

THE STORY OF A REGIMENT:

A HISTORY OF THE CAMPAIGNS,

AND

ASSOCIATIONS IN THE FIELD,

OF

THE SIXTH REGIMENT

OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

By E. HANNAFORD,

Formerly a Member of the Regiment, and later Adjutant of the 197th O. V. I.

For Romans, in Rome's quarrel,
Spared neither land nor gold,
Nor son nor wife, nor limb nor life,
In the brave days of old.

MACAULAY'S "HORATIUS."

CINCINNATI:

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR,

No. 38 WEST FOURTH STREET.

1868.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

STONE RIVER.

(DECEMBER 26, 1862—JANUARY 4, 1863.)

UNDER the impression that the Union army had gone into winter-quarters, Bragg, a few days before Christmas, detached two considerable bodies of cavalry, sending one into West Tennessee to badger General Grant, and the other northward to repeat the old game of tearing up the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. Rosecrans, however, was not nearly so meekly-minded as his antagonist gave him credit for; he had come to Nashville for the express purpose of *fight*, and had been hard at work preparing for nothing else ever since. Five weeks' rations had now been accumulated at Nashville, and the rising Cumberland afforded promise of the means whereby this supply could be rapidly and safely augmented. The army was in excellent condition—thoroughly rested, well in hand, and wonderfully toned up in spirit and enthusiasm since the close of its weary campaign in Kentucky. The enemy's immense preponderance in cavalry had been materially reduced by the dispositions above noted, and the time seemed opportune for reclaiming Middle Tennessee and breaking the power of Bragg's boastful legions. On the 24th of December, marching orders were accordingly issued, but were countermanded in a few hours, so that the army did not move

either on that day or the warm and listless Christmas which succeeded.

The Left Wing, under Crittenden, at this date consisted of the three divisions of Wood, Palmer, and Van Olve, now re-numbered as the First, Second, and Third of that wing. Palmer's division, according to the new nomenclature, comprised the following troops:

First Brigade (formerly Twenty-second), Brigadier-General Charles Craft, commanding—First and Second Kentucky, Thirty-first Indiana, and Ninetieth Ohio, and Battery B, First Ohio Artillery, under Captain Standart.

Second Brigade (formerly Nineteenth), Colonel Hazen commanding—Part First Ohio, Ninth Indiana, Sixth Kentucky, and One Hundred and Tenth Illinois, and Battery F, First Ohio Artillery, under Captain Cookerill.

Third Brigade (formerly Tenth), Colonel Grose commanding—Thirty-sixth Indiana, Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio, Twenty-third Kentucky, and Eighty-fourth Illinois, and Batteries H and M, Fourth United States Artillery, officered by Lieutenants Parsons, Cushing, and Huntington, and consolidated for the time being under command of the first-named.

Early on the 26th of December, the entire army was put in motion, the Left Wing proceeding directly out the Murfreesboro' turnpike, and the Center and Right Wing (under Thomas and McCook) on the Franklin and Nolensville roads. Crittenden that day advanced to Lavergne, skirmishing heavily on his front, over a rough country, abounding in forests and

Graphic descriptions of the march from Nashville, and scenes upon the battle field of Stone River, will be found in Part II, in the chapters entitled "In the Ranks at Stone River," and "In Hospital," etc.

cedar-brakes, and the Second Division marched twelve miles, under cover of a strong force of skirmishers and flankers, to which the Sixth Ohio and other regiments of the Third Brigade contributed their due proportion. Rain fell nearly all day and again at night, and the next morning was very foggy. During the forenoon of the 27th Hascall's brigade of Wood's division, with the help of artillery, drove the rebels from Lavergne, and that night the Left Wing bivouacked at Stewart's Creek, after continuous skirmishing for five miles, most of the time in a cold, dreary rain. Grose's brigade took position on the extreme right of the advanced line, where the Sixth Ohio was thrown forward on picket. The next day (Sunday, the 28th) was bright and pleasant, and passed in quiet, except on the picket-line, where some rather exciting but by no means dangerous skirmishing was kept up until evening, when the rebels retired across Stewart's Creek. Before dark they grew sufficiently friendly to exchange newspapers with the Union pickets on the other side of the stream.

Rosecrans had half expected to find the enemy in force at Stewart's Creek, prepared to offer battle; but when the Left Wing advanced on Monday morning, it encountered little opposition, and steadily pushed back the enemy's skirmishers seven and a half miles further, or to within two and a half miles of Murfreesboro'. Grose's brigade, which this day had the advance upon the right of the turnpike, was formed in two lines, of which the Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio constituted the second; marched laboriously in line of battle across the country, abreast of a brigade from Wood's division on the opposite side of the road; forded Overall's Creek, and late in the day halted two hundred yards before reaching a brick house, then in flames, situated in the midst of a large cleared space near the point where the railroad crosses the turnpike. This was the famous

at Cowan's Burnt House, as it is called in the accounts of Stone River. From beyond it a strong line of rebel skirmishers had already fired two or three defiant volleys, wounding Corporal Joseph Beal of Company A, Sixth Ohio, and two men in the Eighty-fourth Illinois, while, as it afterward proved, the enemy's main line was entrenched but a short distance behind, the railroad directly in front. Misled by a signal message from Palmer, somewhat earlier in the day, to the effect that the enemy was probably evacuating, Rosecrans ordered Wood to ford Stone River and occupy Murfreesboro'. The Second Division remained standing in line for two hours or more in readiness to cooperate, then, as the order had been countermanded, the troops lay down and slept as best they could under a pattering rain.

