

THE  
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE  
OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE  
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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

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

PURSUANT TO ACTS OF CONGRESS.

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

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WASHINGTON:  
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## No. 1.

*Organization of the Fourteenth Army Corps, or Army of the Cumberland, Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army, commanding, December 26, 1862–January 5, 1863.\**

## ARTILLERY.

Col. JAMES BARNETT.

## PROVOST GUARD.

10th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Burke.

## GENERAL ESCORT.

Anderson Troop, Pennsylvania Cavalry, Lieut. Thomas S. Maple.

\* Arranged according to the numerical designation of the divisions and brigades as prescribed in General Orders, No. 41, Headquarters Fourteenth Army Corps, Department of the Cumberland, December 19, 1862.

## RIGHT WING.

Maj. Gen. ALEXANDER McD. MCCOOK

## FIRST (LATE NINTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JEFFERSON C. DAVIS.

## Escort.

46th Illinois Cavalry, Company B, Capt. Samuel B. Sherer.  
 2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company G:  
 Capt. Miller R. McCulloch.  
 Lieut. Harvey S. Park.

## First (late Thirtieth) Brigade.

Col. P. SIDNEY POST.

59th Illinois, Capt. Hendrick E. Paine.  
 74th Illinois, Col. Jason Marsh.  
 75th Illinois, Lieut. Col. John E. Bennett.  
 22d Indiana, Col. Michael Gooding.

## Second (late Thirty-first) Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM P. CARLIN.

21st Illinois:  
 Col. J. W. S. Alexander.  
 Lieut. Col. Warren E. McMackin.  
 38th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Daniel H. Gilmer.  
 101st Ohio:  
 Col. Leander Stem.  
 Lieut. Col. Moses F. Wooster.  
 Maj. Isaac M. Kirby.  
 Capt. Bedan B. McDonald.  
 15th Wisconsin, Col. Hans C. Heg.

## Third (late Thirty-second) Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF.

25th Illinois:  
 Maj. Richard H. Nodine.  
 Col. Thomas D. Williams.  
 Capt. Wesford Taggart.  
 35th Illinois, Lieut. Col. William P. Chandler.  
 61st Indiana, Lieut. Col. John Timberlake.

## Artillery.\*

7th Minnesota Battery, Capt. William A. Hotchkiss.  
 5th Wisconsin Battery:  
 Capt. Oscar F. Pinney.  
 Lieut. Charles B. Humphrey.  
 8th Wisconsin Battery:  
 Capt. Stephen J. Carpenter.  
 Sergt. Obadiah German.  
 Lieut. Henry E. Stiles.

## SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD W. JOHNSON.

## First (late Sixth) Brigade.

(1.) Brig. Gen. AUGUST WILLICH.	15th Ohio:
(2.) Col. WILLIAM WALLACE.	Col. William Wallace.
(3.) Col. WILLIAM H. GIBSON.	Capt. A. R. Z. Dawson.
	Col. William Wallace.
89th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Charles T. Hotchkiss.	49th Ohio:
32d Indiana, Lieut. Col. Frank Erdelmeyer.	Col. William H. Gibson.
39th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Fielder A. Jones.	Lieut. Col. Levi Drake.
	Capt. Samuel F. Gray.

\* The Second Minnesota was attached to the Second Brigade, Fifth Wisconsin to the First Brigade, and Eighth Wisconsin to the Third 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, } HDQES. 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. WHITTLESEY,  
*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 Biggs' 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, &amp;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. CARLE.							
21st Illinois.....	3	55	7	180		69	803
38th Illinois.....	1	33	5	104		24	177
101st Ohio.....	1	19	5	121		66	212
15th Wisconsin.....	1	13	5	65	1	33	119
Minnesota Light Artillery, 2d Battery.....		3	1	5		1	10
Total Second Brigade.....	7	123	23	475	1	193	821
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF.							
Staff.....			1			5	96
25th Illinois.....	1	15	3	73		26	89
35th Illinois.....		10	2	49		15	69
81st Indiana.....	1	4	2	46	1	1	6
Wisconsin Light Artillery, 8th Battery.....	1			4		1	6
Total Third Brigade.....	3	29	8	171	1	46	258
Total First Division.....	11	178	40	785	2	400	1,414
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. RICHARD W. JOHNSON.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Brig. Gen. AUGUST WILCOX.*							
(2.) Col. WILLIAM WALLACE.							
(3.) Col. WILLIAM H. GIBSON.							
Staff.....	1	9	1	45	1	94	150
30th Illinois.....		12		40		115	167
32d Indiana.....		30	3	116	3	229	380
39th Indiana.....		17	2	68	1	127	215
15th Ohio.....	2	18	6	83		108	222
49th Ohio.....		1		4		24	29
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A.....							
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.....	2	19	1	98	2	72	195
34th Illinois.....	1	22	3	69	3	121	219
79th Illinois.....	1	14	2	66	1	51	135
29th Indiana.....	1	30	3	108	2	70	213
30th Indiana.....	1	4	1	28	2	28	64
77th Pennsylvania.....		3		5	2	22	32
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery B.....							
Total Second Brigade.....	6	93	11	373	12	364	859
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. PHILEMON P. BALDWIN							
6th Indiana.....		17		50	1	36	104
5th Kentucky.....	1	13	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, &amp;c.—Continued.

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
<i>Third Brigade—Continued.</i>							
36d 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.....							
Total Second Division.....	10	342	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 GREENL.							
Staff.....	1		1				2
36th Illinois.....	1	45	7	144	3	19	212
88th Illinois.....	1	13	3	48		48	112
21st Michigan.....		13	7	82		86	143
24th Wisconsin.....		19	3	55		88	174
Indiana Light Artillery, 4th Battery.....		6		17		3	26
Total First Brigade.....	3	101	19	346	2	196	669
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Col. FREDERICK SCHAEFFEL.*							
(2.) Lieut. Col. BERNARD LAIBOLDY.							
Staff.....	1						1
44th Illinois.....	1	28	6	104		17	155
78d Illinois.....	1	15	3	61	1	7	88
3d Missouri.....		7		49	1	14	63
16th Missouri.....	3	9	4	51		5	72
1st Missouri Light Artillery, Battery G.....	1	5		13		1	20
Total Second Brigade.....	7	64	13	269	2	44	396
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
(1.) Col. GEORGE W. ROBERTS.*							
(2.) Col. LOTHER F. BRADLEY.							
Staff.....	1						1
22d Illinois.....	1	21	7	109	3	54	198
27th Illinois.....	1	8	2	67		25	108
42d Illinois.....	1	19		98	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	948	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.
				Drayght.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
<b>RIGHT WING.</b>									
Headquarters	10	1	60					60	60
<b>FIRST DIVISION.</b>									
Headquarters			3	7		1	3	5	18
Ammunition and supply train	35		204	4		3	7	204	211
<b>First Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters			4	3		1	4		4
22d Indiana	1		6		2	2	2	5	7
59th Illinois	2	1	13		2	3	3	11	13
74th Illinois	2		12					12	12
75th Illinois	1		6					12	12
5th Wisconsin Battery	2		80		21		21	12	33
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters			24			1	1	24	25
21st Illinois	4		13					13	13
38th Illinois	2		14	1			1	15	16
15th Wisconsin	2	1	23	3			3	25	28
101st Ohio	4		2						
2d Minnesota Battery					13		13		13
<b>Third Brigade.</b>									
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			3		13		13		13
36th Illinois Cavalry, Company B.						3	3		3
2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company G.						7	7		7
<b>SECOND DIVISION.</b>									
3d Indiana Cavalry		1				30	30		30
Supply train	3		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.
				Drayght.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
<b>First Brigade.</b>									
15th Ohio		1	5	4			4	1	5
49th Ohio		2	4					1	2
82d Indiana		1	1	1			1	1	2
89th Indiana	1		4	4			4		4
89th Illinois		2	2	2			2		2
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery A.		1	30		62		62		62
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters						7	7	7	14
34th Illinois				1			1		1
79th Illinois	1			2			2	1	3
29th Indiana	1	1	2	2			3	4	6
30th Indiana			1				1	2	2
77th Pennsylvania				2			2		2
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery B.			82	7	76		82	6	88
<b>Third Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters	1		6				5	6	6
93d Ohio		1	4	5			1	6	5
5th Kentucky (Louisville Legion)	1		6	1			1	6	7
8th Indiana		1	6	1			1	6	7
6th Indiana Battery			18	1	24		24		24
<b>THIRD DIVISION.</b>									
Headquarters ammunition and supply train.	58		348					348	348
<b>First Brigade.</b>									
36th Illinois	1		6				6		6
68th 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
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters	1		6				6		6
2d Missouri	1		4				4		4
15th Missouri			4						
44th Illinois									
73d Illinois	1		6				6		6
1st Missouri Artillery, Battery G.	1		6		37		37	6	43
<b>Third Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters	1		6				6		6
22d Illinois	1		6				6		6
27th Illinois	2	2	16				16	16	16
43d Illinois	1	2	8				8	8	8
51st Illinois	2	1	14	18			18	18	26
1st Illinois Artillery, Battery C.	1		8		85		85	8	93
<b>CENTER.</b>									
<b>FIRST DIVISION.</b>									
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
3d Ohio	1							4	4
83th Indiana	1		4	1			1		1
1st Michigan Battery				10			10		10
<b>Fourth Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters				1			1		1
1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, U. S.								10	10
2d Battalion, 18th Infantry, U. S.		1	2				2		2
5th U. S. Artillery [Battery H]					15		15		15

was formed, and opened fire, together with the battery, that checked the enemy's advance, and heavy skirmishing was kept up during the entire day. Benjamin L. Wagner, of Company C, wounded, was the only injury sustained by my men.

At 9 p. m. my battalion was relieved and encamped, after thirty-six hours' duty on the front, one-half mile toward the rear and on the left of the pike.

At 7 a. m., January 2, the enemy commenced shelling our camp, having the night previous planted a battery in direct range of our camp fires. I soon deployed my men from column into line, and moved forward with the battery to a slight rise of ground, and ordered my battalion to lie down, so as to protect my line from the shot and shell that flew over us without doing much damage. Before I could get my battalion deployed, however, Sergt. John F. Burke, Twentieth Kentucky Volunteers, Corpl. Peter Wagoner, One hundredth Illinois, and William Trimble, Third Kentucky Volunteers, were killed, and Samuel S. M. Blankenship, Ninth Kentucky Volunteers, John Desch, Eighty-fourth Illinois Volunteers, John C. Pelser, and Sergt. William Mason, Sixth Kentucky Volunteers, were wounded.

The enemy's guns being silenced, I was ordered to move my men by columns doubled in the center toward the rear, and remained under cover of wood near the river till 2.30 p. m., when a sudden attack by the enemy was made on General Van Cleve's front. We were marched forward to the support of our battery. Reaching the top of a small bluff, I was ordered to halt my battalion. Orders were soon given, however, to advance, and we moved forward on a double-quick to the support of our front, who were obliged to fall back upon this side of the river under cover of our artillery, that was soon brought into position, and played with great execution upon the advancing columns of the enemy, who were repulsed by a heavy cross-fire from our guns. I was then ordered by General Negley to cross the river, and formed line just at dark on the ground occupied in the morning by the rebel skirmishers. In this position my men lay until 9 p. m., suffering much from wet feet and a rain, when we were ordered back and went into camp.

January 3, an order came detailing 200 men for duty. The men, under charge of Lieut. Benjamin F. West, reported to the front, and threw up rifle-pits until 8 p. m., when relieved.

January 4, after spending a cold and rainy night without tents and [on] half rations, I moved my battalion to the east 300 yards from camp, and on a bluff near Stone's River, where I was ordered to throw up a heavy breastwork. While clearing the rubbish from an old building, Amos Hoak, Thirteenth Ohio Volunteers, was killed by the falling of a heavy timber.

At 4 p. m. I was relieved and ordered to report, January 5, to General Thomas, at Murfreesborough, the enemy having evacuated the town.

I need not add that, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, to which my men were exposed during the whole engagement, having no tents, few blankets, and without half rations, they went forward to the prompt execution of every order and command with a cheerfulness and bravery commendable only to a prompt and efficient soldier.

Respectfully,

R. CLEMENTS,  
Captain, Commanding.

Capt. JAMES ST. CLAIR, MORTON,  
Commanding Pioneer Brigade.

No. 14.

*Report of Capt. James H. Stokes, Stokes' Illinois Battery.*

STOKES' BATTERY, IN CAMP NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH,

January 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the battery under my command was called into action Wednesday morning, 31st ultimo, about 8 a. m., and at a time when the left of our right army corps, completely demoralized, was under full retreat. The battery, by a terrific fire of canister, drove back the enemy, the infantry rallying under its fire. The battery then moved still farther to the front, and took a position commanding the approaches where our right had been dispersed. Under a fire, it is said, of three rebel batteries, well served, it held this key to our front during the entire day. About 4 p. m. a rebel brigade formed under cover of the woods to the right of the battery, and was only known by a foolish discharge of musketry on one of our ambulances, picking up their wounded as well as ours. The battery, being charged with canister, opened upon this brigade, and, it is said by one of the wounded, entirely annihilated it. The killed and wounded prove the accuracy of the fire. This position was held through the night, until next evening. About 10 p. m. it was ordered to the rear to rest, having been thirty-six hours to the front. In this engagement the battery, with a strength of 98, all told, lost 3 privates killed; 1 officer, 3 non-commissioned officers, and 5 privates wounded, being 12 killed and wounded, or about one-eighth.

On Friday, the 2d instant, the battery was again called into action, about 4 p. m., by the retreat and threatened destruction of our left. The battery, under the direction of the commanding general, moved to the front through the retreating infantry and artillery, and did not halt to go into battery until it had moved far beyond the front. The infantry again rallied under its fire. The battery opened a destructive fire of shell on the rebel battery, so destructive to our troops, completely silencing and destroying it, so that several of its pieces were captured by our advancing infantry. The battery that night occupied the ground of this rebel battery.

The commanding general, who witnessed the bearing of this gallant little band, will do justice to its discipline and bravery. All were brave; all nobly did their duty to their country.

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

JAMES H. STOKES,  
Captain, Commanding Battery.

Captain MORTON,  
Commanding Pioneer Corps, Army of the Cumberland.

No. 15.

*Reports of Maj. Gen. Alexander McD. McCook, U. S. Army, commanding Right Wing.*

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,  
One mile in advance of Nolensville, December 27, 1862.

COLONEL: I am here with my wing in camp. There is very strong ground in front of my main camp. I have all the crests heavily defended. The enemy resisted my advance all day with cavalry and artill-

lery. My casualties are very few. The One hundred and first Ohio charged one battery, and captured one gun and caisson, with teams. The men in glorious spirits, and only want a chance. Negley is here with his division. General Thomas sent a courier here; states that he is somewhere on the Wilson pike. Hardee had a dance given him at Triune last night.

A. McD. McCOOK,  
*Major-General.*

Colonel GARESCHÉ.

—  
HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,  
*December 27, 1862.*

COLONEL: The fog is so thick in these hills that I cannot see 300 yards in my front. I have ordered a halt until the fog rises. The enemy have resisted our advance for 3 miles this morning, and have a battery posted on the hill in front to enfilade the road. One brigade of the enemy in Triune; the other troops scattered on the Shelbyville road.

A. McD. McCOOK,  
*Major-General.*

Colonel GARESCHÉ.

P. S.—The firing you hear is the enemy's battery. I will apprise you when I move forward. Can do nothing intelligently now.

—  
HEADQUARTERS,  
*Near Triune, December 27, 1862—3 p. m.*

GENERAL: The enemy, under Hardee, escaped me this morning in the fog; at times I could not see more than 50 yards. I had reliable information that Hardee was here in person, and that his army lay in line of battle last night. I have yet to pursue them 6 miles before I can well determine whether they have retreated toward Murfreesborough or Shelbyville. Every prisoner I have taken has contradictory statements as to their destination. I will know to-night.

Very respectfully,

A. McD. McCOOK,  
*Major-General.*

Major-General THOMAS,  
*Commanding Center.*

—  
HDQRS. RIGHT WING, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
*Triune, December 27, 1862—3 p. m.*

COLONEL: Hardee escaped me during the fog to-day. Some reports say he left last night; others, to-day. Our prisoners tell contradictory stories about them. They had two divisions here. I am pursuing with one division, and Stanley has started with his cavalry in pursuit. I will know and promptly inform you what road they have taken. It will be necessary for me to pursue 6 miles on the Shelbyville road to determine upon what road they have marched. From College Grove there is a dirt road running 4 miles and intersecting the Salem pike. My cavalry are all raw, but have done well to-day.

General Rousseau's division did not get up until 12 m. to-day. The weather horrid. Captain Long will explain the country to you.

A. McD. McCOOK,  
*Major-General.*

Colonel GARESCHÉ, *Chief of Staff.*

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
*In Camp, Two and a half miles south of Murfreesborough, Tenn.,  
January 8, 1863.*

MAJOR: In compliance with telegraphic orders from the general commanding, received at my camp, on Mill Creek, 5 miles south of Nashville, at 4.30 a. m., on the morning of December 26, 1862, I put the right wing of the Fourteenth Army Corps in motion toward Nolensville, Tenn. The First Division, Brig. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis commanding, marched at 6 a. m. upon the Edmondson pike, with orders to move upon that road to Prim's blacksmith-shop, from whence it was to march direct by a country road to Nolensville.

The Third Division, Brig. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan commanding, also marched at 6 a. m., and upon the direct road to Nolensville. The Second Division, Brig. Gen. R. W. Johnson commanding (the reserve of the right wing), followed the Third Division upon the direct road.

The advance guards of Generals Davis' and Sheridan's columns encountered the enemy's cavalry about 2 miles beyond our picket line. There was continuous skirmishing with the enemy until the heads of these columns reached Nolensville.

About 1 mile beyond the town the enemy made a determined stand, in a defile and upon a range of hills that cross the turnpike at this point, lining the slopes with skirmishers and placing a six-gun battery on a commanding position, endeavoring to repel our advance. He was attacked in front and his position handsomely turned by General Carlin's brigade, of Davis' division, capturing one piece of his artillery and several prisoners. After taking possession of the defile and hills, the command was encamped.

On the night of this day, I was visited by the general commanding, who gave me verbal orders to move forward in the morning to Triune, 7 miles distant, and attack Hardee's corps, supposed to be quartered at that place. At this camp I was joined by Brig. Gen. D. S. Stanley, chief of cavalry, with the First and Second Tennessee Regiments, and the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

Preparations were made to move forward at daylight, the cavalry under General Stanley in the advance, followed by the Second Division, under General Johnson. It having rained all the day previous and the entire night, there was a dense fog, which prevented us from seeing 150 yards in any direction. The column having moved about 2 miles to the front, they again encountered the enemy, consisting of cavalry, infantry, and artillery. The fog at this time being so thick that friend could not be distinguished from foe, and our cavalry having been fired upon by our infantry skirmishers, on the flanks, the enemy being conversant with the ground, my troops strangers to it, and from prisoners captured having learned that Hardee's corps had been in line of battle since the night before, I did not deem it prudent to advance until the fog lifted, and I ordered the command to halt until the work could be done understandingly.

The fog having lifted at 1 p. m., an advance was immediately ordered, driving the enemy's cavalry before us.

