

THE
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE
OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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

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

PURSUANT TO ACTS OF CONGRESS.

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

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1887.

LEFT WING.

Maj. Gen. THOMAS L. CRITTENDEN.

FIRST (LATE SIXTH) DIVISION.

- (1.) Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD.
 (2.) Brig. Gen. MILO S. HASCALL.

First (late Fifteenth) Brigade.

- (1.) Brig. Gen. MILO S. HASCALL.
 (2.) Col. GEORGE P. BUELL.
- 100th Illinois, Col. Frederick A. Bartleson.
 58th Indiana:
 Col. George P. Buell.
 Lieut. Col. James T. Embree.
- 3d Kentucky:
 Col. Samuel McKee.
 Maj. Daniel E. Collier.
- 26th Ohio, Capt. William H. Squires.

Second (late Twenty-first) Brigade.

- Col. GEORGE D. WAGNER.
- 15th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Gustavus A. Wood.
 40th Indiana:
 Col. John W. Blake.
 Lieut. Col. Elias Neff.
 Maj. Henry Leaming.
- 57th Indiana:
 Col. Cyrus C. Hines.
 Lieut. Col. George W. Lennard.
 Capt. John S. McGraw.
- 97th Ohio, Col. John Q. Lane.

Third (late Twentieth) Brigade.

Col. CHARLES G. HARKER.

- 51st Indiana, Col. Abel D. Streight.
 73d Indiana, Col. Gilbert Hathaway.
 13th Michigan, Col. Michael Shoemaker.
 64th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Alexander McIlvain.
 65th Ohio:
 Lieut. Col. Alexander Cassil.
 Maj. Horatio N. Whitbeck.

*Artillery.**

Maj. SEYMOUR RACE.

- 8th Indiana Battery, Lieut. George Estep.
 10th Indiana Battery, Capt. Jerome B. Cox.
 6th Ohio Battery, Capt. Cullen Bradley.

SECOND (LATE FOURTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN M. PALMER.

First (late Twenty-second) Brigade.

- Brig. Gen. CHARLES CRUFT.
- 31st Indiana, Col. John Osborn.
 1st Kentucky, Col. David A. Enyart.
 2d Kentucky, Col. Thomas D. Sedgewick.
 90th Ohio, Col. Isaac N. Ross.

Second (late Nineteenth) Brigade.

- Col. WILLIAM B. HAZEN.
- 110th Illinois, Col. Thomas S. Casey.
 9th Indiana, Col. William H. Blake.
 6th Kentucky, Col. Walter C. Whitaker.
 41st Ohio, Lieut. Col. Aquila Wiley.

* The Eighth Battery was attached to the First Brigade, the Tenth Battery to Second Brigade, and the Sixth Battery to the Third Brigade.

Third (late Tenth) Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM GROSE.

- 84th Illinois, Col. Louis H. Waters.
 36th Indiana:
 Maj. Isaac Kinley.
 Capt. Pyrrhus Woodward.
- 23d Kentucky, Maj. Thomas H. Hamrick.
 6th Ohio, Col. Nicholas L. Anderson.
- 24th Ohio:
 Col. Frederick C. Jones.
 Maj. Henry Terry.
 Capt. Enoch Weller.
 Capt. A. T. M. Cockerill.

Artillery.

Capt. WILLIAM E. STANDART.

- 1st Ohio, Battery B, Capt. William E. Standart.
 1st Ohio, Battery F:
 Capt. Daniel T. Cockerill.
 Lieut. Norval Osburn.
- 4th United States, Batteries H and M, Lieut. Charles C. Parsons.

THIRD (LATE FIFTH) DIVISION.

- (1.) Brig. Gen. HORATIO P. VAN CLEVE.
 (2.) Col. SAMUEL BEATTY.

First (late Eleventh) Brigade.

- (1.) Col. SAMUEL BEATTY.
 (2.) Col. BENJAMIN C. GRIDER.
- 79th Indiana, Col. Frederick Knefler.
 9th Kentucky:
 Col. Benjamin C. Grider.
 Lieut. Col. George H. Cram.
- 11th Kentucky, Maj. Erasmus L. Mottley.
 19th Ohio, Maj. Charles F. Manderson.

Second (late Fourteenth) Brigade.

- Col. JAMES P. FTYFFE.
- 44th Indiana:
 Col. William C. Williams.
 Lieut. Col. Simeon C. Aldrich.
- 86th Indiana, Lieut. Col. George F. Dick.
 13th Ohio:
 Col. Joseph G. Hawkins.
 Maj. Dwight Jarvis, jr.
 59th Ohio, Lieut. Col. William Howard.

Third (late Twenty-third) Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL W. PRICE.

- 35th Indiana, Col. Bernard F. Mullen.
 8th Kentucky:
 Lieut. Col. Reuben May.
 Maj. Green B. Broadus.
- 21st Kentucky, Lieut. Col. James C. Evans.
 51st Ohio, Lieut. Col. Richard W. McClain.
 99th Ohio:
 Col. Peter T. Swaine.
 Lieut. Col. John E. Cummins.

Artillery.

Capt. GEORGE R. SWALLOW.

- 7th Indiana Battery, Capt. George R. Swallow.
 Pennsylvania, Battery B (26th), Lieut. Alanson J. Stevens.
 3d Wisconsin Battery, Lieut. Cortland Livingston.

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured (or missing).		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
First Brigade.							
(1.) Brig. Gen. MILO S. BASCALL. (2.) Col. GEORGE P. BUKILL.							
100th Illinois.....	1	6	6	23			46
50th Indiana.....	1	16	4	98			114
3d Kentucky.....	3	13	8	77		54	188
20th Ohio.....	1	11	2	85			99
Indiana Light Artillery, 8th Battery.....				8			8
Total First Brigade.....	5	45	20	296		54	400
Second Brigade.							
Col. GEORGE D. WAGNER.							
15th Indiana.....	2	26	7	186		7	188
40th Indiana.....		4	5	82		12	85
57th Indiana.....		11	6	55		6	78
97th Ohio.....		3		15		6	24
Indiana Light Artillery, 10th Battery.....		1		4			5
Total Second Brigade.....	2	55	18	378		23	580
Third Brigade.							
Col. CHARLES G. HARKER.							
51st Indiana.....		7	2	43		9	50
73d Indiana.....	2	23	3	48		26	111
13th Michigan.....		17	2	70			89
64th Ohio.....	1	29	3	61		17	105
65th Ohio.....	2	23	8	92		38	178
Ohio Light Artillery, 6th Battery.....		1	1	8		1	11
Total Third Brigade.....	5	108	19	311		101	530
Total First Division.....	12	208	58	880		187	1,520
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. JOHN M. PALMER.							
Staff.....			1				1
First Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. CHARLES CRUFT.							
31st Indiana.....		5	1	44	3	34	87
1st Kentucky.....		12	1	51	1	30	96
2d Kentucky.....		9	2	56		10	77
90th Ohio.....		17	5	87	2	46	137
Total First Brigade.....		44	9	218	6	120	397
Second Brigade.							
Col. WILLIAM B. HARKER.							
Staff and escort.....			4	1			5
110th Illinois.....	1	6	2	46		2	55
9th Indiana.....	1	10	5	52		11	109
6th Kentucky.....	2	11	5	55		10	113
41st Ohio.....	1	13	2	102		6	124
Total Second Brigade.....	5	40	19	316		29	409

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured (or missing).		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
Third Brigade.							
Col. WILLIAM GROSS.							
24th Illinois.....	2	23	5	119		8	167
30th Indiana.....	2	22	6	85		18	124
23d Kentucky.....		8	3	50		22	82
6th Ohio.....	2	23	4	124		14	177
24th Ohio.....	4	10	4	68		12	98
Total Third Brigade.....	10	97	22	456		74	659
Artillery.							
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery B.....		5		12		3	20
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery F.....		2	1	13		2	18
4th U. S. Artillery, Batteries H and M.....		3		14		6	22
Total artillery.....		9	1	39		11	60
Total Second Division.....	15	190	52	1,020	6	284	1,526
THIRD DIVISION.							
(1.) Brig. Gen. HORATIO P. VAN CLEVELAND. (2.) Col. SAMUEL BEATTY.							
Staff.....			1				1
First Brigade.							
(1.) Col. SAMUEL BEATTY. (2.) Col. BENJAMIN C. GRIDLER.							
79th Indiana.....	1	10	8	68		36	121
9th Kentucky.....	4	18	7	80		3	112
11th Kentucky.....		7	4	81		10	102
19th Ohio.....	3	24	3	122		34	180
Total First Brigade.....	8	59	20	351		83	521
Second Brigade.							
Col. JAMES P. FRYE.							
Staff.....			1				1
44th Indiana.....		10	2	54		25	91
86th Indiana.....	1	23	5	55	2	99	185
13th Ohio.....	2	29	6	79		69	185
59th Ohio.....		3	2	35	2	43	85
Total Second Brigade.....	3	75	16	223	4	236	537
Third Brigade.							
Col. SAMUEL W. PRICE.							
23th Indiana.....		22	5	77		33	137
8th Kentucky.....	2	7	6	69		27	111
21st Kentucky.....		10	2	34		9	57
51st Ohio.....		24	4	118		44	190
99th Ohio.....		12	5	41	1	29	88
Total Third Brigade.....	4	75	22	339	1	142	583

* Wounded December 31.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., May 16, 1863.

COLONEL: My attention having been called by Major-General Rousseau to the fact that Col. B. F. Scribner's brigade had not been mentioned by the major-general commanding the department, for the part it took in the battle of Stone's River, I cheerfully submit the following statement, premising that in my official report of the battle of Stone's River it was my earnest endeavor to do equal justice to the commands of Colonels Beatty, Scribner, and Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd, as well as to all the other troops under my command, and thought the best way of so doing, without extending my report to too great a length, was to give a succinct narrative of the events of the battle, and then refer to the reports of the subordinate commanders for more detailed information. This I did, with the more confidence in the justice of that course, from the fact that, after a careful reading of the different reports, I perceived no discrepancy in the accounts given in these reports of the events of the battle in which different portions of my command acted together. In my official report is the following:

As it became necessary for General Sheridan to fall back, the enemy pressed on still farther to our rear, and soon took up a position which gave them a concentrated cross-fire of musketry and cannon on Generals Negley's and Rousseau's troops at short range. This compelled me to fall back through the cedar woods and take up a line along a depression in the open ground, within good musket-range of the edge of the woods, while the artillery was retired to the high ground on the right of the turnpike. From this last position we were enabled to drive back the enemy, cover the formation of our troops, and secure the center on the high ground. In the execution of this last movement, the regular brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, came under a most murderous fire, losing 22 officers and 506 men in killed and wounded, but, with the co-operation of Scribner's and Beatty's brigades and Guenther's and Loomis' batteries, gallantly held its ground against overwhelming odds—

thus connecting these three gallant brigades together in the honorable and distinguished work of covering the formation of the troops on the elevated ground in their rear, when the enemy was straining every nerve to gain possession of the same point.

I now quote Colonel Scribner's report of the part taken by his brigade at this period of the battle:*

Colonel Scribner's brigade was at this time to the right of the regular brigade, and advanced into the cedars.

It gives me much pleasure to be able to testify, further, that the efficiency of this brigade, so long commanded by Colonel Scribner, is second to none in this army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

Lieut. Col. C. GODDARD,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Dept. of the Cumberland.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. CUMBERLAND, May 18, 1863.

I forward with pleasure General Thomas' special notice of the part taken by Colonel Scribner in the battle of Stone's River. It supplies an omission in the report of General Rousseau, which was the reason why a notice of it did not appear in my report.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

* See report No. 65, paragraphs 4-7, both inclusive.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Murfreesborough, February 9, 1863.

Col. C. GODDARD, Chief of Staff:

The last semi-weekly return of effective force before the battle of Stone's River, dated December 24, shows as follows, to wit:

Rousseau's division	303 + 5,883 = 6,186
Negley's division	212 + 5,284 = 5,496
	11,682

General Negley's report of the actual force engaged shows a deficiency of 664. This deficiency is in cavalry, which had been assigned to General Stanley between the 24th and 31st of December. I shall certainly hold my officers responsible for all reports differing from the above. The supposition was that the whole effective force was engaged. Please send me the reports showing the discrepancy.

Very respectfully,

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

No. 63.

Report of Maj. Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau, U. S. Army, commanding First Division.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 11, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by my command, the Third Division of the army, in the battle of Murfreesborough, begun on the 31st ultimo and ended on the 3d instant.

Early on the morning of the 30th ultimo, in obedience to the order of General Thomas, my division moved forward toward Murfreesborough from Stewartsborough, on the Nashville and Murfreesborough turnpike, about 9 miles from the latter place. On the march forward, several dispatches from General Rosecrans reached me, asking exactly where my command was and the hour and minute of the day. In consequence, we moved rapidly forward, halting but once, and that for only five minutes. About 10.30 a. m. we reached a point 3 miles from Murfreesborough, where Generals Rosecrans and Thomas were, on the Nashville and Murfreesborough turnpike, and remained during the day and bivouacked at night.

At about 9 a. m. on the 31st, the report of artillery and heavy firing of small-arms on our right announced that the battle had begun, by an attack on the right wing, commanded by Major-General McCook. It was not long before the direction from which the firing came indicated that General McCook's command had given way and was yielding ground to the enemy. His forces seemed to swing around toward our right and rear. At this time General Thomas ordered me to advance my division quickly to the front, to the assistance of General McCook.

On reaching the right of General Negley's line of battle, General Thomas there directed me to let my left rest on his right, and deploy my division off toward the right as far as I could, so as to resist the pressure on General McCook. We consulted and agreed as to where the line should be formed. This was in a dense cedar brake, through which my troops marched in double-quick time, to get into position

before the enemy reached us. He was then but a few hundred yards to the front, sweeping up in immense numbers, driving everything before him. This ground was new and unknown to us all. The woods were almost impassable to infantry, and artillery was perfectly useless, but the line was promptly formed; the Seventeenth Brigade, Col. John Beatty commanding, on the left; the brigade of regulars, Lieut. Col. O. L. Shepherd commanding, on the right; the Ninth Brigade, Col. B. F. Scribner commanding, was placed perhaps 100 yards in rear and opposite the center of the front line, so as to support either or both of the brigades in front, as occasion might require. My recollection is that, perhaps, the Second Ohio and Thirty-third Ohio Regiments filled a gap between General Negley's right and the Seventeenth Brigade, occasioned by the effort to extend our lines far enough to the right to afford the desired aid to General McCook.

The Twenty-eighth Brigade, Col. John C. Starkweather commanding, and Stone's battery of First Kentucky Artillery were at Jefferson Crossing, on Stone's River, about 8 miles below.

Our lines were hardly formed before a dropping fire of the enemy announced his approach. General McCook's troops, in a good deal of confusion, retired through our lines and around our right under a most terrific fire. The enemy, in pursuit, furiously assailed our front, and, greatly outflanking us, passed around to our right and rear. By General Thomas' direction, I had already ordered the artillery (Loomis' and Guenther's batteries) to the open field in the rear. Seeing that my command was outflanked on the right, I sent orders to the brigade commanders to retire at once also to this field, and, riding back myself, I posted the batteries on a ridge in the open ground, parallel with our line of battle, and as my men emerged from the woods they were ordered to take position on the right and left, and in support of these batteries, which was promptly done. We had, perhaps, 400 or 500 yards of open ground in our front. While the batteries were unlimbering, seeing General Van Cleve close by, I rode up and asked him if he would move his command to the right and aid in checking up the enemy, by forming on my right, and thus giving us a more extended line in that direction in the new position taken. In the promptest manner possible his command was put in motion, and in double-quick time reached the desired point in good season. As the enemy emerged from the woods in great force, shouting and cheering, the batteries of Guenther and Loomis, double-shotted with canister, opened upon them. They moved straight ahead for a while, but were finally driven back with immense loss.

