

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.

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

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 22. } Nashville, Tenn., November 21, 1862.

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XXII. The commanding general notices with much pleasure the successful expedition sent out by Col. W. P. Carlin, commanding Thirty-first Brigade, in the direction of Clarksville, two infantry regiments, under Lieutenant-Colonel McKee, having marched 100 miles, over muddy roads, in five days, through constant rains, without tents, having returned with 46 prisoners, 100 small-arms, 18 horses, and 20 mules, taken from the guerrillas, who infest the country. This handsome little success, which shows what good infantry can do under an enterprising leader, reflects much credit on all who were engaged in it.

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By command of Major-General Rosecrans:

W. H. SIDELL,
Major Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOVEMBER 19, 1862.—Reconnaissance toward La Vergne, Tenn.

REPORTS.

No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Joshua W. Sill, U. S. Army, commanding division.

No. 2.—Col. Edward N. Kirk, Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, commanding brigade.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joshua W. Sill, U. S. Army, commanding division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
November 19, 1862.

GENERAL: I inclose herewith the report of Colonel Kirk, Thirty-fourth Illinois, commanding Fifth Brigade. He went considerably farther than I had intended and directed, but the provocation probably justified it. The movements of this officer can never be reproached with lack of activity or daring. The First Tennessee Cavalry has been reporting in small squads all day long. The total present may have amounted to 200, of which 120 are still out, making a scout around my camp.

I would prefer that the whole regiment should encamp here, so as to be ready for an emergency. As it is, they come irregularly, and usually without rations or blankets.

Your obedient servant,

J. W. SILL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. Gen. A. McD. McCook,
Commanding Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.

No. 2.

Report of Col. Edward N. Kirk, Thirty-fourth Illinois Infantry, commanding brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH BRIGADE,
November 19, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have made a reconnaissance

to the front and left, as you ordered last night. One of my regiments, Thirtieth Indiana, being out on picket duty, I took the other four, *i. e.*, Thirty-fourth Illinois, Seventy-ninth Illinois, Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania, and Twenty-ninth Indiana, and Edgarton's battery, which were, as you ordered, disposed of as follows:

The Seventy-ninth Illinois and one section of artillery were left as a general reserve, at a point about 1½ miles to the front, where the picket line crosses the Murfreesborough pike. The Twenty-ninth Indiana and one section of artillery were placed in position at a point on the Stone's River pike, concealed from view about the same distance to the front. With the other two regiments and section of artillery I moved out the dirt road, which diverges from the Murfreesborough pike, where the Seventy-ninth Illinois was left in reserve.

We marched with the most perfect silence, hoping to surprise some of the rebel parties which have been annoying your camp. Having gone about 3½ miles on the dirt road, and finding no enemy, I sent five companies of the Thirty-fourth Illinois, with a citizen guide that I pressed in, to a point on the Stone's River pike directly opposite, with orders to move down the pike quietly until they formed a junction with the Twenty-ninth Indiana, with a view of picking up any of the rebels that might be prowling around that neighborhood. With the remaining forces, now reduced to about 700 infantry and one section of artillery, I moved across to the Murfreesborough pike at a point about 4 miles from our picket line. All along this part of our march I noticed evidences of the recent presence of the enemy—picket fires still burning, &c., but saw no enemy. I had reached the pike, and was about to return to camp, when three shots were fired from a rebel picket near my left flank. I then started down the pike toward La Vergne. My advance soon came up with a small squad of some 20 cavalry, who fell back upon a reserve of two or three companies, who took position at a toll-gate about 4 miles from La Vergne; several of them dismounted and went into the toll-gate house. I dropped a few shells among them, two shells passing through the house, when the whole party hastily fled. About this point we also found infantry pickets, but they also fell back without firing a gun.

The rebel force seemed to be disposed as follows: First, small vedettes of cavalry; second, cavalry reserves; third, main body of cavalry and infantry, say, in all, a regiment or two of each; but they seemed frightened, and so I pursued them until I reached the top of the hill which overlooks the town of La Vergne. My position was a beautiful one. The road is nearly straight for about 1½ miles down to and beyond the town. Here the rebels had rallied, and we had a fine view of their column of cavalry in front and infantry in their rear. After firing a dozen shells among them, they seemed to scatter, but rallied twice and started toward us, but the well-directed fire of the artillery was too much for them. They finally retreated through the town and over the hill beyond. I pursued them no farther; your orders required me to return by 10 a. m.; it was now 8, and I was 8 miles from camp. I captured a few suspicious characters, which I will send up to you under guard.

I did not go down to La Vergne to ascertain the effect of our shells; many of them burst in the street close to the troops, and must have done considerable execution. Here, as at Claysville, the rebels must have overestimated our force as we dashed down upon them; otherwise I am sure they would have stood their ground and given us fight.

I am entirely satisfied with the conduct of every officer and man I had with me. This report is so hastily written that I fear it will be unintelligible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. N. KIRK,
Commanding Fifth Brigade.

Capt J. E. STEARNS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division.

NOVEMBER 19, 1862.—Skirmish near Tompkinsville, Ky.

Report of Col. James R. Howard, Alabama cavalry.

CAMP KIRBY, November 20, 1862.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit to you a report of a scout made by me into Kentucky.

On the 17th instant a portion of my command took up their line of march from camp near Sparta for the Kentucky line. When about 75 miles over the Kentucky and Tennessee line, we encountered a large force of the enemy's cavalry, gave them fight, and, after a brisk engagement of about half an hour, with the assistance of Divine Providence, we completely routed them, killing 27, and wounding a large number. Our loss, 4 men killed and 3 wounded. My command behaved gallantly, especially the officers, and too much praise cannot be given to my adjutant, Noah D. Rothrock, for his valuable assistance and gallantry on the occasion. We followed up the enemy and had a short hand-to-hand engagement, and again cut them up badly, bringing out from them nearly 5,000 head of hogs. While accomplishing this, the enemy rallied twice, and on both occasions we repulsed them, bringing the hogs safely through, and turning them over to Major [John J.] Murphy, commissary of subsistence.

Another portion of my command made a scout with a train of wagons, and succeeded in bringing them out safely, loaded with flour and bacon. They encountered no regular forces, but were much annoyed by bushwhackers. None of our men were hurt, but we gave them a Southern lesson.

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

JAMES R. HOWARD,
Colonel, Commanding Cavalry.

Lieut. Gen. E. KIRBY SMITH,
Commanding Department of East Tennessee.

NOVEMBER 24, 1862.—Skirmish near Tompkinsville, Ky.

Report of Col. Joseph R. Scott, Nineteenth Illinois Infantry.

HDQRS. 39TH BRIG., 12TH DIV. (CENTER),
14TH CORPS D'ARMÉE,
Hartsville, Tenn., November 28, 1862.

SIR: I respectfully report the arrival of my command at this point at 2 p. m. to-day; also the arrival of my train from Cave City, via Gallatin, with five days' rations and ammunition.

On the afternoon of the 24th instant the enemy made a slight demonstration upon Tompkinsville with cavalry and artillery. My pickets, aided by cavalry, repulsed them, capturing one, a private of Hamilton's company, who reports the attacking party to have been a detachment of Scott's cavalry, 700 strong, with three mountain howitzers. They came from Sparta, by way of Bennett's Ferry, crossing the Cumberland at Celina. Hamilton's company has been enforcing the conscript law and guarding stock between Celina and Gainsborough.

Being induced to believe that the enemy was crossing the Scottsville road, preparatory to attacking me from that quarter in the morning, I, in obedience to marching orders, received the night previous, left Tompkinsville by that road at 9 p. m. on the evening of the 24th instant. I failed to meet the enemy; took the branch road to La Fayette, and from thence to Hartsville. It is reported that the enemy occupied Tompkinsville on my departure. I met with no interruption in my march until within 3 miles of Hartsville, when I came upon a body of rebel cavalry, of whom I took 2 prisoners. They report themselves as belonging to Bennett's cavalry, 200 of whom, under the command of Colonel Bennett himself, left their camp at Stone's River, 6 miles from Murfreesborough, on a scout this side of the Cumberland yesterday evening, having ridden all night. They report Morgan and Duke encamped in similar positions around Murfreesborough, where there is also a large force of infantry. The rebel cavalry fled, at my approach, in the direction of Dickinson's Springs, 8 miles from here. Upon nearing the town, I met a detachment of the Second Indiana Cavalry, attached to the troops at this point, who reported the capture, by this party of rebels, of a forage train and one company of cavalry. I immediately sent one regiment of infantry after them, directing the cavalry to make a detour, in order to intercept them on the road. The infantry has returned, and report the cavalry as having missed the enemy, and gone forward in pursuit.

I received dispatches by courier to-night, and will immediately follow your instructions in regard to scouts. I relieve the troops of the Second Brigade, First Division, who march from here to-morrow morning.

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

JOS. R. SCOTT,
Colonel, Commanding Thirty-ninth Brigade.

Capt. D. BRADEN, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

NOVEMBER 26-27, 1862.—Reconnaissance to La Vergne, Tenn., and skirmish.

REPORTS, ETC.

- No. 1.—Brig. Gen. Joshua W. Sill, U. S. Army, commanding division.
No. 2.—Lieut. Col. Peter B. Housum, Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.
No. 3.—Capt. Thomas E. Rose, Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania Infantry.
No. 4.—Congratulatory letter from General Braxton Bragg to Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. Joshua W. Sill, U. S. Army, commanding division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
November 27, 1862.

GENERAL: Hearing some vague rumors yesterday concerning a heavy

Second (late Fifth) Brigade.

(1.) Brig. Gen. EDWARD N. KIRK.	29th Indiana:
(2.) Col. JOSEPH B. DODGE.	Lieut. Col. David M. Dunn
	Maj. Joseph P. Collins.
34th Illinois:	30th Indiana:
Lieut. Col. Hiram W. Bristol.	Col. Joseph B. Dodge.
Maj. Alexander P. Dysart.	Lieut. Col. Orrin D. Hurd.
79th Illinois:	77th Pennsylvania:
Col. Sheridan P. Read.	Lieut. Col. Peter B. Housum.
Maj. Allen Buckner.	Capt. Thomas E. Rose.

Third (late Fourth) Brigade.

Col. PHILEMON P. BALDWIN.

6th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Hagerman Tripp.
 5th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. William W. Berry
 1st Ohio, Maj. Joab A. Stafford.
 93d Ohio, Col. Charles Anderson.

*Artillery.**

5th Indiana Battery, Capt. Peter Simonson.
 1st Ohio, Battery A, Lieut. Edmund B. Belding.
 1st Ohio, Battery E, Capt. Warren P. Edgerton.

Cavalry.

3d Indiana, Companies G, H, I, and K, Maj. Robert Klein.

THIRD (LATE ELEVENTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. PHILIP H. SHERIDAN.

Escort.

2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company L, Lieut. Joseph T. Forman.

First (late Thirty-seventh) Brigade.

(1.) Brig. Gen. JOSHUA W. SILL.
 (2.) Col. NICHOLAS GREUSEL.