On nearing Triune, we found that the main portion of their forces had retired, leaving a battery of six pieces, supported by cavalry, to contest the crossing of Nelson's Creek, which has steep and bluff banks. The enemy having destroyed the bridge, it was with difficulty that artillery could be crossed. On the approach of our skirmishers, the battery, with the cavalry, took flight down the Eagleville road. It now being nearly

To my staff, Lieut. Col. E. Bassett Langdon, inspector-general; Maj. R. H. Nodine, engineer officer; Maj. J. A. Campbell, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. Gates P. Thruston, ordnance officer; Capt. B. D. Williams, aide-de-camp; Capt. J. F. Boyd, assistant quartermaster; Capt. Orris Blake, provost-marshal; Maj. Caleb Bates, volunteer aide-de-camp, and Capt. Horace N. Fisher, volunteer aide-de-camp and topographical engineer, my thanks are due for their conspicuous gallantry and intelligence on the field. My escort, under command of Lieutenant Thickstun, Second Kentucky Cavalry, and my orderlies behaved gallantly. When my horse was shot, Orderly Cook, of the Second Indiana, promptly replaced him with his own. The officers of the Signal Corps were ever ready to perform any service in their line or as aides.

The report of Surg. C. McDermont, the medical director of the right wing, is also submitted. Surgeon McDermont's gallantry on the field, and his great care for the wounded, is worthy of great praise.

My entire medical corps behaved nobly, except Asst. Surg. W. S. Fish, of the Third Indiana Cavalry, who fled to Nashville. He is recommended for dismissal.

The casualties of my wing are 542 killed and 2,334 wounded.\*

The nation is again called to mourn the loss of gallant spirits who fell upon this sanguinary field. First of these, Brig. Gen. J. W. Sill, commanding First Brigade, Third Division. He was noble, conscientious in the discharge of every duty, and brave to a fault. He had no ambition save to serve his country. He died a Christian soldier, in the act of repulsing the enemy.

Such names as Roberts, Schaefer, Harrington, Stem, Williams, Read, Housum, Drake, Wooster, and McKee, all field officers, and many other commissioned officers of the right wing, who fell vindicating their flag, will never be forgotten by a grateful country.

Complete lists of the killed and wounded will be furnished from each regiment. There will be a map of the field sent forward to-morrow.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. McD. McCOOK,

*Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Right Wing.*

Maj. C. GODDARD,

*Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

No. 16.

*Report of Surg. Clarke McDermont, U. S. Army, Medical Director.*

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, RIGHT WING,  
*Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 14, 1863.*

SIR: I transmit, for the information of the commanding general, the accompanying report of the casualties that occurred in the right wing during the late battle of Murfreesborough:

While the loss of so many brave men must be a source of profound sorrow to the general, it will afford him some satisfaction to know that the wounded were not neglected. Throughout the severe and protracted struggle our surgeons exerted their utmost energies in alleviating the sufferings and promoting the comfort of their unfortunate brethren, and

\* But see revised statement, pp. 207-209.

succeeded, as far as it was possible to do so with the means at their disposal.

When, on the second day of the battle, it became evident that the territory occupied by our hospitals would fall in possession of the enemy, I directed a sufficient number of surgeons and attendants to remain in charge, and not to desert the wounded in any event. These officers were exposed to much danger, as the contending armies swept past; but they remained faithfully at their posts, and were unceasing in their attentions to the wounded during the three days that elapsed before the recovery of this territory by our troops.

The enemy took from them a large portion of the medical and hospital stores and instruments, and our men were compelled to seek for dressing materials, bedding, &c., among the families in the rear of the lines. Much kind assistance was received from citizens in the vicinity, and no violence was experienced at the hands of the Confederate soldiers.

It affords me much pleasure to bear testimony to the efficiency and self-denial of the medical officers of the right wing. During that long week of hardship and exposure they labored day and night, regardless of their own safety and comfort, and only anxious for the well-being of the wounded intrusted to their care.

I have the honor to remain, your most obedient servant,

C. McDERMONT,

*Surg. U. S. Vols., Medical Director, Right Wing, 14th A. C.*

Major CAMPBELL,

*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

*General summary of casualties of Right Wing.*

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
FIRST DIVISION.			
22d Indiana.....	7	89	46
5th Wisconsin Battery.....	1	7	8
15th Wisconsin.....	15	72	87
74th Illinois.....	5	35	41
69th Illinois.....	7	43	50
35th Illinois.....	11	53	64
25th Illinois.....	16	79	95
75th Illinois.....	2	22	24
21st Illinois.....	47	196	245
2d Minnesota Battery.....	2	5	7
81st Indiana.....	6	49	54
101st Ohio.....	18	125	143
8th Wisconsin Battery.....	1	4	5
38th Illinois.....	24	110	144
Total.....	175	838	1,013
SECOND DIVISION.			
49th Ohio.....	16	96	112
15th Ohio.....	17	96	113
93d Ohio.....	12	41	53
1st Ohio.....	3	33	46
39th Indiana.....	80	100	139
32d Indiana.....	12	41	53
6th Indiana.....	15	52	67
30th Indiana.....	29	100	129
29th Indiana.....	4	22	26
89th Illinois.....	19	45	64
79th Illinois.....	19	86	99

## General summary of casualties of Right Wing—Continued.

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
SECOND DIVISION—Continued.			
34th Illinois.....	18	100	118
6th Kentucky.....	18	80	98
Battery A, First Ohio Artillery.....	1	5	6
5th Indiana Battery.....	3	18	21
77th Pennsylvania.....	4	29	33
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>216</b>	<b>952</b>	<b>1,168</b>
THIRD DIVISION.			
38th Illinois.....	45	159	204
88th Illinois.....	15	55	70
24th Wisconsin.....	19	58	77
21st Michigan.....	18	84	102
42d Illinois.....	21	109	130
22d Illinois.....	25	88	113
51st Illinois.....	6	48	54
27th Illinois.....	8	55	63
73d Illinois.....	22	52	74
44th Illinois.....	6	34	40
15th Missouri.....	14	44	58
2d Missouri.....	2	22	24
4th Indiana Battery.....	6	16	21
1st Missouri Artillery, Company G.....	6	13	19
1st Illinois Artillery, Company C.....	5	20	25
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>217</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>1,074</b>
<b>Aggregate</b> .....	<b>608</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>3,255</b>

Respectfully forwarded.

C. McDERMONT,

Surgeon U. S. Volunteers, Medical Director of Right Wing.

A. McD. McCook,  
Major-General, Commanding.

General summary of killed and wounded at the battle of Stone's River, near Murfreesborough, Tenn., from December 30, 1862, to January 3, 1863, of Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps, Department of the Cumberland.

## FIRST DIVISION.

(JOHN L. TREED, medical director.)

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
38th Illinois.....	94	110	144
22d Indiana.....	7	39	46
5th Wisconsin Battery.....	1	7	8
15th Wisconsin.....	15	72	87
74th Illinois.....	8	33	41
59th Illinois.....	7	43	50
35th Illinois.....	11	53	64
25th Illinois.....	16	79	95
2d Minnesota Battery.....	2	5	7
75th Illinois.....	2	22	24
81st Indiana.....	6	48	54
101st Ohio.....	18	125	143
21st Illinois*.....			
8th Wisconsin Battery.....	1	4	5
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>128</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>768</b>

\* Not reported.

## General summary of killed and wounded at the battle of Stone's River, &amp;c.—Continued.

## SECOND DIVISION.

(S. MARKS, medical director.)

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
34th Illinois.....	18	100	118
77th Pennsylvania.....	4	28	32
78th Illinois.....	19	80	99
30th Indiana.....	29	100	129
6th Indiana.....	15	52	67
1st Ohio.....	8	38	46
53d Ohio.....	12	41	53
5th Kentucky.....	18	80	98
32d Indiana.....	12	8	20
35th Indiana.....	30	109	139
15th Ohio.....	17	108	125
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery A.....	1	5	6
89th Illinois.....	10	45	55
49th Ohio.....	16	96	112
5th Indiana Battery.....	3	18	21
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>212</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>1,118</b>

## THIRD DIVISION.\*

(D. J. GRIFFITHS, medical director.)

88th Illinois.....	15	55	70
21st Michigan.....	18	84	102
36th Illinois.....	45	159	204
27th Illinois.....	9	35	44
24th Wisconsin.....	19	58	77
61st Illinois.....	6	48	54
23d Illinois.....	25	88	113
42d Illinois.....	21	109	130
44th Illinois.....	6	34	40
73d Illinois.....	22	52	74
2d Missouri.....	2	22	24
15th Missouri.....	14	44	58
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>202</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>990</b>

General summary of Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps, Department of the Cumberland  
(C. McDermont, medical director.)

Divisions.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
First Division.....	128	640	768
Second Division.....	212	906	1,118
Third Division.....	202	788	990
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>542</b>	<b>2,334</b>	<b>2,876</b>

No. 17.

Report of Brig. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, U. S. Army, commanding First Division.

HDQRS. 1ST DIVISION, RIGHT WING, 14TH ARMY CORPS,  
January —, 1863.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the division under my command in the recent operations

\* This division reports no batteries.

against the enemy's forces in the vicinity of Triune and Murfreesborough:

On the morning of the 26th ultimo, in compliance with instructions received from the general commanding the right wing, I broke up camp at Saint James' Chapel, on Mill Creek, and advanced upon Nolensville, via the Edmondson pike, as far as Prim's blacksmith shop; from thence my advance was over a rugged country road, rendered almost impassable by the incessant rain, which had been falling in torrents during the entire morning.

The enemy's pickets were discovered by my cavalry escort, composed of Company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers, under command of Captain Sherer, within a few miles of our camp. This small force of cavalry being the only mounted force under my command, I ordered them to the front, with instructions to drive in the enemy's pickets, and to attack him on his flanks at every opportunity. So effectually was this done, that the infantry and artillery were enabled to move with little interruption to within a mile of Nolensville. By this time I had learned, from reliable information, through citizens as well as cavalry scouts, that the enemy occupied the town in some force, both of cavalry and artillery.

The First Brigade, consisting of the Twenty-second Indiana, Seventy-fourth, Seventy-fifth, and Fifty-ninth Illinois Regiments, and the Fifth Wisconsin Battery, commanded by Col. P. Sidney Post, was immediately deployed for an advance upon the town. Pinney's (Fifth Wisconsin) battery was posted so as to command the town and all approaches from the southwest. The enemy's cavalry was seen by this time taking position on a range of hills southwest of the town, and was evidently attempting to flank our position. A few shells from Pinney's battery soon caused them to fall back. A battery, which by this time they had succeeded in getting into position, opened fire, but was, after a few rounds, silenced by Pinney's guns.

The Second Brigade, consisting of the Twenty-first and Thirty-eighth Illinois, Fifteenth Wisconsin, and One hundred and first Ohio Regiments, and the Second Minnesota Battery, commanded by Colonel Carlin, had by this time formed a line of battle on Post's right, and, moving rapidly forward, soon engaged the enemy's dismounted cavalry in a sharp skirmish.

The Third Brigade, consisting of the Twenty-fifth and Thirty-fifth Illinois, Eighty-first Indiana Regiments, and the Eighth Wisconsin Battery, commanded by Colonel Woodruff, was deployed on the right, so as to check any effort which might be made to attack my flank from this direction. Carlin advanced in excellent order, driving everything before him, until ordered to halt, having dislodged the enemy from his position entirely.

By this time I ascertained that the enemy would probably make another effort to resist our advance about 2 miles farther on; and, notwithstanding it was late in the afternoon, and the men were much fatigued from a hard day's march through rain and mud, I could not forego the opportunity thus offered in giving them another chance to signalize their courage and endurance. Ascertaining the enemy's exact position as well as I could, I ordered the advance.

Their lines were soon discovered, occupying a range of high, rocky hills, through which the Nolensville and Triune pike passes, known as Knob Gap. This was a favorable position to the enemy, and well guarded by artillery, which opened fire at long range upon Carlin's lines. Hotchkiss' and Pinney's batteries were rapidly brought into

action and opened fire, while Carlin's brigade charged the battery, carried the heights in his front, and captured two guns. Post's brigade carried the heights on the left of the road with but little resistance, while Woodruff's brigade drove in the enemy's skirmishers on the extreme right.

The day had now closed, and I ordered the troops to bivouac, in accordance with instructions from the general commanding, who arrived at this time upon the ground, followed by Generals Sheridan's and Johnson's divisions.

The steady courage and soldierly zeal displayed on this occasion by both officers and men gave ample assurances of what could be expected of them in the coming struggle at Murfreesborough.

On the 27th, in accordance with the general's instructions, the division took position at the junction of the Bole Jack road with the Nolensville pike, 1 mile from Triune, where it remained in bivouac until the morning of the 29th, at which time the advance was resumed. In compliance with instructions, I moved forward on the Bole Jack road as far as Stewart's Creek, a few miles beyond which it was reported by our cavalry the enemy had shown himself in considerable force. The general commanding arriving at this time in person at the head of the column, ordered a halt until the divisions in rear could be brought up.

Brigadier-General Stanley, commanding the cavalry in advance, soon reported the road clear, and the march was resumed without obstruction until the entire command reached the Wilkinson pike, 6 miles from Murfreesborough. The division bivouacked during the night at Overall's Creek,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Murfreesborough, the left brigade resting on the Wilkinson pike.

On the morning of the 30th the division moved forward and took position on General Sheridan's right, about 300 yards south of and parallel to the Wilkinson pike, in which position it remained until 2 p. m. A few companies of skirmishers thrown to the front in a skirt of timbered land soon found those of the enemy, and for several hours a brisk skirmish was kept up with varying results. About 2 p. m. the general commanding ordered a general advance of the whole line. This the enemy seemed at first disposed to resist only with his skirmishers; gradually, however, as both parties strengthened their lines of skirmishers, the contest became more animated. Our main lines steadily advanced, occupying and holding the ground gained by the skirmishers until about half an hour before sunset, when the enemy's position was plainly discerned, running diagonally across the old Murfreesborough and Franklin road.

The enemy's batteries now announced our close proximity to their lines. Carpenter's and Hotchkiss' batteries were soon brought into position and opened fire. Woodruff's and Carlin's brigades by this time felt the fire of the enemy's main lines, and responded in the most gallant manner. Post's brigade, moving steadily forward on the right, after a most obstinate resistance on the part of the enemy, succeeded in driving his skirmishers from a strong position in our front, forcing them to retire upon his main lines. Night soon brought a close to the contest.

Receiving directions at this time from General McCook to desist from any further offensive demonstration further than what might be necessary to hold my position, I ordered the troops to rest for the night on their arms. Two brigades of General Johnson's division, heretofore held in reserve, arrived and took position on my right, about sunset, thus extending our line of battle beyond the old Franklin and Mur-

freesborough road. These brigades were commanded by Generals Willich and Kirk.

The night passed off quietly until about daylight, when the enemy's forces were observed by our pickets to be in motion. Their object could not, however, with certainty, be determined until near sunrise, when a vigorous attack was made upon Willich's and Kirk's brigades. These troops seemed not to have been fully prepared for the assault, and, with little or no resistance, retreated from their position, leaving their artillery in the hands of the enemy. This left my right brigade exposed to a flank movement, which the enemy was now rapidly executing, and compelled me to order Post's brigade to fall back and partially change its front. Simultaneous with this movement the enemy commenced a heavy and very determined attack on both Carlin's and Woodruff's brigades. These brigades were fully prepared for the attack, and received it with veteran courage. The conflict was fierce in the extreme on both sides. Our loss was heavy and that of the enemy no less. It was, according to my observations, the best contested point of the day, and would have been held, but for the overwhelming force moving so persistently against my right. Carlin, finding his right flank being so severely pressed, and threatened with being turned, ordered his troops to retire.

Woodruff's brigade succeeded in repulsing the enemy and holding its position until the withdrawal of the troops on both its flanks compelled it to retire. Pinney's battery, which I had posted in an open field upon my extreme right, and ordered to be supported by a part of Post's brigade, now opened a destructive fire upon the enemy's advancing lines. This gallant and distinguished battery, supported by the Twenty-second Indiana and Fifty-ninth Illinois Regiments, together with a brigade of General Johnson's division, commanded by Colonel Baldwin, Sixth Indiana Volunteers, for a short time brought the enemy to a check on our right. Hotchkiss' battery had also by this time taken an excellent position near the Wilkinson pike, so as to command the enemy's approach across a large cotton-field in his front, over which he was now advancing. The infantry, however, contrary to expectations, failed to support this battery, and, after firing a few rounds, was forced to retire.

In accordance with instructions received during the night, announcing the plan of operations for the day, I desisted from any further attempts to engage the enemy, except by skirmishers thrown to the rear for that purpose, until my lines had reached within a few hundred yards of the Nashville and Murfreesborough pike, when I again determined to form my lines and resist his further advance. To this order but few of the regiments responded, their ranks being much thinned by killed and wounded; and not a few had availed themselves of the favorable opportunity offered by the dense woods, through which we were compelled to pass, to skulk like cowards from the ranks. The reserve forces here moved to the front, and relieved my command from any further participation in the engagement until late in the afternoon, when, in compliance with instructions, I took position on the right. My skirmishers were immediately thrown out, and soon engaged the enemy's, until night brought a close to hostilities for the day.

During the 1st and 2d of January the division occupied this position in skirmishing with the enemy's pickets, until late in the afternoon of the 2d, when I received orders from General Rosecrans to hasten to the support of a part of General Crittenden's command, who had been for

some time hotly engaged with the enemy across the river, on our extreme left.

Moving as rapidly as possible across the river to the field of battle, I found our gallant troops forcing the enemy back on his reserves. The brigade of Colonel Woodruff, being in the advance, only arrived in time to participate in the general engagement.

After relieving the troops of General Palmer and Colonel Beatty, and particularly the brigade of Colonel Hazen, which had so nobly vindicated their courage in the then closing conflict, I ordered a heavy line of skirmishers to be thrown out. The enemy's lines were soon encountered, and a renewal of the engagement seemed imminent. A few rounds of grape and canister from one of our batteries, however, caused them to withdraw, and night again brought a cessation of hostilities.

During the night I disposed of my troops in such manner as would best enable me to repel an attack, and, in compliance with instructions, I directed rifle-pits and breastworks to be thrown up. This was done, and morning found us well prepared for any emergency, either offensive or defensive.

The following day (January 3) considerable skirmishing was kept up, without abatement, from early in the morning until dark.

During the night I received orders from General Crittenden to withdraw my command from the east bank of the river, and to report with it to General McCook. This movement was executed between the hours of 1 and 4 o'clock in the morning, during which time the rain fell incessantly.

The pickets about this time reported the enemy as having been very active in their movements during the latter part of the night, and their convictions that he was evacuating his position. Further observations, made after daylight, found this to be the case.

