

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.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. P. R. CLEBURNE.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. E. POLK.

1st Arkansas, Col. John W. Colquitt.
 13th Arkansas.
 15th Arkansas.
 5th Confederate, Col. J. A. Smith.
 2d Tennessee, Col. W. D. Robison.
 5th Tennessee, Col. B. J. Hill.
 Helena (Ark.) Artillery, Lieut. T. J. Key.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL.

2d Arkansas, Col. D. C. Govan.
 5th Arkansas, Lieut. Col. John E. Murray.
 6th Arkansas, } Col. S. G. Smith.
 7th Arkansas, } Lieut. Col. F. J. Cameron.
 } Maj. W. F. Douglass.
 8th Arkansas:
 Col. John H. Kelly.
 Lieut. Col. G. F. Baucum.
 Swett's (Mississippi) battery, Lieut. H. Shannon.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

17th Tennessee:
 Col. A. S. Marks.
 Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd.
 23d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. R. H. Keeble.
 25th Tennessee:
 Col. J. M. Hughs.
 Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis.
 37th Tennessee:
 Col. M. White.
 Maj. J. T. McReynolds.
 Capt. C. G. Jarnagin.
 44th Tennessee, Col. John S. Fulton.
 Jefferson (Miss.) Artillery, Capt. Put. Darden.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. S. A. M. WOOD.

16th Alabama, Col. W. B. Wood.
 33d Alabama, Col. Samuel Adams.
 3d Confederate, Maj. J. F. Cameron.
 45th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. R. Charlton.
 15th Mississippi Battalion Sharpshooters,
 Capt. A. T. Hawkins.
 Alabama Battery, Capt. Henry C. Sempie.

McCOWN'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. J. P. McCOWN.

First Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. M. D. ECTOR.

10th Texas Cavalry, Col. M. F. Locke.
 11th Texas Cavalry:
 Col. J. C. Burks.
 Lieut. Col. J. M. Bounds.
 14th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. L. Camp.
 15th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. A. Andrews.
 Texas Battery, Capt. J. P. Douglas.

*Second Brigade.*Brig. Gen. JAMES E. RAINS.
Col. R. B. VANCE.

3d Georgia Battalion, Lieut. Col. M. A. Stovall.
 9th Georgia Battalion, Maj. Joseph T. Smith.
 29th North Carolina, Col. R. B. Vance.
 11th Tennessee:
 Col. G. W. Gordon.
 Lieut. Col. William Thedford.
 Eufaula (Ala.) Light Artillery, Lieut. W. A. McDuffie.

*Third Brigade.*Brig. Gen. EVANDER MCNAIR.
Col. R. W. HARPER.

1st Arkansas Mounted Rifles:‡
 Col. R. W. Harper.
 Maj. L. M. Ransaur.
 2d Arkansas Mounted Rifles,‡ Lieut. Col. J. A. Williamson.
 4th Arkansas, Col. H. G. Bunn.
 30th Arkansas:
 Maj. J. J. Franklin.
 Capt. W. A. Cotter.
 4th Arkansas Battalion, Maj. J. A. Ross.
 Arkansas Battery, Capt. J. T. Humphreys.

* Of Smith's corps, serving with Hardee.

† The regiments of this brigade serving as infantry.

‡ Serving as infantry.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces—Continued.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.		
<i>Wood's Brigade—Cont'd.</i>											
33d Alabama.....	14	14	3	83	86	1	1	101			
3d Confederate.....	5	5	3	24	27	37	37	69			
45th Mississippi.....	1	4	5	4	35	39	6	64	70	114	Capt. J. D. Frazier.
15th Battalion Mississipi Sharpshooters.	1	2	3	25	25	5	5	33			Capt. D. Coleman.
<i>Semple's battery</i>	1	1	1	18	19			20			
Total.....	7	45	52	20	319	6	107	113	504		
<i>Johnson's Brigade.</i>											
Staff.....			2		2			2			
17th Tennessee.....	1	16	17	10	154	164	6	20	26	207	Capt. F. M. Orr.
23d Tennessee.....		3	3	2	38	40		8	8	51	
25th Tennessee.....	1	15	16	11	78	89	2	13	15	129	Lieut. Simpson Ison.
37th Tennessee.....	1	10	11	6	45	51		6	6	68	Maj. J. T. McReynolds.
44th Tennessee.....	1	13	14	15	121	136	1	1	2	152	Lieut. J. J. Hill.
Darden's battery.....				6	6					6	
Total.....	4	57	61	46	442	488	9	48	57	696	
<i>Liddell's Brigade.</i>											
Staff.....			1	2	3			3			
2d Arkansas.....		15	15	1	93	94		9	9	118	
5th Arkansas.....	1	11	12	9	126	135		1	1	148	Lieut. A. J. Jones.
6th and 7th Arkansas.....	3	26	29	12	128	140		8	8	177	Capt. J. T. Armstrong and Lieuts. J. L. McCollum and Henry Fisher.
8th Arkansas.....	4	25	29	10	114	124				153	Lieuts. T. H. Beard, S. B. Cole, Calvin East, and H. J. McCurdy.
Sweet's battery.....		1	1	7	7					8	
Total.....	8	78	86	33	470	503		18	18	607	
<i>Folk's Brigade.</i>											
1st Arkansas.....	11	11	9	81	90	1	1	102			
13th and 15th Arkansas.....	4	4	2	47	50	5	5	68			
5th Confederate.....	7	7	9	55	64	12	12	83			
2d Tennessee.....	2	2	4	53	59			63			
5th Tennessee.....	1	1	1	23	24			25			
Calvert's battery.....	3	3		2	2	1	1	6			
Total.....	2	23	30	37	261	298		19	19	347	
Grand total Cleburne's division.	21	208	229	138	1,492	1,630	15	192	207	2,066	
Grand total Hardee's corps.	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565	583	4,127	
MCCOWN'S DIVISION.											
<i>Ector's Brigade.</i>											
Staff.....			2	2	4			4			
10th Texas Cavalry *.....		10	10	81	93	1	14	15		118	Lieuts. M. V. Clary, L. G. Hefner, and J. M. Hopson mortally wounded.
11th Texas Cavalry *.....	8	8	10	79	89	3	15	18		115	Col. John C. Earks mortally wounded.

* Dismounted.

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

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

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

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

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

J. M. WITHERS,
Major-General.

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

No. 220.

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

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., January 12, 1863.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Very respectfully,

FELIX H. ROBERTSON,
Captain, &c.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, BRECKINRIDGE'S DIV.

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., February 18, 1863.

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

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

desired me to form and advance behind his second line of infantry. I then repeated the general's orders to me, viz, to wait until the infantry had crowned the crest, and then to rush up and occupy it. Knowing the disposition of all commanders to use artillery, I spoke to General Breckinridge and earnestly protested against crowding a field so contracted as the one in which we were to operate with small guns, stating that, in case of a repulse, we would inevitably lose some if they were carried on the field. General Breckinridge, thinking differently, however, formed his batteries and advanced them simultaneously with his infantry and immediately behind it. Colonel Brent, assistant adjutant-general, was present on this occasion and heard the conversation.

After the first reconnaissance, and before the final arrangements for attack, two pieces (of Breckinridge's division) had been moved and had opened fire on the enemy's skirmishers. It called the enemy's attention to the very point we desired to attack, and probably to this development is due the fact that we found the enemy's batteries had been located so as to cover completely all the ground over which we would be compelled to pass, and which operated to such an alarming extent on our lines. One of these batteries, I think, was located near Hoover's house; the other was located in rear of the Round Forest, to the right of the railroad, in front of Chalmers' position. I know they must have been across Stone's River, for I could notice the shells falling, and all had considerable elevation.

All being prepared, the movement began in the following order: Infantry in two lines, interval 200 yards; the batteries of General B[reckinridge's] division formed immediately in rear of the second line; my batteries in rear of all, caisson left at a distance in rear. I followed up the advance with my command until I gained the open field, across which we were to advance; here I halted. The plan for the artillery was as follows: Two 12-pounder howitzers to rake the slopes from the highest point of the hill to the water's edge, firing down the river the heaviest battery; six Napoleons to occupy the highest point; **the other battery, four Napoleons,** to occupy a station on the ridge running out from the river to the right from the hill top. The two 12-pounder howitzers began early; the ground for the four Napoleons was soon uncovered and occupied by Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, commanding. Before this, however, the enemy's fire had brought the artillery of General B[reckinridge's] division to a halt; had overturned two pieces; the others had begun firing obliquely to the right, but for a time I thought they were firing into their own men. I waited some time for the infantry to clear the crest, so that I could order Robertson's battery up to its place, but saw unmistakable evidences of a retrograde movement, and seeing Colonel [G. St. Leger] Grenfell at this moment, I sent word to General Bragg that I was satisfied the infantry would be unable to hold their position, and changed my plan, so as to bring the guns of Robertson's battery to bear on the enemy. I ordered it up to take position beside Semple's. It had nearly arrived at the new position when the infantry gave back. I at once ordered the commander, Lieutenant [S. J.] Benton, to take his battery to the rear and establish it in the line of timber, to protect the infantry until it could be reformed; the other batteries were ordered to move off, not, however, until all the infantry support had disappeared. At this point occurred our loss in guns. Two pieces of Wright's battery were lost, **and one fine piece belonging to Semple's battery.** The batteries, having kept up the fight some time after the infantry had abandoned the field, drew to themselves a very heavy fire; they were, therefore, much reduced in men.

In this communication I desire to call the attention of the general commanding to the good behavior of Captain Semple's company under fire, and more particularly would I direct his attention to Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, commanding the two sections. This gallant officer brought off one piece that would otherwise have been left, and would have saved the other had the wheel driver not been shot at the critical moment of limbering up. Lieutenant [J.] Pollard, of this company, behaved with great gallantry, and was severely wounded.