On the 30th, McCook's three divisions slowly sought their way into position on the right of General Nepley, who joined Palmer in the cedars, on the right, as Wood did at the turnpike on the left. Rousseau also came up from beyond Stewart's Creek, and bivouacked on the turnpike near General Rosecrans' head-quarters, in reserve. Palmer's front was this day covered by the First and Third Brigades, the latter extending across an old cotton-field, from the turnpike to the cedars, and formed in two lines, as usual, with the Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio in advance. Brisk skirmishing was kept up at the front, two or three Sixth Ohio companies taking their turn with the rest, and bullets were continually dropping among the troops as they sat or squatted in line. A few casualties occurred, principally in the Sixth Ohio. Heavy fighting was heard upon the right during the afternoon, and the day closed with an artillery duel in which Parsons led off in silencing the rebels. Three hours after dark Grose's brigade was re-

lieved by Hazen's, and retired to a comfortable bivouac in the cedars.

About seven o'clock on the morning of the 31st, the sound of artillery broke out heavily in the direction of the Right, quickly followed by an under-tone, which the troops recognized at once as rapid, though distant musketry. Rosecrans' plan of battle had been to throw the Left Wing across Stone River in overwhelming force, crush Breckinridge, who was covering Murfreesboro', and then, moving to the right, to sweep the whole rebel line, division after division, clear around to the front of McCook. In this programme every thing depended upon McCook's holding his ground until Crittenden and Thomas had been allowed time to execute their allotted tasks. Van Cleve's division was already across Stone River, Wood was about to follow, and Palmer was ready to move in coöperation, when the rapidly-nearing roar of battle upon the other flank, and the drifting of immense masses of flying troops toward the left and rear, conveyed to Rosecrans, with appalling certainty, the tidings of overwhelming disaster to the Right, and the fearful jeopardy of his whole army in consequence. How grandly he rose above all the emergencies of that awful day, saving the battle by personal effort and magnificent example after it had been lost, and wresting victory at last from the grasp of resentful Fortune, is a brilliant page in history to which we can only refer in passing, and must now confine our attention to the part borne by the Sixth Ohio, and its immediate associates, in the fateful strife of Stone River.

After standing some time in line and countermarching in the cedars, the Third Brigade, at about eight o'clock, moved out into the cotton-field, just as the rear of Rousseau's division was filing by and up into the cedars. The Third Ohio was in that column, as were also the batteries of Loomis and Guenther ;

and in the latter (formerly Terrill's) the Sixth Ohio saw Lieutenant Ludlow again, with other friends of Shiloh fame. The firing was drawing near now, and such signs of disaster appeared as could not be mistaken. Scarcely had the batteries disappeared in the timber, when Colonel Grose, by Palmer's order, executed a rapid change of front to the rear, to protect the right of the division, which was about to be taken in flank and rear, at the same time that a furious assault was delivered upon its front. In the new formation, the Sixth Ohio was nearest the enemy, having the left of the front line, the Thirty-sixth Indiana, upon its right, with the proper interval between, and the other regiments of the brigade drawn up in the second line. Immediately upon executing the change of front, Colonel Anderson gave the command, "Forward!" and the regiment advanced rapidly about two hundred yards into the cedars, meeting great numbers of stragglers, fugitives, and wounded men, falling back in disorder from the battle, which was now raging close at hand. The lines were hurriedly dressed, and then—the regiment was in action! Scarcely two hundred yards distant was the head of a rebel column, massed for attack with regimental front, and sweeping down through the cedars. Troops never went into action in better spirits than did the Sixth Ohio here. The regiment fought desperately, giving volley for volley and cheer for cheer, until, within twenty minutes, nearly one-third of its number lay dead or wounded at its feet; then the Colonel gave the command, "Fix bayonets!" with the desperate resolve of clearing the front with cold steel. The next moment he discovered that the regiment was flanked upon both sides, no available supports were at hand, and nothing now remained but to get out of the wood at once.

Less chary of praise than Grose or Palmer, General Rousseau was afterward at especial pains to compliment the staunch

fighting of the Sixth Ohio;* and well those troops deserved it, who, with the help of the Thirty-sixth Indiana, held the enemy in check long enough to afford time for the batteries in the rear to take position, whence they broke the rebel line as it came careering across the cotton-field in pursuit of the retreating infantry, and sent it a routed, flying mass of gray far back into the forest. When the Sixth Ohio reformed, as it promptly did, behind Parsons' guns, near the turnpike, it was with fearfully-thinned ranks, and hearts that bled for the comrades who were stretched helpless under the cedars. Adjutant Williams was killed, Lieutenant Foster dying, Captain McAlpin hurt unto death, and Lieutenant Schieffer severely wounded. Both color sergeants and three of their guard had been struck down in quick succession, and the colors had been brought off most gallantly by young Corporal Thorp, of Company B, who claimed the precious charge as his own, and scarce would suffer the *Colonel* to take it from his hands, to organize the nucleus of another formation. Colonel Anderson, though painfully wounded in the thigh, refused to leave the field, and remained at the head of the regiment through the whole fight. A score of gory corpses—brave men but half an hour before—marked the line where the Sixth had fought, and five score more were suffering there, or wending their painful way toward the rear in search of the surgeon.