36th Illinois:
 Col. Nicholas Greusel.
 Maj. Silas Miller.
 Capt. Porter C. Olson.
 88th Illinois, Col. Francis T. Sherman.
 21st Michigan, Lieut. Col. William B. McCreery.
 24th Wisconsin, Maj. Elisha C. Hibbard.

Second (late Thirty-fifth) Brigade.

(1.) Col. FREDERICK SCHAEFER.
 (2.) Lieut. Col. BERNARD LAIBOLDT.

44th Illinois, Capt. Wallace W. Barrett.
 73d Illinois, Maj. William A. Presson.
 2d Missouri:
 Lieut. Col. Bernard Laiboldt.
 Maj. Francis Ehrler.
 15th Missouri, Lieut. Col. John Weber.

Third Brigade.†

(1.) Col. GEORGE W. ROBERTS.
 (2.) Col. LUTHER P. BRADLEY.

22d Illinois:
 Lieut. Col. Francis Swanwick.
 Capt. Samuel Johnson.
 27th Illinois:
 Col. Fazilo A. Harrington.
 Maj. William A. Schmitt.
 42d Illinois, Lieut. Col. Nathan H. Walworth.
 51st Illinois:
 Col. Luther P. Bradley.
 Capt. Henry F. Wescott.

* The Fifth Indiana was attached to the Third Brigade, Battery A to the First Brigade, and Battery E to the Second Brigade.

† Formerly First Brigade, Thirteenth Division.

*Artillery.**

Capt. HENRY HESCOCK.

1st Illinois, Battery C, Capt. Charles Houghtaling.
 4th Indiana Battery, Capt. Asahel K. Bush.
 1st Missouri, Battery G, Capt. Henry Hescoock.

CENTER.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS.

PROVOST GUARD.

9th Michigan, Col. John G. Parkhurst.

FIRST (LATE THIRD) DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU.

First (late Ninth) Brigade.

Col. BENJAMIN F. SCRIBNER.

38th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Daniel F. Griffin.
 2d Ohio:
 Lieut. Col. John Kell.
 Maj. Anson G. McCook.
 33d Ohio, Capt. Ephraim J. Ellis.
 94th Ohio:
 Col. Joseph W. Frizell.
 Lieut. Col. Stephen A. Bassford.
 10th Wisconsin, Col. Alfred R. Chapin.

Second (late Seventeenth) Brigade.

Col. JOHN BEATTY.

42d Indiana, Lieut. Col. James M. Shanklin.
 88th Indiana:
 Col. George Humphrey.
 Lieut. Col. Cyrus E. Briant.
 15th Kentucky:
 Col. James B. Forman.
 Lieut. Col. Joseph R. Snider.
 3d Ohio, Lieut. Col. Orris A. Lawson.

Third (late Twenty-eighth) Brigade.

Col. JOHN C. STARKWEATHER.

24th Illinois, Col. Geza Mihalotzy.
 79th Pennsylvania, Col. Henry A. Hambright.
 1st Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. George B. Bingham.
 21st Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Harrison C. Hobart.

Fourth Brigade.

Lieut. Col. OLIVER L. SHEPHERD.

15th United States, 1st Battalion:
 Maj. John H. King.
 Capt. Jesse Fulmer.
 16th United States, 1st Battalion, and Company B, 2d Battalion:
 Maj. Adam J. Slemmer.
 Capt. R. E. A. Crofton.
 18th United States, 1st Battalion, and Companies A and D, 3d Battalion, Maj. James N. Caldwell.
 18th United States, 2d Battalion, and Companies B, C, E, and F, 3d Battalion, Maj. Frederick Townsend.
 19th United States, 1st Battalion:
 Maj. Stephen D. Carpenter.
 Capt. James B. Mulligan.

Artillery.†

Capt. CYRUS O. LOOMIS.

Kentucky, Battery A, Capt. David C. Stone.
 1st Michigan, Battery A, Lieut. George W. Van Pelt.
 5th United States, Battery H, Lieut. Francis L. Guenther.

Cavalry.

2d Kentucky (six companies), Maj. Thomas P. Nicholas.

* Battery C was attached to the Third Brigade, Fourth Indiana to the First Brigade, and Battery G to the Second Brigade.

† Battery A, Kentucky, was attached to the Third Brigade; Battery A, First Michigan, to the Second Brigade, and Battery H, Fifth United States, to the Fourth Brigade.

MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN.,
February 11, 1863—11.30 p. m.

Capt. Elmer Otis, Fourth Cavalry, in the recent battle, with 400 men charged the enemy, recaptured 300 prisoners, and greatly distinguished himself. By their consent, and at their request, he is commanding a brigade of three regiments, each with a colonel. I earnestly urge his appointment as brigadier-general, in order that he may continue to command, as cavalry officers are greatly needed.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
No. 20. } *Murfreesborough, Tenn., February 15, 1863.*

The following resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana having been received, are published to this army, in accordance with the request contained therein :

Resolved by the senate (the house concurring), That the thanks of this General Assembly are hereby tendered to Major-General Rosecrans, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for the well-earned victory of Murfreesborough, Tenn. That they, one and all, merit the lasting gratitude of the nation and the admiration of the world.

Resolved, That the patriotic earnestness, skill, sleepless vigilance, and pertinacity displayed by the commanding general in his advance upon the enemy, his plan of battle, and especially in promptly meeting the exigencies of its varying fortunes, prove that he was "the right man in the right place;" that the hearty and prompt co-operation, the gallantry and skill of his division and other commanders, the ready obedience, unyielding and hardy courage of the soldiers are worthy of the highest commendation.

Resolved, That the Army of the Cumberland, Murfreesborough, and the name of each fallen and surviving patriot soldier who took part in the perilous struggle, are forever linked together in historic renown, and Indiana will preserve, and gratefully cherish, their memory to the latest generation, as among the brightest jewels of an undivided republic.

Resolved, That the secretary of the senate be directed to forward a copy of these resolutions to Major-General Rosecrans, with the request that they be read at the head of each regiment taking part in the great battle, if consistent with the rules of military propriety and discipline.

We hereby certify that the accompanying resolutions unanimously passed both branches of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

PARIS C. DUNNING,
President of Senate.
SAM. H. BUSKIRK,
Speaker of House of Representatives.

JAMES H. VAWTER,
Secretary of Senate.

A. T. WHITLESEY,
Clerk of House of Representatives.

By command of Major-General Rosecrans:

C. GODDARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., February 12, 1863.

GENERAL: As the sub-reports are now nearly all in, I have the honor to submit, for the information of the General-in-Chief, the subjoined report, with accompanying sub-reports, maps, and statistical tables of the

battle of Stone's River. To a proper understanding of this battle it will be necessary to state the preliminary movements and preparations:

Assuming command of the army at Louisville on October 27, it was found concentrated at Bowling Green and Glasgow, distant about 113 miles from Louisville; from whence, after replenishing with ammunition, supplies, and clothing, they moved on to Nashville, the advance corps reaching that place on the morning of November 7, a distance of 183 miles from Louisville.

At this distance from my base of supplies, the first thing to be done was to provide for the subsistence of the troops and open the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The cars commenced running through on November 26, previous to which time our supplies had been brought by rail to Mitchellsville, 35 miles north of Nashville, and from thence, by constant labor, we had been able to haul enough to replenish the exhausted stores for the garrison at Nashville and subsist the troops of the moving army.

From November 26 to December 26 every effort was bent to complete the clothing of the army; to provide it with ammunition, and replenish the depot at Nashville with needful supplies; to insure us against want from the largest possible detention likely to occur by the breaking of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, and to insure this work the road was guarded by a heavy force posted at Gallatin. The enormous superiority in numbers of the rebel cavalry kept our little cavalry force almost within the infantry lines, and gave the enemy control of the entire country around us. It was obvious from the beginning that we should be confronted by Bragg's army, recruited by an inexorable conscription, and aided by clans of mounted men, formed into a guerrilla-like cavalry, to avoid the hardships of conscription and infantry service. The evident difficulties and labors of an advance into this country, and against such a force, and at such distance from our base of operations, with which we were connected but by a single precarious thread, made it manifest that our policy was to induce the enemy to travel over as much as possible of the space that separated us, thus avoiding for us the wear and tear and diminution of our forces, and subjecting the enemy to all this inconvenience, besides increasing for him and diminishing for us the dangerous consequences of a defeat. The means taken to obtain this end were eminently successful. The enemy, expecting us to go into winter quarters at Nashville, had prepared his own winter quarters at Murfreesborough, with the hope of possibly making them at Nashville, and had sent a large cavalry force into West Tennessee to annoy Grant, and another large force into Kentucky to break up the railroad.

In the absence of these forces, and with adequate supplies in Nashville, the moment was judged opportune for an advance on the rebels. Polk's and Kirby Smith's forces were at Murfreesborough, and Hardee's corps on the Shelbyville and Nolensville pike, between Triune and Eagleville, with an advance guard at Nolensville, while our troops lay in front of Nashville, on the Franklin, Nolensville, and Murfreesborough turnpikes.

The plan of the movement was as follows: McCook, with three divisions, to advance by Nolensville pike to Triune. Thomas, with two divisions (Negley's and Rousseau's), to advance on his right, by the Franklin and Wilson pikes, threatening Hardee's right, and then to fall in by the cross-roads to Nolensville. Crittenden, with Wood's, Palmer's, and Van Cleve's divisions, to advance by the Murfreesborough pike to La Vergne.

With Thomas' two divisions at Nolensville, McCook was to attack Hardee at Triune, and, if the enemy re-enforced Hardee, Thomas was to support McCook. If McCook beat Hardee, or Hardee retreated, and the enemy met us at Stewart's Creek, 5 miles south of La Vergne, Crittenden was to attack him, Thomas was to come in on his left flank, and McCook, after detaching a division to pursue or observe Hardee, if retreating south, was to move with the remainder of his force on their rear.

The movement began on the morning of December 26. McCook advanced on the Nolensville pike, skirmishing his way all day, meeting with stiff resistance from cavalry and artillery, and closing the day by a brisk fight, which gave him possession of Nolensville and the hills $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in front, capturing one gun by the One hundred and first Ohio and Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiments, his loss this day being about 75 killed and wounded. Thomas followed on the right, and closed Negley's division on Nolensville, leaving the other (Rousseau's) division on the right flank.

Crittenden advanced to La Vergne, skirmishing heavily on his front, over a rough country, intersected by forests and cedar brakes, with but slight loss.

On the 28th [27th] General McCook advanced on Triune, but his movement was retarded by a dense fog.

Crittenden had orders to delay his movements until McCook had reached Triune and developed the intentions of the enemy at that point, so that it could be determined which Thomas was to support.

McCook arrived at Triune, and reported that Hardee had retreated, and that he had sent a division in pursuit.

Crittenden began his advance about 11 a. m., driving before him a brigade of cavalry, supported by Maney's brigade of rebel infantry, and reached Stewart's Creek, the Third Kentucky gallantly charging the rear guard of the enemy, and saving the bridge, on which had been placed a pile of rails that had been set on fire. This was Saturday night.