As fast as the pieces came back to the new line they were placed; but the majority, having no ammunition, were ordered back to their caissons to refill their boxes. So soon as our guns were unmasked, fire was opened on the enemy's line and continued until dark, with a very heavy fire of skirmishers upon the artillery. This line had been established, supposing it would be good to rally the broken division, but the hope proved utterly fallacious. Except about 150 fugitives collected in a ravine to my right, I saw no body of troops, and fearing an advance of the enemy, under cover of the darkness I moved to the rear again and established a new line along another skirt of timber. Here I found some few troops of General Breckinridge's division, but many of them had returned to their old places, as I knew from the sound of the cheering and speaking in the rear. Being unable to find General Breckinridge for some time, I proceeded to regulate the artillery according to my own ideas. After a time I met the general; told him what I had done, and he directed me to continue so to act and report to him after I had finished. The contagion of flight had spread to the artillery, and it was with great difficulty that several pieces of artillery were brought away, owing to the drivers being frightened. In more than one instance I found it necessary to cock my revolver and level it in order to bring men to a realizing sense of their duty. I am clearly of the opinion that if there had been no artillery on that field the enemy would have gone into Murfreesborough easily that evening. There was no organization that I could see or hear of until after the enemy had been checked, save in the artillery. I have never seen troops so completely broken in my military experience. I tried myself, and saw many others try, to rally them; but they seemed actuated only by a desire for safety and beyond the reach of other sentiments. I saw the colors of many regiments pass, and though repeated calls were made for men of the different regiments, no attention was paid to them.

I take this opportunity to mention the courage of some man whom I do not know. He carried a stand of colors, and halted frequently, faced the enemy, and called the Sixth Kentucky Regiment; and although he did not receive much attention, he lingered as long as there was any infantry on the field, and then passed to the rear, calling out, "Here's your Sixth Kentucky."

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

FELIX H. ROBERTSON,

Captain, &c.

Capt. K. FALCONER, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Supplemental]

— —, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following supplementary report of the action of my battery during the battles near Murfreesborough:

The fuses generally operated to my satisfaction. Occasional excep-

Tabular statement of killed, wounded, and missing, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Commander.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
<i>Cleburne's Division.</i>				
Wood's brigade	Brigadier-General Wood	52	336	113
Johnson's brigade	Brigadier-General Johnson	61	455	57
Liddell's brigade	Brigadier-General Liddell	86	503	18
Polk's brigade	Brigadier-General Polk	30	298	19
Cleburne's staff			2	
Total Cleburne's division	Major-General Cleburne	229	1,627	207
<i>McCown's Division (unattached).</i>				
Ector's brigade	Brigadier-General Ector	29	275	39
Rains' brigade	Brigadier-General Rains	21	154	15
McNair's brigade	Brigadier-General McNair	42	330	52
McCown's escort		2	2	1
Total McCown's division	Major-General McCown	94	761	107
Jackson's brigade (unattached)	Brig. Gen. J. K. Jackson	41	262	
Wharton's brigade of cavalry	Brigadier-General Wharton	20	131	113
Grand total Hardee's corps	Lieutenant-General Hardee	650	4,207	803

RECAPITULATION.

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Breckinridge's division	266	1,426	376	2,068
Cleburne's division	229	1,627	207	2,063
McCown's division	94	761	107	962
Jackson's brigade	41	262		303
Wharton's brigade	20	131	113	264
Grand total	650	4,207	803	5,660

[Addenda.]

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 17, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the "present for duty" in this army corps on the morning of the 31st of December, 1862:

<i>Breckinridge's division:</i>				
Brown's [Palmer's] brigade	1,446			
Adams' brigade	1,534			
Hanson's brigade	1,893			
Preston's brigade	1,951			
				6,824
<i>Cleburne's division:</i>				
Wood's brigade	1,150			
Johnson's brigade	1,922			
Liddell's brigade	1,709			
Polk's brigade	1,343			
				6,124
Total				12,948

Discrepancies in the relative strength of the brigades of Breckinridge's division in the present report, as compared with previous reports,

are explained by the fact that the reorganization of that division was perfected by several transfers of regiments only on the day previous to the battle of Murfreesborough.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, April 20, 1863.

COLONEL: In obedience to instructions from headquarters of the army, I have the honor to forward herewith the names of officers who fell at the battle of Murfreesborough, conspicuous for their valor, to be inscribed on the battery of Liddell's brigade, and on one of the reserve batteries:

Liddell's battery.—Lieut. Col. Don. McGregor, First Arkansas; Capt. James T. Armstrong, Company E, Sixth Arkansas; First Lieut. H. C. Collier, Company H, Second Arkansas, and First Lieut. H. J. McCurdy, Eighth Arkansas.

Reserve Battery.—Maj. Henry C. Ewin, Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment; Maj. James T. McReynolds, Thirty-seventh Tennessee Regiment; Capt. E. Eldridge Wright, Wright's battery, and Capt. Edwin Allen, Company C, Twenty-sixth Tennessee Regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

Col. GEORGE WILLIAM BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Tennessee.

No. 225.

Report of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, C. S. Army, commanding First Division, with appendix by General Bragg.

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION,
January —, 1863.

I have the honor to report the operations of this division, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps, in the recent battles of Stone's River, in front of Murfreesborough.

The character and course of Stone's River, and the nature of the ground in front of the town, are well known, and as the report of the general commanding will, no doubt, be accompanied by a sketch, it is not necessary to describe them here.

On the morning of Sunday, December 28, the brigades moved from their encampments and took up line of battle about 1½ miles from Murfreesborough in the following order: Adams' brigade on the right, with its right resting on the Lebanon road, and its left extending toward the ford over Stone's River, a short distance below the destroyed bridge on the Nashville turnpike; Preston on the left of Adams; Palmer on the left of Preston, and Hanson forming the left of the line, with his left resting on the right bank of the river near the ford. The right of Major-General Withers, of Lieutenant-General Polk's corps, rested near the left bank of the river and slightly in advance of Hanson's left.

Brigadier-General Jackson, having reported to me with his command, was placed, by the direction of the lieutenant-general commanding, upon the east side of the Lebanon road, on commanding ground, a little in advance of the right of Brigadier-General Adams.

My division formed the front line of the right wing of the army; Major-General Cleburne's division, drawn up some 600 yards in rear, formed the second line of the same wing, while the division of Major-General McCown, under the immediate direction of the general commanding, composed the reserve.

My line extended from left to right along the edge of a forest, save an open space of 400 yards, which was occupied by Wright's battery, of Preston's brigade, with the Twentieth Tennessee in reserve to support it. An open field 800 yards in width extended along nearly the whole front of the line, and was bounded on the opposite side by a line of forest similar to that occupied by us. In the opinion of the lieutenant-general commanding (who had twice ridden carefully over the ground with me) and the general commanding (who had personally inspected the lines), it was the strongest position the nature of the ground would allow.

About 600 yards in front of Hanson's center was an eminence which it was deemed important to hold. It commanded the ground sloping toward the river in its front and on its left, and also the plain on the west bank occupied by the right of Withers' line. Colonel [T. H.] Hunt, with the Forty-first Alabama, the Sixth and Ninth Kentucky, and Cobb's battery, all of Hanson's brigade, was ordered to take and hold this hill, which he did, repulsing several brisk attacks of the enemy, and losing some excellent officers and men. A few hundred yards to the left and rear of this position a small earthwork, thrown up under the direction of Major [R. E.] Graves, my chief of artillery, was held during a part of the operations by Seiple's battery of Napoleon guns.

In the afternoon of Tuesday, the 30th, I received intelligence from Lieutenant-General Hardee that the divisions of Cleburne and McCown were to be transferred to the extreme left, and soon after an order came to me from the general commanding to hold the hill at all hazards. I immediately moved the remainder of Hanson's brigade to the hill, and strengthened Cobb's battery with a section from [O. L.] Lumsden's battery and a section from [C. H.] Slocomb's Washington Artillery. At the same time Adams' brigade was moved from the right and formed on the ground originally occupied by Hanson's brigade. Jackson was moved to the west side of the Lebanon road, to connect with the general line of battle.

All the ground east of Stone's River was now to be held by one division, which, in a single line, did not extend from the ford to the Lebanon road. I did not change my general line, since a position in advance, besides being less favorable in other respects, would have widened considerably the interval between my right and the Lebanon road. The enemy did not again attack the hill with infantry, but our troops there continued to suffer during all the operations, from heavy shelling. Our artillery at that position often did good service in diverting the enemy's fire from our attacking lines of infantry, and especially on Wednesday, the 31st, succeeded in breaking several of their formations on the west bank of the river.

On the morning of Wednesday, the 31st, the battle opened on our left. From my front, information came to me from [John] Pegram's cavalry force in advance that the enemy, having crossed at the fords below, were moving on my position in line of battle. This proved to be incor-

rect, and it is to be regretted that sufficient care was not taken by the authors of the reports to discriminate rumor from fact.

About 10.30 a. m. I received, through Col. J. Stoddard Johnston, a suggestion from the general commanding to move against the enemy instead of awaiting his attack.* I preferred to fight on the ground I then occupied, but supposing that the object of the general was to create a diversion in favor of our left, my line, except Hanson's brigade, was put in motion in the direction from which the enemy was supposed to be advancing. We had marched about half a mile when I received, through Colonel Johnston, an order from the general commanding to send at least one brigade to the support of Lieutenant-General Polk, who was hard pressed, and, as I recollect, two, if I could spare them. I immediately sent Adams and Jackson, and at the same time suspended my movement, and sent forward Capt. E. M. Blackburn, with several of my escort, and Captain Coleman and Lieut. Thomas B. Darragh, of my staff, with orders to find and report with certainty the position and movements of the enemy. Soon after an order came from the general commanding to continue the movement. The line again advanced, but had not proceeded far when I received an order from the general commanding, through Colonel Johnston, repeated by Colonel Grenfell, to leave Hanson in position on the hill, and with the remainder of my command to report at once to Lieutenant-General Polk. The brigades of Preston and Palmer were immediately moved by the flank toward the ford before referred to, and the order of the general executed with great rapidity.