In a little while they rallied again, and, as it seemed, with fresh troops, and assailed our position, and were again, after a fierce struggle, driven back. Four deliberate and fiercely sustained assaults were made upon our position and repulsed.

During the last assault I was informed that our troops were advancing on the right, and saw troops, not of my division, led by General Rosecrans, moving in that direction. I informed General Thomas of the fact, and asked leave to advance my lines. He directed me to do so. We made a charge upon the enemy and drove him into the woods, my staff and orderlies capturing some 17 prisoners, including a captain and lieutenant, who were within 130 yards of the batteries. This ended the fighting of that day, the enemy in immense force hovering in the woods during the night, while we slept upon our arms on the field of battle. We occupied this position during the three following days and nights of the fight. Under General Thomas' direction, I had it intrenched by rifle-pits, and believe the enemy could not have taken it at all.

During the day the Twenty-eighth Brigade, Colonel Starkweather, was attacked by General Wheeler's cavalry in force, and some of the wagons of his train were burned before they reached him, having started that morning from Stewartsborough to join him. The enemy were finally repulsed and driven off with loss. Starkweather's loss was small, as will be seen by his report of the action. In this affair the whole brigade behaved handsomely. The burden of the fight fell upon the Twenty-first Wisconsin, Lieutenant-Colonel Hobart commanding. This regiment, led by its efficient commander, behaved like veterans.

From the evening of the 31st until the ensuing Saturday night no general battle occurred in front of my division, though firing of artillery and small-arms was kept up during the day, and much of the time, of small-arms, during the night. The rain on the night of the 31st, which continued, at intervals, until the Saturday night following, rendered the ground occupied by my command exceedingly sloppy and muddy, and during much of the time my men had neither shelter, food, nor fire. I procured corn, which they parched and ate, and some of them ate horse-steaks, cut and broiled, from horses upon the battle-field. Day and night, in the cold, wet, and mud, my men suffered severely, but during the whole time I did not hear one single man murmur at hardships, but all were cheerful and ever ready to stand by their arms and fight. Such endurance I never saw before. In this severe trial of their patience and their strength they were much encouraged by the constant presence and solicitous anxiety of General Thomas for their welfare.

On the evening of Saturday, 3d instant, I asked permission of General Thomas to drive the enemy from the wood on our left front, to which he gave his consent. Just before night I directed the batteries of Guenther and Loomis to shell the woods with six rounds per gun, fired as rapidly as possible. This was very handsomely done, and ended just at dusk, when the Third Ohio Regiment, Lieut. Col. O. A. Lawson, and the Eighty-eighth Indiana, Col. George Humphrey, both under command of the brigade commander, Col. John Beatty, moved promptly up the woods. When near the woods they received a heavy fire from the enemy, but returned it vigorously, and gallantly pressed forward. On reaching the woods a fresh body of the enemy, attracted by the fire, moved up on their left to support them. On that body of the enemy Loomis' battery opened with shell. The fusillade was very rapid, and continued for, perhaps, three-quarters of an hour, when Beatty's command drove the enemy at the point of the bayonet and held the woods. It turned out that the enemy was posted behind a stone breast-work in the woods, and, when ousted, about 30 men were taken prisoners behind the works. This ended the battle of Murfreesborough.

On the morning of the 31st, six companies of the Second Kentucky Cavalry, Maj. Thomas P. Nicholas commanding, were ordered down to watch and defend the fords on Stone's River, to our left and rear. The cavalry of the enemy several times, in force, attempted to cross these fords, but Nicholas very gallantly repulsed them, with loss, and they did not cross the river. I should have mentioned that on Friday evening, late, I was directed by General Thomas to place a regiment in the woods on our left front as an outpost, and with a view to hold these woods, as they were near our lines, and the enemy could greatly annoy us if allowed to hold them. Our skirmishers were then just leaving the woods. I ordered the Forty-second Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Shanklin commanding, to take that position, which he did; but early next morning the enemy, in large force, attacked Colonel Shanklin, first furiously shelling the woods, and drove the regiment back to our lines,

taking Shanklin prisoner. It was this woods that was retaken on Saturday night, as before described.

The troops of my division behaved admirably. I could not wish them to behave more gallantly. The Ninth and Seventeenth Brigades, under the lead of their gallant commanders, Scribner and Beatty, were, as well as the Twenty-eighth Brigade, Colonel Starkweather, veterans. They were with me at Chaplin Hills, and could not act badly. The Twenty-eighth Brigade held a position in our front after the first day's fighting, and did it bravely, doing all that was required of them, like true soldiers. The brigade of United States infantry, Lieut. Col. O. L. Shepherd commanding, was on the extreme right. On that body of brave men the shock of battle fell heaviest, and its loss was most severe. Over one third of the command fell, killed or wounded; but it stood up to the work and bravely breasted the storm, and, though Major King, commanding the Fifteenth, and Major Slemmer ("Old Pickens"), commanding the Sixteenth, fell, severely wounded, and Major Carpenter, commanding the Nineteenth, fell dead in the last charge, together with many other brave officers and men, the brigade did not falter for a moment. These three battalions were a part of my old (Fourth) brigade at the battle of Shiloh.

The Eighteenth Infantry, Majors Townsend and Caldwell commanding, were new troops to me, but I am now proud to say we know each other.

If I could, I would promote every officer and several non-commissioned officers and privates of this brigade of regulars, for gallantry and good service in this terrific battle. I make no distinction between these troops and my brave volunteer regiments, for, in my judgment, there never were better troops than those regiments, in the world. But the troops of the line are soldiers by profession, and, with a view to the future, I feel it my duty to say what I have of them. The brigade was admirably and gallantly handled by Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd.

I lost some of the best and bravest officers I had. Lieutenant-Colonel Kell, commanding the Second Ohio, was killed. After he fell his regiment was efficiently handled by Maj. Anson G. McCook, who ought to be made colonel of that regiment, for gallantry on the field.

Colonel Forman, my brave boy colonel, of the Fifteenth Kentucky, also fell; Major Carpenter, of the Nineteenth Infantry, fell in the last charge. His loss is irreparable. Many other gallant officers were lost, whose names will appear in the list of casualties.

Of the batteries of Guenther and Loomis I cannot say too much. Loomis was chief of artillery for the Third Division, and I am much indebted to him. His battery was commanded by Lieutenant Van Pelt. Guenther is but a lieutenant. Both of these men deserve to be promoted, and ought to be at once. Without them we could not have held our position in the center.

I fell in with many gallant regiments and officers on the field not of my command. I wish I could name all of them here. While falling back to the line in the open field, I saw Col. Charles Anderson gallantly and coolly rallying his men. Colonel Grider, of Kentucky, and his regiment efficiently aided in repulsing the enemy. The Eighteenth Ohio, I think it was, though I do not know any of its officers, faced about and charged the enemy in my presence, and I went along with it. The Eleventh Michigan and its gallant little colonel (I do not know his name certainly, but believe it is Stoddart) [Stoughton] behaved well, and the Sixth Ohio Infantry, Col. Nick Anderson, joined my command on the right of the regular brigade, and stood manfully up to the work. I fell in with the Louisville Legion in retreat, Lieutenant-Colonel Berry commanding.

This regiment, though retreating before an overwhelming force, was dragging by hand a section of artillery which it had been ordered to support. A part of General McCook's wing of the army (it had fallen back with the rest, but through the woods and fields with great difficulty) bravely brought off the cannon it could no longer defend on the field. When I met it, it faced about and formed line of battle, with cheers and shouts.

To Lieutenants McDowell, my assistant adjutant-general, Armstrong, Second Kentucky Cavalry, and Millard, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, inspector-general; Captain Taylor, Fifteenth Kentucky Infantry, and Lieut. Alf. Pirtle, ordnance officer, my regular aides, and to Capt. John D. Wickliffe and Lieut. W. G. Jenkins, both of the Second Kentucky Cavalry, aides for that battle, I am much indebted for services on the field.

The wounded were kindly and tenderly cared for by the Third Division medical director, Surgeon Muscroft, and the other surgeons of the command. Captain Paul, my division commissary, rendered valuable services during the whole time of the battle. The musicians of the division carried the wounded from the field, faithfully and fearlessly.

Lieutenant McDowell was wounded. My orderlies, Damas, Emery, and the rest, went through the whole fight, behaving well; Emery was wounded. Lieutenant Carpenter, of the First Ohio Infantry, one of my aides, was so badly injured by the fall of his horse that I would not permit him to go on the field. Lieutenant Hartman, of the Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Infantry, a member of my staff, was ill with fever and unable to leave his bed.

It should be mentioned that the Eighty-eighth Indiana, Colonel Humphrey commanding, being placed at one of the fords on Stone's River, where our forces were temporarily driven back, very opportunely rallied the stragglers and promptly crossed the river and drove the enemy back. In this he was aided by the stragglers, who rallied and fought well. The colonel was wounded by a bayonet thrust in the hand in the attack of Saturday night on the enemy in the wood in our front.

I inclose herewith the reports of brigade commanders, which will show the list of casualties.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

LOVELL H. BOUSSEAU,
Major-General.

Maj. GEORGE E. FLYNT,
*Chief of Staff (Center), Fourteenth Army Corps,
Department of the Cumberland.*

No. 64.

Report of Lieut. Francis L. Guenther, Battery H, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY H, FIFTH ARTILLERY,
January 10, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of the battery under my command in the recent engagements near Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

The battery arrived near the battle-field with the brigade of regulars, of which it forms a part, on the morning of December 30, 1862. On the morning of December 31 it was moved forward with the brigade, and,

passed to the right of the highway and occupied a hill, upon which was a log-house, giving them a good fighting position. The Second Kentucky Cavalry, Captain Craddock, about 50 strong, was then sent to the left and front to feel the enemy, and at once became engaged. The right wing of the First Wisconsin was rallied on the right, and placed in rear of the first section of artillery, which was then upon the hill occupied by the Twenty-first Wisconsin, opening with shell. The Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania was placed in rear of the left wing of the First Wisconsin, which was skirmishing to the front. One section of artillery opened upon the enemy in front as between my infantry on the right and left.

The engagement at this time became general, as between the enemy and the First and Twenty-first Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and two sections of the First Kentucky Battery, the enemy acting principally on foot, supported by two field howitzers. The enemy was, however, finally repulsed, and left the field after severe fighting, the engagement lasting two hours and ten minutes, the brigade following $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, when, deeming my rear unsafe, I ordered the command to retire, and went into camp on the north side of Stone's River, near Jefferson.

The enemy's force, as near as could be ascertained, was some 3,500 strong; strength of my force was about 1,700. The enemy's loss in killed, as learned from prisoners taken since the fight, was 83. Their loss in wounded must have been very severe; but as the wounded and dead were carried away mostly by the cavalry upon their horses, it is impossible to give their loss with certainty. Eight prisoners were taken and paroled, two of whom were mortally wounded. A lieutenant-colonel of Wheeler's brigade was also mortally wounded.

Casualties upon our side were as per recapitulation, the chief part of the loss being convalescents, who were with the train when attacked. Twenty wagons from the rear of the train were taken and destroyed by fire, with the contents thereof, consisting of camp and garrison equipage, officers' and men's clothing, &c.

The troops under my command acted with great coolness and bravery; no finching, no running, but the utmost coolness shown by all, adding another creditable mark to the old Twenty-eighth Brigade.

Staff officers and orderlies carried orders fearlessly to different parts of the field, entitling them to great credit and to my thanks.

Casualties.

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Prisoners.	Total.
79th Pennsylvania		1	1	5	7
21st Wisconsin	1	37	3		41
1st Wisconsin		13	3		26
1st Kentucky Battery		1	1		2
24th Illinois			52		52
	1	8	104	9	122

The missing are prisoners taken with train, most of them being convalescents, and will undoubtedly be paroled.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN C. STARKWEATHER,

Colonel First Wisconsin Vols., Comdg. Twenty-eighth Brigade.

Capt. M. C. TAYLOR,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-EIGHTH BRIGADE,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on the 31st ultimo, the Twenty-eighth Brigade left Jefferson, in accordance with orders, and reported at 5 p. m. for duty, bringing in one field howitzer belonging to the Fifth Wisconsin Battery, and some 250 cavalry of different regiments, as also many stragglers from infantry regiments that were found on the Jefferson and La Vergne pike and roads adjacent thereto, who had participated in the fight in front of Murfreesborough that day or the day previous.

On the 1st instant the brigade was maneuvered, changing positions, fronts, &c.; going into camp, formed in line, with battalions doubled on the center, the left resting on the Nashville and Murfreesborough pike, right on the left of General Johnson's troops. The following morning the brigade was ordered by General Rousseau to deploy into line and advance to the front to the support of our batteries, then in action. The change of position was made, and the gallant Twenty-eighth Brigade moved to the front to give such support, with unflinching courage, amid a most tremendous rebel fire of solid shot and shell, and remained in such supporting position until another change was made, when it was sent to the extreme front, and ordered to hold the same, which post it occupied the 2d, 3d, and 4th, changing position from time to time, as the nature of circumstances seemed to require, supporting batteries, pioneer corps, &c., in digging trenches; and although not brought into place where its own fire could be made to tell effectively, yet, from the duties performed by it, under the continued and severe fire of shot and shell of the enemy, it is entitled to all praise. Casualties as per recapitulation.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN C. STARKWEATHER,

Colonel First Wisconsin, Comdg. Twenty-eighth Brigade.

Capt. M. C. TAYLOR,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division.

Recapitulation of casualties.

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
24th Illinois	1	3		4
79th Pennsylvania		3		3
1st Wisconsin		13	3	16
1st Kentucky Battery		1	1	2
Total	2	16	3	22

No. 72.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Oliver L. Shepherd, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, commanding Fourth (Regular) Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE U. S. REGULAR TROOPS,

THIRD DIV. (ROUSSEAU'S), CENTER, 14TH ARMY CORPS,

Camp at Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 10, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor, respectfully, to report the operations of this brigade, under my orders, during the recent five days' battle before this place.

The brigade, on going into action, consisted of the First Battalion Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, comprising 16 officers and 304 enlisted men for duty, Major King commanding; the First Battalion Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, and Company B, Second Battalion, same regiment, attached, comprising 15 officers and 293 enlisted men, Major Slemmer commanding; Battery H, Fifth U. S. Artillery, comprising 3 officers and 120 enlisted men for duty, Captain Guenther commanding; the First Battalion Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, and Companies A and D, Third Battalion same regiment, attached, comprising 16 officers and 272 enlisted men, Major Caldwell commanding; the Second Battalion Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, and Companies B, C, E, and F, Third Battalion same regiment, attached, comprising 16 officers and 298 enlisted men, Major Townsend commanding; six companies, A, B, C, D, E, and F, First Battalion Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, comprising 10 officers and 198 enlisted men, Major Carpenter commanding; making a total of 77 officers and 1,485 enlisted men, not including the staff officers and the commanding officer of the brigade, 4 in number, and 1 acting sergeant-major (Commissary-Sergeant Gill, Third Battalion).

The balance of the brigade, including the sick, were left behind to guard the brigade and battalion trains, where they did good service, under their respective battalion quartermasters, in repelling the attacks of the enemy's cavalry, saving thereby the entire trains of the brigade. The musicians were under the orders of the various surgeons.