McCook having settled the fact of Hardee's retreat, Thomas moved Negley's division on to join Crittenden at Stewart's Creek, and moved Rousseau's to Nolensville.

On Sunday the troops rested, except Rousseau's division, which was ordered to move on to Stewartston, and Willich's brigade, which had pursued Hardee as far as Riggs' Cross-Roads, and had determined the fact that Hardee had gone to Murfreesborough, when they returned to Triune.

On Monday morning, McCook was ordered to move from Triune to Wilkinson's Cross-Roads, 6 miles from Murfreesborough, leaving a brigade at Triune. Crittenden crossed Stewart's Creek by the Smyrna Bridge and the main Murfreesborough pike, and Negley by the ford 2 miles above; their whole force to advance on Murfreesborough, distant about 11 miles. Rousseau was to remain at Stewart's Creek until his train came up, and prepare himself to follow. McCook reached Wilkinson's Cross-Roads by evening, with an advance brigade at Overall's Creek, saving and holding the bridge, meeting with but little resistance. Crittenden's corps advanced, Palmer leading, on the Murfreesborough pike, followed by Negley, of Thomas' corps, to within 3 miles of Murfreesborough, having had several brisk skirmishes, driving the enemy rapidly, saving two bridges on the route, and forcing the enemy back to his intrenchments.

About 3 p. m. a signal message coming from the front, from General Palmer, that he was in sight of Murfreesborough, and that the enemy

were running, an order was sent to General Crittenden to send a division to occupy Murfreesborough. This led General Crittenden, on reaching the enemy's front, to order Harker's brigade to cross the river at a ford on his left, where he surprised a regiment of Breckinridge's division and drove it back on its main line, not more than 500 yards distant, in considerable confusion; and he held this position until General Crittenden was advised, by prisoners captured by Harker's brigade, that Breckinridge was in force on his front, when, it being dark, he ordered the brigade back across the river, and reported the circumstances to the commanding general on his arrival, to whom he apologized for not having carried out the order to occupy Murfreesborough. The general approved of his action, of course, the order to occupy Murfreesborough having been based on the information received from General Crittenden's advance division that the enemy were retreating from Murfreesborough.

Crittenden's corps, with Negley's division, bivouacked in order of battle, distant 700 yards from the enemy's intrenchments, our left extending down the river some 500 yards. The Pioneer Brigade, bivouacking still lower down, prepared three fords, and covered one of them, while Wood's division covered the other two, Van Cleve's division being in reserve.

On the morning of the 30th, Rousseau, with two brigades, was ordered down early from Stewart's Creek, leaving one brigade there and sending another to Smyrna to cover our left and rear, and took his place in reserve, in rear of Palmer's right, while General Negley moved on through the cedar brakes until his right rested on the Wilkinson pike, as shown by the accompanying plan.* The Pioneer Corps cut roads through the cedars for his ambulances and ammunition wagons.

The commanding general remained with the left and center, examining the ground, while General McCook moved forward from Wilkinson's Cross-Roads, slowly and steadily, meeting with heavy resistance, fighting his way from Overall's Creek until he got into position, with a loss of some 135 killed and wounded.

Our small division of cavalry, say 3,000 men, had been divided into three parts, of which General Stanley took two and accompanied General McCook, fighting his way across from the Wilkinson to the Franklin pike, and below it, Colonel Zahm's brigade leading gallantly, and meeting with such heavy resistance that McCook sent two brigades from Johnson's division, who succeeded in fighting their way into the position shown on the accompanying plan, marked A,* while the third brigade, which had been left at Triune, moved forward from that place, and arrived at nightfall near General McCook's headquarters. Thus, on the close of the 30th, the troops had all got into the position, substantially, as shown in the accompanying drawing, the rebels occupying the position marked A.*

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon General McCook had reported his arrival on the Wilkinson pike, joining Thomas; the result of the combat in the afternoon near Griscom's house, and the fact that Sheridan was in position there; that his right was advancing to support the cavalry; also that Hardee's corps, with two divisions of Polk's, was on his front, extending down toward the Salem pike, without any map of the ground, which was to us *terra incognita*. When General McCook informed the general commanding that his corps was facing strongly toward the east, the general commanding told him that such a direction to his line did not appear to him a proper one, but that it ought, with the exception

* To appear in Atlas.

of his left, to face much more nearly south, with Johnson's division in reserve, but that this matter must be confided to him, who knew the ground over which he had fought.

A meeting of the corps commanders was called at the headquarters of the commanding general for this evening. General Thomas arrived early, received his instructions, and retired. General Crittenden, with whom the commanding general had talked freely during the afternoon, was sent for, but was excused at the request of his chief of staff, who sent word that he was very much fatigued and was asleep. Generals McCook and Stanley arrived about 9 o'clock, to whom was explained the following

PLAN OF BATTLE.

McCook was to occupy the most advantageous position, refusing his right as much as practicable and necessary to secure it, to receive the attack of the enemy; or, if that did not come, to attack himself, sufficient to hold all the force on his front; Thomas and Palmer to open with skirmishing, and engage the enemy's center and left as far as the river; Crittenden to cross Van Cleve's division at the lower ford, covered and supported by the sappers and miners, and to advance on Breckinridge; Wood's division to follow by brigades, crossing at the upper ford and moving on Van Cleve's right, to carry everything before them into Murfreesborough. This would have given us two divisions against one, and, as soon as Breckinridge had been dislodged from his position, the batteries of Wood's division, taking position on the heights east of Stone's River, in advance, would see the enemy's works in reverse, would dislodge them, and enable Palmer's division to press them back, and drive them westward across the river or through the woods, while Thomas, sustaining the movement on the center, would advance on the right of Palmer, crushing their right, and Crittenden's corps, advancing, would take Murfreesborough, and then, moving westward on the Franklin road, get in their flank and rear and drive them into the country toward Salem, with the prospect of cutting off their retreat and probably destroying their army.

It was explained to them that this combination, insuring us a vast superiority on our left, required for its success that General McCook should be able to hold his position for three hours; that, if necessary to recede at all, he should recede, as he had advanced on the preceding day, slowly and steadily, refusing his right, thereby rendering our success certain.

Having thus explained the plan, the general commanding addressed General McCook as follows: "You know the ground; you have fought over it; you know its difficulties. Can you hold your present position for three hours?" To which General McCook responded, "Yes, I think I can." The general commanding then said, "I don't like the facing so much to the east, but must confide that to you, who know the ground. If you don't think your present the best position, change it. It is only necessary for you to make things sure." And the officers then returned to their commands.

At daylight on the morning of the 31st the troops breakfasted and stood to their arms, and by 7 o'clock were preparing for the

BATTLE.

The movement began on the left by Van Cleve, who crossed at the lower fords. Wood prepared to sustain and follow him. The enemy, meanwhile, had prepared to attack General McCook, and by 6.30 o'clock

advanced in heavy columns—regimental front—his left attacking Willich's and Kirk's brigades, of Johnson's division, which, being disposed, as shown in the map, thin and light, without support, were, after a sharp but fruitless contest, crumbled to pieces and driven back, leaving Edgerton's and part of Goodspeed's battery in the hands of the enemy.

The enemy following up, attacked Davis' division and speedily dislodged Post's brigade. Carlin's brigade was compelled to follow, as Woodruff's brigade, from the weight of testimony, had previously left its position on his left. Johnson's brigades, in retiring, inclined too far to the west, and were too much scattered to make a combined resistance, though they fought bravely at one or two points before reaching Wilkinson's pike. The reserve brigade of Johnson's division, advancing from its bivouac, near the Wilkinson pike, toward the right, took a good position, and made a gallant but ineffectual stand, as the whole rebel left was moving up on the ground abandoned by our troops.

Within an hour from the time of the opening of the battle, a staff officer from General McCook arrived, announcing to me that the right wing was heavily pressed and needed assistance; but I was not advised of the rout of Willich's and Kirk's brigades, nor of the rapid withdrawal of Davis' division, necessitated thereby—moreover, having supposed his wing posted more compactly, and his right more refused than it really was, the direction of the noise of battle did not indicate to me the true state of affairs. I consequently directed him to return and direct General McCook to dispose his troops to the best advantage, and to hold his ground obstinately. Soon after, a second officer from General McCook arrived, and stated that the right wing was being driven—a fact that was but too manifest by the rapid movement of the noise of battle toward the north.

General Thomas was immediately dispatched to order Rousseau, then in reserve, into the cedar brakes to the right and rear of Sheridan. General Crittenden was ordered to suspend Van Cleve's movement across the river, on the left, and to cover the crossing with one brigade, and move the other two brigades westward across the fields toward the railroad for a reserve. Wood was also directed to suspend his preparations for crossing, and to hold Hascall in reserve. At this moment fugitives and stragglers from McCook's corps began to make their appearance through the cedar-brakes in such numbers that I became satisfied that McCook's corps was routed. I, therefore, directed General Crittenden to send Van Cleve in to the right of Rousseau; Wood to send Colonel Harker's brigade farther down the Murfreesborough pike, to go in and attack the enemy on the right of Van Cleve's, the Pioneer Brigade meanwhile occupying the knoll of ground west of Murfreesborough pike, and about 400 or 500 yards in rear of Palmer's center, supporting Stokes' battery (see accompanying drawing). Sheridan, after sustaining four successive attacks, gradually swung his right from a southeasterly to a northwesterly direction, repulsing the enemy four times, losing the gallant General Sill, of his right, and Colonel Roberts, of his left brigade, when, having exhausted his ammunition, Negley's division being in the same predicament, and heavily pressed, after desperate fighting, they fell back from the position held at the commencement, through the cedar woods, in which Rousseau's division, with a portion of Negley's and Sheridan's, met the advancing enemy and checked his movements.

The ammunition train of the right wing, endangered by its sudden discomfiture, was taken charge of by Captain Thruston, of the First Ohio Regiment, ordnance officer, who, by his energy and gallantry,

aided by a charge of cavalry and such troops as he could pick up, carried it through the woods to the Murfreesborough pike, around to the rear of the left wing, thus enabling the troops of Sheridan's division to replenish their empty cartridge-boxes. During all this time Palmer's front had likewise been in action, the enemy having made several attempts to advance upon it. At this stage it became necessary to readjust the line of battle to the new state of affairs. Rousseau and Van Cleve's advance having relieved Sheridan's division from the pressure, Negley's division and Cruft's brigade, from Palmer's division, withdrew from their original position in front of the cedars, and crossed the open field to the east of the Murfreesborough pike, about 400 yards in rear of our front line, where Negley was ordered to replenish his ammunition and form in close column in reserve.

The right and center of our line now extended from Hazen, on the Murfreesborough pike, in a northwesterly direction; Hascall supporting Hazen; Rousseau filling the interval to the Pioneer Brigade; Negley in reserve; Van Cleve west of the Pioneer Brigade; McCook's corps refused on his right, and slightly to the rear, on Murfreesborough pike; the cavalry being still farther to the rear, on Murfreesborough pike, at and beyond Overall's Creek.