In the mean time, riding forward to the position occupied by the general commanding and Lieutenant-General Polk, near the west bank of the river, and a little below the ford, I arrived in time to see at a distance the brigades of Jackson and Adams recoiling from a very hot fire of the enemy. I was directed by Lieutenant-General Polk to form my line, with its right resting on the river and its left extending across the open field, crossing the Nashville turnpike almost at a right angle. While my troops were crossing the river, and getting into line, I rode forward with a portion of my staff, assisted by gentlemen of the staffs of Generals Bragg and Polk, to rally and form Adams' brigade, which was falling back chiefly between the turnpike and the river. Jackson, much cut up, had retired farther toward our left. The brigade of Brigadier-General Adams was rallied and placed in line across the field, behind a low and very imperfect breastwork of earth and rails. These brigades did not again enter the action that day, which, indeed, closed soon after with the charge of Preston and Palmer. They had suffered severely in an attack upon superior numbers, very strongly posted and sustained by numerous and powerful batteries, which had repulsed all preceding assaults. The list of casualties shows the courage and determination of these troops.

General Adams having received a wound while gallantly leading his brigade, the command devolved upon Col. R. L. Gibson, who discharged its duties throughout with marked courage and skill.

Preston and Palmer being now in line, Preston on the right, Lieutenant-General Polk directed me to advance across the plain until I encountered the enemy. The right of my line rested on the river (and, from the course of the stream, would in advancing rest on or very near it), while the left touched a skirt of woods from which the enemy had been

* I find that Colonel Johnston regarded it as an order, but, as I moved at once, it is not material.

driven during the day. At the opposite extremity of the plain a cedar-brake extended in front of Palmer's whole line and two-thirds of Preston's line, the remaining space to the river being comparatively open, with commanding swells, and through this ran the railroad and turnpike nearly side by side. It was supposed that the enemy's line was parallel to ours, but the result showed that, in advancing, our right and his left at the point of contact would form an acute angle. These two brigades, passing over the troops lying behind the rails, moved across the plain in very fine order under the fire of the enemy's artillery. We had advanced but a short distance when Colonel [T.] O'Hara (my acting adjutant-general) called my attention to a new battery in the act of taking position in front of our right, between the turnpike and the river. I immediately sent him back to find some artillery to engage the enemy's battery. He found and placed in position the Washington Artillery. About the same time Capt. E. P. Byrne reported his battery to me, and received an order to take the best position he could find and engage the enemy. He succeeded in opening on them after our line had passed forward.

A number of officers and men were killed along the whole line, but in this charge the chief loss fell upon Preston's right and center. His casualties amounted to 155.

The Twentieth Tennessee, after driving the enemy on the right of the turnpike, and taking 25 prisoners, was compelled to fall back before a very heavy artillery and musketry fire, Colonel Smith, commanding, being severely wounded, but it kept the prisoners and soon rejoined the command. The Fourth Florida and Sixtieth North Carolina encountered serious difficulty at a burnt house (Cowan's) on the left of the turnpike from fences and other obstacles, and were, for a little while, thrown into some confusion. Here for several minutes they were exposed to a destructive and partially enfilading fire at short range of artillery and infantry; but they were soon rallied by their gallant brigade commander, and, rushing with cheers across the intervening space, entered the cedar glade. The enemy had retired from the cedars, and was in position in a field to the front and right. By changing the front of the command slightly forward to the right, my line was brought parallel to that of the enemy, and was formed near the edge of the cedars.

About this time, meeting Lieutenant-General Hardee, we went together to the edge of the field to examine the position of the enemy, and found him strongly posted in two lines of battle, supported by numerous batteries. One of his lines had the protection of the railroad cut, forming an excellent breastwork. We had no artillery, the nature of the ground forbidding its use. It was deemed reckless to attack with the force present.

Night was now approaching. Presently the remainder of Lieutenant-General Hardee's corps came up on the left, and, with McCown's command and a part of Cheatham's, prolonged the line of battle in that direction. Adams' brigade also appeared and formed on the right of Preston. The troops bivouacked in position.

The commanding general, expecting an attack upon his right the next morning, ordered me during the night to recross the river with Palmer's brigade. Before daylight Thursday morning, Palmer was in position on the right of Hanson. No general engagement occurred on this day, the troops generally being employed in replenishing the ammunition, cooking rations, and obtaining some repose.

On Friday, January 2, being desirous to ascertain if the enemy was establishing himself on the east bank of the river, Lieutenant-Colonel

[John A.] Buckner and Major Graves, with Captain [Edward P.] Byrne's battery, and a portion of the Washington Artillery, under Lieutenant [W.] C. D. Vaught, went forward to our line of skirmishers toward the right and engaged those of the enemy, who had advanced, perhaps, 1,000 yards from the east bank of the river. They soon revealed a strong line of skirmishers, which was driven back a considerable distance by our sharpshooters and artillery, the latter firing several houses in the fields in which the enemy had taken shelter. At the same time, accompanied by Major [W. D.] Pickett, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's staff, and by Maj. James Wilson, Colonel [T.] O'Hara, and Lieutenant [J. Cabell] Breckinridge, of my own, I proceeded toward the left of our line of skirmishers, which passed through a thick wood about 500 yards in front of Hanson's position and extended to the river. Directing Captain [Chris] Bosche, of the Ninth, and Captain [Thomas] Steele, [jr.], of the Fourth Kentucky, to drive back the enemy's skirmishers, we were enabled to see that he was occupying with infantry and artillery the crest of a gentle slope on the east bank of the river. The course of the crest formed a little less than a right angle with Hanson's line, from which the center of the position I was afterward ordered to attack was distant about 1,600 yards. It extended along ground part open and part woodland. While we were endeavoring to ascertain the force of the enemy and the relation of the ground on the east bank to that on the west bank of the river, I received an order from the commanding general to report to him in person. I found him on the west bank, near the ford below the bridge, and received from him an order to form my division in two lines and take the crest I have just described with the infantry. After doing this I was to bring up the artillery and establish it on the crest, so as at once to hold it and enfilade the enemy's lines on the other side of the river. Pegram and Wharton, who, with some cavalry and a battery, were beyond the point where my right would rest when the new line of battle should be formed, were directed, as the general informed me, to protect my right and co-operate in the attack. Captain Robertson was directed to report to me with his own and **Semple's batteries of Napoleon guns.** Captain Wright, who with his battery had been detached some days before, was ordered to join his brigade (Preston's). The brigades of Adams and Preston, which were left on the west side of the river Wednesday night, had been ordered to rejoin me. At the moment of my advance, our artillery in the center and on the left was to open on the enemy. One gun from our center was the signal for the attack. The commanding general desired that the movement should be made with the least possible delay.

It was now 2.30 p. m. Two of the brigades had to march about 2 miles, the other two about 1 mile. Brigadier-General Pillow, having reported for duty, was assigned by the commanding general to Palmer's brigade, and that fine officer resumed command of his regiment, and was three times wounded in the ensuing engagement. The Ninth Kentucky and Cobb's battery, under the command of Colonel Hunt, were left to hold the hill so often referred to. The division, after deducting the losses of Wednesday, the troops left on the hill, and companies on special service, consisted of some 4,500 men. It was drawn up in two lines—the first in a narrow skirt of woods, the second 200 yards in rear. Pillow and Hanson formed the first line, Pillow on the right. Preston supported Pillow, and Adams' brigade (commanded by Colonel Gibson) supported Hanson. The artillery was placed in rear of the second line, under orders to move with it and occupy the summit of the slope as soon as the infantry should rout the enemy. Feeling anxious about

my right, I sent two staff officers in succession to communicate with Pegram and Wharton, but received no intelligence up to the moment of assault. The interval between my left and the troops on the hill was already too great, but I had a battery to watch it and a small infantry support. There was nothing to prevent the enemy from observing nearly all of our movements and preparations. To reach him it was necessary to cross an open space 600 or 700 yards in width, with a gentle ascent. The river was several hundred yards in rear of his position, but departed from it considerably as it flowed toward his left.

I had informed the commanding general that we would be ready to advance at 4 o'clock, and precisely at that hour the signal gun was heard from our center. Instantly the troops moved forward at a quick step and in admirable order. The front line had bayonets fixed, with orders to deliver one volley, and then use the bayonet. The fire of the enemy's artillery on both sides of the river commenced as soon as the troops entered the open ground. When less than half the distance across the field, the quick eye of Colonel O'Hara discovered a force extending considerably beyond our right. I immediately ordered Major Graves to move a battery to our right and open on them. He at once advanced Wright's battery and effectually checked their movements. Before our line reached the enemy's position his artillery fire had become heavy, accurate, and destructive. Many officers and men fell before we closed with their infantry, yet our brave fellows rushed forward with the utmost determination, and, after a brief but bloody conflict, routed both the opposing lines, took 400 prisoners and several flags, and drove their artillery and the great body of their infantry across the river. Many were killed at the water's edge. Their artillery took time by the forelock in crossing the stream. A few of our men in their ardor actually crossed over before they could be prevented, most of whom subsequently, moving up under the west bank, recrossed at a ford three-quarters of a mile above. The second line had halted when the first engaged the enemy's infantry, and laid down under orders; but very soon the casualties in the first line, the fact that the artillery on the opposite bank was more fatal to the second line than the first, and the eagerness of the troops, impelled them forward, and at the decisive moment, when the opposing infantry was routed, the two lines had mingled into one, the only practical inconvenience of which was that at several points the ranks were deeper than is allowed by a proper military formation. A strong force of the enemy beyond our extreme right yet remained on the east side of the river. Presently a new line of battle appeared on the west bank directly opposite our troops and opened fire, while at the same time large masses crossed in front of our right and advanced to the attack. We were compelled to fall back. As soon as our infantry had won the ridge, Major Graves advanced the artillery of the division and opened fire. At the same time Captain Robertson threw forward **Semple's battery** toward our right, which did excellent service. He did not advance his own battery (which was to have taken position on the left), supposing that that part of the field had not been cleared of the enemy's infantry. Although mistaken in this, since the enemy had been driven across the river, yet I regard it as fortunate that the battery was not brought forward. It would have been a vain contest. It now appeared that the ground we had won was commanded by the enemy's batteries, within easy range, on better ground, upon the other side of the river. I know not how many guns he had. He had enough to sweep the whole position from the front, the left, and the right, and to render it wholly untenable by our force present of artillery and infantry. The infantry, after passing

the crest and descending the slope toward the river, were in some measure protected, and suffered less at this period of the action than the artillery.