The Twenty-third Kentucky, Twenty-fourth Ohio, and Eighty-fourth Illinois were re-posted while the terrific fighting of the Sixth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana was in progress in the cedars, and poured a withering fire into the enemy's charging column as it emerged into the cotton-field. As yet

* "The Sixth Ohio Infantry, Colonel Nick Anderson, joined my command on the right of the Regular Brigade, and stood manfully up to the work"—*General Rousseau's Official Report.*

they were unshaken. But the rebels again advanced in about half an hour, when the brunt of the fighting fell upon them. The combat was obstinate and bloody, but, with the help of artillery as before, the rebels were once more and finally driven back into the timber, with heavy losses on both sides. The Third Brigade then changed front, and moved to the left a short distance to support Colonel Hazen, whose devoted command had already held the "Round Forest," the key-point of the field, against treble its numbers, through a most furious assault. The Twenty-fourth Ohio, and so much of the Thirty-sixth Indiana as had yet been re-assembled, were thrown forward upon the right of the turnpike, and had another terrible conflict with the enemy. Here the former regiment suffered its heaviest losses, and that true man and splendid soldier, Colonel Fred. Jones, was mortally wounded, Major Terry falling immediately afterward. The Sixth Ohio was formed diagonally across the turnpike, under orders to hold the position, which were obeyed, although the regiment was under almost constant fire, and many more brave men were there killed or wounded. During several hours of this day it acted in coöperation with Hascall's brigade, which was nobly sustaining Hazen's in holding the Round Forest, and won high praise from its old commander of Camp Wickliffe times.*

* "Colonel Hazen, commanding a brigade in General Palmer's division, was present with his brigade to the left of the railroad, and Colonel Grose, commanding another brigade in the same division, was also present with what there was left of his brigade, and most nobly did he coöperate with me, with the Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio, to the right of the railroad. . . . I then threw forward the right of the Sixth Ohio Regiment (of Colonel Grose's brigade), which was on the right of the Twenty-sixth Ohio, so that its line of battle was more nearly perpendicular to the railroad, and so its fire would sweep the front of the Twenty-sixth Ohio and

Night fell at last, and the left, alone of all the line, retained its original position of the morning. Four distinct and desperate charges had the enemy made upon the Round Forest, and two of these the Sixth Ohio (after its first fearful losses in the cedars) had assisted in repelling. About midnight the regiment was relieved by the Twenty-fourth Ohio, and then

Fifty-eighth Indiana, and supported the Sixth Ohio with Estep's battery, on a little eminence to its right, and brought up the Ninety-seventh Ohio, Colonel Lane, from Wagner's brigade, to still further strengthen the right. These dispositions being made, I galloped a little to the rear and found General Rosecrans, and called his attention to the importance of the position I was holding, and the necessity of keeping it well supported. He rode to the front with me, approved of the dispositions I had made, spoke a few words of encouragement to the men, cautioning them to hold their fire until the enemy had got well up, and had no sooner retired than the enemy emerged from the woods and over the hill, and were moving upon us again in splendid style and in great force. As soon as they came in sight, the Sixth and Twenty-sixth Ohio and Estep's battery opened on them and did splendid execution; but on they came till within one hundred yards of our line, when Colonel Buell, of the Fifty-eighth Indiana [a very large regiment], who had lost three men, but had not fired a gun, ordered his men to fire. The effect is indescribable. The enemy fell in winrows, and went staggering back from the effects of this unexpected volley. Soon, however, they came up again and assaulted us furiously for about one and a half hours; but the men all stood their ground nobly, and, at the end of that time, compelled the enemy to retire as before. The regiments all behaved splendidly again, and the Fifty-eighth Indiana won immortal honors. . . . The Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio did noble service, as did the Ninety-seventh also; but their own immediate commanders will, no doubt, allude to them more particularly. Thus ended the third [fourth] assault upon the position. . . . The Twenty-sixth Ohio was afterward relieved by the Twenty-third Kentucky. The enemy, having been three several times repulsed in their attack on that position, seemed satisfied to keep at a respectful distance, and the sun set upon us masters of the situation."—*General Hascall's Official Report.*

moved a short distance to the rear. Those cold and dreary bivouacs on the nights amid the battle—what survivor of Stone River will ever forget them? In the mud, the rain, the darkness, without fires, and thousands without food, full of anxiety for the unknown fate of friends and comrades, ceaselessly on the watch, and weighed down by terrible suspense for the undecided issue! And the thousands of wounded! numb and freezing in their saturated garments, without shelter or food, alone with their helpless agony and God, or surrounded only by taunting enemies, if not abused and robbed by them. . . . God be praised for the return of PEACE to our troubled land!

The morning of Thursday, January 1st, 1863, dawned gloomily, but in comparative quiet, which was not seriously disturbed all day; for Bragg was waiting to see his beaten antagonist (as he fondly believed him) retreat in haste for Nashville, and Rosecrans for supplies and ammunition wherewith to renew the battle. During the night the Union lines had been perfected, Crittenden's three divisions concentrated on the left of the turnpike, and Hazen's brigade, with its supports, withdrawn about three hundred yards for better position. This last movement completely turned the head of poor Bragg, who forthwith telegraphed to Richmond, "The enemy has yielded his strong point, and is falling back. We occupy the whole field, and shall follow. God has granted us a happy new-year!" Less of boasting and more of truth would have made his sanctimony less ridiculous. The greater part of Grose's brigade this day passed several hours upon the further bank of Stone River, whither it was sent to support Van Cleve's division (now commanded by Colonel Beatty, of the Nineteenth Ohio), but returned before night, leaving every thing perfectly quiet in that quarter. Lieutenant Donovan and First Sergeant Throop, who had been left in Nashville sick, joined the Sixth Ohio

early in the forenoon, and took command of their respective companies, E and A. They had marched from Nashville almost alone, and in great danger of being cut off by the rebel cavalry that were swarming in the army's rear.