The enemy's infantry and cavalry attack on our extreme right was repulsed by Van Cleve's division, with Harker's brigade and the cavalry. After several attempts of the enemy to advance on this new line, which were thoroughly repulsed, as were also their attempts on the left, the day closed, leaving us masters of the original ground on our left, and our new line advantageously posted, with open ground in front, swept at all points by our artillery.

We had lost heavily in killed and wounded, and a considerable number in stragglers and prisoners; also twenty-eight pieces of artillery, the horses having been slain, and our troops being unable to withdraw them by hand over the rough ground; but the enemy had been thoroughly handled and badly damaged at all points, having had no success where we had open ground and our troops were properly posted; none which did not depend on the original crushing in of our right and the superior masses which were in consequence brought to bear upon the narrow front of Sheridan's and Negley's divisions, and a part of Palmer's, coupled with the scarcity of ammunition, caused by the circuitous road which the train had taken, and the inconvenience of getting it from a remote distance through the cedars. Orders were given for the issue of all the spare ammunition, and we found that we had enough for another battle, the only question being where that battle was to be fought.

It was decided, in order to complete our present lines, that the left should be retired some 250 yards to a more advantageous ground, the extreme left resting on Stone's River, above the lower ford, and extending to Stokes' battery. Starkweather's and Walker's brigades arriving near the close of the evening, the former bivouacked in close column, in reserve, in rear of McCook's left, and the latter was posted on the left of Sheridan, near the Murfreesborough pike, and next morning relieved Van Cleve, who returned to his position in the left wing.

DISPOSITION FOR JANUARY 1, 1863.

After careful examination and free consultation with corps commanders, followed by a personal examination of the ground in rear as far as Overall's Creek, it was determined to await the enemy's attack

in that position; to send for the provision train, and order up fresh supplies of ammunition; on the arrival of which, should the enemy not attack, offensive operations were to be resumed.

No demonstration [being made] on the morning of January 1, Crittenden was ordered to occupy the point opposite the ford, on his left, with a brigade.

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy, who had shown signs of movement and massing on our right, appeared at the extremity of a field $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Murfreesborough pike, but the presence of Gibson's brigade, with a battery, occupying the woods near Overall's Creek, and Negley's division, and a portion of Rousseau's, on the Murfreesborough pike, opposite the field, put an end to this demonstration, and the day closed with another demonstration by the enemy on Walker's brigade, which ended in the same manner.

On Friday morning the enemy opened four heavy batteries on our center, and made a strong demonstration of attack a little farther to the right, but a well-directed fire of artillery soon silenced his batteries, while the guns of Walker and Sheridan put an end to his efforts there.

About 3 p. m., while the commanding general was examining the position of Crittenden's left across the river, which was now held by Van Cleve's division, supported by a brigade from Palmer's, a double line of skirmishers was seen to emerge from the woods in a southeasterly direction, advancing across the fields, and they were soon followed by heavy columns of infantry, battalion front, with three batteries of artillery. Our only battery on that side of the river had been withdrawn from an eligible point, but the most available spot was pointed out, and it soon opened fire upon the enemy. The line, however, advanced steadily to within 100 yards of the front of Van Cleve's division, when a short and fierce contest ensued. Van Cleve's division, giving way, retired in considerable confusion across the river, followed closely by the enemy.

General Crittenden immediately directed his chief of artillery to dispose the batteries on the hill on the west side of the river so as to open on them, while two brigades of Negley's division, from the reserve, and the Pioneer Brigade, were ordered up to meet the onset. The firing was terrific and the havoc terrible. The enemy retreated more rapidly than they had advanced. In forty minutes they lost 2,000 men.

General Davis, seeing some stragglers from Van Cleve's division, took one of his brigades and crossed at a ford below, to attack the enemy on his left flank, and, by General McCook's order, the rest of his division was permitted to follow; but, when he arrived, two brigades of Negley's division and Hazen's brigade, of Palmer's division, had pursued the fleeing enemy well across the fields, capturing four pieces of artillery and a stand of colors.

It was now after dark, and raining, or we should have pursued the enemy into Murfreesborough. As it was, Crittenden's corps passed over, and, with Davis', occupied the crests, which were intrenched in a few hours.

Deeming it possible that the enemy might again attack our right and center, thus weakened, I thought it advisable to make a demonstration on our right by a heavy division of camp-fires, and by laying out a line of battle with torches, which answered the purpose.

Saturday, January 3, it rained heavily from 3 o'clock in the morning. The plowed ground over which our left would be obliged to advance was impassable for artillery. The ammunition trains did not arrive

Return of casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. WILLIAM P. CARLIN.							
21st Illinois	2	55	7	180	59		303
38th Illinois	2	32	5	104	34		177
101st Ohio	1	19	5	121	66		212
15th Wisconsin	2	13	5	65	1	33	119
Minnesota Light Artillery, 2d Battery		3	1	5		1	10
Total Second Brigade	7	122	23	475	1	193	821
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF.							
Staff			1				1
25th Illinois	1	15	3	72	5		96
35th Illinois		10	2	49	25		86
81st Indiana	1	4	2	46	1	15	69
Wisconsin Light Artillery, 8th Battery	1			4	1		6
Total Third Brigade	3	29	8	171	1	46	258
Total First Division	11	176	40	785	2	400	1,414
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. RICHARD W. JOHNSON.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Brig. Gen. AUGUST WILLICH.*							
(2.) Col. WILLIAM WALLACE.							
(3.) Col. WILLIAM H. GIBSON.							
Staff					1		1
80th Illinois	1	9	1	45	94		150
32d Indiana		12		40	115		167
39th Indiana		30	3	116	2	229	380
15th Ohio		17	2	68	1	127	215
49th Ohio	2	18	6	88		108	222
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A		1		4		24	29
Total First Brigade	3	87	12	361	4	697	1,164
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Brig. Gen. EDWARD N. KIRK.†							
(2.) Col. JOSEPH B. DODGE.							
Staff			1				1
34th Illinois	2	19	2	98	2	72	195
79th Illinois	1	23	3	68	3	121	219
29th Indiana	1	14	2	66	1	51	185
30th Indiana	1	30	2	108	2	70	213
77th Pennsylvania	1	4	1	28	2	28	64
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery E		3		5	2	22	32
Total Second Brigade	6	93	11	373	12	364	859
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. PHILEMON P. BALDWIN.							
6th Indiana		17		50	1	30	104
5th Kentucky	1	18	7	73		26	125
1st Ohio		8	1	46		81	136

* Wounded and captured December 31.

† Wounded December 31.

Return of casualties in the Union forces, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
<i>Third Brigade—Continued.</i>							
83d Ohio		12	3	45		64	124
Indiana Light Artillery, 5th Battery		3	1	18		1	23
Total Third Brigade	1	58	12	232	1	208	512
<i>Cavalry.</i>							
3d Indiana, Companies G, H, I, and K		4		6		15	25
Total Second Division	10	242	35	972	17	1,284	2,560
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. PHILIP H. SHERIDAN.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Brig. Gen. JOSHUA W. SILL.*							
(2.) Col. NICHOLAS GREUSL.							
Staff	1		1				2
36th Illinois	1	45	7	144	2	18	212
88th Illinois	1	13	2	48		48	112
21st Michigan		18	7	32		36	143
24th Wisconsin		19	2	55		98	174
Indiana Light Artillery, 4th Battery		6		17		3	26
Total First Brigade	3	101	19	346	2	198	669
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Col. FREDERICK SCHAEFER.*							
(2.) Lieut. Col. BERNARD LAIBOLDT.							
Staff	1						1
44th Illinois	1	28	5	104		17	155
73d Illinois	1	15	3	61	1	7	88
2d Missouri		7	3	49	1	14	62
15th Missouri	3	9	4	51		5	72
1st Missouri Light Artillery, Battery G	1	5		13		1	20
Total Second Brigade	7	64	12	269	2	44	398
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Col. GEORGE W. ROBERTS.*							
(2.) Col. LUTHER P. BRADLEY.							
Staff	1						1
22d Illinois		21	7	109	2	54	193
27th Illinois	1	8	2	67		25	103
42d Illinois	1	19		96	1	45	161
51st Illinois	1	6	4	37		9	57
1st Illinois Light Artillery, Battery C		5	2	19		25	51
Total Third Brigade	4	58	15	328	3	158	566
Total Third Division	14	223	46	943	7	400	1,633
Total Right Wing	35	641	121	2,700	26	2,084	5,697
CENTER.							
Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS.							
Staff and escort	1	1					2

* Killed December 31.

Stone's River; also a list of the animals, means of transportation, and other property captured from the enemy and picked up on the field and at Murfreesborough, as reported by the quartermasters of the several divisions named. A large number of the wagons that were partially burned by the enemy have been recovered and turned into the repair shops. Some wagons and a large number of animals reported as lost have been picked up by the several regiments, and will be taken up and accounted for by the quartermasters in their monthly returns, so that the actual loss is much less than appears by the annexed statement.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,
Commanding Department of the Cumberland.

Statement of public animals and means of transportation captured by the enemy, killed in battle, and lost and destroyed from December 26, 1862, until January 16, 1863.

Command.	Wagons.	Ambulances.	Harness, sets.	Horses.				Mules.	Animals.
				Drayht.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
RIGHT WING.									
Headquarters	10	1	60					60	66
FIRST DIVISION.									
Headquarters			3	7		1	8	5	13
Ammunition and supply train	85		204	4		3	7	204	211
First Brigade.									
Headquarters			4	3		1	4		4
22d Indiana	1		6			2	2	5	7
59th Illinois	2	1	12			2	2	11	13
74th Illinois	2		12					12	12
75th Illinois	1							12	12
5th Wisconsin Battery	2		30		21		21	12	33
Second Brigade.									
Headquarters			24			1	1	24	25
21st Illinois	4		13					13	13
38th Illinois	2		14	1			1	15	16
15th Wisconsin	2	1	28	3			3	25	28
101st Ohio	4		2						
2d Minnesota Battery					13		13		13
Third Brigade.									
Headquarters						4	4	1	5
25th Illinois	1		6			1	1	6	7
35th Illinois	1		6			4	4	6	10
81st Indiana	2		10	4		1	5	6	11
8th Wisconsin Battery			8		18		18		18
36th Illinois Cavalry, Company B						3	3		3
2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company G						7	7		7
SECOND DIVISION.									
3d Indiana Cavalry		1				30	30		30
Supply train	2		18					18	18
Ammunition train	2		12					12	12