We lost three guns, nearly all the horses being killed, and not having the time or men to draw them off by hand. One was lost because there was but one boy left (Private Wright, of Wright's battery) to limber the piece, and his strength was unequal to it.

The command fell back in some disorder, but without the slightest appearance of panic, and reformed behind Robertson's battery in the narrow skirt of timber from which we emerged to the assault. The enemy did not advance beyond the position in which he received our attack. My skirmishers continued to occupy a part of the field over which we advanced until the army retired from Murfreesborough. The action lasted about one hour and twenty minutes. As our lines advanced to the attack, several rounds of artillery were heard from our center, apparently directed against the enemy on the west bank of the river.

About twilight Brigadier-General Anderson reported to me with his brigade, and remained in position with me until the army retired. I took up the line of battle for the night a little in rear of the field over which we advanced to the assault, and Captain Robertson, at my request, disposed the artillery in the positions indicated for it.

Many of the reports do not discriminate between the losses of Wednesday and Friday. The total loss in my division, exclusive of Jackson's command, is 2,140, of which I think 1,700 occurred on Friday. The loss of the enemy on this day was, I think, greater than our own, since he suffered immense slaughter between the ridge and the river.

I cannot forbear to express my admiration for the courage and constancy of the troops, exhibited even after it became apparent that the main object could not be accomplished. Beyond the general good conduct, a number of enlisted men displayed at different periods of the action the most heroic bravery. I respectfully suggest that authority be given to select a certain number of the most distinguished in each brigade, to be recommended to the President for promotion.

I cannot enumerate all the brave officers who fell, nor the living, who nobly did their duty; yet I may be permitted to lament, in common with the army, the premature death of Brigadier-General Hanson, who received a mortal wound at the moment the enemy began to give way. Endeared to his friends by his private virtues, and to his command by the vigilance with which he guarded its interest and honor, he was, by the universal testimony of his military associates, one of the finest officers that adorned the service of the Confederate States. Upon his fall the command devolved on Colonel [R. P.] Trabue, who in another organization had long and ably commanded most of the regiments composing the brigade.

I cannot close without expressing my obligations to the gentlemen of my staff. This is no formal acknowledgment. I can never forget that during all the operations they were ever prompt and cheerful by night and day in conveying orders, conducting to their positions regiments and brigades, rallying troops on the field, and, indeed, in the discharge of every duty.

It gives me pleasure to name Lieutenant-Colonel Buckner, assistant adjutant-general, who was absent on leave, but returned upon the first rumor of battle; Colonel O'Hara, acting adjutant-general; Lieutenant [J. Cabell] Breckinridge, aide-de-camp; Major Graves, chief of artillery (twice wounded and his horse shot under him); Major [James] Wilson, assistant inspector-general (horse shot); **Captain [Charles] Semple**

ordnance officer; Lieutenant Darragh (severely wounded). Captains Martin and Coleman, of my volunteer staff, were active and efficient. The former had his horse killed under him.

Drs. J. F. Heustis and [John E.] Pendleton [Ninth Kentucky Infantry], chief surgeon and medical inspector, were unremitting in attention to the wounded. Dr. Stanhope Breckinridge, assistant surgeon, accompanied my headquarters and pursued his duties through the fire of Wednesday. Mr. Buckner and Mr. Zantzing, of Kentucky, attached themselves to me for the occasion, and were active and zealous.

Capt. E. M. Blackburn, commanding my escort, ever cool and vigilant, rendered essential service and made several bold reconnaissances. Charles Chotard, of the escort, acting as my orderly on Wednesday, displayed much gallantry and intelligence.

The army retired before daybreak on the morning of January 4. My division, moving on the Manchester road, was the rear of Hardee's corps. The Ninth Kentucky, Forty-first Alabama, and Cobb's battery, all under the command of Colonel Hunt, formed a special rear guard. The enemy did not follow us.

My acknowledgments are due to Col. J. Stoddard Johnston, Lieutenant-Colonel Brent, and Lieutenant-Colonel Garner, of General Bragg's staff, and to Major Pickett, of Lieutenant-General Hardee's staff, for services on Friday, January 2.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Maj. T. B. Roy,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

APPENDIX BY GENERAL BRAXTON BRAGG TO THE REPORT OF MAJOR-GENERAL BRECKINRIDGE.

First. A note dated 10.10 o'clock, December 31, saying, "The enemy are undoubtedly advancing upon me."

Second. A note dated 11.30 a. m., December 31, in reply to what he calls in his report "a suggestion from the commanding general," in which he says, "*I am obeying your order*;" but expressing the opinion that the move would expose him "to a heavy force of the enemy advancing from Black's" (on Lebanon road).

Third. A note dated 12.50 o'clock, January 1, 1863 (an error for December 31, 1862, the day it was received), correcting previous report as follows: "It is not certain the enemy is advancing upon me in two lines," &c., and requesting the two brigades asked as re-enforcements against an imaginary danger be held where he could get them. The hour of this note shows, too, an advance of half a mile (see report) in one hour and twenty minutes.

Fourth. A note dated 7 p. m., December 31, an application to re-enforce Hanson in his isolation.

Fifth. An order to Brigadier-General Pegram, commanding cavalry, indorsed "received," directing the cavalry to join in the attack to be made by General Breckinridge.

It is stated in the general's report that he was informed the cavalry was to attack with him; that he failed to communicate with it, yet reported he would be ready precisely at 4 o'clock, and did attack at that hour with nearly a third of his force absent.

The tabular statement No. 7,* February 8, 1863, accompanying my report of the battle, shows the force of this division on Wednesday, December 31, to have been 7,053. The loss of Wednesday, the 31st, was 730, not 440, as made by the division commander; and the loss on Friday, the 2d, was 1,338, not 1,700. The loss of Wednesday, 440, stated by the division commander, deducted from his whole strength, leaves 6,613. Deducting again the regiment and battery he was ordered to leave out, and adding the two batteries of Captain Robertson, leaves him still over 6,000 infantry and artillery, instead of 4,500, with which he says he made the attack; and, correcting his error in making the loss too small on Wednesday and too large on Friday, he still has underrated his force by more than one-fourth.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

DECEMBER 31, 1862—10.10 a. m.

General BRAGG, *Commanding Forces* :

The enemy are undoubtedly advancing upon me. The Lebanon road is unprotected, and I have no troops to fill out my line to it.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

DECEMBER 31, 1862—11.30 a. m.

General BRAGG :

GENERAL : I am obeying your order, but my left is now engaged with the enemy, and if I advance my whole line farther forward and still retain communication with my left, it will take me clear away from the Lebanon road, and expose my right and that road to a heavy force of the enemy advancing from Black's.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Major-General.

On the above was the following indorsement :

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., March 6, 1863.

The order of which General Breckinridge acknowledges the receipt in his note to General Bragg, of which the within is a copy, was borne and duly delivered by me.

J. STODDARD JOHNSTON,
Colonel, Aide-de-Camp to General Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION,
In the Field, January 1, 1863—12.50 o'clock.

Lieutenant-Colonel BRENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General :

COLONEL : It is not certain that the enemy are advancing upon me in two lines. General Pegram promised to report the true condition of

* See Inclosure C to Bragg's report, p. 674.

was awaiting the approach of the enemy on the morning of December 31, 1862, when I received an order from division headquarters directing me to join my brigade. I immediately assembled my command and marched it rapidly to the place occupied by the brigade a short time before, but found that it had gone across the river for the purpose of attacking a strong position that the enemy had taken up near the railroad and river bank. I accelerated my movements as much as possible, and came up with the brigade as it was marching upon the enemy's position in line of battle, and reported to General Adams, commanding, in person, and asked him where I should take position. The general informed me that he had already made his dispositions for the attack, and ordered me to take position about 100 yards in rear of the brigade, as a reserve. I formed my command as directed, and followed the brigade as it advanced up the hill, upon which the enemy had planted his artillery and disposed infantry. Here a furious fight ensued, which lasted about thirty minutes, when the brigade was forced to fall back before the terrible flank and front fires of the enemy. Learning from Colonel Gibson, commanding Thirteenth and Twentieth Louisiana Regiments, the flank movement of the enemy, I changed front forward and formed along a fence running near and parallel to the railroad. I found the enemy directly in my front, and opened fire upon him with a staggering effect. His attention had been drawn just previous to this to the brigade, which was falling back, and the rapidity of my movement caused a confusion in his ranks, which, I am of the opinion, was fortunate for the brigade, for his fire was directed upon me until the brigade had retreated some distance (almost out of range), when I withdrew with but little confusion from a contest so unequal, and fell back upon our artillery, which had been brought up as a support.

On January 2, I was deployed in front of a portion of General Stewart's line (I think his right), and my command did some excellent service in driving from the field in front of the cedar thicket a body of the enemy's skirmishers.

Late on January 2, I was ordered with my command to join the brigade, which I did, and was placed as a reserve in the celebrated charge of Friday evening, January 2, in which the (Breckinridge's) division participated. My command, together with the Thirty-second Alabama Regiment, constituted the reserves, and were not ordered forward, but when the shattered battalions fell back they formed upon us.

My officers, without an exception, acted in the most gallant manner. Captain [T. W.] Peyton, commanding Company A, was severely wounded while leading his company.

Lieutenants [W. Q.] Lowd and [A. P.] Martin, of Company A, and [S. R.] Garrett and [C. F.] McCarty, of Company B, as well as Adj't. A. O'Duhigg, deserve the highest praise.

My loss was 4 killed, 9 missing, and 2 wounded.

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

J. E. AUSTIN,

Major, Comdg. [Fourteenth Louisiana] Batt. of Sharpshooters.

Capt. E. P. GUILLET,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 231.

Report of Lieut. W. C. D. Vaught, Fifth Company, Washington Light Artillery.

ALLISONIA, TENN., January 8, 1863.

