroad, on the right.

At an early hour next morning we moved up by order of Major-General Withers, and took the position at first occupied by Brigadier-General Chalmers' brigade. I was soon ordered across Stone's River, to the right, for the purpose of supporting Major-General Breckinridge's division, upon whom it had been reported the enemy were moving. When the two right regiments of the brigade had succeeded in getting across the river, the order, so far as the other three were concerned, was countermanded, and they were directed to resume their positions in Chalmers' old place, and before I had reached General Breckinridge with the two right regiments, an order was received to return and join the balance of the brigade. Soon after resuming Chalmers' position with the whole brigade, the Twenty-fourth Mississippi, Lieutenant-Colonel McKelvaine, was detached, by order of Lieutenant-General Polk, and sent forward to support Scott's battery, then posted on our front line. This was about 2 p. m., January 2. About 4 p. m. I was ordered by the general commanding to hasten with my brigade to the support of General Breckinridge, on the opposite side of the river from where I then was. Not being familiar with that part of the field, Lieutenant-Colonel [G. W.] Brent, of General Bragg's staff, was directed to conduct me to the desired position.

The troops deserve much credit for the alacrity with which they moved, having waded the river and pushed forward at a double-quick for more than a mile to the scene of Breckinridge's bloody conflict. Darkness had separated the combatants when I reached the spot. A staff officer had been previously sent forward to report to General Breckinridge my

near approach. My column was conducted by Colonel Brent to a position in an open wood between two fields, where, as I understood from him, Breckinridge's line of battle had first moved forward to the attack. The column was halted, faced to the front, and skirmishers immediately thrown forward. This precaution had become necessary, inasmuch as there was no line at that time between mine and the enemy, as I learned from Colonel [John A.] Buckner, of General Breckinridge's staff. The general himself rode up at this moment, and soon directed me to withdraw my line to one that would be pointed out by one of his staff officers, in a wood some 200 or 300 yards in the rear. The line of skirmishers, however, was not withdrawn.

Having arrived at the new position about 9 p. m., a reconnaissance was made to the right and left, which disclosed the fact that on my left an interval of 800 yards or more existed between it and the right of Hanson's brigade, and that there were no troops on my right at all. Before daylight the next morning, however, the brigades of Generals Pillow, Preston, and Adams, of Breckinridge's division, had prolonged my right and a few hours later the brigade of Brigadier-General Jackson occupied most of the interval between my left and Hanson's right.

The troops remained in line of battle during the day; many, however, were sent to the rear on account of sickness, caused by the fatigues and exposures of the six days and nights past. It rained nearly all day (3d), and at times so violently that fires could not be kept up; blankets and clothing were wet, and cooked rations were in a condition, from the same cause, not at all inviting, even to a half-famished soldier.

About sundown I received an order from Major-General Withers to withdraw my command at 9 o'clock that night from its position, and take up the line of march down the Shelbyville pike. At the moment the hour arrived, and just as the column was about to be put in motion, I was directed to suspend the execution of this order until further notice. At 11 o'clock the order was repeated, the movement to commence at 1 o'clock the next morning.

At 1 o'clock the morning of January 4, my command moved right in front, following the [rear] of Brigadier-General Pillow's brigade, until we reached the public square in Murfreesborough, where I rejoined Major-General Withers' division, to which I belonged, and marched with it to this place without the loss of a man or anything else.

It should have been mentioned elsewhere that, early in the afternoon of the 31st, the adjutant of the Thirty-ninth North Carolina Regiment (Lieutenant [Isaac S.] Hyams, C. S. Army) reported to me on the battlefield that his regiment had become detached from the command to which it had been assigned in the morning, and was at that time out of ammunition and under command of Captain [A. W.] Bell, the field officers having been killed or wounded. I supplied the needed ammunition, and formed the regiment on the right of the Twenty-seventh Mississippi. It participated creditably in all our subsequent movements until, on the evening of January 2, by order of Lieutenant-General Polk, it was detached and ordered to join Colonel Manigault's brigade.

To my staff officers—Captain [W. G.] Barth, assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenant [W. M.] Davidson, aide-de-camp; Captain [W.] Anderson, ordnance; Capt. Lambert May and Lieut. R. H. Browne, of the inspector-general's department, and Capt. J. B. Downing and Mr. Scanlan, volunteer aides—I am much indebted for their active and efficient assistance in all that pertained to their respective positions. Each and every one performed his duty to my entire satisfaction. Captain May was particularly conspicuous in rallying and leading the troops where danger was thickest. To him I am also indebted for the prompt attention of my order to bring from the field the captured artillery. Capt. E. T. Sykes, assistant adjutant-general on Brigadier-General Walthall's staff, temporarily on duty with me, rendered very efficient service throughout the entire engagement. His activity, courage, and intelligence rendered his services invaluable on a field so extended and in a conflict so protracted. Lieutenant [J. H.] Wood, also ordnance officer of Walthall's brigade, performed his duty with the greatest promptness, displaying much good sense and judgment in conforming the movements of his train to those of the troops.

In endeavoring to give a simple statement of the part taken by the troops under my command in this great engagement, the capture of several batteries has been mentioned in passing. I have abstained from making a statement of the number or kind of pieces taken, for the simple reason that I did not stop to count them or to examine their caliber. The Twenty-seventh, Twenty-ninth, and Thirtieth Mississippi, all participating (but the Thirtieth suffering more severely than the others), captured a battery, of from four to six guns, near a log-cabin in the edge of the cedars, on the right of the Wilkinson pike, and not far from a well used by the enemy in procuring their water on the night previous to the battle. This battery included a small iron rifled piece, somewhat detached from, and a short distance to, the right of the other pieces, and lay in front of the Twenty-ninth Mississippi, which took it. In the log-cabins, and strongly supporting the battery, was a company of sharpshooters, all captured by the Twenty-seventh Mississippi. Farther to the left was a battery, nearer the Wilkinson pike, from which the enemy were driven by the Twenty-fourth Mississippi, supported by the Forty-fifth Alabama. Some 15 or 20 prisoners were here captured at the pieces. Another battery was posted still farther to the left, and nearer the Wilkinson pike, close by which the left of the Forty-fifth Alabama (my left regiment) passed simultaneously with the right of Colonel Manigault. This battery, however, was silenced a few moments before we reached it—I think by one of our batteries playing from a direction where I supposed Colonel Manigault's left to be at the time his right reached the battery simultaneously with my left. As the batteries immediately in my front were being passed, I directed Captain May, of my staff, to have the pieces taken to the rear with as little delay as possible. He subsequently reported to me that he delivered to the chief of ordnance in Murfreesborough eight pieces of different caliber; and I afterward learned that there were two or three pieces taken from the same part of the field by other parties, whose names I could not learn.

Our loss in this engagement was heavy, as the long list of killed and wounded will show. An infant nation struggling for existence, and just now fairly disengaging itself from the oppressor's grasp, pauses in the strife to drop a sympathetic tear over the grave of its gallant dead, and long after that nation shall have risen to manhood among great powers of earth, will her free sons and daughters cherish and revere the names and memories of those who fell upon the bloody plains of Murfreesborough.

The loss of this brigade was 766, as follows: Killed, 119; wounded, 584; missing, 63.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PATTON ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.