On Friday, the 2d, the brigade was again thrown across Stone River, and in the afternoon had the pleasure of covering the retreat of Van Cleve's division, as it fell back in disorder before a fierce charge of Breckinridge's heavy division, and of taking a conspicuous part in breaking the lines of the latter, tearing them into fragments, and pursuing them almost a mile toward Murfreesboro'. In this charge the rebels lost about two thousand men, the concentrated fire of fifty-eight guns raining death upon them at every step for fully fifteen minutes. The Sixth Ohio and Eighty-fourth Illinois, posted behind slight barricades, formed the second line of Grose's brigade, and theirs was the fire which first checked and staggered the rebel column, much of whose momentum had already been spent in sweeping away the troops in front. The loss of the Sixth Ohio in this glorious afternoon's work was two killed and five wounded—few in numbers, but a precious sacrifice notwithstanding. David H. Medary, of Company B—the "little corporal" of the regiment, and model soldier—was one of the killed; while among the wounded were Captain Tinker, of Company H, and private Pedro Montaldo, of Company K, a liberal in his native Spain, a gentleman of fine education, and one of the truest patriots that ever championed Freedom's cause in battle.

Saturday, the 3d, was more rainy than ever. Bragg took his Friday's punishment very sorely, and, when Sunday morning dawned, it was discovered that he had withdrawn during the night, and was now in full retreat upon Shelbyville and Tullahoma. Grose's regiments recrossed Stone River, and,

like the rest of the army, began the sad work of searching for their own dead, to honor them with special burial, and then of hunting out their widely-scattered wounded. Within a day or two the whole army moved into and beyond Murfreesboro', and there sat down to rest, to count its losses over, and prepare for whatsoever else of soldier's duty the future might have in store for it.

It is a matter of sincere regret to the writer that his data are so meager in regard to the gallant actions of individual members of the Sixth Ohio, and especially of those who fell in the battle's front, or were maimed and sorely wounded there; but, while shrinking from the task of attempting special eulogy in a tithe of the cases where it is merited, he gladly presents the following outlines of the careers of those heroic officers whose lives formed a part of the regiment's costly sacrifice at Stone River.

Captain Henry McAlpin was born of Scotch ancestry, on the 12th of October, 1831, in Cincinnati, where he passed his early school-days, and at the age of thirteen was sent to the boarding-school of Milo G. Williams (a name very familiar to old Cincinnatians), at Dayton, Ohio. In 1850 or '51, he entered the store of Tyler Davidson & Co., and, having there made himself familiar with the hardware trade, afterward went into business at Dayton, in a retail store of his own. He remained there about two years, when, finding the retail business in the country unsuited to his tastes, he sold his store, returned to Cincinnati, and secured a partnership in the firm of McAlpin, Hinman & Co., which he retained at the time of his death. Having long been an active and influential member of the Guthrie Grey organization, and an ardent patriot all his life, when the President's first call for troops was issued he volun-

teered at once in the Sixth Ohio, and, by successive promotions (as already noted in their chronological order), rose to the captaincy of Company B. When the army moved to attack Murfreesboro', he was ill—fitter by far for the hospital than the exposure and hardships of an active campaign at that winter—but refused to remain at Nashville, though repeatedly urged to do so. He marched at the head of his company into action most gallantly, and, in the desperate struggle in the cedars, received a terrible wound from a fragment of shell. As soon as possible, he was removed to Nashville, where he died on the 10th of January (1863). Friends brought his body home, and, with military honors, it was laid to rest in Spring Grove Cemetery. Captain McAlpin was an earnest and most conscientious officer, thoroughly systematic, a non-tillious disciplinarian, and scrupulously just in the exercise of official authority. As a man, he was incapable of subterfuge or meanness of any kind. He was a most genial companion and devoted friend, quiet and unassuming in manner, bold and determined in championing what he felt to be right and true. He was greatly beloved in life, and in death most tenderly mourned.

Albert Gallatin Williams was born in Cincinnati, August 7th, 1839, and, when the war broke out, was engaged in the insurance business, in the office of Mr. Owen Owens, on Broadway Street. He enlisted in Company F, Sixth Ohio (three-year term), as a private, was soon appointed sergeant, and, by a step, rose to the adjutancy of the regiment. Early in the Stone River battle, he was pierced by a musket-ball and killed almost instantly. His body was not recovered until after the battle, abandoned the field, when it was tenderly cared for by Lieutenant Thatcher and other officers, and sent home. The marble head-stone which marks his grave at Spring Grove is also in

sight of the window at which these lines are sadly written. Colonel Anderson's tribute to his memory was no less true than beautiful: "Few men combined so harmoniously the energies of the soldier with the virtues of the man. In him they never seemed to be in conflict. Amiability and generosity found full play in his disposition, and his mind was as pure and gentle as a child's. How tenderly he loved! how desperately he fought! Always cheerful, busy, and cordial while in camp, upon the battle-field he was the impersonation of energy and valor. But he is gone. He died proudly, as soldiers love to die, but leaving sadness behind him. His regiment mourn the brave soldier; his family the gentle and loving son and brother."