COLONEL: At Murfreesborough, on the 29th ultimo, while with this brigade in line of battle on the Lebanon pike, I detached two rifled guns of this battery, commanded by Lieutenant [J. A.] Chalaron, by order of Major Graves, division chief of artillery, who placed them near the river in front of General Hanson's position. This important point Lieutenant Chalaron occupied, under the orders of Captain Cobb, during Tuesday and Wednesday, subjected to a heavy fire from the enemy's batteries and skirmishers and frequent assaults of his infantry.

On Wednesday, with our other four guns and a section of **Captain Semple's battery**, under command of Lieutenant [J.] Pollard, I crossed the river with the brigade at 12 o'clock, and was ordered by General Adams to remain near the river while the brigade advanced to the charge. When I saw the brigade retiring, I placed the battery upon the hill to the left of the Nashville pike and the railroad, and as soon as the troops were from under our fire, I opened upon the enemy, soon silencing their battery and checking their pursuit. Receiving no further orders, I took a position forward and to the left, continuing to fire upon the enemy whenever he appeared in range, forcing his battery to change position whenever it opened, and checking his movements in the field opposite our fortified point on the eastern side of the river.

When night fell I withdrew to near General Breckinridge's headquarters and reported to Major Graves, **Lieutenant Pollard reporting to Captain Semple.** Allow me to say here that Lieutenant Pollard's conduct proved him an accomplished officer and a cool and gallant man.

On Thursday morning I took position near General Hanson's right with four guns (having no rifle ammunition), and received a section of Captain Lunsden's battery. Later, three guns were placed in battery there and three on right of General Palmer's brigade.

On Friday morning Captain Lunsden's section was ordered to the left of the lines and I to General Palmer's right with this battery.

About noon we were ordered to the position occupied by our skirmishers in front of General Palmer, to drive in their pickets. Here we remained a couple of hours, doing some fancy practice, then fell behind the infantry of this division, formed for the assault. Our lines moved forward and we followed close behind. Two lines of the enemy were met and dissipated. Our infantry passed over the hill. We galloped upon the crest and opened our fire upon the enemy's batteries upon the opposite hill. Their fire had nearly ceased when our ammunition gave out. I sent for a supply and waited there for it. In the meanwhile one of our detachments manned a piece of Moses' battery, near us, which had ceased its fire, the men lying down. Before the ammunition arrived our brave boys, who had done their utmost, were obliged to retire. I remained until the last regiment and last battery were from the field, the enemy swarming upon my front and flank and within 50 yards, pouring volley after volley into us. I retired in perfect line to the strip of timber behind, and took a position beside Robertson's battery. We again opened upon the enemy, who pursued no farther.

This battery suffered the following casualties* in the several engage-

* Nominal list omitted.

ments: Killed, 1 enlisted man; wounded, 1 non-commissioned officer and 4 enlisted men; total killed and wounded, 5.

[We had] 4 horses killed and 4 disabled.

I desire to call your attention to the distinguished gallantry of Lieutenant Chalaron, who was selected by Major Graves upon the field to act as temporary chief of artillery; also to the gallantry of Lieutenants [T. M.] Blair and [A. J.] Leverich.

I desire also to mention Corporal Smith for his efficient gunnery and soldiery, and Corporal Adams, Privates Johnson and Walsh, and the detachment (No. 5) which manned a piece of another battery. This is a difficult task where all conduct themselves with remarkable gallantry.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. C. D. VAUGHT,
Lieutenant, Commanding.

Col. R. L. GIBSON,
Commanding Adams' Brigade.

No. 232.

Reports of Col. Joseph B. Palmer, Eighteenth Tennessee Infantry, commanding regiment and Second Brigade.

WINCHESTER, TENN., February 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit this report of the operations of the Second Brigade, Breckinridge's Division, Army of Tennessee, in the late battles at Murfreesborough.

The following regiments compose the brigade: Twenty-sixth Tennessee, Colonel [John M.] Lillard; Eighteenth Tennessee (my own), Lieutenant-Colonel [W. R.] Butler commanding; Forty-fifth Tennessee, Colonel [A.] Searcy; Twenty-eighth Tennessee, Colonel [P. D.] Cunningham; Thirty-second Tennessee, Colonel [Ed. C.] Cook (at that time near Wartrace on detached service), and Moses' battery, Lieutenant [R. W.] Anderson commanding. It occupied the left center in the front line of the division, in line of battle, General Hanson being on my left, and Generals Preston and Adams on the right, and took that position on Sunday morning, December 28, 1862. I kept constantly deployed a line of skirmishers covering my front.

On Wednesday morning, learning that a wagon train and a body of Federal troops had appeared at the distance of 1½ miles in front of my line, I ordered forward my skirmishers to investigate their strength and position, and sent Capt. D. H. C. Spence, of my staff, to direct their operations. They soon united with a detachment from General Pegram's cavalry, and the two co-operating captured 18 wagons and 170 prisoners, without any loss on our part. Capt. Gid. H. Lowe, of the Eighteenth Tennessee, and Captain Spence deserve much credit for their gallantry and efficiency on that occasion.

At noon on Wednesday, January [December] 31, I was ordered by General Breckinridge (as was also General Preston) across Stone's River, to the left wing of our general line of battle. Arriving there, we were immediately ordered to move upon the enemy's position just west of Cowan's residence. In this charge General Preston was on the right, while I was directed to form upon and move with his left, and, during the movement, to effect a general change of direction of my line to the right, so as to support the right brigade and flank the enemy.

The several regiments of my brigade moved gallantly and steadily forward in this charge, although exposed to a terrible fire from Yankee artillery for a distance of 400 yards across an open and unprotected field. The movement was successful on our part. The Federal forces abandoned their ground, retreating westwardly back on the main body of their troops, where their position was strongly protected by embankments thrown up in the construction of the railroad, some natural elevations of the ground, and the cover of their artillery. On these accounts we did not pursue them farther.

A list* of the killed and wounded in this engagement has already been furnished, which I respectfully ask may be taken as a part of this report.

In this action both the men and officers of the brigade behaved with most becoming courage and gallantry, displaying a high degree of unflinching determination and bravery, now mentioned alike in justice to them and with the utmost satisfaction to myself.

At 1 o'clock on the following morning, under orders from General Breckinridge, I recrossed the river and returned to my former position. Nothing occurred on Thursday except slight skirmishing in my front and occasional shelling from the enemy.

At about 10 o'clock on Friday, February [January] 2, under directions from General Breckinridge, I strengthened my line of skirmishers and ordered them forward, under command of Lieut. Col. Alexander Hall, of the Forty-fifth Tennessee. Major Graves was also ordered forward with a few pieces of artillery, which were supported by the left companies of the Eighteenth Tennessee, under command of Capt. William H. Joyner. They soon encountered a very heavy line of Federal skirmishers, and, after a severe contest, drove them back, with a loss of 2 killed and 11 wounded on our part. The enemy's loss was ascertained to be much greater, both in killed and wounded. Shortly after this, General Pillow assumed command of the brigade, whereupon I took charge of my regiment.

In the skirmish on Friday morning Lieutenant-Colonel Hall bore himself with decided gallantry. The men and officers under him acted nobly. Throughout the period covered by this report, Capt. C. K. Vanderford, Natt. Gooch, D. H. C. Spence, F. H. Lytle, and James S. Barton, of my staff, were all prompt, gallant, and efficient in the discharge of their several duties. I am also much indebted to each of these officers for many acts of personal kindness and voluntary services.

I conclude this report with the remark that, in consequence of wounds received in the right leg, knee, and shoulder, in the engagement of Friday evening at Murfreesborough, it has not been possible for me to prepare it earlier; and with the request that it be now received and considered. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. PALMER,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.

Col. T. O'HARA,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Tullahoma, Tenn.

WINCHESTER, TENN., February 6, 1863.

SIR: In the battle of Friday, February [January] 2, at Murfreesborough, the Eighteenth Tennessee Regiment, numbering 430 for duty,

* Embodied in No. 191, p. 678.

position of the battery, and went back to have my wound dressed, but, before the surgeon had finished, our lines had fallen back to their first position.

For the report from the time we limbered to the front at our first position until we fell back from the field, I am indebted to Lieutenant [J. W.] Phillips. It is as follows:

After limbering to the front, the battery was ordered by Major Graves by a left-oblique to the left of the field, under the cover of a small hill, where it remained about ten minutes, when it was again ordered by Major Graves by a right-oblique to the right of the field, on the top of a long hill formerly occupied by the enemy. When we reached the top of the hill our men were in full retreat; but we opened on the enemy with spherical case and canister, and continued to fire with effect until the enemy had charged within 75 yards of our pieces. Here it was that Captain Wright fell, mortally wounded, and three men carried his body to the rear. Just after Captain Wright fell, Major Graves gave the command "limber to the rear," and just as the pieces were limbered up he gave the command to unlimber and fire double charges of canister, which command was obeyed by firing about one round to the piece, when the command "limber to the rear" was again given by Major Graves; but only two of the pieces were ever limbered up and the others fell into the hands of the enemy. The gunner and two of the men of one of the lost pieces had gone to the rear with the captain's body, another one had been shot, and the others in the general panic had gone to the rear. This left not one to raise the trail except Sergeant Wright, who was unable to do it. Two horses of the limber of the other lost gun were shot down while moving the limber to the trail, and the men would have been captured had they remained to cut them out, so close had the enemy charged to them. Had our battery gone to the rear when the other batteries of the division did, we would have saved our guns; but being under the immediate supervision of the chief of artillery, we did not move without orders from him. We carried two pieces and four caissons from the field, and were ordered to the rear as unfit for service by General Preston.

Saturday we endeavored to fit out one section for service, but the day was so very rainy that we did not complete it until late in the evening, when we were ordered to prepare to evacuate the place.

The loss of the battery may be summed up thus: Killed—officers, 1; non-commissioned officers, 1; enlisted men, 4. Wounded—officers, 1; non-commissioned officers, 3; enlisted men, 4. Total, 14.

[We had] 10 horses killed and 2 guns lost.