The following list of casualties shows a loss in the division during the several engagements above described as follows:

Commissioned officers:	
Killed .....	16
Wounded .....	34
Missing .....	2
Enlisted men:	
Killed .....	176
Wounded .....	784
Missing .....	399
Total killed, wounded, and missing .....	*1,411

The division lost three pieces of artillery and captured two. In the list of officers killed are the names of Colonel Stem, One hundred and first Ohio; Colonel Williams, Twenty-fifth Illinois; Lieutenant-Colonel Wooster, One hundred and first Ohio; Lieutenant-Colonel McKee, Fifteenth Wisconsin; Captain Carpenter, Eighth Wisconsin Battery, and Captain McCulloch, Second Kentucky Cavalry, of my staff, whose noble deeds of valor on the field had already placed their names on the list of brave men. The history of the war will record no brighter names, and the country will mourn the loss of no more devoted patriots, than these.

Among the wounded are Colonel Alexander, Twenty-first Illinois; Lieutenant-Colonel Tanner, Twenty-second Indiana; Captain Pinney, Fifth Wisconsin Battery, and Captain Austin, acting assistant adjutant-general, on the staff of Colonel Woodruff, whose names it affords me special gratification to mention.

\* But see revised statement, pp. 297, 306.

From December 26 until the close of the engagement, on the 4th of January, at Murfreesborough, no entire day elapsed that the division, or some part of it, did not engage the enemy. During a great part of the time the weather was excessively inclement, and the troops suffered much from exposure. A heavy list of casualties and much suffering were unavoidable, under the circumstances.

It affords me pleasure, however, to be able to report the cheerful and soldierlike manner in which these hardships and privations were endured by the troops throughout. History will record and the country reward their deeds.

My staff, consisting of Lieut. T. W. Morrison, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. H. Pease, inspector-general; Captain McCulloch, aide-de-camp (killed); Lieut. Francis E. Reynolds, aide-de-camp; Lieut. Thomas H. Dailey, aide-de-camp; Surg. J. L. Teed, medical director; Captain Shriver, ordnance officer; Lieut. R. Plunket, provost-marshal, and Private Frank Clark, clerk to the assistant adjutant-general and acting aide-de-camp, deported themselves throughout the entire campaign, as well as on the battle-field, with distinguished zeal and conspicuous gallantry.

While expressing my high regard and appreciation of the general commanding, I desire also to tender my thanks to yourself, major, and to Colonel Langdon, Major Bates, Captains Thruston, Williams, and Fisher, of his staff, for the prompt and efficient manner in which the field duties were performed by them.

During the several engagements in which the division participated the conduct of many subaltern officers attracted my admiration by their conspicuous gallantry, and whose names, I regret, cannot be mentioned in this report. They will be remembered in future recommendations for promotion.

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

JEF. C. DAVIS,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.*

Maj. JOHN A. CAMPBELL,

*Asst. Adj. Gen., Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

No. 18.

*Report of Lieut. Charles B. Humphrey, Fifth Wisconsin Battery.*

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH WISCONSIN BATTERY,  
January 6, 1863.

COLONEL: In obedience with your commands, I would respectfully submit the following report of the part taken and casualties suffered by the Fifth Wisconsin Battery in the engagements with the enemy since December 26, 1862:

The battery left Camp Andy Johnson, December 26, and marched to Nolensville, where it arrived and engaged the enemy's cavalry about 2 o'clock of the same day.

After firing a number of rounds of shell and canister into the town, the enemy fell back about a mile, where they made a stand in a very strong position, and planted a battery. The battery followed, and were soon playing upon them from all its guns. The enemy soon retired, leaving one of their guns upon the field. Camped upon this ground at night, and the next day (December 27) marched forward about 4 miles

and camped until the 29th ultimo, when we were ordered in the direction of Murfreesborough. Advanced about 8 miles and camped in the woods, without tents or fires. The next morning advanced slowly, and camped within sight of the enemy's lines; fired a few rounds from the Parrott guns, and again the men lay by their guns, without tents or fires, all night. At daylight we were up and ready for an attack. As soon as it became light the enemy could be seen from our position, in great numbers, marching upon the right wing. We were soon ordered to its support, and in a short time took position in a corn-field, supported by the Twenty-second Indiana Regiment on the right, and the Fifty-ninth Illinois on the left. The enemy could be seen in heavy force advancing upon us. We opened fire immediately from all our guns. They soon made their appearance over a knoll directly in front of our guns. A few rounds of canister caused them to move to the left, under cover of a thick clump of bushes. They were followed by another line, and they then advanced upon us. After firing upon them for about thirty minutes, the order was given to limber up and fall back. This was done in good order, though we were obliged to leave one gun and two caissons on the field, on account of the horses being killed.

The battery fell back to the Murfreesborough pike in good order, when the rebel cavalry dashed in from the left and captured the whole battery, with the exception of one gun. We were soon relieved by our own cavalry, and the battery was got together, and fired a few rounds at the enemy's cavalry, who were in strong force about 2 miles in rear of our former position; lay by our guns that night, and the next morning (January 1) were ordered to join our brigade, near our present position. We took position, and lay there until the afternoon of January 2, when we were ordered over the stream to the left of the pike, where we lay within sight of the enemy's lines until the morning of the 4th, when we fell back to our present position. During the time of action the officers and men behaved with coolness and bravery, and though they were exposed to the weather, with uncooked rations, not a man appeared unwilling to do his duty. They were much worn out, but the two days of rest that they have had fitted them for the field.

The following is a list of casualties suffered: \* Killed, 1 private; wounded, 1 officer and 5 men; missing, 4; taken prisoners, 2. Total loss, 1 captain and 11 enlisted men, 2 wagons and 12 mules.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES B. HUMPHREY,

*Lieutenant, Commanding Fifth Wisconsin Battery.*

No. 19.

*Report of Lieut. Henry E. Stiles, Eighth Wisconsin Battery.*

HEADQUARTERS 8TH WISCONSIN BATTERY,  
3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., RIGHT WING, 14TH ARMY CORPS,  
January 9, 1863.

GENERAL: I have to report the following as a detailed account of the part taken by the Eighth Wisconsin Battery in the recent engagements near Murfreesborough, Tenn., December, 1862, and January, 1863:

December 26, 1862, by order of Brigadier-General Woodruff, we formed

\* Nominal list omitted.

ville, where the enemy were posted in considerable force. I threw my regiment into line of battle on the right of the brigade, occupying a strong position on a high ridge reaching from our extreme right to the town, on our left. The fight had already begun, and the enemy now opened on us a heavy fire of canister and grape, but, fortunately, too high, and no serious injury was done us. The enemy's cavalry now moved to their left, with the evident intention of gaining our right flank or rear, but in this attempt they were foiled, for I now threw out a heavy body of skirmishers, who, with one section of Captain Pinney's Fifth Wisconsin Battery, not only held the enemy in check, but drove them from their ground. With the brigade, my regiment pursued the fleeing enemy, driving them from every position. Night now set in, and we bivouacked till morning, lying on our arms.

From thence we marched toward Murfreesborough. On the morning of the 30th we came in contact with the enemy's pickets, and drove them for 3 miles through a dense thicket of cedar and underbrush. But our advance was now checked by a heavy fire from the enemy's batteries. The cannonading lasted for some hours, but with little effect. Night now again set in, and we laid down on our arms, facing the foe, and only 300 yards distant. We could plainly hear the rebels converse during the night. At daylight next morning they could be seen moving to our right, by thousands, which movements were promptly reported. I now sent out five companies to the front as skirmishers, instructing them to fall back as our lines did, which they did, hotly contesting every inch of ground, and shooting down numbers of the enemy. With the remaining five companies of my regiment I took position on the right of the Fifth Wisconsin Battery. I was now on the extreme right of our lines. The enemy made their appearance in great numbers, advancing in solid column from the dense cedar thickets in our front. On and on they came, nothing daunted at the heavy charges of canister and grape the battery on our left was pouring into their ranks. When they had advanced within 30 yards, I ordered my regiment to fire, which they did, with deliberate aim. Our fire was returned by a raking fire from their extended lines of infantry, while their batteries played on us from our front and right. Our battery being hotly pressed, began to fall back, and I ordered my regiment to fall back. I rallied them again on the right of General Rousseau's command, and took position on the right of a battery, and successfully aided in supporting it. Late in the evening of the same day I was ordered to the right of the division again, where we remained until the evening of the 2d of January, at which time I was ordered, double-quick, to the support of our left across the river. I reached them just as the enemy were giving way and being hotly pursued by our forces. Nothing worthy of note occurred during the night and the following day. On the night of the 3d the enemy retired, leaving us undisputed possession of the field.

I here wish to mention the names of some of the officers of my regiment who distinguished themselves by their courage and bearing: Capt. W. H. Taggart, Company C; Lieut. William F. Riggs, Company F; Lieut. John Gooding, Company A; Lieut. Patrick Carney, Company D. Lieut. Col. T. B. Tanner was severely wounded in the hip while at his post in the performance of his duty. Major Shea and Adjutant Adams rendered themselves highly conspicuous in attempting to rally the regiment, and by their bravery and noble daring. Capt. William Powers, Company H; Lieut. A. D. Sawyer, Company B; Lieut. R. V. Marshall, Company I; Capt. W. H. Snodgrass and Sergt. A. J. Moss, commanding Company G, are brave and good officers, and did

their whole duty. With few exceptions, the men of my regiment fought with a willingness and determination rarely equaled. But while I make favorable mention of the above-named officers, I cannot but censure the conduct of Capt. N. De Versey, Company A; Lieut. James McGrayel and Lieut. A. W. Griffith, Company G, and Lieut. L. C. Orrill, Company K, who left the field in the early part of the engagement. On the morning of the 31st of December they went to Nashville, taking with them quite a number of non-commissioned officers and privates of my command, most of whom were taken prisoners and paroled at La Vergne, and who are still at Nashville.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. GOODING,  
Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. S. M. JONES,  
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 25.

*Report of Col. William P. Carlin, Thirty-eighth Illinois Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,  
RIGHT WING, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
January 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this brigade since leaving Knob Gap, near Nolensville, December 27, 1862:

The brigade took up the line of march on the morning of the 27th, in a heavy rain, in the direction of Triune, bivouacking within 1 mile of that place, where it remained during the 28th, moving on the morning of the 29th in the direction of Murfreesborough.

That night we bivouacked on Blackman's farm,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of that town.

Early on the morning of the 30th we crossed Overall's Creek, on the right of the Wilkinson pike, and took up position in a heavy wood south of Asa Grisco's house.

At 2 p. m. I was ordered to advance; passed through a corn-field, entering another heavy wood, where my skirmishers first met those of the enemy. Before making this advance, Brigadier-General Davis, commanding division, informed me that my brigade was to direct the movements of the division, and that Colonels Post and Woodruff, commanding, respectively, the First and Third Brigades, were ordered to keep on a line with me. My skirmishers, under Lieutenant-Colonel McKee, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, continued to drive those of the enemy through the wood for about one-fourth of a mile, when I halted and sent a request to Colonels Post and Woodruff to keep pace with my advance.

At this point my skirmishers, having suffered severely, were withdrawn, and my battery (Second Minnesota, Capt. W. A. Hotchkiss) opened on the enemy with canister and spherical case, inflicting serious damage. I then threw forward another line of skirmishers, under Lieutenant-Colonel McMackin, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, which advanced so slowly that my front line of battle soon closed upon it, driving

in, however, the skirmishers of the enemy. My first line of battle was now within 180 yards of the enemy's line, at the house of Mrs. William Smith.

At this point a battery, about 100 yards west of the house, opened with canister upon the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and another, on the east of the house, 250 yards distant, on the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, killing and wounding a number of my men. Here it was my intention to halt until the First and Third Brigades should come up, on my right and left, respectively; but Col. J. W. S. Alexander, commanding Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, without instructions from me, ordered his regiment to charge on the battery in his front. His command was moving, with a shout, at double-quick step, within 80 yards of the battery, already abandoned by its cannoneers, when a very heavy fire was opened upon it by infantry, which lay concealed behind fences and outhouses, on the right and left of the battery. This fire killed and wounded a large number of the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and threw the left companies into some disorder, when the regiment was halted and formed on the right of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers.

The fight was now fairly opened, and continued vigorously until night by the front line of my infantry and the battery which had been placed between the two regiments. The batteries in our front were soon silenced, but another was then opened on my right flank, distant about 500 yards, which completely enfiladed my lines and considerably injured us; but this, too, was driven out of sight by Captain Hotchkiss, after a vigorous and well-directed fire.

Again I sent a request to Colonels Post and Woodruff to come up, but they continued to remain in rear of my lines. I maintained my position during the night, having at dark relieved my front line by the Thirty-eighth Illinois and One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers.

My loss during this day, in killed, wounded, and missing, was about 175 officers and men. Before daylight on the morning of December 31, perceiving indications of an advance by the enemy, I retired my battery about 200 yards. At daylight the enemy advanced. Seeing that the troops on the right and left of my line would not come up, I fell back, with my infantry on a line with my battery, and made a stand; the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers about 200 yards to the rear, and on the right of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers; the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers were posted on the rocks in front of my battery, and the Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers on the left of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers.

My men were falling rapidly on the front line, and, wishing to increase the fire on the enemy, I sent an order to Colonel Alexander to advance and form on the right of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, and to Colonel Heg, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, to form on the left of the Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, and to my battery to retire. To my surprise, I received a reply from Colonel Alexander that he was already so hotly engaged that he could not come forward. The startling intelligence was also at this moment communicated to me, by one of my orderlies, that all our forces on our right had left the ground. Immediately afterward a heavy fire of musketry and artillery from the enemy, from my right flank and rear, unmistakably announced that I was also attacked from that direction.

On my left Woodruff's brigade had left the ground. My command was thus exposed to fire from all points, except the left of my rear. When too late to retire in good order, I found that I was overpowered, and but a moment was wanting to place my brigade in the hands of

the foe. I decided to retreat by the left flank, when my horse was shot under me and myself struck, and all my staff and orderlies dismounted or otherwise engaged, which prevented me from communicating the order to the regimental commanders. The rear line, then consisting of the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, was the first to withdraw, by the order of Lieutenant-Colonel McMackin, then commanding, Colonel Alexander having been wounded. Colonel Stem and Lieutenant-Colonel Wooster, of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, having been shot down, and the ranks of the regiment dreadfully thinned by the fire of the enemy, it gave way and retreated. The Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers held its position until the enemy was within a few steps, and then retired. This regiment would have suffered far more severely in its retreat had not a heavy fire from the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, judiciously posted by Colonel Heg to its left and rear, kept the enemy in check until it had left the wood and partially reformed along the fence, on the right of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, where an effective fire was kept up, holding the enemy at bay.

This only gave the foe on our right and left the more time to envelop us. All that now remained of my brigade crossed two open fields and entered a wood about 200 yards east of Griscom's house.

The regiments were painfully reduced in numbers, but I formed a line at this point, and several volleys of musketry and artillery were fired with destructive effect upon the ranks of the enemy; but the foe was still on our right at Griscom's house, with none of our forces at that point to oppose them, and being informed that General Davis had ordered a still farther withdrawal, I retired my command about half a mile to our rear, and again endeavored to rally the men, but it was evident that they were so utterly discouraged that no substantial good could result, while no supports were in sight.

At another point, about half a mile farther to our rear, I rallied all who could be found, and took a strong position in the edge of a cedar grove, holding it until the enemy came up, when my men fired one volley, and broke without orders. I conducted them to the rear, passing through the lines of our reserves, and halted at the railroad, where we remained during the afternoon collecting our scattered men.

During the two days' fight the loss of officers was so great that some companies had not one to command them, and others not even a sergeant. Our regimental colors were all borne off the field flying, though four color-bearers in succession, of the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, were shot down, and two of the color-guard of the Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, three of the color-guard of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and four of the color-guard of the One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers fell. Our artillery was all brought off in safety.

I have to report the loss of many officers, who were ornaments to our army, and who will be mourned by all who knew them. Col. L. Stem, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers; Lieut. Col. David McKee, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, and Lieut. Col. M. F. Wooster, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, were unsurpassed in all the qualities that make up the brave soldier, the true gentleman, and the pure patriot. Capt. James P. Mead, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, fell, shot three times, while bravely fighting the enemy with his revolver after his regiment had retired. Lieut. John L. Dillon, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, commanding Company E, fought with a musket until he was shot once, when he drew his sword and cheered on his men till he fell dead. Other instances of equal gallantry were observed in the other regiments, but to recount all would give my report an undue

length. The long, sad list of killed and wounded forms the truest eulogium on the conduct of the troops composing this brigade, and it is by that list I wish it to be judged.

Of the 10 field officers of the regiments, 3 were killed and 2 wounded. Seven horses were shot under the regimental, field, and staff officers. Of my orderlies, Private Pease, Company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers, had his horse shot under him while carrying my orders. Private Knox, same company, also had his horse shot under him, and while endeavoring to procure another horse for me was wounded by a grape-shot and again by a Minié ball, and Corporal Hart, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, was stunned and disabled by a cannon ball.

I deem it my duty to call the special attention of the general commanding the Fourteenth Army Corps to Col. John W. S. Alexander, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, and Col. Hans C. Heg, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers. While every field officer under my command did his duty faithfully, Colonels Alexander and Heg, in my opinion, proved themselves the bravest of the brave. Had such men as these been in command of some of our brigades, we should have been spared the shame of witnessing the rout of our troops and the disgraceful panic, encouraged, at least, by the example and advice of officers high in command.

Lieut. Col. D. H. Gilmer, commanding Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, was always at his post and attending to his duty. Maj. Isaac M. Kirby, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, took command of the regiment after the fall of the brave Colonels Stem and Wooster, and conducted it to the rear, reduced to about 100 men.

Capt. W. A. Hotchkiss, commanding Second Minnesota Battery, and all his officers and men, deserve credit for their gallantry in the fight, and energy in preventing the loss of the battery.

Among the staff officers of this army who made themselves useful in rallying the scattered men, Dr. L. F. Russell, Second Minnesota Battery; Lieut. S. M. Jones, Fifty-ninth Illinois Volunteers; Captain Thruston, aide-de-camp to Major-General McCook, and Chaplain Wilkins, Twenty-first Illinois Volunteers, came especially under my observation.

On the night of December 31 this brigade was ordered to take up position near the Nashville pike, 4 miles from Murfreesborough.

January 1, 1863, slight skirmishing with the enemy continued during the day, in which we killed several, capturing 13 prisoners and paroling 11 others, wounded.

At 3.30 p. m. January 2, while hard fighting was progressing on our left, I received orders from General Rosecrans to report to him in person. He directed me to take my command to the left, form it in two lines, and, should I find our forces repulsed by the enemy, to allow our men to pass through my lines, and, on the approach of the enemy, give a whoop and a yell, and go at 'em. With a brigade which, in three days' hard fighting, had been reduced from 2,000 to 700 and greatly discouraged, I felt serious apprehension that I would not be able to fulfill the expectations of the general, and, to prepare him for such a result, I informed him of the condition of my brigade. He said, "Tell them they must do it for us and for the country." I told him I would do my best. My men fell into ranks with the utmost alacrity and marched to the scene of the conflict, a great portion of the way on the double-quick, crossing Stone's River at a ford. All apprehensions that I had previously entertained now vanished. I felt confident that they would not only charge the enemy, but would repulse them. Before reaching the ground designated, however, I learned that the enemy had already been

driven back in confusion. I continued my march, and, under the direction of Brigadier-General Davis, placed my command in the advance, relieving the command of Colonel Hazen. It was now dark. We maintained our ground till the morning of January 4, when we returned to our position on the right.