Statement of public animals and means of transportation captured by the enemy, killed in battle, lost and destroyed, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Wagons.	Ambulances.	Harness, sets.	Horses.				Mules.	Animals.
				Drayht.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
First Brigade.									
15th Ohio		1	5	4			4	1	6
49th Ohio		2	4						
32d Indiana		1		1			1	1	2
39th Indiana	1	1	4	4			4		4
89th Illinois		2	2	2			2		2
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery A	1	1	30		62		62		62
Second Brigade.									
Headquarters						7	7	7	14
34th Illinois				1			2	1	3
79th Illinois	1			2			2	1	3
29th Indiana	1	1	2	2			2	4	6
30th Indiana			1				2	2	2
77th Pennsylvania				2			2		2
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery E			82	7	75		82	6	88
Third Brigade.									
Headquarters	1		6				6	6	6
93d Ohio		1	4	5			5		5
5th Kentucky (Louisville Legion)	1		6	1			1	6	7
6th Indiana		1	6	1			1	6	7
5th Indiana Battery			13		24		24		24
THIRD DIVISION.									
Headquarters ammunition and supply train	58		348				348	348	348
First Brigade.									
36th Illinois	1		6				6	6	6
88th Illinois	2	1	14	2			2	12	14
24th Wisconsin	1		6				1	1	1
4th Indiana Battery	1	1	8	2	43		45	6	51
Second Brigade.									
Headquarters	1		6				6	6	6
2d Missouri	1		4				4	4	4
15th Missouri									
44th Illinois									
73d Illinois	1		6				6	6	6
1st Missouri Artillery, Battery G	1		6		37		37	6	43
Third Brigade.									
Headquarters	1		6				6	6	6
22d Illinois	1		6				6	6	6
27th Illinois	2	2	16				16	16	16
42d Illinois	1	2	8				8	8	8
51st Illinois	2	1	14	18			18	18	36
1st Illinois Artillery, Battery C	1		8		85		85	8	93
CENTER.									
FIRST DIVISION.									
Second Brigade.									
3d Ohio	1						4	4	4
88th Indiana	1		4	1			1		1
1st Michigan Battery				10			10		10
Fourth Brigade.									
Headquarters				1			1		1
1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, U. S.			2				2	10	10
2d Battalion, 18th Infantry, U. S.		1	2				2	2	2
5th U. S. Artillery [Battery H]					15		15		15

No. 8.

Report of Capt. Jesse Merrill, Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. SIGNAL CORPS, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Murfreesborough, January 7, 1863.

MAJOR: We left Nashville on Friday, December 26, in company with the advancing army, and kept well up to the front until Monday, when the troops were pushed vigorously forward, about 11 miles from where we then were, to the place which was afterward the battle-field, the west side of one fork of Stone's River. We kept communication with two columns of the advancing troops, but, as they afterward merged into one, one of the lines was abandoned. The one kept up was with General Crittenden, commanding left wing; the one abandoned, with Negley's division of center, which came in on Crittenden's right, on the same road on which we were.

The right wing of the army, under McCook, consisting of three divisions, marched on a road about 6 miles to our right. We used all our energies in trying to get communication with him, but failed, the intervening country being almost level, and a dense wood.

On Monday night I accompanied Generals Rosecrans and Thomas to the front. Communication was kept from the front to the rear during the night. A copy of the messages sent will be forwarded as soon as the reports are received. On Tuesday we communicated between Generals Rosecrans and Thomas. McCook was then about 10 miles to the right in the woods.

Crittenden's headquarters were beside those of Rosecrans. The skirmishing during the afternoon was very severe. At daylight on Wednesday morning loud reports of artillery and musketry in rapid succession were heard on the right, and at almost the same time an attack was made on the front center. Between 8 and 9 o'clock McCook's line of battle was broken, and his division separated, and, straggling, rushed through the woods to the Murfreesborough pike, 2 miles from their original position. Another line was formed parallel with the pike, and here the enemy were successfully resisted, both on the right and in front. They were pressing us heavily, though, and when the sun went down, and the din of battle and the roar of artillery ceased, all seemed relieved.

Signals could not be used to any advantage on that field; woods and clumps of trees were all around us. Even if this had not been so, it would have been impossible to use them, for General Rosecrans was constantly riding over the field, and other generals seemed equally active. At no one time, and I rode with him during most of the day, do I remember of his having been one-half hour at the same place. The result of this day's fight was, our right wing driven 2 miles, with a loss of thirty pieces of artillery, and a large number of wounded and prisoners, and thousands of stragglers, who were rushing to the rear, and could hardly be driven back to their places in the ranks. On Thursday both armies lay quiet, seemingly worn out by the contest of the previous day. To us it was a day of terrible suspense. On Friday afternoon all our available force was massed on the left, to attack the enemy's right. Happily for us, they attacked us just when we were about to move on them, and they were driven back with great loss and in much disorder. On Saturday evening we again attacked them, and drove them from a strong position. On Sunday morning they had with-

drawn their forces across the river, and they began to evacuate this place. The officers of the corps rendered all the assistance they could; the movements of the enemy were watched closely, though but little could be seen of them. Some of them were efficient as aides-de-camp to the generals to whom they were assigned.

I will claim your indulgence for this report, as it has been written under very unfavorable circumstances, and in great haste.

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

JESSE MERRILL,

Captain in Charge of Signal Corps, Fourteenth Army Corps.

Maj. ALBERT J. MYER,
Chief Signal Officer, U. S. Army.

No. 9.

Report of Col. James Barnett, First Ohio Light Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., February 8, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the general commanding, a summary from the reports of the batteries of this department, of their position, &c., at the late battle of Stone's River.

Right wing, Second Division, composed of the following batteries: Battery A, First Ohio Artillery, Lieutenant Belding commanding, attached to General Willich's brigade; Battery E, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Edgerton, attached to Colonel Kirk's brigade; Fifth Indiana, Captain Simonson, attached to Colonel Buckley's brigade, having the following guns: Nine James rifles, three 6-pounder smooth-bore, two 12-pounder howitzers, two 10-pounder Parrotts, and two 12-pounder light field guns.

On the evening of December 30, Battery A was placed in position in the rear of the brigade, on the extreme right of the right wing, with one section, the other two sections fronting the rear, horses unhitched, but not unharnessed.

At daybreak the horses were sent to water, with the precaution to return at the least alarm; firing commenced; teams returned quickly and hitched. The brigade falling back very fast, the battery retired to a slight eminence in the rear, but the enemy having got so far to the right that the guns were under a cross-fire. Near this point three guns were taken by the enemy. Two other pieces were taken rapidly to the rear, one gun, having horses remaining, was served with effect as opportunity was offered, firing about four rounds at each unlimbering. Upon reaching the Murfreesborough pike, this gun was put in position with Captain Simonson's battery, where about ten rounds were fired. Upon being ordered to return, one wheel-driver and two horses being killed while limbering up, the piece was temporarily abandoned, but was brought off by the Louisville Legion with prolonge attached. This battery the next day was held in position, with two guns, near the Murfreesborough pike, in reserve, where it remained until ordered forward across the river.

Company E, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Edgerton, was posted, on

the night of December 30, on the extreme right and in front of Battery A, in position to guard a country road, horses harnessed all night.

At daylight of the 31st, horses were sent to water; at the firing of the pickets, horses were hitched in, or at least one-half, and others immediately returned. Two shells were thrown in the direction of the enemy, still invisible, and, as they appeared, six rounds of canister were thrown with great effect. The vigorous attack of the enemy in front and flank, and the loss of many horses, rendered it necessary to abandon the battery, after, however, a determined resistance, 2 cannoneers being bayoneted at the guns. Captain Edgerton and Lieutenant Berwick were captured.

The Fifth Indiana Battery, Captain Simonson, was first put in position on the morning of the 31st about one-half mile to the right of the Six-Mile pike, upon which the right wing advanced upon an open field, with the battery fronting to the west. Here the right section was temporarily detailed, by order of Colonel Baldwin, and ordered to the left and front about 400 yards. From this position the battery fell back with the division, and was ordered, by Brigadier-General Johnson, to take another position on the crest, about 200 yards to the right of the Murfreesborough pike and near to the right of Major-General Rousseau's division, which position it retained until ordered to retire.

The next ground taken was in the open space to the left, and about 25 yards from the railroad, where it remained until about sunset, when General Johnson ordered the battery to the left of his division, about 185 yards to the right of the Murfreesborough pike, opposite the headquarters of Major-General Rousseau, where it remained until ordered to cross Stone's River, January 5. The battery lost two guns.

The artillery of the First Division is composed of the following batteries, and had the following guns: Fifth Wisconsin, Captain Pinney, attached to Colonel Post's brigade; Second Minnesota, Captain Hotchkiss, attached to Colonel Carlin's brigade; Eighth Wisconsin, Captain Carpenter, attached to Colonel Woodruff's brigade. Four 10-pounder Parrotts, eight 6-pounder smooth-bore, four 12-pounder howitzers. Captain Pinney's battery, which, with his brigade, was on the extreme right of the army, on the 30th, after driving the enemy, to enable the skirmishers to advance to the open fields in front, took position, with horses in harness, for the night. After dark, two brigades of the Second Division took position on the right.

On the morning of the 31st, upon the falling back of these two brigades, the battery changed front to the right, to meet the enemy rapidly approaching by the right and rear, supported by the Fifty-ninth Illinois and posted in a corn-field, where they opened fire with canister, checking temporarily the advance of the enemy. However, being unopposed on the right, the position became untenable, and the battery was withdrawn, leaving Captain Pinney dangerously wounded, with the loss of some 18 horses and one gun. The balance of the battery was dragged to the rear by the assistance of the Fifty-ninth Illinois. Near the Nashville pike it was charged upon by cavalry, who were driven off by the Fourth Cavalry Regiment, and took position behind Overall's Creek, on a hill to the right of the pike, where they remained all night.

The next morning their position was on the left of the pike, where breastworks were thrown up in a position to enfilade the enemy's lines. At this point a rebel battery, opening, was soon silenced by a few Parrott shots.

In the afternoon of the next day the battery, with its brigade, was

ordered to cross the Stone's River, where it was put into position, throwing up breastworks, and where it remained until 2 o'clock on the morning of January 4, when it recrossed the river, taking its former position on the right, where it remained until January 6, 1863.

The Second Minnesota Battery, Captain Hotchkiss, moved on the 30th with its brigade to the right of the Wilkinson pike until the withdrawal of skirmishers, when the battery opened with canister and spherical case with effect. When the first line of the brigade had arrived at the point about 180 yards from the house of Mrs. William Smith, two batteries, one about 100 yards west of the house and another on the east of the house, 250 yards distant, opened fire on the Twenty-first Illinois and Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers. These batteries were soon silenced, but another to the right, about 500 yards, enfilading the brigade, was driven off by a well-directed fire from this battery.

Before daylight on the morning of the 31st, the battery was retired 200 yards, soon after which the brigade was vigorously attacked and obliged to fall back across the open fields, and entered a wood about 200 yards east of Griscom's house, when several rounds were fired with destructive effect.

The command was again retired about 1 mile, and went into position in the edge of a cedar grove, from whence it again retired to the railroad. The next position was near the Nashville pike, 4 miles from Murfreesborough.

On January 2, under order of Major-General Rosecrans, the brigade and battery were sent to the left, crossing Stone's River at the ford, relieving Colonel Hazen, where they remained until January 4.