The brigade, thus constituted and in the order enumerated, went first into action under your eye and general supervision at about 9.30 a. m. December 31, 1862, forming line in the dense cedar forest to the right of the turnpike and railroad, with design of succoring the right wing of the army, under Major-General McCook. After being placed partially, in quick time, in position and line, the rebel enemy attacked briskly the two battalions (Fifteenth and Sixteenth) on the right of the battery. On observing that the battery and the three battalions to the left were separated from, and not in view of, these two battalions, I sent my acting assistant adjutant-general, Lieutenant Sutherland, with orders to Major King to take the command on the right, while I proceeded toward the center and left of the brigade to bring them into this contest, which was shortly terminated by the Fifteenth and Sixteenth being forced to retire with considerable loss; not, however, without having checked the advance of the enemy, who soon succeeded in possessing the flank by their long extended line, and having at first been deceived by the enemy, who advanced dressed in American uniform, and without firing till within a short distance, supported by a heavy line behind. (See official report of Capt. J. Fulmer, commanding First Battalion Fifteenth Infantry.)

A regiment, believed to be the Sixth Ohio Volunteers, withstood the fire of the enemy along with these two battalions.

On arriving on the left of the brigade, I found that the battery had fortunately received your orders to retire by the same narrow cut in the cedar forest by which the brigade first entered. The three battalions of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth were directed to accompany this movement just in time to save the battery from capture, and under fire of the advancing enemy.

In this first conflict in the cedar forest, Captain Bell, of the Fifteenth, was killed, and Captain York and Lieutenant Occleston, Fifteenth, severely wounded, and also about 8 enlisted men were killed and 42 wounded.

After emerging from the cedar forest, the battalions of the brigade drew up in their proper positions to the right and left of the battery,

which had taken position, from which, by its effective fire, the advancing lines of the enemy were driven back and dispersed from view in the forest.

While waiting in this position, the enemy's batteries to the front, along the turnpike and railroad, were throwing shot and shell upon our ground, by which Captain Dennison, Second Battalion, Eighteenth, lost his leg, and the heroic first sergeant, George F. White, of Company F, Third Battalion, his life. Other men of the brigade were also killed and wounded.

At about 12 m. the brigade, including the battery, was again directed to advance to the front along the railroad and turnpike, and, after reaching the farther side of the open ground, was suddenly directed to the right, to enter again the cedar forest, to sustain the troops which were receding, exhausted of ammunition. This movement was made in pursuance of orders directly from yourself and Major-General Thomas. The brigade being halted just along the edge of the forest, the battery was ordered to retake the former slightly elevated site near the railroad.

The brigade, having the battalion of the Nineteenth shifted, at the request of its commanding officer, Major Carpenter, from extreme left to position in line between the battalions of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth, was projected about 50 yards into the dense cedar forest toward the enemy, and, after allowing our retiring regiments to pass through the lines to the rear, the fire was opened in return to that of the pursuing enemy. The excellence of the firing by file by all the battalions of the brigade could not be excelled, and was terrifying and destructive to the enemy, who were brought to a stand for about twenty minutes.

During this stubborn combat most of our losses in killed and wounded took place; Major Slemmer, commanding Sixteenth, wounded at its commencement. The enemy's lines extending, however, beyond both flanks of the brigade, enabled them to pour an incessant fire from three directions—the front, left, and right flanks; and the brigade being unsupported by any other forces on either flank, and having secured the required time for the receding regiments to reform, I thought it proper to order a retreat, which was probably quite long enough deferred.

Just after the order to retreat was given, a regiment came up in line in the open field on the extreme right of the brigade, but its fire, though brisk, came too late, and was unavailing against so large a force as filled the forest, three lines being discernible.

It is proper here to remark that, notwithstanding the loss in the brigade had been nearly half its strength, the battalions evidently gave ground with reluctance, probably not having looked to such result, and being too much engaged to know the full extent of their losses. The retreat of the brigade across the open field was done handsomely, and with as much order as was desirable, having in view to prevent further loss of life. On this retreat Major King, commanding the Fifteenth, and Captain Douglass, acting field officer of the First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, were wounded, causing them both to retire to the hospital.

The brigade was at this time reformed in line near the railroad, in proper place, to the right and left of the battery, as directed in previous orders, for the formation in line of battle, and in this position it remained the balance of the day and during the following night, within reach of the enemy's cannon.

In this last terrific combat in the cedar forest many brave men and officers perished; 4 officers killed and 18 wounded, and 78 enlisted men killed and 430 enlisted men wounded, exclusive of the missing.

At the moment of retreating a few steps, the brave and gallant Major Carpenter, commanding the Nineteenth Infantry, fell from his horse with six mortal wounds, regretted by all who knew him. The left wing of the brigade, First and Second Battalions Eighteenth Infantry, was, during the remainder of the battle, committed mostly to Major Townsend, the right wing, deprived of its field officers, requiring, as I thought, more of my attention.

About the middle of the afternoon an extended line of men was discovered far to our front, advancing with our national colors, and, having passed over a slight rise, descended into a corresponding depression, partially concealing them, when a white flag with a dark ball in its center was substituted, after which they unfurled the rebel flag; whereupon Captain Guenther directed the fire of his battery, causing the line to break in double-quick time to their left flank and disappear into the cedar forest.

Though occasionally visited by the enemy's shot, but little heed was given to it, and thus closed the action of the brigade the first day, being the last of the year, December 31, 1862. During the night our wounded were gathered together, as far as the enemy's pickets would permit.

A short time before daybreak of New Year's day the brigade retired, according to orders, to a point in the rear of the commanding general's headquarters, to meet an attack on our right. Some shiftings of position took place until about 2 p. m., when it marched toward Stewart's Creek, and on arriving near there it was ordered back in double-quick time, which being executed, and night coming on, the brigade bivouacked on the left of the roadway and near the commanding general's headquarters.

On the third day (the 2d instant) the brigade marched, before breakfast, to the front to meet the enemy's attack, and we retained this position during the day and following night, the battery assisting to silence the enemy's batteries and effect the repulse of the enemy in their attack on the left wing of the army, under General Crittenden, in the afternoon.

On the 3d instant (the fourth day) the brigade and battery moved forward to the standpoint of the first day, December 31, 1862, where slight epaulements were thrown up, principally by the men of the brigade, and encamped within them, though rendered almost untenable by heavy rains, which filled them partially with water and made the adjoining grounds miry. As this day closed, and at dark, a severe attack was made by some portion of the division upon the enemy in front, which resulted in gaining possession of the enemy's first line of breastworks for a time, and subsequently abandoning them, owing to exhausted ammunition.

On the 4th instant I reported, at 7.30 a. m., that the enemy had evacuated our front. The brigade held the same position, employing the day and following night in the sad duty of collecting our dead, who were interred with military honors just in front of our intrenchments, and on the standpoint of the brigade and battery, maintained from the first to the last day's conflict.

The heavy rains of the 2d and 3d instant covered this position and the trenches with mud and water, in which the whole brigade had to stand or recline while seeking to obtain a little rest. Not a murmur escaped the lip in all this trying and painful as well as arduous and dangerous service. On the contrary, cheerfulness and alacrity were evident on their countenances, and this while subsistence was so scarce as to force a consumption of horses killed in the battle.

It is hoped that the bearing and whole career of this brigade of regular troops during the five days' conflict were of a character to meet the approbation of the major-general commanding the division.

The brigade was not without the ambition of deserving also the commendation of Major-General Thomas, commanding the center, whose experience has been so successful and so long, and likewise of the commander-in-chief, whose uniform success inspired confidence. In fine, the brigade having combatted so well, we need hardly search for examples, but should rest satisfied that there are none to excel it in courageous action and mournful losses.

Of 77 officers with the battalions, 5 were killed and 21 wounded, some mortally; and of 1,366 enlisted men, 90 men were killed and 469 wounded, many mortally, besides 47 missing, supposed to be prisoners. The casualties of the battery were not so great, on account of its position and of its fire dispersing every line of the enemy approaching sufficiently near, at one time completely routing the Second Arkansas (rebel) Regiment, causing it to abandon its colors, which were picked up by skirmishers of the Second Regiment Ohio Volunteers before the officer sent for it reached the ground where the regiment was broken; and 22 rebel prisoners were taken during the day.

Captain Guenther's battery, attached, could scarcely have been excelled for the skill and effectiveness of its fire, and the cool, brave conduct of its officers and men. For six days and nights the harness was never taken from the horses either for food or water, the horses being kept patiently on the alert at the pieces.

Appended is a list of the officers killed and wounded, and a consolidated report of the total killed and wounded; also the reports of chiefs of battalions and of the battery. They are admirably drawn, and exhibit more minutely the operations of the particular commands, and are of great interest.

The honor of this brave conduct of the brigade belongs properly to the chiefs of battalions and of the battery, respectively, Majors King, Carpenter, Slemmer, Townsend, and Caldwell; and, after Majors King and Slemmer were wounded and Major Carpenter was killed, to their successors, Captains Crofton, sixteenth, Fulmer, Fifteenth, Mulligan, Nineteenth Infantry, and also to Captain Guenther, commanding Battery H, Fifth Artillery. Great credit is reflected by the good condition of their respective commands.

The brigade staff, Captain Kinney, quartermaster; First Lieutenants Mills, commissary, and Sutherland, Eighteenth Infantry, acting assistant adjutant-general of the brigade, accompanied me into action with the brigade, and performed the duties of carrying orders and all the other duties required of them with courage, zeal, and ability. Assistant Surgeon Lindsly, acting brigade surgeon, and Acting Surgeons Patton and Henderson were actively and zealously occupied at the various hospitals during the whole time. Dr. Lindsly visited at different times the field.

Resting in the hope that this brigade, but recently organized, has displayed in this great battle of five days' duration a career worthy the approbation of the Government and the cause in which engaged, I have the honor, respectfully, to subscribe myself, very truly, your humble servant, &c.,

O. L. SHEPHERD,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, Comdg. Brig.
Maj Gen. LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU,
Comdg. Third Division, Center, Fourteenth Army Corps.

List of commissioned officers killed and wounded.

HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE U. S. REGULAR TROOPS,
THIRD DIVISION, CENTER, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
January 10, 1863.

Killed.—Maj. S. D. Carpenter, Nineteenth Infantry; Capt. William W. Wise, Fifteenth Infantry; Capt. J. B. Bell, Fifteenth Infantry; Capt. Charles L. Kneass, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry; Second Lieut. J. F. Hitchcock, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry.

Wounded.—Maj. John H. King, Fifteenth Infantry; Maj. A. J. Slemmer, Sixteenth Infantry, severely; Capt. Joseph S. York, Fifteenth Infantry, slightly; Capt. Robert P. Barry, Sixteenth Infantry, severely; Capt. John C. King, Sixteenth Infantry, severely; Capt. Newton L. Dykeman, Sixteenth Infantry, slightly; Capt. Henry Douglass, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, slightly; Capt. D. L. Wood, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, slightly; Capt. R. B. Hull, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; Capt. Charles E. Dennison, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; Capt. A. B. Thompson, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; Capt. Henry Haymond, Third Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, slightly; First Lieut. W. B. Occeston, Fifteenth Infantry, severely; First Lieut. W. H. Bartholomew, Sixteenth Infantry, severely; First Lieut. John Power, adjutant Sixteenth Infantry, severely; First Lieut. James C. Howland, Sixteenth Infantry, slightly; First Lieut. Joseph McConnell, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; First Lieut. Morgan L. Ogden, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; First Lieut. James Simons, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; Second Lieut. G. S. Carpenter, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, severely; Second Lieut. John I. Adair, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, slightly.

O. L. SHEPHERD,

Lieut. Col. Eighteenth Infantry, U. S. Army, Comdg. Brigade.

*Consolidated report of casualties in brigade U. S. regular troops, Third Division, Center, Fourteenth Army Corps, in the five days' battles before Murfreesborough, Tenn., commencing December 31, 1862, and ending January 4, 1863.**

Command.	Officers.			Enlisted men.						Horses.	
	In action.	Killed.	Wounded.	In action.	Killed.	Wounded.	Prisoners.	Missing.	Total enlisted.	Killed.	Wounded.
Brigade headquarters.....	4			1							
Battery H, 5th Artillery.....	3			120		6			5	8	5
1st Battalion, 15th Infantry.....	16	2	3	304	10	74	2	15	101		
1st Battalion, 16th Infantry.....	15		7	293	16	147		16	159		
1st Battalion, 18th Infantry.....	16	1		272	38	115	2		145		
2d Battalion, 18th Infantry.....	16	1	5	298	30	98	3	2	133		
1st Battalion, 19th Infantry.....	16	1		198	6	55		7	68		
Total.....	80	5	21	1,466	90	494	7	40	611	8	5

* But see revised statement, p. 210.

HDQRS. FOURTH BRIG., FIRST DIV., 14TH ARMY CORPS,
Camp at Murfreesborough, Tenn., February 18, 1863.

SIR: I desire respectfully to state that, owing in part to Capt. H. Douglass, First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry, not being a commander during the recent battle, I have forgotten him in my reports; therefore I desire respectfully to give an outline of his service.

He was commander of the First Battalion from its organization, in the fall of 1861, and continued so through all the trying campaign of Mill Springs, up to May 26, 1862, just before entering Corinth, and has ever since been acting field officer.

In the performance of said duty he was distinguished in the battle of Perryville, and wounded in the great battle of Stone's River, during the heavy conflict in the cedars, on December 31, 1862.

Having his wound dressed, and with his arm in a sling, he reported for duty as the brigade moved to the front, January 2, but was directed shortly after to go again to the hospital.

He has always been brave and zealous, and is again in command of his battalion, which owes much of its instruction to him. I hope it may not be too late to have justice done him.

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

O. L. SHEPHERD,

Colonel, U. S. Army, Commanding Brigade.

Col. C. GODDARD,

Asst. Adj. Gen. and Chief of Staff, Dept. of the Cumberland.

No. 73.

Report of Capt. Jesse Fulmer, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry.

HDQRS. FIRST BATT. FIFTEENTH U. S. INFANTRY,
Camp at Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 10, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on the morning of December 31, 1862, the First Battalion Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, comprising eight companies, entered into action before Murfreesborough, Tenn., under the command of Maj. John H. King.

The number of enlisted men present and entering into action was 304; Lieutenant Ogilby, battalion adjutant, and the following company officers, to wit, Captains Fulmer, Wise, Bell, Keteltas, and York, and Lieutenants Jewett, Wikoff, Woodward, Occeston, King, Semple, Galloway, and Gray, were present and participated in the engagement.

The aggregate strength of the battalion on entering into action was 319, officers and men.

This battalion, with the others of the brigade of regulars, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, advanced several hundred yards into a dense forest of cedars, about 9 o'clock on the morning of the 31st ultimo, to engage the enemy. The Fifteenth, with the First Battalion of the Sixteenth Infantry on the left, were moved a short distance from the other battalions of the brigade and formed in line of battle. Captain Keteltas' company was immediately ordered forward as skirmishers, and, as such, advanced them some 400 yards beyond our line. He had been enticed thus to advance by the

action of scattering rebels in our front, who, wearing our style of uniform, feigned to be of us.

This piece of deception, however, was timely detected, and a heavy firing between the skirmishers was immediately commenced. Ours were driven back, and the enemy, in two or three lines of battle, hurriedly advanced, with a strong line of skirmishers in front. Our line of battle suffered somewhat by mistaking a body of rebels dressed in our uniform for our troops. When commanded to open upon the enemy, the battalion poured in a heavy fire upon them, but were soon compelled to give way to the vastly superior numbers of the enemy. We fired, retreating, until we reached the rear of the position just that moment taken by the Sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteers. Here we halted to reform our line, but, while so doing, the overwhelming numbers of the rebels, and the fierce onslaught they made on the Sixth Ohio, forced those gallant volunteers to fall back also; whereupon we moved out of the woods, returning the enemy's fire, and, under cover of Guenther's battery, succeeded in taking favorable position and reforming our line. It was in this engagement that Captain Bell was killed, Captain York wounded, and, I fear, mortally, and Lieutenant Ocleston severely wounded.