Very respectfully,

JNO. W. MEBANE,
Lieutenant, Commanding Wright's Battery.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS PRESTON'S BRIGADE,
BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., February 21, 1863.

The foregoing are official copies of the reports of the commanders of regiments and battery of Preston's brigade, Breckinridge's division, U. S. Army, of the battle of Murfreesborough, from the originals transmitted to division headquarters.

W. R. CHAMBLISS,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 242.

Report of Col. Robert P. Trabue, Fourth Kentucky Infantry, commanding Fourth Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS TRABUE'S (LATE HANSON'S) BRIGADE,
Tullahoma, Tenn., January 13, 1863.

SIR: The untimely fall of the gallant and lamented Hanson, brigadier-general commanding this brigade, in the engagement on Friday, the 2d instant, at Murfreesborough, imposes on me the duty of reporting, to the extent of my knowledge, the operations of the brigade prior to and after his fall in the battle before that place.

On Sunday, the brigade having received orders to that effect, marched from their camp in rear of Murfreesborough, at 8 a. m., to the position in the front line of battle indicated for our occupation. This brigade formed the left of General Breckinridge's division, and in line rested with its left on or near Stone's River, extending eastward until the right was united to Colonel Palmer's brigade. The position first taken up (the exact line not having been pointed out) was along the skirt of woods in rear of the open fields east and south of Stone's River, which afforded, by the existence of a small ridge running parallel with the front, and a consequent depression immediately in rear, very good protection against the enemy's long-range artillery.

On Monday, **Semple's battery of six Napoleon guns**, furnished by the chief of artillery, was placed on the crest immediately in front of the right wing, and Cobb's battery was held to be placed later. Thus formed in line, the Fourth Kentucky was on the right; Second Kentucky second, Major [James W.] Hewitt; Forty-first Alabama third, Colonel [H.] Talbird; Sixth Kentucky fourth, Colonel [Joseph H.] Lewis, and Ninth Kentucky on the left, Colonel [T. H.] Hunt.

On Monday evening it was perceived that the enemy meant to occupy immediately all the advantageous positions in our front, of which he could possess himself, for artillery. A prominent elevation existed 1,000 yards in front of our left, which General Breckinridge desired we should hold, notwithstanding it was liable to assault, being isolated 1,000 yards in front of our lines. To this end, Colonel Hunt, with the Ninth Kentucky, Colonel Lewis, Sixth Kentucky, Lieutenant Colonel [M. L.] Stansel, Forty-first Alabama, and Cobb's battery, were ordered to occupy it. Throwing out skirmishers, they were soon engaged with those of the enemy. The force above named was then moved up to the front in support of the skirmishers, and succeeded in establishing Cobb's battery on the eminence. This was not accomplished without the loss of two valuable officers—Lieutenants [A. J.] Beale and [O.] Kennard, of Company D, Ninth Kentucky, the former severely and the latter slightly wounded. By this time it was dark, when the enemy endeavored in a spirited effort to retake the position, rapidly driving in our skirmishers, and approaching to within a few yards of the battery. This attempt was frustrated by promptly advancing the Forty-first Alabama, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stansel, when the enemy were driven off in confusion, leaving two of their dead near the battery. Our loss here amounted to not less than 10 wounded, falling mainly on the Sixth Kentucky and Cobb's battery, among whom was Lieutenant [J. B.] Holman, Sixth Kentucky.

On Tuesday night these regiments were withdrawn, and I, with the Second and Fourth Kentucky and Cobb's battery, occupied this position. It was deemed of the last importance to hold this hill, and

orders were received to do so at all hazards, it being called the key of the battle-field.

On Wednesday evening the entire brigade was brought up, having been re-enforced by a section of Lumsden's battery, commanded by Lieutenant [J. A.] Chalaron,* and a section of Washington Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant [E.] Tarrant. **Semple's battery** having taken up a position 600 yards in rear and left of us, a section of this battery replaced for one night Cobb's battery. During the week which followed we were kept here bivouacking in the mud and rain, and exposed to an incessant fire from the enemy's batteries and sharpshooters. A temporary and slight intrenchment was made, which, to some extent, protected the batteries; but the casualties at this place were not inconsiderable (amounting to 40 men), as stated above, and as will appear by reference to regimental reports.

During the engagement of Wednesday, time and again did the gallant Cobb, aided by his not less gallant lieutenants and three sections before referred to, disperse the enemy's columns as they endeavored to succor that part of their force engaged with the right of the left wing of the army. Indeed, during every day of our occupation of this hill our battery did signal service, frequently driving the enemy's artillery away and often dispersing his infantry. All this while the brigade covered more than a mile of front with skirmishers and pickets, using for that purpose from six to ten companies daily. These advanced to within 100 yards of the enemy in many places, and were hourly engaged.

On this hill Cobb's battery lost 8 men; Colonel Hunt, Ninth Kentucky, lost a most excellent officer killed (his adjutant, Henry M. Curd), whose death all lament, and wounded Capt. Joseph Desha, whose subsequent conduct elicited universal praise, together with Lieutenants [G.] Lewis, Company A, and [H.] Buchanan, Company H, wounded, and 3 other officers and 23 privates. (See detailed statement.) Colonel Lewis, Sixth Kentucky, lost slightly here; Lieutenant-Colonel Stansel, Forty-first Alabama, lost here two of his best officers and several men; the Second and Fourth Kentucky, though equally exposed, lost less at this point.

On Friday, the 2d instant, at 3 o'clock, the order came to move to the right and front, and form the left of the front line of General Breckinridge's division to attack that portion of the enemy's left which were posted in the woods and ravines on the south side of Stone's River, opposite the extreme right of our army, which was done. Colonel Hunt, with his regiment, remained at the hill, ordered to support the battery, and six companies were kept out as before on picket duty, thus leaving us for the fight about 1,200 men.

Stone's River in front of this new position runs nearly parallel with the new line, but inclines to the point occupied by the right of this brigade, when, by a change of direction to the north, it runs for some distance nearly perpendicularly from the front of our line. At this point, whence the river changes its direction northward, is a skirt of woods and an elevated ridge, behind which and in the ravine and woods the enemy lay concealed. To the right of our line the enemy were likewise posted in a woods, thus outflanking us. One thousand yards in the front from this first skirt of woods is a ford of the river, while the bank of the river opposite us, between the ford and point of attack, overlooks the

south and east bank. One mile farther down the river is another ford, as I have since learned. This topography, as well as the enemy's strength, was wholly unknown to us.

The two lines of the division having been formed, the signal for attack was sounded at 4 p. m., when this brigade in line moved steadily forward to the attack, with arms loaded and bayonets fixed, instructed to fire once and then charge with the bayonet. The peculiar nature of the ground and direction of the river and the eagerness of the troops caused the lines of General Pillow's (formerly Palmer's) brigade and this brigade to lap on the crest of the hill, but the fury of the charge and the effective fire of the lines put the enemy at once to flight. All in front of us that were not killed or captured ran across the river at the ford and out of range of our fire, as did a battery which had been posted off to our right, and many of the infantry mentioned before as being on the right likewise fled across this ford. A part, however, of this force, double-quicking toward the ford from their position, finding they would be cut off, formed in line to our right on a ridge, and, not being assailed, held this ground. Meanwhile, and from the moment of beginning the attack, the enemy's artillery from the opposite side of the river directed on us a most destructive fire. Very soon, too, the crests of the opposite side of the river swarmed with infantry, whose fire was terrible. Thus exposed to the fire, seemingly, of all his artillery and a large portion of his infantry from unassailable positions, as well as to the flanking fire from the right, it was deemed prudent to withdraw. This was done slowly, though not in the best order, resulting mainly from the confusion consequent upon the too early advance of the second line into the ground already too much crowded by the first. The lines were reformed about 600 yards in rear of the river, and near the line from which we advanced to the attack.

While thus engaged in reforming my own regiment, I received intelligence of the fall of General Hanson, when I took command of the brigade, the other regiments of which had likewise been reformed. This brigade in the battle having advanced to within 80 yards of the ford, a part of Colonel Lewis' Sixth Kentucky and a part of the Second Kentucky having crossed the river a little to the left, when near the ford, slightly protected by a picket fence on this side, they fought the enemy across the river until the rear having fallen back made it necessary to withdraw them also.

I obtained returns on the field showing still in line more than half the men with which we started out, notwithstanding a loss of 33 per cent. I remained in line until 9 o'clock, having replenished the cartridge-boxes, when I received orders to return to my original position on the hill, which was obeyed.

We remained in this position until Sunday morning at 1 a. m., when, having been assigned the duty of bringing up the rear, we moved off, with Colonel Hunt's Ninth Kentucky, Forty-first Alabama, Lieutenant-Colonel Stansel, and Cobb's battery being detailed as special rear guard. My pickets were withdrawn at 3 a. m. by Captain [C.] Bosche, of Ninth Kentucky, under direction of Captain Martin, of General Breckinridge's staff.

I have thus briefly given you a report of the part taken by this brigade, omitting many details and incidents creditable to individuals and to the command.

In the absence of a report from my own regiment (Fourth Kentucky) prior to the time when I took command of the brigade, I will state simply that both officers and men did their duty. Willis [S.] Roberts, major,

* The above account of commanders of sections of artillery is undoubtedly incorrect, as Chalaron belonged to Washington Artillery and Tarrant belonged to Lumsden's battery.

was killed early in the action by a grape-shot. Than him there was none a more gallant officer. He had not recovered from wounds received at Baton Rouge. Lieutenant Colonel [Joseph P.] Nuckols was wounded in shoulder, near picket fence. Captain [W. P.] Bramblett, First Lieutenant [G. B.] Burnley, Second Lieutenants [Green F.] Higginson, [N. D.] Clayton, [and Robert] Dunn were killed, and Lieutenants [Isham T.] Dudley, Robert Moore (since said to have died), John [B.] Moore, [William] Lashbrooke, and [R. A.] Thompson were wounded, together with privates and non commissioned officers.

One company (Captain [J. L.] Trice's), being on picket duty, was not in the engagement.