The Eighth Wisconsin Battery, Captain Carpenter, at about 11 o'clock, December 30, was posted on the edge of a cotton-field, in front of a wood running parallel with the pike, facing southeast, placed in the interval between General Sill's right and the left of its (Colonel Woodruff's) brigade.

At about 3 o'clock the command was moved forward, with heavy skirmishing. The right of the brigade, being well advanced, was halted, and remained until support should come up. The battery was placed at the angle of the fence, to protect the right and front, when it received a heavy fire, occasionally replying with shell, until toward night, when the enemy opened a heavy artillery fire on the right of Carlin's brigade, which was silenced in handsome style in five minutes. Colonel Carlin's brigade being attacked at about the same time, this battery again opened with such effect as to effectually check the attack.

The enemy on the morning of the 31st made their attack in five lines, the battery opening a full fire of canister with terrific effect. After a determined resistance, being ordered back, several ineffectual attempts were made to get into position, but, owing to the general stampede, no stand could be made until they reached the Murfreesborough pike, where they remained until Friday; being then ordered to the left, crossed the ford, and went into position on the extreme left, about 2 miles from the ford.

On Saturday, January 3, the battery changed position again to the right, where it remained until ordered to Murfreesborough.

The batteries of the Third Division are as follows: Battery G, First Missouri, Captain Hescoek, attached to Colonel Schaefer's (Second) brigade; Battery C, First Illinois, Captain Houghtaling, attached to Colonel Roberts' (Third) brigade; Fourth Indiana Battery, Captain Bush, attached to General Sill's (First) brigade, with the following guns: Two

10-pounder Parrotts, four 12-pounder light field guns, two James rifles, six 6-pounder smooth-bore, and four 12-pounder howitzers.

Battery G, First Missouri, Captain Hescoek, moved on the morning of the 30th, at 7 a. m., with its brigade, on the right and rear of the division, to the right of the Wilkinson pike, having Bush's battery on the left. Toward evening, Bush moving to the front, Captain Hescoek took his place. The three batteries of the division concentrated their fire upon the enemy's batteries, silencing their fire.

In the morning this battery and Captain Houghtaling's opened a heavy fire upon the enemy, who were engaging Generals Sill's and Davis' commands, until the enemy, who were pursuing General Johnson's command, gained their rear, when they moved to the front, to the position first held by the enemy, and then took position on the north side of the road, sending one section to re-enforce Captain Bush, engaging the enemy hotly until their ammunition was expended, when they retired through the cedars with the division. After gaining the open field, their guns were brought into action and fired until all the ammunition was expended.

About 3 o'clock, January 1, they took a position south of the Murfreesborough pike, and were not further engaged.

Battery C, First Illinois, Captain Houghtaling, on the 30th moved on the left of Captain Bush, and next to the Wilkinson pike, south side; opened fire, in concert with other batteries of the division, at the enemy in front.

On the 31st, at the falling back of General Johnson, this battery took position on the right of the pike, just in the edge of the timber, supported by Colonel Roberts' brigade, where he remained until all of his horses were killed and ammunition expended, when he was forced to abandon his guns, falling back and assisting at the guns of the other batteries of the division.

The Fourth Indiana Battery, Captain Bush, on the afternoon of the 30th, being on the right of Captain Houghtaling, moved his battery to the front and opened fire on the enemy at short range, with the other batteries, driving back the enemy. During the night the captain moved to a more commanding position.

On the 31st, the battle opened with this division by an attempt to capture this battery, which was gallantly defended by General Sill, when this brave officer fell between the guns. The battery fell back with the other batteries of the division, and took position on the north of the pike, sending one section, with Lieutenant Flansburg, to re-enforce Captain Houghtaling; one Parrott section, with Lieutenant Taliaferro, was, at this time, sent to Captain Houghtaling, assisted by Captain Hescoek, when, after a very warm resistance, and ammunition failing, the battery was compelled to retire, with the loss of two of its guns left in the cedars. The next position taken was on the south of the Murfreesborough pike, with the division.

Center.—The artillery of the First Division consists of the following batteries: Captain Stone, First Kentucky Battery; Lieutenant Van Pelt, First Michigan Battery; Company H, Fifth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Guenther, with the following guns: Ten 10-pounder Parrotts, two James rifles, two 6-pounder smooth-bore, and four 12-pounder light field guns.

Captain Stone's First Kentucky Battery was not ordered into position until January 1, when it was posted on the right of the Murfreesborough pike, directly in front of the log-house, one section being stationed

in the woods, about 100 yards distant. The battery afterward moved to the front edge of the woods, in rear of the center of the brigade to which it was attached. At night it relieved Lieutenant Parsons' battery, which was stationed outside and in front of the woods, commanding the corn-fields and woods to the right and front, in which position it remained until January 3. At 4 p. m. relieved Captain Cox's half battery, which was about 50 yards to the left, posting a half battery in its place at night; shelled the fields and woods from both points; was not further engaged.

The First Michigan Battery, Lieutenant Van Pelt, took position on the morning of the 31st on the left of the pike, 3 miles from Murfreesborough, where they remained during the day, serving their guns with effect; were relieved on the 1st of January, and took position about half a mile in rear of front line of battle.

On January 2 moved a few hundred yards to the front, and took position on the right of the pike, remaining at this point through the day. On Saturday morning the battery moved to the front, behind earthworks, immediately beyond the pike, fronting the position occupied on Wednesday, remaining there all day and night, shelling the woods at sundown.

On the morning of the 31st, Company H, Fifth Artillery, Lieutenant Guenther, moved through the cedars to the left of the pike with its brigade, but was returned, owing to the impracticability of operating in the woods, and took position in the open ground in time to check a rebel advance. From the cedars it then moved to a position on the rise of ground on the opposite side of the pike. On the appearance of the enemy at close range, a heavy fire with canister shot was opened on them with such effect that they were driven back to the woods in disorder. The battery held this position until the morning of January 1, when it was moved some distance to the rear, and, after several changes of front, was ordered with the brigade to a point on the Murfreesborough pike, beyond Stewart's Creek. This order being countermanded, the battery encamped near its old point.

On the morning of January 3 fire was opened on a battery of the enemy which was annoying our troops, resulting in driving it from its position. During the forenoon the brigade and battery moved forward and occupied rifle-pits and epaulements which had been constructed for them. At dusk the battery opened fire with shell and spherical case shot on the enemy, concealed in the woods and buildings and behind breastworks, &c., which, being followed by infantry, drove them from their position. The battery remained in position during the following day, and on the morning of the 5th removed to Murfreesborough.

The batteries of the Second Division, Brigadier-General Negley, are as follows: Company M, First Ohio, Captain Schultz; Company G, First Ohio Artillery, Lieutenant Marshall; Company M, First Kentucky [Second Kentucky Battery], Lieutenant Ellsworth, with the following guns: Two 12-pounder Wiard steel guns, two 6-pounder Wiard, four 12-pounder howitzers, two James rifles, one 6-pounder smooth-bore, and two 16-pounder Parrotts. The three batteries of this division were posted with the division on a slope of the west bank of Stone's River, in advance, but joining the right, of General Crittenden's line, with General Sheridan on their right; Captain Schultz on the right of Battery G, First Ohio, and Battery M, First Kentucky [Second Kentucky Battery], on the left. The batteries opened fire on the enemy and drove them, holding the position during the day and night.

On the 31st, these batteries, after holding their position under a murderous fire for four hours, having a large proportion of their horses killed, and being out of ammunition, were compelled to retire with the loss of six guns in getting through the cedars.

On January 1, Company M was posted on the left side of the railroad; changed position about 1 o'clock to the right of Murfreesborough pike, where it remained until night.

On January 2, these batteries were posted on the hill at the ford of Stone's River, to resist the attack on the left, which proved successful.

Left Wing.—The batteries of the left wing are the following: Company M, Fourth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Parsons; Company H, Fourth Artillery, Lieutenant Throckmorton; Company B, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Standart, attached to the Second Division; Tenth Indiana, Captain Cox; Eighth Indiana, Lieutenant Estep; Sixth Ohio, Captain Bradley, attached to the First Division; Seventh Indiana Battery, Captain Swallow; Third Wisconsin, Lieutenant Livingston; Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania [Battery B, Pennsylvania Light Artillery], Lieutenant Stevens, attached to the Third Division, with the following guns: Four 3-inch rifles, ten 12-pounder howitzers, six James rifles, twelve 6-pounder smooth-bores, and sixteen 10-pounder Parrotts.

The first position taken by Batteries H and M, under command of Lieutenant Parsons, was just to the right of the Murfreesborough pike, 2½ miles from Murfreesborough. During the morning they retired for ammunition, and took a second position between the railroad and pike, and, after firing away all their ammunition, they again retired. On January 2 they were moved to the front, and soon after took position at the hill near the ford, and participated in repulsing the enemy from our left.

Company B, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Standart, on the 31st was posted on the right of Lieutenant Parsons. After firing away his ammunition, he retired for the day. On the 2d he was put in position on the hill on the right of the pike, commanding the corn-field occupied by Stokes' battery the day before. Being under a very heavy cannonading, three pieces were retired to a position under cover, in reserve, to the left of the pike. These three guns were, in the afternoon, moved to the left, to resist the attack of the enemy.

Company F, First Ohio, Captain Cockerill, on the 31st, was placed in position on the left of Parsons' battery, and on the right of the pike; but during the morning retired and took position on the left of the railroad and about 400 yards from it, which position they held until the attack on the left, to which point Lieutenant Osburn moved four pieces, the captain having been wounded.

Captain Bradley, on the morning of the 31st, moved, with Colonel Harker's brigade in its advance, to check the enemy on the right, and held with it its position through the day. On the 2d he held a position on commanding ground near to the right of the railroad. When the attack was made on the left, he changed front to fire to the left.

The Seventh Indiana Battery, Captain Swallow, on the 31st, went into battery a short distance to the right of the pike, 2½ miles from Murfreesborough, and in the afternoon moved to the left of the railroad, going into battery on the right of Cockerill's battery. On the 2d this battery also was placed on the high ground to resist the enemy's attack at the ford.

The Eighth Indiana Battery, Lieutenant Estep, was placed on the opposite side of the pike (left) and rear of Captain Swallow's battery.

On the 2d, having suffered severely from the enemy's artillery in the morning, he retired to repair damages, and, when the attack was made on the left, massed with the other batteries on the hill at the ford.

The Tenth Indiana Battery, Captain Cox, was placed in position in front and on the left of the railroad, which he maintained on the 31st and afterward. The Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Battery [Battery B, Pennsylvania Light Artillery], Lieutenant Stevens, was posted on the left and facing the pike, 3 miles from Murfreesborough, when the enemy appeared. As they fell back he moved forward, crossing the pike, taking position on the ridge, changing several times.

On the 2d he changed front to fire to the left, and opened fire when the attack was made in that direction.

The Third Wisconsin Battery, Lieutenant Livingston, was commanding the ford on the 31st. They afterward moved across the river at the ford. When the attack was made on the 2d, they recrossed and took position on the hill in line with the other batteries of the corps.