The battalion reformed, advanced, and again took position in the woods, as also the others of the brigade. This was done promptly, and with a zeal highly creditable to men who had only a few moments before been under a most galling and terrible fire. Very soon we were again engaged with the enemy, and, after a spirited engagement for a while, were ordered to fall back. Then it was that Major King was wounded, and the command of the battalion devolved upon me. I continued the movement, firing upon the enemy, and moved up to the support of Guenther's battery. In this affair Captain Wise fell, mortally wounded, and has since died.

For the remainder of that day we acted in support of Guenther's battery, and remained on the front of our lines that night until nearly day-break, when we moved to the rear. Later in the morning we moved forward again, first supporting the center, then the right.

Friday morning we again moved to the front, supporting Guenther's battery, and remained there until the battle of that day ended.

Advancing a short distance on Saturday morning, we threw up intrenchments in face of the fire of the enemy's skirmishers and sharpshooters. These we occupied Saturday night, supporting Guenther's battery during the brilliant and successful attack made upon the enemy's lines that night.

In addition to the casualties already named, the battalion had 84 enlisted men killed and wounded, 10 of whom are positively known to have been killed outright, 2 captured, and 15 missing, who have, doubtless, either been killed, wounded, or captured. The aggregate casualties to officers and men number 106.

The conduct of the officers and of the men engaged merits commendation, and the battalion, in all of the advanced movements into the cedars, and in the several actions engaged, did well in aiding to check and drive back the largely superior numbers of the enemy confronted by the brigade of regulars.

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

JESSE FULMER,

Captain Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, Commanding First Battalion.

First Lieut. ROBERT SUTHERLAND,

Eighteenth Infantry, Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Brig. of Regulars.

No. 74.

Report of Capt. Robert E. A. Crofton, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry.

HDQES. FIRST AND SECOND BATTS., SIXTEENTH INFTRY.,
Camp at Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 10, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following as a report of the part taken by the First Battalion, and Company B, Second Battalion Sixteenth Infantry, under my command, in the late actions before Murfreesborough during December 31, 1862, and January 1, 2, 3, and 4, 1863:

At 7 o'clock on the morning of December 31, 1862, this command (then under Maj. A. J. Slemmer, Sixteenth Infantry) was ordered to move to the front from the bivouac where we had rested the night previous. We marched about a mile in the direction of Murfreesborough, and were then marched into line of battle on the right of the turnpike, the First Battalion Fifteenth Infantry being on our right, and the First Battalion Eighteenth Infantry on our left. Here we stacked arms and rested for some time.

About 9.15 o'clock we were ordered into a thicket of cedars. When we had arrived about three-quarters of a mile from the edge of the thicket, we moved into line of battle, changing our front to the right, to oppose the advancing columns of the enemy. Company B, First Battalion, under command of First Lieutenant Bartholomew, was thrown to the front in skirmishing order, to cover the front of our line. In about five minutes these skirmishers were driven in, and formed on the right of the battalion. The enemy was now seen advancing in line, and at the same moment opened a deadly fire on our ranks. The command, however, succeeded in checking their advance, the men behaving with the greatest possible coolness, and aiming with accuracy. The battalion on our right having moved to the rear, it became necessary to fall back, which we did, by the right of companies, to the rear. The men performed this movement with the same order and regularity they would in an ordinary drill.

Having fallen back about 100 paces, we came into line, faced to the front, and returned the enemy's fire. Again, for want of support, we were obliged to retire, and did so, as before, for about another 100 yards. Maintaining this position for some minutes, we found it necessary to make a retreat to where we could be supported, as the enemy was moving his line on our right and left, and threatening to surround us.

We then moved, by the right of companies, to the rear, out of the woods and across a cotton-field, where the enemy poured musketry and round shot upon us, but without doing much injury. We continued our retreat across the turnpike to the railroad, where we joined the remainder of the brigade, and were ordered to support Battery H, Fifth Artillery.

We remained in this position till about 11.30 a. m., when we were again ordered into the cedars. We advanced this time about 30 yards from the edge of the woods, when we became engaged, and a most terrific conflict ensued. Almost at the commencement of this action Maj. A. J. Slemmer was so seriously wounded as to be obliged to fall to the rear. About the same time Adj. John Power was dangerously wounded.

After remaining in this position for about twenty-five minutes, and seeing the right of the brigade retire in order, we were compelled reluctantly to fall back, as the enemy outflanked us on our right and left. The men moved out of the woods by the right of companies with great regularity, notwithstanding the fearful fire to which they were exposed. As we

the movement of the army till another could be constructed, the stream not being fordable at or near that point.

Shortly after this the enemy retired, and the Third Kentucky was ordered to hold the bridge, which they do at this time. Having accomplished the work set before me, I was about arranging my men in camp, and had got the One hundredth Illinois in position to cover the front of my proposed camp, and the Twenty-sixth Ohio in position, when I found myself suddenly attacked on my left flank by a force of the enemy's cavalry, who were endeavoring to cut their way to the bridge. I immediately ordered the Twenty-sixth to change front forward on the left company, to resist the attack in that direction. This repulsed the attack. Captain Munger's company, of the One hundredth Illinois, had been sent to the left to protect the flank of the regiment, and the enemy endeavored to cut them off and take them prisoners. The company turned upon them, fired, and demanded their surrender; which, being declined, they pressed upon them, drove them into the fence corners, and captured 24 of them, including Lieut. J. J. Seawell. They called themselves "Alabama Partisan Rangers." With them were captured 12 horses and saddles and 12 guns. The residue of them made their escape by flight. We took 10 or 12 other prisoners during the day, which I sent to the rear. I am not aware how much force we were contending with during the day, but we took prisoners from six or seven different regiments, principally Tennessee regiments.

For more minute particulars of the parts performed by the different regiments and the battery, I refer you to their reports, inclosed.

All my officers and men did their duty nobly, and I feel that it would be unjust to particularize. How much credit we all deserve, I leave for yourself and others to determine.

To my staff officers, Capt. Edmund R. Kerstetter, assistant adjutant-general; Captain Roberts, of the Third Kentucky, commissary; Lieut. James R. Hume, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Warner, inspector-general, I am under peculiar obligations.

The casualties are as follows:

Command.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
58th Indiana	7	1	8
20th Ohio	20		20
100th Illinois	2		2
3d Kentucky			
Estep's battery			
Total	29	1	30

One of the wounded has since died, and 4 or 5 more are thought to be mortally wounded.

The enemy's loss, that fell into our hands, were 4 killed and 5 wounded. We hear of many other killed and wounded being taken to the rear by them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MILO S. HASCALL,

Brigadier-General of Vols., Comd'g. First Division, Left Wing.

Capt. M. P. BESTOW,

Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division, Left Wing.

HQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, LEFT WING,
Near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my brigade (formerly the Fifteenth Brigade, Sixth Division, but under the new nomenclature the First Brigade, First Division, left wing) on the eventful 31st of December, 1862:

During the night of the 30th, I had received notice, through General Wood, our division commander, that the left wing (Crittenden's corps) would cross Stone's River and attack the enemy on his right. My brigade was posted on the extreme left of our entire line of battle, and was guarding and overlooking the ford, over which we were to cross.

On the morning of the 31st, heavy firing was heard on the extreme right of our line (McCook's corps), but as they had been fighting their way all the distance from Nolensville, as we had from La Vergne, no particular importance was attached to this, and I was getting my brigade into position ready to cross as soon as General Van Cleve's division, which was then crossing, was over. All this time the firing on the right became heavier and apparently nearer to us, and our fears began to be aroused that the right wing was being driven rapidly back upon us. At this juncture Van Cleve halted his division, and the most terrible state of suspense pervaded the entire left, as it became more and more evident that the right was being driven rapidly back upon us.

On and on they came, till the heaviest fire was getting nearly around to the pike leading to Nashville, when General Rosecrans appeared in person, and ordered me to go with my brigade at once to the support of the right, pointing toward our rear, where the heaviest fire was raging. General Van Cleve's division and Colonel Harker's brigade, of our division, received the same order. I at once changed the front of my brigade to the rear, preparatory to starting in the new direction, but had not proceeded more than 200 yards in the new direction before the crowd of fugitives from the right wing became so numerous, and the fleeing mule teams and horsemen so thick, that it was impossible for me to go forward with my command without its becoming a confused mass. I therefore halted and awaited developments.

General Van Cleve and Colonel Harker, not meeting with so much opposition, pressed forward and got into position beyond the railroad, ready to open on the enemy as soon as our fugitives were out of the way. They soon opened fire, joined by some batteries and troops belonging to the center (General Thomas' corps) and Estep's battery, of my brigade, and, after about one hour's firing along this new line, during which time I was moving my command from point to point, ready to support any troops that most needed it, the onslaught of the enemy seemed to be in a great measure checked, and we had reasonable probability of maintaining this line. During all this time my men were exposed to a severe fire of shot and shell from a battery on the other side of the river, and several were killed.

About this time an aide of General Palmer came galloping up to me and said that, unless he could be supported, his division would have to give way. Palmer's division formed the right of General Crittenden's line of battle on the morning of the 31st. After consulting with General Wood, he ordered me to send a regiment to support General Palmer; accordingly I sent the Third Kentucky Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. Samuel McKee.

Before the regiment had been ten minutes in its new position, Captain Kerstetter, my adjutant-general, reported to me that Colonel McKee had

been killed, and the regiment badly cut up. I therefore moved at once, with the other three regiments of my command, to their relief.

The line they were trying to hold was that part of our original line of battle lying immediately to the right of the railroad. This portion of our original line, about two regimental fronts, together with two fronts to the left, held by Colonel Wagner's brigade, was all of our original line of battle but what our troops had been driven from; and if they succeeded in carrying this they would have turned our left, and a total rout of our forces could not then have been avoided.

Seeing the importance of the position, I told my men it must be held, even if it cost the last man we had. I immediately sent in the Twenty-sixth Ohio, commanded by the gallant Maj. William H. Squires, to take position on the right of the Third Kentucky, and support them, and dispatched an aide for Estep's Eighth Indiana Battery to come to this point and open on the enemy. No sooner had the Twenty-sixth got into position than they became hotly engaged, and the numerous dead and wounded that were immediately brought to the rear told how desperate was the contest.

The gallant Lieutenant McClelland, of that regiment, was brought to the rear mortally wounded, and expired by my side in less than five minutes from the time the regiment took position; still the fight went on, and still brave men went down. The Third Kentucky, now reduced to less than one-half its original numbers, with ten out of its fourteen remaining officers badly wounded, were still bravely at work.

In less than ten minutes after the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel McKee, the gallant Maj. Daniel E. Collier, of that regiment, received two severe wounds—one in the leg and the other in the breast. Adjutant Bullitt had his horse shot under him; but nothing could induce either of them to leave the field. Equally conspicuous and meritorious was the conduct of Major Squires and Adjutant Franklin, of the Twenty-sixth Ohio. Major Squires' horse was shot three times through the neck; nevertheless, he and all his officers stood by throughout, and most gallantly sustained and encouraged their men.

Estep's battery came up in due time, and, taking position on a little rise of ground in rear of the Twenty-sixth Ohio and Third Kentucky, opened a terrible fire of shot and shell over the heads of our infantry.

In about one hour after the Twenty-sixth Ohio got into position this terrible attack of the enemy was repulsed, and they drew back into the woods, and under cover of an intervening hill, to reform their shattered columns and renew the attack.

I now took a survey of the situation, and found that along the entire line to the right and left of the railroad, which had not yet been carried by the enemy, I was the only general officer present, and was, therefore, in command, and responsible for the conduct of affairs. Colonel Hazen, commanding a brigade in General Palmer's division, was present with his brigade, to the left of the railroad, and Colonel Grose, commanding another brigade in the same division, was also present with what there was left of his brigade, and most nobly did he co-operate with me with the Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio, to the right of the railroad, while Colonel Wagner, commanding the Second Brigade, in the First Division, left wing, nobly sustained his front, assisted by Colonel Hazen, to the left of the railroad.

I now relieved the Third Kentucky Regiment, which was nearly annihilated and out of ammunition, with the Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment, of my brigade, commanded by Col. George P. Buell, and this, being a much larger regiment than the Third Kentucky, filled up the entire

space from where the right of the Third Kentucky rested to the railroad. I then threw forward the right of the Sixth Ohio Regiment, of Colonel Grose's brigade, which was on the right of the Twenty-sixth Ohio, so that its line of battle was more nearly perpendicular to the railroad, and so that its fire would sweep the front of the Twenty-sixth Ohio and Fifty-eighth Indiana, and supported the Sixth Ohio with Estep's battery, on a little eminence to its right, and brought up the Ninety-seventh Ohio, Colonel Lane, from Wagner's brigade, to still further strengthen the right.

This disposition being made, I galloped a little to the rear, and found General Rosecrans, and called his attention to the importance of the position I was holding, and the necessity of keeping it well supported. He rode to the front with me, approved the disposition I had made, spoke a few words of encouragement to the men, cautioning them to hold their fire till the enemy got well up, and had no sooner retired than the enemy emerged from the woods and over the hill, and were moving upon us in splendid style and in immense force. As soon as they came in sight, the Sixth and Twenty-sixth Ohio and Estep's battery opened on them, and did splendid execution. But on they came till within 100 yards of our line, when Colonel Buell, of the Fifty-eighth Indiana, who lost 3 men, but had not fired a shot, ordered his men to fire. The effect was indescribable. The enemy fell in windrows, and went staggering back from the effects of this unexpected volley.

Soon, however, they came up again and assaulted us furiously for about one and a half hours; but the men all stood their ground nobly, and at the end of that time compelled the enemy to retire as before.

During the heat of this attack a heavy cross-fire was brought to bear on the position I occupied, and Corpl. Frank Moyer, Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, in command of my escort, was shot through the leg, and my adjutant-general, Capt. E. R. Kerstetter, was shot through his coat, grazing his back.

The regiments all behaved splendidly again, and the Fifty-eighth Indiana won immortal honors. Lieutenant Blackford, of that regiment, was shot dead, and several of the officers, including Captains Downey and Alexander, badly wounded.

Estep's battery was compelled to retire from the position assigned it after firing half a dozen rounds, but it did terrible execution while there.

The Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio did noble service, as did the Ninety-seventh; but their immediate commanders will, no doubt, allude to them more particularly. Thus ended the third assault upon the position.

I should have remarked that the One hundredth Illinois Regiment, the other regiment composing my brigade, which was in reserve during the first engagement described above, had, under instructions of Colonel Hazen, moved to the front, on the left of the railroad, where they fought splendidly in all the actions that took place on the left of the road. There was no formidable attack made on them, though they were almost constantly under fire of greater or less severity, particularly from shot and shell, and suffered quite seriously in killed and wounded. Lient. Morris Worthingham, of that regiment, was killed while gallantly sustaining his men, and 6 other commissioned officers, including Major Hammond, were wounded. Their operations being to the left of the railroad and in a wood, did not so immediately come under my personal observation; but their conduct, from Colonel Bartleson down, was such as leaves nothing to be desired.

The Fifty-eighth Indiana having now been over three hours in action,

and the Twenty-sixth Ohio about four hours, were exhausted and very nearly out of ammunition. I, therefore, relieved the Fifty-eighth Indiana with the Fortieth Indiana, from Colonel Wagner's brigade, and the Twenty-sixth Ohio was relieved by the Twenty-third Kentucky. There was now not more than an hour of day left, and though the enemy was continually maneuvering in our front, no formidable attack was made upon us, except with artillery. The enemy having been three several times repulsed from their attack on that position, seemed satisfied to keep at a respectful distance, and the sun set upon us as masters of the situation.