Charles Henry Foster was the son of Charles Foster, Esq. (now residing at Wilmington, Del.), the inventor of the "Foster Press," and many other useful articles of machinery for printing purposes. He was born in Cincinnati, on the 17th of November, 1837, graduated at Herron's Seminary, and, when the war began, had been for some time in the employ of W. T. & S. D. Day & Co., manufacturers of printing presses, etc., as book-keeper. Going to the post-office on the 17th of April (1861), the day after the Guthrie Greys began recruiting their regiment, he met some friends who had just enlisted, and, fired anew by their example, resolved to follow out the patriotic impulses which he had hitherto kept in abeyance from a sense of duty to his employers. Lest the latter might possibly dissuade him still, he explained his absence by a note, and did not trust himself in their presence again until after he had been out to Camp Harrison and mustered in the Sixth Ohio. Promptly reënlisting, he became sergeant, and then first sergeant in Company B, and, upon receiving the promotion to a second lieutenantcy that his ability and faithful services had merited so well, he was transferred to Company A, which he was commanding

when killed. While animating his men by an example of dauntless courage, he was struck down by a musket-ball, and bled to death in a short time. Like the brave Wolfe, his last words were a murmured expression of contentment and resignation to his fate on being told the enemy had been repulsed and were flying from the field. Exemplary in his private life, with a generous and open nature, Lieutenant Foster won the esteem of all who knew him, and left his friends the proud inheritance of a fame untarnished by a single stain. He, too, lies buried at Spring Grove.

COLONEL ANDERSON'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

SAINT CLOUD HOTEL, NASHVILLE, }
January 7, 1863.

Colonel W. Grose, Commanding Tenth Brigade—

COLONEL: In accordance with orders from head-quarters, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the Sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteers in the late series of battles beginning on the morning of December 31st.

At about 8 o'clock A. M. on that day we were drawn up in line of battle, in the open field to the north [west] of the burnt brick house [Cowan's], and to the west [north] of the cedars, while Rousseau's division filed by us to get position. Scarcely had the rear of that column passed when heavy firing was heard to our right, coming from the cedars and approaching rapidly. I was ordered with my regiment into the wood. I immediately changed front and advanced some two hundred yards, when I saw our troops flying in wild disorder, and hotly pursued by the enemy. I formed my line, and waited the escape of our men and the nearer advance of the enemy. In a few moments a terrific fire was opened on us, scarcely a hundred yards distant, from a rebel line apparently four deep. This fire we returned, and a terrible carnage ensued on

both sides. Finding myself badly pressed, I had determined on a charge, and the order was already given to fix bayonets, when I saw that my regiment was flanked almost completely on both sides, by two rebel regiments. I gave the order to fall back firing. As soon as we reached the edge of the woods, Lieutenant Parsons, of the Fourth Regular Artillery, opened on the enemy with terrible effect, and I reformed my line behind his guns, having held my position against tremendous odds, but with great sacrifice, for thirty minutes. I then replenished my ammunition, and was soon afterward ordered to throw my regiment diagonally across the Murfreesboro' pike, and hold that position. This we did, under a destructive fire and with much additional loss, during the rest of the day and until midnight, when I was relieved by the Twenty-fourth Ohio, and took my regiment a short distance to the rear.

During the first day of January my regiment was moved from one place to another, as the plan of battle required, but did not get into any considerable action. On Friday, the 2d, my regiment was ordered with the brigade across the river, and placed in position on a slight eminence to the rear of, and as a support to, Van Cleve's division. All was quiet until about half-past 3 o'clock P. M., when a tremendous fire was heard along our front, and immense masses of the enemy were hurled against Van Cleve's division, which soon gave way. The enemy came down boldly, when I brought my regiment into action simultaneously with the Eighty-fourth Illinois, and we opened a severe cross-fire on the enemy. For more than an hour we held our hill, and, under our heavy fire and that of a battery from the other side of the river, the rebels gave way, and, when reinforcements poured in for us, they were already in full retreat. We held our position without further molestation till Sunday morning, when we were ordered across the river into camp, the enemy having retired.

My regiment, both officers and men, I am proud to say, behaved with bravery, courage, and discipline throughout the entire battle. The loss of the regiment was one hundred and seventy-seven,

nearly all of whom were either killed or wounded. Accompanying is a correct list of the casualties.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

N. L. ANDERSON,

Colonel Sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

CASUALTIES IN THE SIXTH OHIO.

The Sixth Ohio went into action at Stone River with an aggregate strength of 383—officers and men; of which number 24 were killed, 19 mortally wounded, 108 wounded so severely as to require surgical treatment for various periods, from one month upward, and 12 were reported missing in action, making a total of 163,* as follows. This numeration omits 14 slightly wounded not sent to hospital, which accounts for the slight discrepancy with the above report. Of the missing some were wounded before being taken prisoners:

FIELD AND STAFF.—*Killed*—Adjutant A. G. Williams. *Wounded*—Colonel N. L. Anderson and Sergeant-Major J. F. Graham.

COMPANY A.—*Killed*—Second Lieutenant C. H. Foster and private Wm. S. Shaw. *Mortally wounded*—Sergeant James F.