My loss in killed, wounded, and missing in the engagement at Knob Gap, near Nolensville, December 26, and the battles of December 30 and 31, 1862, and in front of the enemy east of Stone's River, January 2 and 3, 1863, is as follows:

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Total.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
21st Illinois .....	2	55	7	180	.....	59	303
38th Illinois .....	2	32	5	104	.....	84	177
101st Ohio .....	4	19	2	121	.....	66	212
15th Wisconsin .....	2	13	5	65	1	33	119
2d Minnesota Battery .....	.....	3	1	5	.....	1	10
Total .....	10	122	20	475	1	193	821

I cannot close this report without expressing my obligations to the following-named officers of my staff for their zeal, fidelity, and courage in all the severe engagements embraced in this report, viz: Capt. S. P. Voris, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. W. C. Harris, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers; Lieut. Albert Woodbury, Second Minnesota Battery, and Lieut. Walter E. Carlin, Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers. Also to my faithful orderlies, Pease, Knox, Amick, and Hart. Private Alexander C. Hosmer, One hundred and first Ohio Volunteers, my clerk, though not required to go into the battle, was constantly at my side to carry my orders.

Regimental reports and lists of casualties are herewith inclosed; also a report of the engagement at Knob Gap, near Nolensville, December 26, 1862.

A topographical sketch, showing the ground passed over and positions occupied by this brigade on December 30 and 31, 1862, is herewith inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. CARLIN,

*Colonel Thirty-eighth Illinois Volunteers, Commanding.*

Lieut. T. W. MORRISON,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 26.

*Report of Maj. Isaac M. Kirby, One hundred and first Ohio Infantry.*

NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH,

January 5, 1863.

CAPTAIN: On the morning of December 26, 1862, in our proper position in the brigade, the regiment (Colonel Stem commanding) marched from our camp, near Nashville, out on the Edmondson pike. Com-

missioned officers reported for duty, Col. Leander Stem, Lieut. Col. M. F. Wooster, Maj. I. M. Kirby, Adj. Leonard D. Smith, First Surg. T. M. Cook, Asst. Surg. Walter Caswell, Second Lieut. D. H. Fox, Company A; First Lieut. S. B. Beckwith, Company B; Capt. B. B. McDonald and Second Lieut. John B. Biddle, Company C; Second Lieut. John M. Latimer, jr., Company D; First Lieut. Lyman Parcher and Second Lieut. R. D. Lord, Company E; First Lieut. A. R. Hillyer, Company F; Capt. John Messer and First Lieut. John P. Fleming, Company G; Second Lieut. J. I. Neff, Company H; Capt. N. M. Barnes and Second Lieut. H. A. Taggart, Company I; Second Lieut. P. F. Cline, Company K, and 441 enlisted men.

Early in the afternoon of the same day the regiment formed in line of battle to attack the enemy near Nolensville. Deploying a line of skirmishers, we moved to the front about a half a mile, with some little firing on the part of our skirmishers, who succeeded in capturing 2 prisoners. While halting at this point, the enemy was discovered attempting to plant a battery on a hill one-half or three-quarters of a mile distant. By order of Colonel Carlin, the regiment was wheeled into line, bayonets fixed, and moved forward to take that battery at all hazards. The enemy retired on our approach. We were again moved forward, by the right of companies to the front, on the enemy in their new position, a mile distant from this point. Forward we marched, under a heavy fire of shell. Arriving within a quarter of a mile of the enemy's battery, we formed into line, and, led by Colonel Stem, charged at double-quick, succeeding, together with the rest of the brigade, in taking one gun and 4 prisoners. We were again ordered forward a short distance, but soon called off to rest for the night. Our loss was 3 men wounded. Second Lieutenant Cline fell from the ranks on the last charge; afterward reported himself stunned by concussion of shell.

The next day, December 27, we marched out near Knob Gap, where we rested till Monday morning, December 29, when we again took up our line of march on the Murfreesborough road, going into camp, near this place, soon after dark.

At or near 10 o'clock, Tuesday morning, December 30, the regiment was moved forward in "double column at half distance," supporting the Twenty-first Regiment Illinois Volunteers. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon the Twenty-first became engaged with the enemy, the One hundred and first lying a short distance to the rear, supporting the Second Minnesota Battery, which was engaging a battery of the enemy. Just at dark the Twenty-first fell back through our lines, leaving us in front. This day our loss was 2 men wounded. Before moving forward, Second Lieutenant Cline reported himself unfit for duty, and permission was granted him to go to the rear. Immediately upon taking the front for the night, we advanced a picket line. The regiment was ordered to sleep on their arms. Ten men were kept on guard immediately in front of the regimental lines, and one field officer constantly on the watch during the night.

At early daylight, Wednesday morning, December 31, the enemy was discovered moving in heavy force to our right; soon after their skirmishers opened fire on us from the front. By order of Colonel Carlin, Colonel Stem moved his line forward about a hundred yards, when the firing became quite brisk. Soon after, Colonel Stem was ordered to fall back to his former position, sling knapsacks, and form a new line a short distance to the rear, which he performed in good order. Here the firing was very severe. Our forces falling back on our right, without our knowledge, the enemy turned our right flank, and poured a terrific cross-

fire upon our lines, which we were unable to stand; consequently the regiment fell back in some disorder. It was at this time Colonel Stem and Lieut. Col. Moses F. Wooster fell, mortally wounded, while gallantly and nobly attempting to hold the regiment in line. Colonel Stem fell just as he had called out, "Stand by your colors, boys, for the honor of the good old State of Ohio." We again succeeded in rallying the regiment at the fence, just at the edge of the woods, where we stood under a terrific fire until we had permission from Colonel Carlin to retreat. Then the march became quite disorderly, through the corn-field and cotton-field, to the edge of the timber, where we again rallied; were in turn driven from there; rallied again in the woods; marched in good order to a new line of battle; were finally ordered from that position, and formed in front of a dense cedar thicket, from which position we were soon driven in some confusion; but we rallied about 30 men on the colors, and led them back into the cedars, but were driven from that, and rallied for the last time on the railroad, from which position we were marched with the brigade a short distance to the rear, and rested till near 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At this time there were present Captain McDonald, Captain Messer, Captain Barnes, Adjutant Smith, Lieutenant Fox, Lieutenant Latimer, Lieutenant Neff, Lieutenant Parcher, and Lieutenant Beckwith, all of whom performed their whole duty nobly during the entire day.

We were moved from here to a position in front, west of the railroad, which we occupied till Friday afternoon, January 2, about 4 o'clock, when we were taken on double-quick to the left of the lines, and lay in line of battle during the night and till the afternoon of Saturday, January 3, at which time, being quite sick, Colonel Carlin granted me permission to go to the fires in the rear. Captain McDonald, assuming command, reports to me that the regiment was not actively engaged from that time till 3 o'clock a. m. Sunday, January 4, when they were relieved and marched to this place, where I joined the regiment early Sunday morning, though not able for duty.

The loss in the regiment, so far as I have yet ascertained, is, Col. Leander Stem, mortally wounded, died at 6 o'clock January 5, 1863; Lieut. Col. Moses F. Wooster, mortally wounded, died January 1, 1863; First Lieut. Asa R. Hillyer, mortally wounded, died January 4, 1863; Second Lieut. John B. Biddle, killed on the field; First Lieut. John P. Fleming, wounded in the arm, supposed to be a prisoner; Second Lieut. R. D. Lord, slightly wounded; killed, 15 enlisted men; wounded, 122; missing, 92.\*

Second Lieut. Henry A. Taggart I have not seen since early in the morning, December 25, 1862, but think he has gone to Nashville. He was quite unwell, and excused by the surgeon, and may have been taken to Nashville on account of sickness. It is difficult to make selections of commanding officers for gallant conduct, when all who are now present performed their duty so gallantly, but cannot lose this opportunity to thank Capt. John Messer and First Lieut. Lyman Parcher for their determined efforts during the battle to serve their country and sustain the reputation of the regiment. To Adj. Leonard D. Smith I am particularly indebted for valuable assistance and the heroic examples he gave others. Color Sergt. James M. Roberts deserves mention here for gallant conduct. He never faltered, always planted the colors promptly where directed, and never moved them till ordered. My thanks are due to Orderly Sergt. Samuel Strayer, commanding Company K, for managing his company well till he fell, wounded, on the

\* But see revised statement, p. 208.

field, and to Orderly Sergt. Isaac P. Rule, for taking command of Company I from January 1 to January 5, Captain Barnes being sick and unfit for field duty.

First Lieut. Asa R. Hillyer and Second Lieut. John B. Biddle fell while heroically attempting to rally their men. The regiment has lost in them officers whose places cannot be filled, and the country patriots who served faithfully to the last.

The regiment is particularly indebted to Asst. Surg. Walter Caswell for gallantly staying by them under the heaviest fire.

We have now present for duty 10 commissioned officers and 178 enlisted men. Present, on detached service, 15 enlisted men, and report 19 enlisted men known to have gone to Nashville.

Respectfully,

I. M. KIRBY,

*Major, Comdg. One hundred and first Regt. Ohio Vol. Infy.*

Capt. SAMUEL P. VORIS,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 27.

*Report of Col. William E. Woodruff, commanding Third Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,  
RIGHT WING, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
January 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report the operations of the Third Brigade, First Division, of the right wing, in the five days' battle before Murfreesborough.

This brigade having held the advanced position on Overall's Creek in the afternoon and night of Monday, December 29, was the base of formation for the line of battle on Tuesday morning. At an early hour on the morning of the 30th, I received instructions that we would move forward in line of battle.

I was directed to join my left with Brigadier-General Sill's brigade, holding the right of the Second Division, under Brigadier-General Sheridan, and that Colonel Carlin, commanding the Second Brigade of the First Division, would connect his line with my right.

This brigade was accordingly formed in two lines, the Thirty-fifth Illinois Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, on the right; the Twenty-fifth Illinois Regiment, Col. T. D. Williams commanding, on the left, in the first line of battle, and the Eighty-first Indiana Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Timberlake, in the second line in reserve, the extreme left on the right of [the Wilkinson?] turnpike; the Eighth Wisconsin Battery, of four guns, Captain Carpenter commanding, being placed in the interval between Brigadier-General Sill's right and my left. My front was curtained with two companies of skirmishers, detailed from the Twenty-fifth and Thirty-fifth Illinois Regiments, under the command and immediate supervision of Major McIlwain, of the Thirty-fifth Illinois Regiment. The commands to my right and left were formed in the same manner.

We moved forward on the morning of Tuesday, the 30th, at about 10 o'clock, and halted on the edge of a large cotton-field, immediately in front of a wood running parallel with the turnpike, our lines facing Murfreesborough, which was in a southeasterly direction. This was about 11 a. m.

No enemy being visible in our front, I caused a few shells to be thrown into the woods beyond, but met no response. The topography of the country in this line and in my front was a cotton-field, which we then occupied, at the farther end of which was a belt or strip of timber, ending at a corn-field on my left and front, and immediately in front of Brigadier-General Sill's right. This corn-field extended to a narrow, heavy-timbered wood, bordered by a rail fence. Beyond this timber was a corn-field, receding toward a ravine, terminated by a bluff wood bank, along the foot of which, in the ravine, was the enemy's line of battle, with its supports and artillery on the elevation.

We remained in position until about 3 p. m., when my skirmishers were ordered forward to occupy the belt of timber, which they did. Major McIlwain, who was in command, reported to me that the enemy's skirmishers were in the farthest wood to our front and left, and desired me to send him a further support of one company, which was sent him, with orders to press their skirmishers back. The skirmishing soon commenced briskly, and my brigade was ordered to advance, which it did in admirable order, and was halted in the first belt of timber.

Desiring to know the position of the enemy's line, and the situation of their skirmishers, I proceeded to the line of skirmishers, to assist in directing their movements and urge them on, and, having given them directions in person, returned to my command, to be ready to move forward to their support. The wood was so thick and brushy on my right that it was difficult to see farther than the left of the Second Brigade; but as I discovered it advancing, we moved forward also, to protect its flank. Sheridan's division had halted some 100 yards in rear of my brigade, his line of skirmishers joining my line of battle.

At this juncture my skirmishers commenced falling back rapidly, and I endeavored to get the officer in command of those of Sheridan's division to advance to their support, as those of my brigade had not only driven the enemy from my front, but General Sill's also; but, as he had no orders to move forward, he refused. The emergency being imminent, Colonel Williams was ordered to detach the left company of his regiment, and deploy it forward as skirmishers, to relieve or strengthen those engaged, as circumstances might require, while the brigade was advanced to support them.

The command pressed forward in splendid order, and soon became hotly engaged, and drove the enemy back through the wood and corn-field in their own lines. As we were now far in advance of any support upon the left, I deemed it advisable to halt and wait for them to come up, and, therefore, took position in rear of the rail fence, my right nearly at right angles to my line of battle, thereby obtaining an oblique, as well as direct, fire; but the space to be occupied by this brigade was so great that the Eighty-first Indiana Regiment was ordered up to complete my line, thereby leaving me no reserves.

The battery was placed in the angle of the fence to protect my right and front. Shortly after taking this position, Brigadier-General Sill joined me on the left. We remained in position, receiving a heavy fire, and occasionally replying with shell, until toward night, when the enemy opened a heavy artillery fire, apparently on the right of Colonel Carlin's brigade. Thus, discovering their battery, and mine being in good range and position to enfilade theirs, Captain Carpenter was ordered to silence their battery, which he did in handsome style in about five minutes.

An attack of infantry was then made from the same point on Colonel Carlin, and as their lines presented the same advantage, Captain Car-

two rifle guns posted in rear of Harding's dwelling, the battery on my right completely enfilading my line, but was firing over me, doing but little damage, except from falling limbs. The battery in my front occupied all of my guns. After a rapid fire of from three-quarters to an hour this battery was driven from its place. I continued to fire at it until they gained cover of a hill.

In this engagement Corporal Burke, while gallantly performing the duties of gunner, had his thumb shot off. Privates Quinn and Brady were slightly hurt by a falling limb.

None of my horses were hurt, and only slight damage done to my guns, viz: One sponge-staff shot in two, one spoke from right wheel of left center gun shot out by piece of shell, and the trail hand-spike of the first gun shot off.

I remained in this position until dark without firing, as the rifle guns to my right were out of my reach. The enemy's skirmishers, having taken a position about 350 yards from our lines, kept up a rattling fire (doing no damage) until dark, when I moved my command to the rear, to feed and rest my men for the night, where I received a supply of ammunition.

At daylight I received orders from the brigade commander to move at the same time the line of infantry charged to my first position, on the left of the brigade, and cover the charge. I moved to the left and came into battery, but found I could do nothing from that position, and, finding that the right of the line was hard pressed, I moved to the right to support the Tenth and Nineteenth South Carolina Regiments, from which point I commenced firing on the enemy's infantry, and was immediately opened on by one of the enemy's batteries, posted in the wood to the right of the Nolensville turnpike. Our infantry having fallen back to the old line, I kept up a regular fire to cover their preparations for a fresh charge. During the time between the first and second charges, some general officer, with staff escort, came to the front of the enemy's line, and in about 500 yards of my position. I gave them a few rounds of shot and shell, when they retired at a run. I think I must have done them some damage, as I saw my shell burst and shot strike among them, and afterward found one of the horses killed with a round shot. Our line being reformed, made a second charge, drove the enemy across a field within short range, where I had a good chance and gave them spherical case and canister.

During this engagement I regret to have to report Private Richard Murphy killed, Private William Shea wounded, and 1 of my lead horses killed and 2 others so badly wounded that I was compelled to leave them.

I was then ordered to report to Brigadier-General Maney, which I did, and was ordered to remain under cover until he could find a place for me, which I did. My command was not again brought into action. I continued to follow in rear of my brigade until dark, when I took a position in the woods to the left of the Nolensville pike for the night, and here received a full supply of ammunition for my 6-pounder guns and some 12-pounder ammunition.

I met with a great deal of trouble from the great number of friction-primers that were worthless. I was compelled to make on the field quill-primers, which answered the purpose. I would here request that a supply of primers be furnished my battery at once, as it would be totally unserviceable in a fight as it is.

I would here request to mention the gallant conduct of First Lieut. Charles W. Watkins, to whom I was greatly indebted for his coolness and close attention to orders while under fire; also Sergeants Martin,

Turner, and Armstrong. In mentioning these names I do not wish to detract from the rest of my command, all of whom acted with great coolness and attention, the gunners firing slowly and deliberately, doing good service.

I found that the lack of long-range guns was a great drawback to our batteries, for the enemy could, at a distance too far for us, fire upon our lines without interruption and in perfect safety, making his aim more accurate and fire more destructive.

I regret to report that, upon the night of the 30th, Quartermaster Sergt. Thomas Maxwell, while attempting to get to the company with rations, passed through a gap in our line of battle between the left of the Fourth Brigade and the right of the First, was fired upon by the enemy's pickets, killing his horse and wounding him very severely in the knee.

Major, I am, respectfully,

D. D. WATERS,  
*Captain, Commanding Waters' Battery.*

No. 224.

*Report of Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee, C. S. Army, commanding Army Corps.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,  
*Tullahoma, Tenn., March 11, 1863.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward, by the hands of Col. J. H. Kelly, Eighth Arkansas Volunteers, Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps, the report of that general of the part taken by his corps in the battle of Murfreesborough, December 31 to January 3; also the reports of division and brigade commanders, including those of Major-General McCown's division, which was, during the most important part of the operations, under Lieutenant-General Hardee.

Some errors and misapprehensions of Major-General Breckinridge, incorporated in his report, will be corrected by reference to copies of notes received from him on the field of battle, and which are appended to the report, with an order for the cavalry movement, indorsed by Brigadier-General Pegram as "received." To these papers, appended to General Breckinridge's report, I invite special attention.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
BRAXTON BRAGG,  
*General, Commanding.*

General S. COOPER,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.*

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS HARDEE'S CORPS,  
*Tullahoma, Tenn., February 28, 1863.*

COLONEL: After the campaign in Kentucky, our forces were collected at Murfreesborough, while the enemy gradually concentrated an army, reported 70,000 strong, around Nashville. Every preparation that forecast could suggest was made by them to crush our army and obtain possession of Central Tennessee. For nearly two months there was apparent inaction, interrupted only by skirmishes, raids, and a successful affair at Hartsville. The enemy occupied Nashville, their right extend-

ing toward Franklin and their left toward Lebanon. Our center was at Murfreesborough, under Lieutenant-General Polk, our right at Readyville, under Major-General McCown, and our left at Triune and Eagleville.

Such was the situation of the armies when information was received, on December 26, that General Rosecrans was advancing with 60,000 men from Nashville against Murfreesborough. The first demonstration was made against Triune by an advance of the enemy on the Shelbyville turnpike. Cleburne's division and Adams' brigade, under my immediate command, were posted in that vicinity. The commanding general having decided to accept battle and to defend Murfreesborough, I withdrew my command the succeeding day by his order, leaving Wood's brigade and Wharton's cavalry to skirmish with the enemy near Triune. This was done boldly and successfully, and they rejoined the command on the 28th at Murfreesborough. My corps consisted of Breckinridge's and Cleburne's divisions (each of four brigades) and Wheeler's brigade of cavalry.