We had sustained ourselves and held the only position of the original line of battle that was held throughout by any portion of the army. To have lost this position would have been to lose everything, as our left would then have been turned, and utter rout or capture inevitable.

To the "fearless spirits who hazarded and lost their lives on this consecrated spot" the country owes a deep debt of gratitude. No purer patriot, more upright man, and devoted Christian than Colonel McKee, of the Third Kentucky, ever offered up his life in defense of his country.

To the members of my staff present with me on the field—Capt. Edmund R. Kerstetter, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. James R. Hume, aide-de-camp, and Lieut. James R. Warner, inspector-general—I am under the greatest obligations. They were constantly with me in the thickest of the fight, ably and gallantly assisting me in every way possible. My escort was also faithful and efficient. With the exceptions already alluded to, all of us were so fortunate as to get through unscathed.

The casualties in our brigade were as follows: The Third Kentucky Regiment went into action with 13 officers and 300 men, and lost—officers killed, 1; wounded, 9; enlisted men killed, 12; wounded, 77; missing, 34. The Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment went into action with 19 officers and 386 enlisted men, and lost—officers killed, 1; wounded, 4; enlisted men killed, 16; wounded, 91. The One hundredth Illinois went into action with 27 officers and 394 enlisted men, and lost—officers killed, 1; wounded, 6; enlisted men killed, 5; wounded, 33. The Twenty-sixth Ohio went into action with 12 officers and 374 enlisted men, and lost—officers killed, 1; wounded, 2; enlisted men killed, 9; wounded, 77.

RECAPITULATION.

The brigade went into action with 71 officers and 1,454 enlisted men and lost—officers killed, 4; wounded, 21; enlisted men killed, 42; wounded, 278; missing, 34. Total killed, wounded, and missing in brigade, 379.

For more minute particulars of the parts performed by the different regiments I transmit herewith their respective reports.

During the evening of the 31st I was notified that, in consequence of the indisposition of General Wood and a wound received during the day, he was relieved of the command of the division, and that the same would devolve upon myself. I, therefore, turned over the command of the brigade to Col. George P. Buell, of the Fifty-eighth Indiana, and assumed the command of the division.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MIL0 S. HASCALL,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. M. P. BESTOW,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division, Left Wing.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, LEFT WING, *Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 10, 1863.*

I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this division during the recent battles, after the command devolved upon me, on the evening of December 31, 1862:

At that time the division was considerably scattered, as Colonel Harker's brigade had been in action during the 31st on the extreme right, and had not returned. Colonel Wagner's was in position to the left of the railroad, where it had been in action during the day, and my brigade was to the right of the railroad.

About 11 p. m. of that day Colonel Harker returned with his brigade, and the division was once more together. At this time I received an order to send all the wagons of the division to the rear, and, shortly after this was executed, I received an order from General Crittenden to fall back, so that my right should rest on the position occupied by Stokes' battery, and my left on the right of General Palmer's division. This brought the new line of the division about 500 yards to the rear of the one of the day before. The line of the division was now nearly at right angles with the railroad, with the center of the line resting on it—the First Brigade, Colonel Buell, on the right; the Third, Colonel Harker, in the center, and the Second, Colonel Wagner, on the left.

In this position we lay all the next day, January 1, with nothing more to break the silence than picket firing and an occasional artillery duel. The division lost, however, several killed and wounded during the day. Each of my brigades was in line of battle, and I was occupying so much front that it kept the men constantly on the alert. Most of the other divisions had one or two brigades in reserve, and could, therefore, relieve their men some.

We maintained this position during the night of the 1st, and till about 8 o'clock in the morning of the 2d, the battery occupying the intervals between brigades. At this time the enemy opened upon us the most terrific fire of shot and shell that we sustained during the entire engagement. It appears that during the night before they had massed and masked several batteries in our front, so they opened on us from a line of batteries one-quarter of a mile long, all at once. They had our range perfectly, so that their fire was terribly effective from the first.

Estep's battery, on the right of my line, being in an exposed position, and receiving a very heavy fire, had to retire at once; not, however, till so many horses had been killed as to render it necessary for two of the pieces to be hauled to the rear by the infantry. Bradley's battery, with Colonel Harker in the center, having a better position and longer-range guns, opened a brisk fire on the enemy in return, and had every probability of maintaining their position until Stokes' battery, in their rear, undertook to open on the enemy with grape, which took effect on Bradley's men instead of the enemy, and compelled Bradley to retire. The infantry, however, along my entire line, though suffering severely from the enemy's fire, all maintained their position.

After about half an hour this firing ceased, and nothing further worthy of note happened till about 4 o'clock in the afternoon of that day. At this time General Van Cleve's division, which was stationed across Stone's River to our left, was suddenly attacked by a heavy force of the enemy under Breckinridge, and so fierce was the onslaught that the division was compelled to give way almost immediately. General Jefferson C. Davis and General Negley were immediately ordered to their relief with their divisions, and, as soon as they had time to get over, the attack was checked and the enemy began to retire.

where we lay in line till after sundown. Orders were received to advance upon Murfreesborough that night. I was in command of the companies of skirmishers, and immediately threw them across the river, and commenced the ascent of the opposite heights.

Passing the skirt of woods, we encountered the enemy's skirmishers strongly posted to the front on the crest of the hill, and on my left behind a rail fence. A galling fire brought our line to a halt, but we soon cleared the hill, and, advancing over the crest, we found ourselves within 30 paces of a regiment of rebels, who, in their confusion, were rallying with great difficulty. I at once retired the line to the woods, where we remained till the whole brigade had recrossed, when we were quietly withdrawn.

Sergeant Snider, acting orderly, was wounded in the face, which was the only injury our regiment suffered. The regiment itself crossed the stream in good order, under fire of the rebel skirmishers, and remained in line behind the skirt of woods till it recrossed with the brigade.

Tuesday we lay in bivouac near the river, and went on picket at night. In accordance with Colonel Harker's order, we were ready to move at daybreak, with 60 rounds of cartridges to a man.

We received marching orders about 8 a. m., and moved at once forward. The enemy's sharpshooters and a battery on the opposite hill began a fierce fire of ball and shell upon us as we returned up the heights. When on the summit, a shell exploded in the ranks of Company B, killing 1 and wounding 2. We double-quickened, under a storm of shell, after the brigade, which was some distance ahead, moving to the support of the right wing. When the brigade was formed to advance through the open field to the right of General Van Cleve's division, our regiment was placed on the left of the front line, with the Fifty-first Regiment Indiana Volunteers on our right and the Seventy-third Regiment Indiana Volunteers to our rear. Company I, Captain Christophel, was deployed to the front as skirmishers, but, having suffered severely, was, in a short time, relieved by Company H, Lieutenant Brown. When near the skirt of timber protruding from the main forest, we marched by the right flank to support the Sixth Ohio Battery. We were again moved toward the enemy and placed behind a rise of ground. We suddenly found them in line at a short distance, and immediately commenced firing. The enemy, though in brigade front, three columns deep, staggered, concealed himself as far as possible, and did not venture to advance under our fire.

Meanwhile, General Van Cleve's division giving way, the line of the enemy on our left advancing, completely outflanked us, and we were suffering under a raking cross-fire. We held the position for about thirty minutes, and fell back, in accordance with orders; formed behind the Seventy-third Regiment Indiana Volunteers, and moved by the flank to oppose the advancing right of the enemy. We took our position behind a rail fence, and again held the enemy in check for about twenty minutes. At length, being nearly cut off by the enemy on the right, we retired behind the line of battle, resting in the wood near the pike.

We had suffered severely; out of 16 officers with the regiment, 2 had been killed and 8 wounded. Second Lieutenant Van Kirk, commanding Company A, fell in the advance; Captain Christophel, of Company I, some time in the retreat. Both were doing their duty unflinchingly and manfully. Lieutenant-Colonel Cassil having been disabled by the fall of his horse at the second stand of the regiment, I then took command. We rejoined our division at night near the position we left in the morning.

On Thursday, January 1, we lay in front, in support and to the right of the Sixth Ohio Battery, during the furious cannonading, and were annoyed by sharpshooters during the whole day. We picketed at night.

Our skirmishers covered the front on Friday. The regiment lay in a little clump of wood, in support of the battery, and exposed to the most terrific shelling during the morning. In the afternoon our skirmishers, in conjunction with those of the brigade, cleared the wood in front of rebel skirmishers and sharpshooters; were in turn shelled out, and again took possession and held it.

Near night, and the close of the engagement on the left, we moved over the river, threw up a defense of rails to the front, and remained there through the rain till morning. We were retired till Saturday night, when we again picketed the left front. About 2 a. m. Sunday we were marched back to our present bivouac.

The following is the list of the casualties of the regiment: Lieutenant-Colonel Cassil, severe sprain by the fall of his horse; Major Whitbeck, slightly wounded in the neck; Adjutant Massey, severely in leg and slightly in face and hip; Capt. Jacob Christophel, killed, and Voorhees, through the side; First Lieutenant Gardner, through side; Second Lieutenants Van Kirk, killed; Markel, through hip; Brown, in the shoulder, and Pealer, through thigh, and Acting Second Lieutenant Rook, in thigh.

Of 382 enlisted men in the engagements during the week, 34 were killed, 100 wounded, and 38 missing; total, 172. Of the missing, some are known to be prisoners, others are serving in hospitals, and a few stragglers are still coming up.

I will not particularize when all, officers and men, conducted themselves so coolly and fought so determinedly against such desperate odds; nor need I mention their patience under such privations and exposures in midwinter.

HORATIO N. WHITBECK,

Major, Commanding Sixty-fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteers.

Captain COULTER,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Brigade.

No. 118.

Report of Brig. Gen. John M. Palmer, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., LEFT WING, FOURTEENTH A. C.,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 9, 1863.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the general commanding, the following report of the operations of this division from and including December 27 up to and including January 4, instant:

At 11.20 a. m., December 27, while in camp near La Vergne, I received orders to move forward, following the division of General Wood, and to detach a brigade, to proceed by the Jefferson pike, and seize the bridge across Stewart's Creek. The duty of conducting this operation was assigned to Colonel Hazen. How well and skillfully it was done will be seen by his report, which is herewith forwarded.

The brigades of Cruft and Grose reached the west bank of Stewart's

Creek late in the afternoon of the 27th, and bivouacked there until the morning of the 29th.

During all the day (Sunday, 28th) the enemy's pickets were in sight across the creek, firing upon us occasionally at long range, but did us no harm.

On Monday morning, December 29, at 9 o'clock, I was ordered to deploy one regiment as skirmishers; to dispose my other troops so as to support it, and move forward at 10 o'clock precisely, and continue to advance until the enemy were found in position. This disposition was made. A few minutes before 10 o'clock, Parsons was ordered to shell the woods to our front, and at 10 o'clock Grose's brigade moved forward, skirmishing with the enemy, supported by the First Brigade, Hazen not having yet joined me.

The command advanced steadily, driving the light force of rebel skirmishers before it to the top of the hill, some $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles on this side of Stewart's Creek; and, being under the impression that the divisions of Wood and Negley were to advance with me, to my right and left, I halted for them to come up.

In a few minutes Wood's advance came up on the left of the pike, and the two divisions moved forward, constantly skirmishing (though much heavier on Wood's front than my own), to the ground occupied that night, afterward the theater of the battle of the 31st.

During the day the casualties were 10 wounded in Grose's brigade; none severely.

On the morning of the 30th, my division was formed as follows: The Third Brigade (Grose's) in two lines, the left resting on the pike; First Brigade (Cruft's) to the right, extending across the point of woods, his extreme right retired to connect with General Negley's left, and Hazen's brigade in reserve. There was considerable skirmishing during the day, the greater portion of which fell upon Cruft's brigade, which was in rather unpleasant proximity to a point of woods, to his front and right, held by the enemy in strong force.

About 4 o'clock, I was ordered to advance and open upon the enemy with all my artillery. This was not done, probably, as soon as the order contemplated. The ground occupied by the batteries at the time the order was received was low and confined. Upon pushing forward the skirmishers of the First Brigade to clear the way to a good artillery position, in the open field to the front, the rebels were found numerous and stubborn. Learning very soon that a mere demonstration was intended, all my batteries opened, and I am satisfied damaged the enemy considerably. The skirmish attending this movement was quite brisk, the troops engaged doing themselves great credit. This closed the operations of the day.

On the morning of the 31st, Cruft's brigade retained its position of the day before. Hazen's brigade had relieved Grose, who had fallen back to a point some 200 yards to the rear, and was formed in two lines nearly opposite the intervals between the First and Second Brigades, Standart's battery on the extreme right, and Parsons' near the center.

Early in the morning I rode to the right of my own command, and then the battle had commenced on the extreme right of the line. Soon afterward, near 8 o'clock, General Negley, through one of his staff, informed me he was about to advance, and requested me to advance to cover his left. I gave notice of this to the general commanding, and a few minutes later received orders to move forward. I at once ordered General Cruft to advance, keeping closed up well toward Negley; Colonel Hazen to go forward, observing the movements of Wood's right, and

Grose to steadily advance, supporting the advance brigades, and all to use their artillery freely.

My line had advanced hardly 100 yards, when, upon reaching my own right, I found that General Negley had, instead of advancing, thrown back his right, so that his line was almost perpendicular to that of Cruft, and to his rear; and it was also apparent that the enemy were driving General McCook back, and were rapidly approaching our rear.

Cruft's line was halted by my order. I rode to the left to make some disposition to meet the coming storm, and by the time I reached the open ground to the south of the pike, the heads of the enemy's column had forced their way into the open ground to my rear.

To order Grose to change front to the rear was the work of a moment, and he obeyed the order almost as soon as given, retiring his new left so as to bring the enemy under the direct fire of his line. He opened upon them in fine style and with great effect, and held his ground until the enemy was driven back.

In the mean time General Negley's command had, to some extent, become compromised by the confusion on the right, and my First Brigade was exposed in front and flank to a severe attack, which also now extended along my whole front. Orders were sent to Colonel Hazen to fall back from the open cotton-field into which he had moved. He fell back a short distance, and a regiment from Wood's division, which had occupied the crest of a low wooded hill between the pike and the railroad, having been removed, he took possession of that, and there resisted the enemy.

At that time, near 11 o'clock, as I think, my command was all engaged with the enemy; Hazen on the railroad; one or two regiments to the right; some troops in the point of woods south of the cotton-field, and a short distance in advance of the general line, among whom I was only able to distinguish the gallant Colonel Whitaker and his Sixth Kentucky. Still farther to the right Cruft was fighting, aided by Standart's guns, and to the rear Grose was fighting, with apparently great odds against him.

All were acquitting themselves nobly, and all were hard pressed. I could see that Grose was losing a great many men, but the importance of Hazen's position determined me, if necessary to do so, to expend the last man in holding it. I gave my attention from that time chiefly to that point.

The One hundredth Illinois came up on the left of the railroad, and fought steadily. As soon as Colonel Grose was relieved of the enemy in his rear, he again changed front, moved to the left, and co-operated with Colonel Hazen. One regiment was sent to my support from General Wood's command, which behaved splendidly. I regret my inability either to name the regiment or its officers. Again and again the attack was renewed by the enemy, and each time repulsed, and the gallant men, who had so bravely struggled to hold the position, occupied it during the night.

For further details of the day's operations, I respectfully refer to the reports of the brigade and regimental commanders, which are herewith forwarded, and confess my obligations to them all for their assistance during the day.