The Board of Trade Battery, Captain Stokes, attached to the Pioneer Brigade, consisting of four 6-pounders, smooth-bore, and two James rifles, moved, on the 31st, promptly to the front and right of the pike, serving canister with effect. They afterward moved still farther to the front, holding a good position, commanding a corn-field and the wood beyond. After having held the position thirty-six hours, the battery was ordered to the rear.

On the 2d, this battery was again put in position with the batteries to resist the attack from the left, and opened, with the artillery force massed at that point, a destructive fire, causing the enemy to retire. The losses in *matériel* and *personnel* I had the honor to report immediately after the battle.

The many gallant actions of battery officers and men are named by their immediate commanders in their reports, to which I respectfully refer for the details of their action. The practice of the batteries was good, and the precaution of the general commanding to fire low and be sparing of ammunition was heeded. Owing to the nature of the country, the loss of the guns was unavoidable, as in falling back on the right the horses could not be under cover, and the thick cedar thickets prevented the guns being brought off by hand.

Six guns, 3 caissons, 3 damaged forges, and 2 battery wagons were captured from the enemy, or recaptured; also 5,451 muskets, with bayonets, scabbards, &c.

The whole number of men engaged in serving the batteries was 86 commissioned officers and 2,760 non-commissioned officers and privates.

I remain, colonel, your obedient servant,

JAMES BARNETT,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

Lieut. Col. C. GODDARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

Report of loss sustained by the batteries of the Fourteenth Army Corps.

Designation of battery.	Name of commanding officer.	Officers.			Enlisted men.			Guns.		Horses.			Harness.		Battery wagons.		Forges.		Number of rounds expended.
		Killed.	Wounded.	Captured.	Killed.	Wounded.	Captured and missing.	Captured.	Disabled.	Killed.	Wounded.	Captured and missing.	Sets of lead.	Sets of wheel.	Lost.	Disabled.	Lost.	Disabled.	
Battery B, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Edgerton.....	2	2	2	5	20	6	6	75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Battery A, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Lieutenant Belding.....	.....	.....	.....	8	23	3	1	73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	213
5th Indiana Battery.....	Captain Simonson.....	.....	.....	.....	4	12	5	9	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	212
Battery G, 1st Missouri Artillery.....	Captain Hancock.....	.....	.....	.....	6	20	24	6	80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,112
Battery C, 1st Illinois Artillery.....	Captain Houghtaling.....	1	1	1	6	17	3	2	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,154
4th Indiana Battery.....	Captain Bush.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4	1	1	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,160
5th Wisconsin Battery.....	Lieutenant Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	1	5	4	1	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	726
2d Michigan Battery.....	Lieutenant Stiles.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4	1	2	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	375
1st Minnesota Battery.....	Captain Hotchkiss.....	.....	.....	.....	3	5	2	13	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500
1st Kentucky Battery.....	Lieutenant Van Pelt.....	.....	.....	.....	1	11	1	5	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
Battery H, 5th U. S. Artillery.....	Captain Stone.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	697
Battery Michigan Artillery.....	Lieutenant Guenther.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	558
Battery M, 1st Michigan Artillery.....	Captain Church.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	750
Battery N, 1st Michigan Artillery.....	Captain Schultz.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	553
Battery G, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Lieutenant Marshall.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	531
Hewitt's Kentucky Battery.....	Lieutenant Nell.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,610
Battery B, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Standard.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,269
Batteries H and M, 4th U. S. Artillery.....	Lieutenant Parsons.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,030
Battery F, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Cockrell.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,030
Battery I, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Lieutenant Livingston.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	338
3d Wisconsin Battery.....	Lieutenant Stevens.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,660
26th Pennsylvania Battery.....	Captain Cox.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,442
10th Indiana Battery.....	Lieutenant Estep.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	871
8th Indiana Battery.....	Captain Bradley.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500
6th Ohio Battery.....	Captain Stokes.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500
Board of Trade Battery.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,460
Total	2	9	3	61	195	103	28	1	569	60	59	88	36	3	1	5	1	20,307

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES BARNETT
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

No. 10.

Report of Capt. James St. Clair Morton, U. S. Engineers, commanding Pioneer Brigade.

HDQRS. PIONEER BRIGADE, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Camp, 3 miles north of Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

MAJOR: According to your order, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken in the late battle by my brigade, which is composed of three battalions of Pioneers and Stokes' (Chicago Board of Trade) battery:

On the march hither from Nashville, my brigade constructed two bridges over Stewart's Creek between the hours of 4 p. m. and 4 a. m. December 29 and 30, arriving here on the 30th.

On the morning of the 31st, the brigade was engaged in improving the fords of Stone's River, in which the right battalion sustained the fire of some rebel cavalry, when I was ordered to take position in the line of battle, and formed my brigade, by the orders of the commanding general in person, fronting toward the right, where the enemy appeared on a rise of ground in front of us, from which they had driven one of our batteries. I immediately opened fire with canister from Stokes' battery and drove them back. I then, by order of the commanding general in person, advanced to the said rise, and held it under the fire of three rebel batteries. I supported the battery by the First Battalion of Pioneers on the left, posted in a thicket, and by the Third Battalion on the right. The Second Battalion was placed in a wood still farther to the right.

Shortly after I had formed my line, the enemy appeared across the field, preparing to charge upon some of our troops, who were retiring, but had been rallied by the commanding general. I opened fire upon these from Stokes' battery, which played over the head of the commanding general and our troops, and arrested their advance. My right battalion was soon after attacked, the object of the enemy being to penetrate through the line under cover of the woods. Said battalion changed front so as to obtain a flanking fire, and by a single volley repulsed the enemy, composed of the Eleventh and Fourteenth Texas Regiments. In this the battalion was aided by the Seventy-ninth Indiana, which had rallied on its right.

Toward sundown, the enemy appearing on my left, I brought two sections of Stokes' battery to the left of my First Battalion, and repulsed a brigade of the enemy which attacked that battalion in the thicket. They left their dead within 50 paces of my line. In this affair both the battalion and the battery behaved very creditably.

The brigade slept on their arms the night of the 31st. Early on the 1st instant the enemy appeared on my left, apparently to advance through the gap between it and the pike. I changed my front and occupied the gap, and sustained and returned their volleys of musketry, playing upon them from the battery and preventing their advance beyond the edge of the woods. We held this position till after nightfall, when the brigade was relieved and formed in reserve.

On the morning of the 2d, part of the Pioneers were engaged in making road crossings over the railroad, when the enemy opened a cannonade, which reached our camp. I brought out Stokes' battery and returned the fire. The battalions advanced, supporting it under a fire of solid shot and shell. The cannonade having ceased, I received orders to fall

command, and we took position on the west side of the Nashville pike, and laid on our arms at night.

Our loss during the day was First Lieut. H. M. McConnell, Company H, killed, and Second Lieutenant Kagay, Company K, slightly wounded; 9 men killed and 39 wounded.

January 1, 1863, changed position to rear of the pike, and laid on our arms at night.

January 2, about 4 p. m., moved across the river to our left, to repel the enemy's assault in that direction. After coming under fire of the enemy's batteries, formed line of battle, and advanced, under heavy artillery fire, to within musket range of their battery, and silenced it. Took the adjutant of the Forty-first Alabama and 12 men prisoners. Lost 1 man killed and 1 wounded. Laid on our arms at night.

The officers and men deserve great credit for their patience and endurance, being exposed to drenching rain, cold, and hunger, without fire nearly all the time, for a week. No officer failed in his duties. All did well and deserve commendation.

Major McIlwain had command of the skirmishers of the brigade on the 30th and on the morning of December 31, and deserves great credit for the bravery and skill he displayed in handling them; and, after they were driven in and the action became general, he returned to his command, and by his cool courage and gallantry, shown throughout the entire conflict, deserves my highest commendation.

Recapitulation of casualties.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Commissioned officers	1	1	25	27
Enlisted men	10	49	25	84
Total	11	50	25	86

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. CHANDLER,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieutenant FLYNN,

Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Third Brigade, First Division.

No. 30.

Report of Brig. Gen. Richard W. Johnson, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, RIGHT WING,
January 8, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Second Division, under my command, beginning December 26, 1862, the day on which it left Nashville, and terminating on January 6, 1863:

The Second Division is composed of the following troops:

First Brigade, Brig. Gen. A. Willich commanding: Forty-ninth Ohio, Colonel Gibson; Fifteenth Ohio, Colonel Wallace; Thirty-ninth Indiana,

Lieutenant-Colonel Jones; Thirty-second Indiana, Lieutenant Colonel Erdelmeyer; Eighty-ninth Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel Hotchkiss, and Goodspeed's battery, First Ohio Artillery.

Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. E. N. Kirk commanding: Twenty-ninth Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Dunn; Thirtieth Indiana, Colonel Dodge; Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania, Lieutenant-Colonel Housum; Thirty-fourth Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel Bristol; Seventy-ninth Illinois, Colonel Read, and Edgerton's battery, Ohio Artillery.

Third Brigade, Col. P. P. Baldwin commanding: Sixth Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Tripp; Fifth Kentucky (Louisville Legion), Lieutenant-Colonel Berry; First Ohio, Major Stafford; Ninety-third Ohio, Colonel Anderson, and Simonson's (Indiana) battery.

Major Klein's battalion, of Third Indiana Cavalry, was assigned to duty with the Second Division.

Agreeably to orders, the three divisions constituting the right wing of the Fourteenth Army Corps marched from their camps, near Nashville, taking the Nolensville pike, and arrived in that village the same day at 4 p. m.

On the following day the same divisions, with mine in advance, marched to Triune. The rebel rear guard contested the ground inch by inch, and the day was passed constantly skirmishing with them, with no loss on our side, but several casualties on their part. Triune was occupied by my division about 4 p. m.

The following day, December 28, the command remained in Triune. A reconnoissance to ascertain the direction the enemy had retreated was made by a brigade of my command, commanded by Brig. Gen. A. Willich. It having been ascertained that the enemy had retreated toward Murfreesborough, I was ordered to leave a brigade at Triune, and on the 29th to march on Murfreesborough, on what is known as the Bole Jack road. Col. P. P. Baldwin's (Third) brigade was left at Triune.

The command arrived at Wilkinson's Cross-Roads about 8 p. m. on the 29th, and an order was sent at once to Colonel Baldwin to move forward his brigade, which arrived early on the afternoon of the 30th. My division was in reserve on the 29th.

On the following morning, December 30, General Sheridan's division was ordered to advance in line of battle, covering the Wilkinson pike, while General Davis' division marched in the same order on the right of General Sheridan. My division, being held in reserve, was marched in column on the pike. There being no troops on General Davis' right, and General Sheridan's left being guarded by General Crittenden's left wing, I was ordered to oblique to the right, covering the right of General Davis' division.

About 2 p. m. I received an order from Major-General McCook to look well to my right, as General Hardee (rebel), with his corps, was on the right flank of our column. I ordered Brigadier-General Kirk, commanding the Second Brigade, to take position with his brigade, his left resting against the right of General Davis, his right refused, so as to cover our right flank.