Murfreesborough is situated 30 miles southeast of Nashville, in a fertile, gently undulating, and highly cultivated country, in the midst of the great plain that stretches from the base of the Cumberland Mountains toward Nashville. The Chattanooga Railroad, the chief line of communication from Tennessee to the South Atlantic States, passes through it, and numerous excellent turnpikes radiate from it in every direction. Stone's River flows about 2 miles west of the town, through low banks of limestone, steep, and in some places difficult to pass, and gradually trends to the north as a tributary of the Cumberland. At this time the stream could everywhere be passed without difficulty by infantry, and at the usual fords was not more than ankle-deep, but heavy rains in a few hours swell it to an impassable torrent, and it subsides as rapidly. The road to Lebanon passes nearly due north from Murfreesborough; that to Triune nearly west; that to Salem a little south of west, and the Nashville turnpike northwest, crossing Stone's River about 1½ miles from Murfreesborough. The railroad, leaving the depot on the west of the town, crosses Stone's River about 200 yards above the turnpike ford. At 400 or 500 yards beyond this it intersects the Nashville turnpike at a very acute angle, running between it and the river for about 700 yards, when the stream turns to the east by a sharp bend, and then resumes its northern course. The field of battle offered no peculiar advantages for defense. The open fields beyond the town are fringed with dense cedar brakes, offering excellent shelter for approaching infantry, and are almost impervious to artillery. The country on every side is entirely open, and was accessible to the enemy.

On Sunday morning, December 28, the troops were moved into line of battle. The river separated our right from the left. By order of the commanding general, the space between the Lebanon road and the ford on the Nashville road, making the right of the army, was occupied by my corps. I arranged my troops in two lines, Breckinridge's division forming the first line and Cleburne's the second. The former was arranged with Adams' brigade resting on the Lebanon road, about 1½ miles from the town. The line was broken by an intervening field about 300 yards wide, which was left apparently unoccupied, but was covered by the Twentieth Tennessee and [E. E.] Wright's [Tennessee] battery, of Preston's brigade, which swept it and the field in front. The remainder of Preston's brigade rested with its right in the woods, and extended along the margin of the grove, with its left toward the river. Palmer's and Hanson's brigades completed the line, with the left of Hanson resting

near the ford. Cleburne's division was posted 800 yards in rear of, and parallel to, that of Breckinridge. Polk's corps extended beyond the river, with its right near the stream, and about 200 yards in advance of my left. Withers' division formed the front line of this corps, and Cheatham's the second, while McCown's division was held in reserve near the town.

No movement of importance occurred until Monday evening. It was deemed necessary to hold a hill situated about 600 yards in advance of Hanson's brigade, as it commanded the sloping hill-sides toward the river in front, and from it the right of General Polk's line could be enfiladed. In the evening the enemy attempted to take this position, but was vigorously repulsed by a portion of Hanson's brigade, and the hill was occupied by our batteries.

During Monday night the cavalry of Brigadier-General Wheeler, attached to my corps, was moved from our right by a circuitous route through Jefferson and La Vergne against the communications of the enemy. After making an entire circuit of the enemy's lines, this daring officer, having inflicted severe injury by the destruction of several hundred wagons and many small-arms, and by the capture of several hundred prisoners, returned through Nolensville and Triune to Murfreesborough.

The next day (Tuesday, the 30th) heavy skirmishing took place on our left between the right of the enemy and the command of Lieutenant-General Polk.

In the afternoon of that day I received instructions from the commanding general to proceed to the left, to take command of McCown's division, to place it in position, and to move Cleburne's division from our extreme right in the same direction. The order was communicated to Cleburne, and I proceeded at once to the left. I found McCown's division, consisting of three brigades, in two lines—Ector's and Rains' brigades in the first, and McNair's in the second line, with Rains' brigade so situated as to be enfiladed by a battery from the enemy. Orders were given to rectify the position of Rains, and to place McNair on the first line. Cleburne's division was brought forward and placed 500 yards in rear of McCown, as a second line. During the night, the commanding general having determined to attack the enemy on our left, Brigadier-General Wharton was ordered to report to me, and I was instructed, with the two divisions mentioned and Wharton's cavalry, to commence the attack at dawn the next morning. The new position which my command now occupied is embraced in the angle between the Salem turnpike and the Triune road. About half a mile from Murfreesborough, on the Nashville road, the Wilkinson turnpike diverges to the left, passing nearly equidistant between it and the Triune road. Each of these roads crosses Stone's River about 1½ miles west of the town. The river makes a bend in the shape of a horseshoe to the west, and the roads cross at the bases of the bend. The enemy's right was about three-quarters of a mile beyond the river, with their line south of the Triune road, and extending almost northwardly toward the Wilkinson pike and the Nashville road. The force under my immediate command Wednesday morning was 10,045 infantry and artillery, under McCown and Cleburne, and 2,000 cavalry, under Brigadier-General Wharton.

I ordered Wharton to make a detour of the enemy's right, and to fall upon their flank and rear, while the infantry and artillery moved upon them in front. He dashed forward at a gallop at daybreak, and soon reached the Wilkinson turnpike, 2½ miles in the rear. With Colonel [John T.] Cox's command [First Confederate Cavalry], he charged with

great impetuosity and took prisoners the Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment. Captain [S. P.] Christian, of the Texas Rangers [Eighth Texas Cavalry], with four companies, at the same time charged and took a complete battery of the enemy, with all its guns, caissons, horses, and artillery. By these dashes 1,500 prisoners fell into our hands. Wharton afterward swept around toward the Nashville turnpike, and found the enemy's cavalry in position to defend their menaced trains. Harrison, Ashby, and Hardy were ordered to charge. This was met by a counter-charge of the enemy, supposed to be the Fourth Regular Cavalry, who were routed in confusion. The entire cavalry force of the enemy was deployed beyond this point. Wharton's entire brigade was now ordered to charge; 2,000 horsemen dashed forward to the assault. The field was favorable, the charge irresistible, the conflict short. The enemy fled in wild dismay 2 miles beyond Overall's Creek, leaving in our hands several hundred wagons, 400 additional prisoners, and several pieces of artillery.

The conduct of Wharton and his brigade cannot be too highly commended. After a day of brilliant achievements, he covered the left of my infantry at night.

Major-General McCown having failed to get McNair's brigade on the line of battle Tuesday night, as directed by me, the brigade was moved into position early the next morning, and McCown advanced with his division against the enemy, about 600 yards distant, with McNair on the right of Ector and with Rains' brigade on the left. The division of Major-General Cleburne was about 500 yards in rear of McCown, as a second line. The two divisions were posted on the left of Lieutenant-General Polk's command. The troops advanced with animation and soon became hotly engaged. The enemy were broken and driven through a cedar brake after a rapid and successful charge by McCown's command, in which Brigadier-General [August] Willich and many prisoners were taken.

A signal instance of courage was shown by Col. J. C. Burks, of the Eleventh Texas. This brave officer, though mortally wounded, still led and cheered on his regiment until he fell exhausted at its head.

Another instance was shown by Sergt. A. Sims, flag-bearer of the Tenth Texas, who, seeing a Federal flag-bearer endeavoring to rally his regiment, sprang forward, seized the standard, and in the struggle both were shot down, waving their flags with their last breath. The Federal flag was captured.

I had ordered McCown and Cleburne, as they crushed the line of the enemy, to swing round by a continued change of direction to the right, with Polk's left as a pivot, while Wharton was to make a diversion on their flank and rear. This was done by Cleburne, but was not so promptly executed by McCown, on account of the position of the enemy in his front. McCown continued westwardly, fighting toward Overall's Creek, far to our left, while Cleburne, executing the maneuver, changed his direction northeastwardly toward the Wilkinson turnpike, which placed him on the right of McCown and filled the interval between McCown and Polk. The line, now single and without support, engaged and drove the enemy with great carnage through the fields and cedar brakes which lie between the Triune and Wilkinson roads. Before this gap in the line was filled by Cleburne, McCown's right flank was exposed. McNair halted his brigade, while Liddell advanced gallantly, filling the interval, covered McNair's unprotected right, and engaged a superior force of the enemy posted behind a rail fence. These two brigades charged the enemy with impetuosity, took their battery, and pursued their broken and fleeing regiments before Ector and Rains could be brought into action.

General McNair left a sick bed to enter the battle, and after conducting his brigade with gallantry, becoming exhausted, was ordered to retire from the field. The command then devolved upon Colonel [R. W.] Harper.

By this time Liddell, who was upon the left of Johnson's brigade, had become separated from Cleburne's division by following the movement of McCown. The command was near the Wilkinson turnpike, at a point where the enemy had established a hospital. They had driven them nearly 2 miles. The men were greatly fatigued and their ammunition exhausted. As soon as this was replenished, I ordered them again to advance. Rains' brigade being fresh, was brought forward to the right to attack a battery, while Ector's, McNair's, and Liddell's brigades moved forward in the direction of the Nashville road. Ector and Harper, though enfladed by a battery, forced their way through a cedar brake in which the enemy were posted, while Rains advanced upon the battery. Unfortunately, this brave officer and accomplished gentleman fell, shot through the heart, and his brigade recoiled in confusion. Ector and Harper were ordered to fall back under cover, while [J. T.] Humphreys' battery bravely engaged sixteen pieces of the enemy until our infantry were sheltered.

The divisions of McCown and Cleburne in single line had now driven the enemy, with great slaughter, for several miles through the cedar brakes toward the Nashville turnpike. Cleburne (originally formed with Brigadier-General Polk's brigade on the right, Johnson's in the center, and Liddell's on the left, with Wood's in reserve) had engaged the enemy shortly after McCown commenced the attack. Having changed direction toward the northeast, he encountered their first line, posted behind fences and in dense thickets, a little north of the Triune road. In the open ground beyond were other lines and batteries. Limestone rocks in the thickets furnished the enemy admirable natural defenses. The division dashed forward, and, after a bloody struggle of half an hour, hurled the first line back upon the second, which, in turn, was broken, and the mingled lines were driven in disorder toward the Wilkinson turnpike. Wood's brigade dispersed the One hundred and first Ohio and the brigade composed of the Thirty-eighth Illinois, the Twenty-first, Eighty-first, and Fifteenth Wisconsin. The Seventeenth Tennessee captured a Michigan battery, while the Second Arkansas [Mounted Rifles\*] again routed the Twenty-second Indiana, capturing its colonel. This regiment is the same that the Second Arkansas had routed at Perryville, and which, during the campaign of last year, had behaved with such barbarity to the people of Arkansas. It was in this conflict that Colonel [A. S.] Marks, of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, was severely wounded while gallantly leading and encouraging his men. It was also in this conflict that Liddell's and Johnson's brigades suffered their greatest loss. The enemy several times attempted to make a stand, but were each time forced back. Our troops were vigorously pressing forward, when a third line, strongly supported by artillery, stood revealed on the south side of the turnpike. The cannonade was fierce, but could not check our advance. After a stubborn combat the enemy were broken, and fled to the cedar brakes between the Nashville and Wilkinson turnpikes.

Cleburne was now in advance of Cheatham and Withers, and as he crossed the open grounds near the turnpike he was enfladed by a battery posted on an eminence directly on his right flank. Captain [T. B.] Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery of Cleburne's division, placed [J. H.]

\* Dismounted.

Calvert's and [Put.] Darden's batteries in position near the Wilkinson turnpike, and boldly engaged some heavy rifled batteries of the enemy. This officer nobly discharged his duty, and was twice wounded. The First Arkansas and the Fifth Confederate afterward charged the batteries, and captured four of the guns. Several colors, a large number of prisoners, medical stores, hospitals, ammunition trains, and caissons, were captured in this conflict. The battle at this point was bloody. Here General [Joshua W.] Sill, of the Federal Army, was slain.

Cleburne had now driven back all the forces of the enemy beyond the Wilkinson road, when another line was displayed in the cover of the cedar woods between the Wilkinson and Nashville turnpikes. Wood, Polk, and Johnson charged this line, receiving a heavy fire. Here Lieutenant-Colonel [Don] McGregor, of the First Arkansas, and Major [J. T.] McReynolds, of the Thirty-seventh Tennessee, two brave officers, fell, mortally wounded. Brigadier-General Liddell attacked the enemy near the left of Brigadier-General Johnson, whom he had rejoined, and, after an obstinate conflict, threw them into confusion. Here Col. Samuel [G.] Smith, of the Sixth and Seventh Arkansas, and Colonel [John H.] Kelly, of the Eighth Arkansas, both gallant officers, were wounded; and here Lieutenant-Colonel [John E.] Murray, of the Fifth Arkansas, courageously bore the colors of his regiment to the front, while Private J. K. Leslie, of the same regiment, captured the colors of the enemy with his own hands. A portion of Cleburne's division was repulsed, but, after a bloody combat, the enemy were finally dislodged. On our right their lines remained unbroken. With our inferior numbers no farther advance could be hazarded until all my forces were collected. Wood, having fallen back for ammunition, was detained to protect the ordnance train. The remaining brigades occupied the cedar brakes and fields near the Nashville road. The command of Cleburne was now reformed, and about 3 o'clock he essayed again to rout a fresh line of the enemy near the Nashville turnpike. The enemy were again broken with heavy loss. Johnson's brigade was conspicuous in the conflict, in which the brigade of Preston Smith also shared. It was now past 3 o'clock. In moving through the open grounds to drive the enemy from the last positions they held near the railroad, a fierce and destructive enfilading fire of artillery was poured upon the right of Cleburne's division from batteries massed near the railroad embankments. At this critical moment the enemy brought up a fresh line to oppose our wearied troops. Our ammunition was exhausted. Smith's brigade recoiled in confusion. Johnson and Polk followed, and the division was repulsed. It was rallied and reformed in the edge of the cedar woods, about 400 yards in rear of the most advanced position we had won. Brigadier-General Polk in this conflict suffered very severely, but, while we sustained, we inflicted great loss.

When I withdrew from the extreme right, Tuesday evening, Major-General Breckinridge's division was left in its original position on the Lebanon road. Brigadier-General Jackson having reported to me with his brigade, it was posted on the east side of the Lebanon road, to the right of Adams' brigade. These five brigades, under Major-General Breckinridge, remained in position from Sunday to Wednesday without any material event, except a skirmish for an artillery position, already mentioned.

About 11 o'clock Wednesday the brigades of Adams and Jackson were, in obedience to orders of the commanding general, sent across the river to the assistance of Lieutenant-General Polk, who was reported to be hard pressed. Crossing the ford about midday, they were formed near the intersection of the Nashville Railroad and turnpike, with their right stretching to the river, and were moved down the Nash-

ville turnpike and railroad against the center of the enemy, passing in the direction of the burnt brick building known as the Cowan house. The brigade of Jackson passed by those of Chalmers and Donelson in the direction of the Cowan house, while Adams', extending toward the river, attacked the enemy between 1 and 2 o'clock. A desperate struggle for a passage down the Nashville road ensued just before Cleburne became engaged against their right, 2 miles farther on. The force was unequal to the task. It recoiled after a loss of one-third of the command.

A short time after, Preston and Palmer were ordered to cross the ford, to continue the same movement, and Hanson's brigade alone remained on the east side of Stone's River. They reached the ground just after Jackson and Adams were repulsed, General Adams having been wounded while gallantly conducting his brigade. They were quickly formed under the immediate command of Major-General Breckinridge, and moved across the plain in fine order under the fire of the enemy's artillery.

Many men and officers were killed along the line, the principal loss falling upon Preston's brigade. The Twentieth Tennessee, of Preston's brigade, vainly endeavored near the river to carry a battery, and, after a heavy loss, including their gallant commander, Colonel [T. B.] Smith, who was severely wounded, was compelled to fall back under cover. Palmer, being farther on the left, suffered but little. The remaining regiments of Preston's brigade encountered great difficulty in passing the fences and pickets at the Cowan house, and, being exposed to an enfilading fire of infantry and artillery at short range, were thrown into some confusion. They were soon rallied, and, rushing forward with cheers across the intervening space, entered the cedar brakes in front.

At 4 o'clock our line was almost parallel with the Nashville turnpike for about 2 miles, stretching from the point of woods near the Cowan house toward Overall's Creek. Preston occupied the extreme right of my line, and the divisions of Cleburne and McCown extended northwest, almost parallel with the railroad. Liddell's brigade formed the extreme left. The enemy occupied the ground northwest of the railroad, lying between it and Stone's River, toward Nashville. Here they massed a vast strength of artillery and infantry. Their right had been completely turned, crushed, and beaten back for more than 3 miles. Great confusion prevailed, but their strength was still such that we could not undertake to force the position without unwise hazard. We had lost nearly a third of the commands engaged. If, at the moment when the enemy were driven from the thick woods north of the Wilkinson turnpike, a fresh division could have replaced Cleburne's exhausted troops and followed up the victory, the rout of Rosecrans' army would have been complete. The interval required to collect and reform our lines, now shattered by four successive conflicts, was occupied by the enemy in planting heavy batteries and massing fresh columns of infantry to oppose our further advance. I sent for re-enforcements. The commanding general replied he had none to give me. Hanson's brigade alone remained fresh and unfought. The enemy lay beyond the range of our guns, securely sheltered behind the strong defense of the railroad embankment, with wide, open fields intervening, which were swept by their superior artillery. It would have been folly, not valor, to assail them in this position. I gave the order to hold the wood, 400 yards in rear of the advanced position we had won, and to bivouac for the night.

During the day the men and officers of my command had displayed the most splendid courage. Twenty-three pieces of cannon and more than 4,000 prisoners, with a corresponding number of small-arms, rewarded their valor. With 12,000 men of all arms, we had driven back

and utterly routed McCook's corps, ascertained by his captured returns to have been 18,000 strong, and several brigades and divisions which it is known were sent to his support.

For 3 miles in our rear, amid the thick cedars and the open fields, where the Federal lines had been originally formed, their dead and their dying, their hospitals, and the wreck of that portion of their army marked our victorious advance. Our bivouac fires were lighted at night within 500 yards of the railroad embankment, behind which their disordered battalions sought shelter.

Wednesday night was clear and cold. The armies maintained their relative positions. Some picket skirmishing occurred during the night. No action of importance nor material change of position occurred until about 2 o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, January 2. The commanding general, anxious to secure a position on the east bank of the river, from which he could enfilade the lines of the enemy, ordered Major-General Breckinridge, with his entire division, to seize a hill about 1,600 yards in front of the position occupied by Hanson's brigade. At 4 o'clock the division moved forward. It swept over the crest of the hill, routing a division of the enemy, who fled in disorder across the stream, after leaving many killed, wounded, and prisoners. Our men pursued them with great ardor. A division reported to be that of General [J. S.] Negley, and a brigade under General Porter [Palmer], held the opposite side of the river. This fresh force poured a withering fire from an advantageous position upon our men. Breckinridge's division, after a bloody struggle not exceeding forty minutes, in which at least 1,200 men were killed and wounded, was repulsed. Many brave men and able officers fell in the attack. Among the latter Brigadier General [R. W.] Hanson, a spirited and intrepid officer, was mortally wounded early in the action. As this movement was made without my knowledge, and under the immediate supervision of Major-General Breckinridge, I refer to his report for details.