Brigadier-General Cruft deserves great praise for so long holding the important position occupied by him on our right, and for skillfully extricating his command from the mass of confusion around it.

Standart fought his guns until the enemy was upon him, and then brought them off safely, while the Second Kentucky brought off by hand three guns abandoned by General Negley's division.

Colonel Hazen proved himself a brave and able soldier by the courage and skill exhibited in forming and sheltering his troops, and in organizing and fighting all the materials around him for the maintenance of his important position.

Colonel Grose exhibited great coolness and bravery, and fought against great odds. He was under my eye during the whole day, and I could see nothing to improve in his management of his command.

I shrink from the task of specially mentioning regiments or regimental officers. All did their duty, and from my imperfect acquaintance with regiments, I am apprehensive of injurious mistakes.

I recognized during the battle the Forty-first Ohio, which fought until it expended its last cartridge, and was then relieved by the noble Ninth Indiana, which came into line under a heavy fire with a shout which inspired all with confidence. The Eighty-fourth, One hundredth, and One hundred and tenth Illinois I knew—all new regiments, and all so fought that even the veterans of Shiloh and other bloody fields had no occasion to boast over them. The Eighty-fourth stood its ground until more than one-third its numbers were killed or wounded. The Sixth and Twenty-fourth Ohio, the Twenty-third Kentucky, and the Thirty-sixth Indiana were pointed out to me, and I recognized the brave Colonel Whitaker and his fighting men doing soldiers' duty. I only saw the regiments of Cruft's brigade fighting early in the day. I had no fears for them where valor could win. Indeed, the whole division fought like soldiers trained under the rigid discipline of the lamented Nelson, and by their courage proved that they had caught a large portion of his heroic and unconquerable spirit.

During the whole day I regarded the battery, under the command of Lieutenant Parsons, assisted by his lieutenants, Cushing and Huntington, as my right arm, and well did the brilliant conduct of these courageous and skillful young officers justify my confidence. My orders to Parsons were simple: "Fight where you can do the most good." Never were orders better obeyed.

The reported conduct of the other batteries attached to the division is equally favorable. They were in other parts of the field.

My personal staff, Captain Norton, acting assistant adjutant-general; Lieutenants Simmons and Child; Croxton, ordnance officer; Hayes, division topographical engineer, and Shaw, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, were with me all day on the field, and carried my orders everywhere with the greatest courage. Lieutenant Simmons was severely injured by a fragment of a shell.

On January 1, this division was relieved and placed in reserve.

On Friday, the 2d, Grose's brigade was ordered over the river to the left, to support the division of Colonel Beatty, and during the action the brigade of Colonel Hazen was also ordered over to co-operate with Grose; while the First Brigade (Cruft's) was posted to support a battery on the hill near the ford. For an account of the part the Second and Third Brigades took in the affair of Friday afternoon, reference is had to reports of the officers in command.

During the heavy cannonade the First Brigade maintained its positions with perfect coolness. While the engagement was going on across the river, a rebel force of what seemed to be three small regiments entered the clump of woods in front of the position of our batteries on the hill near the ford. These troops were in musket range of our right, across the creek, and I determined at once to dislodge them.

Seeing two regiments, one of which was commanded by Colonel Given, and the other by Colonel Altemire, I ordered them to advance to the edge of the woods and deploy some companies as skirmishers. They

obeyed me cheerfully and pushed in. Not being willing to leave the repulse of the enemy a matter of doubt, or to expose the brave fellows to the danger of heavy loss, I ordered up two of Cruft's regiments, and upon approaching the edge of the woods halted them—told them it was my purpose to clear the woods at the point of the bayonet. To inspire them with coolness and confidence, the preparations for the charge were made with great deliberation. To get the proper direction for the line, guides were thrown out and the proper changes were made, bayonets fixed, and these two regiments, Thirty-first Indiana and Ninetieth Ohio, ordered to clear the woods. They went in splendidly. It was done so quickly that the rebels had hardly time to discharge their pieces. They fled with the utmost speed. All these regiments behaved handsomely.

With this report will be forwarded a list of the casualties of my command, and from its fearful proportions demonstrates its hard service.

List of casualties.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	
First Brigade.....		44	44	9	218	227	6	120	126	397
Second Brigade.....	5	41	46	17	318	335		52	52	433
Third Brigade.....	10	97	107	22	456	478		74	74	656
Standart's battery.....		5	5		12	12		3	3	20
Parsons' battery.....		2	2		14	14		2	2	22
Cockrell's battery.....		2	2	1	13	14				18
Total*.....	15	191	206	49	1,031	1,080	6	257	263	1,549

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. M. PALMER,

Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Maj. LYNE STARLING,

Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff, &c.

No. 119.

Report of Surg. Mason G. Sherman, Ninth Indiana Infantry, Acting Medical Director.

HOSPITAL OF THE SECOND DIVISION, LEFT WING,
ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND,
January —, 1863.

SIR: As acting medical director of your division, I have the honor to respectfully submit the following report of casualties in the several days' battle before Murfreesborough:

Number of killed in the First Brigade.....	43
Wounded.....	156
Number of killed in the Second Brigade.....	50
Wounded severely, 77; slightly, 215.....	292
Number of killed in the Third Brigade.....	89
Wounded severely.....	434
Total killed and wounded*.....	1,143

* But see revised statement, pp. 212, 213.

double column in reserve) was ordered to take position in the first line of battle, its left resting on the right of and near the Murfreesborough and Nashville turnpike, with two companies deployed as skirmishers about 150 yards in advance, covering its front.

A little before daylight on the morning of the 31st, Companies D and I were deployed as skirmishers, and relieved Companies A and F, which were then assembled and took their position in line.

About 8 o'clock the signal "forward" was sounded, and the regiment commenced to advance toward Murfreesborough. At this time the firing, which had commenced at an early hour on our right, appeared to be nearing the pike to our right and rear, and the regiment had not advanced more than about 100 paces when the command "right-about" was given, and it returned to its former position and again faced to the front. At this time the enemy appeared advancing in line across the open country direct in our front.

The regiment was then moved by the left flank across the turnpike, its left resting on a slight elevation to the right of and near the railroad. The enemy, then moving by his left flank, to gain cover of a wood on our right, made an oblique change of front to rear on the left company. The skirmishers, who (during this time under the command of Capt. J. H. Williston, acting major) had been engaged with the enemy, with slight loss, were now rallied and put in position on the right of the regiment. In this position the regiment opened fire, and continued firing until its ammunition was about exhausted, when it was relieved by the Ninth Indiana, and retired a short distance and replenished its boxes. It then took up position on the right of the brigade, extending obliquely across the turnpike, and again opened fire.

It here continued firing until a battery of the enemy opened upon our right flank, when it retired across the railroad and took up position on the left of the brigade, the right resting near and perpendicular to the railroad, the rest of the brigade having taken position behind and parallel with the railroad. After remaining in this position for some time—the enemy not being within effective range of infantry, and suffering considerably from his artillery, one shell from which, exploding in the ranks, killed and wounded 8 men—it retired about 50 yards behind a ridge, which afforded some protection.

Shortly after, hearing that the enemy's cavalry was attempting to cross the creek to our left and rear, and seeing a section of artillery, unsupported, opening in that direction, without waiting for orders I placed the regiment in position on the right of the artillery. A few discharges from the artillery, however, repulsed them. I was here met by a member of the staff of the colonel commanding the brigade, and directed to remain there until further orders.

Shortly after, by direction of General Rosecrans, the regiment took its former position in the field, behind a crest of the hill, which it occupied during the remainder of the day, sustaining some loss from the enemy's artillery, but without opportunity of returning its fire.

During the following day the regiment was not engaged, remaining in double column in reserve on the left of the railroad and near the creek, as it did also during Friday, until in the afternoon, when the enemy made his attack on our left. The column was then moved by the left flank across the creek to our extreme left, where it was deployed. The enemy was at this time repulsed, and retiring in confusion. I was ordered to advance the regiment in line, and did so without firing until ordered to halt at the skirt of a wood. The enemy having retreated

across an open field and disappeared in a wood beyond, a single battery of the enemy, posted in the skirt of the wood, was continuing its fire. The regiment was directed to fire one volley in the direction of the battery, and did so, immediately after which the firing on both sides ceased. It being now dark, the regiment remained in this position until relieved by the Twenty-first Illinois, when it was ordered into position to the rear, which terminated its part in the engagement.

The following is the list of casualties: * Total commissioned officers killed, 1; wounded, 2. Total enlisted men killed, 13; wounded, 102; missing, 6. Total engaged—commissioned officers, 19; enlisted men, 394.

Of the above list, five were wounded in the engagement on Friday evening. Sergeants Titus and Huston were carrying the colors at the time they were wounded. Lieutenant Blythe, quartermaster, was with the regiment during the engagement on Wednesday, and rendered efficient service. Both officers and men displayed great coolness and steady bravery throughout the entire engagement, performing all maneuvers with accuracy and precision, and, even when not engaged and suffering severely from the enemy's artillery, not attempting to move until ordered to do so.

Sergeant McKay, of Company E, commanding the company from the commencement of the engagement, and Sergeant McMahon, temporarily in command of Company H, displayed great coolness and courage, and are eminently deserving of promotion. Corpl. J. P. Patterson, of the color-guard, seized the colors when Sergeant Huston fell, and bore them gallantly during the remainder of the engagement.

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

AQUILA WILEY,

Lieutenant-Colonel Forty-first Ohio Vols., Comdg. Regiment.

Maj. R. L. KIMBERLY,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 136.

Report of Col. William Grose, Thirty-sixth Indiana Infantry, commanding Third Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
LEFT WING, ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 8, 1863.

SIR: In accordance with duty, I have the honor to submit the report of the part this brigade, under my command, took in the recent battles before Murfreesborough.

The five regiments—Thirty-sixth Indiana, Major Kinley; Twenty-fourth Ohio, Colonel Jones; Sixth Ohio, Colonel Anderson; Eighty-fourth Illinois, Colonel Waters; Twenty-third Kentucky, Major Hamrick; aggregate officers and men, 1,788—left our camp, near Nashville, December 26, 1862, with the division; bivouacked that night in front of La Vergne, 12 miles distant.

Next day, 27th, we moved to the west bank of Stewart's Creek, 5

* Nominal list omitted.

miles, and my brigade was put in position in front, to the right of the pike. The pickets of the enemy were separated from ours by the creek. With light skirmishing, we rested here until Monday morning, the 29th, when we received orders, and moved forward in double lines of battle on the right of the pike, the Thirty-sixth Indiana and Eighty-fourth Illinois in the front line, wading Stewart's Creek, waist-deep to most of the men, to within $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Murfreesborough, where we arrived near sunset, with skirmishing all the way, which was only ended by the close of the day. We there rested for the night.

At early morn skirmishing again commenced, and continued during the day with more severity than before, the artillery taking a heavy part. This ended again with the day. Up to this time the loss in my brigade was 10 wounded. During the night it was relieved from the front by the brigade of Colonel Hazen, and retired to the rear to rest, and to be held in reserve.

Thus, on the bright Wednesday morning, December 31, the division, under command of its brave general, at early day was in battle line. The brigade of General Cruft on the right, that of Colonel Hazen on the left, both in double lines, with my brigade in reserve in rear of the center, in supporting distance, with the batteries of Cockerill and Parsons in position to support the lines. While we were perfecting our lines in the morning, the divisions of Generals Negley and Rousseau filed by my rear through a heavy cedar grove, which lay in rear of General Cruft's brigade, and immediately up to the right of my brigade; the brigade of Colonel Hazen in an open cotton-field, the pike dividing his left from the division of General Wood, the lines of these two divisions resting nearly perpendicular to the pike.

The engagement had been raging fiercely some distance to our right during the early morning, and at near 8 o'clock the clash of arms to our right had so far changed position that I saw the rear of my brigade would soon be endangered. Hence I set to work changing my front to rear, which was done in quick time, with the left, when changed, a little retired, to support the right of Colonel Hazen's brigade, then closely engaged with the enemy, our two brigades forming a V. My brigade was not more than thus formed to the rear before the enemy appeared in heavy lines, pressing the forces of ours that had been engaged to the right of our division on our front in fearful confusion. In this new formation the Sixth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana were in the front lines, the latter on the right, supported in the second line by the Eighty-fourth Illinois and Twenty-third Kentucky, with the Twenty-fourth Ohio in an oblique form, a little to the right of the rear line. In this shape the Thirty-sixth Indiana and Sixth Ohio advanced into the woodland about 250 yards, and there met the enemy in overwhelming numbers.

Here Major Kinley and Captain Shultz, of the Thirty-sixth Indiana, fell, the former named badly wounded, the latter killed; Colonel Anderson, of the Sixth Ohio, was here wounded, and his adjutant, A. G. Williams, and Lieutenant Foster, fell dead, with several others of their comrades. These two regiments were forced from the woodland, and retired to the right, in the direction of the pike, while the other three regiments, aided by the eight-gun battery, commanded by Lieutenant Parsons, with the efficient aid of Lieutenants Huntington and Cushing, poured a galling fire into the ranks of the pursuing enemy, causing them to break in confusion and retire back to the woods out of our reach, leaving the field covered with their dead and dying, with the heavy loss of the Thirty-sixth Indiana and Sixth Ohio lying with them on the bloody

field. After some half an hour or three-quarters the enemy renewed his attempts to advance, but was again repulsed with heavy loss on both sides.

After this, then, between 11 and 12 o'clock, the enemy not appearing in our immediate front, the lines of our forces that had retired or been driven from the right by this time were reformed parallel with the pike, so that the front of the brigade was again changed, so as to assist the brigade of Colonel Hazen in the direction as formed in the morning. The Twenty-fourth Ohio and Thirty-sixth Indiana were soon thrown forward near the pike and had a terrible conflict with the enemy. Here Colonel Jones and Major Terry both fell, and were carried off the field in a dying condition.

Each regiment of the brigade, from this until night closed the awful scene, alternately took its part in holding the position that we occupied in the morning. The enemy having gained the heavy cedar woods to the right, where we first took position in the morning, it became necessary to so change our position as to not be in reach of small-arms from that woodland; hence, at nightfall the center of the front line of the brigade laid on the pike and diagonally across the same, fronting to the southeast, our left resting at the right of the lines of General Wood's division. We were then a little retired, and the center of the brigade about 250 yards to the left of where we commenced in the morning. We ceased fighting for the night, with the front lines on the pike. During the day each of the regiments, having exhausted, had to replenish, their ammunition, many of them having fired over 100 rounds.

When Major Kinley, of the Thirty-sixth Indiana, fell, nearly at the commencement in the morning, the command devolved upon Captain Woodward; and upon the fall of Colonel Jones and Major Terry, of the Twenty-fourth Ohio, Captain Weller was left in command.

Although I was at Shiloh, and commanded in that battle at the head of General Buell's army, and fought throughout that battle with that army, yet this battle, the last day of the old year, was by far the most terrible and bloody in my command that I have ever witnessed.

During the latter part of the night, or, rather, early in the morning of January 1, our whole line was retired, for a more eligible position, 600 or 700 yards, and my brigade was relieved from the front, and retired for rest.

During Thursday, January 1, we were ordered to cross the north bank of Stone's River, to support a division on the extreme left of our line, an attack being anticipated in that direction, but returned to our resting place before night, no attack being made that day.

On the next day, January 2, in the forenoon, we were again ordered across the river to support the division there in position, with its right resting on the river bank, and its lines (double lines) formed at right angles to the river, extending therefrom about one-half mile. The river below the right of the division line, about 800 yards, changes direction, running about one-half mile in the rear, and nearly parallel to the lines of the division, formed as above. When my brigade arrived on the ground, I was requested to put it in position so as to protect the left flank of the division referred to, and repel any attack that might be made in that direction.