*It is believed that not more than six or eight regiments in the entire Army of the Cumberland lost more heavily in killed and wounded than did the Sixth Ohio. Among the number that did so were the following: Twenty-first Illinois (General Grant's old regiment, which was badly cut up in charging a battery on Tuesday afternoon, December 30th), loss 244; Thirty-sixth Illinois, 193; and Eighteenth U. S. Infantry (comprising twenty-four companies when full), 271. These were considerably stronger regiments than the Sixth Ohio. The Eighty-fourth Illinois lost 147 killed and wounded, out of an aggregate of 362—about the same per cent. as did the Sixth Ohio. Its killed and mortally wounded numbered 64, which was by far the heaviest per centage of any regiment in Grose's brigade. Its fighting at Stone River was splendid throughout. The total loss of the Sixth Ohio was a fraction over forty-two and one-half per cent.

Canady, and privates Frank H. Halliday and Wm. Krohmer. *Wounded*—Corporal Jos. Reel, and privates Chas. M. Thompson and Henry Herman. *Missing*—Corporal James M. Newman.

COMPANY B.—*Killed*—Corp. David H. Medary, and privates Albert Hardy and John Boerst. *Mortally wounded*—Captain Henry McAlpin. *Wounded*—First Sergeant Geo. W. Cormany, Corporal E. Hannaford, privates Guy C. Nearing, Albert Goettle, Theophilus Davis, James Mitchell, Fred. J. Miller, John Helfenbein, Andrew Schutzenhelm, William E. Doherty, John Cline, Anson Clapper, Hugo Hochstaedter, and J. Hahneman.

COMPANY C.—*Killed*—Corporal Alois Kaelin. *Wounded*—Sergeants Wm. Brown, John Crotty, and Aug. W. Peters (color sergeant); Corporals Frank H. Thieman, James Jordan, Edward P. Horn, and John C. Heffernan; privates Wm. Boyd, And. Schube, Jacob Stocklin, H. Stocklin, John Laerch, Wm. Lidell, and W. A. Baldwin. *Missing*—Corporal John Sykes and private Edward Ayres.

COMPANY D.—*Mortally wounded*—Private Adam Hugel. *Wounded*—Sergeant Wm. Bowers and Amos Willoughby, Corporal Liberty H. Jenks, privates Frank Dellar, Reinhold Hoffman, Frank A. Manns, Fred. Soghan, Stephen H. Weeks, Wm. W. Williams, Martin Weiderecht, A. C. Dripps, John Wakeman, S. W. Stephenson, and Simon Weeks. *Missing*—Private Luther Carpenter, James H. Mahon, and Wm. Saxon; musician Wm. A. Cormany.

COMPANY E.—*Killed*—Privates Simeon Shattuck, Robert Davis, Chas. Davis, Chas. Deikmeyer, and Michael Schwabe. *Mortally wounded*—Private Agathon Otto. *Wounded*—Corporal William Leike, privates Jos. L. Ferdon, Eugene Diserens, John O'Neil, Chas. H. Baldwin, Thos. Greenwood, Edmund M. Hall, Samuel Schroder, Geo. W. Bowen, Chas. Eckhardt, Enoch West, and Peter Kreps.

COMPANY F.—*Killed*—Corporal Lewis Evers and privates Christ. Ark, Thos. Brown, and Henry Willis. *Mortally wounded*—Privates Gottfried Heileman and John Q. Root. *Wounded*—

Second Lieutenant F. S. Schieffer, Sergeant Wm. E. Jackson, Corporal John A. Seigel, and privates Wm. Kessemeyer, John Lawrence, John Linceman, Jos. T. Nepper, August Nierman, Anthony Schaffer, Stuart Terwilliger, and Wm. R. Wood. *Missing*—Corporal John B. Miller.

COMPANY G.—*Killed*—First Sergeant Geo. B. Ridnour and Corporal Oliver P. Rockenfield. *Mortally wounded*—Privates J. Addison Colwell, Robert M. Taulman, and Samuel P. Stallcup. *Wounded*—Corporals Harry Simmons (color-guard) and J. C. Schenck, and privates Thos. Burnett, Silas S. Dunn, Hamer Bradbury, Anson W. Schenck, and John Fenhoff. *Missing*—Corporal Wm. A. Clark, and privates Chas. S. Dunn and And. M. Dunn.

COMPANY H.—*Killed*—Private Chas. Waltermet. *Mortally wounded*—Privates Martin Seobauer and Henry Rasher. *Wounded*—Captain H. H. Tinker, Corporals Thos. Kennedy (color-bearer), Chas. Ashman, and Albert Speece (color-guard), and privates Delevan Brown, Samuel Lawrence, Edward Ulm, and Lawrence Geiss.

COMPANY I.—*Killed*—Privates Samuel Pulver, Jacob H. Rapplee, and Fred. W. Springmeyer. *Wounded*—Corporal Edward Roderija, and privates And. Ray, Jos. Seiter, John McGlore, Samuel Parker, Gottlieb Heller, F. Larcom, John Storker, and Christ. Kohli.