Friday night, the commanding general, apprehending an attack on our right, east of Stone's River, ordered me to withdraw Cleburne's and McCown's divisions from the left, and to place them in their original positions—the former in rear of Breckinridge's line, the latter in reserve. These divisions did not get into position until late that night. Cold and drenching rain set in and continued throughout the succeeding day. The enemy manifested no disposition to attack, but our troops, being worn down by the hardships of their winter bivouacs and the exhaustion of battle, and the commanding general having received information that the enemy were being largely re-enforced, he determined to retire.

In obedience to his orders, on the morning of January 4, I withdrew my command by the Manchester road to Tullahoma, in good order and without molestation.

It is worthy of remark that at Murfreesborough, whenever the fight was confined principally to musketry, and the enemy had no advantage in artillery, we were successful. It was only when they had massed heavy batteries, under cover of the railroad embankments, that we were repulsed. In every form of contest in which mechanical instruments, requiring skill and heavy machinery to make them, can be used, the Federals are our superiors. In every form of contest in which manly courage, patient endurance, and brave impulse are the qualities and conditions necessary to success, we have invariably been successful. Long-range cannon and improved projectiles can be made only by great mechanical skill, heavy machinery, and abundant resources. The enemy is, therefore, superior in artillery. Infantry constitutes the great arm of the service, and its appointments and equipments are simple. The

Federal infantry, unsupported by artillery, has not in a single instance fought successfully with ours when the odds were less than three to two.

I herewith inclose a tabular statement (A), which exhibits the losses sustained by the divisions of McCown, Breckinridge, and Cleburne, and the brigades of Jackson and Wharton, amounting to 5,663 in killed, wounded, and missing.

To the officers and men of my command I return my heartfelt thanks for the ability and striking courage displayed by them at Murfreesborough. The field required that much should be confided to the commanders of divisions, brigades, and regiments, and it is to me a grateful duty to acknowledge how well these officers merited my confidence. The men illustrated the day by a discipline, courage, and devotion never surpassed. In the reports of my subordinate commanders will be found many instances of individual heroism which the limits of this report will not permit me to record.

My thanks are due to the members of my staff, namely: Maj. T. B. Roy, chief of staff; Capt. D. H. Poole, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. D. G. White, acting assistant adjutant-general; Maj. W. D. Pickett, assistant inspector-general; Capt. S. L. Black, assistant inspector-general; Lieut. T. W. Hunt, assistant inspector-general; Lieut. W. W. Wilkins, aide-de-camp; Maj. L. Hoxton, chief of artillery; Maj. J. M. Kennard, chief of ordnance; Surg. A. L. Breysacher, medical inspector; Maj. C. W. Gassett, chief quartermaster; Maj. W. E. Moore, chief of subsistence, and to General W. C. Whitthorne, adjutant-general of the State of Tennessee, and Capt. [Maj.] Thomas Claiborne, C. S. Army, who volunteered their services.

My thanks are also especially due to Capt. S. W. Presstman and J. W. Green, of the engineer corps, for active and efficient service, and to Surg. D. W. Yandell, my medical director, to whose good management I am indebted for having both my own and the Federal wounded in Wednesday's fight rapidly removed from the field and cared for before midnight.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
W. J. HARDEE,  
*Lieutenant-General.*

Lieut. Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

## A.

*Tabular statement of killed, wounded, and missing, to accompany Lieutenant-General Hardee's report of the battle of Murfreesborough.*

Command.	Commander.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
HARDEE'S CORPS.				
<i>Breckinridge's Division.</i>				
Palmer's brigade*	Colonel Palmer	49	324	52
Preston's brigade	Brigadier-General Preston	58	384	97
Adams' brigade†	Brigadier-General Adams	112	445	146
Hanson's brigade	Brigadier-General Hanson	47	273	81
Total Breckinridge's division	Major-General Breckinridge	266	1,426	376

\* Brigadier-General Pillow assigned to command previous to action, January 2.  
† Colonel Gibson in command after General Adams was wounded.

It formed the extreme right of the brigade line of battle, and is supposed to have fronted the enemy's center at that time. The above casualties all occurred in the cedar grove occupied by the brigade during the fight on Wednesday, and between the hours of 12 m. and 3 p. m. After Colonel Wilkinson was wounded (which was in the early part of the action), the undersigned assumed command of the regiment, and takes great pleasure in testifying to the cool courage and veteran-like heroism with which they bore the terrific fire of shell and shot that was poured almost incessantly into their ranks for near three hours. Indeed, both officers and men as a whole behaved most gallantly. The conduct of those who are reported as deserving censure is thought generally to merit unmeasured disapprobation. An explanation is forwarded in the case of Private J. Walker, of Company G. As he is very young, his conduct is thought to be somewhat excusable. He returned and served with the regiment during the balance of the time, while the others returned, most of them, to the camp at town, and refused to come back, although repeatedly ordered to do so.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. MCNEILL,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Eighth Mississippi Regiment.*

No. 252.

*Report of Lieut. Harvey H. Cribbs, Lumsden's (Alabama) battery.*

BRIDGEPORT, ALA., January 10, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on Sunday, December 23, 1862, I was ordered to report for duty with Brigadier-General Jackson's brigade, by Lieutenant-Colonel [J. H.] Hallonquist, chief of artillery Army of Tennessee, and on Monday morning the general assigned me a position near Captain Spence's residence, east of the Lebanon pike, and at 12 midnight I received an order to send the two rifled pieces of the battery to General Breckinridge's headquarters to report, which I did, under the command of Lieutenant Tarrant. He was ordered to the knoll on the east side of Stone's River, which position was ordered by General Bragg to be held, as it was a desirable position, from which place the two guns fired 200 rounds in the first of the engagement. One of the pieces had been dismounted at Perryville some time ago, and in the recoil the axle-tree gave way. It was replaced by one of the pieces taken from the enemy. The two rifled pieces were held in the reserve until we reached the river. The smooth-bore was kept with the brigade, and on Tuesday about noon I moved with the brigade to a position on the left of the Lebanon pike and 1 mile nearer the river.

On Wednesday about noon the section accompanied the brigade across Stone's River, when it was halted by General Jackson until it could secure a position while the brigade advanced. When the brigade became engaged, the section took a position on the hill near Cowan's house, and near the railroad, and fired 50 rounds, when the enemy removed the battery at which we had been firing, and night coming on, I moved down to the river, and on Thursday took a position again on the right, where intrenchments were thrown up.

On Friday I joined the brigade on the extreme left near the Wilsonville [Wilkinson or Nashville] pike, and at 12 [o'clock] that night moved to the Nashville pike, where the men remained until daylight exposed

to a drenching rain, after which we moved to the extreme right again, and at midnight Saturday we moved through Murfreesborough to the Nashville pike, marched until Sunday evening, exposed again to the severity of the weather.

The damage done by the firing of the battery—I cannot say what damage was done to the enemy; it is said that one of the rifled pieces blew up a caisson. I am happy to say that no damage whatever was done to the battery by the shots of the enemy. The men all behaved with coolness, and with a determination to do what was in their power to drive back the enemy of our country.

Respectfully submitted.

HARVEY H. CRIBBS,  
*First Lieutenant, Commanding Lumsden's Battery.*

No. 253.

*Report of Maj. Gen. Patrick R. O'Leburne, U. S. Army, commanding division.*

HEADQUARTERS O'LEBURNE'S DIVISION,  
HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,  
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 31, 1863.

On December 26, 1862, three brigades of my division were stationed at College Grove, near Eaglesville, about 20 miles west of Murfreesborough. The Fourth Brigade, under command of Brig. Gen. S. A. M. Wood, was stationed at Triune, 4 miles north of College Grove, on the Nashville and Shelbyville turnpike.

On the evening of the same day I had information that the enemy had driven back the cavalry and occupied Nolensville, in my front.

During the night I received orders from General Hardee, who had gone in person to the front, to have everything in readiness for a movement and to be prepared for any emergency. I also received instructions as to the roads to be taken by my train and fighting force, respectively, in case of a retreat on Murfreesborough.

Early on the morning of the 27th, I received orders from the same source to take up a position on the turnpike about 1 mile north of my encampment. While making this disposition, I received orders from General Hardee to move the three brigades with me to Murfreesborough by the routes previously decided upon; also that Wood's brigade would remain at Triune and assist General Wharton's cavalry to retard the farther advance of the enemy.

For the proceedings of Wood's brigade under this order, I respectfully refer you to the report of Brig. Gen. S. A. M. Wood, herewith transmitted.

I immediately moved as directed; marched all day, part of it over a miserable road and through a cold, drenching rain, and encamped after nightfall on the Salem turnpike, within 1 mile of Stone's River.

On the morning of the 28th, General Hardee ordered me to form line of battle north of Murfreesborough and east of Stone's River, my line to face north, its left resting on the river, its right near the Lebanon turnpike, 800 or 1,000 yards in rear of a line already occupied by Breckinridge's division.

Wood's brigade, falling back slowly before General McCook's army corps, impeding his advance wherever opportunity offered, finally reached Stone's River and rejoined the division on the morning of the 29th.

I lay, inactive, in line of battle until the evening of the 30th, when I received orders to move from the right to the left of the army. Arriving at the fording place on Stone's River, I received orders to remain there until General Hardee had examined the ground and determined my position. It was dark when staff officers were sent to order me forward and show me my position. The passage of the river in the night was attended with many difficulties, and my whole division was not in position before midnight. As well as I could judge from the camp-fires, my line was a prolongation to the left of Cheatham's line, and was 400 or 500 yards in rear of McCown's division.

Soon after midnight I received an order from General Hardee, on which I based and issued the following circular, viz:

Generals of brigades will have their respective commands in readiness to move upon the enemy at 4.30 o'clock this morning. The several commands will fall into line without signal of bugle or drum.

Before daylight I formed line, placing Polk's brigade, with Calvert's battery, on the right; Johnson's brigade, with Darden's battery, in the center, and Liddell's brigade, with the Warren Light Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant [H.] Shannon, on the left. Wood's brigade I placed a short distance in rear of Polk's. This brigade had no battery in the fight, its battery (Semple's, of six Napoleon guns) having been detached the day before to support Hanson's brigade, of Breckinridge's division, and having remained with that brigade on the right of the army.

On account of the absence on duty of my chief of artillery, I ordered my chief of ordnance (Captain [T. B.] Hotchkiss) to act as chief of artillery, and Robert [D.] Smith, ordnance officer of Polk's brigade, to act as division ordnance officer.

It was not yet clear day when I received orders from General Hardee to advance. Swinging to the right as I moved forward, I rapidly communicated these instructions to brigade commanders, caused my division to load, and moved forward, stepping short upon the right and full upon the left, so as to swing round my left as directed. General Cheatham's left did not move forward at the same moment as my right, and my division, inclining to the left as it advanced, a gap was soon left between us, which General Hardee directed General Wood's brigade to fill. My whole division (Semple's battery excepted) was now advancing in line of battle, gradually wheeling to the right as it advanced. My left had not moved half a mile when heavy firing commenced near its front, supposed to be McCown's division engaging the enemy. A few moments more, and the enemy's skirmishers opened fire along the right and left center of my division, indicating that instead of being a second line supporting McCown's division, I was, in reality, the foremost line on this part of the field, and that McCown's line had unaccountably disappeared from my front. Skirmishers were immediately thrown forward, and I pressed on, continuing the difficult wheel under fire, through a country cut up with numerous fences and thickets. There was a great deal of crowding and improper opening out in the center of my line. Polk's and Johnson's brigades had to be moved by the flank more than once to regain their true positions. Driving back the enemy's skirmishers in the face of a heavy fire of shot and shell, I encountered his first solid line of battle at an average distance of three-fourths of a mile from the scene of my bivouac of last night. The left of this line (opposite Wood's and Polk's brigades) stretched through a large cedar brake; the right (opposite Liddell's and Johnson's) through open ground. In many parts of

the brake the enemy found natural breastworks of limestone rock. In the open ground he covered most of his line behind a string of fence. Opposite my left, where the ground was open, a second line of the enemy, supported by artillery, could be seen a short distance in rear of his first. Here was my first important fight of the day. It extended along my whole line, and was participated in by McNair's brigade, of McCown's division, which had been placed on my left, and which a few moments before had surprised and driven the enemy from the ground over which my left had passed. The fight was short and bloody, lasting about twenty-five minutes, when the enemy gave way, both in the cedars and open ground, and fled back on his second line, which was immediately encountered in the woods, pastures, and open ground in rear of his former position. His second line soon gave way, and both went off together. My first fight may be said to have ended here. Its results were important.

The Eighth Arkansas, of Liddell's brigade, captured two stand of colors. They were handed to Colonel [John H.] Kelly on the field by Private James Riddle, of Company C, and Corpl. N. A. Horn, of Company E. In the rapid pursuit which followed, Colonel Kelly could not carry them; they were left on the field, and, I fear, appropriated by some person who had no title to them.

The Second Arkansas [Infantry], of Liddell's brigade, again encountered and defeated the Twenty-second Indiana (the same regiment it had so severely handled at the battle of Perryville), wounding and capturing its lieutenant-colonel. This brigade also captured two rifled cannon, with suitable ammunition; these Lieutenant Shannon added to his battery, and used on the enemy at subsequent periods of the battle. In Johnson's brigade, the Seventeenth Tennessee charged and captured a battery of four guns. In Wood's brigade, the Sixteenth Alabama wounded and captured the colonel and killed the lieutenant-colonel and major of the One hundred and first Ohio. My losses were very severe, especially on my left wing, where Johnson's and Liddell's brigades suffered more than in all the subsequent fighting of the day. In Johnson's brigade, Colonel [A. S.] Marks, of the Seventeenth Tennessee (one of the best officers in the division), was severely wounded. Major [H. C.] Ewin, Forty-fourth Tennessee, was mortally wounded. Colonel [Moses] White and Lieutenant-Colonel [R. D.] Frayser, Thirty-seventh Tennessee, were wounded. Colonel [J. M.] Hughs, Twenty-fifth Tennessee, was wounded. In Polk's brigade, Majors [C. H.] Carlton and [R. A.] Duncan, Fifteenth and Thirteenth Arkansas, were wounded. In Wood's brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel [A. H.] Helvenston and Major [J. H.] McGaughey, Sixteenth Alabama, were wounded. In all, nine field officers, and a proportionate number of company officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates were killed or wounded in this fight.

My division was now engaged in a rapid, but not very orderly, pursuit of the enemy, which was continued until a fresh line of his infantry and artillery came in view. This line was drawn up on the south side of, and parallel to, the Wilkinson turnpike, its right resting in open woods, its left in open fields. It checked or pushed back portions of my command, which, in the ardor of pursuit, had advanced beyond the general line. My whole division (the right of Johnson's brigade, which had delayed to replenish its ammunition, excepted) again engaged the enemy. Advancing steadily in the face of a heavy fire of infantry and artillery, Liddell's brigade, and the Seventeenth Tennessee, of Johnson's brigade, drove back the enemy's right. Wood's and Polk's brigades encountered a more obstinate and protracted resistance to the open fields where they

fought; but here, too, success again rewarded the bravery of my men. The enemy were driven across the Wilkinson pike, and took refuge in the woods and heavy cedar brake on the north side. In this fight I captured 2 hospitals, nearly 1,000 prisoners, a train of ammunition wagons, 1 piece of artillery, 3 or 4 caissons, and 2 wagons loaded with medical stores. The Federal General [J. W.] Sill was killed near one of the hospitals. The Seventeenth Tennessee, of Johnson's brigade, and the Second Arkansas, of Liddell's brigade, contend for the honor of having first captured the hospital and killed General Sill.

My line was now far advanced beyond that of Withers and Cheatham. I began to discover from the firing that I was getting in rear of the right flank of the enemy's center. My right wing and left center were exposed to a heavy enfilading fire as they crossed the open ground near the turnpike from a powerful battery planted near the north side of the pike. Captain Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery, placed Darden's and [J. H.] Calvert's batteries in position, and boldly attacked the Parrott and rifled artillery of the enemy. Wood's brigade having moved back to get a fresh supply of ammunition, Brigadier-General Polk moved forward, but was forced by the enfilading fire to change front forward on his first battalion, so as to place his line at right angles to the pike and facing eastwardly. This done, he advanced and attacked the supports of the battery, while Hotchkiss, though greatly overmatched in number and caliber of guns, continued to fire on them. The enemy abandoned the position, leaving several pieces of artillery. The Fifth Confederate and First Arkansas passed through and beyond these guns, and fairly deserve the honor of having captured them. Colonel [P. B.] Hawkins, of the Eleventh Kentucky, commanding a Federal brigade, was killed by the First Arkansas [Infantry] during this fight. Relieved of the enfilading fire, Brigadier-General Polk again changed front and resumed his original line of advance.

In the mean time Wood's brigade had come up and been ordered by me to the left of Polk's brigade. Johnson's brigade had also come up, and, like Polk's, had been forced by the enfilading fire to change front. I had ordered Brigadier-General Johnson to throw forward a strong company of sharpshooters and advance on the battery to Polk's assistance; but just at this time the firing ceased, and I discovered the enemy had been driven back, as before stated. I then changed the direction of Johnson's advance to correspond with Polk's, and moved his brigade on the right of Polk's, whose guns were again heard in conflict with the enemy. On examination, I found the enemy had made another stand in a heavy cedar brake north of the Wilkinson pike, and in front of where my right crossed it. He had again found natural breastworks of limestone rock, and covered most of his line behind them. He made an obstinate and destructive resistance, during which Polk's brigade suffered a severe repulse; but he was finally dislodged and driven from the cedars. Toward the close of this fight, Smith's brigade, of Cheatham's division, under command of Colonel [A. J.] Vaughan, [jr.,] came up on my left and rendered us material assistance.

In this fight Sergeant Lovin, of the Third Confederate Regiment, of Wood's brigade, captured a stand of colors, which I herewith transmit. Lieut. Col. Don McGregor, of the First Arkansas, fell mortally wounded, and Major [J. T.] McReynolds, the last field officer of the Thirty-seventh Tennessee, was mortally wounded.

The commanding officers of Brigadier-General Wood's regiments again reported their ammunition expended; he moved the brigade in rear of the Wilkinson pike to procure a supply. While there information reached

General Hardee that the enemy was threatening our left flank, and he ordered Wood's brigade to remain in the rear and protect the trains. This was the smallest brigade I had, numbering on the morning of the fight not over 1,100 officers and men. It was without a battery, as before explained; was on the extreme right of my line (the most exposed position) up to the time of crossing the pike, and at this time did not number 500.

The enemy was now driven out of the cedars in our front, but to the right of my division he still remained undisturbed, and as I again attempted to advance I found myself flanked on the right and again exposed to an enfilading fire. I therefore determined to advance on a line farther to the left, and where my right flank would not be so fearfully exposed. With this view, I ordered General Johnson to move his brigade to the left, where Liddell's brigade would again connect with him.