The color-bearer (Robert Lindsey), being wounded, refused to allow any one to accompany him to the rear, although bleeding at the mouth and nose. He handed the colors on return to Private Jones, who was killed, when they were borne to the last by Joseph Nichols, of Company F.

Thus it will be seen that of 23 officers of this regiment who went into the fight, 7 were killed and 6 wounded.

The command of the regiment was, on my assuming command of the brigade, turned over to Captain [Thomas W.] Thompson.

The detailed statements heretofore furnished show the casualties to have been as follows:

Command	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
2d Kentucky	14	70	24
4th Kentucky	12	47	11
6th Kentucky	2	60	14
9th Kentucky	1	28	
41st Alabama	18	89	35
Cobb's battery	3	3	
Total	50	297	84
Aggregate			431

The conduct of Colonel Lewis, Lieutenant-Colonel Stansel, Forty-first Alabama; Maj. James [W.] Hewitt, Second Kentucky; Lieutenant-Colonel Nuckols and Captain Thompson, of Fourth Kentucky, as well as that of the other field and company officers engaged, was gallant in the highest degree, and the men repeated also the steadiness and courage which characterized them at Donelson, Shiloh, Baton Rouge, Vicksburg, and Hartsville.

Lieutenants [T. E.] Stake and [Joseph] Benedict and Captain [S. F.] Chipley, of General Hanson's staff, bore themselves with exemplary courage.

My thanks are due, too, to the medical staff and to Captain Semple, division ordnance officer, and Acting Lieut. Presley Trabue, brigade ordnance officer, for their promptness in bringing up supplies of ammunition, and to my adjutant, Robert H. Williams, of Fourth Kentucky.

I cannot close this report without more special mention of one whose gallantry and capacity we all witnessed with pride, and whose loss we and the whole army sincerely deplore. I mean the gallant General Hanson, who fell in the pride of his manhood in the thickest of the fight, nobly doing his duty. His wound was mortal, and death ensued on Sunday morning, at 5 o'clock.

Colonel Hunt, Ninth Kentucky, although not in the engagement of Friday, deserves commendation for his conduct prior and subsequent to that time, as do the other officers and the men of his regiment.

Respectfully,

R. P. TRABUE,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade

T. O'HARA,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The missing list comprises those who went into the engagement, but were not seen to come out. They must have been killed or wounded. I find, also, I have omitted to mention that Lieutenant-Colonel Stansel received a severe wound in the leg, but did not quit the field, and still commands his regiment.

[Addenda.]

Abstract from morning report of Kentucky Brigade, Col. R. P. Trabue commanding, for January 8, 1863.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Aggregate last return.
	Officers.	Men.			
Field and staff	5		5	6	6
41st Alabama	24	369	521	938	1,055
2d Kentucky	25	290	411	675	713
4th Kentucky	18	283	392	518	544
6th Kentucky	21	187	255	431	451
9th Kentucky*					
Roberts' cavalry*					
Cobb's battery	4	89	104	133	136
Total	97	1,218	1,688	2,701	2,905

No. 243.

Report of Lieut. Col. M. L. Stansel, Forty-first Alabama Infantry.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., January 12, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the performances of this regiment in the recent seven days' battles in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

On Sunday, December 28, this regiment, together with the other regiments composing Hanson's brigade, acting under orders proceeding from general headquarters, proceeded to Wayne's Hill and formed line of battle in rear and in support of Cobb's battery and a section of the Washington Artillery, as also a section of Lumsden's battery. In this position we remained for several days, exposed to a constant and galling fire both from the enemy's artillery and sharpshooters, awaiting an evidently contemplated attack upon that point. During this time two of our best lieutenants ([James T.] Hardaway and [N. B.] Lenderman) and Private Suddeth were killed and a number of our men wounded; still, however, we held our position against the most terrific assaults the

* Absent on outpost duty.

enemy could bring to bear against it—a point called by General Bragg himself the key of the battle-field.

On Friday evening, January 2, this regiment, together with the Second, Fourth, and Sixth Kentucky Regiments, was ordered to the right of our position, and proceeded down Stone's River to a point about 1 mile north of Wayne's Hill, to make an attack upon a strong body of the enemy in force there. In this attack, from which ensued a most terrific battle, my officers and men demeaned themselves most gallantly, driving the enemy before them across the river entirely from the position they held, pushing forward until they came within the raking fire of the powerful batteries of the enemy planted on the opposite bank of the river and supported by almost their entire army.

So gallant was the general conduct of my officers and men in this the hardest struggle of the battle, that it would seem invidious to discriminate between them.

The annexed is a correct list* of the casualties in the battle, which shows the following result: Killed, 18; wounded, 90; missing, 35; total, 143.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. L. STANSEL,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Forty-first Regt. Alabama Vols.

Col. R. P. TRABUE,

Commanding Hanson's Brigade.

No. 244.

Report of Maj. James W. Hewitt, Second Kentucky Infantry.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., *January 10, 1863.*

SIR: I would respectfully report that on Sunday morning, December 28, [1862,] I left camp with my command and proceeded to a position 1½ miles north of Murfreesborough, where, in company with the brigade, I remained until the following morning, when I was ordered about 300 yards in advance, fronting the enemy's left center. I then threw out my flank companies (A and C) as skirmishers half a mile farther to the front, occupying a position in sight and range of the enemy. After remaining in that position about two hours, I received orders to take my command back to their former position.

On the morning of Tuesday, 29th instant, I was ordered to send two companies (Company B, Captain [Joel] Higgins, and Company H, Lieutenant [A. K.] Lair) to support a battery in the field in the rear of Cobb's battery, where they remained until said battery changed position. The same evening I was ordered with my command (eight companies, two companies being still on picket duty) to a hill immediately in front of the enemy, where, in company with the balance of our brigade, we remained until Friday evening as a support to Cobb's battery, a section of the Washington Artillery, and a section of Semple's artillery, exposed continually to a severe fire.

On Friday evening, about 3 o'clock, in company with the other regiments of our brigade, we advanced about a mile to the right of our position, and, forming in line of battle, we advanced across an open field to a piece of woods occupied by the enemy, about a mile from where our

* Nominal list omitted.

line was formed. After driving the enemy across the river, we still advanced to a picket fence in the immediate neighborhood of the enemy's re-enforcements and in range of sixteen of their guns, which continually threw among us a shower of shot and shell, which, in addition to heavy re-enforcements, compelled us to fall back to our former position in the woods, where we reformed under your command, General Hanson having been carried off the field mortally wounded.

About 9 p. m., under the command of Captain [James W.] Moss, acting major (I being compelled to leave the field from the effects of a shell), we were ordered back to the rifle-pits, where we remained until Sunday a. m. (1 o'clock), when we took up our line of march for our present position. I would further state that in going into action I had nine companies (Company K, Captain [E.] Joyes, being on picket duty), numbering 346 men and officers, and that we lost in the engagement 108 officers and men killed, wounded, and missing, among whom were Lieutenants [F.] Tryon and [S. B.] Hawes, left on the field, supposed to be mortally wounded; Captains [H.] McDowell and [H. B.] Rodgers, Adjutant [T. E.] Moss, Lieutenants [L. C.] Moss, [W. J.] Hays, [R. H.] Innis, and [C. W.] Kleisendorff wounded and brought off the field. My color-guard, with one exception, were all either killed or wounded.

In conclusion, I beg leave to state that, without an exception, both officers and men behaved with great gallantry and bravery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES W. HEWITT,

Major, Commanding Regiment.

Col. R. P. TRABUE,

Commanding Hanson's Brigade.

No. 245.

Report of Col. Joseph H. Lewis, Sixth Kentucky Infantry.

CAMP TULLAHOMA, TENN., *January 10, 1863.*

SIR: Herewith is a report of what concerns my own command of the recent battles at Murfreesborough, Tenn.

For a clear understanding of the part taken by this regiment I will, as far as my limited opportunities allowed me to observe, describe the field of its operations. At the ford, 1 mile below the turnpike bridge, the river, whose general course is northward, bends toward the west and continues in that direction half a mile, when, by a curve at right angles, it takes its previous northward course, and continues it for 1 mile or more to a ford at which the enemy crossed during the engagement Friday afternoon. The left of Breckinridge's division and of Hanson's brigade extended to the river a few hundred paces below the first-named ford. At the point of the second curve a rocky bluff sets in and continues to the lower ford, except at a point 600 or 800 yards below, where there is a slight depression. For this distance the ground is timbered sufficiently to afford protection to the enemy. The ground rises gradually from thence 400 or 500 yards to an eminence fully as elevated as the hill on which Cobb's battery was placed. On the opposite [side] of and bordering on the river, 300 yards below the first-named ford, commences a belt of timber about 100 yards wide and extends nearly to the second bend of the river. Bounded on the south and west by the river, on the north by thick woods and partly on the east by a thicket, is a large field, or, rather, two fields, containing between 60 and 80 acres. The field

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

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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

No. 252.

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

BRIDGEPORT, ALA., January 10, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on Sunday, December 28, 1862, I was ordered to report for duty with Brigadier General Jackson's brigade, by Lieutenant-Colonel [J. H.] Hallonquist, chief of artillery Army of Tennessee, and on Monday morning the general assigned me a position near Captain Spence's residence, east of the Lebanon pike, and at 12 midnight I received an order to send the two rifled pieces of the battery to General Breckinridge's headquarters to report, which I did, under the command of Lieutenant Tarrant. He was ordered to the knoll on the east side of Stone's River, which position was ordered by General Bragg to be held, as it was a desirable position, from which place the two guns fired 200 rounds in the first of the engagement. One of the pieces had been dismounted at Perryville some time ago, and in the recoil the axle-tree gave way. It was replaced by one of the pieces taken from the enemy. The two rifled pieces were held in the reserve until we reached the river. The smooth-bore was kept with the brigade, and on Tuesday about noon I moved with the brigade to a position on the left of the Lebanon pike and 1 mile nearer the river.

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted.

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

No. 253.

Report of Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne, C. S. Army, commanding division.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. R. CLEBURNE,
Major-General.

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

No. 254.