The Twenty-third Kentucky was posted to the left of the division spoken of about 200 yards, retired; the Twenty-fourth Ohio 300 yards to its rear, fronting the same way; the Thirty-sixth Indiana, to the rear of the Twenty-fourth Ohio, fronting diagonally to the flank of the other

two, the right of the Thirty-sixth Indiana distant from the left of the Twenty-fourth Ohio about 150 yards, and with directions specially given to each of these regiments to change front as the exigencies of the case might require in case of an attack. The Eighty-fourth Illinois and Sixth Ohio were placed 150 yards from the left of the Thirty-sixth Indiana, in one line, fronting the same direction as the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-third, as well as in the same direction of the division so posted (as above) to our right and front, the right of the Eighty-fourth Illinois resting on the bluff at the river, with the Third Wisconsin Battery near the left and front of the Eighty-fourth; the Sixth Ohio on the left of the Eighty-fourth Illinois. Thus in position, I took the precaution to have each regiment hurriedly throw before them barricades of such materials, fences, buildings, &c., as were at command.

About 3.30 p. m. the enemy came in against the division in front and right (as above shown in position) in strong force, perhaps in three lines, and with three batteries distributed along the front, and a heavy contest ensued, which lasted from one-half to three-fourths of an hour, when the lines of the division gave way in considerable confusion, retiring toward the river, and many of them breaking through the lines of my brigade. I went to my front regiments and superintended the changing of their fronts, respectively, so as to meet the enemy the best we could, coming from an unexpected direction, which, to some extent, threw the Twenty-third Kentucky and Twenty-fourth Ohio, my advanced front regiments, into confusion, and caused them to retire toward the left of the main line of the brigade, but they kept up a strong fire on the advancing enemy as they retired. The Thirty-sixth Indiana changed its front, and, as the enemy's lines came near, opened on them a deadly fire; but on they came, until in reach of the Eighty-fourth Illinois and Sixth Ohio, behind their barricades, when both these regiments saluted them with a terrible fire, and by this time all my regiments were engaged, and the masses of the enemy began to falter, and soon broke in disorder, and commenced their flight back over the farm they had so fiercely advanced upon, pursued by the Thirty-sixth Indiana, Twenty-third Kentucky, and Twenty-fourth Ohio to the line occupied by the out-picket posts of the division before the battle commenced.

Here night overtook us, the battle was over, and the enemy was gone beyond the reach of our guns. Colonel Hazen's brigade crossed the river to our rear to support us about the time of the enemy's retreat, and moved closely after my pursuing regiments, to give assistance if needed. Some other forces collected or crossed the river to my right, and moved up the river bank in pursuit of the enemy as my regiments advanced. What forces these were I have not learned. The battery posted near the brigade at the commencement of this day's fight fired a few rounds and took a hasty leave from the field, and I have not made its acquaintance since.

Artillery from the opposite side of the river rendered valuable aid by playing upon the enemy in his advance and retreat.

Our loss this day was not large compared with that of the 31st. That of the enemy was very heavy.

I cannot too favorably notice the coolness and promptness of each and every field officer of the brigade. They seemed to vie with each other which should most promptly execute every command, without regard to danger; and the line officers and men of the respective regiments appeared not to fear or know danger. New and old regiments alike acted the heroic part and braved every peril.

Captain Weller, in command of the Twenty-fourth Ohio, fell at his post on the last battle-field, and left Captain Cockerill in command, who bravely and skillfully performed his whole duty; and as much may be said of Captain Woodward, who succeeded to the command of the Thirty-sixth Indiana upon the fall of Major Kinley at a critical and perilous moment in the first day's engagement.

I am under lasting obligations to my staff and orderlies for their efficient assistance during these several days' fighting. Captain Peden, Thirty-sixth Indiana, is entitled to great credit for his aid rendered me up to the time he fell, wounded, on the 31st.

Lieut. J. P. Duke, of the Twenty-third Kentucky, also on my staff, deserves a high meed of praise for promptness and aid rendered me at all times during the whole of these engagements. Dr. Silas H. Kersey, acting brigade surgeon, with unsurpassed industry and skill, has rendered invaluable assistance to the wounded.

My mounted orderlies, Frank Brough, Frank Webb, Albert Woods, William D. Smith, Martin Mann, and Louis Miller, of the Second Indiana Cavalry, George Shirk and Isaac Biglow, of the Thirty-sixth Indiana Infantry, rendered me valuable service. But I am left to remember and lament with friends the fall, in this mighty struggle for human prowess, of such brave spirits as Colonel Jones, Major Terry, Captains Weller, Shultz, King, Adjutant Williams, Lieutenants Foster, Ball, Abercrombie, and others, whose earthly conflicts have closed with these battles I may truthfully add that I mourn with those who mourn over these irreparable losses.

To the brave wounded, whose fate may or may not be uncertain, you have my earnest prayers for a speedy restoration to health and usefulness.

The casualties of the brigade, as near as can be ascertained, are as follows:

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.	Total.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
24th Ohio	4	10	4	68	12	98
23d Kentucky	5	5	5	50	22	83
84th Illinois	2	35	5	119	5	167
36th Indiana	2	25	5	85	18	134
6th Ohio	2	23	4	134	14	177
Total	19	97	22	456	74	650

List of which, with the reports of the regimental commanders for further details, are herewith respectfully forwarded.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,

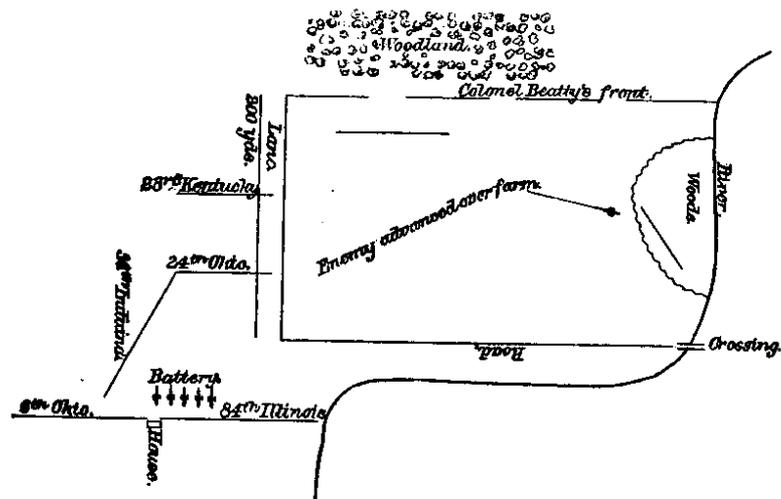
WM. GROSE,

Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade (Old Tenth).

Capt. D. W. NOBTON,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division.

The following shows the position on January 2, before the battle over the river, of Colonel Beatty's division and Colonel Grose's brigade. Barricades before regiments of brigade.



No. 137.

Report of Surg. Silas H. Kersey, Thirty-sixth Indiana Infantry, Acting Brigade Surgeon.

HEADQUARTERS MEDICAL DEPARTMENT THIRD BRIGADE,
January 9, 1863.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following list of casualties suffered by your command in the recent series of engagements with the enemy before Murfreesborough, to wit: *

Before closing this report, permit me, respectfully, to call attention to the faithful manner in which the regimental medical officers of the several regiments composing the Third Brigade have discharged the arduous duties incumbent on them under circumstances the most trying, viz: T. S. Bayse, assistant surgeon Thirty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, was assigned the duty of administering anaesthetics, which he has so far accomplished in every operation without producing any untoward symptoms in a single case, and at the same time attended to the dressing of all the slighter wounds of his own regiment, thus performing double duty by day and night since the commencement of the battle.

I would also make honorable mention of A. M. Morrison, assistant surgeon Twenty-third Regiment Kentucky Volunteers, who was appointed to keep the register, which necessarily occupied a large portion of his time, notwithstanding which, by constant industry and energy, his wounded have been well cared for.

Assistant Surgeon McDill, of the Eighty-fourth Illinois, had so large a list of wounded that his time has been almost wholly occupied with them; they, too, have been as well attended as circumstances would permit.

* Table, here omitted, embodied in No. 136. p. 563.

We have, up to this date, a smaller proportion from wounds after entering hospital than any other division of the left wing of this army corps. Two cases of erysipelas in stumps—one of the arm, near the shoulder; the other of the leg—were immediately separated from the other inmates in a tent to themselves. The utmost care and vigilance were exercised over the wounded that the limited room and it.

I have, sir, the honor to be, respectfully, yourt,
S.

Acting Surgeon.

W. GROSE,
Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade.

No. 138.

Report of Col. Louis H. Waters, Eighty-fourth Illinois

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS
Near Murfreesborough, Tenn. 3.

SIR: Early in the morning of December 31, by order of Colonel Grose, commanding Third Brigade, my command (the left of the brigade, front perpendicular to the thirty-third Kentucky on my right and the Twenty-fourth Ohio on my left) was being rapidly driven in, whereupon I changed front and got my command under the protection of a ledge of my own in the cedar woods in our front, and soon after my left flank was severely wounded. Lieutenant H. having changed position from our left to the right, I retired my left to support the battery, moving my right flank before occupied by my left.

About 12 o'clock, the battery having moved forward nearly to the cotton-field in front, by direction of Colonel Grose moved forward to support the battery on the right flank. The battery commenced firing upon the enemy lying across the meadow in our front. During this time there were some other division upon my right, engaging the enemy to their right, and Stevens' Pennsylvania battery was in the rear. Both these regiments gave way, and left the field in confusion, leaving Stevens' battery without any support.

I immediately retired the right of my regiment, this battery as far as possible until it could be taken forward to do excellent service, and was not to be lost with it. As soon as it was started from the field, I again retired to have the protection of a ledge, some 60 paces to this ledge we kept up a steady fire upon the enemy, now in front of the cedar woods in our front, until Lieutenant Porter wanted of ammunition or support on his left, was driven beyond the pike. While occupying this position my command was from the fire of stragglers, who had sought cover in our rear, and were firing wildly at the enemy over the river.

Captain Higgins and others of my command called for support, as men were being wounded by the firing from the cavalry, I withdrew my command to the railroad, some 350 yards from

thence, by Colonel Grose's direction, to some woods to the left, where we rested for the night. At the ledge where we made our last stand we left 24 of our dead.

In the fight on the 2d instant we were posted by Colonel Grose on the left of his brigade line, and I cannot report anything that did not occur under the observation of Colonel Grose, who on this occasion, as on the 31st, was wherever duty called him, regardless of danger. After the enemy commenced retreating, I advanced my command to the corn-field in our front, and there learned, to my surprise, that our ammunition was exhausted. We had fired 50 rounds.

My command, on the morning of the 31st ultimo, consisted of 3 field and staff and 21 company officers and 336 enlisted men. Lieutenants Ball and Abercrombie, two as gallant gentlemen as ever fought beneath the stars and stripes, fell at their posts in the first engagement.

On the 31st we lost in killed 35 officers and men, and had wounded 121. On the 2d we had 5 wounded. On both occasions my command, as well as the other regiments of Colonel Grose's brigade, was nearly crushed by the herd of officers and men of other divisions, as they fled, panic-stricken, before the enemy; yet it stood like a "human wood," and officers and men vied with each other in beating back the fugitives.

To the coolness and fearlessness of Lieutenant-Colonel Hamer, Major Morton, and my company officers, and the bravery of our men, are we indebted for whatever of credit the regiment may deserve. In this connection I cannot omit the opportunity of bearing testimony to the gallantry of Lieutenant Parsons and the efficiency of his battery.

I herewith inclose a list of my killed and wounded,* which is as nearly correct as I can now make it. Many slightly wounded are not included in the list.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. H. WATERS,

Colonel, Commanding Eighty-fourth Illinois Volunteers.

Capt. R. SOUTHGATE,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Brigade.

No. 139.

Report of Capt. Pyrrhus Woodward, Thirty-sixth Indiana Infantry.

HDQES. THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
January 6, 1863.

SIR: It devolves upon me, as the temporary commander of the Thirty-sixth Regiment, to report the part taken by it in the recent engagements before Murfreesborough, and on the march thither.

On the 28th ultimo we were bivouacked on the west bank of Stewart's Creek, 10 miles from Murfreesborough, in sight of the enemy's cavalry pickets. At an early hour the next morning, 29th ultimo, we moved forward in line of battle, and arrived within sight of the enemy's rifle-pits, 2½ miles from Murfreesborough, at 4 p. m. There we retained our position in front, the regiment doing picket duty the night of the 29th, and losing 1 man of Company D, wounded. We retained our position in front during the day and night of the 30th ultimo, losing 1 man wounded in Company I.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 213.

We were relieved on the morning of the 31st ultimo by the Ninth Indiana Regiment, and at daylight of the same day our regiment was called out under arms, expecting to participate in a general attack on the enemy's positions at Murfreesborough. Just as we had formed our line, and were preparing to advance, a terrific fire on the right of our position disclosed the fact that the battle had opened. In compliance with orders from you, my regiment countermarched, changed front, and advanced to the edge of a cedar thicket, to the right and rear of our first position, forming the right flank of the brigade, where it was evident our services would soon be needed. Hardly had we taken our position when the enemy was upon us. Concealed from the view of my men by the thick undergrowth of cedar, the first indication they had of his presence was a volley from his muskets, which riddled our ranks. It was my impression that the Fifteenth U. S. Infantry was in my front, as we had been informed that such was the fact on entering the thicket; hence the precaution of throwing out skirmishers had not been taken.

Up to this time Maj. Isaac Kinley retained command of the regiment, but at this point was seriously, perhaps fatally, wounded, being struck in the thigh by a musket-ball. Here, too, Capt. A. D. Shultz, of Company B, fell, mortally wounded, while bravely encouraging his men; and every mounted officer of the regiment, except the adjutant, had his horse shot under him.

After delivering a few well-aimed volleys at the enemy, it became apparent that our position could not be held, the line having been already confused by the Fifteenth Regulars passing out between my left and the right of the Sixth Ohio, and our right and left flanks, as well as our front, being exposed to the enemy's fire.

He quickly discovered his advantage, and, charging upon my regiment with four times its number, compelled it to retire, cutting it off from the brigade, and separating two of my companies (A and O) from the regiment. The strongest efforts were made by all the officers of my regiment to rally the men, and, though their bravery was unquestioned and they exhibited a strong disposition to maintain their ground, the fire of the enemy was too hot to admit of it, and they were retired to a point a short distance from the scene of our first conflict. Here, with the valuable assistance of Capt. Gilbert Trusler and Adj. J. H. McClung and other officers of the regiment, I succeeded in forming our line, and again advanced under a heavy fire to the front. Not a man of my command flinched, and for eight long hours we assisted in maintaining our position against the furious assaults of the enemy.

First Lieut. J. W. J. Smith and Second Lieut. J. C. Byram, both of Company G, were wounded in the early part of the day, and compelled to retire from the field.

At 4 p. m., the fire having slackened, we noted our condition and strength, and found that out of 430 commissioned officers and men, with whom we had entered the battle in the morning, 213 remained. This number was increased, by the arrival of those who had become separated from the regiment during the day, to 283.

On January 1 we rested, and, although my men were exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy's artillery during several hours of the day, none of them were killed or wounded.