But here it would be proper to give a statement of the doings of Liddell's brigade since last mentioned as having driven back a line of the enemy on the south side of the Wilkinson pike. While my other brigades inclined to the right, as stated, Brigadier-General Liddell moved diagonally to the left for a considerable distance through open woods. He met the enemy on the far edge of these woods and drove him over the crest of the high ground beyond. Throwing forward skirmishers, it was found he had made another stand in the valley of Overalls' Creek, 400 or 500 yards beyond the crest. Liddell moved his battery to the crest and drove him back until he disappeared from view behind the embankment of the Nashville railroad. From the high point where his battery now was, Liddell was in full view of the Nashville turnpike and the enemy's trains. He opened with his artillery on one portion of the train, while General Wharton, with the cavalry, charged another. The trains disappeared in haste and confusion. At this time Liddell's brigade was the extreme left of the infantry of the army, and there was a gap of three-quarters of a mile between his right and the left of the other portion of the division. I determined to unite the division opposite this gap and advance. I ordered Johnson to move on the left of Polk's brigade, and at the same time sent orders to Brigadier-General Liddell to move his brigade by the right flank until he had reconnected with Johnson's brigade.

While these commands were being executed, I met a brigade of McCown's division retreating in great disorder. I think this brigade must have attempted to advance through the gap in my division and been repulsed.

By moving inward and uniting in the gap mentioned, my division again advanced on a line midway between the diverging lines which the two portions had before pursued. I advanced with four brigades, disposed as follows: Polk's brigade on the right, Liddell's on the left, Smith's brigade, of Cheatham's division, the right center, Johnson's the left center. I had not moved 100 yards when Liddell's brigade became hotly engaged with a line of the enemy drawn up across a neck of woods and prolonged into the fields on each side. This, I think, was a continuation to the left of the same line which my other brigades had defeated farther to the right, or it may have been the line which had caused the repulse of McCown's division (just mentioned) and which was pursuing. However this be, Liddell met the enemy here in force and engaged in the most obstinately contested and (to the enemy) most destructive fight which had yet occurred. Not until Liddell had closed within 25 paces of him would the portion of his line in the woods give way.

Colonel Kelly, of the Eighth Arkansas, and Colonel [S. G.] Smith, of the Sixth and Seventh Arkansas, were wounded here.

Lieutenant-Colonel [John E.] Murray, of the Fifth Arkansas, bore the colors of his regiment through the hottest of the fight, and by his own bright example encouraged his men to despise danger.

J. K. Leslie, a brave and intelligent private of Company C, of this regiment, captured a beautiful stand of colors belonging to one of the enemy's regiments of regulars. This flag I also herewith transmit.

The enemy gave way and fled, leaving a large number of dead behind him. Johnson's, Smith's, and Polk's brigades moved rapidly in pursuit, obliquing to the left as they advanced. Liddell rapidly reformed his line and followed, *en échelon*, about 100 yards in rear of Johnson. My orders, frequently received from General Hardee during the day, being to push the enemy, and, if possible, give him no time to rally or select positions, I did not halt the division or lose any time in rectifying distances or alignments. The line had not advanced a quarter of a mile when a fresh line of the enemy was discovered in open fields. He was supported by numerous and well-served batteries. At this time I had but one battery (Liddell's). Polk's could not follow through the heavy woods and Johnson's had been ordered by General Hardee to remain in reserve near the Wilkinson pike. My line advanced steadily, pouring in a deadly fire, and drove the enemy across a small dirt road. That portion of his line opposite Johnson rallied behind a fence on the far side of the dirt road, but was driven from there also, when his whole line disappeared in the cedar woods, which here border the Nashville pike, and were close behind him. Still another line of the enemy showed itself on the edge of these cedars. A heavy fire of small-arms was immediately directed upon him. He fled back in the woods, leaving the ground in front of Johnson's brigade thickly covered with dead and wounded. Following up their success, our men gained the edge of the cedars—Johnson's brigade capturing a battery of Parrott guns—and were almost on the Nashville turnpike, in rear of the original center of Rosecrans' army, sweeping with their fire his only line of communication with Nashville; but it was now after 3 o'clock; my men had had little or no rest the night before; they had been fighting since dawn, without relief, food, or water; they were comparatively without the support of artillery, for the advance had been too rapid to enable my single battery to get in position and answer the enemy; their ammunition was again nearly exhausted, and our ordnance trains could not follow.

At this critical moment the enemy met my thinned ranks with another fresh line of battle, supported by a heavier and closer artillery fire than I had yet encountered. A report also spread, which I believe was true, that we were flanked on the right. This was more than our men could stand. Smith's brigade was driven back in great confusion. Polk's and Johnson's followed. As our broken ranks went back over the fields before the fire of this fresh line, the enemy opened fire on our right flank from several batteries which they had concentrated on an eminence near the railroad, inflicting a heavier loss on Polk's brigade than it had suffered in all the previous fighting of the day. The division was rallied on the edge of the opposite woods, about 400 yards in rear of the scene of disaster, though some of the men could not be stopped until they reached the Wilkinson pike. Liddell's brigade, *en échelon* on my extreme left, was not engaged in this last fight and was moved back in good order to the line where the other brigades rallied. Here I reformed my division as rapidly as possible, Polk's brigade on the right, Johnson's in the center, and Liddell's on the left. A fresh supply of ammunition was served out, and I waited in momentary expectation for an advance of the enemy in overwhelming force. He never advanced a foot, and the ques-

tion presented itself, Ought I to again advance? I was now in possession of 3 miles of ground conquered from the enemy, large numbers of prisoners, cannon, and small-arms. Another repulse, and I might lose all these and cause the demoralization and destruction of my division. I immediately reported the situation to General Hardee, and was ordered by him to hold the ground I had won, rest, and reorganize my division and await further orders. Pushing my pickets well forward, I bivouacked in line of battle on the same line which the division rallied on after the repulse.

On the morning of January 1, there were rumors that the enemy was retreating. I was ordered by General Hardee to push forward, feel the enemy, and ascertain the true state of affairs in our front. Liddell's brigade was moved forward and to the left, and drove the enemy's skirmishers back at least a quarter of a mile, and beyond a white house used as a Federal hospital, and situated on the small dirt road near which our last fight of the day before occurred.

During this fight Lieutenant-Colonel [F. J.] Cameron, Sixth and Seventh Arkansas Regiment, was wounded.

Liddell again swept the Nashville turnpike with his artillery, and greatly disturbed the enemy's trains, which could be seen on and near it. Receiving another message from General Hardee to the effect that he had ordered me to feel the enemy, and could not hear my guns, and at the same time receiving information from General Liddell that he was in line of battle near the hospital just mentioned, and needed immediate support on his right, I ordered General Wood to move his brigade forward cautiously, and support Liddell on the right, but I also informed him that the object was merely to ascertain whether the enemy was still in force in our front, not to bring on a general battle. Wood's brigade moved forward, and I moved Johnson's skirmishers forward *en échelon* on Wood's right flank, so as to protect him as much as possible. Wood's brigade formed line close to the dirt road last mentioned, and immediately became hotly engaged with a very large force of the enemy, which advanced on him out of the cedars where our repulse of the day before occurred. He found that Liddell was not on his left, as expected, having previously fallen back; he also discovered that the enemy were flanking him on the left with another heavy force. At this time he received an order direct from General Hardee not to bring on a general battle. He ceased firing and fell back, leaving several killed and wounded on the ground. Some of the men of the Forty-fifth Mississippi Regiment had gone so far ahead that retreat was impossible; they remained where they were, and fell into the hands of the enemy. Wood must have lost nearly 100 in killed, wounded, and prisoners in this fight. It was now clear the enemy was still in force in my front, and I so reported it.

On Friday morning, January 2, I was satisfied that the enemy was fortifying his position. On consultation with my brigade commanders, I addressed a note to General Hardee, which I requested him to forward to General Bragg, stating this important fact, and that I feared, if my single, and now reduced, line was pushed on the enemy in his fortified position, the result would prove very disastrous, but that I believed I could hold a defensible position against any assault of the enemy.

Semple's battery rejoined me on the 1st. On the 2d, Friday evening, I was ordered to send four of his guns to support an attack about to be made by Major-General Breckinridge's division. My acting chief of artillery, Captain Hotchkiss, having been twice wounded while gallantly discharging his duty, I ordered him to quit the field (which he reluc-

tantly did) and directed Captain Semple to act as chief of artillery. Captain Semple sent four of his 12-pounders, under Lieutenant [E. J.] Fitzpatrick, to General Breckinridge's division. In the desperate conflict which took place on the right that evening, this battery bore a conspicuous part. Out of 45 men and officers, 20 were killed and wounded; among them Lieut. Joseph Pollard, who is represented as having fought most bravely, and only yielded when his leg and arm were both broken; 14 horses were killed and wounded, and one piece of artillery was lost. For details of the noble conduct of this battery in the fight, I refer you to the report of Captain Semple, herewith sent.

About 11 o'clock that night the enemy made a reconnaissance in force in front of my division; he was driven back by my skirmishers. Immediately afterward I received orders to withdraw my pickets and resume the position held by me on the morning of December 30, on the right of the army, in rear of Breckinridge's division. Here I remained, enduring the incessant cold rain of that night and next day, until 11 p. m. of the 3d, when I commenced retreating on Manchester.

After the battles of Wednesday, I collected a large number of guns and sent them to General Bragg's chief of ordnance. I also got several artillery horses, with which I replaced most of the disabled horses in my batteries; also a large quantity of artillery ammunition, harness, and other articles necessary in batteries.

To the courage and patriotism of the officers and men, the good discipline which existed among them, and the unexpected suddenness of the attack, are alone due the success which attended my advance upon the enemy's right. With the exception of the wheel of my division, directed by General Hardee, on the morning of the great battle, there was no strategic movement attempted. It was one determined charge, sometimes checked, and even repulsed, by the enemy; sometimes delayed to procure a fresh supply of ammunition, but ever renewed and successful, until McCook's Federal corps of 18,000 men, composing the right wing of Rosecrans' army, had been swept away, and two or three lines of his successors had shared the same fate.

To Brigadier-Generals Johnson, Wood, and Polk, and Colonel Vaughan, commanding Smith's brigade, of Cheatham's division, the country is indebted for their great exertions on this occasion. Brigadier-General Liddell led his brigade with a skill, courage, and devotion which, I believe, saved my left flank from being turned by the enemy.

I found the following officers of my staff very efficient in this battle; they were at their posts all the time, and discharged their difficult duties with a courage, promptness, and intelligence not often equaled, viz: Col. W. W. Kirkland, chief of staff; Maj. Calhoun Beuham, assistant inspector-general; Capt. Irving A. Buck, assistant adjutant-general; Lieuts. J. W. Jetton and J. K. Dixon (the latter was wounded); Capt. T. R. Hotchkiss (wounded); John M. Johnson, chief surgeon; Surg. J. H. Erskine, chief inspector. Dr. Johnson showed the same zeal, courage, and energy in this battle which has distinguished him on every other occasion, and made me feel that my division was very fortunate in having secured his services.

In addition to the officers and men already mentioned in my report, the following officers and men have been brought to my notice for distinguished services on the field. I hope it will be considered no disparagement of the services of other brave men of my division, some of whom laid down their lives or lost limbs on this field, if their gallant deeds have been overlooked in this report.

In Wood's brigade I must specially mention the following officers and

men of the Sixteenth Alabama, viz: Col. W. B. Wood and Adj. B. A. Wilson (wounded); Captain [William] Hodges, Company F; Lieutenant [C.] Davis, Company B; Lieutenant [G. W. W.] Jones, Company G; Lieutenant [G.] Pride, Company A; Lieutenant [C. F.] Carson, Company C, who remained fighting after he was wounded; Lieutenant [D. O.] Warren, Company F; Lieutenant [Thomas J.] Salter, Company D, who was wounded, but returned to the field the moment his wound was dressed; Sergt. Maj. Robert H. Cherry and Private Harvey G. Sargent, of Company H; Privates William Boyce and James Peeden, of Company C; Sergeant Bowen, Company H; Sergt. H. W. Rutland, Company A; Privates Peter White, Company F; Robert Williams, Company B, and H. D. Smith, Company A; the latter, wounded in both legs, deserves promotion. In the Forty-fifth Mississippi: Lieutenant-Colonel [R.] Charlton, Major [E. F.] Nunn, Adj. Frank Foster, jr., Sergeants Asberry, Doolittle, Morrison, Vaughan, Stewart, Lieut. G. W. Williams, Sergeant-Major Kern, Corporals Mallett, Hackler, and Read, and Private McChadin. Corporal Read volunteered to carry the colors after the color-bearer had been shot down. He is well qualified as an officer, and ought to be promoted. In the Thirty-third Alabama: Colonel [Samuel] Adams, Captains [W. E.] Dodson and Thomas Seay (severely wounded, in advance), Sergeant-Major Mizell (mortally wounded), Corpl. Isaac R. Smith, Company C; Sergeant Stewart, Company H; Privates Byrd, Company I; Foster, Company E, and Riley, Company D. In the Third Confederate: Major [J. F.] Cameron. Wood's Sharpshooters: Captain [A. T.] Hawkins.

*Polk's Brigade.*—In Fifth Confederate: Col. J. A. Smith and Adj. F. T. Smith. In First Arkansas: Colonel [John W.] Colquitt, Lieut. Col. Don McGregor, Adj. S. N. Greenwood, Captain [William A.] Alexander, Company B (wounded); Captain [W. H.] Scales, Company C (wounded); Captain [O. F.] Parrish, Company D (wounded); Lieut. John E. Letson (wounded); Corpls. Green M. McKenzie, Company A (killed); John S. T. Hemphill, Company B (wounded); Privates G. W. Sallee, Company C; J. C. Bogy, Company D; W. W. Chaney, Company E; Hardee J. Bullion, Company F, and A. P. Green, Company G (killed); James Beeson, Company H; John H. Curd, Company I (killed); Ocean C. Choat, Company K (killed). In Thirteenth and Fifteenth Arkansas: Capt. Thomas H. Osborne, Companies B and H, Fifteenth Arkansas; Lieut. John Dolan, Company A, Thirteenth Arkansas, ought to be promoted; Color-bearer Felix E. Lipe, Thirteenth Arkansas (wounded); First Sergt. J. M. Harkleroad, Company F, Fifteenth Arkansas; Private William Sandford, Company E, Thirteenth Arkansas (wounded), ought to be promoted; Lieut. William [H.] Pearce and Captain [W. H.] Kinsey, Fifteenth Arkansas. In Fifth Tennessee: Col. B. J. Hill, well worthy of promotion. Calvert's Battery: Joseph Lemon, color-bearer, deserves promotion.

*Liddell's Brigade.*—In Second Arkansas: Lieutenants [H. C.] Collier and [B. L.] Clegg, I fear killed; Lieutenant Colonel [Reuben F.] Harvey, Captain [J. K.] Phillips, Company F, ought to be promoted; Lieutenants [C. S.] Emerson, Company A; [M. D.] Brown, Company K, and [R. E.] Smith, Company G. In Eighth Arkansas: Adjutant [H. J.] McCurdy, a brave young soldier (killed); Lieutenant [S. B.] Cole, Company I; Lieut. Calvin East, Company H; Lieut. T. H. Beard, Company F (killed); Lieutenant [W. M.] Bass, Company E; Captain [W. H.] Lankford, Company A; Lieutenant [B. A.] Terrett, Company E. In Fifth Arkansas: Captain [A. B.] Washington, Company K; Privates John Atkinson, Company C; B. W. Maret, Company I, and C. Mattix,

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

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

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

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

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

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

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

No. 254.

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

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S BRIGADE,  
January 13, 1863.

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

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

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

ham's division. This having been accomplished by 9 o'clock at night, I remained in line of battle until nearly 7 o'clock on the morning of the 31st. At that time I again received orders from division commander to wheel my command to the right, keeping the right connected with General Cheatham's left. General Cheatham's division not moving at same moment, I found if I attempted to keep with his line I should become separated from the division, then advancing. General Wood, about this time, having been ordered to my right by Lieutenant-General Hardee, and General Cheatham having commenced to move up, I continued my move, gaining ground slightly to the left. About 7.30 o'clock, and before I had moved more than 700 yards, I received word from Colonel [B. J.] Hill that my right had commenced to engage the enemy in a grove of cedars near the old Franklin dirt road. I did not believe at first that the enemy could be so near us, having understood that we were supporting General McCown. Riding to the place, I was received by a volley from the enemy, resulting in the severe wounding of my orderly (Mike Connell). In a few moments my entire line advanced across the Franklin dirt road, entered this cedar brake, and engaged the enemy all along the line. In a very short time, by the aid of Captain [J. H.] Calvert's battery, we succeeded in driving the enemy out of the cedars in great confusion. Here Major Carlton, Captain Dixon, and Lieut. William H. Pearce, Fifteenth Arkansas Regiment, were wounded while gallantly leading their men.

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

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

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

\* Not found.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., *January 23, 1863.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of arms, ammunition, and equipments captured at battle of Murfreesborough, viz:

1st. I removed seven pieces of artillery from the field to Murfreesborough; caliber unknown.

2d. I captured about 300 rounds of fixed ammunition for 12-pounder howitzer, about 100 rounds of which I used in the fight.

3d. I captured about 500 friction-primers, a portion of which I used in the fight.

4th. The gunners captured gauges, rammers, priming-wires, &c., the exact number of which I cannot state, as some were lost.

5th. I captured 8 battery horses and some few pieces of harness.

The pole was shot out of one of my howitzers. I sent it to Murfreesborough and replaced it with a piece we captured from a Michigan battery. I lost 9 horses killed and disabled.

Respectfully submitted.

PUT. DARDEN,  
*Captain, Commanding Battery.*

Capt. R. B. SNOWDEN.

No. 273.

*Reports of Brig. Gen. S. A. M. Wood, U. S. Army, commanding Fourth Brigade, including skirmish on the Nolensville road, December 27.*

HDQRS. WOOD'S BRIGADE, CLEBURNE'S DIVISION,  
HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,  
*Tullahoma, Tenn., January 11, 1863.*

SIR: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battles before Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

On the morning of December 27 last, Lieutenant-General Hardee, who was then in person at our advanced post at Triune, ordered me, in conjunction with Brigadier-General [John A.] Wharton, whose command was then within 2 miles of that place, to skirmish with the advancing columns of the enemy.

My brigade consisted of two companies of sharpshooters, the Sixteenth Alabama, the Thirty-third Alabama, and the Forty-fifth Mississippi Regiments; in all, about 950 men and officers.

The Forty-fifth Mississippi was posted at daylight about 1½ miles from Triune, on the Nolensville pike; four companies deployed as skirmishers on the right of the road, three supporting a section of Darden's battery on the left, and one deployed as skirmishers on the left flank.

The enemy appeared at 9 a. m.; our battery opened on him. The enemy attempted three times to place a battery in position on a hill 500 yards from us, but was driven away by our fire. His cavalry now appeared in large numbers on both our right and left flanks, Brigadier-General Wharton, with his command, holding him in check. It was found necessary to retire our guns, which I did, and caused our skirmishers to assemble and fall back under the protection of our cavalry in return to our second line, consisting of the Sixteenth Alabama, deployed as skirmishers on the left of the pike in rear of Triune, the skirmishers, thrown forward on the left behind a stone wall, near the Franklin road; Darden's battery and Captain White's battery, of two pieces, of Brigadier-General Wharton's command, were massed near the turnpike. The enemy soon possessed themselves of the heights near Triune.

In the mean time I had detailed 20 men to report to Capt. J. W. Green, of the engineers, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's staff, who had offered his services to me, and he had totally demolished the bridge across the stream just beyond Triune.