COMPANY K.—*Killed*—Sergeant Thos. G. Drake and private Theo. Wesselman. *Mortally wounded*—Corporals H. G. Kreyenhagen and Jos. Martin; and privates J. Nickel, Geo. Kelsch, David Klein, and Lewis F. Frantz. *Wounded*—First Sergeant Geo. Benson Nicholson, Sergeants W. Pappenbrook and Jethro T. Hill; Corporals Chas. Donnelly and Albert Kimble; privates Pedro Montaldo, Wm. Gain, Henry Beckman, Chas. Warner, Christ. Albert, Jos. Haddock, Henry Ellsing, Lorenz Huber, and Franz Meier. *Missing*—Private Chas. Cunningham.

RECAPITULATION.

	Staff	Co. A	Co. B	Co. C	Co. D	Co. E	Co. F	Co. G	Co. H	Co. I	Co. K	Total
Killed.....	1	2	3	1	...	5	4	2	1	3	2	24
Mortally wound'd.	3	3	1	...	1	1	2	3	2	...	6	19
Wounded.....	2	3	14	14	14	12	11	7	8	9	14	108
Missing.....	1	...	2	4	...	1	3	1	12
Total.....	3	9	18	17	19	18	18	15	11	12	23	163

COLONEL GROSE'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

HEAD-QUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
LEFT WING, ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND,
NEAR MURFREESBORO', TENN., JAN. 8, 1863.

Captain D. W. Norton, A. A. A. G., Second Division—

SIR: In accordance with duty, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battles before Murfreesboro': The five regiments composing this command—viz.: Thirty-sixth Indiana, Major Kinley; Twenty-fourth Ohio, Colonel Jones; Sixth Ohio, Colonel Anderson; Eighty-fourth Illinois, Colonel Waters, and Twenty-third Kentucky, Major Hamrick—aggregate (officers and men) 1,788—left camp near Nashville, December 26, 1862, with the division, and bivouacked that night in front of Lavergne, twelve miles distant. Next day, the 27th, we moved to the west bank of Stewart's Creek, five miles, and my brigade was put in position in front, to the right of the pike, the pickets of the enemy separated from ours by the creek. With light skirmishing, we rested here until Monday morning (the 29th), when we received orders, and moved forward in double line of battle, on the right of the pike (the Thirty-sixth Indiana and Eighty-fourth Illinois in the front line), wading Stewart's Creek—waist deep to most of the men—and advancing to within two and a half miles of Murfreesboro', where we arrived near sunset, with skirmishing all the way. We there rested for the night. At early morn next day skirmishing again commenced and continued during the day, with more severity than before, the artillery taking a heavy part.

During the night the brigade was relieved at the front by the brigade of Colonel Hazen, and retired to the rear to rest, and to be held in reserve. Up to this time the loss in my brigade was ten wounded.

On the bright morning of December 31st, the division, under command of its brave general, at early day, was in battle line, the brigade of General Cruft on the right, and that of Colonel Hazen on the left—both in double line—with my brigade in reserve in rear of the center, in supporting distance, with the batteries of Cockerill and Parsons in positions to support the lines. While we were perfecting our lines in the morning the divisions of Generals Negley (?) and Rousseau filed by my rear through a dense cedar grove, which lay in rear of General Cruft's brigade and immediately up to the right of my brigade; the brigade of Colonel Hazen in an open cotton-field, the pike dividing his left from the division of General Wood, and the line of these two divisions resting nearly perpendicular to the pike. The engagement had been raging fiercely some distance to our right during the early morning, and at near eight o'clock the clash of arms to our right had so far changed position that I saw the rear of my brigade would soon be endangered. Hence, I set to work changing my front to the rear, which was quickly done, with the left, when changed, a little retired, to support the right of Colonel Hazen's brigade, then closely engaged with the enemy, our two brigades forming a V. My brigade was no sooner thus formed to the rear than the enemy appeared in heavy lines, pressing the forces of ours that had been engaged to the right of our division upon our front in fearful confusion. In this new formation the Sixth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana were in the front line, the latter on the right, supported in the second line by the Twenty-third Kentucky and the Eighty-fourth Illinois, with the Twenty-fourth Ohio in an oblique form, a little to the right of the rear line. In this shape the Sixth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana advanced into the woodland about two hundred and fifty yards, and there met the enemy in overwhelm-

rs. Here Major Kinley and Captain Shultz, of the h Indiana, fell—the former badly wounded and the latter Colonel Anderson, of the Sixth Ohio, was here wounded,utant, Lieutenant A. G. Williams, and Lieutenant Fossil, with several of their comrades. These two regiments from the woodland, and retired to the right, in the ditch the pike; while the other three regiments, aided by the battery commanded by Lieutenant Parsons, with such assistants as Lieutenants Huntington and Cushing, poured re into the ranks of the pursuing enemy, and caused eak in confusion and retire back to the woods, out of leaving the ground covered with their dead and dying, eavy loss of the Sixth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana led with theirs upon the bloody field. After about ee-quarters of an hour, the enemy renewed his attempt but was again repulsed, with heavy loss on both sides. even and twelve o'clock, the enemy not appearing in late front, and the lines of our forces that had retired ven from the right being by this time reformed parallel ke, the front of the brigade was again changed, so as to rigrade of Colonel Hazen, in the direction as formed in g. The Twenty-fourth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana hrown forward near the pike, and had a terrible conflict emy. Here Colonel Jones and Major Terry both fell, rried off the field in a dying condition. Each regiment ade from this time onward until night closed the awful nately took its part in holding the position we occupied ning.

my having gained the cedar woods to the right, where sition in the morning, it became necessary to so change n as not to be within reach of small arms from that