About dark I placed General Willich's brigade on the right of Kirk's, refusing his right, and directing a heavy line of skirmishers to be thrown forward, connecting on the left with those of General Davis, and extending to the right and rear, near the Wilkinson pike. This line of skirmishers was thrown forward about 600 yards, and near those of the enemy. My Third Brigade, Colonel Baldwin commanding, was held in reserve.

At dusk on the evening of the 30th the troops occupied the position as indicated by the accompanying map. In consultation with Major-General McCook, late in the afternoon of December 30, he informed me that he had reliable information to the effect that the center of the rebel line of battle was opposite our extreme right, and that we would probably be attacked by the entire rebel army early on the following morning. His prediction proved true. He also informed me that he had communicated this information to the commanding general.

I expected a change in the programme for the following day, but none was made. My brigade commanders were called together, and the operations of the following day fully explained to them. Every arrangement was made for an attack. Two gallant and experienced officers commanded my two advanced brigades, and every precaution was taken against surprise.

At 6.22 on the morning of the 31st the outposts in front of my division were driven in by an overwhelming force of infantry, outnumbering my forces greatly, and known to contain about 35,000 men. At the same time my extreme right was attacked by the enemy's cavalry.

The gallant Willich and Kirk soon opened a heavy fire of musketry and artillery upon the advancing columns, causing wavering in the ranks, but fresh columns would soon replace them, and it was apparent that to fall back was a "military necessity." Edgarton's battery, after firing three rounds, had so many of its horses killed as to render it unmanageable. He, however, remained with it, and continued to fire until he fell by a severe wound, and he and his battery fell into the hands of the enemy. Before falling back, the horse of General Willich was killed, and he was wounded and taken prisoner.

About the same time General Kirk received a severe wound, which disabled him. Seeing the pressure upon my lines, I ordered up my reserve brigade, under the gallant Baldwin. The troops of his brigade advanced promptly and delivered their fire, holding their ground for some time, but they, too, were compelled to fall back. The troops of this division for the first time were compelled to yield the field temporarily, but the heroes of Shiloh and Perryville did not abandon their ground until forced to do so by the immense masses of the enemy hurled against them, and then, inch by inch. The ground over which the division passed, covered with the enemy's dead and those of our own men, shows that the field was warmly contested. Several times the lines were reformed and resistance offered, but the columns of the enemy were too heavy for a single line, and ours would have to yield. Finally the left flank of my division reached the line of General Rousseau's, when it was reformed and fought until out of ammunition, but my efficient ordnance officer, Lieutenant Murdoch, had a supply in readiness, which was soon issued, and the division assisted in driving the enemy from the field in their last desperate struggle of the day. Soon the curtain of darkness fell upon the scene of blood, and all was quiet, awaiting the coming of morn to renew hostilities. Morning came, but the enemy had withdrawn.

January 1 was a day of comparative quiet in camp, few shots being fired, but many preparations made for a heavy battle on the following day. General Crittenden's wing was attacked in force on the 2d, and one of my brigades (Colonel Gibson's) was sent to re-enforce him. For the gallant part taken by it, reference is made to the report of Major-General Crittenden. The enemy evacuated Murfreesborough on the night of the 3d.

On the 6th I was ordered to remove my camp to a point on the Shelbyville road, 4 miles south of Murfreesborough.

The conduct of officers and men under my command was good. (The Louisville Legion, under the gallant Lieutenant-Colonel Berry, brought off by hand one cannon after the horses were killed.) They yielded the ground only where overpowered, offering an obstinate resistance at every point. Some few in each regiment, becoming panic-stricken, fled to Nashville for safety. Captain Simonson managed his battery with skill and courage, and with it did good execution. He lost two guns, but not until the horses had been killed and the guns disabled. Goodspeed's battery lost three guns and quite a number of horses. This battery was handled well, and did good execution, under Lieutenant Belding.

Reference is respectfully made to the reports of regimental and brigade commanders for the list of those who, by their bravery and good conduct, rendered themselves conspicuous.

After the capture of General Willich, his brigade was commanded temporarily by Colonel Wallace, Fifteenth Ohio, but was afterward replaced by Colonel Gibson, Forty-ninth Ohio. General Kirk becoming disabled, was replaced by Colonel Dodge, Thirtieth Indiana, while the Third Brigade was commanded throughout by Colonel Baldwin.

These four colonels have demonstrated their fitness for command on several bloody fields, and are recommended to my superiors for promotion. Their coolness and courage rendered them conspicuous throughout the bloody engagement. Major Klein and his battalion of the Third Indiana Cavalry deserve special mention. Under their gallant leader the battalion was always in front, and rendered efficient service.

To Captains Bartlett, Hooker, Thruston, and McLeland, and Lieutenants Taft, Hill, and Sheets, of my staff, my thanks are due for their efficiency and promptness in carrying orders to all parts of the field.

My medical director, Surgeon Marks, and the medical officers of the division were untiring in their exertions to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded, and to them my thanks are due. My escort, composed of the following-named men of the Third Kentucky Cavalry, who accompanied me throughout the engagement, deserve special mention for their good conduct: Sergt. William C. Miles, Privates George Long, Thomas Salyers, John Christian, John Whitten, James Bowen, B. Hammerstein, and R. A. Norah. Private Bowen's horse was killed by a cannon-ball.

The loss of the division was as follows: Killed, 260; wounded, 1,005; missing, 1,280 (supposed to have been captured).*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. W. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. JOHN A. CAMPBELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 31.

Report of Capt. Peter Simonson, Fifth Indiana Battery.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH INDIANA BATTERY,
Camp in Field, January 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on the morning of December 27, this command marched with the brigade from its bivouac on the

* But see revised statement, p. 209.

Nolensville pike, half mile south of Nolensville, Tenn. After marching about 2 miles, the battery was ordered forward with the brigade, which was advancing in line of battle on the right of the pike, cannonading being heard directly in our front. Colonel Baldwin, brigade commander, ordered one piece forward, which fired three shots at the enemy's cavalry, which was in sight, retreating, on the opposite hill. We then advanced a short distance, and two Parrott guns were ordered in the woods to the right of the pike, where six rounds were fired at the enemy, who were apparently cavalry, drawn up in line of battle, supported by a battery planted on the left of the pike. Their artillery ceased firing, and their cavalry retreated when we advanced, but too late to properly support the brigade, which had charged through the village of Triune. The cause of delay was a bridge being destroyed, and very heavy ground bordering on each side of the creek, when we passed beyond. With a light 12-pounder we fired two shots at the enemy, retreating through a wood. The command then encamped half a mile south of Triune, where it remained, and was employed in inspecting ammunition, until the morning of December 29, when four pieces of the battery were ordered to report to General Willich, under whom they marched, without any event worthy of notice, to within 4 miles of Murfreesborough, Tenn.

At this place, at about 1 o'clock, the four pieces rejoined the brigade, when the whole command went with the brigade upon a reconnaissance 2 miles to the right of the main body of the division, from which the command returned at about 8 p. m., and went into bivouac in the woods near brigade and division headquarters. We received permission to unhitch the horses, but not to unharness, and, early on the morning of the 31st, an order was sent to us by the brigade commander to hitch, which we did without watering the horses.

At about 7.30 a. m. two light 12-pounder guns were ordered out to a position about 800 yards southeast from the camp, facing a large cornfield, the enemy appearing in a very heavy force. I was then ordered to return and get the other four guns in position as quickly as possible, which was done, placing them to the right and rear of the first pieces posted. The light 12-pounder gun in the advanced position was under command of First Lieut. H. Rankin. The brigade commander is better informed as to their actions than I am, as they were under his immediate eye. I simply noticed that they fired very rapidly, and were the last troops which passed to the rear upon my left. They fired in that position 17 rounds from one piece, and 23 from the other—nearly all canister. Some of the rounds were double charges. The four guns under my immediate command commenced firing shell. We had fired about 15 rounds when a very large body of our own troops appeared to our right-oblique, retreating rapidly; it was the remains of Kirk's brigade. Colonel Dodge, of this brigade, had hardly time to inform me that a very large body of the enemy was in close pursuit, when they appeared. Three of the four guns opened upon them with canister, and checked them in front and to the right-oblique, but more appearing almost directly on our right flank (our infantry were out of sight to the rear), the order was given to leave the field. The command succeeded in getting away with but two of the four pieces. At these two positions there were 3 men killed and 21 wounded; also 23 horses disabled. We retreated through a dense woods, and had great difficulty in getting our carriages through.

I endeavored to go as much to the left as possible, as I noticed that our troops were less disorganized in that direction. With two pieces we made an ineffectual stand in the woods, about midway between the

two pikes, at a point 500 or 600 yards to the right of the Murfreesborough pike. Under the direction of the brigade and division commanders, with three of our own pieces and one of Battery E, First Ohio Light Artillery, we succeeded for a time in checking the enemy, but the infantry fell back, and we were ordered to retire the battery. At this point about 42 rounds of ammunition were fired. It was a splendid position, and I regretted leaving it. One man was wounded and several horses disabled. We then fell back across the pike and the railroad, and became again separated from the brigade. I then reported to General Johnson, who ordered me in position on a point to the left of the railroad, where we remained until about 3 p. m., and were then ordered to our present position, on the right of the Murfreesborough pike.

On the following morning we had a short artillery duel with a four-gun battery in front of us. In the afternoon the enemy appeared advancing with about a brigade, and we opened fire, firing about 25 rounds. We have been lying in our present position since.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

PETER SIMONSON,
Captain Fifth Indiana Battery.

Lieut. GEORGE H. BURNS,
Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Third Brigade, Second Division.

No. 32.

Report of Capt. Warren P. Edgarton, Battery E, First Ohio Light Artillery.

NASHVILLE, TENN., June 25, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit, for your consideration, a brief report of the action of my command (Battery E, First Regiment Ohio Volunteer Light Artillery), at and immediately preceding the battle of Stone's River.

I have cause seriously to regret that my capture and subsequent imprisonment have so long delayed the recital of facts which I purpose to embody in this report, known only to myself, by which injustice has been done to the brave men of my command, especially as there seems to have been very generally a misapprehension in regard to my position on the morning of the 31st of last December, and the cause which resulted in the capture of my battery.

We left camp near Nashville on the 26th of December, attached to General Kirk's brigade of General Johnson's division, right wing. We marched on the Nolensville pike. The next day, the 27th, approaching Triune, our brigade was ordered in the advance. After marching about 1 mile, we encountered a battery of the enemy posted in a commanding position. My battery was ordered forward to engage it, and, after a few rounds, we drove them from that position. We took a second position on a hill overlooking the village of Triune, and again discovered the enemy's battery planted in our front, well supported by cavalry. We dislodged them a second time, dismounting one of their guns. The enemy ceased to annoy us here, and we were ordered to bivouac near the village, one section being ordered on picket duty.

The duty of following the enemy on this day was very arduous. We were obliged to leave the traveled roads in order to gain position; we removed fences, dragged our pieces through the soft ground of cultivated