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

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S BRIGADE,
January 13, 1863.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* Not found.

and moved on into the general engagement. They fought with the brigade during the day, except when the brigade was to the rear procuring ammunition. The sharpshooters remained with some pieces of artillery, commanded by Major [Capt. T. R.] Hotchkiss, amusing themselves by firing at some Yankee cannoneers.

Both officers and men fought bravely throughout the day. Not one commissioned officer was absent from his post, and most of the command, both officers and men, deserve marked attention for their bravery throughout the fight.

On Thursday morning, January 1, 1863, this command was thrown out as skirmishers on the left of General Liddell's skirmishers, and with them succeeded in driving back the enemy's pickets about a mile, leaving us in fine view of the enemy's movements on the Nashville pike, about 4 or 5 miles above Murfreesborough. In this engagement we had no one killed or wounded.

The following is a list* of killed and wounded in the fight on Wednesday:

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Company A:				
Officers.....		4		4
Non-commissioned officers.....	1	11	2	14
Privates.....				
Total.....	1	15	2	18
Company B:				
Officers.....	1			1
Non-commissioned officers.....	1			1
Privates.....		9	3	12
Total.....	2	9	3	14
Aggregate.....	3	24	5	32

A. T. HAWKINS,

Captain, Commanding Sharpshooters, Wood's Brigade.

No. 279.

Reports of Capt. Henry C. Semple, Alabama Battery.

JANUARY —, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that my battery of six Napoleon guns was ordered on the 30th [ultimo] to report to General Breckinridge, on the right; that we were put in position on an eminence near the river, commanding the points on the opposite side of the river near the enemy's left. An earthwork had been constructed the night before in which the guns were placed, and shortly after the commencement of the action fire was opened on us by a battery of rifled guns on the opposite side of the river, to which we did not reply, and late in the day, after firing a few rounds at the lines of the enemy, which seemed to be retiring before our men, we were ordered to another position, in which Cobb's battery and a part of Lumsden's were already in position. From this point we were frequently engaged with the enemy's infantry; on several occasions at

* Nominal list omitted.

a range to make our fire very effective. Occasionally we replied to a rifled battery on the opposite side of the river, but, under the orders we had received, we were obliged to husband our ammunition carefully, and engaged as little as possible with the artillery of the enemy. Several men were killed and wounded in the batteries near us, but we escaped without other loss than 1 man wounded and 2 horses.

On the next day I was ordered again to report to General Cleburne, and did so. I had asked to be relieved from duty as acting chief of artillery of our division before the engagement of the 31st, and Major Hotchkiss had been appointed to act in my place, but, as he was wounded, General Cleburne again ordered me to act in that capacity.

On Friday, the 2d, I was ordered by General Bragg to send two sections of the battery to report to him at a point on the Nashville pike near the river. I accordingly sent two sections, with First Lieutenant Fitzpatrick and Second Lieutenant Pollard, and they were put in position on the ground on our extreme right about 4 p. m., from which the enemy had just been driven by the attack of Hanson's, Preston's, and Adams' brigades. Lieutenant Fitzpatrick, who is now quite unwell, will soon make to you a report of the part taken by the two sections in that fierce and bloody conflict. Our infantry were finally driven back in great confusion, and all the cannoneers, but two, and two of the drivers of one of the pieces being shot down, and three of the horses from the limber, including both the wheel horses, our infantry finding them fleeing in rear of the piece, and the enemy rapidly advancing at not more than 150 yards, the last round of ammunition having been fired from it, the piece was left on the field, and, together with two guns of Wright's battery, in position near it, fell into their hands.

There were only 45 men, including the officers, drivers, and cannoneers, on the field, of whom 20, together with 14 horses, were killed or wounded in the space of thirty minutes.

The killed* and wounded were: Killed—privates, 1. Wounded—commissioned officer, 1; non-commissioned officers, 4; privates, 14. Total, 20.

Respectfully,

HENRY C. SEMPLE,

Captain, Comdg. Light Artillery, Wood's Brigade.

Brigadier-General [S. A. M.] WOOD.

TULLAHOMA, TENN., January 23, 1863.

SIR: My battery of six 12-pounder Napoleon guns was ordered to report to Major [R. E.] Graves, chief of artillery of General Breckinridge's division, and I requested to be relieved of the temporary appointment of chief of artillery of your staff in order that I might be with it.

On December 30, [1862,] we were put in position on an eminence just in front of General Hanson's brigade, but during the night I was ordered to examine the ground in front of the left of our right wing, and to attend at the construction of an earthwork with two faces in the field near the river, and somewhat to the left and in rear of another earthwork, in which Cobb's battery and a part of the whole of Lumsden's rifle battery were then in position. We went to our position about daylight, and early in the morning a section of my battery, under Lieutenant Pollard, was withdrawn and sent to another part of the field, by order of Major Graves. Although we were frequently under fire of the

* Nominal list omitted.

enemy's batteries, somewhat in front of Cobb's batteries, we covered ourselves as well as we could under the earthwork, and made no reply until a fierce engagement took place on the opposite side of the river, when we had an opportunity of firing into the enemy with an enfilading fire at good range. After about 30 rounds fired from each piece at this point, we were ordered to limber up and advance to the position occupied by Cobb's and Lumsden's batteries, about 500 yards to the right and front. This was about 12 or 1 o'clock, and as soon as we arrived we opened upon a battery of eight or ten rifled guns at about 1,000 yards, which was pouring its fire into our infantry, then advancing on the opposite side of the river, and in a very short time directed their fire to us. Our infantry continued to advance over this hotly contested field, and in about twenty minutes drove the enemy in masses past us at very short range, so that we fired into them several rounds of double-shotted canister at about 550 yards from the eminence above them. The enemy then endeavored to reform their lines under cover of the timber intervening between them and our troops, when we fired into them with spherical case, and caused them to move off farther to their right.

Such was the excellence of the earthwork constructed by Major Graves' orders, and the commanding character of the position, that we did not lose a single man, and had only two horses wounded here. The casualties in Cobb's battery, next to us, were, however, quite serious. We remained in this position until about 4 a. m. on the 1st, when I was ordered to report to you, which I did, at your position on the opposite side of the river, about sunrise. In the march to join you, I met Lieutenant Pollard, who, with one section of my battery, had acted with a part of the Washington Artillery on the opposite side of the river, without any casualty, except the loss of two horses and one man slightly wounded.

Major Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery in your division, having been wounded on the 31st, I was ordered, on joining you, to act in that capacity.

On the 1st, neither my battery nor any part of the artillery of the division was engaged, except Sweit's battery, which advanced on our extreme left with Liddell's brigade, and fired a few rounds into the enemy, who then appeared to be retreating toward and up the Nashville pike.

On the morning of the 2d, I was ordered by General Bragg to send four pieces of my battery to report to him at the junction of the Wilkinson and Nashville pikes, and accordingly I sent two sections (the right and left), under First Lieutenant [E. J.] Fitzpatrick and Second Lieutenant [J.] Pollard. They were engaged in the extreme advance and right of the artillery which supported the attack made on the afternoon of the 2d by a part of Breckinridge's division on the enemy's left wing. Captain [F. H.] Robertson, General Polk's chief of artillery, and Major Graves, chief of artillery General Breckinridge's division, expressed themselves as well pleased with the conduct of the battery, but the infantry fell back in such confusion, and the fire of the enemy was so deadly, that when Mr. [Lieutenant] Fitzpatrick attempted, under Major Graves' orders, to draw off the pieces, one of them was left on the field. Mr. [Lieutenant] Fitzpatrick reports to me that two of the drivers and four of the horses of this piece were killed or wounded; all the cannoners except two were killed or wounded. Our infantry had passed them in hurried flight, the last at least 150 yards, and the enemy were advancing in front and on the flank not more than 100 yards distant.

In this short engagement (half an hour), of the 45 men and officers taken on the field 20 [were either] killed or wounded: 10 (including

Lieutenant Pollard, whose right arm and leg were broken by musket shots), were killed or severely wounded, and 10 (with 14 horses) slightly wounded.

I found upon the field, and appropriated to my use, about 130 rounds of excellent 12-pounder fixed ammunition, and also the rear part of a caisson, which I took in place of one of mine.

HENRY C. SEMPLE,

Captain Company Light Artillery.

Major-General [P. R.] CLEBURNE.

No. 280.

Reports of Maj. Gen. John P. McCown, C. S. Army, commanding division, Smith's corps.

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., *January 16, 1863.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,

C. S. Army, Tallahoma, Tenn.:

GENERAL: I send in my report of the part my division took in the battle in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., on January [December] 31, 1862. The accompanying papers, including subordinate reports, I hope will give you all the information you desire.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. P. McCOWN,
Major-General.

[Inclosures.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SMITH'S CORPS,
Shelbyville, Tenn., January 20, 1863.

Having acted under the orders of Lieutenant-General Hardee at the battle before Murfreesborough, on December 31, 1862, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my division:

My division is composed of three brigades, constituted as follows,†

* * * my effective force being about 4,000 men.

My command was located at Readyville, Tenn., 12 miles east of Murfreesborough.

At 12 o'clock, on the night of December 26, I received orders from the general commanding to move at once to Murfreesborough. I arrived at 9 a. m. on the 27th, this march being made in a cold and drenching rain. In obedience to orders, my division was posted near the Nashville pike, behind Stone's River, as the reserve to the Army of Tennessee.

On the 29th, I moved my division to our extreme left, to fill an interval between Lieutenant-General Polk's left and the Triune road. Not finding an interval, I posted my command on the left of the Triune road, in a lane at nearly right angles to said road, and about 150 yards in advance of Lieutenant-General Polk's advance line, with Brigadier-General McNair's brigade in reserve; two batteries in reserve, and one (Eufaula Light Artillery) near my center.

On the 30th, the enemy extended his lines to our left, placing in position several batteries, and later in the day made a determined attack upon Robertson's battery, placed on General Polk's left. I directed the Eufaula Light Artillery to be posted so as to take the enemy's line and one battery in flank. Brigadier-General Rains executed this order, in person, with considerable damage to the enemy.

† See Organization of the Army of Tennessee, No. 189, p. 660.