I am deeply indebted to Captain Green for services rendered during this day, in every way evincing a zeal and knowledge, as well as courage, worthy of the highest commendation, bringing his men away from the bridge only when the enemy's shells were falling in their midst, the work having been accomplished.

The enemy's batteries, placed on the hill out of range of our pieces, now opened fire upon us. I ordered the guns behind the crest of the ridge. At this time large masses of cavalry appeared moving toward our left. They were fired upon by the six pieces which were rapidly advanced to the top of the hill. Many saddles were emptied and the whole thrown into confusion.

At this time a heavy storm of hail and rain beat in our faces, concealing the movements of the enemy. It had not abated before he was found to be advancing with a line of infantry extending a mile in length. Our skirmishers fired quickly upon the line, but seeing the overwhelming forces against us, General Wharton and myself concluded at once to retire. The artillery was ordered off. One piece of Darden's had been sent to the left and was 400 yards from the pike. The enemy made great exertions to capture it, but the coolness and courage of Captain Darden; the steadiness of our skirmishers on assembling and firing on the enemy; the gallant conduct of Captain [B. F.] White, jr., in placing a piece of his battery in position on the pike, and firing so rapidly on the advancing lines as to check them (but, above all, the disposition of cavalry made by Brigadier-General Wharton), gave time to bring it off in safety. In consequence of the loss of the bridge, the enemy could bring no artillery to bear on us. One piece of Darden's was now placed on the pike, and, firing upon the enemy, permitted our whole column to retire in good order, covered by the cavalry.

We marched until dark and bivouacked 3 miles from the Eaglesville pike, where I received an order to move at dawn to Murfreesborough, which I did.

In this affair I lost but 6 men; as they were left behind, I cannot say whether killed or wounded. The enemy report their loss to citizens of Triune (and we also have it from prisoners captured at Murfreesborough) at 65.

It is now known that [General A. McD.] McCook's corps, of three divisions, was assailing us on that day.

I am, general, with the greatest respect, your obedient servant,  
S. A. M. WOOD,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. IRVING A. BUCK,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HDQRS. WOOD'S BRIGADE, CLEBURNE'S DIVISION,  
HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,  
*Tullahoma, Tenn., January 11, 1863.*

SIR: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battles before Murfreesborough:

Having arrived at Murfreesborough on Sunday night, the 28th instant  
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[ultimo], on Monday morning took my place in line of General Cleburne's division, being the left center brigade, Brigadier-General Liddell to my left, and Brigadier-Generals Johnson and Polk on my right. Remained in this position until Tuesday evening, when I received an order to follow Brigadier-General Johnson's brigade, which I did, passing through Murfreesborough, and across Stone's River to the left of our lines. I was placed in position about 300 yards in rear of Brigadier-General Polk's brigade. The Third Confederate Regiment (that had been detached) joined me. I had now about 1,100 men for duty. My line was as follows: Third Confederate Regiment, Thirty-third Alabama, Forty-fifth Mississippi, Sixteenth Alabama, and sharpshooters.

We were in line at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning. Near daylight I received an order to move forward and support Brigadier-General Polk. When we had advanced half a mile, firing commenced in front; a few shells exploded over my lines. After advancing 400 yards farther, I received an order from Lieutenant-General Hardee, by Colonel Black, to move by the right flank, and fill up any vacancy between Brigadier-General Polk's right and the left of Major-General Cheatham's command. I marched by the right flank until I came to the Ninth Texas Regiment, which I was told belonged to General Cheatham's division. I then marched to the front against the enemy. Skirmishers were thrown out, who quickly returned before a heavy fire. My brigade then advanced to a cedar glade filled with rocky crevices, in which the One hundred and first Ohio Regiment lay concealed, being about 40 yards in advance of a brigade consisting of the Thirty-eighth and Twenty-first Illinois, and Eighty-first [Indiana], and Fifteenth Wisconsin. Firing continued for several minutes. Being unable to see the foe, I ordered firing to cease. The enemy, believing we were going to retire, sprung up, when a volley was poured into them, at once routing the brigade, which fled, leaving the colonel of the One hundred and first Ohio Regiment and the lieutenant-colonel and major dead, and a large number of other field and company officers, on the field. Pursuit was made, driving the enemy half a mile through the thick cedars and open woods. The lines of my brigade became broken in the eagerness of the pursuit, the men of each regiment mixing together. As the enemy retired through a piece of woods extending forward between two fields, a battery directly in front of us was firing on us.

At this point the right of my brigade captured a hospital of the enemy across the Nolensville pike, containing many wounded officers and men. It was held until orders were given to retire. The sharpshooters and Sixteenth Alabama had possession of the house, and were three-quarters of a mile in advance of any part of our lines at this hour, save the left of my brigade and General Polk's brigade. I halted them, put them in line, and ordered, in conjunction with Brigadier-General Polk, a charge on a battery. The battery fled, however, before our men. We captured one caisson. We then pressed on, though now the lines of our men, which should have been on my right, seemed to have halted. We passed across the field and through a wood and across the Nolensville pike, driving the enemy. Here we entered another field and became engaged with a heavy force in our front, while a battery of several guns was enfilading our entire line. The ammunition of several regiments became exhausted, and we returned to the wood for shelter, while we refilled our boxes.

At this place Brigadier-General Johnson's brigade came up, and he formed it and marched off to our right. We soon followed, and, by direction of Major-General Cleburne, took position on the left of Brigadier-General Polk's brigade. The line now marched against the enemy

for the third time. He was again posted in a dense cedar brake. From this position our men drove him. At this point the slaughter seemed to be greater than any other. We drove the enemy out of the woods and across a field, under cover of a large number of guns which he had collected at this point. The fire from his artillery became very annoying, and the men took shelter in the timber. By direction of Major-General Cleburne, I sent forward about 100 sharpshooters to pick off his horses and cannoneers, but they could not cover themselves from the fire of his whole line of infantry, and were forced back to the edge of the field.

About this time Colonel [A. J.] Vaughan, [jr.] came up with his brigade, and I directed it in position on my left. It had a sharp contest with the enemy, driving him back.

My men, as reported by their colonels, having expended their ammunition, I formed them in rear of the cedar brake and collected parts of several regiments, which had become separated from their commands, to wit, about 100 men of the Forty-fifth Alabama, under Lieutenant-Colonel [J. G.] Gilchrist; about 70 of the First Louisiana Infantry, under a captain; a part of a Mississippi regiment of another corps, all of which I conducted to the wood near our ammunition wagons.

At this point I received notice from a staff officer that our left was certainly threatened by the enemy's cavalry and infantry, which I immediately communicated to Lieutenant-General Hardee, who ordered me to take a position and protect our ordnance trains. I ordered the trains to move between my line and Murfreesborough, and threw out a strong picket about 500 yards in advance, facing our left flank, and bivouacked for the night.

Early the next morning I retook my position in line of battle immediately in rear of the cedar brake, where our last fight with the enemy occurred, Brigadier-General Liddell on my left and Brigadier-General Johnson on my right. We remained in line of battle—our skirmishers fighting frequently in front and the enemy shelling the woods at sundown—during the day.

About 2 o'clock I was ordered by Major-General Cleburne to move my brigade forward to a white house, which it had been ascertained the enemy had used as a hospital, to develop his lines and ascertain his force. The brigade moved promptly across a corn-field about half a mile. As soon as we had shown ourselves in the field, a terrific fire of shell, grape, shot, and minie balls fell around us. The brigade pressed on, firing. As soon as it reached a depression in the ground, near the hospital, it was ordered to halt and lie down. The order was obeyed; but in a few moments a part of the Forty-fifth Mississippi, which was on the right, advanced beyond the general line to some out-houses—perhaps for protection. The enemy's whole line opened upon us, and a brigade of four large regiments began to move around our left flank. Our line was now vertical to the general line of our forces and three-quarters of a mile in advance.

Riding to the right to acquaint Major-General Cleburne of these facts, I met Captain White, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's staff, who informed me that the general desired that no general action should be brought on. I immediately ordered the brigade to fall back, passing over the crest of a hill to the rear. This movement was executed in good order, though the command suffered severely from the fire of the enemy, and about 60 men refusing to come back, were left in the hands of the enemy. The brigade was now permitted by the major-general, in consequence of its recent fatiguing duties, to retire to Stone's River, cook rations, and rest for the night.

On the morning of January 2, by order of Major-General Cleburne, the brigade was placed in line of battle on the extreme left of our lines, *en echelon*, supporting Brigadier-General Liddell, in which position it remained awaiting the approach of the enemy, or orders, during the day and night. The enemy shelled the woods in which we were frequently during the day, and at night pushed forward a regiment at different hours on our skirmishers, who were promptly driven back.

Just before daylight, the brigade moved with the division to the right of the army, occupying nearly its original position in the line of battle, where it remained until 11 o'clock that night, when, by order, it retired.

I have to remark that in this battle the brigade, with some few exceptions, which are noted in the reports of my colonels, behaved with great gallantry. The men went into action with a spirit and determination never before so clearly shown, and endured all the fatigues without a murmur.

To my officers commanding I beg leave to call attention. Col. William B. Wood, of the Sixteenth Alabama, was always in the lead. Located on the right, and subjected by our position to a cross-fire—from the fact that the lines to our right were always behind us—he carried his regiment forward, driving the enemy before him. Colonel [Samuel] Adams, of the Thirty-third Alabama, and Lieutenant-Colonel [R.] Charlton, of the Forty-fifth Mississippi; also Major [E. F.] Nunn, of that regiment, and Major [J. F.] Cameron, of the Third Confederate Regiment, are deserving of particular notice.

Captain [A. T.] Hawkins, of the sharpshooters, distinguished himself in this action. I call attention to the remark of Major Cameron with regard to Adj. Frank Foster, jr., of the Forty-fifth Mississippi.

To my staff I am greatly indebted. Captain Palmer, assistant adjutant-general, was always in the van, and was surpassed by no one in deeds of valor; as also my aide-de-camp, Capt. William Simpson; as also Capt. Joshua Sledge, D. Coleman, and my volunteer aide, Captain Shorter, who was wounded. Lieut. J. Percy Walker, my assistant inspector-general, is deserving of especial notice for gallant services performed on this occasion from first to last.

In conclusion, the brigade commander expresses the opinion that in this battle the 1,100 men he took into action vindicated by their blood the determination of our people to conquer their freedom or die in the struggle—504 having been killed, wounded, or captured in this battle. Many of those who are noted as missing were killed or wounded. The command is ready to meet the enemy again.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

S. A. M. WOOD,  
*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

Capt. IRVING A. BUCK,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 274.

*Report of Col. William B. Wood, Sixteenth Alabama Infantry, including skirmish at Triune, December 27.*

—, 1863.

CAPTAIN: In pursuance of the order to report the movements and operations of this regiment in the battles at Triune and Murfreesborough, on the 27th and 31st ultimo, I beg to submit the following:

On the 26th ultimo we were ordered to the front of Triune, to support

General Wharton and repel the advance of the enemy, who was reported to be moving in that direction with a large force. We remained under arms until late in the evening, when we were ordered to return and strike our camps, send the wagons to the rear, and take position on the hill near the Franklin pike.

At 4 o'clock on the 27th we were under arms and moved forward to take position on the hills in front of Triune. We remained in that position, deployed as skirmishers, until 9 o'clock, when we were ordered back to our position in rear of the town. My regiment was deployed as skirmishers just behind the brow of the hill and awaited the approach of the enemy. Captain Darden occupied the hill with his battery. The enemy made an attempt to turn our left flank with cavalry, which was repulsed by the artillery and my skirmishers on the left, the enemy fleeing in confusion. About 1 o'clock a heavy rain commenced and continued for nearly an hour. As soon as it ceased, and we were able to see a few hundred yards to the front, we discovered the enemy advanced nearly up to our lines. We immediately opened fire upon him and held him in check until the artillery was drawn off, when we were ordered to fall back. As we were retreating, I discovered the enemy moving up on our right flank, but we were enabled to gain the turn in the road before they could cut us off. A piece of artillery opened on them from this point and checked their advance. Our line was then formed on the pike and brought off without loss. Our casualties were 2 men slightly wounded.

We reached Murfreesborough Sunday night, and Monday morning were ordered to take position in the line of battle on the right wing near the Lebanon pike. We remained in this position until Tuesday night, when we were ordered across the river and bivouacked for the night on the river bank in an open field.

At daylight on the morning of the 31st, we were in line of battle and moved forward across the field. Before we had advanced 100 yards the enemy opened upon us with shells. Our line was pushed forward across the fields to the woods, where we discovered the enemy in a dense cedar glade, lying down behind the rocks. We commenced firing as soon as the skirmishers fell back, and continued firing for nearly half an hour, neither party yielding any ground. The general gave the order to "charge," and the men, with a yell, made a charge in gallant style, dislodging the enemy from their strong position and killing scores of them as they fled. We continued to push on for more than half a mile, when we came upon another line of the enemy. Again a fierce and stubborn resistance was made. Again the general ordered a charge, which was made with like results, the enemy being driven for more than half a mile until they fell behind a battery planted near a large frame house used as a hospital. Our line was reformed, and, with General Polk's brigade, moved up to charge the battery. As we approached, a few rounds were fired, and the battery was drawn off. We pursued as rapidly as possible, driving the enemy through the woods, across a corn-field, and beyond the Nolensville pike. As we approached the field another battery to our right opened upon us. We charged across this open field more than a quarter of a mile to capture the battery. About the time we reached another house used as a hospital, another battery (planted on the pike) opened a cross-fire upon us, and at the same time a heavy infantry force, supporting the battery, opened its fire. Our ammunition here gave out, and we were compelled to fall back to the woods to obtain a supply. It was now about 11 o'clock. Our line was again formed and moved forward across the pike and into the woods, where we again en-

countered the enemy and opened fire upon him. We continued to move forward and charge them whenever they made a stand, until they were driven nearly 2 miles. The fighting in the afternoon continued for about three hours. Our ammunition being again exhausted, we fell back out of the reach of the enemy's guns and obtained a fresh supply. The fighting now ceased on the left wing, and night soon coming on we bivouacked on the field.

The morning of [January] 1 we moved to our position and remained in it until the afternoon, when we were moved forward to make a reconnaissance of the position of the enemy. Being found in large force and our position very much exposed to the enemy's artillery, we were ordered back to our original position.

We were again in line of battle on the morning of the 2d, and remained so all day without any engagement with the enemy. That night we were ordered to recross the river and occupy our former position on the right wing, which we did, and remained there until 11 o'clock that night, when ordered on the retreat.

I lost in the battle of the 31st ultimo 24 killed, of whom 4 were lieutenants, and 142 wounded, among whom were Lieutenant-Colonel Helvenston, Major [J. H.] McGaughy, and Adjutant [B. A.] Wilson, and 6 lieutenants. A list\* of the killed and wounded is herewith forwarded.

My regiment encountered the One hundred and first Ohio Regiment, commanded by Colonel [Leander] Stem, at the beginning of the fight. We wounded and captured the colonel and killed the lieutenant-colonel. We next fought the Twenty-fifth [Thirty-eighth] and Twenty-first Illinois, and Eighty-first Indiana, and Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiments, killing and wounding a number of the officers and men.

I feel proud in being able to report that most of my officers and men behaved with signal courage and unflinching bravery during the whole action. There were some instances of peculiar gallantry displayed which came under my notice, and no doubt others equally creditable occurred which I may not have observed. I mention Adjt. B. A. Wilson, who, after Lieutenant-Colonel Helvenston and Major McGaughy were wounded, rendered efficient services in leading the left wing of the regiment in the charges which were made, until he fell, severely wounded. Sergt. Maj. Robert [H.] Cherry, finding Company I without an officer during the action, assumed command, and gallantly led them through the fight. Private Harvey G. Sargent, of Company H, is reported as having behaved very gallantly; he lost an arm, and deserves promotion. Privates William Boyce and James Peeden, of Company C; Color-Sergt. [William] Drury Bowen, of Company H; Sergt. H. W. Rutland, of Company A; Private Peter White, of Company F, and Private Robert Williams, of Company B, acted with courage and bravery. Private H. D. Smith, of Company A, received a wound in one leg, but continued on the field, fighting, until he was wounded in the other leg. He is a young man deserving consideration.

Among the officers who displayed signal gallantry I noticed Captain [William] Hodges, of Company F; Lieutenant [C.] Davis, of Company B; Lieutenant [G. W. W.] Jones, of Company G; Lieutenant [G.] Pride, of Company A, and Lieutenant [C. F.] Carson, of Company C, who remained on the field after he was wounded; Lieutenant [T. J.] Salter, of Company D, who was wounded and left the field, had his wound dressed, returned again to his duties, and remained until compelled by suffering to leave. Lieutenants [D. W.] Alexander and [D. O.] Warren, of Com-

\* Embodied in No. 191, p. 679.

pany F, were with their command from the beginning to the end of the battle. Lieutenants [William S.] Humphries and [J. N.] Watson, of Company K, were also with their command throughout the whole engagement. The gallant dead and wounded fully discharged their duties until they fell.

I mention with pleasure the efficient services of Capt. T. A. Kimball, chaplain of the regiment, who took charge of the infirmary corps, and followed close behind the regiment, removing the wounded as soon as they fell, himself dressing many of the wounds.

Surg. F. S. McMahon and Assistant Surgeon [William M.] Mayes were at their posts, discharging their duties faithfully, promptly, and efficiently.

Respectfully submitted.

W. B. WOOD,

Colonel, Commanding Sixteenth Alabama Regiment.

[Capt.] O. S. PALMER,  
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 275.

*Report of Col. Samuel Adams, Thirty-third Alabama Infantry.*

ESTILL SPRINGS, TENN., January 7, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to circular of this date, headquarters Wood's brigade, I have the honor to report that on 24th ultimo I arrived at Triune, Tenn., at which place my regiment was encamped, doing outpost duty. On 26th of same month I resumed command of it. At 1 p. m. on that day my regiment was ordered forward to meet the advance of the enemy. The regiment, in accordance with orders, moved forward about 2 miles from Triune and halted until about 4 p. m., when it was ordered to form line of battle about half a mile in rear of Triune, in which position it remained until 4 a. m., December 27, when it was ordered to form line of battle on the road leading from Triune to Murfreesborough, about 300 yards from the village. At this place until about 9 a. m., when it was ordered to move across the bridge on the turnpike road leading to Shelbyville, about 2 miles from Triune, and form line of battle on the range of hills immediately south of it. At this place it remained until 3 a. m., when it was ordered by General Wood to fall back in rear of his brigade on the Shelbyville turnpike.

On night of December 28, it encamped about 1 mile west of Murfreesborough.

On December 29, it formed line of battle near the Nashville turnpike, about 1½ miles from Murfreesborough, about 1,000 yards in rear of the line formed by General Breckinridge's command, on the right wing of the enemy.

On the night of December 30, it moved across the river to the west wing of the army, and about 12 p. m. encamped on the banks of Stone's River, about 1½ miles from Murfreesborough.

Early on the morning of December 31, it was ordered forward, and about sunset attacked the enemy's lines. The enemy were in a thick cedar thicket. Going down, I ordered my regiment not to fire until the enemy could be plainly seen. The Sixteenth Alabama Regiment, which was on the right of my regiment, fired two or three rounds before the