On the morning of the 2d, by your order, we moved across the river, taking a position on its northeast bank, behind a barricade constructed by my men. We had remained here but a few hours when the enemy made a strong and sudden attack on our position from the direction of our right flank, while his batteries to our right gave my line a raking

fire. Then, by your order, I changed position, moving by the left flank a distance of 200 yards. It was a terrible struggle, but the terrific fire to which the enemy was exposed for an hour compelled his lines to break and retire in disorder. At this juncture my men were ordered to charge the enemy, which they did with alacrity, halting not until darkness put an end to the pursuit. Capt. J. H. King, of Company G, was killed in this last engagement while gallantly encouraging his men at the barricade. He died nobly, bravely.

Our loss, colonel, in this series of engagements, is as follows: * Killed, 25; wounded, 91; missing, 18. Total loss in killed, wounded, and missing, 134.

In concluding my report to you, colonel, I wish again to call your attention to the bravery and gallant conduct of both the officers and men of my regiment, and to thank them for their noble conduct and bearing throughout all the trying scenes from December 28 to January 3. They are worthy of immortal honor.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the glorious dead. Captains Shultz and King still live with us, though their bodies molder in the earth. The enemy encountered no braver or truer spirits in those trying battles.

How sleep the brave who sink to rest,
By all their country's wishes blessed!

I am, colonel, with great respect, your most obedient servant,
PYRRHUS WOODWARD,

Captain, Comdg. Thirty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

Col. W. GROSE,
Commanding Third Brigade.

No. 140.

Report of Maj. Thomas H. Hamrick, Twenty-third Kentucky Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-THIRD KENTUCKY INFANTRY,
Camp in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

SIR: I hereby beg leave to make my report of the part taken by the Twenty-third Kentucky Infantry in the two battles before Murfreesborough, December 31, 1862, and January 2, 1863:

On December 26, 1862, we left our camp, near Nashville, with 282 men, and took up our line of march with the brigade, under the command of Col. William Grose, in the rear of the Sixth Ohio. Halted near La Vergne at dusk, where we bivouacked during the night.

On the morning of the 27th, my regiment was detailed as guard to General Palmer's division train. At night we took up our position with the brigade.

On the 28th (Sunday), we moved to the front with our brigade, and were placed as reserve to the Eighty-fourth Illinois.

On the 29th, we moved forward, crossed Stewart's Creek, waist-deep, and followed the Eighty-fourth Illinois in line of battle. Remained in front all night with the brigade.

On the 30th, I was ordered forward some 400 yards, to support Parsons' (regular) battery, on the right, where we remained until dark,

* Nominal list omitted.

when we were relieved, and ordered some 400 yards to the rear: the timber, for rest.

On the 31st (Wednesday), I was ordered to form in line on the Sixth Ohio, fronting the enemy's battery in front, when, becoming heavy upon our right and rear, Colonel Grose ordered change my front, which I immediately did, facing the direction of the enemy's fire, when I was ordered to unsling knapsacks. I was ordered to move forward and support the Sixth Ohio, which I did, as far as the skirt of the wood on my left, when General Palm up and ordered me to retire to the support of Parsons' battery.

At this time the stampede from the right became general in the woods in our front. I had some fear of being carried away with the wind, but found no difficulty in moving my men to the support of the battery, and my left resting on the wood. The enemy appeared on our front, and poured in a galling fire upon us. The intention, it seemed, to charge the battery. Some regiment upon my left, resting in the woods. The battery opened a cross-fire on the enemy, as did also my regiment and the one upon my left, and caused him back in great confusion and with heavy loss. The battery when I was ordered to change my front and form behind a ledge of rock, and cause my men to lie down and await the approach of the enemy. The enemy's fire becoming very heavy, I was ordered to fall back to my command to the railroad, in rear of the Twenty-fourth Ohio. I did slowly and in good order.

After remaining there for some thirty minutes, I was ordered to move forward and relieve the Twenty-fourth Ohio, whose ammunition was exhausted. This I did under a heavy fire from the enemy. The action I held for fifty-five minutes, driving the enemy back with my guns under cover of the woods, when we were relieved and ordered to the rear for ammunition.

At 5.30 p. m. I was again ordered to the front, when I took position in the wood, in front of the railroad, occupied by me before. I was ordered to the rear, which point I occupied until I was relieved, at 12 m., when I was again ordered to the rear for refreshments and rest.

On January 1, I was ordered to the rear and center of Van Clev Wood's divisions, where I remained until 12 m., when I was ordered to cross the river to our left, where I remained until 2.30 p. m., when I was ordered to recross the river and go into camp for a night's rest.

On January 2, I was again ordered with the brigade to cross the river. Colonel Grose ordered me to take a position behind a fence on the extreme front and left. I threw out three companies as skirmishers. I remained in position until 3.30 p. m., when the enemy appeared driving back the forces on my right. The Fifty-ninth Ohio broke across my front, and some of them over my men, who were behind the fence in line. I saw that the enemy were driving back the forces upon my right, so I changed my front and opened upon them. I had no sooner done so than a battery opened upon my left with heavy fire, and at the same time a fire of small-arms was opened upon my left rear, placing me within a cross-fire. I then attempted to move my men back to the brigade, when some stragglers raised the cry, "We are rounded," and I found it was impossible to keep my men in order. They then fell back in confusion. I succeeded in rallying most of them in the woods on the left of the brigade. The balance, with a few exceptions, rallied and returned.

The enemy was then driven back with heavy loss. I then moved forward beyond my original position, keeping open a heavy fire upon

When we halted we were 500 yards in advance and to the right of our original position, and occupying the ground of our former picket line, which position we held until dark, when, being relieved, we returned to our position occupied before the engagement, having lost in the two days' engagements 8 killed, 51 wounded, and 22 missing.

Chaplain William H. Black deserves especial praise for the manner in which he acted, being always at his post, and rendering aid and comfort to the wounded, both while the fight was going on and during the two succeeding nights. Dr. A. M. Morrison also deserves great praise for his kindness and attention to the wounded at all hours, day and night.

My officers, line and staff, acted with great coolness and bravery, with a few exceptions, which I cannot particularize in this report.

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

THOMAS H. HAMRICK,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

Capt. R. SOUTHGATE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Brig., Second Div.

No. 141.

Report of Col. Nicholas L. Anderson, Sixth Ohio Infantry.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 7, 1863.

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

At about 8 a. m. on that day we were drawn up in line of battle in the open field to the north of the burnt brick house, and to the west of the cedars, while Rousseau's division filed by us to get position. Scarcely had the rear of that column passed when heavy firing was heard to our right, coming from the cedars and approaching rapidly. I was ordered with my regiment into the woods. I immediately changed front and advanced some 200 yards, when I saw our troops flying in wild disorder, and hotly pursued by the enemy. I formed my line and awaited the escape of our men and the nearer advance of the enemy. In a few moments a terrible fire was opened on us, scarce 100 yards distant, from a rebel line apparently four deep. This fire we returned, and a dreadful carnage ensued on both sides. Finding myself hotly pressed, I had determined on a charge, and the order was already given to fix bayonets, when I saw my regiment flanked almost completely on both sides by two rebel regiments. I gave the order to fall back, firing. As soon as we reached the edge of the woods, Lieutenant Parsons, of the Fourth (Regular) Artillery, opened on the enemy with terrible effect, and I reformed my line behind his guns, having held my position against tremendous odds, but with great sacrifice, for forty minutes.

I then replenished my ammunition, and was soon after ordered to throw my regiment diagonally across the Murfreesborough pike and hold that position. This I did, under a destructive fire and with much loss, during the rest of the day and until midnight, when I was relieved by the Twenty-fourth Ohio, and took my regiment a short distance to the rear.

During January 1, my regiment was moved from one place to another as the plan of the battle required, but did not get into any general action.

On Friday, the 2d, my regiment was ordered with the brigade across the river, and placed in position on a slight eminence to the rear of and as a support to Van Cleve's division.

All was quiet until about 3.30 p. m., when a tremendous fire was heard along our front, and whole masses of the enemy were hurled against Van Cleve's division, which soon gave way. The enemy came down boldly, when I brought my regiment into action, simultaneously with the Eighty-fourth Illinois, and we opened a severe cross-fire on the enemy. For more than an hour we held the hill, and under our heavy fire, and that of a battery from the other side of the river, the enemy soon gave way, and when re-enforcements poured in for us they were already in full retreat.

We held our position without further molestation till Sunday morning, when we were ordered across the river into camp, the enemy having retreated.

My regiment, both officers and men, behaved throughout with energy, courage, and discipline. The loss was 177 killed, wounded, and missing. Among the former was Adjutant Williams, who fell cheering the men on, regardless of all personal danger. Accompanying is a correct list of the casualties.*

Respectfully,

N. L. ANDERSON,
Colonel, Commanding Sixth Ohio Volunteers.

Colonel GROSE,
Commanding Tenth Brigade.

No. 142.

Report of Capt. Armistead T. M. Cockerill, Twenty-fourth Ohio Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH OHIO REGIMENT,
January 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Twenty-fourth Ohio Regiment in the recent battles before Murfreesborough, Tenn., of December 31, 1862, and January 2, 1863:

Our regiment being one of the five regiments composing the Tenth Brigade, commanded by Col. William Grose, of the Thirty-sixth Indiana Regiment, numbered on the morning of December 31, 1862, 314 enlisted men and 14 commissioned officers (Company A being detached, and was not with the regiment), Col. Frederick C. Jones commanding, Maj. Henry Terry acting lieutenant-colonel, Capt. Enoch Weller acting major, Adj. H. Y. Graham, Capt. A. T. M. Cockerill, commanding Company D; Capt. George M. Bacon, commanding Company E; Lieut. Charles R. Harman, commanding Company F; Lieut. Benjamin J. Horton, commanding Company I; Lieut. D. W. C. Wadsworth, commanding Company C; Lieut. William C. Beck, Company C; Lieut. Jacob Diehl, commanding Company H; Lieut. August Draeger, Company H; Lieut. John Acker, commanding Company G, and Lieut. Isaac N. Dryden, commanding Company B.

Early in the morning of the 31st ultimo heavy artillery and musketry firing was distinctly heard on our right, and as the sound neared our position it was evident that our forces were falling back, and our position in danger of being flanked, when our front was immediately changed

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 213.

to the left and rear, immediately in rear of the Sixth Ohio, which had now become earnestly engaged with the enemy, who was under cover of thick woods. We immediately moved forward to support the Sixth, and were ordered to lie down in the open space, about 50 paces in their rear, being much exposed to a galling fire of rebel infantry.

The deadly fire of the enemy in superior numbers was mowing down the ranks of the gallant Sixth, and they were compelled to fall back. Colonel Jones now ordered the regiment to fall back, which was done in good order. We halted at about 150 paces, and lay down to await the enemy's approach from the cover of the woods into the open space that separated us. On they came like a tornado that would destroy everything in its path. Encouraged by their success in driving the forces upon our right, they charged upon a battery lying upon our right, belonging to General Rousseau's command, when almost simultaneously our forces lying in their front opened upon them with a tremendous fire from our infantry and artillery, mowing them down almost by ranks, causing dismay and confusion, when they broke and fled in disorder to the cover of woods from which they had but just emerged.

We had rested but a few minutes after this terrible encounter, when an orderly of the gallant General Palmer delivered orders for us to move double-quick to the support of the Nineteenth Brigade (Colonel Hazen's), which was at this time gallantly resisting a furious charge of the rebel hordes in an open cotton-field on our left. We almost instantly formed on their right in the field, with Lieutenant Parsons' Fourth (Regular) Battery on our right. We remained in this position about one hour and a half, amid the most terrible shower of ball and shell, encouraged by the cool and daring courage of our brigade commander, who was apparently omnipresent, watching the movements of the enemy and issuing his orders in person, when we were ordered to fall back to the turnpike, where another stand was made.

We had remained in this position but a few minutes, exposed to a severe cross-fire of the enemy, when Colonel Jones was mortally wounded and carried from the field. The command now devolved upon Maj. Henry Terry, who displayed great coolness and bravery during the brief period he was permitted to command. Our position at this time was very much exposed, and it was here that the regiment suffered most. Major Terry was struck in the head and mortally wounded by a fragment of shell; Lieut. Charles R. Harman was almost instantly killed, and Lieut. Benjamin J. Horton had his leg fractured so severely that amputation was necessary. Capt. Enoch Weller now assumed command, assisted by me, when, our ammunition being exhausted, the regiment was relieved, and retired to the rear to replenish our cartridge-boxes, and again moved forward under cover of a cluster of timber, where we remained until dark, under a terrible and dangerous fire of the enemy's artillery, directed at some batteries upon our right and left, which wounded several of our men.

Night closed the terrible carnage, and we retired to the rear to prepare some refreshments and receive some rest, which was so much needed after the fatigues of the day. After resting January 1, on the morning of January 2 our regiment, with the brigade, moved across the river to support the division of General Van Cleve, which was alone on that side of the river. We prepared a small protection by removing the rails from an adjoining fence and constructing a slight breastwork, where we remained until about 3 p. m., when the enemy made a desperate charge upon the division of General Van Cleve, and being in such force they were compelled to give way, our position being in the rear and on the left of Van Cleve, immediately behind the Twenty-third

Kentucky Regiment, which formed the advance of our brigade, the Thirty-sixth Indiana, Sixth Ohio, and Eighty-fourth Illinois being immediately in our rear. The forces of Van Cleve were retreating in confusion, running directly over our artificial covering, drawing the fire of the enemy directly toward us.

Captain Weller, commanding the regiment, displayed great coolness and bravery, ordering us to hold our position. The enemy were now rushing wildly and madly on, and were near flanking our position, when Captain Weller was instantly killed. The regiment now retired in confusion under cover of some buildings and timber, when the Thirty-sixth Indiana, Sixth Ohio, and Eighty-fourth Illinois Regiments poured in such deadly volleys of musketry, causing a check in the enemy's advance, when the regiment rallied and again went gallantly into the fight with her colors in the front. The command now devolving upon me, the regiment was brought back and bivouacked with the brigade upon the spot that but a few moments before had been the scene of havoc and death.

At 3 a. m. the 3d instant I moved the regiment to the front on picket duty, and remained until 12 m., when we were relieved and retired across the river, which was waist-deep to the men.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the heroic and gallant officers who sacrificed their lives in the late bloody encounters; they were true and brave men. What more can be said!

Great praise is due personally to Capt. George M. Bacon, Lieutenants Dryden, Horton, Diehl, Draeger, Wadsworth, Beck, and Adjutant Graham, for gallant and efficient services rendered during the entire engagement, displaying that coolness and bravery so necessary in such emergencies.

The non-commissioned officers of the regiment performed well their part of the drama, several of the companies being commanded by first sergeants, who bravely and ably performed the tasks assigned them. Our killed and wounded were promptly cared for by the corps of musicians under directions of Dr. Orr, of the Thirty-sixth Indiana Regiment, who manifested great zeal and energy in having them comfortably provided for and dressing their wounds.

I cannot omit to notice that the gallant behavior of the regiment is attributable to the brave example of our gallant brigade commander, whose brave and heroic daring on the field of Shiloh was still fresh in their memories. Also Brigadier-General Palmer, whose simplicity of manners and kind words of encouragement to the men, coupled with the cool and daring courage upon the field, cannot fail to inspire the men with confidence in their commanders.

The command devolving upon me when the last engagement was nearly closed, I am unable to make a minute report in detail of the part taken by the regiment in the recent desperate and bloody engagements of December 31 and January 2.

Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing is as follows: Commissioned officers killed, 4; wounded, 4. Enlisted men killed, 10; mortally wounded, 6; severely wounded, 62; missing, 12. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 98. Besides the foregoing, there are 20 slightly wounded, but not disabled for duty.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
A. T. M. COCKERILL,
Captain, Commanding Twenty-fourth Ohio Regiment.

Capt. R. SOUTHGATE,
Acting Asst. Adj. Gen., Tenth Brig., Fourth Div.