Hence, at night-fall, the center of the front line of lay on the pike, and diagonally across the same, front-south-east, our left resting at the right of the line of

General Wood's division. We were then a little retired, and the center of the brigade about two hundred and fifty yards to the left of where we commenced in the morning. We ceased fighting for the night in the front lines on the pike. During the day, each of the regiments having exhausted their ammunition, had to replenish their cartridge-boxes, many having fired over one hundred rounds. When Major Kinley fell, in the morning, the command of the Thirty-sixth Indiana devolved upon Captain Woodward; and upon the fall of Colonel Jones and Major Terry, Captain Weller was left in command of the Twenty-fourth Ohio. Although I commanded in the battle of Shiloh, and fought there throughout with the rest of Buell's army, yet this battle, on the last day of the old year, was by far the most terrible and bloody (in my command) that I have ever witnessed. During the latter part of the night—or, rather, early in the morning of January 1st—our whole line was retired for a more eligible position, six or seven hundred yards, and my brigade was moved to the rear to rest.

During Thursday, January 1st, we were ordered across to the north bank of Stone River, to support a division on the extreme left of our line, where an attack was anticipated, but returned to our resting-place before night, no attack being made that day. On the next day, January 2d, in the forenoon, we were again ordered across the river, to support the division there in position, with its right resting on the river bank, and its lines (double lines) formed at right angles to the river, extending therefrom about half a mile. About eight hundred yards below where the right of the division was posted, the river changes its direction, running about one-half mile in the rear, and nearly parallel to the lines of the division formed as above. When my brigade arrived on the ground, I was requested to put it into position so as to protect the left flank of the division referred to, and repel any attack that might be made in that direction. The Twenty-third Kentucky was accordingly posted to the left of the division in question, about two hundred yards retired; the Twenty-fourth Ohio

them with a terrible fire. By this time, all my regiments were engaged, and the enemy's masses began to falter, and soon they broke in disorder and commenced their flight back over the area they had so fiercely advanced upon, pursued by the Thirty-sixth Indiana, Twenty-third Kentucky, and Twenty-fourth Ohio to the line occupied by the extreme outposts of the division before the action commenced. Here night overtook us. The battle was over, and the enemy gone beyond the reach of our guns. Colonel Hazen's brigade crossed the river to our rear, to support us, about the time of the enemy's retreat, and moved closely, with the Eighty-fourth Illinois, after my pursuing regiments to give assistance if needed. Some other forces [principally from Negley's and Davis' divisions] crossed the river to my right and moved up the river bank in pursuit of the enemy, as my regiments advanced. What forces these were I have not learned. The battery posted near the brigade at the commencement of this day's fight fired a few rounds and took a hasty leave, and I have not made its acquaintance since. Artillery from the opposite side of the river rendered valuable aid, by playing upon the enemy in his advance and retreat. Our loss this day was not large compared with that on the 31st of December. That of the enemy was very heavy.

I can not too favorably notice the coolness and promptitude shown by each and every field officer of the brigade. They seemed to vie with each other as to which should most promptly execute every command, without regard to danger. And the line officers and men of the respective regiments appeared neither to regard or fear any exposure, however great. New and old regiments alike acted the heroic part, and braved every peril. Captain Weller, in command of the Twenty-fourth Ohio, fell at his post on the last battle-field, and left Captain Cockerill in command, who bravely and skillfully discharged his whole duty. As much may be said of Captain Woodward, who succeeded to the command of the Thirty-sixth Indiana (upon the fall of Major Kinley) at a critical and perilous moment in the first day's engagement.

three hundred yards to its rear, fronting the same way; and the Thirty-sixth Indiana to the rear of the Twenty-fourth Ohio, fronting diagonally to the flank of the other two, the right of the Thirty-sixth Indiana distant from the left of the Twenty-fourth Ohio about one hundred and fifty yards. Special directions were given each of these regiments to change front as the exigencies of the occasion might require, in case of an attack. The Eighty-fourth Illinois and Sixth Ohio were placed one hundred and fifty yards from the left of the Thirty-sixth Indiana, in one line, and fronting in the direction of the Twenty-fourth Ohio and Twenty-third Kentucky, as well as in that of the division to our right and front. The right of the Eighty-fourth Illinois rested on the bluff at the river, with the Third Wisconsin Battery near its left and front. The Sixth Ohio was on the left of the Eighty-fourth Illinois. Thus in position, I took the precaution to have each regiment hurriedly throw before them barricades of such materials as were at command, consisting of fences, buildings, etc. About half-past three P. M., the enemy made an assault in front and on the right, in strong force—perhaps in three lines—and with three batteries distributed along the forest, and a heavy contest ensued, lasting from one-half to three-quarters of an hour, when the lines of the division gave way in considerable confusion, and as those troops retired toward the river, many of them broke through the lines of my brigade. I went to my front regiments and superintended the changing of their fronts respectively, so as to meet the enemy as best we could, in his approach from an unexpected direction, which, to some extent, threw the Twenty-third Kentucky and Twenty-fourth Ohio, my advanced regiments, into confusion, and caused them to retire toward the left of the main line of the brigade; but they kept up a strong fire on the advancing enemy as they retired. The Thirty-sixth Indiana changed its front, and as the enemy's lines came near, opened on them a deadly fire. On they came, however, until within reach of the Eighty-fourth Illinois and Sixth Ohio, behind their barricades, when both these regiments saluted